



**CITY OF SEATTLE
2014 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN**

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Number 3

Week Overview

Week two of the 63rd Legislative Session continued with rapid pace, as bills were heard in quick succession in anticipation of policy committee cutoff a mere two weeks away.

The Seattle Delegation held their second weekly meeting on January 24th and focused on marijuana legislation. Council President Tim Burgess made the early drive to Olympia to attend and City Attorney Pete Holmes joined by phone.

Areas of Primary Focus

Protecting the most vulnerable

Current:

Preempting Local Employment Laws and Contracts: **SB 6307**, introduced by Senator Braun, prohibits local jurisdictions from creating regulations on paid sick leave, minimum wages, workers comp, etc. It is scheduled for a hearing in Senate Commerce and Labor on January 29th.

Previous:

Budget: **HB 2185/SB 6002**, making 2014 supplemental operating appropriations, is Governor Inslee request legislation. HB 2185 was heard January 13th in the House. SB 6002 was heard January 15th in the Senate.

Property Seizure & Forfeiture: **SB 6017**, introduced by Senator Kohl-Welles, addresses the use of proceeds from seizure and forfeiture activities during the enforcement of child pornography and prostitution crimes. It would provide for 90% of such proceeds to go to the local seizing enforcement agency. SB 6017 was heard on January 20th.

Tenant Fair Screening Act: Introduced by Senator Frockt, **SB 6291** allows prospective tenants to pay for and provide a comprehensive screening report to multiple prospective landlords, alleviating their being subject to multiple report fees from each prospective landlord. Landlords may still generate their own CSR's, but may not charge the tenant if the tenant has provided their own. This bill was heard January 23rd in Senate Financial Institutions.

Tenant Relocation Assistance: Introduced by Senator Kohl-Welles, **SB 6292** requires 90 day notice to tenants of a rental increase or change of use of their residential unit. This bill was heard January 23rd in Senate Financial Institutions.

Local Homeless Housing and Assistance Surcharge: Introduced by Rep. Sawyer, **HB 2368/SB 6313** eliminates the sunset for the document recording fee and allows the fee to continue at the current \$40.00 rate instead of reducing in the next few years. This is an important funding source for homeless housing. HB 2368 was heard on Jan. 21st and is scheduled for exec on Thursday, January 28th. SB 6313 is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate on Thursday, January 30th.

Education/Early Learning

Current:

Extended Foster Care: HB 2335, sponsored by Rep. Roberts, adds the final two federal criteria by which a youth in foster care may retain dependency status after the age of 18, to state law. This bill is scheduled to be heard in House Early Learning and Human Services on January 27th.

Access to Early Learning for Children in Child Welfare System: Rep. Senn has introduced HB 2519 to expand access to early learning for children in the child welfare system. It has been scheduled for a hearing in the House Committee on Early Learning and Human Services on Monday January 27th at 1:30pm.

Previous:

SB 6127/2377: Senator Litzow and Representatives Hunter and Kagi's omnibus bills to address improving early care and education systems. The Senate bill was given a hearing on January 17th. It has not been scheduled for executive session at this time. House bill was heard on January 16th and is scheduled for executive session on January 30th.

HB 2165: This bill would require the Department of Early Learning to develop new systems to review and address fatalities at early learning programs, licensed child care centers, or licensed child care homes. This bill was exec'd on January 20th.

Transportation, Economic Development and Infrastructure

Current:

Capital Budget: **HB 2244** by Rep. Stanford, restores resources to the Public Works Fund within 2 yrs, rather than 6 as previously stipulated. This bill is scheduled for hearing on January 30th.

Lodging Taxes for Workforce Housing: **HB 2650**, Rep. Fitzgibbon's bill, allows the use of lodging taxes to finance workforce housing. This bill was heard January 23rd in Committee on Community Development, and is scheduled to be exec'd on January 28th.

Rental Car Companies' Responsibilities for Monetary Penalties: HB 2470, Rep. Pollett's bill, would address unpaid traffic violations by rental car customers by requiring rental car companies to assume responsibility for the violations committed with their cars. A hearing is scheduled for January 28th.

Previous:

Unmanned Aircrafts: Rep. Morris is the prime sponsor for **HB 2178**. This bill prohibits the use of unmanned aircraft in airspace above private property. It was heard in House Technology and Economic Development committee and exec'd on January 24th.

Distracted Driving: Senator Eide is the prime sponsor of **SB 6227**, a "distracted driving" bill that seeks to revise current state cell phone laws to align them with federal grant criteria to maximize funding for critical safety programs. This bill was heard in Transportation on January 21st.

Marijuana:

Current:

HB 2304: Requested by LCB and prime sponsored by Rep. Moscoso, this bill creates and defines rules and regulations for marijuana processing and retail licenses. This bill is scheduled for hearing in Government Accountability & Oversight on January 27th.

HB 2144: This bill, sponsored by Rep. Condotta, establishes a dedicated local jurisdiction Marijuana Fund and requiring 30% of collected marijuana revenue be distributed to local jurisdictions. This bill is scheduled for a hearing in Government Accountability & Oversight on January 30th.

HB 2322: Primed by Rep. Sawyer, this bill preempts local governments from banning commercial marijuana businesses. Requires cities, counties, and towns to cooperate with the liquor control board with respect to the establishment within their jurisdictional boundaries of licensed businesses involved in the production, processing, or sale of recreational marijuana. This bill is scheduled for hearing January 30th, in Senate Government Accountability & Oversight.

HB 2638: Preempting local governments from banning commercial marijuana businesses, including, but is not limited to, statutory provisions pertaining to licensing, marketing, taxation, production, processing, and retail sale of marijuana. Introduced by Rep. Wylie, this bill is scheduled for hearing January 30th in Senate Government Accountability & Oversight.

Previous:

HB 2149: This bill prime sponsored by Rep. Cody was heard on January 15th. One amendment was added which postponed the closure of medical marijuana dispensaries to 2015. The City Attorney sent a letter to the committee supporting HB 2149, but citing some recommendations for improvement, including possibly allowing limited "group grows", and providing a portion of retail excise tax revenues to local jurisdictions. This bill was exec'd on January 23rd.

SB 5887/SB 6178: Sponsored by Senator Rivers and Senator Kohl-Welles, respectively, both of these bills are attempts to align the medical marijuana and recreational marijuana systems. Both include many of the recommendations of the LCB work group, with differences in possession amounts, creation of a medical marijuana registry with DOH, rules on qualifying medical conditions, and taxation. Both bills were heard together in the Senate Healthcare committee on January 21st, and were exec'd on January 24th. SB 5887 was referred to the Senate Commerce Committee.

HB 2198: Sponsored by Rep. Carlyle, this bill creates a sales and use tax exemption for medical marijuana when purchased at licensed retail outlets. A hearing was held Wednesday, January 15th.

SB 5955: Sponsored by Senator Hasegawa, this legislation creates a publicly owned trust to act as a depository for in-state marijuana producers, processors and retailers. A hearing was held on January 16th, in the Financial Institutions committee.

Public Safety

Current:

HB 2468/6310: Clarifying the retention of DNA material collected during criminal investigation. Primed by Rep. Orwall and Sen. Darneille, this bill creates a workgroup on collection of evidence to make recommendations on statewide standards; and prohibits the destruction of DNA material collected during a criminal investigation until statewide standards are implemented. This bill will have a hearing in the House Public Safety on January 29th at 1:30 pm and the Senate Law and Justice on January 31st at 8 am.

SB 6007 (HB 2114): Customer information held by public utilities. Introduced by Sen. Rivers, this bill adds customer electronic contact information and utility usage and billing information to the exemption in the public records act. This bill is scheduled to be heard on January 28th in Governmental Operations.

Gun Initiatives I-594 /I-591: Prior to the legislative session, advocates on both sides of the gun responsibility issue collected signatures and qualified competing initiatives to the Legislature. Initiative 591 (rejecting background checks outside of a national standard), and Initiative 594 (requiring criminal background checks for all gun sales), are both scheduled for a hearings this week. The House Judiciary committee will hear these bills on January 28th at 1:30 pm, and the Senate Law and Justice committee will hear the bills on January 29th at 1:30 pm.

Previous:

Knockout Game: Senator Padden is the prime sponsor for **SB 6011**. Also known as the "knockout game" bill, this bill increases penalties for random assaults, in response to a national phenomenon whereby attackers assault and "knockout" random victims; the assault being videotaped and then uploaded to the internet. The bill was heard in Senate Law and Justice on January 15th. OIR, on Councilmember Harrell's request, is working with Sen. Padden on an amendment to include the video tapers as accessories.

Other Issues of Significant Interest

Current:

Concerning collected compostable waste: **HB 2072** by Rep. Manweller, requires a county or city that mandates compostable waste separation or collection as part of the level of service for customers of curbside or alley residential solid waste services to provide for the storage and processing of at least fifty percent of all collected compostable waste in the county where the materials are collected. This bill is scheduled for hearing in House Environment Committee on January 29th.

Floating homes: **HB 2581**, sponsored by Rep. Tarleton, defines “floating homes” for the purposes of the Shoreline Management Act. A hearing is scheduled for the House Environment committee on January 28th.

For Hire Vehicles: **HB 2152**, sponsored by Rep. Habib, revises industrial insurance provisions for owners of for hire vehicles, limos and taxis. This bill was heard in the House Labor and Workforce Development committee on January 16th and exec'd on January 24th.

Previous:

Fish Consumption: A work session was held on January 16th in the Senate Energy, Environment and Telecommunications Committee on fish consumption, to discuss the impending new standards for wastewater discharge that are expected from the Department of Ecology in spring 2014. OIR will continue to monitor these discussions.

Oil Train and Tanker Safety: Rep. Farrell is the prime sponsor for **HB 2347**. This legislation addresses concerns regarding the shipment of oil by train or tanker and establishes risk reduction and spill prevention measures, and ensures public access to information on risks and shipments through their communities. This bill was heard on January 22nd in the House Environment committee.

Disabled Parking Placards: Rep. Hunt is the prime sponsor for **HB 2463**. This bill changes regulations governing disabled parking permits and applications to try to curb certain abuses of disabled parking placards. A hearing on HB 2463 is scheduled for January 27th.

Paint Stewardship: Rep. Goodman is the prime sponsor of **HB 1579**, which creates an architectural paint recovery program to be enforced by the Department of Ecology. It also requires paint manufacturers to assume responsibility for development and implementation of a cost-effective paint stewardship program and creates the paint product stewardship account. This bill was heard on January 15th.

Volunteer Medical Professionals: Introduced by Rep. Tarleton, **HB 2351** will allow out-of-state licensed medical professionals to volunteer for 30 days within Washington State. Robert Nellams, Seattle Center Director, testified in support of this bill at the hearing on January 20th.

Looking Ahead

Next week will be interesting as major legislation on gun initiatives and marijuana legislation are up for committee hearings. In addition, Council Lobby day on January 30th continues to come together with numerous meetings scheduled with legislators and a lunchtime work session with the Governor.