

The City of Seattle is committed to being a safe, vibrant, interconnected, and affordable city.

Week Overview

On Thursday February 4th, Senator Nelson (D) introduced the Bring Washington Home Act (<u>SB</u> 6647) which would provide funding from the state's Budget Stabilization Account (also known as the rainy day fund) for this biennium to alleviate homelessness across Washington State. The intent of this bill is to fund services that support homeless youth, increase the Consolidated Homeless Grant program, and provide \$60 million for sheltering, including emergency shelter and/or support services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. SB 6647 hopes to utilize \$186 million in state funds to leverage \$281 million in investments in homeless programs, supports, and housing. This legislation will require a 3/5 majority to pass.

Friday, February 5th marked the first major milestone of the 2016 legislative session as that date was the policy committee cut-off for house of origin. This meant legislation had to be passed out of policy committee by the end of that day to continue to advance. Committee chairs were busy all week deciding which bills would receive a final vote during executive session. Coming quickly is the next hurdle, fiscal committee cutoff is next Tuesday, February 9th when bills that have a fiscal impact must be voted on.

In an act that hasn't happened since 1989, the Senate Republicans voted not to confirm a gubernatorial appointment -- Secretary of Transportation Lynn Peterson, who served three years in the position. On Saturday February 6th, Corrections Department Secretary Dan Pacholke resigned amid an ongoing investigation into a technological error in the Department's system that allowed early release for some offenders over many years. Secretary Pacholke has not been implicated in the investigation.

Priority Areas

Safety Net and Housing

Preservation Tax Exemption

<u>SB 6239/HB 2544</u>, (Sen. Fain-R/Rep. Frame-D) which provide a property tax exemption for the preservation of affordable housing, were passed out of the House and Senate policy committees. Both bills were heard in fiscal committees on Thursday and Friday and are scheduled for executive session on Tuesday, February 9th. The City supports this legislation.

Tenant Protections

Sen. Mullet (D) and Rep. Walkinshaw (D) introduced <u>SB 6413/HB 2811</u>, respectively, which would modify the residential landlord-tenant act to require a landlord to notify a prospective tenant if they will accept a comprehensive reusable tenant screening report prior to charging that prospective tenant for a background check or screening report. Both bills were passed out of policy committees unanimously and have been referred to the Rules committee for further consideration. The City supports this legislation.

<u>HB 1565</u> by Rep. Ormsby (D) (companion bill <u>SB 5378</u>) prohibits discrimination against a tenant based on his or her source of income. The bill was moved out of Judiciary committee on February 4^{th} on a partisan 7-5 vote and referred to the Rules committee for further consideration.

Voting Rights Act

On February 5th, the House passed the Voting Rights Act ($\underline{E2SHB 1745}$) prime sponsored by Rep. Moscoso, on a party line 50-47 vote. The bill was referred to the Senate Government Operations Committee. The City supports this legislation.

Repeal of I-200

A bill seeking to repeal Initiative 200, which passed in 1998 and prohibits affirmative action hiring for public employers, in public education and for contracting services hired by public employers was heard on Tuesday in the House Capital Budget Committee. <u>HB 2822</u> introduced by Rep. Santos (D) would overturn I-200 and allow cities to once again use valuable tools to provide low-income and at-risk communities a path to prosperity. The City supports this legislation.

Transgender Discrimination

After the Senate Commerce and Labor committee passed similar legislation last week, Senate Law & Justice committee passed <u>SSB 6548</u> which would ban gender non-conforming individuals from gender-segregated facilities, on February 3rd. Committee members heard testimony from a packed public hearing on February 1st, including Seattle Police Department LGBTQ Community Liaison Chief James Ritter who spoke in opposition to the bill. In total, legislators have introduced 5 separate bills on this issue. The City opposes all five bills.

Equal Pay Act

The House passed Rep. Senn's (D) Equal Pay Act, <u>HB 1646</u> on February 3rd, on a 56-41 vote. This legislation would ban employers from retaliating against employees who discuss wages or salaries with their coworkers and prohibits the provision of less favorable employment opportunities based on gender. The City supports this legislation.

Accommodations during Pregnancy

On Thursday, <u>HB 2307</u>, prime sponsored by Rep. Farrell (D), passed the House on a 52-45 vote. This bill will require employers to provide reasonable accommodation in employment for pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related health conditions. The bill will also prohibit an employer to deny employment opportunities to employees who are otherwise qualified for the position. The bill has now been referred to the Senate Commerce & Labor committee. The City supports this bill.

Public Safety and Government Operations

Minimum Wage and Labor Standards

Monday's Senate Commerce & Labor Committee meeting included hearings on a pair of labor standards bills of interest to the City. <u>SB 6087</u> introduced by Sen. Hobbs (D) would incrementally increase the state-wide minimum wage to \$12.00/hour by 2020 and adjust that minimum wage for inflation every year after that. The bill would also implements state-wide sick leave, where employees must accrue at least one hour of paid sick leave for every 40 hours worked. This legislation is prospective and does not impact previously enacted local ordinances but would prevent local authorities from enacting any laws impacting wages or working conditions in the future. The City opposes this bill.

The second bill heard in committee was <u>SB 6578</u>, introduced by Sen. Baumgartner (R). SB 6578 would prohibit cities, town, and port districts form setting their own employment standards including minimum wage, hours of work, scheduling requirements, leave, and employee retention. This bill would preempt the City from setting a higher minimum wage, and overturn the City's existing minimum wage and labor standards legislation. After the hearing, the committee passed SB 6578 on a party-line vote and is now in the Senate Rules Committee. The City opposes this bill.

Supermajority votes on taxes

Legislation requiring a two-third supermajority vote by each chamber to approve new taxes in Washington State continues to be an issue as Senator Ericksen's (R) <u>SJR 8212</u> had a public hearing on February 4th. It requires a constitutional amendment on taxes, but it also allows fees to be increased by a simple majority and does not require advisory votes.

Post-incarceration aid

Rep. Pettigrew (D) also introduced <u>HB 2791</u>, which authorizes the creation of a statewide council to help address and promote successful reentry of offenders after incarceration back into the public. The bill was moved out of the House Public Safety committee on February 3^{rd} and has been referred to the House Appropriations committee. The City supports this legislation.

Marijuana

<u>HB 2494</u>, (Rep. Tarleton-D) which would seek to align marijuana possession penalties more closely with alcohol possession penalties and <u>HB 2368</u>, (Rep. Hurst-D), which would allow a 2-yr pilot program in Seattle for marijuana delivery services, were both voted out of the House Commerce and Gaming Commission unanimously this week. HB 2494 was referred to Rules and HB 2368 to the General Government Committee. The City supports this legislation.

Pensions

On Thursday, February 5th the House State Government Committee unanimously passed <u>HB</u> <u>2648</u>, (Rep. Fey-D) which would expand pension investment opportunities for the Cities of Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane. The City supports this legislation.

Public Records Requests

<u>HB 2576</u> (Rep. McBride-D) passed out of the Local Government committee on a 5-4 party line vote. This legislation would seek to, among other things, authorize a local agency to adopt a policy on the amount of time it devotes to public records requests provided certain documents are publically available and meet certain other criteria. The bill was amended to remove a requirement that would impose fees on requests made for commercial purposes. The City supports this legislation.

Gun Safety

Representative Parker's (R) legislation (<u>HB 2823</u>), which aims at reducing school shootings by encouraging students to provide tips to law enforcement passed out of the House Education committee 18-3 on February 5^{th} .

Sexual Assault Victim Rights

<u>SB 6151</u>, (Sen Litzow-R) allowing sexual assault victims to get a permanent protection order against attackers, was voted on the Senate floor on February 3^{rd} and passed unanimously.

Deadly Force

<u>HB 2907</u> (Rep. Moscoso-D) and <u>HB 2908</u> (Rep. Ryu-D) relating to standards around use of deadly force and creating a task force to look at community policing standards were heard in the Public Safety committee on February 3rd. HB 2908 passed out of committee on February 5th on a unanimous vote.

Education

McCleary

On February 3rd, the Senate Ways and Means Committee heard <u>SSB 6195</u> (Sen Rivers-R). This bill creates a funding task force, appropriates \$500,000 for a private consulting firm, and directs the legislature to address school levy reform by 2018.

Transportation

Oil Transportation Safety

On February 5th, the General Government and Information Technology committee heard and passed <u>HB 2575</u> (Rep. Farrell-D), which would direct the Dept. of Ecology to contract for an update to the State's response capacity to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive agents by June 2017.

Orphan Roads

Sen. Fain (R) and Rep. Moscoso's (D) bills, <u>SB 6314/HB 2590</u>, which allow King County to transfer ownership of a county road to a city or town if the road is within a city or town or abuts the boundary of a city or town on both sides progressed. <u>HB 2590</u> passed the House Local Government committee 6-3 on February 3^{rd} and <u>SB 6314</u> is scheduled in the Senate Transportation committee on February 8^{th} .

Environment

Solar Incentives

SHB 2346 (Rep. Morris - D) regarding the solar production incentive had a hearing on Thursday, February 4th in the House Appropriations Committee. Seattle City Light testified with concerns, but in general support of the bill. The concerns include the reduction in the incentive rate for community solar, which would severely affect SCL's ability to continue the program and a proposed fee for existing customers which would fund WSU Energy processing the program. The same \$75 fee would be charged to community solar participants as well as those who purchase a residential system, which SCL views as inequitable. The City supports this legislation and is working to address the concerns.

Hydro License Fee

<u>HB 1130</u> which extends the fee FERC license holders (including SCL) pay the Departments of Ecology and Fish & Wildlife to process Utilities' clean water permits required for FERC license was passed by the General Government & Information Technology on Friday, February 5th. SCL worked with other utilities over the interim to reach consensus on this bill.

Electrification of Transportation

<u>HB 2966</u> was introduced by one of the "EV Caucus" Chairs, Rep. Dick Muri (R). This legislation would allow Seattle City Light to incentivize electrification of large-scale transportation projects. The City has been meeting with all the members of the House Technology & Economic Development Committee briefing them on the issue and requesting a work session.

Growth Management Act

Two bills relating to school siting impacts on the Growth Management Act (GMA) saw action this week. The House Local Government on Tuesday, February 4th, heard <u>HB 2377</u> by Rep. Taylor (R). HB 2377 seeks to allow schools to be located outside urban growth boundaries defined by the GMA. On February 5th, a similar bill, <u>SB 6426</u> by Sen. Conway (D) passed the Senate Government Operations Committee. The city is concerned that both of these bills seek to undermine the GMA's intention to contain urban growth and opposes both bills.

Looking Ahead

The budget forecast used to help determine the 2016 supplemental budget is scheduled for release on February 17th. Once this occurs, we will have a better idea of how the Legislature will be moving forward regarding the supplemental budget. It is expected that there will be very little (if any) extra revenue this year due to increased caseloads, addressing funding needs such as the record-setting wildfire fighting costs in 2015, and increased costs associated with Medicaid.

Again, February 9th is fiscal committee cut-off. Action then moves to the Chamber floors full-time to pass legislation out of House of Origin on February 17th.

Bill Status Report

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
<u>HB 1182</u> (SB 5088)	Geological hazard assessment	Concerning a geological hazards assessment.	H Ag & Nat Res	Hurst
<u>SHB 1257</u> (SB 5123)	Tenant screening reports	Concerning tenant screening.	H Judiciary	Walkinshaw
E3SHB 1295 (SB 5437)	Breakfast after the bell	Concerning breakfast after the bell programs.	S EL/K-12	Hudgins
<u>HB 1355</u> (SB 5285)	Minimum hourly wage increase	Increasing the minimum hourly wage to twelve dollars over four years.	H Labor & Workpla	Farrell
<u>HB 1356</u> (SB 5306)	Sick & safe employment leave	Establishing minimum standards for sick and safe leave from employment.	H Labor & Workpla	Jinkins
<u>2SHB 1436</u> (2SSB 5404)	Homeless youth	Concerning homeless youth prevention and protection.	H Erly Lrn/H Svc	Kagi
E2SHB 1472 (SB 5406)	Chemical action plans	Concerning using chemical action plans to require safer chemicals in Washington.	H Environment	Fitzgibbon
<u>HB 1481</u> (E2SSB 5564)	Juvenile records and fines	Concerning the sealing of juvenile records and fines imposed in juvenile cases.	H Erly Lrn/H Svc	Kagi
<u>HB 1487</u> (SB 5423)	Clean car stds and program	Reducing emissions by making changes to the clean car standards and clean car program.	H Environment	Fey
<u>HB 1525</u> (SB 5008)	Beverage containers	Concerning beverage containers.	H Rules R	Caldier
<u>HB 1565</u> (SB 5378)	Housing options/govt progrms	Concerning the preservation of housing options for participants in government assistance programs.	H Rules R	Ormsby
<u>HB 1579</u>	Underinsured motor vehicle	Addressing motor vehicle underinsured coverage.	H Bus & Fin Svcs	Sawyer
ESHB 1646 (SB 5630)	Equal pay and opportunities	Enacting the equal pay opportunity act by amending and enhancing enforcement of the equal pay act and protecting worker communications about wages and employment opportunities.	S Commerce and La	Senn
<u>ESHB 1713</u>	Mental hlth, chem dependency	Integrating the treatment systems for mental health and chemical dependency.	H Approps	Cody
<u>EHB 1729</u> (SSB 5631)	Domestic violence victims	Concerning the administration of a statewide network of community- based domestic violence victim services by the department of social and health services.	H Public Safety	Pettigrew
E2SHB 1850	DOT, local reviews & permits	Exempting certain department of transportation actions from local review or permit processes under the shoreline management act.	H Local Govt	Hayes

Bill Status Report February 8, 2016 Page 1 of 5

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
<u>HB 1911</u> (SSB 5795)	Water or sewer facilities	Authorizing municipalities to create assessment reimbursement areas for the construction or improvement of water or sewer facilities.	H Local Govt	Fitzgibbon
<u>HB 1917</u>	Recordings/law enf., etc.	Concerning video and/or sound recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers.	H Judiciary	Hansen
<u>HB 2133</u>	Childcare provider addresses	Exempting the addresses of certain child care providers from the public records act.	H State Governmen	Hunt
<u>HB 2211</u>	Vapor products taxation	Concerning vapor products, e- cigarette, and nicotine products tax and regulatory reform to support youth substance prevention.	H Finance	Pollet
<u>HB 2310</u>	Fire prevention/2016	Concerning fire prevention in 2016.	H Ag & Nat Res	Van De Wege
<u>HB 2362</u>	Recordings/law enf., etc.	Concerning video and/or sound recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers.	H Rules R	Hansen
<u>HB 2368</u>	Marijuana delivery/pilot prg	Creating a two-year pilot program authorizing up to five qualified licensed marijuana retailers to deliver marijuana to Washington residents in a city with a population of over six hundred fifty thousand.	H Gen Govt & Info	Hurst
<u>HB 2374</u>	Statewide ammunition fee	Concerning a statewide ammunition fee to fund local public safety.	H Judiciary	Senn
<u>HB 2377</u>	Schools/GMA	Establishing schools as essential public facilities within the growth management act.	H Local Govt	Taylor
<u>HB 2440</u>	Youth host home programs	Concerning host home programs for youth.	H Rules R	Kagi
<u>HB 2449</u>	Truancy reduction	Providing court-based and school- based intervention and prevention efforts to promote attendance and reduce truancy.	H Approps	Orwall
<u>HB 2460</u> (SB 6351)	Firearms/public places	Providing local authorities with the authority to regulate firearms in certain public places.	H Judiciary	Walkinshaw
<u>HB 2468</u> (SB 6334)	GMA/rail dependent uses	Concerning rail dependent uses for purposes of the growth management act and related development regulations.	H Local Govt	Pike
<u>HB 2491</u>	Local wage law preemption	Establishing state preemption of local wage laws and contracts.	H Labor & Workpl	Manweller
<u>HB 2494</u> (SB 6486)	Marijuana offense penalties	Concerning penalties for marijuana offenses.	H Rules R	Tarleton
<u>HB 2509</u> (SSB 6227)	Wildlife and recreation prg.	Implementing the recommendations of the 2015 review of the Washington wildlife and recreation program.	H Rules R	Tharinger
<u>HB 2530</u> (SB 6484)	Victims of sex crimes	Protecting victims of sex crimes.	H Approps	Orwall

Bill Status Report February 8, 2016 Page 2 of 5

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
<u>HB 2540</u> (SB 6412)	Annual tax surveys & reports	Modifying the penalty for taxpayers that do not submit an annual survey or report.	H Finance	Nealey
<u>HB 2547</u>	Synthetic turf materials	Ensuring that recreational facilities with synthetic turf materials are not a hazard to public health.	H Environment	Pollet
<u>HB 2569</u>	Police & fire in HOV lanes	Authorizing the use of high occupancy vehicle lanes by law enforcement and fire department vehicles.	H Trans	Sells
<u>HB 2574</u>	Distracted driving incidents	Enhancing public safety by reducing distracted driving incidents caused by the use of personal wireless communications devices.	H Trans	Farrell
<u>HB 2575</u>	Oil transportation safety	Continuing state efforts to increase oil transportation safety.	H Gen Govt & Info	Farrell
<u>HB 2614</u>	Flood risk & habitat proj.	Providing for flood risk reduction and habitat restoration projects in the state.	H Cap Budget	DeBolt
<u>HB 2648</u> (SB 6170)	Retirement info. disclosure	Providing for an exemption from disclosure of certain financial, commercial, and proprietary information held by a city retirement board on behalf of its employees' retirement system.	H Rules R	Fey
<u>HB 2672</u>	Utility relocation costs	Relating to utility relocation costs.	H Tech & Econ D	Zeiger
<u>HB 2700</u>	Impaired driving	Concerning impaired driving.	H Trans	Goodman
<u>HB 2738</u>	Concealed firearm permission	Requiring permission to bring a concealed firearm into another person's residence or dwelling place.	H Judiciary	Hunt
<u>HB 2752</u>	Religion/gov. discrimination	Enacting the protection of the rights of religious exercise and conscience from government discrimination act.	H Judiciary	Griffey
<u>HB 2782</u>	Gender segregated facilities	Concerning the use of facilities segregated by gender.	H Judiciary	Klippert
<u>HB 2811</u> (SB 6413)	Landlord-tenant provisions	Modifying residential landlord- tenant act provisions relating to tenant screening, evictions, and refunds.	H Rules R	Walkinshaw
<u>HB 2818</u>	Covering of loads on highway	Concerning the covering of loads on public highways.	H Trans	Kilduff
<u>HB 2822</u>	Underservd grps/I- 200 repeal	Restoring the fair treatment of underserved groups in public employment, education, and contracting.	H Cap Budget	Santos
<u>HB 2935</u> (SB 6443)	Gender seg. facility rules	Concerning human rights commission rules on gender segregated facilities.	H Judiciary	Van Werven
<u>HB 2936</u> (SB 6596)	Public investments	Concerning public investments.	H Approps	Senn
<u>HB 2941</u>	School bathrooms	Concerning privacy and sex-specific use of school bathrooms and athletic facilities.	H Judiciary	Short

Bill Status Report February 8, 2016 Page 3 of 5

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
HB 2959	Business tax &	Concerning local business tax and	H Finance	Lytton
<u>IID 2757</u>	licenses	licensing simplification.	11 1 manee	Lytton
SB 5277	Patronizing a	Making the crime of patronizing a	S Rules 2	Kohl-Welles
<u>_</u>	prostitute	prostitute a gross misdemeanor.		
<u>SB 5378</u>	Housing options/govt	Concerning the preservation of housing options for participants in	S	Kohl Wallos
(HB 1565)	progrms	government assistance programs.	HumSer/MenHlth/	Kohl-Welles
		Addressing the review and		
	Countywide planning	evaluation of countywide planning	S GovtOp&Sec	Liias
<u>SB 5604</u>	policies	policies under the growth		
	1	management act.		
		Limiting tax imposed by a city or		
	Water, sewerage	town on a water distribution		
<u>SB 6115</u>	businesses	business, a sewerage system	S GovtOp&Sec	Chase
	ousinesses	business, or water and sewerage		
		system business.		
<u>SB 6163</u>	District charter schools	Authorizing district charter schools.	S EL/K-12	Billig
	schools			
		Providing for an exemption from disclosure of certain financial,		
SB 6170	Retirement info.	commercial, and proprietary		
(HB 2648)	disclosure	information held by a city retirement	S Rules 2	Roach
		board on behalf of its employees'		
		retirement system.		
	Educational	Implementing strategies to close the	S EL/K-12	МсСоу
<u>SB 6192</u>		educational opportunity gap, based		
		on the recommendations of the		
	opportunity gap	educational opportunity gap		
		oversight and accountability committee.		
		Implementing the recommendations		
SSB 6227	Wildlife and	of the 2015 review of the		
(HB 2509)	recreation prg.	Washington wildlife and recreation	H Cap Budget	Honeyford
	r O	program.		
SB 6265	Ag. vehicle weight	Concerning vehicle weight limits for		
(HB 2611)	limits	the movement of agricultural	S Transportation	King
(110 2011)		commodities.		
		Concerning forest practices board		
<u>SB 6280</u>	Potentially unstable	rules to decrease risks to public	S Natural Resour	Rolfes
(HB 2828)	slopes	safety from potentially unstable		
		slopes. Promoting the safety of children and		+
<u>SB 6310</u>	Firearm responsible	communities through responsible	S Law & Justice	Jayapal
<u>0100 dc</u>	storage	storage of firearms.	5 Law & Justice	Jayapai
		Concerning rail dependent uses for		
<u>SB 6334</u>	GMA/rail dependent	purposes of the growth management	S Rules 2	Benton
(HB 2468)	uses	act and related development	5 Kules 2	Benton
		regulations.		
<u>SB 6375</u>	Marijuana clubs	Modifying marijuana club	S Commerce and L	Rivers
		provisions.		
SD 6412	Londl	Modifying residential landlord-		
<u>SB 6413</u> (HB 2811)	Landlord-tenant	tenant act provisions relating to	S Rules 2	Mullet
(HB 2811)	provisions	tenant screening, evictions, and refunds		
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Bill Status Report February 8, 2016 Page 4 of 5

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
<u>SB 6418</u>	Oil transportation safety	Concerning oil transportation safety.	S Energy, Enviro	Ranker
<u>SB 6443</u> (HB 2935)	Gender seg. facility rules	Concerning human rights commission rules on gender segregated facilities.	S Rules 2	Ericksen
<u>SB 6444</u>	Commercial trans. providers	Regulating providers of commercial transportation services.	S Transportation	Braun
<u>SB 6497</u>	Truancy reduction	Providing court-based and school- based intervention and prevention efforts to promote attendance and reduce truancy.	S Ways & Means	Hargrove
<u>SB 6509</u>	Viaduct project contingency	Concerning contingency planning for the state route number 99 Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project.	S Transportation	Baumgartner
<u>SB 6527</u>	Environmental policy reviews	Incentivizing trade and economic development through state environmental policy reviews.	S Rules 2	Brown
<u>SB 6540</u>	Safe playgrounds & turf	Ensuring safe playgrounds and turf fields.	S Energy, Enviro	Chase
<u>SB 6548</u>	Gender-segregated facilities	Allowing the use of gender- segregated facilities.	S Rules 2	Warnick
<u>SB 6578</u>	Private employers/local reg.	Addressing local regulation of private employers.	S Rules 2	Baumgartner
<u>SB 6592</u>	Rent increase notices	Modifying notice requirements for rent increases under the residential landlord-tenant act.	S Fin Inst/Ins	Jayapal
<u>SB 6596</u> (HB 2936)	Public investments	Concerning public investments.	S Ways & Means	Hill
<u>SB 6605</u>	Solid waste/disease & pests	Ensuring that solid waste management requirements prevent the spread of disease, plant pathogens, and pests.	S Ways & Means	Warnick