



City of Seattle
2017 State Legislative Bulletin

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Number 1

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

Week Overview

The 2017 Legislative Session began on Monday, January 9th. This year's session is considered a "long session" with a scheduled end date of April 23rd. It is anticipated that the Legislature will require at least one 30-day special session to finish negotiations on the 2017-2019 operating and capital budgets.

On Wednesday, Governor Jay Inslee gave his annual State of the State address to a joint session of the Legislature. The Governor highlighted the importance of continuing to work on the critically important issues of mental health, homelessness, opioid addiction, early learning and higher education. It was stressed that none of these issues are as important as fully funding K-12 education. In his closing remarks, Governor Inslee reiterated his commitment to equal rights, human dignity, and protecting health care access for those covered by the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid.

Mayor Murray was in attendance for the Governor's speech, and spent the afternoon in meetings with leaders of both chambers and parties to discuss the City's legislative agenda, particularly focusing on the homelessness and the affordable housing crisis.

Priority Areas

2017-2019 Operating and Capital Budgets

Legislators held work sessions and public hearings on Governor Inslee's 2017-2019 biennial operating and capital budget proposals, which were released last month. The Governor's budget focuses on fully funding K-12 schools, overhauling the mental health system, preventing and reducing homelessness, continuing to make progress on clean energy and environment, and preserving the safety net for vital services.

Highlights of the budget proposal include: a tax on carbon emissions, a capital gains tax, and reorganizing the Business and Operating (B&O) tax to tax industries such as law and financial services and reduce B&O taxes, and tightening tax loopholes. Through these measures, the Governor aims to create a competitive employment environment for educators by increasing compensation to recruit and retain quality educators. Additionally, Governor Inslee called for the betterment of post-secondary school options, and career paths after high school for those seeking something other than the traditional 4-year university career path. The Governor also opposed making cuts to health care and women's health services.

The Governor's capital budget funds \$4.1 billion in new projects with a little over \$1 billion dedicated to K-12.

Education

Education Funding Task Force

The Education Funding Task Force met on January 9th for its last meeting to discuss and adopt recommendations to the Legislature regarding funding for basic education. Democratic members discussed the need to put forth a report that contained recommendations and the Republican members expressed the desire to put forth a report that would include the meeting notes and the data from the consultant without recommendations to the Legislature. After discussions from members of the Task Force, all motions failed to adopt recommendations to provide to the Legislature.

Levy Cliff

[HB 1059](#) (companion [SB 5023](#)), sponsored by Rep. Lytton (D), which would delay implementation of revisions to the school levy lid, received a public hearing in the House Appropriations Committee on January 11th, and executive action on January 12th. It is anticipated that [HB 1059](#) will be brought to the House floor for a vote on Wednesday, January 18th. [SB 5023](#), sponsored by Sen. Wellman (D), has not been scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate.

Public Safety

Use of Deadly Force

The use of deadly force task force meet over the interim to review laws, practices, and training programs regarding use of deadly force and recommend best practices to reduce the number of violent interaction between law enforcement and members of the public. The task force was required to submit a final report to the Legislature and Governor by December 1, 2016. Sen. Frockt (D) introduced legislation reflecting the recommendations of the joint task force. Rep. Doglio (D) and Sen. McCoy (D) introduced [HB 1000/SB 5000](#), which proposes changes to the use of deadly force statute.

Sexual Assault Forensic Exams

The City of Seattle, along with legislators, victims' advocates, law enforcement and prosecutors participated in the second year of an in-depth stakeholder process to create processes to deal with rape kits in Washington State. Rep. Tina Orwall (D) introduced two bills reflecting task force

conversations. [HB 1109](#) has a hearing on 1/17 in House Public Safety and creates a pilot project to create and train multidisciplinary community response teams, and creates a funding account using a fee levied on adult entertainment establishments. [HB 1111](#) creates procedural improvements to the collection and processing of DNA.

Human Trafficking

Bipartisan legislation to strengthen current Washington State human trafficking laws was introduced this week. The "Human Trafficking Protection Order Bill" ([HB 1079/SB 5029](#)) protects victims by creating a protection order or no-contact order. [HB 1078/SB 5030](#) extends the statute of limitations for human trafficking crimes from three to ten years. Neither bill has a financial impact on the state.

Gun Responsibility

Rep. Kagi (D) and 30 other legislators introduced [HB 1122](#), dangerous access prevention, which creates criminal liability if a child or anyone prohibited from possessing firearms accesses an unsecured firearm and uses it to hurt themselves or others. A Senate version of this bill is expected to be introduced in the coming weeks.

Legislation ([SB 5050/HB 1134](#)) banning the sales of assault-style rifles was introduced the first day of session by Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson (D). Legislators are also working with the Attorney General to introduce an enhanced assault weapon background check bill, which would create an in-depth background check system for assault weapon purchase, including increasing the minimum age for purchase to 21, requiring safety training, and annual renewal of the check.

Marijuana

Seattle legislation that aims to reform marijuana related penalties was introduced by Rep. Kirby (D). [HB 1065](#) seeks to better align marijuana laws with those for alcohol, give cities the tools they need to address low-level transactions, and alleviate some of the disproportionate impacts on communities of color. [HB 1065](#) is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Commerce & Gaming Committee on January 17th.

General Government

Seattle Center

Rep. Fey (D) introduced [HB 1114](#), which exempts the Seattle Center and Tacoma dome from the leasehold excise tax.

Telecommunications

The Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee held a work session on 5G deployment. There is general interest from carriers to have legislation to expedite the permitting process, ensure access to right-of-way, and standardize costs. The Association of Washington Cities participated in the work session and provided an overview of cities' need to balance speedy deployment with other needs of the community, including aesthetics and safety. No legislation has been introduced.

Environment

Solar

On January 12th, the House Technology and Economic Development Committee held a hearing on [HB 1048](#), sponsored by Rep. Morris (D), which would modify and extend the existing solar production tax incentive. Seattle City Light testified in support of the bill but acknowledged some provision which they would like to see some clarifications.

Carbon Pollution Tax

Sen. Braun (R) and Sen. Ranker (D) introduced [SB 5127](#) which would establish a carbon pollution tax and investment program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, facilitate the transition to a clean energy economy, and invest in K-12 education. No public hearing has yet been scheduled.

Model Toxics Control Act

Though no legislation has been introduced, several work sessions have been scheduled to discuss the Model Toxic Control Act (MTCA) during the week of January 16th. The House Environment Committee will hold a work session on January 16th; the House Capital Budget Committee on January 17th; and the Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee on January 17th.

Homelessness & Housing

Homelessness

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the House Community Development, Housing, and Tribal Affairs held work sessions on state and local homelessness programs and the resources for homelessness programs. Tedd Kelleher, Senior Managing Director of the Housing Assistance Unit at the Washington State Department of Commerce, provided an overview of homeless programs and the document recording surcharges. Several community providers and elected officials participated in the work session and spoke about their efforts to reduce homelessness and the importance of the document recording fee.

Preservation Tax Exemption

Sen. Fain (R) introduced [SB 5182](#), which provides a property tax exemption for the preservation of affordable housing. This legislation is one of the recommendations from the Seattle HALA report.

Safety Net

Family & Medical Leave Insurance

Legislators introduced two different approaches to family and medical leave. Sen. Keiser (D) and Rep. Robinson (D) introduced [SB 5032/ HB 1116](#), which advocates describe as a holistic, integrated system with paid leave benefits that follow the worker for up to 26 weeks of family leave and 12 weeks for disability leave. Sen. Fain (R) introduced [SB 5149](#), which is fully employee paid, and tied to time with a particular employer and provides only 8 weeks of leave in 2020 (which increases to 12 weeks in 2023).

Transportation

Rep. Clibborn (D) and Sen. King (R) introduced legislation aimed at facilitating compliance with the federal REAL ID Act, [HB 1041/SB 5008](#). The bill would modify drivers' licenses and identification card design and fees.

Looking Ahead

This will be a long and potentially difficult session, but the work we achieved over the interim with the Mayor, Council, departmental issue leads, and the Seattle delegation have created a solid foundation for a successful session. We look forward to Councilmembers' engagement throughout the session and we have confirmed January 26th and February 9th with Council President Harrell's office as lobby days for you. We look forward to those being productive days for you.

Some of the bills we are monitoring include (please let us know if there are bills you would like us to add to this list):

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
HB 1000 (SB 5000)	Law enforcement deadly force	Concerning the use of deadly force by law enforcement and corrections officers.	H Public Safety	Doglio
HB 1004	Firearms/state of emergency	Protecting the constitutionally guaranteed right to the lawful possession of firearms during a state of emergency.	H Judiciary	Shea
HB 1011	Gender-segregated facilities	Allowing the use of gender-segregated facilities.	H Judiciary	Taylor
HB 1015	Carrying concealed pistols	Prohibiting restrictions on the carrying of a concealed pistol by persons with a valid concealed pistol license in certain facilities.	H Judiciary	Shea
HB 1021	Funding education first	Funding education first.	H Approps	MacEwen
HB 1041 (SB 5008)	REAL ID compliance	Facilitating compliance with the federal REAL ID act by modifying driver's license and identicard design and fees.	H Trans	Clibborn
HB 1047	Medication disposal system	Protecting the public's health by creating a system for safe and secure collection and disposal of unwanted medications.	H HC/Wellness	Peterson
HB 1048	Renewable energy promotion	Promoting a sustainable, local renewable energy industry through modifying renewable energy system tax incentives and providing guidance for renewable energy system component recycling.	H Tech & Econ D	Morris
HB 1049	Unmanned aircraft	Concerning unmanned aircraft.	H Tech & Econ D	Morris
HB 1054 (SB 5025)	Tobacco & vapor products/age	Concerning the age of individuals at which sale or distribution of tobacco and vapor products may be made.	H HC/Wellness	Harris
HB 1059 (SB 5023)	School levy lid revs./delay	Delaying implementation of revisions to the school levy lid.	H Approps	Lytton
HB 1061 (SB 5043)	Collection agency fees	Concerning collection agency transaction fees for processing electronic payments.	H Bus & Fin Svcs	Stanford
HB 1065	Marijuana offense penalties	Concerning penalties for marijuana offenses.	H Commerce & Gam	Kirby
HB 1073 (SB 5026)	Freight deliverers	Concerning commercial transportation services freight deliverers.	H Bus & Fin Svcs	Kirby
HB 1078 (SB 5030)	Trafficking, etc/time limits	Concerning human trafficking, prostitution, and commercial sexual abuse of a minor.	H Public Safety	Pellicciotti
HB 1079 (SB 5029)	No-contact order/trafficking	Creating a criminal no-contact order for human trafficking and promoting prostitution-related offenses.	H Public Safety	Orwall

HB 1082	Commercial rent control	Prohibiting regulation of the amount of rent for commercial properties.	H Local Govt	Manweller
HB 1093	Legal financial obligations	Clarifying legal financial obligation provisions.	H Judiciary	Appleton
HB 1101	GMA populat. growth criteria	Simplifying the population growth criteria for planning required by the growth management act.	H Environment	Taylor
HB 1109	Victims of sexual assault	Supporting victims of sexual assault.	H Public Safety	Orwall
HB 1111	DNA biological samples	Concerning DNA biological samples.	H Public Safety	Orwall
HB 1112	Trafficking victims/vacating	Vacating convictions arising from offenses committed as a result of being a victim of trafficking, promoting prostitution, or promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor.	H Public Safety	Orwall
HB 1113	Excess liquor revenue dist.	Concerning gradually increasing the local government share of excess liquor revenues until the percentage-based method for distributions is restored.	H Approps	Hayes
HB 1114	Performing arts/leasehold tx	Exempting certain leasehold interests in performing arts facilities or arenas from the leasehold excise tax.	H Finance	Fey
HB 1116 (SB 5032)	Family & med leave insurance	Implementing family and medical leave insurance.	H Labor & Workpl	Robinson
HB 1122	Storage of firearms	Protecting public safety through responsible storage of firearms.	H Judiciary	Kagi
HB 1123	Tourism marketing	Concerning tourism marketing.	H Comm Dev, Hous	Condotta
HB 1134 (SB 5050)	Assault weapons ban	Banning the sale of assault weapons and large capacity magazines.	H Judiciary	Peterson
HB 1135 (SB 5137)	Oil spill planning/railroads	Limiting oil spill contingency planning requirements to those railroads that haul oils used as fuel.	H Environment	Dye
HB 1136 (SB 5123)	Oil spill planning/nonfuel	Exempting short-line railroads that haul nonfuel oils from oil spill contingency planning requirements.	H Environment	Dye
HB 1143	Work hours and scheduling	Concerning fairness and equity in local employment laws and contracts related to work hours and scheduling.	H Labor & Workpla	Manweller
HB 1144	Greenhouse gas emissions	Amending state greenhouse gas emission limits for consistency with the most recent assessment of climate change science.	H Environment	Fitzgibbon
HB 1158	I-200 repeal	Restoring the fair treatment of underserved groups in public employment, education, and contracting.	H Tech & Econ D	Santos
HB 1163	Domestic violence	Concerning domestic violence.	H Public Safety	Goodman
HB 1170	Truancy reduction efforts	Maintaining and facilitating court-based and school-based efforts to promote attendance and reduce truancy.	H Judiciary	Orwall

HB 1175	Trans. benefit districts tax	Increasing the rate of sales and use tax that may be imposed by certain transportation benefit districts.	H Finance	Muri
HB 1190	Firearm owners database	Prohibiting a government database of law abiding owners of legal firearms.	H Judiciary	Taylor
HB 1203	School construction taxes	Exempting school districts from the state portion of sales and use taxes on school construction.	H Finance	Young
HB 1210	Oil spill prevention account	Strengthening funding for oil spill programs in Washington by increasing revenue to the oil spill prevention account.	H Finance	Farrell
HB 1226	Electronic waste collection	Improving the convenience of electronic waste collection.	H Environment	Pike
SB 5000 (HB 1000)	Law enforcement deadly force	Concerning the use of deadly force by law enforcement and corrections officers.	S Law & Justice	McCoy
SB 5008 (HB 1041)	REAL ID compliance	Facilitating compliance with the federal REAL ID act by modifying driver's license and identocard design and fees.	S Transportation	King
SB 5019	Ballots, prepaid postage	Providing prepaid postage for primary and general election ballots.	S State Governme	Hasegawa
SB 5023 (HB 1059)	School levy lid revs./delay	Delaying implementation of revisions to the school levy lid.	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 5025 (HB 1054)	Tobacco & vapor products/age	Concerning the age of individuals at which sale or distribution of tobacco and vapor products may be made.	S Health Care	Miloscia
SB 5026 (HB 1073)	Freight deliverers	Concerning commercial transportation services freight deliverers.	S Transportation	Hobbs
SB 5029 (HB 1079)	No-contact order/trafficking	Creating a criminal no-contact order for human trafficking and promoting prostitution-related offenses.	S Law & Justice	Padden
SB 5030 (HB 1078)	Trafficking, etc/time limits	Concerning human trafficking, prostitution, and commercial sexual abuse of a minor.	S Law & Justice	Darneille
SB 5032 (HB 1116)	Family & med leave insurance	Implementing family and medical leave insurance.	S Com/Labor/Spor	Keiser
SB 5034	Local gov. financial reports	Concerning local government financial reports.	S Local Governmen	Rivers
SB 5046	Language of public notices	Providing public notices of public health, safety, and welfare in a language other than English.	S Local Governme	Hasegawa
SB 5050 (HB 1134)	Assault weapons ban	Banning the sale of assault weapons and large capacity magazines.	S Law & Justice	Frockt
SB 5067	Voting rights	Enacting the Washington voting rights act.	S State Governmen	Miloscia

SB 5073	Use of deadly force	Concerning recommendations from the joint legislative task force on the use of deadly force in community policing.	S Law & Justice	Frocket
SB 5076	School district bonds	Providing for a simple majority of voters voting to authorize school district bonds.	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5077	Housing assistance/WCCW	Allowing the department of corrections to provide temporary housing assistance to individuals being released from the Washington corrections center for women.	S Law & Justice	Angel
SB 5098	Flammable train speed limits	Concerning high hazard flammable train speed limits in certain urban areas.	S Transportation	Billig
SB 5107	Early learning opportunities	Creating a local pathway for local governments, school districts, and nonprofit organizations to provide more high quality early learning opportunities by reducing barriers and increasing efficiency.	S EL/K-12	Billig
SB 5111	Capital gains excise tax	Enacting an excise tax on capital gains to improve the fairness of Washington's tax system and provide funding for the education legacy trust account.	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5116	1st class cities' retirement	Authorizing the state investment board to invest the assets of the first class cities' retirement systems.	S Ways & Means	Carlyle
SB 5123 (HB 1136)	Oil spill planning/nonfuel	Exempting short-line railroads that haul nonfuel oils from oil spill contingency planning requirements.	S Energy, Enviro	Warnick
SB 5127	Carbon pollution tax	Establishing a carbon pollution tax and investment program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, facilitate the transition to a clean energy economy, and invest in K-12 education and other vital public services.	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5134	Homeowners' assocs./notice	Modifying notice and opportunity provisions relating to certain enforcement actions taken by a homeowners' or condominium association.	S Fin Inst/Ins	Hasegawa
SB 5136	Electronic product recycling	Concerning electronic product recycling.	S Energy, Environ	Chase
SB 5137 (HB 1135)	Oil spill planning/railroads	Limiting oil spill contingency planning requirements to those railroads that haul oils used as fuel.	S Energy, Enviro	Warnick
SB 5140	Equal pay and opportunities	Concerning enforcement of the equal pay act and worker communications about wages and employment opportunities.	S Com/Labor/Sport	Cleveland
SB 5149	Paid family leave	Addressing paid family leave.	S Com/Labor/Spor	Fain
SB 5182	Affordable housing options	Providing local governments with options to preserve affordable housing in their communities.		Fain