



CITY OF SEATTLE 2015 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

April 20, 2015

Number 14

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

Week Overview

With just ten days left of the regular 105-day session, another cutoff date was reached this past week, as April 15th at 5:00 p.m. was the last day to pass bills originating in the opposite chamber. This cutoff did not apply to bills necessary to implement the budgets. It is looking increasingly likely that at least one special session will be required to reach a budget deal between the two chambers. Special sessions are called by the governor and last 30 days each session. A special session may be called immediately following the scheduled Sine Die of April 26th, or the governor can wait to call the session to begin at a later date.

Priority Areas

Budget and Infrastructure

Some good news came to legislators from the Office of Financial Management (OFM), which recently announced state revenue is an additional \$18.4 million more than was forecasted for March 2015.

On Tuesday evening, April 14th, the Senate passed their capital budget proposal, [EHB 1115](#) as amended in the Ways and Means committee, off the floor with a vote of 39-10. This occurred after numerous amendments and several strikers were debated and voted upon. Negotiations between the House and Senate on their differences now begin.

Also on Tuesday, the House passed [SB 5795](#), a priority bill for the City of Seattle. This legislation will allow municipalities to recoup investment in water and sewer infrastructure by charging "latecomer fees" to secondary developers who benefit from that infrastructure. The bill, sponsored by Sen. Roach (R), passed on a bi-partisan vote of 57-40. The bill, having passed the Senate, now moves to the Governor's desk for signature.

Education

On Wednesday, April 15th, three of the caucuses released proposals for education funding. Both the Senate Republican and Democratic caucuses released proposals outlining funding proposals, while the House D's proposed the creation of a task force that would make recommendations on funding to the legislature next year. The bill, [HB 2239](#), is sponsored by Rep. Ross Hunter (D).

The Senate R's proposal, [SB 6109](#) sponsored by Sen. Bruce Dammeier (R), would initiate a levy swap, lowering local levies and raising state ones by commensurate amounts. The swap would not commence until 2018. The local levies would be restricted to use on non-basic education programs. The proposal repeals I-732 which mandated teacher COLA's and instead would require a wage analysis be conducted every six years by the Washington State Employment Security Department to ensure that K–12 salaries keep pace with the wages of comparable occupations. A new statewide salary schedule is also established, as well as a new School Employees Benefits Board.

The Senate D proposal is made up of 3 separate bills, [SB 6102](#), [SB 6103](#), and [SB 6104](#). SB 6103 by Sen. Jim Hargrove (D) outlines a phased reduction in local levies, and SB 6104 by Sen. Christine Rolfes (D), creates a new salary allocation schedule and phases in reductions in school class sizes. SB 6102, proposed by Sen Kevin Ranker (D), would institute a 7% Capital Gains Tax on \$500,000/couples, \$250,000/single filers, raising an estimated \$1.7 billion to pay for the components of the other two bills.

Safety Net, Housing and Health Care

[SHB 1223](#), sponsored by Rep. Larry Springer (D), which allows for the use of hotel and motel taxes to pay off bonds issued for affordable workforce housing, passed the Senate (32-17) and is headed to the governor to be signed into law.

Environment

The Senate and the House have traded hazardous materials transport safety policy back and forth, each passing their versions and then amending the bills once received from the opposite chamber. On Tuesday, April 14th, the House passed their version in the amended [E2SB 5057](#), originally sponsored by Sen Doug Ericksen (R), on a vote of 58 – 40. The following day the Senate likewise amended [ESHB 1449](#) by Rep. Jessyn Farrell, and after lengthy debate and adoption of several amendments, passed the legislation. Major differences to be worked out include application of a barrel tax on pipelines, the barrel tax rate, and requirements for advance notice.

Transportation

On Tuesday, April 14th, the House Transportation Committee presented its counterproposal to the Senate proposed transportation revenue package. The House package totals \$15.1 billion over 16 years, and, similar to the Senate proposal, calls for an 11.7-cent-per-gallon tax increase phased in over three years. Also similarly, the package included funding for several major projects of impact on Seattle, including full funding for completion of the 520 bridge, funding for the Northgate Pedestrian Bridge (\$10 million), MLK Way/Rainier Ave S Improvements (\$900,000), Rapidride Expansion Burien-Delridge (\$8 million), and Trolley Expansion/Electrification, Madison Route (\$8 million).

Where the packages differed were in funding for Sound Transit 3, which the House gives authority for the full \$15 billion ST request compared to the Senate's \$11 billion. In addition the House removes both

the Senate sweep of certain sales tax revenues from the General Fund to the Transportation budget, the exemption of highway transportation projects from sales tax, and language that would rescind funding if the governor chose to implement low carbon fuel standards through the Department of Ecology. The Committee passed the package 17-8 with 3 Republicans joining the majority Democrats. The two sides have already started negotiations to craft a compromise.

Public Safety

Gun Responsibility

[SB 5381](#), sponsored by Sen. Andy Billig (D), establishing notification requirements by law enforcement when seized firearms are returned to an offender, also known as Sheena's law, cleared the final legislative hurdle when the Senate concurred on House amendments on Wednesday April 16th, and is headed to the governor's desk.

Marijuana

On Tuesday, April 14th the Senate concurred on amendments to [SB 5052](#), Senator Ann Rivers' (R) "Cannabis Patient Protection Act". The bill now heads to Governor Inslee, who has indicated that he will sign it.

[SB 5121](#), establishing a marijuana research license, is also headed to the Governor, having been signed by the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate. The bill, sponsored by Sen Jeanne Kohl-Welles, received final passage the previous week.

Other

Legislation providing funding for testing of rape kits is headed to the Governor's desk, as [SHB 1068](#) sponsored by Rep. Tina Orwall (D), passed unanimously from the Senate.

On Friday, April 17th, Governor Inslee signed into law [SB 5088](#), concerning geological hazard assessment. The bill was sponsored by Sen. Kirk Pearson (R) and strongly supported by the City.

Looking Ahead

The final week of session has lawmakers trying to find agreement on the budgets. Due to the drafting, paperwork and voting time requirements, it is estimated that agreement would need to be met by Wednesday, April 22nd in order for the legislature to Sine Die on Sunday, April 26th.

Made the April 15th Cutoff

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
SHB 1068 (SB 5225)	Sexual assault exam kits	Concerning sexual assault examination kits.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 46; nays, 0; absent, 0; excused, 3.	Orwall
SHB 1069 (SB 5253)	DNA work product, preserving	Concerning preservation of DNA work product.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 47; nays, 1; absent, 0; excused, 1.	Orwall
ESHB 1093	Unmanned aircraft	Concerning unmanned aircraft.	S2nd Reading - Placed on second reading by Rules Committee.	Morris
SHB 1223	Lodging tx/workforce housing	Allowing the use of lodging taxes for financing workforce housing.	SPres Signed - President signed.	Springer
SHB 1240 (SB 5908)	Student restraint, isolation	Concerning restraint or isolation of students, including students with disabilities, in public schools.	Href/S recede - House refuses to concur in Senate amendments. Asks Senate to recede from amendments.	Pollet
E2SHB 1276	Impaired driving	Concerning impaired driving.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 39; nays, 9; absent, 0; excused, 1.	Klippert
HB 1389 (SB 5181)	State fire service/disasters	Addressing the scope of state fire service mobilization and ensuring compliance with existing state and federal disaster response policies.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 49; nays, 0; absent, 0; excused, 0.	Goodman
ESHB 1449 (SB 5087)	Oil transportation safety	Concerning oil transportation safety.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 28; nays, 21; absent, 0; excused, 0.	Farrell
E2SHB 1491 (E2SSB 5452)	Early care & education system	Improving quality in the early care and education system.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 33; nays, 11; absent, 1; excused, 4.	Kagi
HB 1554	Children/guardians, family	Exempting information of guardians or family members of children enrolled in child care, early learning, parks and recreation, after-school, and youth development programs.	Del to Gov - Delivered to Governor.	Stambaugh
ESHB 1713	Mental hlth, chem dependency	Integrating the treatment systems for mental health and chemical dependency.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 48; nays, 1; absent, 0; excused, 0.	Cody
HB 1720	Healthy housing	Concerning healthy housing.	Del to Gov - Delivered to Governor.	Robinson

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
ESHB 1980 (SB 6020)	Sunshine committee rec's	Implementing recommendations of the sunshine committee.	SPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 44; nays, 0; absent, 1; excused, 4.	Springer
ESSB 5048 (ESHB 1417)	Water-sewer districts	Subjecting a resolution or ordinance adopted by the legislative body of a city or town to assume a water-sewer district to a referendum.	HPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 96; nays, 1; absent, 0; excused, 1.	Chase
2SSB 5052	Cannabis patient protection	Establishing the cannabis patient protection act.	HSpkr Signed - Speaker signed.	Rivers
E2SSB 5057	Hazardous material transport	Concerning the safe transport of hazardous materials.	HPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 58; nays, 40; absent, 0; excused, 0.	Ericksen
SB 5088 (HB 1182)	Geological hazard assessment	Concerning a geological hazards assessment.	Del to Gov - Delivered to Governor.	Pearson
SB 5121	Marijuana research license	Establishing a marijuana research license.	HSpkr Signed - Speaker signed.	Kohl-Welles
E2SSB 5269 (EHB 1258)	Detention decision review	Concerning court review of detention decisions under the involuntary treatment act.	HPassed 3rd - Third reading, passed; yeas, 92; nays, 5; absent, 0; excused, 1.	O'Ban
2SSB 5404 (2SHB 1436)	Homeless youth	Concerning homeless youth prevention and protection.	HSpkr Signed - Speaker signed.	O'Ban
SSB 5433 (SHB 1511)	Tribal history, culture, etc	Requiring Washington's tribal history, culture, and government to be taught in the common schools.	SPres Signed - President signed.	Litzow
2SSB 5486 (HB 1728)	Parents for parents program	Creating the parents for parents program.	HSpkr Signed - Speaker signed.	Frocht
ESSB 5550	Commercial trans. providers	Regulating providers of commercial transportation services.	SPassed FP - Passed final passage; yeas, 43; nays, 5; absent, 0; excused, 1.	Habib
SSB 5740 (2SHB 1735)	Extended foster care	Concerning extended foster care services.	SPassed FP - Passed final passage; yeas, 43; nays, 2; absent, 0; excused, 4.	Fain
SSB 5795 (HB 1911)	Water or sewer facilities	Authorizing municipalities to create assessment reimbursement areas for the construction or improvement of water or sewer facilities.	SPres Signed - President signed.	Roach
SSB 5889 (E2SHB 2060)	Competency eval. timeliness	Concerning timeliness of competency evaluation and restoration services.	C 5 L 15 - Effective date 7/26/2015.	O'Ban