



**CITY OF SEATTLE
2014 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN**

February 3, 2014

Number 4

Week Overview

Week three was highlighted by enormous turnout for hearings on the Gun Initiatives, including a special appearance by Former US Rep. Gabby Giffords, as well as by Council lobby days on Wednesday and Thursday.

Highlight of Bills on Executive Session

HB 2244: Sponsored by Rep. Stanford, restores resources to the Public Works Fund within two years, rather than six as previously stipulated. This bill is scheduled for executive session on February 4th.

HB 2144: Sponsored by Rep. Condotta, establishes a dedicated local jurisdiction Marijuana Fund and requires 30% of collected marijuana revenue be distributed to local jurisdictions. This bill is scheduled for executive session in Government Accountability & Oversight on February 3rd.

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 executive session on February 3rd 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 exec on February 3rd in Senate Government Accountability & Oversight.

HB 2347: Prime sponsored by Rep. Farrell, this bill concerns oil Train and Tanker Safety. 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 is scheduled for executive session in the House Environment committee on February 4th.

HB 2377: Representatives Hunter and Kagi's omnibus bills to address improving early care and education systems. The House bill was heard on January 16th and is scheduled for executive session on January 30th.

HB 2519: Rep. Senn has introduced HB 2519, access to Early Learning for Children in Child Welfare System, to expand access to early learning for children in the child welfare system. It has been scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Early Learning and Human Services on February 3rd.

HB 2451: This bill bans sexual identity change therapy. Sen. Lias introduced this legislation while still in the House. HB 2451 would ban the use of so-called “change therapy” on patients under the age of 18. It has been scheduled for executive session on February 3rd in the Committee on Health Care and Wellness Early Learning and Human Services.

HB 2545: Prohibiting employers from asking about or using non-conviction information on applications for employment. This bill is prime sponsored by Rep. Moscoso’s and is up for executive session on February 4th in House Labor and Workforce Committee.

HB 2399: Establishing a Certificate of Restoration of Opportunity. Rep Walkinshaw’s bill seeks to reduce recidivism by lifting barriers to employment. This legislation is scheduled for executive session on February 4th in House committee on Public Safety.

HB 2581: Sponsored by Rep. Tarleton, HB 2581, defines “floating homes” for the purposes of the Shoreline Management Act. The bill is scheduled for executive session on February 4th.

Upcoming Hearings

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 will be heard together in the Senate Commerce Committee on February 5th.

SB 6472: Simplifying the taxation of amusement, recreation and physical fitness services. Sponsored by Sen Hill, this bill is noteworthy for making permanent the Opportunity to Dance tax exemption passed last year. There is a hearing on this bill in Senate Ways and Means on February 3rd.

HB 2672: Increasing the minimum wage to \$12.00 over three years. Rep. Farrell’s bill has 32 co-sponsors and is scheduled for a hearing on February 4th, with an executive session on February 5th in House Labor and Workforce.

Continuing to Follow

Areas of Primary Focus

Protecting the most vulnerable

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. Councilmember Clark testified at the hearing on January 29th, and this bill is scheduled for executive session on February 3rd.

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: **SB 6291**, introduced by Senator Frockt, this bill 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 moved out of committee on January 28th and referred to Appropriations on January 30th. SB 6313 is scheduled for executive session on February 4th.

Education/Early Learning

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 was passed out of House Early Learning and Human Services on January 29th.

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

Transportation Budget: Sen. King was anticipated to present a new transportation budget proposal on Friday, January 31th, but none was forthcoming.

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 February 4th.

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. This bill was heard January 28th.

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, and then placed on second reading in Rules on January 30th.

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 and exec'd on January 30th.

Marijuana

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 executive session on February 5th.

HB 2149: This bill is prime sponsored by Rep. Cody and received its first public hearing on January 15th. One amendment was added which postponed the closure of medical marijuana dispensaries until 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, referred to House Appropriations, and will be heard there on February 7th.

HB 2198: Sponsored by Rep. Carlyle, this bill creates a sales and use tax exemption for medical marijuana when purchased at licensed retail outlets. This bill passed out of committee on January 30th.

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

HB 2468/SB 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 be exec'd in the House Public Safety committee on February 4th. SB 6310 has not been given a hearing.

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 was passed out of committee on January 30th.

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), were both hear last week. The House

Judiciary committee held hearings on January 28th and the Senate Law and Justice committee on January 29th.

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. Bill was voted out of committee and sent to Rules on January 23rd.

Other Issues of Significant Interest

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 was heard in House Environment Committee on January 29th.

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.

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.

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 was held on 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 is scheduled for executive session on Feb 4th.

Mercury-Containing Lights Stewardship: Sponsored by Rep. Sam Hunt, **HB 2246** replaces the current model of funding for product stewardship with a handling charge applied to each retail sale, and designates a sunset date for program in 2025. This bill moved out of committee on January 31st.

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. This bill was exec’d on January 23rd and placed on second reading in Rules on January 27th.

Looking Ahead

Cut off for all policy bills is Friday, February 27th.