



CITY OF SEATTLE 2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

February 15, 2016

Number 5

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

Week Overview

February 9th was the halfway point for the 60-day session and the fiscal committee cut-off date. This means fiscal committees (e.g., House Finance, House Appropriations, House and Senate Transportation, and Senate Ways & Means) had to vote bills out by that date in order for those bills to proceed this session. Any bill deemed NTIB (necessary to implement the budget) are exempt from these cut-off deadlines. The next deadline for legislation is February 17th. This is the day by which the chamber of origin must pass its own bills off the floor so that they may proceed to the opposite chamber for consideration.

Also on February 9th, I-732, the carbon tax initiative to the legislature, had a hearing in the Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee. The legislature has a number of options for addressing this initiative. They can do nothing and send it to the voters for a November 2016 vote. They can pass it and it becomes law. Or they can amend it and send an alternative to the ballot. If they were to pass an amended version then both the original and the alternative would be on the ballot in November 2016.

On Wednesday, February 10th, the Senate brought forward [SB 6443](#) for a floor vote. This bill would have repealed a new rule allowing transgender people to use restrooms and other facilities of the gender with which they identify. After three Senate Republicans crossed the aisle and voted with Senate Democrats, the bill was defeated by a 25-24 vote.

Friday, February 12th, the Senate addressed Sen. Roach's(R) [SJR 8211](#), which requires a two-third supermajority vote by each chamber to approve new taxes in Washington State. The legislation failed, by a vote of 26-23, to receive the required two-thirds majority (33 votes) to pass.

Priority Areas

Safety Net and Housing

Preservation Tax Exemption

[SB 6239](#) (Sen. Fain-R), which provides a property tax exemption for the preservation of affordable housing, was passed out of the Senate Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday, February 9th. On February 12th, the Senate Rules Committee placed the bill on second reading. The City supports this legislation.

Tenant Protections

[SB 6413/HB 2811](#), sponsored by Sen. Mullet (D) and Rep. Walkinshaw (D), respectively, 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. On Monday, February 15th, the Senate passed SB 6413, 46-2. The House version of the bill is in Rules. The City supports this legislation.

[HB 1565](#) (Rep. Ormsby-D; companion bill [SB 5378](#)), prohibits a person from discriminating against a tenant based on his or her source of income. This bill remains in the House Rules Committee awaiting further consideration. The City supports this legislation.

Homeless Housing

[HB 2929](#), providing temporary homeless housing, passed the House unanimously on February 11th. That same day, [2EHB 2086](#), with the intent of making it easier for religious establishments to provide housing for the homeless passed the House (53-43). The City supports these bills.

Youth Mental Health

Rep. Kagi's (D) bill [SHB 2439](#), increasing access to adequate and appropriate mental health services for children and youth, was reported out of the House Appropriations Committee on Tuesday, February 9th and referred to House Rules. Sen. Darneille's (D) [2SSB 6494](#) (the companion to 2439), moved out of Senate Rules Committee and was placed on the floor calendar for a second reading on February 12th. The City supports this legislation.

Repeal of I-200

[HB 2822](#), introduced by Rep Santos (D), which sought to repeal Initiative 200, which was passed in 1998 and prohibits affirmative action hiring for public employers, in public education and for contracting services hired by public employers failed to move out of the House Capital Budget Committee by the February 9th deadline. The City supported this legislation.

Birth Control Access

[SHB 2465](#) (Rep. Robinson-D), passed the House with a vote of 91-6. The legislation allows insurance carriers and Medicaid to reimburse for a one-year supply of birth control. [2SHB 2681](#) (Rep. Stambaugh-R), allowing pharmacists to prescribe and dispense birth control, passed the House 67-30.

Statewide Rape Kit Tracking System

[SHB 2530](#) (Rep. Orwall-D), sets up a statewide system to track all rape kits. The bill passed House Appropriations on February 9th, and has been referred to the Rules Committee. In anticipation of it passing the House by February 17th, this bill has already been scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Law and Justice Committee on February 18th. The City supports this legislation.

Public Safety and Government Operations

Post-incarceration aid

Rep. Pettigrew's (D) [HB 2791](#), 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 Appropriations Committee on February 9th, and passed the House on February 15th by a 94-3 vote. The City supports this legislation

Marijuana

[HB 2494](#) (Rep. Tarleton-D), which would seek to align marijuana possession penalties more closely with alcohol possession penalties, passed the House on February 15th by a 73-25 vote.

[HB 2368](#) (Rep. Hurst-D), which would allow a 2-year pilot program in Seattle for marijuana delivery services, was placed on second reading in Rules and awaits floor action. The City supports both pieces of legislation.

Pensions

On Thursday, February 11th, the House voted 96-1 to pass [HB 2648](#) (Rep. Fey-D), which would expand investment opportunities for the Cities of Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane. The bill is scheduled for a hearing in Senate Government Operations on February 18th. The Senate companion bill, SB 6170 (Sen. Roach-R), moved to the Senate floor calendar on February 12th. The City supports this legislation.

Public Records Requests

[HB 2576](#) (Rep. McBride-D), was referred to House Rules on February 9th, and is awaiting consideration. 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

Rep. Parker's (R) legislation ([HB 2823](#)), which aims at reducing school shootings by encouraging students to provide tips to law enforcement, passed out of the House Appropriations Committee 28-1 on February 9th, and was pulled from House Rules on February 12th.

Deadly Force

[HB 2908](#) (Rep. Ryu-D), relating to standards around use of deadly force and creating a task force to look at community policing standards was pulled from House Rules on February 11th.

Education

McCleary

The McCleary decision requiring that the state fully fund basic education by 2018 continues to be a source of contention in the legislature, with some members of House leadership indicating that talks had not yet begun between Republicans and Democrats on how to address it. On February 8th, Rep. Pat Sullivan (D) indicated talks would begin only after the Senate passed a legislative proposal (the House already passed their proposal last month--[ESHB 2366](#) by Rep Lytton-D). That bill has been referred to the Senate Early Learning Committee and is scheduled for a hearing on February 18th.

The following day, the Senate Ways & Means Committee adopted a new “McCleary plan” bill ([2SSB 6195](#), Sen. Rivers-R). The Senate legislation aims to address the court holding that using local levy funds for K-12 basic education expenses is unconstitutional. While both bills are very similar, importantly, they differ on the legislative deadline to identify a funding source to replace local levy dollars currently funding those services. The House bill directs the legislature to take action by 2017 while the Senate bill requires action by 2018.

Student Homelessness

[HB 1682](#) (Rep. Fey-D), passed the House on February 10th by a vote of 68-28. This bill seeks to improve educational outcomes for homeless students through increased in-school guidance supports, housing stability, and identification services.

Early Learning

[SHB 2716](#) (Rep. Senn-D), aimed at providing vulnerable children with 12 months of early learning, was passed out of House on a 90-6 vote on February 12th.

Transportation

Oil Transportation Safety

On Friday February 12th, [HB 2575](#), prime sponsored by Rep. Farrell (D), passed the House on a 93-2 vote. The legislation directs the Department of Ecology to contract for an update to the State’s response capacity to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive agents by June 2017.

Environment

Solar Incentives

[SHB 2346](#) (Rep. Morris-D), regarding the solar production incentive, passed the House Appropriations Committee on February 9th by a 27-5 vote and moved to Rules. There remain a number of concerns with the bill, including a too-low rate for community solar at 18-cents, and a provision which would allow the program administrator (WSU Energy) to no longer accept applications for the incentive if a utility nears its tax credit limit. The City supports this legislation and is working to address these concerns.

Carbon Reductions

[ESSB 5735](#) (Rep. Ericksen-R), which addresses providing incentives for carbon reduction investments, was moved from the Senate Rules Committee to the floor. This bill makes significant changes to I-937 by allowing certain new investments in carbon reduction to count towards a utility's renewable target. There is speculation that this legislation may be viewed as a potential I-732 alternative. The City opposes this legislation.

Growth Management Act

[SB 6426](#), prime sponsored by Sen. Conway (D), allows schools to be located outside urban growth boundaries defined by the GMA. This bill passed the Senate Government Operations Committee and was placed on second reading in Senate Rules. The city is concerned that this bill seeks to undermine the GMA's intention to contain urban growth, and thus, opposes the legislation.

Paint Stewardship Program

[ESHB 1571](#) (Rep. Peterson-D), with the intent of reducing pollution from improper paint disposal, passed the House with a 51-46 vote on February 10th, and was referred to the Senate Energy and Environment Committee.

Looking Ahead

The Legislature will soon be turning more attention to the 2016 supplemental budget following the revenue forecast release scheduled for February 17th. The House will release its supplemental proposal first, followed by the Senate. House Leadership has stated they will prioritize closing the opportunity gap, securing equal pay, and reducing homelessness in their budget.

Again, February 17th, is House of Origin cut-off. Action then moves back to the policy committees to hear bills passed from the opposite chamber.

We are looking forward to hosting Seattle City Councilmembers in Olympia on Tuesday, February 23rd, for a Lobby Day.

Bill Status Report

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
HB 1182 (SB 5088)	Geological hazard assessment	Concerning a geological hazards assessment.	H Ag & Nat Res	Hurst
SHB 1257 (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
HB 1355 (SB 5285)	Minimum hourly wage increase	Increasing the minimum hourly wage to twelve dollars over four years.	H Labor & Workpla	Farrell
HB 1356 (SB 5306)	Sick & safe employment leave	Establishing minimum standards for sick and safe leave from employment.	H Labor & Workpla	Jinkins
2SHB 1436 (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
HB 1481 (E2SSB 5564)	Juvenile records and fines	Concerning the sealing of juvenile records and fines imposed in juvenile cases.	H Erly Lrn/H Svc	Kagi
HB 1487 (SB 5423)	Clean car stds and program	Reducing emissions by making changes to the clean car standards and clean car program.	H Environment	Fey
HB 1525 (SB 5008)	Beverage containers	Concerning beverage containers.	H Rules R	Caldier
HB 1565 (SB 5378)	Housing options/govt progrms	Concerning the preservation of housing options for participants in government assistance programs.	H Rules R	Ormsby
HB 1579	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
3SHB 1713	Mental hlth, chem dependency	Integrating the treatment systems for mental health and chemical dependency.	H Passed 3rd	Cody

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
EHB 1729 (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
HB 1911 (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
HB 1917	Recordings/law enf., etc.	Concerning video and/or sound recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers.	H Judiciary	Hansen
HB 2133	Childcare provider addresses	Exempting the addresses of certain child care providers from the public records act.	H State Governmen	Hunt
HB 2211	Vapor products taxation	Concerning vapor products, e-cigarette, and nicotine products tax and regulatory reform to support youth substance prevention.	H Finance	Pollet
HB 2310	Fire prevention/2016	Concerning fire prevention in 2016.	H Ag & Nat Res	Van De Wege
HB 2362	Recordings/law enf., etc.	Concerning video and/or sound recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers.	H 2nd Reading	Hansen
HB 2368	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 2nd Reading	Hurst
HB 2374	Statewide ammunition fee	Concerning a statewide ammunition fee to fund local public safety.	H Judiciary	Senn
HB 2377	Schools/GMA	Establishing schools as essential public facilities within the growth management act.	H Local Govt	Taylor

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
<u>SHB 2440</u>	Youth host home programs	Concerning host home programs for youth.	S HumSer/MenHlth/	Kagi
<u>2SHB 2449</u>	Truancy reduction	Providing court-based and school-based intervention and prevention efforts to promote attendance and reduce truancy.	H Passed 3rd	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 Passed 3rd	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 2nd Reading	Orwall
<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 2nd Reading	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 Approps	Farrell
<u>SHB 2575</u>	Oil transportation safety	Continuing state efforts to increase oil transportation safety.	H Passed 3rd	Farrell

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
HB 2614	Flood risk & habitat proj.	Providing for flood risk reduction and habitat restoration projects in the state.	H Cap Budget	DeBolt
SHB 2644	Animal forfeiture	Concerning animal forfeiture in animal cruelty cases.	H Passed 3rd	Blake
HB 2648 (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.	S GovtOp&Sec	Fey
HB 2672	Utility relocation costs	Relating to utility relocation costs.	H Tech & Econ D	Zeiger
HB 2700	Impaired driving	Concerning impaired driving.	H Rules R	Goodman
HB 2738	Concealed firearm permission	Requiring permission to bring a concealed firearm into another person's residence or dwelling place.	H Judiciary	Hunt
HB 2752	Religion/gov. discrimination	Enacting the protection of the rights of religious exercise and conscience from government discrimination act.	H Judiciary	Griffey
HB 2782	Gender segregated facilities	Concerning the use of facilities segregated by gender.	H Judiciary	Klippert
HB 2811 (ESB 6413)	Landlord-tenant provisions	Modifying residential landlord-tenant act provisions relating to tenant screening, evictions, and refunds.	H 2nd Reading	Walkinshaw
HB 2818	Covering of loads on highway	Concerning the covering of loads on public highways.	H Trans	Kilduff
HB 2822	Underservd grps/I-200 repeal	Restoring the fair treatment of underserved groups in public employment, education, and contracting.	H Cap Budget	Santos
HB 2935 (SB 6443)	Gender seg. facility rules	Concerning human rights commission rules on gender segregated facilities.	H Judiciary	Van Werven
HB 2936 (SB 6596)	Public investments	Concerning public investments.	H 2nd ReadSCal	Senn
HB 2941	School bathrooms	Concerning privacy and sex-specific use of school bathrooms and athletic facilities.	H Judiciary	Short
HB 2959	Business tax & licenses	Concerning local business tax and licensing simplification.	H 2nd Reading	Lytton

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
<u>HB 2966</u>	Transp. electrification	Concerning electrification of transportation infrastructure.	H Tech & Econ D	Muri
<u>SB 5277</u>	Patronizing a prostitute	Making the crime of patronizing a prostitute a gross misdemeanor.	S Passed 3rd	Kohl-Welles
<u>SB 5378</u> (HB 1565)	Housing options/govt progrms	Concerning the preservation of housing options for participants in government assistance programs.	S HumSer/MenHlth/	Kohl-Welles
<u>SB 5604</u>	Countywide planning policies	Addressing the review and evaluation of countywide planning policies under the growth management act.	S GovtOp&Sec	Liias
<u>SB 6115</u>	Water, sewerage businesses	Limiting tax imposed by a city or town on a water distribution business, a sewerage system business, or water and sewerage system business.	S GovtOp&Sec	Chase
<u>SB 6163</u>	District charter schools	Authorizing district charter schools.	S EL/K-12	Billig
<u>SB 6170</u> (HB 2648)	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.	S 2nd Reading	Roach
<u>SB 6192</u>	Educational opportunity gap	Implementing strategies to close the educational opportunity gap, based on the recommendations of the educational opportunity gap oversight and accountability committee.	S EL/K-12	McCoy
<u>SSB 6227</u> (HB 2509)	Wildlife and recreation prg.	Implementing the recommendations of the 2015 review of the Washington wildlife and recreation program.	H Cap Budget	Honeyford
<u>SB 6265</u> (HB 2611)	Ag. vehicle weight limits	Concerning vehicle weight limits for the movement of agricultural commodities.	S 2nd Reading	King
<u>SB 6280</u> (HB 2828)	Potentially unstable slopes	Concerning forest practices board rules to decrease risks to public safety from potentially unstable slopes.	S Natural Resour	Rolfes

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
SB 6310	Firearm responsible storage	Promoting the safety of children and communities through responsible storage of firearms.	S Law & Justice	Jayapal
SB 6334 (HB 2468)	GMA/rail dependent uses	Concerning rail dependent uses for purposes of the growth management act and related development regulations.	S 2nd Reading	Benton
SB 6375	Marijuana clubs	Modifying marijuana club provisions.	S Commerce and L	Rivers
ESB 6413 (HB 2811)	Landlord-tenant provisions	Modifying residential landlord-tenant act provisions relating to tenant screening, evictions, and refunds.	S Passed 3rd	Mullet
SB 6418	Oil transportation safety	Concerning oil transportation safety.	S Energy, Enviro	Ranker
SB 6443 (HB 2935)	Gender seg. facility rules	Concerning human rights commission rules on gender segregated facilities.	S Failed 3rd	Ericksen
SB 6444	Commercial trans. providers	Regulating providers of commercial transportation services.	S Transportation	Braun
SB 6497	Truancy reduction	Providing court-based and school-based intervention and prevention efforts to promote attendance and reduce truancy.	S 2nd Reading	Hargrove
SB 6509	Viaduct project contingency	Concerning contingency planning for the state route number 99 Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project.	S Transportation	Baumgartner
SB 6527	Environmental policy reviews	Incentivizing trade and economic development through state environmental policy reviews.	S Rules 2	Brown
SB 6540	Safe playgrounds & turf	Ensuring safe playgrounds and turf fields.	S Energy, Enviro	Chase
SB 6548	Gender-segregated facilities	Allowing the use of gender-segregated facilities.	S Rules 2	Warnick
SB 6578	Private employers/local reg.	Addressing local regulation of private employers.	S 2nd Reading	Baumgartner
SB 6592	Rent increase notices	Modifying notice requirements for rent increases under the residential landlord-tenant act.	S Fin Inst/Ins	Jayapal
SB 6596 (HB 2936)	Public investments	Concerning public investments.	S Ways & Means	Hill

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
<u>SB 6605</u>	Solid waste/disease & pests	Ensuring that solid waste management requirements prevent the spread of disease, plant pathogens, and pests.	S 2nd Reading	Warnick
<u>SB 6645</u>	Local gov. mediation	Allowing a city, town, code city, or county to request mediation in the event of a conflict with another city, town, code city, or county.	S Rules 2	Roach