

# CITY OF SEATTLE 2014 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

February 10, 2014 Number 5

#### Week Overview

Week 4 saw the arrival of the deadline for bills to pass out of policy committee. Attention now turns to those bills which made it out of policy committee and either on to Rules or a Fiscal committee. Deadline for those bills is next Friday. The following is a review of the current status of bills we have been following.

#### **NEW BILLS**

<u>Sound Transit parking impacts:</u> HB 2783 (Santos) / SB 6489 (Hasegawa, King) requires Sound Transit to mitigate parking impacts when constructing transportation facilities and pay for zoned residential parking permits for impacted residents. HB 2783 was introduced 2/7 and has yet to advance. SB 6489 was exec'd out of the Senate Transportation Committee 2/7.

<u>Rideshare work group:</u> **HB** 2782 (Tarleton, Habib) requires the joint transportation committee to convene a workgroup to study personal transportation services, including forhire vehicles, taxis, limousines, and mobile application-based personal transportation services (e.g. Uber, Lyft). **HB** 2782 is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Transportation Committee 2/10.

<u>Marijuana revenues:</u> HB 2772 (Young) directs marijuana tax revenues to be used for local fire protection and law enforcement, ferry operations and maintenance, and toll reduction at Tacoma Narrows. HB 2772 is yet to receive a hearing.

<u>Cultural access programs:</u> SB 6151 (Hill, eight co-sponsors) and HB 2212 (Springer, 13 co-sponsors) seek to enhance cultural access. SB 6151 authorizes counties to create cultural access authorities that provide public school programs. If voter approval is granted, authorities could impose sales and use tax or annual property tax levies. SB 6151 was exec'd out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee 1/31 and placed on second reading by Rules. HB 2212 allows counties, or groups of counties, to create cultural access programs for which they could impose local sales and use tax or a property tax levy. HB 2212 was heard in the House Finance Committee 1/23 and has yet to advance.

<u>Breakfast After the Bell:</u> SSB 6444 (Litzow, six co-sponsors) / HB 2536 (Hudgins, 15 co-sponsors) requires schools with 70 percent or more low income students to offer breakfast during the school day. HB 2536 and SSB 6444 were exec'd out of the relevant education committees 2/7. SSB 6444 has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

<u>Stormwater, flood control, and water supply financing:</u> SB 6516 (Honeyford, four cosponsors) creates a joint legislative taskforce to consider financing options for water supply, flood control, and stormwater projects, appropriates \$1 million from the general fund for taskforce activities, and also authorizes the legislature to appropriate funds from the public works assistance account for taskforce expenses. SB 6515 was heard 2/6 in the Senate Way & Means Committee.

<u>Structurally deficient bridges:</u> HB 2771 (Hayes, five co-sponsors) allows local governments to use an expedited contracting process when repairing or replacing bridges deemed structurally deficient. HB 2771 was referred to the House Environment Committee 2/6 and has yet to be heard.

<u>Cultural Resources and SEPA:</u> SHB 2709 (Fitzgibbon, two co-sponsors) reinstates SEPA's cultural resource requirements for some actions. Specifically, actions categorically exempted from SEPA review by 2012 legislation (which created infill, non-project, and rule-based exemptions) and actions categorically exempted by statute or rule on or after July 1, 2012 would be subject to SEPA cultural resource requirements. SHB 2709 was exec'd out of the House Environment Committee 2/5 and placed on second reading by Rules.

# **OTHER ACTIVE BILLS**

## Public Safety

<u>DNA Evidence:</u> HB 2468 (Orwall, 14 co-sponsors) / SB 6310 (Darneille, nine co-sponsors) prohibits the destruction of DNA evidence collected during criminal investigations until statewide DNA evidence standards are implemented. The bill also creates an evidence collection workgroup to recommend such standards. The Senate version did not advance before cut-off, but HB 2468 was exec'd out of the House Public Safety Committee 2/5 and is now in Rules.

Knockout Game: SB 6011 (Padden, four co-sponsors) targets the so-called "knockout game," an assault in which a group walks up behind and knocks out a random victim. Under the bill, a person would be guilty of assault in the third degree, a felony, if he or she randomly assaults another without prior physical or verbal contact. SB 6011 was exec'd out of the Senate Law & Justice Committee 1/23 and is now in Rules.

<u>Distracted Driving:</u> **SSB 6227** (Eide, four co-sponsors) makes driving while holding, reading from, or manually entering information into a wireless device a traffic infraction, even if the driver has temporarily stopped. The penalty is doubled for those with more than one infraction in a five-year period, and all infractions become part of the driver's record. Exceptions are created for drivers who pull over, emergency situations, and those using hands-free modes. **SSB 6227 was exec'd out of the Senate Transportation Committee 2/5 and is now in Rules.** 

<u>Sex crime property forfeiture:</u> SSB 6017 (Kohl-Welles, seven co-sponsors) allows law enforcement agencies to keep 90 percent of the proceeds received from seizures and forfeitures related to enforcement of child pornography, commercial sexual abuse, and prostitution laws. Agencies are directed to use the funds for enforcement of child sexual exploitation and prostitution laws. SSB 6017 was exec'd out of the Senate Law & Justice Committee 2/4 and referred to Ways & Means.

#### Protecting the Most Vulnerable

<u>Employer use of non-conviction information:</u> HB 2545 (Moscoso, seven co-sponsors) prohibits employers from basing initial employment decisions on non-conviction information, advertising jobs in ways that exclude those with non-conviction records, or categorically excluding people with non-conviction records. A City of Seattle ordinance already prohibits employers from using non-conviction information in similar ways. HB 2545 was exec'd out of the House Labor & Workforce Development Committee 2/4 and is now in Rules.

<u>Preempting local employment laws and contracts:</u> HB 2591 (Schmick) / SB 6307 (Braun, five co-sponsors) preempts the entire field regarding wages, hours of work, employee retention, and employment leave. Under the bill, cities would not be able to require or enforce employment regulations except with respect to their own employees. The House version did not advance before cutoff, but SB 6307 was exec'd out of the Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 2/4 and is now in Rules.

<u>Minimum wage increase:</u> HB 2672 (Farrell, 31 co-sponsors) increases the minimum wage to \$12-per-hour over the course of three years. HB 2672 was exec'd out of the House Committee on Labor & Workforce Development 2/5 and referred to Appropriations.

<u>Foster care past age 18:</u> HB 2335 (Roberts, 13 co-sponsors) / SSB 6101 (Fain, 11 co-sponsors) allows youth with an open dependency proceeding at age 18 and who either work at least 80 hours per month or have certain medical conditions and engage in qualifying activities to receive extended foster care services. Both the House and Senate versions were exec'd out of the relevant policy committees. HB 2335 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Appropriations Committee 2/10, and SSB 6010 has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Out-of-state health care volunteers: HB 2351 (Tarleton, 10 co-sponsors) / SB 6462 (Keiser, Kohl-Welles) allows health care professionals licensed in other states to practice in Washington as volunteers for 30 days. The Senate version did not advance before cutoff, but HB 2351 was exec'd by the House Health Care & Wellness Committee 1/23 and is now in Rules.

#### Housing

Homeless housing surcharge: SHB 2368 (Sawyer, 24 co-sponsors) / SSB 6313 (Darneille, 10 co-sponsors) makes permanent the \$40 local homeless housing and assistance surcharge for document recording. Without this legislation, the existing surcharge would drop to \$30 in 2015 and \$10 in 2017. The House and Senate versions were exec'd out of the relevant policy committees and referred to the Appropriations and Ways & Means committees respectively.

Floating homes: SHB 2581 (Tarleton, three co-sponsors) defines "floating on-water residences" as lawfully registered and regulatorily compliant vessels used as a residence, having detachable utilities, and moored or anchored in a marina. Local governments would be required to classify all such "floating on-water residences" permitted or legally established by July 1, 2014 as conforming preferred uses in their shoreline regulations. This would exempt these floating on-water residences from local use regulations, including those precluding maintenance, repair, replacement, or remodeling. The bill also prioritizes the use of state-owned aquatic lands for floating homes over non-water dependent uses. SHB 2581 was exec'd out of the House Environment Committee 2/5 and is now in Rules.

Rental screening fees: SHB 2537 (Robinson, six co-sponsors) / SB 6291 (Frockt, 10 co-sponsors) allows prospective tenants to pay for and provide one comprehensive screening report to multiple prospective landlords, alleviating the need for renters to pay new report fees with each application. Landlords would retain the right to generate their own reports, but would not be able to charge tenants who provide one. The Senate version did not advance before cutoff, but SHB 2537 was exec'd out of the House Judiciary Committee 2/5 and is now in Rules.

Lodging taxes for workforce housing: SHB 2650 (Fitzgibbon, five co-sponsors) clarifies that hotel-motel tax revenues can be used to pay off bonds issued for affordable workforce housing. SHB 2650 was exec'd out of the House Community Development, Housing, & Tribal Affairs Committee 2/4 and is scheduled for a hearing in the House Finance Committee 2/10.

## Transportation, Economic Development & Infrastructure

<u>Transportation Budget:</u> Negotiations continue, but all sides are expressing increasing doubt that a budget compromise will be reached this session. Sen. King has floated the idea of a special session on transportation for December 2014.

<u>Supplemental Operating Budget:</u> HB 2185 (Hunter, Chandler) / SB 6002 (Hill, Hargrove) is legislation requested by Governor Inslee. Both versions have received a public hearing and remain in the relevant chamber's budget committee.

Restoring the Public Works Fund: SHB 2244 (Sanford, eight co-sponsors) / SB 6546 (Rivers, 25 co-sponsors) restores resources to the Public Works Fund within two years rather than the planned six. The Senate version has not been scheduled for a hearing, but HB 2244 was exec'd out of the House Capital Budget Committee 2/4 and referred to Appropriations.

Recreation, amusement, and fitness service taxes: HB 2539 (Carlyle, two co-sponsors) / SB 6472 (Hill, two co-sponsors) addresses taxation of amusement, recreation, and physical fitness services and is noteworthy for making permanent the "opportunity to dance" tax exemption passed last year. The House and Senate versions were exec'd out of committee and are now in Rules.

<u>For-hire vehicle industrial insurance:</u> SHB 2152 (Habib, nine co-sponsors) repeals industrial insurance requirements for operators of for-hire vehicles, limousines, and taxicabs. SHB 2152 passed out of the House 2/7.

<u>Disabled parking placards:</u> SHB 2463 (Hunt, six co-sponsors) changes regulations governing disabled parking permits and applications in order to curb placard abuse. SHB 2463 was exec'd out of the House Transportation Committee 2/6.

Rental car company responsibility for infractions: HB 2470 (Pollet, four co-sponsors) makes rental car companies responsible for their customers' unpaid traffic penalties. HB 2470 was heard in committee but has yet to move.

<u>Oil transportation safety:</u> SHB 2347 (Farrell, 28 co-sponsors) and SB 6262 (Rolfes, 15 co-sponsors) both address oil transportation safety. SB 6262 addresses vessels transporting oil over water. SHB 2347 addresses concerns about shipment of oil by train or tanker, establishes risk reduction and spill prevention measures, and ensures public access to information about risks and shipments through their communities. SB 6262 has yet to advance. SHB 2347 was exec'd out of the House Environment Committee 2/4 and referred to Appropriations.

# Early Learning

<u>Fatality reviews for early learning and child care centers:</u> SHB 2165 (Kagi, four cosponsors) requires the Department of Early Learning to address fatalities occurring at early learning programs and licensed child care centers and homes. SHB 2165 was exec'd out of the House Early Learning and Human Services Committee 1/22 and placed on second reading by Rules.

<u>Early education bill:</u> SHB 2377 (Hunter, 17 co-sponsors) / SB 6127 (Litzow, 14 co-sponsors) is omnibus legislation meant to improve the early care and education systems. Both the House and Senate versions were exec'd out of the relevant policy committee and were referred to Appropriations and Ways & Means respectively.

Early education for children in the child welfare system: SHB 2519 (Senn, eight cosponsors) expands access to early learning for children in the child welfare system. SHB 2519 was exec'd out of the House Early Learning & Human Services Committee 2/3 and referred to Appropriations.

## Marijuana

<u>Preempting local marijuana bans:</u> HB 2322 (Sawyer, 10 co-sponsors) and HB 2638 (Wylie, Pollet) preempt local government bans on marijuana businesses but differ in their scope. Both were heard in the House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee but neither has advanced.

<u>Marijuana revenues:</u> SHB 2144 (Condotta, seven co-sponsors) establishes a dedicated local jurisdiction marijuana fund and requires 30 percent of collected marijuana revenues to be distributed to local jurisdictions. SHB 2144 was exec'd out of the House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee and heard in House Appropriations 2/7.

<u>Marijuana processing and retail licenses:</u> SHB 2304 (Moscoso) / SB 6160 (Conway, Kohl-Welles) is request legislation from the WSLCB. It creates and defines rules and regulations for marijuana processing and retail licenses. Both were exec'd out of relevant policy committees and are in Rules.

<u>Medical marijuana regulations:</u> SHB 2149 (Cody, five co-sponsors) sets new regulations for medical marijuana. It reduces standard possession amounts from 24 to three ounces, cuts the allowable number of plants from 15 to six, eliminates authority to establish collective gardens, requires patient and designated provider recognition cards, and establishes a medical marijuana endorsement for retailers. SHB 2149 has been exec'd out of the House Health Care & Wellness Committee and was scheduled for a public hearing in the Appropriations Committee 2/7.

<u>Medical marijuana tax relief:</u> SHB 2198 (Carlyle, three co-sponsors) creates a sales and use tax exemption for medical marijuana purchased at licensed retail outlets. It was exec'd out of the House Health Care & Wellness Committee and was scheduled for a public hearing in the Appropriations Committee 2/7.

Aligning medical and recreational marijuana systems: SSB 6178 (Kohl-Welles, five cosponsors) and SSB 5887 (Rivers, two co-sponsors) attempt to align the medical and marijuana systems. Both include recommendations from the WSLCB work group. These bills differ as to allowable possession amounts, creation of a DOH medical marijuana registry, qualifying medical conditions, and taxation. Both bills were exec'd out of the Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 2/7.

<u>Depository for marijuana businesses:</u> SB 5955 (Hasegawa, six co-sponsors) creates a publicly-owned trust to act as a depository for in-state marijuana producers, processors, and retailers. SB 5955 was heard in the Senate Financial Institutions Committee but has not yet advanced.

## Other Issues of Significant Interest

Public Disclosure of Utilities Customer Information: SHB 2114 (Kretz, six co-sponsors) / SSB 6007 (Rivers, four co-sponsors) exempts customers' electronic contact information, utility usage, and billing information from disclosure under public records laws. The House version was exec'd out of the Local Government Committee 1/16 and placed on second reading by Rules. The Senate version was exec'd out of the Governmental Operations Committee and is now in Rules.

<u>Unmanned Aircrafts:</u> SHB 2178 (Morris, Morrell) prohibits the use of unmanned aircraft over private property. SHB 2178 was exec'd out of the House Technology & Economic Development Committee 1/24 and placed on second reading by Rules.

<u>Paint Stewardship:</u> SHB 1579 (Goodman, nine co-sponsors) / SB 5424 (Chase, eight co-sponsors) creates an architectural paint recovery program to be enforced by the Department of Ecology, makes paint manufacturers responsible for development and implementation of a stewardship program, and creates a paint product stewardship account. The Senate version did not advance before cutoff, but SHB 1569 was exec'd out of the House Environment Committee 2/5 and out of a House appropriations subcommittee 2/6.

<u>Lights containing mercury:</u> SHB 2246 (Hunt, eight co-sponsors) / SB 6177 (Litzow, three co-sponsors) replaces the current model of funding for product stewardship with a handling charge applied to each retail sale and imposes a sunset review for the program in 2025. Both versions were exec'd out of the relevant environment committees and are now in Rules.

<u>Sexual orientation change efforts</u>: HB 2451 (Liias, 22 co-sponsors) / SB 6449 (Pedersen, 23 co-sponsors) bans sexual identity change therapy for patients under age 18. SB 6449 did not advance before cutoff, but HB 2451 was exec'd out of the House Health Care & Wellness Committee.

## **INACTIVE BILLS**

<u>Certificate of Restoration of Opportunity:</u> **HB 2399** (Walkinshaw, 10 co-sponsors) aims to reduce recidivism by reducing barriers to employment. It would create a process for those with criminal records to seek a certificate of restoration of opportunity, which would remove any professional bar imposed solely as a result of conviction. **HB 2399 received a hearing but did not advance before cutoff.** 

<u>Compost processing and storage:</u> **HB 2072** (Manweller) requires counties and cities to store and process at least 50 percent of all collected compostable waste within the county where collected if the collecting jurisdiction mandates compostable waste separation or collection as part of solid waste services. **HB 2072 was heard in committee 1/29 but did not advance before cutoff.** 

Notice to tenants and relocation assistance: SB 6292 (Kohl-Welles, five co-sponsors) requires 90-day notice to residential tenants before rent increases or changes of use and allows local jurisdictions to authorize relocation assistance for more households. SB 6292 received a hearing but did not advance before cutoff.

<u>Gun Initiatives:</u> Initiative 591 (limits background checks) / Initiative 594 (requires background checks) were both heard in committee but neither initiative has advanced in the Legislature.