



Session Watch

Monday, February 2, 2025 (day 22 of the 90-day Session)

It was a very eventful week for the Washington State Grange at the legislature. Monday was our annual legislative day and we had over 50 Grangers cover the capitol campus for office visits, guest speakers, tours and overall advocacy.

Our guest speakers included Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Mike Chapman (D), Senator Ron Muzzall (R), AWB Vice President Morgan Irwin and Parks and Recreation Commission director Brian Considine. They engaged the group on all topics from health care to agriculture and taxation to discover pass fees. Our members engaged in dozens of office visits with members from both sides of the aisle and all corners of the state.

This week we got some welcome news that [**HB 2431**](#) - *Increasing the maximum annual limit for regularly scheduled fundraising activities for the nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places property tax exemption* – Is being heard in House Finance committee on February 5th. After a positive hearing we look forward to getting this bill scheduled for an executive session before the fiscal cutoff on February 9th.

Next week we will see a flurry of policy bills being voted out of committee as Wednesday will be the final day for policy committee bills to be voted out of committee. On February 5th all eyes will turn to the fiscal committees which have to vote all bills out by the February 9th deadline.

By February 4th - Please sign in "PRO" for the legislative record on [SB 2431](#) [using this link!](#)

It was great seeing so many of your faces at legislative day this year. Capital Budget Grant applications were due at 5:00pm on January 27th and know that several Granges got their applications in. The state revenue projection will be out on February 20th and we will see the first droppings of the budgets shortly thereafter.

You can always follow along the legislative session committee hearings by going to [TVW.org](#). Please see our bill tracking list and upcoming events below.

Washington State Grange Legislative Advisory Committee Meetings Set:

Monday, February 2 at 6pm

Monday, February 16 at 6pm

Monday, March 2 at 6pm

Monday, March 16 at 6pm

Please feel free to join us while we discuss current legislative activities in the 2026 Legislature.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

One tap mobile +12532158782,,98036971581# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

How to Testify on Bills this Year

As a reminder you can easily participate in the lawmaking process by contacting your elected state representatives through online legislative tools.

Start here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/csiremote/>

Select **House** or **Senate**

Committee: **Choose the committee where your bill is being heard**

Meetings: **Choose the date of the hearing**

Select the bill you want from the list.

Select:

I would like to submit written testimony.

I would like to testify live during the hearing.

I would like my position noted for the legislative record.

You may check to see who else has signed in to testify.

On the next screen, fill in all the blanks and submit.

You will receive an email with a link for the hearing. At the appropriate time, join the meeting and wait to be admitted.

When you are called to speak, introduce yourself and speak for 1-2 minutes.

To prepare, write down what you want to say. Read it aloud several times. Time yourself.

To find hearings not listed below, look here:
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/committeeschedules/>

GRANGE Bill Status & Upcoming Events Report

Labor & Commerce (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 2/2 @ 10:30am

- [SB 6053](#) - Exec Session - Establishing labor protections for domestic workers.
- [SB 6045](#) - Exec Session - Placing agricultural employees under the jurisdiction of the public employment relations commission for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Agriculture & Natural Resources (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 2/2 @ 1:30pm

- [SB 5971](#) - Exec Session - Establishing a green fertilizer incentive program to support the production and adoption of low-carbon nitrogen fertilizer in Washington state.
- [SB 6104](#) - Exec Session - Protecting agriculture.
- [SB 5960](#) - Exec Session - Restoring and sustaining healthy ungulate populations.

Environment & Energy (House) - HHR B and Virtual JLOB - 2/2 @ 1:30pm

- [HB 2296](#) - Exec Session - Expanding the use of distributed energy resources.

Labor & Commerce (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 2/3 @ 10:30am

- [SB 6053](#) - Exec Session - Establishing labor protections for domestic workers.
- [SB 6045](#) - Exec Session - Placing agricultural employees under the jurisdiction of the public employment relations commission for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Finance (House) - HHR A and Virtual JLOB - 2/4 @ 4:00pm

- [HB 2584](#) - Public Hearing - Providing a sales and use tax exemption for qualifying farm machinery and equipment. (Remote Testimony Available). (Support)

Finance (House) - HHR A and Virtual JLOB - 2/5 @ 8:00am

- [HB 2431](#) - Public Hearing - Increasing the maximum annual limit for regularly scheduled fundraising activities for the nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places property tax exemption. (Remote Testimony Available).

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Priority
<u>HB 1311</u>	Gray wolves	Concerning the implementation of the recommendations of the department of fish and wildlife regarding the gray wolf.	H Ag&Nr	Engell	Support	
<u>HB 1825</u>	Grizzly bear management	Concerning grizzly bear management.	H Ag&Nr	Springer		
<u>SHB 2105</u> (SSB 5852)	Immigrant workers	Concerning immigrant worker protections.	H Approps	Ortiz-Self		
<u>HB 2129</u>	Agritourism	Fortifying agritourism.	H Local Govt	Low		
<u>SHB 2215</u>	Fuels/climate commitment act	Concerning climate commitment act compliance	H Approps	Fitzgibbon		

		obligations for fuels supplied or otherwise sold into Washington.				
<u>HB 2221</u> (SB 5960)	Ungulate populations	Restoring and sustaining healthy ungulate populations.	H Ag&Nr	Abell		
<u>HB 2233</u> (SB 5965)	Retail bags	Reducing environmental impacts associated with bags provided to customers at retail establishments.	H Env & Energy	Parshley		
<u>HB 2264</u>	Unemployment ins./layoffs	Concerning unemployment insurance benefits for workers separated from employment as a result of employer-initiated layoffs or workforce reductions.	H 2nd Reading	Berry		
<u>HB 2279</u>	Agriculture/PFAS chemicals	Evaluating the use of PFAS chemicals in agriculture.	H Ag&Nr	Parshley		
<u>HB 2295</u> (SB 6003)	Capital budget, supplemental	Concerning the capital budget.	H Cap Budget	Tharinger		
<u>HB 2296</u> (SB 6050)	Distributed energy resources	Expanding the use of distributed energy resources.	H Env & Energy	Hall		
<u>HB 2355</u> (SB 6053)	Domestic workers	Establishing labor protections for domestic workers.	H Exec Action	Thomas		
<u>HB 2372</u> (SB 6067)	Workers' compensation	Concerning workers' compensation benefits.	H Approps	Salahuddin		
<u>HB 2388</u>	Distributed energy/ag. lands	Concerning the siting of distributed energy generation resources on agricultural lands.	H Exec Action	Hall		
<u>HB 2431</u>	Nonprofit halls/fundraising	Increasing the maximum annual limit for regularly scheduled fundraising activities for the nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places property tax exemption.	H Finance	Shavers		
<u>HB 2471</u> (SSB 6117)	Collective bargaining	Concerning collective bargaining for employees not covered by the national labor relations act.	H Exec Action	Scott		
<u>HB 2521</u> (SB 6055)	Firearms background checks	Concerning firearms background check.	H Exec Action	Ormsby		
<u>HB 2584</u>	Farm machinery sales tax	Providing a sales and use tax exemption for qualifying farm machinery and equipment.	H Finance	Dent	Support	
<u>SB 5092</u>	Farm machinery sales tax	Providing a sales and use tax exemption for qualifying farm machinery and equipment.	S Ag & Natural R	Boehnke		
<u>ESSB 5252</u>	Assembly halls/property tax	Removing the acreage limit on the property tax exemption for nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places.	H Finance	Shewmake		
<u>SSB 5852</u> (SHB 2105)	Immigrant workers	Concerning immigrant worker protections.	S RecComm	Saldana		

<u>SB 5856</u> (HB 2642)	Lubricant emissions	Exempting emissions associated with lubricants from coverage under the cap and invest program.	S Environment, E	Schoesler		
<u>SB 5896</u>	Water quality pollution	Modifying the standards for determining water quality pollution.	S Environment, E	Short		
<u>SB 5960</u> (HB 2221)	Ungulate populations	Restoring and sustaining healthy ungulate populations.	S Ag & Natural Re	Short		
<u>SB 5965</u> (HB 2233)	Retail bags	Reducing environmental impacts associated with bags provided to customers at retail establishments.	S Environment, E	Bateman		
<u>SB 5971</u>	Green fertilizer incentives	Establishing a green fertilizer incentive program to support the production and adoption of low-carbon nitrogen fertilizer in Washington state.	S Ag & Natural R	Boehnke		
<u>SB 6003</u> (HB 2295)	Capital budget, supplemental	Concerning the capital budget.	S Ways & Means	Trudeau		
<u>SB 6006</u>	Food banks/sales tax	Exempting food banks from the retail sales tax imposed on certain services.	S Ways & Means	Gildon		
<u>SB 6030</u>	Plastic carryout bags	Repealing restrictions and fees on plastic carryout bags.	S Environment, E	Braun		
<u>SB 6045</u> (HB 2409)	Agricultural employees/PERC	Placing agricultural employees under the jurisdiction of the public employment relations commission for the purpose of collective bargaining.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana		
<u>SB 6050</u> (HB 2296)	Distributed energy resources	Expanding the use of distributed energy resources.	S Environment, E	Liias		
<u>SB 6053</u> (HB 2355)	Domestic workers	Establishing labor protections for domestic workers.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana		
<u>SB 6055</u> (HB 2521)	Firearms background checks	Concerning firearms background check.	S Law & Justice	Nobles		
<u>SB 6067</u> (HB 2372)	Workers' compensation	Concerning workers' compensation benefits.	S RecComm	Alvarado		
<u>SB 6104</u>	Agriculture impacts	Protecting agriculture.	S Ag & Natural R	Muzzall		
<u>SSB 6117</u> (HB 2471)	Collective bargaining	Concerning collective bargaining for employees not covered by the national labor relations act.	S RecComm	Saldana		
<u>SB 6283</u>	Farm machinery sales tax	Providing a sales and use tax exemption for qualifying farm machinery and equipment.	S Ways & Means	Boehnke		

Legislative Department

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