

Washington State Legislature 2021

105 days – January 11 to April 25



1,528 bills were introduced

340 bills passed the Legislature

**253 bills have been signed by the Governor as of
5/14/21**

13 bills partially vetoed

**Governor's bill action scheduled through 5/18/21 (Budget
& Fiscal)**



Cynthia Stewart, 5/17/21

13 bills partially vetoed

- **HB 1069** – Allows flexibility in local government use of various taxes;
Partial veto affects timelines, not underlying provisions of the bill
- **HB 1220** – Mandates various categories of housing be addressed in comp plans;
Partial veto denies ADUs in rural unincorporated areas
- **HB 1287** - Concerning preparedness for a zero emissions transportation future;
Partial veto detaches electrification of vehicles from road usage charge implementation
- **HB 1336** - Relating to creating and expanding unrestricted authority for public entities to provide telecommunications services to end users;
Partial veto eliminates GMA non-compliant jurisdictions from this opportunity

13 bills partially vetoed, *cont'd*

- **SB 5151** - Relating to foster care and child care licensing by Dept. of Children, Youth and Families;
Partial veto removes null and void provision related to budgeting
- **SB 5159** - Relating to payments in lieu of real property taxes by the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.
Partial veto removes emergency date
- **SB 5160** - Addressing landlord-tenant relations.
Partial veto removes landlord entitlement to rental assistance and redundant funding requirements
- **SB 5235** - Increasing housing unit inventory by removing arbitrary limits on housing options.
Partial veto removes extension of planning date and adjusts purpose statement

13 bills partially vetoed, cont'd

- **SB 5293** - Mental health sentencing alternatives;
Partial Veto removes unnecessary emergency effective date.
- **SB 5304** – Reentry services to persons releasing from state and local institutions;
Partial veto removes vocabulary inconsistencies with other laws.
- **SB 5368** - Encouraging rural economic development;
Partial veto removes options of GMA non-compliance
- **SB 5405** - Racial equity analysis for JLARC work;
Partial veto removes analysis of the impact of the restrictions on in-person K-12 education put in place since the COVID-19 on the basis that more detailed analysis is needed and will be required
- **SB 5476** - Addressing the State v. Blake decision;
Partial veto removes unnecessary account created by the bill.

Progressive Revenue Bills to help balance our upside-down tax code:

SB 5096 – Capital Gains Tax

- 7% on capital gains exceeding \$250,000
- Excludes
 - Real estate
 - Retirement savings account
 - Livestock if more than 50% of taxpayer's gross income is from farming/ranching
 - Timber/timberland
 - Commercial fishing privileges
 - Goodwill from sale of auto dealership
 - Qualified family-owned small business under \$10 million (some adjustments)
 - \$100,000 in charitable donations
 - Excise tax paid to another jurisdiction
- First \$500 million to Education Legacy Trust Account; remainder to Common School Construction Account.

HB 1297 - Working Families Tax Exemption

- Would remit \$18 million in first biennium and \$27+ million subsequent biennia to
- Families eligible for federal earned income tax credit
 - \$500 for eligible persons with no qualifying children;
 - \$650 for eligible persons with one qualifying child;
 - \$800 for eligible persons with two qualifying children; or
 - \$950 for eligible persons with three or more qualifying children.
 - Adjustments specified; but ~\$500/family avg is expected

Health Care - Passed

- **HB 1196** Concerning audio-only telemedicine – expands reimbursement and more
- **SB 5325** Concerning audio-only telemedicine – removes age limitation for behavioral health
- **HB 1323** Concerning the long-term services and supports trust program – expands to self-employed individuals and Tribes
- **SB 5052** Authorizes creation of health equity zones
- **HB 1152** Requires medical and community representation on Boards of Health
- **SB 5203** Allows partnering with other organizations to produce, distribute and purchase generic prescription drugs
- **SB 5399** Concerning the creation of a universal health care commission to prepare WA State for universal health financing system with report by 11/1/22

Passed

Hearing Loss – signed by Gov

SB 5027 - Concerning closed captioning on televisions in places of public accommodation

Law Enforcement (scheduled for May 18 Gov sign)

SB 5051 - State oversight and accountability of peace officers and corrections officers

- **Passed Senate & House but with amendments; needs concurrence or conference committee**
- Improves the process to decertify peace and corrections officers who have engaged in serious misconduct
- Requires law enforcement agencies to report misconduct to the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC), and
- Requires a public database containing information about all conduct investigated by the CJTC.

HB 1267 - Office of independent investigations re use of force by law enforcement officers

Passed

Democracy

- **H 1078 Voting Rights Restoration**
- **SB 5038 Protecting elected officials, government employees and the right to assemble**

Criminal Justice

- **HB 1054 Places restrictions on the use of certain tactics and equipment used by peace officers**
- **HB 1090 Banning private prisons**
- **HB 1267 Creating an office of independent investigations**
- **HB 1310 Adopting a statewide de-escalation standard**
- **SB 5066 Imposing a duty on peace officers to intervene to prevent the use of excessive force**

Passed

Climate Change (scheduled to be signed Monday, 5/17/21)

- **SB 5126** Washington Climate Commitment Act. Creates a cap and trade and invest program on greenhouse gas emissions with an environmental justice task force
- **HB 1091** Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuel
- **SB 5141 (the HEAL Act)** Relating to reducing environmental and health disparities and improving the health of all Washington state residents by implementing the recommendations of the environmental justice task force.
- **HB 1050** Reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from hydrofluorocarbons

Housing - Passed

- **HB 1083** Relocation assistance for tenants of closed or converted manufactured/mobile home parks
- **HB 1236** Just cause evictions
- **HB 1220** Range of housing required in comp plans
- **SB 5160** Landlord tenant amendments
- **HB 1277** Document recording fee surcharge for affordable housing
- **Historic funding**
 - \$350 million in the capital budget to build and preserve affordable homes, (including \$175m for the Housing Trust Fund and \$120m to acquire properties that can be quickly converted to housing or shelter)
 - \$658 million for rental assistance
 - \$187 million for foreclosure prevention
 - \$72 million for shelter and housing for people experiencing homelessness
 - \$27 million increase to the Housing and Essential Needs rental assistance program

Other Bills of Interest that Passed:

Bill	Title	Sponsor
SHB 1016	Juneteenth	Morgan
ESHB 1070	Housing/local tax revenue	Ryu
E2SHB 1073	Paid leave coverage (grants)	Berry
E2SHB 1083	Relocation assistance	Gregerson
HB 1087	Family/med leave continuity	Berry
SHB 1250	Purple heart state	Orcutt
EHB 1271	County officials/continuity	Orwall
HB 1296	Behavioral health admin orgs (B&O tax deduc)	Young
ESHB 1332	Property tax deferral/COVID (payment plan)	Sullivan
ESHB 1368	Federal funding/COVID-19	Ormsby

Other Bills of Interest that Passed:

Bill	Title	Sponsor
ESHB 1426	K-12 continuing ed./equity	Santos
SHB 1455	Social security/L&I & ESD	Mosbrucker
SB 5021	Retirement benefits/furlough	Hunt
ESSB 5061	Unemployment insurance	Keiser
SSB 5152	Vehicle and driver data	Nguyen
SB 5296	WSP retirement/index def.	Schoesler
SB 5322	SEBB & PEBB dual enrollment	Robinson
2SSB 5396	Farmworker housing/tax	Lovelett
SSB 5425	Unempl. extended benefits	Stanford

Did Not Pass

Health Care

- **HB 1141 - Increasing access to the death with dignity act**

Democracy

- **SB 5148 - Harassment of election officials**

Broadband

- **HB 1460 - Closing the digital divide by establishing excise taxes on telecommunications services to fund the expansion of the universal service programs**

Public Bank

- **SB 5188 – Public financial cooperative**