

# WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Weekly Report

PREPARED BY: COYNE, JESERNIG, LLC

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Since the start of the 2015 Session last January, the Senate has repeatedly indicated that a "No New Taxes" budget could pay for critical state services, while at the same time making a significant increase in funding for education. The Senate has also repeatedly indicated that it would not negotiate on an Operating Budget with the House until the House passed the tax increases necessary to fund a budget that was dependent on those new taxes being enacted. Accordingly, it was somewhat amusing to read today that the House was "shocked" when the Senate refused to meet with the House to negotiate on the Operating Budget until the House passed the taxes necessary to fund their Operating Budget, which they have not been able to do.

What this posturing means is that even though the 2015 Regular Session will end next Sunday, April 26th, that final Operating, Capital, and Transportation Budgets are not likely to be enacted until much, much later this year. As I indicated last week, we have "stalled" way before we've even been able to reach an "impasse" or "stalemate". It's hard to get to an "impasse" unless you're actually meeting together and negotiating on something you can't seem to agree on.

Though the 2015 Session will end in 8 days, (and is thus a bit of a self-imposed deadline), the real deadline facing budget writers is July 1st, which is when the State of Washington actually runs out of money. Since the next revenue forecast won't be released until mid-June, it might be that a final budget deal won't be reached until just before State government is scheduled to shut down. With this stark reality staring them in the face, and the fact that State Auditor Troy Kelly was indicted today, legislators seemed pretty confused on what path forward might make sense. Whatever that path turns out to be, I am absolutely certain that it will not lead to budgets being enacted by next Sunday.

One bright spot in a legislative session bogged down in "budget Armageddon" was the fact that the House passed SB 5322, (the measure increasing the caps for Rates & Charges Systems in King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane counties), by a strong 65 – 32 bipartisan vote earlier this week. Since this measure was not amended in the House, it will go directly to Gov. Inslee for his, (hoped for), signature.

Finally, this will be the last Weekly Update for the 2015 Regular Session. After the final Operating, Capital, and Transportation Budgets are enacted, I will be sending out the Session Wrap-up to update all of you on what finally happened in those 3 biennial budgets. Unfortunately, as I indicated earlier, that may be quite a while from now. ☹

## BILL TRACKING SUMMARY

### HIGH PRIORITY BILLS

		<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<a href="#">S1105</a>	Making 2015 supplemental operating appropriations. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Hunter	Monitor	C, 3 L 15
<a href="#">ES1106</a>	Making 2015 fiscal year and 2015-2017 fiscal biennium operating appropriations. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Hunter	Monitor	S, Ways & Means
<a href="#">E1115</a>	Concerning the capital budget.	Dunshee	Monitor	S, Passed 3rd
<a href="#">1116</a>	Concerning the supplemental capital budget.	Dunshee	Monitor	H, Cap Budget
<a href="#">S5322</a>	Concerning conservation districts' rates and charges. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Hatfield	Support	S, Pres Signed

## **MEDIUM PRIORITY BILLS**

<a href="#">E1187</a>	Concerning best practices for water banks. (AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 3/10/15)	Chandler	Monitor	S, Passed 3rd
<a href="#">S1399</a>	Concerning annually adjusting the limit on distribution of hazardous substance tax revenues to the state and local toxics control accounts to correct for inflation. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Hudgins	Monitor	H, Approps
<a href="#">1940</a>	Exempting levies imposed by qualifying flood control zone districts from certain limitations upon regular property tax levies. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Stokesbary	Monitor	S, Passed 3rd
<a href="#">S5348</a>	Allowing public agencies to enter into contracts providing for the joint utilization of architectural or engineering services. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Miloscia	Monitor	S, Pres Signed

## **LOW PRIORITY BILLS**

<a href="#">1392</a>	Concerning the administrative rate the recreation and conservation funding board may retain to administer the grant programs established in chapter 79A.15 RCW.	Stanford	Monitor	S, Passed 3rd
<a href="#">1992</a>	Restoring resources to the capital budget.	Stanford	Monitor	H, Approps
<a href="#">2156</a>	Relating to promoting the fiscal sustainability of cities and counties.	Reykdal	Monitor	H, Finance
<a href="#">2157</a>	Relating to improving the fiscal health of local governments to ensure the continued provision of vital public services and high quality of life in Washington communities.	Carlyle	Monitor	H, Finance
<a href="#">2158</a>	Relating to modifying taxing authority of special purpose taxing districts.	Carlyle	Monitor	H, Finance
<a href="#">6035</a>	Concerning the use of funds in the public works assistance account.	Rivers	Monitor	S, Ways & Means
<a href="#">6039</a>	Funding certain programs that provide support to farms.	Pearson	Monitor	S, Ways & Means

## **DEAD BILLS**

<a href="#">S1008</a>	Authorizing the state auditor to conduct audits of state government and local agencies' data storage and management practices thereby protecting privacy and securing personal information from computer hacking or misuse of data. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Smith	Monitor	H, Rules R
<a href="#">1032</a>	Amending the fee structure provided in RCW 77.55.321 to encourage habitat projects that provide a public benefit.	Blake	Support	S, Rules 2
<a href="#">S1079</a>	Allowing public agencies to enter into contracts providing for the joint utilization of architectural or engineering services. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Kochmar	Monitor	H, Rules X
<a href="#">1101</a>	Concerning conservation districts.	Wilcox	Oppose	H, Local Govt
<a href="#">1104</a>	Creating the crime of interference with agricultural production.	Schmick	Monitor	H, Public Safety
<a href="#">1189</a>	Regarding hours of availability of cities, towns, and special purpose districts for inspection and copying of public records.	S. Hunt	Monitor	S, 2nd Reading
<a href="#">S1197</a>	Concerning water-sewer districts. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Takko	Monitor	H, Rules X
<a href="#">1202</a>	Providing that an administrative rule or policy of the department of ecology may be abrogated by act of the governor or either house of the legislature.	Scott	Monitor	H, State Governme
<a href="#">1203</a>	Limiting the enforcement of administrative rules and policies.	Scott	Monitor	H, State Governme
<a href="#">1204</a>	Limiting the enforcement of policies of the department of ecology.	Scott	Monitor	H, State Governme
<a href="#">1214</a>	Addressing the definition of agricultural lands under the shoreline management act.	Scott	Monitor	H, Local Govt

<a href="#">1215</a>	Restricting the conversion of agricultural land to other uses under the growth management act.	Scott	Monitor	H, Local Govt
<a href="#">1216</a>	Restricting the conversion of agricultural land to other uses under the growth management act and shoreline management act.	Scott	Monitor	H, Local Govt
<a href="#">1224</a>	Accelerating the rate of wolf recovery in Washington.	Kretz	Monitor	H, Ag & Nat Res
<a href="#">1225</a>	Increasing the social acceptance of endangered species recovery by providing the fish and wildlife commission with the tools necessary to enact changes to the status of a species.	Kretz	Monitor	H, Ag & Nat Res
<a href="#">1237</a>	Providing landowners with necessary tools for the protection of their property from forest fires.	Kretz	Monitor	H, Ag & Nat Res
<a href="#">1264</a>	Concerning conservation districts' rates and charges.	Wilcox	Support	H, Local Govt
<a href="#">1425</a>	Ensuring that entities performing government functions and advisory committees are subject to the open public meetings act and public records act.	Pollet	Monitor	H, State Governme
<a href="#">1508</a>	Providing permissive authority for counties to assume authority over local forest fire management.	Kretz	Monitor	H, Ag & Nat Res
<a href="#">1509</a>	Giving priority selection to forest fire suppression resource contractors that are located geographically close to fire suppression activities.	Kretz	Monitor	H, Ag & Nat Res
<a href="#">1589</a>	Concerning natural resource management activities.	Taylor	Monitor	H, Environment
<a href="#">S1676</a>	Understanding the effects of predation on wild ungulate populations. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Short	Monitor	S, 2nd Reading
<a href="#">S1684</a>	Concerning charges for the cost of providing public records in response to public records requests. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Takko	Support	H, Rules R
<a href="#">ES1685</a>	Establishing a Washington food policy forum. (AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 3/06/15)	Gregerson	Monitor	S, Ways & Means
<a href="#">1691</a>	Concerning remedies for actions under the public records act.	Van De Wege	Monitor	H, State Governme
<a href="#">S1710</a>	Fostering economic growth in Washington by supporting the in-state production, processing, and distribution of food supply. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Tarleton	Monitor	H, Approps
<a href="#">2155</a>	Relating to local government finance.	Reykdal	Monitor	H, Finance
<a href="#">4205</a>	Requiring all revenues from any state taxes levied for the purpose of funding local government public infrastructure to be paid into the state treasury, deposited into the public works assistance account, and used exclusively for funding local government public works projects.	Pike	Monitor	H, Approps
<a href="#">5013</a>	Regarding the use of designated agricultural lands.	Honeyford	Monitor	S, Rules X
<a href="#">5060</a>	Improving relationships between agricultural producers and state regulatory staff.	Honeyford	Monitor	S, Ag/Water/RurEcD
<a href="#">5062</a>	Concerning water quality enforcement procedure.	Honeyford	Monitor	S, Ag/Water/RurEcD
<a href="#">5168</a>	Addressing the definition of agricultural lands under the shoreline management act.	Warnick	Monitor	S, Ag/Water/RurEc
<a href="#">5169</a>	Restricting the conversion of agricultural land to other uses under the growth management act.	Warnick	Monitor	S, Ag/Water/RurEc
<a href="#">5170</a>	Restricting the conversion of agricultural land to other uses under the growth management act and shoreline management act.	Warnick	Monitor	S, Ag/Water/RurEcD
<a href="#">5204</a>	Providing an exemption from hydraulic project permit fees for certain emergency permits.	Parlette	Support	H, Rules R
<a href="#">S5320</a>	Concerning the administrative rate the recreation and conservation funding board may retain to administer the grant programs established in chapter 79A.15 RCW. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST	Honeyford	Monitor	S, 2nd Reading

SUBSTITUTE)

<a href="#">ES5347</a>	Creating demonstration projects for preserving agricultural land and public infrastructure in flood plains. (AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 3/06/15)	Hobbs	Monitor	H, Rules R
<a href="#">5445</a>	Extending the alternative fuel vehicle retail sales and use tax exemption.	Liias	Monitor	S, Energy, Enviro
<a href="#">5522</a>	Expanding the definition of special district to include lake water quality districts.	Sheldon	Monitor	S, GovtOp&StSec
<a href="#">5533</a>	Establishing charges for providing electronic data under the public records act.	Hobbs	Monitor	S, GovtOp&StSec
<a href="#">5551</a>	Concerning salmon recovery project funds.	Pearson	Monitor	S, Natural Resour
<a href="#">S5583</a>	Providing the fish and wildlife commission with the tools necessary to enact changes to the status of a species. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Dansel	Monitor	H, Ag & Nat Res
<a href="#">S5584</a>	Concerning water quality determinations made by the department of ecology. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Dansel	Monitor	S, Ways & Means
<a href="#">S5622</a>	Concerning the use of empirical science to support agency actions affecting land use. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Sheldon	Monitor	H, Environment
<a href="#">5769</a>	Concerning the management of noxious weeds on state lands.	Schoesler	Support	S, Rules X
<a href="#">S5799</a>	Exempting levies imposed by qualifying flood control zone districts from certain limitations upon regular property tax levies. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Fain	Monitor	H, Finance
<a href="#">S5972</a>	Concerning the procurement of seeds by state agencies. (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)	Schoesler	Monitor	H, Rules C

## CALENDAR ITEMS

4/17/2015 2156 City and county fiscal T.O. Finance 8:00 AM HHR A

## BILL TRACKING DETAILS

**S1105** OPERATING SUP BUDGET 2015 **HUNTER**  
House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Hunter, Ormsby, Sullivan, and Gregerson) Requested by  
Governor Inslee

Makes 2015 supplemental operating appropriations.

**Companion Bill:** 5076 Operating sup budget 2015 S, Ways & Means  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1105-s.pdf>

**ES1106** OPERATING BDGT 2015, 2015-17 **HUNTER**  
House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Hunter, Ormsby, Sullivan, Gregerson, and Reykdal) Requested by  
Governor Inslee

Makes 2015 fiscal year and 2015-2017 fiscal biennium operating appropriations.

**Companion Bill:** 5077 Operating bdgt 2015, 2015-17 H, Approps  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1106-s.e.pdf>

**E1115** CAPITAL BUDGET 2015-2017 **DUNSHEE**  
Representatives Dunshee, DeBolt, Gregerson, Morris, and Reykdal Requested by

Adopts the capital budget.

**Companion Bill:** 5097 Capital budget 2015-2017 S, Ways & Means  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1115.e.pdf>

**1116** CAPITAL SUP BUDGET 2015

Representatives Dunshee, DeBolt, Gregerson, and Morris

**DUNSHEE**  
Requested by  
Governor Inslee

Adopts the supplemental capital budget.

**Companion Bill:** 5096 Capital sup budget 2015 S, Ways & Means  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1116.pdf>

**E1187** WATER BANKING BEST PRACTICES

Representatives Chandler, Blake, Buys, Stanford, Hayes, and Parker

**CHANDLER**

Establishes the Yakima basin water banking best practices act to establish standards for water banking in the Yakima basin.

**Companion Bill:** 5014 Water banking best practices H, Rules R  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1187.e.pdf>

**1392** REC AND CONSERV. FUNDING BRD

Representatives Stanford, Tharinger, Dunshee, and McBride

**STANFORD**  
Requested by  
Recreation and Conservation Office

Addresses the administration of grant programs by the recreation and conservation funding board.

**Companion Bill:** 5320 Rec and conserv. funding brd S, 2nd Reading  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1392.pdf>

**S1399** TOXICS CONTROL ACCOUNTS

House Committee on Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives Hudgins, DeBolt, Dunshee, Tharinger, Short, Smith, and McBride)

**HUDGINS**  
Requested by  
Department of Ecology

Requires the department of revenue to annually increase the limit on distribution of hazardous substance tax revenues to the state toxics control account and the local toxics control account.

Provides that funds in excess of the new limit will be deposited in the environmental legacy stewardship account.

**Companion Bill:** 5345 Toxics control accounts S, Ways & Means  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1399-s.pdf>

**1940** FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICTS

House Committee on Finance (originally sponsored by Representatives Stokesbary, Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Magendanz, Kochmar, Hargrove, Rodne, Bergquist, Hurst, Gregerson, Orwall, and Jinkins)

**STOKESBARY**

Exempts levies imposed by qualifying flood control zone districts from certain limitations upon regular property tax levies.

**Companion Bill:** 5799 Flood control zone districts H, Finance  
**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1940.pdf>

**1992**

**CAPITAL BUDGET RESOURCES**

**STANFORD**

Representatives Stanford, Pike, Orcutt, Reykdal, Walsh, Hayes, Harris, Moscoso, Appleton, Fey, Pollet, Condotta, Takko, Bergquist, Ormsby, Tarleton, Senn, Jinkins, and Wilson

Restores resources to the capital budget beginning with the 2015-2017 biennium.

**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesex.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/1992.pdf>

**2156**

**CITY AND COUNTY FISCAL T.O.**

**REYKDAL**

Representatives Reykdal, Carlyle, and Tharinger

Introduced by title and introductory section only, relating to promoting the fiscal sustainability of cities and counties.

**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesex.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/2156.pdf>

**2157**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL T.O.**

**CARLYLE**

Representatives Carlyle and Tharinger

Introduced by title and introductory section only, relating to improving the fiscal health of local governments.

**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesex.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/2157.pdf>

**2158**

**SPEC PURPOSE TX DISTRICT T.O.**

**CARLYLE**

Representatives Carlyle and Tharinger

Introduced by title and introductory section only, relating to modifying the taxing authority of special purpose taxing districts.

**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesex.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House Bills/2158.pdf>

**S5322**

**CONSERVATION DISTRICT RATES**

**HATFIELD**

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development (originally sponsored by Senators Hatfield, Hobbs, and Honeyford)

Modifies provisions relating to rates and charges of conservation districts.

**Companion Bill:** 1264 Conservation district rates H, Local Govt

**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesex.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate Bills/5322-s.pdf>

**S5348**

**JOINT UTILIZATION CONTRACTS**

**MILOSCIA**

Senate Committee on Government Operations & Security (originally sponsored by Senators Miloscia and Chase)

Authorizes any two or more public agencies to enter into a contract providing for the joint utilization of architectural or engineering services if certain conditions are met.

**Companion Bill:** 1079 Joint utilization contracts H, Rules X

**Full Text URL:** <http://lawfilesex.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate Bills/5348-s.pdf>

**6035**

**PUBLIC WORKS ASSISTANCE ACCT**

**RIVERS**

Senators Rivers, Mullet, Cleveland, Rolfes, Pearson, O'Ban, Hatfield, Hobbs, Brown, Liias, Benton, Miloscia, Warnick, Chase, McCoy, Billig, Frockt, McAuliffe, Jayapal, Hasegawa, Hewitt, Angel, Roach, and Conway

Limits the transfer of money from the public works assistance account during the 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 fiscal biennia.

**Full Text URL:** [http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate Bills/6035.pdf](http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/6035.pdf)

**6039**

**FARM SUPPORT PROGRAMS**

**PEARSON**

Senators Pearson and Benton

Makes an appropriation for the purposes of revitalizing the department of agriculture's farm-to-school program and the small farm direct marketing assistance program.

**Full Text URL:** [http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate Bills/6039.pdf](http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/6039.pdf)