

## **Sine Die 2026 (Week of March 9-12, 2026)**

After a floor debate lasting more than 24 consecutive hours, majority Democrats in the House of Representatives approved the Millionaire's Tax, SB 6346 (Pedersen, D-43), on Tuesday evening, marking one of the longest and most contentious floor sessions in memory. Republicans, joined by several moderate Democrats, mounted a sustained challenge to the measure, offering 80 amendments in an effort to slow the bill's progress and force debate on key provisions. The extended debate stretched through the night and into the following day, with lawmakers sparring over the scope of the tax, its potential effect on high-income residents, and how the projected revenue would be used in future state budgets. Despite the prolonged resistance, Democratic leadership ultimately secured enough votes to pass the bill. Democrat Representatives Bronoske (D-28), Morgan (D-29), Reeves (D-30), Richards (D-26), Rule (D-42), Shavers (D-10), Timmons (D-42) and Walen (D-48) joined Republicans in opposing the bill. The bill was then approved in the Senate Wednesday evening.

The much-anticipated final Conference Budgets were released Wednesday. The state's \$79.4 billion operating budget relies heavily on one-time fixes, reserve funds, and cuts to keep the current spending plan balanced through the end of the biennium. The deal withdraws hundreds of millions from the state's rainy-day fund, shifts money from other accounts, and trims spending in several programs, including reductions tied to child-care subsidies and delays or cancellations of planned expansions. Lawmakers also set aside roughly \$1 billion to cover rising legal obligations facing the state, one of the fastest-growing pressures on the budget. Democratic leaders said the approach avoids deeper reductions to core services but acknowledged it depends on temporary solutions rather than long-term revenue, while Republicans criticized the plan as budget gimmickry that postpones tougher decisions.

Washington's 2026 supplemental capital budget is an \$889 million spending plan focused on construction and infrastructure projects statewide, with significant investments in affordable housing, school construction, flood response, and clean energy. The budget includes \$200 million for housing and homelessness programs, including \$123 million for the Housing Trust Fund, and \$109 million for school construction, with funding for modernization, seismic safety upgrades, and a new pilot program to help property-poor districts afford building projects. In response to the December 2025 flooding, the plan provides \$41 million for recovery and prevention work, including levee improvements, debris removal, and regional risk assessments. The proposal also directs Climate Commitment Act revenue toward environmental and energy projects, including \$25 million to launch the Washington Builds revolving-loan program for clean-energy upgrades, along with grants for tribal energy projects, higher-education

improvements, and climate-smart agriculture. Lawmakers described the bipartisan budget as a continuation of the state's practice of using the capital budget to fund long-term community projects and local infrastructure across Washington.

The Legislature approved a bipartisan \$16.6 billion 2025–27 supplemental Transportation budget on Thursday, a long-range plan funding projects through 2031 that focuses on preserving and maintaining Washington's transportation infrastructure while supporting job creation. The package, which lawmakers say could generate up to 30,000 jobs is funded in part through a bipartisan bonding agreement, the budget includes \$1.3 billion for road and bridge preservation, \$200 million for maintenance, \$28 million for ferry preservation, and \$100 million for safety upgrades on highways, along with funding to repair flood-damaged infrastructure and replace the Fairfax Bridge near Wilkeson. The plan also continues funding for new ferry construction, terminal electrification, and expanded maintenance capacity, while supporting safety grants, youth transit programs, and other initiatives tied to the Climate Commitment Act. The budget, contained in Senate Bills 6005 and 6225 and House Bill 2711, now heads to the governor for signature.

Altogether, the 2026 legislative session proved to be one of the most tumultuous in recent years, setting the stage for what is expected to be a highly charged and unpredictable election season. The debate over the proposed Millionaire's Tax in particular has already begun to reverberate beyond the Capitol, with primary challengers emerging in multiple districts to criticize majority Democrats for either supporting the measure or failing to support it strongly enough. The issue has exposed long-held divisions within the Democratic caucus ensuring that the political fallout from this session will continue well into 2027. Two additional retirements were announced this week, as Capital Budget Chair Representative Steve Tharinger (D-24) and Senator Judy Warnick (R-13) both confirmed they will not seek reelection, adding to the growing list of lawmakers departing the Legislature.

Much of the afternoon and evening on Sine Die was consumed by negotiations over and ultimately floor action on HB 6231 (Frame, D-36), legislation repealing a tax exemption for certain data centers, including the large facilities located in Quincy. The proposal drew fierce opposition from Republicans who argued the change would harm economic development in rural areas and undermine commitments previously made to local communities. The stakes were heightened because the operating budget relied on the roughly \$63 million in revenue expected from eliminating the exemption. Some lawmakers openly speculated that failure to pass the bill could force the governor to call a special session in order to rebalance the budget. In the end, however, HB 6231 cleared the Legislature, and the operating budget that depended on the revenue passed as well, allowing the session to conclude on schedule. In the end,

Democrat Representatives Richards (D-26), Rule (D-42), Scott, (D-43), Shavers (D-10), and Walen (D-42) joined Republicans in voting against the Operating budget.

The gavel finally fell at 8:24pm on Sine Die, formally ending the 2026 legislative session and shifting attention to the governor's desk for bill action. Under the state constitution, bills delivered to the governor more than five days before adjournment must be acted on within five days, while bills delivered fewer than five days before adjournment allow the governor up to 20 days to sign, veto, or allow them to become law without a signature. These timelines are counted in calendar days, not business days; Sundays are excluded from the count, but Saturdays and state holidays are included.

A full account of bills passed by the 2026 Legislature is below.

### **Agriculture, Natural Resources & Parks**

ESHB 2238 (Reeves, D-30) - Directs the director of agriculture to monitor food system performance and coordinate statewide food security and report to the Legislature every four years. Directs the Washington State Department of Agriculture to develop a strategy to enhance statewide food security and report to the Legislature by December 1, 2027.

HB 2104 (Dent, R-13) - Removes a July 1, 2027 expiration date for the Aviation Assurance Funding Program for local wildland fire response.

HB 2272 (Hall, D-5) - Updates equipment terms for ski lift devices that are inspected by the State Parks and Recreation Commission

HB 2554 (Lekanoff, D-40) - Repeals provisions related to the interaction of treaty rights and state management of natural resources.

SHB 2199 (Richards, D-26) - Modifies the definition of a derelict vessel under the Derelict Vessel Removal Program administered by the Department of Natural Resources.

### **Budgets & Revenue**

E2SHB 2251 (Fitzgibbon, D-34) - Repeals three of the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) accounts, creates the CCA Operating Account and a CCA Capital Account, and changes the name of the Carbon Emissions Reduction Account to the CCA Transportation Account. Changes the

distribution of CCA auction revenue into CCA accounts. Makes changes to the use of CCA funding, CCA spending goals, and reporting.

SSB 5862 (Dozier, R-16) - Provides a one-time, 3 percent, up to a maximum of \$110 per month, increase to the retirement benefits of retirees in the Public Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System Plan 1 on July 1, 2026.

ESHB 1408 (Santos, D-37) - Requires 30 percent of the state sales tax revenue at qualified facilities to be deposited into the Community Preservation and Development Authority (CPDA) Account, beginning January 1, 2026. Requires a Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee review of CPDA funding by December 1, 2034. Requires each CPDA to submit a biennial report to the Legislature on their strategic planning, use of funding, and impacts on the community. Provides an expiration date of January 1, 2037.

ESHB 2711 (Fey, D-27) - Revises various provisions enacted in ESSB 5801—transportation resources—during the 2025 session. Makes a variety of other resource related changes and modifies a variety of transportation policies.

ESSB 6005 (Lias, D-21) - Makes supplemental transportation appropriations for the 2025-27 fiscal biennium.

SSB 6225 (Lias, D-21) - Allows for the issuance of up to \$1.1 billion of bonds for the design, right-of-way, and construction of highway projects. Allows for the issuance of up to \$400 million of bonds for certain Move Ahead Washington projects with unanticipated construction-related cost increases. Increases the bond authorization for the state route 520 project by \$500 million. Repeals unused bond authorizations.

ESB 6228 (Frame, D-36) - Repeals the preferential business and occupation (B&O) tax rate for warehousing and reselling of prescription drugs. Creates a preferential B&O tax rate for critical access pharmacies.

ESSB 5998 (Robinson, D-38) - Makes supplemental operating budget appropriations for the 2025-2027 biennium.

SSB 6003 (Trudeau, D-27) - Makes supplemental capital budget appropriations for the 2025-2027 biennium.

ESSB 6231 (Frame, D-36) - Expires sales tax exemption certificates issued to qualifying rural county data centers based on refurbishment, effective July 1, 2026, and prohibits the future issue of such exemption certificates. Provides that data centers refurbished on or after July 1, 2026, do not qualify as eligible data centers for the purpose of the urban county data center sales tax exemption. Provides that replacement server equipment no longer qualifies as eligible server equipment for the purpose of the rural and urban county data center sales tax exemptions.

HB 2124 (Couture, R-35) - Increases the monthly benefit threshold for Plan 2 retirees to elect a lump sum pension payment from \$50 to \$250.

HB 2254 (Callan, D-5) - Allows reasonable costs for a third-party administrator to calculate and administer the assessments to be included in the proportional share calculation for the Partnership Access Line funding model.

HB 2353 (Keaton, R-25) - Increases the predesign threshold for capital construction projects from \$10 million to \$15 million and adjusts the threshold annually for inflation.

HB 2385 (Macri, D-43) - Extends the date by which the Health Care Authority must submit any state plan amendments or waiver requests to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services that are necessary to implement the Medicaid Access Program (Program) from September 1, 2025, to September 1, 2030. Changes the purpose of the Program so that professional services rates are increased for services that are not reimbursed at or above Medicare rates as of December 31st of the prior year by a percentage of corresponding Medicare rates as of December 31st of the prior year. Extends the expiration date of the act from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2032.

SB 5994 (Cortes, D-18) - Extends timber tax revenue distributions to school districts without qualifying levies in a given calendar year, if the district had qualifying levies in effect in either of the previous two calendar years.

SB 6151 (Stanford, D-1) - Creates the Laboratory Accreditation Account (Account), and directs Department of Ecology (Ecology) fees for laboratory certification into the Account instead of the State General Fund. Directs Ecology fees related to landfill methane emissions into the Air Pollution Control Account.

SHB 2420 (Zahn, D-41) - Establishes annual increases in the maximum value of public works projects for which state agencies and local governments may use small works roster processes, from the current \$350,000 to an eventual \$650,000 by July 1, 2030.

SSB 5834 (Conway, D-29) - Authorizes the Department of Retirement Systems to use the interest earnings of pension trust funds for fraud prevention.

E2SHB 2034 (Ormsby, D-3) - Terminates the Law Enforcement Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement System Plan 1 (LEOFF Plan 1), creates the Restated Law Enforcement Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement System on June 30, 2029, with identical pension benefits. Funds the newly created Restated LEOFF System with existing LEOFF Plan 1 assets at 110 percent of the actuarial value of the projected benefits. Deposits the remainder in the Pension Surplus Holding Account, which may be transferred to the state general fund.

### **Business & Labor**

2SHB 1128 (Fosse, D-38) - Establishes the Washington State Child Care Workforce Standards Board (Board), and directs the Board to make recommendations on employment standards for child care workers.

2SHB 2479 (Fosse, D-38) - Creates the Wage Recovery Program and Wage Recovery Account to allow unpaid low-wage workers to receive disbursements if certain conditions are met. Allows the Department of Labor and Industries discretion to investigate complaints under the Wage Payment Act. Increases the minimum civil penalty amount and removes the maximum cap for willful violations, and requires penalties for repeat willful violators and willful violators that have previously settled or resolved prior wage complaints.

2SSB 5292 (Conway, D-29) - Shifts the method for setting the premium rate for the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program from a statutory lookback formula to an actuarial approach, provided that it is at the lowest possible rate necessary to maintain solvency, reduce fluctuations, and build a four month reserve.

E2SSB 5847 (Saldaña, D-37) - Makes changes to the workers' compensation claims treatment provisions. Allows providers to deviate from the treatment guidelines when medically appropriate. Prevents an employer from requiring that a worker use a specific provider. Permits an injured worker to be treated by a non-network provider in specified circumstances. Requires utilization reviews to be completed within ten business days. Requires writing notice to remove a provider from the medical provider network.

EHB 2294 (Farivar, D-46) - Prohibits agreements that impose negative use restrictions on real property that prevent or restrict the use of the real property for a grocery store or pharmacy. Includes exceptions for existing negative use restrictions; temporary negative use restrictions related to a store or pharmacy relocating nearby to a similar sized or larger store or pharmacy with similar scope of products; and negative use restrictions within a retail center. Authorizes local governments to modify several requirements of the relocation exception and retail center exception, upon request of an owner or operator, in extenuating circumstances for good cause. Requires notice of an agreement and creates an enforcement mechanism for the Attorney General and local governments through a court action.

ESB 6058 (Saldaña, D-37) - Allows the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) to decide whether to investigate an employee wage complaint and ties certain timelines to L&I's acceptance of a complaint. Requires L&I, if a complaint is accepted, to issue certain notices or orders containing L&I's determination within 60 days of acceptance. Pauses the statute of limitations for civil actions related to an employee's wage complaint when the complaint is filed with L&I, until specified actions are taken. Allows L&I to assess civil penalties under certain wage-complaint penalty provisions when issuing an administrative order for amounts owed.

ESB 6106 (Cleveland, D-49) - Excludes tribes and tribally-owned businesses from the definition of employer under the Securing Timely Notification and Benefits for Laidoff Employees Act. Exempts from public disclosure the names and addresses of affected employees provided to the Employment Security Department (ESD) in mass layoff and business closing notices. Limits the requirement that these notices include the names and addresses of affected employees to notices provided to the ESD and to employees' bargaining representatives.

ESHB 1155 (Berry, D-36) - Makes any noncompetition covenant void and unenforceable, regardless of when the parties entered into the covenant.

ESHB 2229 (Zahn, D-41) - Revises provisions in the Professional Engineers' Registration Act related to membership of the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, registration requirements and fees, applications, examinations, and removing obsolete language and updating terminology.

ESHB 2274 (Springer, D-45) - Requires the sender of a commercial email to have knowledge that the subject line is considered false or misleading to be a violation of the Commercial Electronic Mail Act. Decreases the statutory damages for a recipient of a prohibited commercial email or text message to the greater of \$100 or actual damages.

ESHB 2303 (Thomas, D-34) - Prohibits an employer from requesting, requiring, or coercing an employee to have a microchip implanted in the employee for any reason.

ESHB 2471 (Scott, D-43) - Establishes collective bargaining provisions for the private sector if: (1) the federal law ceases to preempt state regulation of labor management relations of employees, employers, trades, or industries that had been subject to federal labor law; or (2) the National Labor Relations Board declines or is deprived of jurisdiction or determines that the employer, employee, trade, or industry falls outside its previously existing jurisdiction. Grants the Public Employment Relations Commission jurisdiction to administer collective bargaining for employees, employers, trades, and industries covered by the bill and to enforce state law protecting concerted activities with regard to those employees, employers, trades, and industries.

ESHB 2476 (Dufault, R-15) - Increases the maximum number of seats per screen that a theater may have to hold a spirits, beer, and wine theater license from 120 to 200. Adds specific alcohol control plan measures that theaters who hold a spirits, beer, and wine theater license must implement.

ESSB 6197 (Hunt, D-5) - Changes the circumstances under which a plumbing certificate, license, endorsement, or registration may be suspended.

ESSB 6302 (Conway, D-29) - Requires the Department of Labor and Industries to investigate when there are three or more independent contractors performing finishing work on a public works project to determine whether those workers are being misclassified as independent contractors under the Prevailing Wages on Public Works Act.

HB 1069 (Fosse, D-38) - Provides that, for Department of Corrections employees, contributions for supplemental retirement benefits administered by or on behalf of an employee organization is a mandatory subject of bargaining.

HB 2091 (Reed, D-36) - Extends the requirement for public employers to provide exclusive bargaining representatives with employee contact information to all public employers under the Personnel System Reform Act.

HB 2264 (Berry, D-36) - Allows an individual to be eligible for unemployment benefit when voluntarily participating in an employer-initiated layoff or reduction in force so long as the

separating employer terminates the employment as a result of the layoff or reduction in force plan.

HB 2309 (Leavitt, D-28) - Prohibits the Office of Financial Management from including in a comprehensive compensation plan the requirement for a postgraduate degree as the only way to demonstrate qualifications for a particular role unless the degree is required by law for an employee to perform the essential functions of a classification.

HB 2441 (Low, R-39) - Expands the reimbursement of medical premium costs for survivors of Law Enforcement Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement System Plan 2 members killed in the course of employment. Requires Medicare Part A and B premiums be reimbursed for these survivors, and also requires reimbursement for medical insurance costs from the date of the member's death until the determination that the member was killed in the course of employment.

SB 5944 (Cortes, D-18) - Provides that payments for missed or canceled appointments are part of "economic compensation" and therefore within the scope of collective bargaining between state agency employers and language access providers.

SB 6134 (King, R-14) - Requires the Employment Security Department to notify a striking worker applying for unemployment insurance benefits of the potential to receive an overpayment assessment if the worker receives retroactive wages from the employer.

SB 6136 (King, R-14) - Requires the Department of Labor and Industries to annually publish the actuarially indicated rate for each workers' compensation risk classification and disclose when it sets a premium rate below the actuarially indicated rate for any classification.

SB 6188 (Hunt, D-5) - Removes the provision that limits the Department of Labor and Industries' rulemaking authority for asbestos certification requirements to rules that are specifically required for the state's standards to be as stringent as applicable federal laws.

SHB 1570 (Timmons, D-42) - Grants specified student employees at Western Washington University the right to collectively bargain.

SHB 2107 (Schmidt, R-4) - Requires the Department of Labor and Industries to make a good faith effort to notify an employer or owner within 10 working days if an onsite inspection identifies a hazard at any building construction worksite.

SHB 2151 (Manjarrez, R-14) - Requires the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) to consider, when adopting rules for factory built housing and commercial structures, certain national consensus standards published by the International Code Council. Allows L&I to establish options for inspections of factory-built housing and commercial structures to be conducted by qualified inspection agencies. Exempts certain prefabricated enclosures owned by electric utilities from the L&I inspection and approval process.

SHB 2355 (Thomas, D-34) - Establishes labor protections for domestic workers, including any employee or independent contractor working in a private residence for four or more hours a month as a nanny, child care provider, home care worker, personal care provider, housekeeper, cleaner, cook, gardener, or household manager, subject to certain exceptions. Allows a domestic worker to seek remedies for violations of the labor protections by filing an administrative complaint with the Department of Labor and Industries and/or by bringing a private cause of action. Extends Minimum Wage Act standards and protections to certain domestic workers who were previously exempt because they slept or resided at their place of employment. This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. Allows a domestic worker to bring a private cause of action under the Washington Law Against Discrimination when a hiring entity discriminates against the worker in compensation or termination on the basis of the worker being a member of a protected class.

SHB 2405 (Schmidt, R-4) - Establishes a pilot program in the Department of Labor and Industries to allow workers' compensation coverage of post-traumatic stress disorder treatment up to a specified number of sessions before claim adjudication and after claim closure.

SHB 2428 (Leavitt, D-28) - Requires insurers to send written notice of possible termination of coverage under an individual life insurance policy based on nonpayment of the premium to the policyholder and a third-party designee at least 30 days before coverage will lapse, and to notify a policy applicant in writing of the right to designate a third party to receive the notice. Requires the insurer to obtain, and upon request, demonstrate proof of delivery for each notice the insurer sends under the requirement. Excludes certain types of life insurance policies from the requirement and applies only to policies issued on or after the bill's effective date.

SHB 2472 (Bronoske, D-28) - Adds enforcement provisions to the statutes relating to fire system sprinkler contractors and fitters. Requires the Director of Fire Protection (Director) to investigate violations. Requires contractors to provide evidence of licensure upon request and fire code officials to notify the Director of violations. Allows the Director or fire code officials to

issue stop work orders and a fire code official to determine if public safety warrants the removal of a fire protection sprinkler system or its components.

SHB 2492 (Nance, D-23) - Requires state-registered apprenticeship programs in the building and construction trades to provide apprentices with at least two hours of behavioral health and wellness training. Allows electricians and plumbers to count up to four hours of behavioral health and wellness training towards continuing education requirements for certification renewals.

SSB 5874 (MacEwen, R-35) - Allows the Employment Security Department to waive penalties for minor or insignificant reporting errors in employers' quarterly unemployment insurance reports.

SSB 6014 (Nobles, D-28) - Creates a Public Records Act exemption relating to pregnancy accommodations for employees. Reverses changes made in 2025 to the types of pregnancy accommodation for which an employer is prohibited from claiming an undue burden.

SSB 6039 (King, R-14) - Allows the Department of Labor and Industries (Department) to send notices electronically. Requires that, before using an electronic method for the first time, the Department must provide recipients the option to receive notices nonelectronically.

SSB 6248 (Stanford, D-1) - Enacts the Washington Travel Insurance Act, including provisions for regulating the offer and dissemination of travel insurance, licensing limited lines travel insurance producers, registering travel retailers, regulating travel administrators, requiring payment of premium taxes, establishing unfair trade practices and restricted sales practices, classifying travel insurance, and granting rulemaking authority.

HB 1526 (Schmick, R-9) - Permits retailers with a snack bar liquor license to sell wine by the glass, in addition to beer, for on-premise consumption.

2SHB 1701 (Steele, R-12) - Provides that a liquor licensee is not prohibited from operating on the property of a facility that includes other liquor licensees or businesses. Allows a licensee in the facility to lease use of its kitchen space if certain requirements are met. Authorizes the Liquor and Cannabis Board to require submission of agreements such as leases. Provides that these arrangements do not violate tied-house restrictions that otherwise limit business practices and financial arrangements in the liquor industry.

2SHB 2105 (Ortiz-Self, D-21) - Requires an employer to notify its workers within five business days of receiving a federal Notice of Inspection of Employment Eligibility Verification Forms I-9 (Forms I-9). Requires an employer to notify affected workers within five business days of receiving the results of any inspection of Forms I-9. Allows the attorney general to bring civil actions for violations, and allows injured workers to bring private civil actions.

HB 2624 (Donaghy, D-44) - Excludes from the requirements for solicited real estate transactions, any public entity, a federally recognized Indian tribe, or a nonprofit nature conservancy organization acquiring real property for a public benefit with an appraisal prior to the closing of the transaction.

EHB 2179 (Abell, R-7) - Excludes certain port district employees from membership in the Public Employees' Retirement System.

### **Cannabis, Liquor & Gaming**

EHB 2681 (Ormsby, D-3) - Increases the annual fee for issuance and renewal of cannabis producer, processor, and retail licenses from \$1,381 to \$1,781.

EHB 1941 (Morgan, D-29) - Authorizes licensed cannabis producers to form agricultural associations or cooperatives for specified purposes. Prohibits an association or cooperative formed by cannabis producers from representing more than three producer licenses.

### **Education**

2SSB 5969 (Cortes, D-18) - Directs that the statewide online system for Individualized Education Programs and High School and Beyond Plans be integrated to the greatest extent possible in order to relieve duplication between the plans to the greatest extent possible.

E3SHB 1634 (Thai, D-41) - Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Educational Service Districts to collaborate and coordinate with state, regional, and local agencies and community partners involved in behavioral health services for children and youth to develop a technical assistance and training framework to assist public schools with supporting student behavioral health.

EHB 2317 (Eslick, R-39) - Exempts school-day Early Childhood Education and Assistance Programs and Head Start programs from Department of Children, Youth, and Family licensing

requirements when the program is located at a public school for community or technical college.

ESB 5272 (Lovick, D-44) - Expands the school-related crimes of Interference by Force or Violence and Intimidation by Threat of Force or Violence, and increases the penalties for Interference by Force or Violence.

ESB 5872 (Wilson, C., D-30) - Establishes the PreK Promise Account to be used for the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program.

ESHB 2534 (Shavers, D-10) - Makes changes to school district requirements for enrolling children of military families, transferring their education records, and providing them with services and accommodations.

ESHB 2557 (Chase, R-4) - Requires a school district to provide a student's parent or guardian with a copy of the special education evaluation report no later than the thirtyfifth school day following receipt of consent to evaluate the student, unless an exception applies or the parent or guardian provides a written waiver.

Requires the school district to convene a special education eligibility determination meeting no sooner than five school days after the evaluation report is provided and no later than the fortieth school day following receipt of consent. Provides that, absent a written waiver, a school district's failure to provide the evaluation report within the required timeline constitutes a procedural violation. Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to adopt rules and to update model forms and technical assistance guidance to reflect these requirements.

SB 5922 (Wellman, D-41) - Allows a school district to transfer vehicle depreciation payments and earned interest from its transportation vehicle fund to another fund when reducing its vehicle fleet, subject to approval by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

SB 5963 (Nobles, D-28) - Qualifies students eligible for the Passport to Careers Program as automatically income-eligible for the Washington College Grant. Aligns the Passport to Careers formula for determining financial need with the federal formula. Requires the Office of Student Financial Assistance to deposit all funds received for the Passport to Careers Program into the State Financial Aid Account.

SB 6065 (Dozier, R-16) - Allows a school district in binding conditions or under enhanced financial oversight to take a temporary, interest-free interfund loan from its transportation

vehicle fund, and petition the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to transfer money from its transportation vehicle fund to another school fund, including converting a temporary interfund loan to a permanent transfer of funds with no requirement for repayment.

SB 6278 (Wellman, D-41) - Requires the Professional Educator Standards Board's (PESB's) ongoing review of approved teacher and principal preparation programs to include the following components: program standards, educator role standards, evidence submitted by programs, and input from community constituents and prekindergarten through grade 12 partners. Provides a process and directives for when the performance of a PESB-reviewed preparation program is out of alignment with standards and requirements. Changes submission frequency requirements for student teacher field placement plans.

SHB 2088 (Leavitt, D-28) - Enacts the Dietician Licensure Compact.

SHB 2360 (Donaghy, D-44) - Allows public and private schools to maintain and use a supply of albuterol at each school beginning in the 2027-28 school year when certain requirements are met. Provides a uniform procedure, requires parental notification after administration of albuterol, includes employee opt-out provisions, and establishes limits on liability.

SHB 2363 (Reed, D-36) - Allows an applicant for a music therapy license to provide supervised music therapy for up to six months while awaiting verification of exam results.

SHB 2525 (Mendoza, R-14) - Establishes a heritage orchard program at Washington State University.

SSB 5346 (Lias, D-21) - Revises the definition of digital citizenship so that the norms of appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior related to current technology use includes student use of mobile devices. Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to include research on student use of mobile devices and recommended best practice strategies for teaching students how to use their mobile devices responsibly in a web-based location with other digital citizenship and media literacy resources. Tasks OSPI with submitting two reports summarizing the policies and procedures that have been adopted limiting student use of mobile devices and any implementation barriers, and to provide evidence-based recommendations related to this topic by December 15, 2028.

SSB 5841 (Boehnke, R-8) - Directs that the universal high school and beyond plan platform must import financial aid application data maintained by the Washington student achievement council to provide an easy way to view the student's progress on financial aid applications. Adds

the Washington Opportunity Scholarship to the list of programs about which students must be informed in their high school and beyond plans.

SSB 6268 (Harris, R-17) - Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to maintain a freely accessible online record of all final decisions issued in response to special education community complaints during the preceding 20 years.

ESHB 1795 (Callan, D-5) - Prohibits mechanical restraint, chemical restraint, and physical restraint or physical escort of a student that is life threatening. Specifies that isolation may not be used as a planned behavioral intervention in individualized education programs or 504 plans and allows restraint only under specified circumstances. Prohibits the construction, repurposing, or otherwise establishing any new room or other enclosed area for the primary purpose of student isolation. Applies student restraint and isolation requirements to all providers of public educational services, except for licensed or certified health professionals of an inpatient health care facility

HB 1796 (Callan, D-5) - Authorizes school districts to contract indebtedness and issue bonds without a vote of the people, subject to the current indebtedness limit of 0.375 percent, for the purpose of erecting buildings and providing the necessary furniture, apparatus, or equipment. Provides that this new authority is limited to school districts that have passed a capital levy and have not been on binding conditions in the three years preceding the date of the contract

SHB 2594 (Reeves, D-30) - Codifies provisions and requirements in state law that align with the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act that are ensuring that homeless children and youths have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as is provided to other children and youths. Provides that the actions of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, school districts, charter schools, and state-tribal education compact schools that meet requirements of the federal act also satisfy equivalent requirements established in state law.

ESSB 6260 (Wellman, D-41) - Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to use a minimum anticipated lifetime of 120 or 180 months for school bus depreciation schedules, depending on the category of bus. Requires OSPI to adjust a school district's bus depreciation reimbursement payment if the district is awarded a federal grant or rebate to purchase a student transportation vehicle. Reduces the funded maximum enrollment for Running Start students to 1.2 full-time equivalents (FTE), rather than 1.4 FTE. Limits funding for the Transition to Kindergarten Program to the amount specified in the omnibus appropriations act.

ESHB 1295 (Pollet, D-46) - Requires that updated or newly adopted literacy curricula for kindergarten through fourth graders meet certain specified criteria, beginning in 2027, and that school districts implement these criteria consistent with the curriculum developer's guidance and school district policies. Requires standards for teacher endorsements with literacy-related competencies be revised to include certain elements and requires PESB to direct teacher preparation programs to incorporate revised standards within two years of the revision. Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop and update an educator literacy training program designed to enhance the reading, writing, and spelling skills of kindergarten through fourth grade students, including students displaying indicators of dyslexia. Repeals certain requirements related to teacher professional development.

### **Environment, Energy & Technology**

E2SHB 1170 (Shavers, D-10) - Requires providers of certain generative artificial intelligence (AI) systems to include provenance data in content created or materially altered by the system. Provides for enforcement by the attorney general under the Consumer Protection Act.

EHB 2575 (Hall, D-5) - Reduces the frequency of Energy Independent Act reporting for electric utilities. Reduces Department of Commerce reporting requirements by decreasing the number of interim State Energy Strategy implementation reports and eliminating a biennial energy report. Eliminates an annual report for electric and water utilities on utility disconnections on days where a heat-related alert is issued.

ESB 6246 (Slatter, D-48) - Directs the Department of Ecology (Ecology) to provide certain recommendations in its December 2026 report to the Legislature regarding no-cost allowance allocation to Emissions-Intensive, TradeExposed (EITE) facilities in the Cap-and-Invest Program (Program) between 2035-2050. Requires the owner or operator of an EITE facility, by December 2028 and then quadrennially, to provide information to Ecology regarding facility-specific greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and an assessment of technically and economically feasible measures to reduce GHG emissions at each facility—collectively, reporting requirements. Requires Ecology to assess a penalty in accordance with an existing penalty provision in the Program if an owner or operator of an EITE facility fails to comply with the reporting requirements. Amends other Program terminology regarding EITE facilities.

ESSB 5975 (Harris, R-17) - Specifies that aluminum or brass cookware, utensils, or components cannot be sold or distributed if lead was intentionally added. Adds lead in cookware as a

priority product under Safer Products and provides for evaluation beginning in the 2029 review cycle.

HB 2338 (Callan, D-5) - Adds community scaled projects as project types eligible for funding under the Low-Income Weatherization Program.

HB 2367 (Fitzgibbon, D-34) - Specifies that the exemption from the Cap-and-Invest Program for emissions from a certain coal-fired electric generation facility (coal facility) applies only to those emissions before January 1, 2026. Removes the limitation on state agencies and political subdivisions of the state from imposing greenhouse gas emission requirements on a coal facility that are inconsistent with or in addition to the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance Standard or the memorandum of agreement between the Governor and the coal facility. Repeals sales and use tax exemptions for coal used at a coal facility placed in operation after December 3, 1969, and before July 1, 1975.

HB 2606 (Barnard, R-8) - Adds review of agency projects using artificial intelligence to the Office of Privacy and Data Protection's primary duties. Modifies performance measures reporting requirements.

SB 5995 (Salomon, D-32) - Removes the expiration date on the authorization for port districts and port development authorities to purchase zero and near zero emissions cargo handling equipment, and on the prohibition on districts and authorities purchasing fully automated marine cargo handling equipment.

SHB 1302 (Cortes, D-18) - Authorizes a municipal utility to adopt, by ordinance, a program waiving utility connection charges for properties owned or developed by public or private organizations utilizing the property for industrial symbiosis.

SSB 5982 (Hunt, D-5) - Expands the types of entities subject to the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) to include port districts that distribute electricity and nonresidential electricity consumers that generate electricity for their own consumption after May 2019. Directs the Utilities and Transportation Commission to adopt rules to establish reporting requirements for affected market customers to demonstrate compliance with CETA and to enforce affected market customers' compliance with CETA under certain conditions. Expands the definition of market customer to include nonresidential consumers of electricity that generate any amount of electricity for their own consumption, not just those that meet 100 percent of their own needs.

SSB 6076 (Goehner, R-12) - Increases public works contract thresholds for public utility districts (PUDs) for certain energy projects until January 1, 2045. Allows electronic submission of bids under the public works procurement process for PUDs. Expands the range of items that a PUD may purchase through the preapproved vendor list process. Exempts competitive bidding for municipalities under certain conditions relating to energy generation and transmission until January 1, 2045.

SSB 6269 (Shewmake, D-42) - Amends the definition of motor fuel in the Motor Fuel Quality Act (MFQA) to include gaseous products used for motor vehicle propulsion on state highways or that are intended to be used for transportation purposes. Removes the definition of alternative fuel in the MFQA.

E2SHB 1903 (Mena, D-29) - Establishes a Statewide Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (Statewide Program) within the Department of Commerce to be phased in by providing funds to participating utilities to reduce the monthly energy bills of low-income customers, subject to appropriation. Prohibits an electric utility from reducing the level of low-income energy assistance, discounts, or affordability benefits it provided under the Clean Energy Transformation Act as a result of participating in the Statewide Program.

2SHB 1906 (Tharinger, D-24) - Requires public water systems, when changing ownership, to provide certain specified notification. Requires the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) to adopt certain rules for determining rates of water companies. Prohibits the UTC from approving any transaction that changes the controlling interest in a water company unless the transaction provides net benefits to customers of the company and certain notice is provided. Allows a water company to file a multiyear rate plan with the UTC and specifies certain requirements for the multiyear plan.

ESHB 2225 (Callan, D-5) - Requires that companion chatbot users receive notification that they are interacting with artificial intelligence and provides specific requirements and protections related to minors. Specifies companion chatbot operator requirements related to preventing and responding to user expressions of self-harm. Provides for enforcement under the Consumer Protection Act.

SHB 2296 (Hall, D-5) - Requires the Utilities and Transportation Commission to allow an electrical or natural gas company to invest in rental housing energy conservation and efficiency programs to be secured through the meter and recovered through the regular billing paid by the tenant.

E2SHB 2416 (Hill, D-3) - Establishes a process by which the Department of Ecology (Ecology) must allocate no-cost allowances in the Cap-and-Invest Program (Program) between 2027-2030 to a waste-to-energy facility constructed before 1992 that is in compliance with applicable laws and standards (WTE Facility). Prohibits Ecology from allocating no-cost allowances to an electric utility for greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity produced by a WTE Facility for which the facility has a compliance obligation in the Program. Requires the owner or operator of a WTE Facility, by December 1, 2030, to provide a two-part plan to Ecology and the Department of Commerce, including a greenhouse gas emissions reduction component and a waste reduction and material recovery component.

SSB 6355 (Hunt, D-5) - Establishes the Washington Electric Transmission Authority (Authority) to, among other duties, support the expansion of and upgrades to the electric transmission system and be a state-wide resource for transmission. Creates a ten-member board of directors to provide oversight and advise the Authority. Establishes a tribal clean energy partnership work group to identify and evaluate opportunities for tribal participation in the development and ownership of clean energy facilities and infrastructure.

E2SHB 2215 (Fitzgibbon, D-34) - Reduces, beginning January 1, 2027, the emissions threshold determining covered entity status and a compliance obligation in the Cap-and-Invest Program (Program) for certain fuel suppliers that began supplying specified fuels in any jurisdiction on or after January 1, 2023, and requires those fuel suppliers to report emissions to the Department of Ecology. Prohibits state agencies and municipalities from awarding a procurement contract to certain fuel suppliers unless the fuel supplier meets certain criteria. Exempts, beginning January 1, 2027, emissions from the combustion, oxidation, other process, or end use of a lubricant, as defined in federal law, from a compliance obligation in the Program.

## **Firearms**

ESHB 2320 (Salahuddin, D-48) - Prohibits the manufacturing of certain firearms and firearm components through use of a three-dimensional printer or computer numerical control milling machine, subject to exceptions. Prohibits the sale or transfer of certain digital firearm manufacturing code, subject to exceptions.

HB 2521 (Ormsby, D-3) - Allows the Washington State Patrol to set the fee for the Firearm Background Check Program to an amount calculated to cover total costs to administer the program.

## **Healthcare**

2SHB 2384 (Macri, D-43) - Requires applicants for registration as a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) that offers life care contracts to submit an actuarial analysis as part of its application materials with every other renewal application. Directs the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to review the actuarial analyses of applicants for registration as a CCRC to determine whether the applicant's actuarial balance is satisfactory.

E2SSB 5395 (Orwall, D-33) - Modifies requirements related to determination notifications, and the use of artificial intelligence as part of the prior authorization process for private health insurance and Public Employee Benefit Board and School Employee Benefit Board health programs.

E2SSB 5981 (Cleveland, D-49) - Prohibits a drug manufacturer from denying, restricting, or prohibiting the acquisition of a 340B drug by a covered entity or a pharmacy under contract with a covered entity unless federal law prohibits the receipt. Prohibits a drug manufacturer from requiring any claims, utilization, purchasing data as a condition for allowing the acquisition of a 340B drug by a covered entity or a pharmacy under contract with the covered entity unless federal law requires such data sharing. Requires certain covered entities and drug manufacturers to submit certain data related to the 340B drug pricing program.

ESHB 1187 (Ryu, D-32) - Prohibits ambulance services from selling or assigning debt to collection agencies until 120 days after an initial billing statement is sent to a patient or other responsible party for ambulance services following a motor vehicle accident.

ESHB 2110 (Schmick, R-9) - Allows a registered nurse without emergency medical technician (EMT) certification to provide patient care during an interfacility specialty care transport by ambulance when no paramedic or nurse with EMT certification is available.

ESHB 2242 (Bronoske, D-28) - Authorizes the Department of Health (Department) to issue immunization recommendations and guidance. Replaces the requirement that health plans provide coverage for immunizations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) with a requirement to cover immunizations that have a recommendation from the Department. Changes the recommending entity for determining which immunizations must be considered "vaccines" for the purposes of the Washington Vaccine Association from the ACIP to the Department.

ESHB 2548 (Taylor, D-30) - Expands the scope of transactions that qualify as a material change triggering the requirement for 60-day written notice to the attorney general for certain health

care market transactions. Pauses material change transactions for 30 days after a request from the attorney general for additional information relating to the transaction. Requires parties to a material change transaction to provide notice to the attorney general within 30 days after completing a transaction. Requires parties filing a written notice to pay a filing fee based on the anticipated value of the transaction, with an exception. Requires the attorney general to notify the secretary of state when an entity involved in a material change transaction is a nonprofit corporation.

ESSB 5124 (Muzzall, R-10) - Directs the Health Care Authority to adopt network adequacy standards for Medicaid managed care organizations for post-acute care services, including nursing homes and inpatient rehabilitation facilities.

ESSB 5845 (Slatter, D-48) - Requires health carriers to pay clean claims within 30 days. Requires health carriers to request any additional information needed to process a claim within 21 days.

ESSB 6019 (Cleveland, D-49) - Defines the home care agency vendor rate as the sum of the portion of the vendor rate dedicated to the wages, benefits, and required employer contributions or premiums for home care agency workers who provide direct care and the home care agency administrative rate. Establishes how the portion of the vendor rate that is dedicated to wages, benefits, and required employer contributions for home care agency workers who provide direct care must be determined. Provides a maximum percentage that may be recommended for the consumer directed employer administrative rate and the home care agency administrative rate. Directs the Department of Social and Health Services to verify that home care agencies have expended funds in accordance with statute.

ESSB 6194 (King, R-14) - Allows for any rural hospital located on a federally recognized Indian reservation to be paid at 150 percent of the fee-for-service rate for inpatient and outpatient Medicaid services beginning January 1, 2027.

HB 2113 (Engell, R-7) - Modifies the level of supervision required and the types of health care providers that can supervise parenteral procedures, including intravenous contrast procedures, performed by diagnostic radiologic technologists, therapeutic radiologic technologists, and magnetic resonance imaging technologists.

HB 2155 (Obras, D-33) - Prohibits nonhuman entities from using nursing titles.

HB 2340 (Simmons, D-23) - Prohibits the Department of Health and the Board of Nursing from posting information on a public website regarding an enforcement action taken against a

nursing assistant, if the nursing assistant has successfully completed the terms of an agreement or order requiring the individual to contact or participate in an approved substance use disorder monitoring program. Adds nursing assistants to the types of licenses eligible for the Board of Nursing stipends to defray the costs associated with participating in a substance use disorder monitoring program.

HB 2531 (Stuebe, R-17) - Directs the Health Care Authority, beginning July 1, 2026, and continuing each state fiscal year thereafter, to annually set the quality assurance fee rate to the rate in effect as of July 4, 2025. Directs the Health Care Authority to annually calculate the add-on payment for ambulance transport providers to reflect the available quality assurance fee amount in the Ambulance Transport Fund-State.

HB 2540 (Bronoske, D-28) - Requires emergency medical technicians to recertify every three years. Requires emergency medical technicians who have been certified for more than ten years in Washington to recertify every six years.

SB 5915 (Harris, R-17) - Establishes priority in the Health Technology Assessment Program for the review of health technologies that are recommended under Medicare or by nationally recognized expert treatment guidelines.

SB 5988 (Robinson, D-38) - Authorizes the Department of Health to become an accrediting body for opioid treatment programs. Directs the Department of Health to establish accreditation fees to cover the costs associated with accreditation activities.

SB 6025 (Cleveland, D-49) - Modifies the vital statistics definition of fetal death by changing how gestational age is calculated.

SB 6103 (Muzzall, R-10) - Makes payments for recipients eligible for medical assistance programs by a rural hospital designated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as a rural emergency hospital, regardless of the managed care enrollment status of the beneficiary, subject to appropriation.

SHB 2152 (Kloba, D-1) - Requires hospitals, nursing homes, and hospice care centers (collectively "facilities") to allow the medical use of cannabis by qualifying patients with a terminal condition. Establishes standards for policies for the medical use of cannabis at facilities to address the method of use, inclusion in medical records, the presentation of authorizations, responsibility for acquisition and administration, secure storage, prohibitions on health care provider administration, prohibitions on sharing, and disposal requirements.

SHB 2339 (Simmons, D-23) - Modifies the titles used by advanced registered nurse practitioners to reflect their practitioner type. Allows certified registered nurse anesthetists who have not obtained prescriptive authority prior to July 1, 2026, to continue administering certain substances. Removes the requirement that nursing license applicants provide nursing program transcripts to the Washington State Board of Nursing (Board). Allows the Board to directly issue interim permits.

SHB 2577 (Macri, D-43) - Requires that acute care hospital inspections take place every 18 months, while allowing an exception during a federal, state, or local emergency. Allows an inspection by a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services accrediting organization to fulfill the inspection requirement once every 36 months.

SJM 8002 (Hasegawa, D-11) - Requests the federal government to take certain actions so that Medicare beneficiaries will not experience additional costs from choosing the original Medicare program and will have a choice between the public and private program

SSB 5185 (Saldaña, D-37) - Creates the Clinical Experience Graduate Pilot Program. Removes exceptions to the residency requirement for certain permanent immigrants.

SSB 5917 (Bateman, D-22) - Removes requirements that the Department of Corrections (DOC) sell the abortion medications it possesses at a certain cost and instead allows, but does not require, the DOC to obtain payment for any abortion medications it distributes. Modifies the definition of "abortion medications" for these purposes to specifically include misoprostol.

SSB 5923 (Muzzall, R-10) - Allows a hospital on an island in Skagit County upon certification by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to be eligible for payment as a critical access hospital.

SSB 6183 (Lias, D-21) - Requires health plans, including health plans offered to public and school employees, to provide coverage for all HIV antiviral drugs without prior authorization, step therapy, or any other utilization management protocols, subject to certain limitations.

SSB 6226 (Harris, R-17) - Establishes that licensed practitioners may use their clinical judgment to determine whether telehealth or in-person care is the appropriate treatment modality for a patient. Clarifies that allowing practitioners to determine the appropriate treatment modality for a patient does not limit the authority of the Board of Hearing and Speech to establish rules and enforce standards of care.

2SSB 6182 (Bateman, D-22) - Establishes the Abortion Savings Program, which provides grants through the Department of Health to maintain access to direct patient abortion clinical care services for individuals in the state. Establishes a new assessment of 82 cents for the first year and 16.5 cents annually thereafter per coverage month in the prior calendar year on certain health carriers subject to the insurance premium tax with initial assessments due and payable in 2027.

ESHB 2247 (Parshley, D-22) - Establishes requirements for creating and maintaining a veterinarian client-patient relationship. Specifies permissible utilization of telehealth in veterinary care. Establishes duties of a veterinarian with regard to animals for commercial purposes.

## **Housing**

2SHB 1859 (Salahuddin, D-48) - Expanding opportunities for affordable housing developments on properties owned by religious organizations.

EHB 1501 (Reed, D-36) - Establishes a process for common interest community unit owners to submit formal written inquiries to their associations regarding association governance or operations, and authorizes associations to adopt reasonable rules and regulations regarding the frequency and manner of responding to inquiries.

EHB 1687 (Reed, D-36) - Authorizes the state or a local government to assist a social housing public development authority in the planning, construction, or operation of housing projects under the Housing Cooperation Law.

ESHB 1500 (Reed, D-36) - Makes several changes to the resale certificate requirements for units in a common interest community subject to the Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act. Updates the homeowners' association or common interests portion of the seller's disclosures in a transaction for the sale of residential property to include questions about any modifications or remodeling.

ESSB 5156 (Salomon, D-32) - Requires the State Building Code Council to adopt, for the 2027 technical codes, standards for cities and counties to allow passenger elevators minimally sized to meet federal accessibility requirements for apartment buildings with at most six stories and at most 24 units.

HB 2304 (Taylor, D-30) - Authorizes a declarant or dealer to offer an express warranty of quality and express warranty insurance coverage, as an alternative to the implied warranty of quality under the Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act, for any new or conversion building with four or fewer stories, rather than three or fewer stories.

E2SSB 6026 (Alvarado, D-34) - Prohibits certain cities and counties from excluding residential uses in areas zoned for commercial or mixed-use development and requiring mixed use or ground floor commercial or retail as a condition of permitting, or departure from development regulations or certain design guidelines related to residential or mixed use development in commercial or mixed use zones, with limited exceptions.

E2SSB 6027 (Alvarado, D-34) - Makes changes to the allowable uses for certain local sales and use tax collected for housing and related services. Makes changes to the requirements and eligible uses of funding in the Affordable Housing for All Account. Updates the definition of emergency housing for the purpose of property tax exemptions for nonprofit organizations in providing emergency or transitional housing for low-income persons or victims of domestic violence who are homeless.

EHB 1345 (Low, R-39) - Authorizes counties that are required or have chosen to plan under the Growth Management Act to allow detached accessory dwelling units (DADUs) outside of urban growth areas if the DADUs are subject to certain development regulations, the county has certain code enforcement measures in place, and the county takes certain actions to account for DADU development.

ESHB 2266 (Peterson, D-21) - Establishes siting requirements for transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency housing (STEP housing). Restricts permitting and other requirements that may be imposed on STEP housing.

ESSB 5937 (Pedersen, D-43) - Adds smart access system data collection and privacy policy requirements to the Residential Landlord-Tenant Act (RLTA). Requires RLTA landlords to offer tenants alternative keys that do not use biometric identifier information or software applications operated on a mobile phone or similar electronic device.

ESSB 6200 (Slatter, D-48) - Restricts residential landlords and owners of mobile home parks from prohibiting or restricting tenants from installing a portable cooling device of the tenant's choosing, with certain exceptions. Allows a landlord to prohibit or restrict a tenant from installing a window-mounted portable cooling device under certain circumstances, including

when the landlord's insurance policy expressly restricts or prohibits their use. Allows residential landlords to require that a portable cooling device be subject to inspection or servicing by the landlord. Prohibits residential landlords from requiring a fee for the use or installation of a portable cooling device. Provides immunity to residential landlords from liability for any claim for damages, injury, or death caused by a portable cooling device installed by the tenant.

HB 2664 (Connors, R-8) - Removes the certified mail delivery requirement for unlawful detainer notices and other notices required to be served in the same manner, such as rent increase notices.

SHB 2269 (Bernbaum, D-24) - Expands the wastewater systems that must serve middle housing in limited areas of more intensive rural development in rural counties to include large, on-site sewage systems.

SHB 2354 (Reed, D-36) - Exempts small middle housing common interest communities from most Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (WUCIOA) provisions. Exempts middle housing common interest communities from the WUCIOA reserve study requirements, if specified conditions are met. Disallows governing documents of a common interest community to vary from the WUCIOA on the subject of financial responsibility for electric vehicle charging stations and heat pumps, with the effect that only the owner of an electric vehicle charging station or heat pump exclusively serving the owner's unit bears that financial responsibility. Increases from \$50,000 to \$100,000 the minimum annual assessments threshold that triggers the requirement for an association to be annually audited by a certified public accountant.

SHB 2452 (Connors, R-8) - Requires that rent increase notices under the Manufactured/Mobile Home Landlord-Tenant Act (MHLTA) be served in the same manner as other notices under the MHLTA, as opposed to the same manner as unlawful detainer notices.

SHB 2505 (Eslick, R-39) - Exempts certain individuals from adult family home licensing requirements if they have been licensed to operate a foster family home or approved for a child-specific license when the only unrelated adults receiving care in the home are former foster youth who had received personal care from the individual or youth for whom the individual received the child-specific license.

SSB 5938 (Orwall, D-33) - Revises and specifies exemptions, a limitation, disclosures, and payment of the foreclosure prevention fee. Authorizes the Department of Commerce (Commerce) to adopt rules. Requires Commerce, in consultation with the Washington State Housing Finance Commission, to conduct a study on the feasibility of directing a portion of

foreclosure prevention fee collections to establish a state homeowner assistance fund to provide direct financial assistance to certain homeowners.

SSB 6054 (Hunt, D-5) - Prohibits governing documents of a common interest community from prohibiting the installation, use, or maintenance of fire-hardened building materials so long as the materials meet health and safety requirements imposed by state and local permitting authorities.

SSB 6091 (Lias, D-21) - Prohibits real estate brokers from marketing the sale or lease of residential real estate to an exclusive group of buyers or brokers only, unless necessary to protect the health and safety of the owner or occupant. Provides for enforcement with disciplinary action by the Department of Licensing.

SSB 6237 (Bateman, D-22) - Requires landlords to provide information to tenants about the potential for a residential dwelling unit to be located in a flooding area and insurance coverage.

E2SHB 1974 (Hill, D-3) - Authorizes public corporations, public housing authorities, and certain nonprofit entities, if authorized by a city or county ordinance or resolution, to operate land bank authorities. Specifies requirements for such ordinances and resolutions; powers and duties of land bank authorities; and affordability requirements for leased or sold land bank property. Prioritizes the transfer of tax foreclosed properties to land bank authorities. Provides property and in-lieu tax exemptions for land bank authorities.

### **Human Services & Veterans**

2ESHB 1541 (Abell, R-7) - Modifies the membership of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee by reducing the number of members representing veterans service organizations, increasing the number of at-large members, and adding military experience and personal attributes to member selection.

2SHB 2345 (Schmidt, R-4) - Reallocates minimum employer and employee contributions for the medical and family leave premium shares for the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program.

2SHB 2429 (Callan, D-5) - Requires the Governor to establish a leadership council to address children and youth health and wellness issues and coordinate efforts to implement Washington Thriving Strategic Plan (WTSP), a strategic plan for children and youth behavioral health. Requires that the Office of the Governor establish and maintain executive coordination for children and youth system of care to help monitor the implementation of WTSP. Requires all

agencies to ensure that children and youth behavioral health activities and planning efforts align with WTSP and are implemented in an equitable manner.

E2SHB 2523 (Reeves, D-30) - Requires the Office of Equity (Equity) and the Department of Commerce (Commerce) to review and update the Community Reinvestment Plan (Plan) every five years, beginning in 2032, to address distribution of the Community Reinvestment Account funds. Creates a work group to facilitate a transition plan for joint administration of the Community Reinvestment Program by Equity and Commerce, and provide a report, recommendations for legislative action, and guidance for an administrative framework by November 1, 2026. Requires the Washington State Institute for Public Policy to study Commerce's distribution of, and the recipient organizations' use of, the funds allocated under the Plan by June 30, 2027.

ESHB 2219 (Ortiz-Self, D-21) - Establishes statutory guidelines for authorized periods of time when child care centers may combine age groups. Requires the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to waive the preservice requirement to complete a DCYF-provided orientation when an individual has previously completed the applicable orientation. Provides that minimum child care licensing requirements must include a zero tolerance policy for the presence of high-potency synthetic opioids or drug manufacturing equipment, and must expressly require that licensed settings are absent of these items, as well as drug paraphernalia.

SB 5420 (Lovick, D-44) - Expands the definitions used to qualify persons for particular benefits for military veterans and uniformed service members.

SB 5957 (Orwall, D-33) - Expands the membership of the Homeless Youth Advisory Committee to include: (1) at least two additional individuals over age 25 who experienced homelessness or involvement with a publicly funded system of care as a youth; and (2) at least two individuals who represent populations that are disproportionately homeless or have experience in a publicly funded system of care in the youth and young adult population.

SHB 1390 (Goodman, D-45) - Removes references to the Community Protection Program from statute effective January 1, 2027. Requires the Developmental Disabilities Administration to develop and implement a plan to transition all individuals participating in the Community Protection Program into other services or programs by December 31, 2026.

SHB 2230 (Zahn, D-41) - Limits the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to no more than one annual routine review of community residential service business providers in specified areas, and requires the DSHS to combine review activities from multiple areas where possible. Requires the DSHS to adopt rules or policies that require document and record sharing between

and within DSHS divisions when performing monitoring and oversight of residential community service business providers.

SHB 2350 (Farivar, D-46) - Requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to post notice that a residential habilitation center (RHC) is out of compliance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services conditions of participation or requirements, at the specific RHC. Directs DSHS to provide a copy of this notice to the person designated by the client with development disabilities living at that specific RHC and email a copy of this notice to the relevant committees of the Legislature

SHB 2714 (Bergquist, D-11) - Directs the Caseload Forecast Council to forecast the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the state Food Assistance Program.

SSB 5827 (Gildon, R-25) - Expands the types of acceptable documentation to prove a "qualifying discharge" from military service for purposes of claiming the veterans' preference in civil service, to include a pre-discharge certification.

SSB 5911 (Alvarado, D-34) - Provides that as of January 1, 2027, the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) may not apply any benefits, payments, funds, or accrual paid to, or on behalf of, a young adult ages 18 to 21 receiving extended foster care services. Specifies when DCYF is to assess whether a youth may be eligible for such benefits and the agency's responsibilities.

EHB 2211 (Reeves, D-30) - Requires that any benefit administered by the Department of Social and Health Services or the Health Care Authority to provide medically tailored meals to medical assistance program enrollees must prioritize vendors that are nonprofit organizations or small businesses that are able to provide locally sourced, fresh, whole foods or from scratch prepared meals. Specifies the nutritional standards for medically tailored meals.

SHB 2689 (Gregerson, D-33) - Modifies Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) monthly provider reimbursement by authorizing payment for up to 11 days; for up to 15 days; or for up to the full number of authorized days, depending on the number of days the child attended in the calendar month. Requires base subsidy rates to achieve the 75th percentile of market, beginning July 2027. Invalidates market rate surveys, for purposes of rate increases for a rate region, when the rate region does not achieve both a 40 percent response rate and a higher response rate than the prior survey, or does not achieve a 65 percent response rate. Prohibits providers from receiving a base subsidy rate that is different than the geographic region in which the provider is located, beginning July 2026. Eliminates income eligibility expansions that are scheduled to occur in 2029 and 2031.

## **Law & Justice**

2ESSB 5105 (Orwall, D-33) - Expands offenses prohibiting dealing in, sending or bringing into the state, possessing, or viewing depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct to include circumstances involving visual or printed matter that has been digitally created or altered and is obscene, regardless of whether the depicted minor is identifiable. Modifies the defenses, immunities, and statute of limitations applicable to certain offenses involving depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Expands the conduct that constitutes Sexual Exploitation of a Minor to include when a person knowingly causes a minor to be photographed or part of a live performance which depicts the minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, under certain circumstances.

2SHB 1909 (Taylor, D-30) - Creates a court unification task force to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the current Washington State court system to identify areas where a unified approach to court operations may improve efficiency in the delivery of court and judicial services.

2SSB 5880 (Wagoner, R-39) - Establishes the validity of blood and breath tests conducted by laboratories certified or accredited pursuant to specific international standards.

2SSB 5974 (Lovick, D-44) - Changes eligibility criteria for becoming a police chief, marshal, or sheriff. Places limits on the use of volunteers, youth cadets, and specially commissioned officers by police chiefs, marshals, and sheriffs. Creates new background investigation processes for police chief, marshal, and sheriff candidates.

EHB 2156 (Obras, D-33) - Directs the Office of the Attorney General to designate investigators as limited authority Washington peace officers who may investigate economic and financial crimes. Requires the investigators to comply with applicable Criminal Justice Training Commission requirements and prohibits them from being armed or detaining or arresting individuals.

EHB 2445 (Richards, D-26) - Creates additional standards and requirements for personal representatives appointed to administer an estate under suitable person provisions. Creates requirements for the validity of an agreement between a transferee for value and a beneficiary for the purchase of the beneficiary's interest in an estate. Creates safeguards for heir finder services subject to court oversight.

ESB 5068 (Lovick, D-44) - Permits law enforcement agencies, civil service agencies including city firefighters, city police, and county sheriff's offices, and prosecuting attorney's offices to consider applications from persons legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law. Requires law enforcement officers, firefighters, and prosecuting attorneys to have citizenship or legal authorization to work in the United States and applies this requirement to currently employed law enforcement officers, firefighters, and prosecuting attorneys.

ESHB 2165 (Obras, D-33) - Establishes the gross misdemeanor offense of False Identification as a Peace Officer, which a person commits by claiming to be a peace officer or creating an impression that the person is a peace officer under specified circumstances. Eliminates one of the means by which a person commits Criminal Impersonation in the second degree related to impersonating a law enforcement officer.

ESHB 2508 (Entenman, D-47) - Expands the Office of Independent Investigations' (OII's) investigatory jurisdiction to include certain incidents and prior investigations involving use of deadly force by an involved officer regardless of the date the incident occurred, or any other use of force by an involved officer that may have caused or contributed to a death. Requires the involved agency to immediately contact the OII about incidents involving any use of force by an involved officer if there is good reason to believe the use of force may have caused or contributed to a death.

ESSB 5837 (Pedersen, D-43) - Makes various revisions throughout the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Other Protective Arrangements Act, including revisions addressing court visitors, appointment of an attorney for a respondent, orders of appointment of a guardian for an adult or a conservator, and supported decision-making agreements.

ESSB 5925 (Hansen, D-23) - Allows the attorney general to issue civil investigative demands to produce documents and answer questions when investigating possible violations of the United States Constitution; the Washington State Constitution; law enforcement Keep Washington Working Act requirements; wages laws; the Washington Law Against Discrimination; and the City and County Jails Act.

ESSB 6002 (Trudeau, D-27) - Creates a regulatory structure for the use of Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) systems and the data captured. Restricts the use of ALPR systems by state and local agencies, sets retention periods for the data collected, and limits the sharing of data.

ESSB 6087 (Braun, R-20) - Includes religious organizations in a statute that provides limited immunity from liability for donations of children's items to needy persons free of charge, and adds strollers and car seats to covered children's items. Requires distributing organizations to take certain actions when accepting and distributing car seats.

HB 2417 (Keaton, R-25) - Specifies the rights of a victim of an offense under the Washington Code of Military Justice, including the right to notice of hearings, the right to confer with counsel, and the right to restitution, if available.

HB 2543 (Pollet, D-46) - Updates and revises fees charged for copies of certain documents and exhibits provided by county clerk offices. Makes other technical changes.

SB 5868 (Wagoner, R-39) - Increases, from four to five, the number of statutorily authorized superior court judges in Skagit County. Increases, from eight to nine, the number of statutorily authorized superior court judges in Yakima County.

SB 6011 (Dhingra, D-45) - Authorizes bailiffs of the court of appeals to conduct threat assessments on behalf of court of appeals judicial officers and staff members, and to receive criminal history record information that includes nonconviction data for purposes of investigating such threats.

SHB 2158 (Abell, R-7) - Authorizes remote notarization of a tangible record not physically present before an electronic records notary by providing a process for confirming that the record before the notary is the same record in which the remotely located individual made a statement or on which the remotely located individual executed a signature. Authorizes an electronic records notary to administer an oath or affirmation to a remotely located individual by means of communication technology. Authorizes an electronic records notary to take an acknowledgement of a signature on a tangible record physically present before the notary.

SHB 2178 (Thai, D-41) - Reconciles the monetary damage limit in two statutes concerning malicious mischief in the second degree. Aligns statutory provisions with court rules on the subject of civil infractions. Repeals the requirement for the Administrative Office of the Courts to distribute to county clerks appropriated funds as grants for the collection of legal financial obligations. Directs the State Treasurer to administer to county clerks, appropriated funds as grants for the collection of legal financial obligations.

SHB 2323 (Eslick, R-39) - Establishes the Blue Envelope Program to enhance communication between individuals who are neurodiverse and officers during traffic stops.

SSB 5520 (Orwall, D-33) - Changes the pleading standard, required to file a claim, to a preponderance of the evidence, and retains the judgment standard, for a successful claim, to clear and convincing evidence. Defines actually innocent as it describes a person where a preponderance of all the evidence no longer supports a finding that the person engaged in conduct that is the basis for the felony. Removes a waiver requirement for all other claims prior to receiving compensation.

SSB 5720 (Pedersen, D-43) - Adopts the Uniform Consumer Debt Default Judgments Act to create rules a plaintiff must follow in order to obtain a default judgment in a lawsuit seeking collection of a consumer debt. Establishes requirements for the contents of a complaint or amended complaint, contents of a required notice to the consumer, and penalties for violating these requirements.

SSB 5855 (Valdez, D-46) - Prohibits local, state, and federal law enforcement officers from wearing masks while interacting with the public, with certain exceptions. Allows a person detained by an unlawfully masked local, state, or federal officer to sue that officer in their official capacity.

SSB 5886 (Boehnke, R-8) - Expands personality rights to include an individual's or personality's forged digital likeness. Modifies civil penalty and liabilities for infringement of personality rights.

ESHB 2532 (Timmons, D-42) - Makes the sale, furnishment, administration, and distribution of nitrous oxide a gross misdemeanor, with specified exemptions.

SHB 2239 (Abell, R-7) - Permits a natural person to designate an area of land the person owns as a family burial ground, subject to specified requirements and restrictions. Includes family burial grounds as a lawful place for disposition of human remains. Exempts family burial grounds from certain requirements applicable to private cemeteries.

### **Local Government & Land Use**

E2SSB 6066 (Torres, R-15) - Allows a county, city, town, or the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT), until January 1, 2029, to create a crash prevention zone (zone) on a certain portion of U.S. Highway 395. Allows a county, city, town, or WSDOT, beginning January 1, 2029, to create a zone by identifying public roads where the incidence of collisions resulting in serious injuries or fatalities is greater than expected for similar roads or highways, as

appropriate. Authorizes local jurisdictions that create a zone to use automated traffic safety cameras to detect speed violations committed within the zone. Doubles the penalty amount for unlawful use of a personal electronic device if committed while driving in a zone.

ESSB 5552 (Wilson, J., R-19) - Requires the State Building Code Council to conduct rulemaking on the portions of the State Building Code applicable to kit homes by March 31, 2027.

HB 2495 (Thomas, D-34) - Allows the city of Seattle to direct the impoundment of vehicles obstructing the operation of streetcar vehicles without having to first contact law enforcement.

SB 5467 (Goehner, R-12) - Increases the value of personal property that may be sold by a water-sewer district without notice to \$5,400. Increases the value of real property that may be sold privately by a water-sewer district to \$7,500.

SB 5820 (Cortes, D-18) - Removes authorization in the Growth Management Act for Clark County, and the cities in the county, to take certain planning actions, and adopt certain development regulations, related to the development of freight rail dependent uses on land adjacent to short line railroads.

SB 6132 (Warnick, R-13) - Allows a port district that has established a tax increment financing area and which meets specified requirements to contract additional indebtedness, borrow money, and issue general obligation bonds up to 0.25 percent of the value of the taxable property in the port district without voter approval.

SB 6291 (Lovelett, D-40) - Extends the maximum period that a noncertified individual may review designs and conduct inspections of on-site wastewater treatment systems under the supervision of a certified individual from two years to four years.

SHB 2228 (Zahn, D-41) - Requires the State Building Code Council (Council) to convene a technical advisory group to recommend changes to the State Building Code (Code) to allow scissor stairs to be used in certain occupancies. Requires the technical advisory group to submit its recommendations to the Council in time for the Council to include any necessary updates in the 2027 Code update.

SSB 6189 (Bateman, D-22) - Removes the deadline for creating a regional aquatics and sports public facilities district.

SSB 6309 (Lias, D-21) - Allows a regional transit authority (RTA) to apply for permits under certain conditions and construct specific facilities that exceed height limits and setback requirements under certain circumstances. Establishes that a development agreement between a local government and an RTA may set forth development standards that vary from applicable development regulations in certain circumstances. Requires a local government to accept applications from an RTA regardless of whether the RTA owns or has possession and use of the property subject to the application, so long as the application is otherwise complete. Exempts the division of land caused by the acquisition of a portion of an existing lot or tract by an RTA that is acquiring land to build RTA facilities.

E2SHB 2418 (Duerr, D-1) - Specifies that a determination of completeness made by a county or city on a project permit application must be based on whether the permit is procedurally complete and is not a substantive review of the application. Requires certain government entities, other than counties and cities, to complete the review of a residential project permit application within certain deadlines, and provides that, if the deadline is missed, the government entity must refund 20 percent of the permit review fee. Requires local governments to designate a permit-responsible official with authority to make final administrative decisions on residential project permit applications, and to designate a single point-of-contact on each project permit application.

### **Rehabilitation & Reentry**

ESHB 1604 (Salahuddin, D-48) - Requires jails to adopt and implement policies and procedures for conducting searches of confined transgender or intersex individuals.

SHB 2539 (Street, D-37) - Increases the monetary amount for the definition of indigent inmate, indigent, and indigency, to a person that has less than a \$100 balance of disposable income in the individual's institutional account. Provides an adjustment to the indigency definition every four years based on the most current seasonally adjusted index of the consumer price index for all urban consumers as published by the United States Department of Labor, beginning July 1, 2029. Requires the Department of Corrections to publish the indigent rate on their website and at each correctional facility every year, beginning July 1, 2027.

### **State Government**

HB 2249 (Salahuddin, D-48) - Adds Washington Technology Solutions employees and officers that perform network and systems security duties to the State Civil Service Law.

HB 2348 (Dent, R-13) - Modifies the advertising process and options for certain state land and materials sales. Adds standards for sales and transfers of certain state acquired lands.

HB 2632 (Thai, D-41) - Replaces certain references to the term "alien" with the term "noncitizen." Requires all state and local statutes and other official documents enacted after July 1, 2026, to use the term "noncitizen" or other context-appropriate term, instead of the term "alien," when referring to an individual who is not a citizen or national of the United States, unless use of the term "alien" is required to comply with federal law or funding requirements. Allows state agencies to use the expedited rulemaking process if the proposed rule only substitutes the term "alien" with the term "noncitizen" or other context-appropriate term but does not change the effect of the rule.

SB 5863 (Kauffman, D-47) - Authorizes restricted records transferred to the Division of Archives and Records Management to be open to inspection and copying after the expiration of 75 years from creation of the record. Extends the period when no documents or artifacts identified as part of the Lakeland Village preservation plan may be destroyed, until fiscal year 2030.

SB 5892 (Riccelli, D-3) - Prohibits a county elections office from producing records in response to a request for reports generated by the statewide voter registration database. Prohibits any state or location election officer, or a designee, from knowingly disclosing information in any county or statewide voter registration database inconsistent with the performance of their duties. Prohibits the unauthorized disclosure of personal information shown on an affidavit of voter registration or included in a voter registration file. Establishes penalties for the prohibitions.

SB 6046 (Wagoner, R-39) - Creates a Civil Air Patrol Division (CAP) within the Washington Military Department to serve at the Governor's order. Allows the CAP to cooperate with state agencies, local governments, and tribes to provide training, communication, disaster relief, cyber security missions, or search and rescue. Specifies the Commanding Officer and participation in the CAP.

SB 6084 (Cortes, D-18) - Clarifies that a person may not vote in more than one Washington election, or in elections in both Washington and another state, if the election date is the same.

SCR 8406 (Lovick, D-44) - Reestablishes the Joint Select Committee on Civic Health to build upon the work of the Project for Civic Health.

SCR 8407 (Riccelli, D-3) - Establishing cutoff dates for the consideration of legislation during the 2026 regular session of the sixty-ninth legislature.

SHB 2248 (Salahuddin, D-48) - Revises provisions of the Uniform Business Organization Code addressing entity filings, annual reports and license fees, and requirements for foreign entities doing business in Washington. Revises requirements for the Office of the Secretary of State relating to trademark registrations, international student exchange visitor placement organizations, and authentication of signatures on documents.

SHB 2411 (Salahuddin, D-48) - Expands the types of events that qualify a state employee for the leave sharing program to include employees who are victims of a hate crime and employees whose absence from work is due to the involvement of that employee or that employee's relative or household member in an immigration enforcement action.

SHB 2475 (Ortiz-Self, D-21) - Requires the Office of Equity to develop uniform guidelines for state agencies to provide consistent delivery of language-accessible public programs, activities, and services. Requires the Office of Equity to collaborate with certain groups to develop a proposal for addressing the statewide shortage of qualified interpreters and translators. Provides that state agencies must report to the Office of Equity and the Office of Financial Management regarding processes, timelines, and necessary resources for implementation of the guidelines.

SSB 5825 (Wilson, C., D-30) - Authorizes the Washington State Leadership Board (WSLB) to solicit gifts, grants, and endowments for the use or benefit of the WSLB. Removes references to the WSLB's expired sports mentoring program.

SSB 6081 (Pedersen, D-43) - Exempts or prohibits from public disclosure sex designation information included in vital records and records maintained by the Department of Licensing.

SSB 6149 (Wilson, J., R-19) - Expands the definition of rural county to include a county with a population density of 100 persons per square mile or greater, with no city with a population greater than 45,000 persons.

E3SHB 1710 (Mena, D-29) - Adds preclearance requirements to the Washington voting rights act, requiring certain political subdivisions to obtain preapproval from the attorney general for certain proposed changes to a voting system or process.

E2SHB 1750 (Hill, D-3) - Redefines the factors that result in a violation of the Washington Voting Rights Act's prohibition on the abridgment of voting rights.

ESHB 1916 (Doglio, D-22) - Adjusts the process, allowable evidence, and penalties for challenging a voter's registration. Clarifies when a voter's registration is canceled from the voter registration list.

E2SHB 2325 (Paul, D-10) - Authorizes the Washington Tourism Marketing Authority (WTMA) to develop by rule a self-supported assessment program to fund statewide tourism. Creates an oversight board within the WTMA to design the self-supported assessment program. Modifies the membership of the WTMA Board of Directors.

### **Tax Policy**

2ESHB 1210 (Barnard, R-8) - Requires additional documentation and applies certain labor standards to the project construction requirements for the targeted urban area property tax exemption if the project is a clean energy transformation business facility requiring certification by a federal regulatory commission. Authorizes cities to extend the project completion deadline for the exemption up to four years for clean energy transformation business facilities requiring certification by a federal regulatory commission.

E2SHB 2451 (Duerr, D-1) - Makes various changes to the requirements and provisions for establishing a tax increment financing area.

E3SHB 1960 (Ramel, D-40) - Authorizes a personal property tax exemption for qualified renewable energy facilities and battery electric storage systems that become operational on or after January 1, 2028. Authorizes a state and local renewable energy excise tax on qualified renewable energy facilities and battery electric storage systems that become operational on or after January 1, 2028. Creates a new local investment distribution grant program. Creates a new capacity grant program for federally recognized Indian tribes. Repeals the personal property tax exemption for certain solar and wind facilities as well as the accompanying production excise tax.

EHB 2487 (Macri, D-43) - Specifies that the business and occupation tax exemption for insurance businesses applies only to the insurer directly paying the premium tax on premium revenues. Specifies that the business and occupation tax exemption also applies to amounts received for annuities, assigned risk plans, or as part of certain state or federal-funded health programs. Lowers the annual cap on the advanced computing surcharge for an affiliated group

from \$75 million to \$25 million if 50 percent or more of the worldwide gross revenue of the affiliated group is from insurance premiums during the immediately preceding calendar year. Exempts insurance businesses required to report and pay insurance premium taxes from the advanced computing surcharge. Applies the various changes retroactively.

ESSB 5252 (Shewmake, D-42) - Removes the acreage limit for the nonprofit public assembly hall and meeting places property tax exemption.

ESSB 6113 (Frame, D-36) - Makes administrative and technical changes to the state tax code. Codifies the Department of Revenue's guidance related to the implementation of Chapter 422, Laws of 2025—ESSB 5814.

ESSB 6162 (Krishnadasan, D-26) - Exempts persons qualifying under the Senior Citizen Property Tax Relief Program (Program) from part 1 of the state property tax. Increases the maximum amount of assessed value that may be exempted under the Program. Authorizes a standard deduction of \$7,500 per person in lieu of itemizing various deductions in the calculation of combined disposable income under the Program. Allows up to \$6,000 per year of rental income to be excluded from the combined disposable income calculation under the Program when a portion of the primary residence is rented. Excludes combat-related special compensation from the combined disposable income calculation. Increases qualifying income thresholds under the Program by 10 percentage points. Consolidates the state property tax. Sets the newly consolidated state property tax rate at \$2.07355. Requires property tax statements to list the newly consolidated state property tax as the state school levy. Makes a technical change to the farm machinery and equipment property tax exemption statute to reflect the newly consolidated state levy. Applies changes made in the bill to property taxes levied for collection in 2027 and thereafter. Exempts changes made in the bill from the automatic ten year expiration date.

HB 1983 (Tharinger, D-24) - Expands the definition of timberland for purposes of the real estate excise tax to include certain forestlands transferred or sold to a governmental entity.

HB 2431 (Shavers, D-10) - Modifies the nonprofit public assembly hall and meeting places property tax exemption.

HB 2610 (Street, D-37) - Expands the allowable use of property for the nonprofit low-income homeownership property tax exemption to include the rent or lease of property to an organization for certain community serving purposes. Allows the property tax exemption to continue when the entity transfers ownership of the property to another nonprofit

organization, association, or corporation for a use that also qualifies for and is granted a different property tax exemption.

SHB 2089 (Scott, D-43) - Requires high volume mortgage lenders to pay business and occupation (B&O) tax on interest income received on investments or loans secured by first mortgages or trust deeds on non-transient residential properties. Directs the revenue generated by the removal of the B&O tax deduction into the Wildfire Response, Forest Restoration, and Community Resilience Account.

SHB 2334 (Berg, D-44) - Authorizes sellers to round the total price or change due of an in-person cash transaction to the nearest \$0.05 increment. Specifies the application of taxes and preemption over local laws.

ESSB 6346 (Pedersen, D-43) - Imposes a 9.90 percent tax on individuals on the receipt of income exceeding \$1 million beginning in calendar year 2028. Dedicates 7 percent of revenues to city and county public defense services. Expands eligibility for the Working Families Tax Credit to include persons who are at least 18 years of age and who meet other eligibility requirements for the preference. Increases the business and occupation (B&O) tax credit for small businesses. Increases the B&O tax return filing threshold to \$250,000. Provides a sales and use tax exemption for grooming and hygiene products. Expires a B&O surcharge on businesses with gross income in excess of \$250 million a year earlier. Repeals sales taxes on certain specified services, which were enacted in 2025 in ESSB 5814. Exempts the individual income tax from a statutory prohibition on state and local income taxes.

ESHB 2442 (Berg, D-44) - Expands the use of local real estate excise tax revenues. Authorizes a new local sales and use tax of 0.01 percent to fund services for children and families. Expands the authorized uses of local sales and use tax revenues for housing and related services. Extends the maximum length that a levy lid lift may be approved for by voters. Expands the authorized use of funds generated by the county sales tax on rental cars. Expands the authorized use of funds for flood control zone districts. Authorizes a new county property tax levy for public health clinic expenses. Allows counties to create separate, standalone levies for the veterans' assistance and mental health and developmental disabilities assistance levies. Removes a requirement to reduce a city's property tax levy by the amount levied for the creation of a fire protection district (district). Requires a city or town creating a district to reduce its statutory maximum tax rate by the combined tax rate imposed by the newly formed district, with the exception of cities with a population over 500,000. Requires a city or town to consult with various stakeholders who may be impacted by the formation of the district. Permits districts to contract with a city or town to provide administrative services.

ESB 6347 (Kauffman, D-47) - Modifies the estate tax rates to a range of 10 percent to 20 percent for Washington taxable estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 2026.

HB 1376 (Orcutt, R-20) - Authorizes taxpayers realizing a long-term capital gain to prepay their capital gains tax liability up to six months prior to the due date. Modifies the definition of federal net long-term capital gain.

SB 6244 (Torres, R-15) - Extends the hazardous substance tax exemption for agricultural crop protection products until January 1, 2038.

## **Transportation**

2SSB 5690 (MacEwen, R-35) - Directs the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to adopt and maintain agency policies that proactively provide utility owners with information about planned state highway fish barrier removal projects. Directs the WSDOT to adopt and maintain agency policies that maximize the amount of federal funding for fish barrier removal projects for which utility relocation costs of the WSDOT or utilities are an eligible use.

EHB 2588 (Timmons, D-42) - Authorizes ferry districts to operate and take other actions related to ferries in general, rather than solely in relation to passenger-only ferries. Requires voter approval before a ferry district formed after the effective date of the bill may impose a property tax levy.

ESHB 1980 (Zahn, D-41) - Authorizes local authorities, with approval from public transportation agencies, to permit private employer transportation services to use business access and transit-only lanes in counties with a population more than 2 million. Requires local authorities to have an established fee-for-use process in order to authorize lane use, and ensure operational performance metrics of the lane usage is met.

ESHB 2192 (Low, R-39) - Designates the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (Commission) as a public health authority for purposes of traffic safety improvement and prevention of deaths and serious injuries related to motor vehicle collisions. Authorizes the Commission to convene a fatality review committee to review incidents involving the death of any person from a collision involving a motor vehicle. Clarifies protections for health care information, driving records, and other confidential information obtained by the Commission for Commission and fatality review committee purposes.

ESSB 6110 (Shewmake, D-42) - Clarifies the definition of an electric-assisted bicycle. Directs the Department of Licensing to convene a work group to study and recommend a statutory framework for electric motorcycles.

HB 2436 (Lekanoff, D-40) - Requires tug escorts for oil tankers to have an aggregate shaft horsepower equivalent of at least 3000 horsepower.

HB 2604 (Richards, D-26) - Provides that non-notarized electronic signatures may be used for the transfer of vehicle ownership to insurers and an associated limited power of attorney.

SHB 2410 (Fey, D-27) - Establishes the Washington State Commercial Truck Safety and Education Council (Council) to recommend programs and projects that improve the safety of the commercial truck industry. Increases the Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement Fee assessed on commercial motor vehicles from \$16 to \$32, with certain revenue to be used only for recommended Council activities and administrative costs.

SHB 2467 (Timmons, D-42) - Authorizes the operation of fifth-wheel travel trailers on public highways with an overall length up to 46 feet.

SHJM 4001 (Fey, D-27) - Requests the Washington State Transportation Commission commence proceedings to name the future 34th Avenue East overpass in Fife as the Russ Blount Memorial Bridge.

SSB 6170 (King, R-14) - Increases the maximum estimated cost of repairs or renovations that can be done by state forces from \$60,000 to \$100,000. Increases the maximum estimated cost of repairs or renovations that can be done by state forces in an emergency from \$100,000 to \$160,000, and requires that maximum amount to be annually adjusted for inflation. Increases the maximum estimated cost of work or procurement that the Washington State Department of Transportation can contract for, to enable a larger number of small businesses and veteran, minority, and women contractors, from \$100,000 to \$160,000.

ESSB 6354 (Lias, D-21) - Authorizes a new motor vehicle manufacturer to provide direct sales of its own vehicles if certain criteria are met and the qualifying manufacturer applies for and maintains a vehicle dealer license. Increases the vehicle dealer documentary service fee by \$50 for a ten year period, with the first \$25 of each fee collected to be used for instant rebates to reduce the purchase or lease costs of electric vehicles for vulnerable populations and to be deposited into the Multimodal Transportation Account.

SHB 2114 (Engell, R-7) - Requires the Department of Licensing (DOL) to waive all fees for a defective license plate replacement within 24 months of issuance. Specifies that defective plates returned between two to five years after issuance are exempt from all fees for a replacement if the license plate meets DOL specified criteria adopted by rule. Provides discretionary authority for DOL to impose some license plate fees for defective plate replacements returned between two to five years depending on the specific circumstances of the need for license plate replacement.

### **Tribal Affairs**

2SSB 6035 (Kauffman, D-47) - Directs county auditors to schedule meetings with federally recognized Indian tribes to discuss the details of the next regularly scheduled election cycle. Authorizes the Secretary of State to employ an electronic ballot portal for service voters, overseas voters, disabled voters, and any elector who is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe and resides on an Indian reservation.

SB 6137 (Cortes, D-18) - Permits wagering on a collegiate sport or athletic event that involves a college located within Washington in tribal casinos. Prohibits wagering on the performance or nonperformance of an athlete enrolled in a college located in Washington.

SHB 2496 (Stearns, D-47) - Exempts certain tribal consultations between the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) and federally-recognized tribes during site certification from the Open Public Meetings Act. Directs the EFSEC chair and designated staff to offer tribal consultation within 90 days of receiving an application for site certification and, upon request of a tribe, the inclusion of as many EFSEC members as possible in tribal consultation. Requires EFSEC to provide its summary of consultation to the relevant tribe before submitting its recommendation report to the Governor, and allow the tribe 30 days to request corrections to the summary or to submit its own.

SSB 6034 (Kauffman, D-47) - Codifies the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA) as a cabinet agency of the Governor. Sets forth duties and responsibilities of GOIA. Requires GOIA to provide an annual report to the Legislature and the Governor.