

WCOG Bill Status Report FINAL Report for 2020

This report shows bills in the Washington State Legislature tracked by Washington Coalition for Open Government during the 2020 legislative session because they have some impact on Washington's open government laws. If you have any comments on the format or contents of this report, including the indicated WCOG positions or comments, please contact the Coalition president at president@washingtoncog.org.

Summary of Bills Tracked

High Priority Bills

Bill #	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Dead
2SHB 1888	Protecting employee information from public disclosure.	C 106 L 20	Hudgins	Oppose	No

Medium Priority Bills

Bill #	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Dead
2SHB 1191 (SB 5554)	Concerning school notifications.	C 167 L 20	Goodman	Neutral	No
2SHB 1645 (4SSB 5533)	Concerning certificates of parental improvement.	C 270 L 20	Ortiz-Self	Concerns	No
ESHB 2588	Improving openness, accountability, and transparency of special purpose districts.	C 179 L 20	Pollet	Support	No
SHB 2794 (2SSB 5182)	Concerning juvenile record sealing.	C 184 L 20	Frame	Concerns	No
2SSB 5601 (HB 1562)	Concerning health care benefit management.	C 240 L 20	Rolfes	Neutral	No

Low Priority Bills

Bill #	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Dead
ESHB 2327 (SB 6439)	Addressing sexual misconduct at postsecondary educational institutions.	C 335 L 20	Pollet	Neutral	No
E2SHB 2467	Establishing a centralized single point of contact background check system for firearms transfers.	C 28 L 20	Hansen	Concerns	No
E2SHB 2518	Concerning the safe and efficient transmission and distribution of natural gas.	C 32 L 20	Shewmake	Concerns	No
ESHB 2722 (SB 6645)	Concerning minimum recycled content requirements.	Gov vetoed	Mead	Concerns	Yes

E2SSB 5549 (HB 1411)	Modernizing resident distillery marketing and sales restrictions.	C 238 L 20	Liias	Neutral	No
SSB 6088	Establishing a prescription drug affordability board.	Gov vetoed	Keiser	Concerns	Yes
SB 6430	Establishing a statewide industrial waste coordination program.	Gov vetoed	Brown	Neutral	Yes
SSB 6499 (HB 2716)	Concerning the confidentiality of retirement system files and records relating to health information.	C 323 L 20	Schoesler	Neutral	No

Monitoring Bills

No bills.

Dead Bills

Bill #	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Dead
HB 1171 (SB 5107)	Addressing trust institutions.	H Rules X	Walen	Concerns	Yes
SHB 1179	Concerning the revised uniform unclaimed property act.	H Approps	Tarleton	Concerns	Yes
HB 1400 (ESB 5439)	Concerning confidentiality of employment security department records and data.	H Rules X	Sells	Concerns	Yes
HB 1411 (E2SSB 5549)	Modernizing resident distillery marketing and sales restrictions.	H Commerce & Gam	Blake	Neutral	Yes
2SHB 1422 (SSB 5338)	Concerning the protection of vulnerable adults.		Valdez	Concerns	Yes
3SHB 1498 (2SSB 5511)	Expanding affordable, resilient broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities.	H Rules X	Hudgins	Concerns	Yes
E2SHB 1523 (ESSB 5526)	Increasing the availability of quality, affordable health coverage in the individual market.	H Rules X	Cody	Concerns	Yes
HB 1562 (2SSB 5601)	Concerning health care benefit management.	H HC/Wellness	Stonier	Concerns	Yes
HB 1838 (SB 5750)	Exempting certain licensed distillery information from public disclosure.	H Rules 3C	Walsh	Neutral	Yes
2SHB 1854 (2SSB 5376)	Protecting consumer data.	H Inn, Tech & Ec	Kloba	Concerns	Yes
2SHB 1871 (SB 5888)	Concerning prison safety	H Rules R	Klippert	Neutral	Yes
2SHB 1974	Establishing the Washington cannabis commission.	H Rules C	Shewmake	Neutral	Yes
HB 2214	Concerning the public inspection of records of commercial political advertisers.	H State Govt & Tr	MacEwen	Support	Yes
HB 2215	Transferring requirements to maintain records for commercial political advertising to the public disclosure commission.	H State Govt & Tr	MacEwen	Support	Yes
SHB 2293 (SB 6285)	Exempting election security information from public records disclosure.	H Rules C	Dolan	Neutral	Yes
HB 2331	Modifying the requirements for posting agendas	H State Govt	Kraft	Support	Yes

	and notices under the open public meetings act.	& T			
HB 2360	Establishing the sharps waste stewardship program.	H Approps	Peterson	Concerns	Yes
HB 2397	Transferring oversight of filings of statements of financial affairs by legislative staff from the public disclosure commission to the legislative ethics board.	H State Govt & T	Hudgins	Concerns	Yes
HB 2398	Prohibiting the statements of financial affairs filed by a professional staff member of the legislature from being posted online.	H State Govt & T	Hudgins	Concerns	Yes
SHB 2415	Conforming elections for certain special districts with Title 29A RCW.	H Approps	Hudgins	Support	Yes
HB 2466	Providing for public disclosure of public records of the legislature and legislators.	H State Govt & Tr	Pollet	Concerns	Yes
SHB 2484	Concerning sunshine committee recommendations regarding juveniles.	H 2nd Reading	Van Werven	Support	Yes
HB 2496	Providing for responsible environmental management of batteries.	H Env & Energy	Mead	Neutral	Yes
ESHB 2575	Concerning reforms to increase transparency and accountability of the Washington redistricting commission.	H Rules 3C	Pellicciotti	Support	Yes
HB 2652	Concerning renewable ammonia.	H RDev, Ag&NR	Doglio	Concerns	Yes
HB 2674 (2SSB 6361)	Concerning the administration of election campaign activities and reporting statements of financial affairs.	H State Govt & T	Hudgins	Support	Yes
HB 2695	Establishing an asthma statewide home assistance program.	H HC/Wellness	Pollet	Concerns	Yes
HB 2703 (SB 6438)	Applying the public records act to all courts and offices within the judicial branch.	H State Govt & T	Chapman	Support	Yes
HB 2716 (SSB 6499)	Concerning the confidentiality of retirement system files and records relating to health information.	H State Govt & T	Fitzgibbon	Neutral	Yes
SHB 2742 (2SSB 6281)	Concerning the management and oversight of personal data.	H Approps	Kloba	Concerns	Yes
SHB 2772	Concerning the administration of election campaign activities and reporting statements of financial affairs.	H Rules 3C	Walsh	Support	Yes
SHB 2789 (SSB 6527)	Collecting information regarding police use of deadly force.	H Rules 3C	Lovick	Neutral	Yes
HB 2838	Improving cardiac and stroke outcomes.	H HC/Wellness	Riccelli	Concerns	Yes
HB 2947	Establishing firearms-related safety measures.	H Finance	Valdez	Neutral	Yes
2SSB 5182 (SHB 2794)	Concerning juvenile record sealing.	S Rules X	Kuderer	Concerns	Yes
SB 5221	Concerning disclosure of contributions from political committees to other political committees.	S Rules X	Palumbo	Support	Yes
SB 5246	Concerning sunshine committee recommendations.	S State Govt/Trib	Hunt	Support	Yes
2SSB 5292	Concerning prescription drug cost transparency.	S Rules X	Keiser	Concerns	Yes
SSB 5338 (2SHB 1422)	Concerning the protection of vulnerable adults.	S Human Svcs, Ree	Darneille	Concerns	Yes

2SSB 5376 (2SHB 1854)	Protecting consumer data.	S Rules X	Carlyle	Concerns	Yes
4SSB 5533 (2SHB 1645)	Concerning certificates of parental improvement.	S Rules 3	Braun	Concerns	Yes
SB 5787	Concerning hours of availability for inspection and copying of public records.	S Rules X	Walsh	Oppose	Yes
2SSB 6281 (SHB 2742)	Concerning the management and oversight of personal data.	S Conf appt	Carlyle	Concerns	Yes
SB 6285 (SHB 2293)	Exempting election security information from public records disclosure.	S State Govt/Tri	Hunt	Neutral	Yes
2SSB 6361 (HB 2674)	Concerning the administration of election campaign activities and reporting statements of financial affairs.	S Rules X	Kuderer	Support	Yes
SB 6431	Exempting personal demographic details of state employees from public disclosure.	S State Govt/Tri	Hunt	Neutral	Yes
SB 6438 (HB 2703)	Applying the public records act to all courts and offices within the judicial branch.	S State Govt/Tri	Van De Wege	Support	Yes
SB 6439 (ESHB 2327)	Addressing sexual misconduct at postsecondary educational institutions.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Randall	Neutral	Yes
SSB 6527 (SHB 2789)	Collecting information regarding police use of deadly force.	S Ways & Means	Frocht	Neutral	Yes
SB 6539	Protecting health care information in the possession of legislators in the conduct of their official duties.	S State Govt/Trib	Becker	Concerns	Yes
SB 6543	Concerning penalties against agencies which subsequently discover and produce additional responsive records after the close of an initial public records production.	S State Govt/Tri	Short	Oppose	Yes
SB 6589	Establishing the Washington cannabis commission.	S Labor & Commer	Stanford	Neutral	Yes
SB 6645 (ESHB 2722)	Concerning minimum recycled content requirements.	S Environment, E	Das	Concerns	Yes
SB 6666	Protecting employee information from public disclosure.	S State Govt/Tri	Hunt	Oppose	Yes

Detailed Information on Bills Tracked

High Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
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Employee info. disclosure

C 106 L 20

Hudgins

Oppose

Comments: NEW EXEMPTIONS. Amends the PRA to require that agencies notify employees and their labor unions when records are requested that contain personal information about the employee, and provide at least 10 days for the employee or union to file for an injunction under 42.56.540 before releasing the records. Also amends the PRA to exempt public employee birthdates from disclosure, and also exempt from disclosure payroll deductions including their amount and identification. Opposition to exemption of public employee birthdates is a top WCOG legislative priority.

[2SHB 1888](#)

The substitute bill also exempts employee photographs from disclosure, but allows news media access to photographs and full birthdates. WCOG opposes special access to any group of requesters because it is inconsistent with the fundamental principle in the PRA that agencies shall not distinguish among requesters when fulfilling records requests.

The final version of the bill narrows the scope of access to records for which employees and their unions need to be notified, but retains the exemption from disclosure of birthdates, photos, and deductions except to government-approved news media.

Medium Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
<p>School notifications</p> <p><u>2SHB 1191</u> (SB 5554)</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Requires certain school employees to follow specific notification provisions regarding the receipt of information about sex offenses, violent offenses, registered sex offenders, and kidnapping offenders. Section 1(4) creates a new exemption under the PRA without referencing the PRA or referencing the exemption from the PRA. In the adopted version of the bill, the exemption is in subsection 1(5), and a new Section 10 was added to reference the exemption from 42.56. Status changed to Neutral.</p>	C 167 L 20	Goodman	Neutral
<p>Parental improvement</p> <p><u>2SHB 1645</u> (4SSB 5533)</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Section 3(6) creates a new PRA exemption for "Information about reports, reviews, and hearings" related to applications for certificates of parental improvement, saying they "may be disclosed only in accordance with federal and state laws pertaining to child welfare records and child protective services reports." However, the new exemption does not reference RCW 42.56 and is not referenced from RCW 42.56. In the adopted version of the bill, the exemption is in subsection 2(7), and still does not reference 42.56.</p>	C 270 L 20	Ortiz-Self	Concerns
<p>Special purpose districts</p> <p><u>ESHB 2588</u></p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Requires the state auditor to notify the county in which a special purpose district is located if the district has failed to submit required financial reports or is unauditible for failure to maintain proper records. Counties may not allow unauditible district to expend funds but may expend funds on their behalf. Counties may dissolve unauditible districts and take over their functions. Special purpose districts must post online their budgets, minutes, and financial statements. Special purpose districts must comply with the Open Public Meetings Act. Counties may provide web sites for special purpose districts. Special purpose districts must submit their annual budgets to the county treasurer. These provisions will greatly increase the accountability of special purpose districts to the public.</p> <p>In the adopted version of the bill, the transparency portions were removed -- the requirement to post budgets, minutes, and financial statements online, emphasis on OPMA compliance, submission of budgets to county treasurer, etc; what's left is the ability for counties to absorb the functions of special purpose district that are unauditible and for the county to impose whatever taxes or fees had been imposed by an absorbed district.</p>	C 179 L 20	Pollet	Support
<p>Juvenile record sealing</p> <p><u>SHB 2794</u> (2SSB 5182)</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Eliminates the ability to object to the sealing of juvenile court records, making the sealing process completely automatic in nearly all cases.</p>	C 184 L 20	Frame	Concerns

2SSB 5601 (HB 1562)	Health care benefit manage.	C 240 L 20	Rolfes	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Section 7 of the bill creates a new exemption from public disclosure for "Contract compensation provisions filed with the insurance commissioner under section 4 of this act". However it is created in a separate section of the PRA, and could be instead a new subsection in 42.56.400.			
	In the adopted version of the bill, the new exemption is defined in Section 4 and 6. The new exemption is referenced from a new subsection in RCW 42.56.400. Status changed to Neutral.			

Low Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>	
ESHB 2327 (SB 6439)	Sexual misconduct/postsec.	C 335 L 20	Pollet	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Section 7 of the bill creates in a new PRA exemption for "personal identifying information in an employee personnel file, student file, investigation file, settlement agreement, or other files held by a postsecondary educational institution that reveals the identity of witnesses to or victims of sexual misconduct committed at the postsecondary educational institution by an employee of the institution", but that "If the victim or witness indicates a desire for disclosure of the victim's or witness' personal identifying information, such desire shall govern." This is consistent with other exemptions for victim and witness information.			
E2SHB 2467	Firearm background checks	C 28 L 20	Hansen	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Section 1(9) of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for records related to firearm background checks. This exemption should be referenced from the PRA itself. The adopted version of the bill mentions 42.56 in the exemption, but does not reference the new exemption from 42.56.			
E2SHB 2518	Natural gas transmission	C 32 L 20	Shewmake	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Section 3 of the bill requires natural gas transmission companies to provide confidential proprietary information to the state regarding leaks in their system and gas lost to leaks. Section 3(5) creates a new PRA exemption for this data, but does not cross-reference it from the PRA. In the adopted version of the bill, the new exemption is in subsection 3(7); it references the PRA, but is not referenced from the PRA.			
ESHB 2722 (SB 6645)	Minimum recycled content	Gov vetoed	Mead	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> VETOED. Creates a new state program to compel recycled content in many plastic products, which includes submission of confidential proprietary business information to the department of ecology. Section 5 of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for this information. However, the exemption does not need to be a separate section and should be combined with an existing section of the PRA. VETOED by Governor due to COVID-19 budget impacts.			
E2SSB 5549 (HB 1411)	Distillery marketing & sales	C 238 L 20	Liias	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Expands the products that can be sold at distilleries, and practices such as tastings and providing promotional items. Section 11(32) creates a new exemption for confidential			

proprietary information submitted by distilleries engaged in the expanded businesses. The new exemption is properly listed in RCW 42.56.

<u>SSB 6088</u>	Rx drug affordability board	Gov vetoed	Keiser	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> VETOED. Section 3 enables the state to conduct reviews of high-cost drugs, including compelling disclosure of confidential proprietary business information to support the price of the drug. Section 3(4) creates a PRA exemption for this confidential proprietary information, but does not cross-reference it from the PRA. VETOED by Governor due to COVID-19 budget impacts.			

<u>SB 6430</u>	Industrial waste program	Gov vetoed	Brown	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> VETOED. Creates a new program for industrial companies to share information on their waste products to coordinate with other companies that may be able to use those waste products as inputs to their processes. Some of the information provided to the program would be confidential and proprietary. Section 4 of the bill would create a new PRA exemption for this confidential proprietary information. This is consistent with other similar exemptions. VETOED by Governor due to COVID-19 budget impacts.			

<u>SSB 6499</u> (HB 2716)	Health info./retirement	C 323 L 20	Schoesler	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> NEW EXEMPTION. Creates a new exemption in the PRA for medical information maintained in files for members of retirement programs by the department of retirement systems. It properly cross-references the new exemption from 42.56.			

Monitoring Bills

No bills.

Dead Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>	
<u>HB 1171</u> (Dead) (SB 5107)	Trust institutions	H Rules X	Walen	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Revises the Washington trust institutions act. Section 95 requires DFI to send a notification letter if it disapproves acquisition of a state trust company, and makes the letter exempt from disclosure in its entirety. The new exemption is not referenced in the PRA.			
<u>SHB 1179</u> (Dead)	Uniform unclaimed property	H Approps	Tarleton	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Repeals chapter 63.29 RCW, the uniform unclaimed property act of 1983, and creates the revised uniform unclaimed property act. Sections 1004 and 1402 of the bill create new public records exemptions without referencing them from RCW 42.56 or even mentioning 42.56. Section 1403 also provides for exceptions to the exemptions. WCOG should request an amendment to reference the exemption from the PRA.			
<u>HB 1400</u> (Dead) (ESB 5439)	Employment security records	H Rules X	Sells	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Section 8(5) of the bill makes it illegal, with up to a \$5000 penalty, to redistribute confidential records from the employment security department, even if the person didn't know the			

records were from ESD, that they were confidential, or that redistribution was not allowed. Also, section 9(2) of the bill creates a new exemption without referencing it from the PRA.

<u>HB 1411</u> (Dead) (E2SSB 5549)	Distillery marketing & sales	H Commerce & Gam	Blake	Neutral
<i>Comments:</i> Expands the products that can be sold at distilleries, and practices such as tastings and providing promotional items. Section 11(32) creates a new exemption for confidential proprietary information submitted by distilleries engaged in the expanded businesses. The new exemption is properly listed in RCW 42.56.				
<u>2SHB 1422</u> (Dead) (SSB 5338)	Vulnerable adults	Valdez		Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Sections 2(4), 2(5)(c), 5(7), and 7(18)(c) create new exemptions from PRA disclosure for records pertaining to vulnerable adults, without referencing the exemptions from within the PRA.				
<u>3SHB 1498</u> (Dead) (2SSB 5511)	Broadband service	H Rules X	Hudgins	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Section 7(6)(g) creates a new PRA exemption for "Confidential business and financial information submitted by an objecting provider under this subsection", but does not reference the exemption from 42.56.270.				
<u>E2SHB 1523</u> (Dead) (ESSB 5526)	Individual health ins market	H Rules X	Cody	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Creates a new exemption in the PRA for "data submitted by health carriers to the health benefit exchange for purposes of establishing standardized benefit plans". It creates it in a new section, but it should simply be a new subsection in 42.56.400.				
<u>HB 1562</u> (Dead) (2SSB 5601)	Health care benefit manage.	H HC/Wellness	Stonier	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Section 7 of the bill creates a new exemption from public disclosure for "Contract compensation provisions filed with the insurance commissioner under section 4 of this act". However it is created in a separate section of the PRA, and could be instead a new subsection in 42.56.400.				
<u>HB 1838</u> (Dead) (SB 5750)	Distillery information	H Rules 3C	Walsh	Neutral
<i>Comments:</i> Amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.270, to exempt from disclosure "Unaggregated financial, proprietary, or commercial information submitted to or obtained by the liquor and cannabis board in applications for licenses under RCW 66.24.140 or 66.24.145, or in any reports or remittances submitted by a person licensed under RCW 66.24.140 or 66.24.145 under rules adopted by the liquor and cannabis board under chapter 66.08 RCW". The referenced sections are for distilleries and craft distilleries.				
<u>2SHB 1854</u> (Dead) (2SSB 5376)	Personal data	H Inn, Tech & Ec	Kloba	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Creates a data protection regime in Washington similar to GDPR in the European Union. Section 8 requires data controllers to produce risk assessments and make them available to the Attorney General. Subsection 8(4) creates a new PRA exemption for the risk assessment, but does not reference it from the PRA.				
<u>2SHB 1871</u> (Dead) (SB 5888)	Prison safety	H Rules R	Klippert	Neutral
<i>Comments:</i> Section 2 amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.240(6), to exempt from disclosure				

the contents of the Department of Corrections security threat group database, in addition to the existing exemption for the contents of the statewide gang database and any local or regional gang database.

<u>2SHB 1974</u> (Dead)	Cannabis commission <i>Comments:</i> The bill creates a "cannabis commission" similar to other state agricultural commodity commissions. Section 15 amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.380, to exempt from disclosure production and sales records and financial and commercial records submitted to the commission by cannabis growers. This is consistent with exemptions for records submitted to other agricultural commodity commissions.	H Rules C	Shewmake	Neutral
<u>HB 2214</u> (Dead)	Comm. political ad. records <i>Comments:</i> Modifies provisions regarding records of political advertising maintained by commercial advertising companies, eliminating the requirement that records must be available in person but may be available online.	H State Govt & Tr	MacEwen	Support
<u>HB 2215</u> (Dead)	Commercial political ads <i>Comments:</i> Requires sponsors of all political advertising to submit detailed reports to the Public Disclosure Commission each time any ad is run. The PDC must make the reports accessible to the public. This will provide much more extensive information and enable the public to know more about ads that are presented to limited audiences.	H State Govt & Tr	MacEwen	Support
<u>SHB 2293</u> (Dead) (SB 6285)	Election security/PRA <i>Comments:</i> Creates new exemptions in the PRA for "The continuity of operations plan for election operations, and any security audits, security risk assessments, or security test results relating to physical security or cybersecurity of election operations or infrastructure. These records are exempt from disclosure in their entirety; and (8) Those portions of records containing information about election infrastructure, election security, or potential threats to election security, the public disclosure of which would have a substantial likelihood of increasing risk to the integrity of election operations or infrastructure." These are consistent with existing security-related exemptions for such functions as information technology. Secrecy of such plans does reduce the ability of experts outside the government to assess the strength of the plans, but this must be balanced against the risk of disclosing possible vulnerabilities to attackers.	H Rules C	Dolan	Neutral
<u>HB 2331</u> (Dead)	OPMA agendas & notices <i>Comments:</i> Requires agendas of regular and special meetings to be posted 72 hours before the meeting instead of 24. Agendas must provide links to minutes of meetings that occurred within the previous 24 months. Prohibits adoption of resolutions or ordinances except in meetings where the agenda was properly posted far enough in advance of the meeting. Notice of special meetings to members of the governing body is not waived by their attending the meeting. The additional notice will help to provide a meaningful opportunity for the public to attend meetings of interest to them.	H State Govt & T	Kraft	Support
<u>HB 2360</u> (Dead)	Sharps waste stewardship <i>Comments:</i> The bill requires producers of sharps (needles) to fund a program for their disposal. It includes requirements for submission of confidential proprietary business data to the state. Section	H Approps	Peterson	Concerns

11(4) creates a new PRA exemption for this data. However, this exemption should also be referenced from the PRA.

<u>HB 2397</u> (Dead)	Legislative staff F-1s/LEB	H State Govt & T	Hudgins	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> F-1 Financial Affairs Disclosure forms from professional staff of the legislature will be submitted to and processed by the Legislative Ethics Board rather than the Public Disclosure Commission, may not be posted online, and are exempt from disclosure unless the staff person has been found to have committed fraud, dishonesty, corruption, theft, or any act involving moral turpitude. WCOG is concerned that this is a reduction in access to information about potential conflicts of interest of legislative staff who have opportunities to influence the content of legislation.			
<u>HB 2398</u> (Dead)	Leg. staff F-1s/online	H State Govt & T	Hudgins	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Prevents the F-1 personal financial affairs reports submitted by professional staff of the legislature from being posted on the web site of the PDC. These statements are not currently posted proactively by the PDC, but they have been working toward that; this would prevent that with regard to legislative staff.			
<u>SHB 2415</u> (Dead)	Special district elections	H Approps	Hudgins	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> Requires elections for diking and drainage districts, flood control districts, irrigation districts, and conservation districts to be held using the same election system as other special purpose districts and municipalities. This will increase participation in these elections and reduce problems recently discovered in which some districts failed to conduct elections for many years or decades.			
<u>HB 2466</u> (Dead)	Legislative public records	H State Govt & Tr	Pollet	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Makes the legislature, the house, the senate, all legislative agencies, and all individual legislators subject to the PRA. Designates the public records officers for legislators and legislative agencies. Creates exemptions for particular types of legislative records, including some constituent communications, whistleblower reports to legislators, . Requires establishment of retention schedules for legislative records. Requires lawsuits regarding legislative records to name the public records officer as defendant rather than any individual legislator. Allows voicemails to legislators to be deleted based on storage space needs rather than on the basis of the retention period for the content of the message. Requires training of legislators and staff in the provisions of the PRA. WCOG has CONCERNS with several of the provisions and will work with legislators to improve the language if it moves forward.			
<u>SHB 2484</u> (Dead)	Sunshine committee/juveniles	H 2nd Reading	Van Werven	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> Expands the information exempt from disclosure about child victims or witnesses, including telephone numbers, email addresses, social media identifiers, phone numbers, etc. Allows information about juvenile offenders to be released to the offender or their parent, guardian, or attorney. Allows records otherwise exempt from disclosure under RCW 42.56.230 to be disclosed with the consent of the subject of the record or, for children, their parents or guardians. Exempts from disclosure records of CPS investigations until the investigation is complete.			
	WCOG strongly OPPOSES the substitute bill. It is no longer the consensus Sunshine Committee bill. The amendment made in committee would prohibit disclosure of 911 call recordings that include the voice of a child, which will significantly hinder news reporting. The bill should be restored to its			

original consensus form.

<u>HB 2496</u> (Dead)	Batteries/environment	H Env & Energy	Mead	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> Creates a stewardship program for batteries, requiring disposal costs to be paid up front by producers. The program includes extensive reporting of confidential proprietary information to state agencies. Section 17 of the bill creates a new exemption in the PRA for records submitted to an agency under the act that are determined by a court to be confidential proprietary financial information. This is consistent with other existing product stewardship programs that collect such information.			
<u>ESHB 2575</u> (Dead)	Redistricting comm'n reforms	H Rules 3C	Pellicciotti	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> Among other provisions, requires the redistricting commission to ave additional public forums to receive public comment. Requires members of the redistricting commission to receive PRA and OPMA training. Requires the redistricting commission to post all materials to a web site. Requires lobbyists providing public comment at redistricting commission public meetings to identify themselves as lobbyists.			
<u>HB 2652</u> (Dead)	Renewable ammonia	H RDev, Ag&NR	Doglio	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Creates a program to regular "renewable" or "sustainable" ammonia production, including submission of required reports to the state department of agriculture. Section 9 of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for confidential proprietary business information submitted to the department by regulated entities. This is consistent with other similar regulatory programs. However, there is no need for the new exemption to be in a separate section of the PRA, but should be combined into an existing section.			
<u>HB 2674</u> (Dead) (2SSB 6361)	Campaign finance admin.	H State Govt & T	Hudgins	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> PDC Request Bill. Clarifies when ballot measure campaigns must start reported to the PDC. Allows PDC commissioners to participate in campaigns over which they do not have jurisdiction, except for candidates over which they current have jurisdiction because they are an incumbent. Requires special disclosures for endorsements that do not pertain to the current election or office, and when the person being endorsed is not a filed candidate for the office. Clarifies the contents of F-1 financial affairs disclosure forms,			
<u>HB 2695</u> (Dead)	Asthma home assistance	H HC/Wellness	Pollet	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Section 9 of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for health information under the act, but the new exemption is not referenced from the PRA.			
<u>HB 2703</u> (Dead) (SB 6438)	Public records act/judiciary	H State Govt & T	Chapman	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> Would expand the PRA definition of "agency" to include courts and judicial branch agencies, and the definition of "public records" to include court case files and judicial (administrative) records. This is likely a reaction to the court's determination that legislative records are subject to the PRA.			
<u>HB 2716</u>	Health info./retirement	H State Govt &	Fitzgibbon	Neutral

(Dead)
(SSB 6499)

T

Comments: Creates a new PRA exemption for medical information contained in the files of members of state retirement programs at the department of retirement systems.

[SHB 2742](#)
(Dead)
(2SSB 6281)

Personal data

H Approps

Kloba

Concerns

Comments: Create the "Washington Privacy Act" to protect personal data held by corporations. Section 9 of the bill regards "data protection assessments". Buried in this section is creation of a new PRA exemption via the language "Data protection assessments are confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW." This should be referenced from the PRA itself.

[SHB 2772](#)
(Dead)

Campaign finance admin.

H Rules 3C

Walsh

Support

Comments: PDC Request Bill. Clarifies when ballot measure campaigns must start reported to the PDC. Allows PDC commissioners to participate in campaigns over which they do not have jurisdiction, except for candidates over which they current have jurisdiction because they are an incumbent. Requires special disclosures for endorsements that do not pertain to the current election or office, and when the person being endorsed is not a filed candidate for the office. Clarifies the contents of F-1 financial affairs disclosure forms,

[SHB 2789](#)
(Dead)
(SSB 6527)

Police deadly force data

H Rules 3C

Lovick

Neutral

Comments: Requires WASPC to create a central database on police use of deadly force. Section 1(4) makes all records acquired by WASPC pursuant to building the database -- and the database itself -- completely exempt from disclosure. This is a continuation of WASPC's efforts to make itself immune from the Public Records Act. WASPC is a public agency like any other and must be subject to the PRA.

The substitute bill REMOVES the PRA exemption for the database. WCOG's position is changed to NEUTRAL.

[HB 2838](#)
(Dead)

Cardiac and stroke outcomes

H HC/Wellness

Riccelli

Concerns

Comments: Creates a statewide cardiac and stroke outcomes database in the Department of Health to try to improve cardiac and stroke quality of care. Section 9 creates a new PRA exemption for identifiable information in the database: "Data elements related to the identification of individual patients', providers', and facilities' care outcomes shall be confidential, are not subject to disclosure under the public records act, chapter 42.56 RCW, and shall not be subject to discovery by subpoena or admissible as evidence." This exemption is consistent with others related to health care information and information submitted on outcomes for quality improvement purposes. However, the exemption is not properly referenced from the PRA.

[HB 2947](#)
(Dead)

Firearms safety measures

H Finance

Valdez

Neutral

Comments: Creates a buyback program for large-capacity gun magazines. Also creates an exemption from disclosure for names, addresses, and other personal information of people who participate in the buyback program. May not be dead despite being introduced after cutoff because it has budget implications (eliminates an existing tax exemption in order to fund it).

[2SSB 5182](#)
(Dead)
(SHB 2794)

Juvenile record sealing

S Rules X

Kuderer

Concerns

Comments: Eliminates the ability to object to the sealing of juvenile court records, making the sealing process completely automatic in nearly all cases.

<u>SB 5221</u> (Dead)	Political comm. disclosures	S Rules X	Palumbo	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> Requires disclosure of the top five contributors who are NOT political committees, to prevent hiding the actual contributors under layers of committees.			
<u>SB 5246</u> (Dead)	Sunshine committee recs.	S State Govt/Trib	Hunt	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> Addresses recommendations of the sunshine committee on the public records act. Enables agencies to release certain exempt personal information with consent of the subject of the record. Requires release of the residential city, state, and zip code of public employees. Exempts all contact information of dependents of public employees and volunteers. Clarifies that the investigative records exemption for unfair practices and discrimination by public employees is categorical until the investigation is complete and then the records must be released. Amends the exemption for confidential financial and proprietary information to require the information be marked confidential at the time of submission to the agency for the exemption to apply. Allows courts to award attorney fees to any defendant who prevails in an action to enjoin release of trade secret information under 42.56.540. Clarifies that bids submitted are exempt from disclosure until either the bid is awarded or the agency rejects all bids. Eliminates the exemption for lists of owners of time share and condominiums held by the Department of Licensing.			
	Exempts the following from public inspection and copying: (1) Applications for public employment other than for vacancies in elective office; (2) Certain residential addresses but not including city, state, and zip codes, passports, and visa numbers; (3) Proprietary data, trade secrets, or other information that is submitted by a vendor to the department of social and health services for purposes of the development, acquisition, or implementation of state purchased health care; (4) Trade secrets; and (5) Bids, quotations, or proposals submitted to an agency for goods or services in response to a solicitation issued for the goods or services until the agency announces the apparent successful bidder based on predetermined criteria or decides not to accept any bids, quotations, or proposals.			
<u>2SSB 5292</u> (Dead)	Rx drug cost transparency	S Rules X	Keiser	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Requires submission of data regarding drugs costs to OFM. OFM produces an annual report based on the information. Except for the report itself, all data submitted is exempt from disclosure. This new exemption is not referenced from the PRA			
<u>SSB 5338</u> (Dead) (2SHB 1422)	Vulnerable adults	S Human Svcs, Ree	Darneille	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Sections 2(4), 2(5)(c), 5(7), and 7(18)(c) create new exemptions from PRA disclosure for records pertaining to vulnerable adults, without referencing the exemptions from within the PRA.			
<u>2SSB 5376</u> (Dead) (2SHB 1854)	Consumer data	S Rules X	Carlyle	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Creates a data protection regime in Washington similar to GDPR in the European Union. Section 8 requires data controllers to produce risk assessments and make them available to the Attorney General. Subsection 8(4) creates a new PRA exemption for the risk assessment, but does not reference it from the PRA.			
<u>4SSB 5533</u> (Dead) (2SHB 1645)	Parental improvement certs.	S Rules 3	Braun	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Section 3(6) creates a new PRA exemption for "Information about reports, reviews, and hearings" related to applications for certificates of parental improvement, saying they "may be disclosed only in accordance with federal and state laws pertaining to child welfare records and child protective services reports." However, the new exemption does not reference RCW 42.56 and is not			

referenced from RCW 42.56.

<u>SB 5787</u> (Dead)	City, district publ. records	S Rules X	Walsh	Oppose
	<i>Comments:</i> Amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.090, to accommodate agencies that do not have personnel or that have office hours fewer than 30 hours per week. Such agencies must display on their web site (only if they have one) how to contact them to make public records requests. Declares that a public records request is received by the agency only when agency personnel have actual knowledge of the request (presumably the burden of proof of actual knowledge falls on the requester). Allows such agencies to delay their initial response to a public records request until their next council/board meeting or 30 days. Given the ease by which any agency can receive and give an initial response to a public records request by email these days, it makes no sense to allow them to delay there response by 30 days or more.			
<u>2SSB 6281</u> (Dead) (SHB 2742)	Personal data	S Conf appt	Carlyle	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Create the "Washington Privacy Act" to protect personal data held by corporations. Section 9 of the bill regards "data protection assessments". Buried in this section is creation of a new PRA exemption via the language "Data protection assessments are confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW." This should be referenced from the PRA itself.			
<u>SB 6285</u> (Dead) (SHB 2293)	Election security/PRA	S State Govt/Tri	Hunt	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> Creates new exemptions in the PRA for "The continuity of operations plan for election operations, and any security audits, security risk assessments, or security test results relating to physical security or cybersecurity of election operations or infrastructure. These records are exempt from disclosure in their entirety; and (8) Those portions of records containing information about election infrastructure, election security, or potential threats to election security, the public disclosure of which would have a substantial likelihood of increasing risk to the integrity of election operations or infrastructure." These are consistent with existing security-related exemptions for such functions as information technology. Secrecy of such plans does reduce the ability of experts outside the government to assess the strength of the plans, but this must be balanced against the risk of disclosing possible vulnerabilities to attackers.			
<u>2SSB 6361</u> (Dead) (HB 2674)	Campaign finance admin.	S Rules X	Kuderer	Support
	<i>Comments:</i> PDC Request Bill. Clarifies when ballot measure campaigns must start reported to the PDC. Allows PDC commissioners to participate in campaigns over which they do not have jurisdiction, except for candidates over which they current have jurisdiction because they are an incumbent. Requires special disclosures for endorsements that do not pertain to the current election or office, and when the person being endorsed is not a filed candidate for the office. Clarifies the contents of F-1 financial affairs disclosure forms,			
<u>SB 6431</u> (Dead)	Personal demographic details	S State Govt/Tri	Hunt	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> Creates a new exemption in the PRA for "Voluntarily submitted information collected and maintained by a state agency or higher education institution that identifies an individual state employee's personal demographic details. "Personal demographic details" means race or ethnicity, sexual orientation as defined by RCW 49.60.040(26), national origin, or status as a person with a disability. This exemption does not prevent the release of state employee demographic information in a deidentified or aggregate format."			

SB 6438 (Dead) (HB 2703)	Public records act/judiciary	S State Govt/Tri	Van De Wege	Support	<i>Comments:</i> Would expand the PRA definition of "agency" to include courts and judicial branch agencies, and the definition of "public records" to include court case files and judicial (administrative) records. This is likely a reaction to the court's determination that legislative records are subject to the PRA.
SB 6439 (Dead) (ESHB 2327)	Sexual misconduct/postsec.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Randall	Neutral	<i>Comments:</i> Section 7 of the bill creates in a new PRA exemption for "personal identifying information in an employee personnel file, student file, investigation file, settlement agreement, or other files held by a postsecondary educational institution that reveals the identity of witnesses to or victims of sexual misconduct committed at the postsecondary educational institution by an employee of the institution", but that "If the victim or witness indicates a desire for disclosure of the victim's or witness' personal identifying information, such desire shall govern." This is consistent with other exemptions for victim and witness information.
SSB 6527 (Dead) (SHB 2789)	Police deadly force data	S Ways & Means	Frockt	Neutral	<i>Comments:</i> Requires WASPC to create a central database on police use of deadly force. Section 1(4) makes all records acquired by WASPC pursuant to building the database -- and the database itself -- completely exempt from disclosure. This is a continuation of WASPC's efforts to make itself immune from the Public Records Act. WASPC is a public agency like any other and must be subject to the PRA.
					The substitute bill REMOVES the PRA exemption for the database. WCOG's position is changed to NEUTRAL.
SB 6539 (Dead)	Health care info./leg. PRA	S State Govt/Trib	Becker	Concerns	<i>Comments:</i> Amends the PRA, RCW 42.56.360, to add an exemption for "Health care information, as defined in RCW 70.02.010, provided to a legislator in the conduct of the legislator's official duties." The receipt of such information by legislators is rare, and usually occurs in the context of a constituent seeking help from the legislator in dealing with an agency that has refused services to the constituent or someone in their care. However, the definition of "health care information" is so broad that it could also encompass many requests for special favors to campaign donors or others such as getting them coverage that an ordinary person would not receive. If such an exemption is to exist it should be much more narrowly crafted and be required to meet the definition of privacy in RCW 42.56.050.
SB 6543 (Dead)	PRA/subsequent discovery	S State Govt/Tri	Short	Oppose	<i>Comments:</i> Extends from two days to five days the period in which internal agency review of denials of access to records must be completed. Prohibits the court from penalizing an agency when the agency discovers additional responsive records after closure of a records request and produces the records to the requester within 15 days of closing the request. There is no need for this change; the agency could easily keep the request open for the additional 15 days while continuing to search for responsive records, and produce them before closing the request. The only practical application of this change is for the agency to produce records after the requester complains that all expected records were not produced.

<u>SB 6589</u> (Dead)	Cannabis commission	S Labor & Commer	Stanford	Neutral
<i>Comments:</i> Establishes a state commodity commission for cannabis, similar to other agricultural commissions. Sections 13 and 14 of the bill create an exemption for confidential proprietary financial and business information submitted to the commission by cannabis producers. This is similar to other exemptions related to information submitted to state commodity commissions.				
<u>SB 6645</u> (Dead) (ESHB 2722)	Minimum recycled content	S Environment, E	Das	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Creates a new state program to compel recycled content in many plastic products, which includes submission of confidential proprietary business information to the department of ecology. Section 5 of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for this information. However, the exemption does not need to be a separate section and should be combined with an existing section of the PRA.				
<u>SB 6666</u> (Dead)	Employee info. disclosure	S State Govt/Tri	Hunt	Oppose
<i>Comments:</i> Amends the PRA to require that agencies notify employees and their labor unions when records are requested that contain personal information about the employee, and provide at least 10 days for the employee or union to file for an injunction under 42.56.540 before releasing the records. Also amends the PRA to exempt public employee birthdates from disclosure, and also exempt from disclosure payroll deductions including their amount and identification. Opposition to exemption of public employee birthdates is a top WCOG legislative priority.				

Dead Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>	
<u>HB 1171</u> (Dead) (SB 5107)	Trust institutions	H Rules X	Walén	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Revises the Washington trust institutions act. Section 95 requires DFI to send a notification letter if it disapproves acquisition of a state trust company, and makes the letter exempt from disclosure in its entirety. The new exemption is not referenced in the PRA.				
<u>SHB 1179</u> (Dead)	Uniform unclaimed property	H Approps	Tarleton	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Repeals chapter 63.29 RCW, the uniform unclaimed property act of 1983, and creates the revised uniform unclaimed property act. Sections 1004 and 1402 of the bill create new public records exemptions without referencing them from RCW 42.56 or even mentioning 42.56. Section 1403 also provides for exceptions to the exemptions. WCOG should request an amendment to reference the exemption from the PRA.				
<u>HB 1400</u> (Dead) (ESB 5439)	Employment security records	H Rules X	Sells	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> Section 8(5) of the bill makes it illegal, with up to a \$5000 penalty, to redistribute confidential records from the employment security department, even if the person didn't know the records were from ESD, that they were confidential, or that redistribution was not allowed. Also, section 9(2) of the bill creates a new exemption without referencing it from the PRA.				
<u>HB 1411</u>	Distillery marketing & sales	H Commerce &	Blake	Neutral

(Dead)
(E2SSB 5549)

Gam

Comments: Expands the products that can be sold at distilleries, and practices such as tastings and providing promotional items. Section 11(32) creates a new exemption for confidential proprietary information submitted by distilleries engaged in the expanded businesses. The new exemption is properly listed in RCW 42.56.

[2SHB 1422](#)
(Dead)
(SSB 5338)

Vulnerable adults

Valdez

Concerns

Comments: Sections 2(4), 2(5)(c), 5(7), and 7(18)(c) create new exemptions from PRA disclosure for records pertaining to vulnerable adults, without referencing the exemptions from within the PRA.

[3SHB 1498](#)
(Dead)
(2SSB 5511)

Broadband service

H Rules X

Hudgins

Concerns

Comments: Section 7(6)(g) creates a new PRA exemption for "Confidential business and financial information submitted by an objecting provider under this subsection", but does not reference the exemption from 42.56.270.

[E2SHB 1523](#)
(Dead)
(ESSB 5526)

Individual health ins market

H Rules X

Cody

Concerns

Comments: Creates a new exemption in the PRA for "data submitted by health carriers to the health benefit exchange for purposes of establishing standardized benefit plans". It creates it in a new section, but it should simply be a new subsection in 42.56.400.

[HB 1562](#)
(Dead)
(2SSB 5601)

Health care benefit manage.

H HC/Wellness

Stonier

Concerns

Comments: Section 7 of the bill creates a new exemption from public disclosure for "Contract compensation provisions filed with the insurance commissioner under section 4 of this act". However it is created in a separate section of the PRA, and could be instead a new subsection in 42.56.400.

[HB 1838](#)
(Dead)
(SB 5750)

Distillery information

H Rules 3C

Walsh

Neutral

Comments: Amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.270, to exempt from disclosure "Unaggregated financial, proprietary, or commercial information submitted to or obtained by the liquor and cannabis board in applications for licenses under RCW 66.24.140 or 66.24.145, or in any reports or remittances submitted by a person licensed under RCW 66.24.140 or 66.24.145 under rules adopted by the liquor and cannabis board under chapter 66.08 RCW". The referenced sections are for distilleries and craft distilleries.

[2SHB 1854](#)
(Dead)
(2SSB 5376)

Personal data

H Inn, Tech &
Ec

Kloba

Concerns

Comments: Creates a data protection regime in Washington similar to GDPR in the European Union. Section 8 requires data controllers to produce risk assessments and make them available to the Attorney General. Subsection 8(4) creates a new PRA exemption for the risk assessment, but does not reference it from the PRA.

[2SHB 1871](#)
(Dead)
(SB 5888)

Prison safety

H Rules R

Klippert

Neutral

Comments: Section 2 amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.240(6), to exempt from disclosure the contents of the Department of Corrections security threat group database, in addition to the existing exemption for the contents of the statewide gang database and any local or regional gang database.

<u>2SHB 1974</u> (Dead)	Cannabis commission	H Rules C	Shewmake	Neutral
<i>Comments:</i> The bill creates a "cannabis commission" similar to other state agricultural commodity commissions. Section 15 amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.380, to exempt from disclosure production and sales records and financial and commercial records submitted to the commission by cannabis growers. This is consistent with exemptions for records submitted to other agricultural commodity commissions.				
<u>HB 2214</u> (Dead)	Comm. political ad. records	H State Govt & Tr	MacEwen	Support
<i>Comments:</i> Modifies provisions regarding records of political advertising maintained by commercial advertising companies, eliminating the requirement that records must be available in person but may be available online.				
<u>HB 2215</u> (Dead)	Commercial political ads	H State Govt & Tr	MacEwen	Support
<i>Comments:</i> Requires sponsors of all political advertising to submit detailed reports to the Public Disclosure Commission each time any ad is run. The PDC must make the reports accessible to the public. This will provide much more extensive information and enable the public to know more about ads that are presented to limited audiences.				
<u>SHB 2293</u> (Dead) (SB 6285)	Election security/PRA	H Rules C	Dolan	Neutral
<i>Comments:</i> Creates new exemptions in the PRA for "The continuity of operations plan for election operations, and any security audits, security risk assessments, or security test results relating to physical security or cybersecurity of election operations or infrastructure. These records are exempt from disclosure in their entirety; and (8) Those portions of records containing information about election infrastructure, election security, or potential threats to election security, the public disclosure of which would have a substantial likelihood of increasing risk to the integrity of election operations or infrastructure." These are consistent with existing security-related exemptions for such functions as information technology. Secrecy of such plans does reduce the ability of experts outside the government to assess the strength of the plans, but this must be balanced against the risk of disclosing possible vulnerabilities to attackers.				
<u>HB 2331</u> (Dead)	OPMA agendas & notices	H State Govt & T	Kraft	Support
<i>Comments:</i> Requires agendas of regular and special meetings to be posted 72 hours before the meeting instead of 24. Agendas must provide links to minutes of meetings that occurred within the previous 24 months. Prohibits adoption of resolutions or ordinances except in meetings where the agenda was properly posted far enough in advance of the meeting. Notice of special meetings to members of the governing body is not waived by their attending the meeting. The additional notice will help to provide a meaningful opportunity for the public to attend meetings of interest to them.				
<u>HB 2360</u> (Dead)	Sharps waste stewardship	H Approps	Peterson	Concerns
<i>Comments:</i> The bill requires producers of sharps (needles) to fund a program for their disposal. It includes requirements for submission of confidential proprietary business data to the state. Section 11(4) creates a new PRA exemption for this data. However, this exemption should also be referenced from the PRA.				
<u>HB 2397</u>	Legislative staff F-1s/LEB	H State Govt &	Hudgins	Concerns

(Dead)

T

Comments: F-1 Financial Affairs Disclosure forms from professional staff of the legislature will be submitted to and processed by the Legislative Ethics Board rather than the Public Disclosure Commission, may not be posted online, and are exempt from disclosure unless the staff person has been found to have committed fraud, dishonesty, corruption, theft, or any act involving moral turpitude. WCOG is concerned that this is a reduction in access to information about potential conflicts of interest of legislative staff who have opportunities to influence the content of legislation.

Leg. staff F-1s/online

H State Govt &
T

Hudgins

Concerns

[HB 2398](#)

(Dead)

Comments: Prevents the F-1 personal financial affairs reports submitted by professional staff of the legislature from being posted on the web site of the PDC. These statements are not currently posted proactively by the PDC, but they have been working toward that; this would prevent that with regard to legislative staff.

Special district elections

H Approps

Hudgins

Support

[SHB 2415](#)

(Dead)

Comments: Requires elections for diking and drainage districts, flood control districts, irrigation districts, and conservation districts to be held using the same election system as other special purpose districts and municipalities. This will increase participation in these elections and reduce problems recently discovered in which some districts failed to conduct elections for many years or decades.

Legislative public records

H State Govt &
Tr

Pollet

Concerns

[HB 2466](#)

(Dead)

Comments: Makes the legislature, the house, the senate, all legislative agencies, and all individual legislators subject to the PRA. Designates the public records officers for legislators and legislative agencies. Creates exemptions for particular types of legislative records, including some constituent communications, whistleblower reports to legislators, . Requires establishment of retention schedules for legislative records. Requires lawsuits regarding legislative records to name the public records officer as defendant rather than any individual legislator. Allows voicemails to legislators to be deleted based on storage space needs rather than on the basis of the retention period for the content of the message. Requires training of legislators and staff in the provisions of the PRA. WCOG has CONCERNS with several of the provisions and will work with legislators to improve the language if it moves forward.

Sunshine committee/juveniles

H 2nd Reading

Van Werven

Support

[SHB 2484](#)

(Dead)

Comments: Expands the information exempt from disclosure about child victims or witnesses, including telephone numbers, email addresses, social media identifiers, phone numbers, etc. Allows information about juvenile offenders to be released to the offender or their parent, guardian, or attorney. Allows records otherwise exempt from disclosure under RCW 42.56.230 to be disclosed with the consent of the subject of the record or, for children, their parents or guardians. Exempts from disclosure records of CPS investigations until the investigation is complete.

WCOG strongly OPPOSES the substitute bill. It is no longer the consensus Sunshine Committee bill. The amendment made in committee would prohibit disclosure of 911 call recordings that include the voice of a child, which will significantly hinder news reporting. The bill should be restored to its original consensus form.

[HB 2496](#)

(Dead)

Batteries/environment

H Env &
Energy

Mead

Neutral

Comments: Creates a stewardship program for batteries, requiring disposal costs to be paid up front by producers. The program includes extensive reporting of confidential proprietary information to state agencies. Section 17 of the bill creates a new exemption in the PRA for records submitted to an agency under the act that are determined by a court to be confidential proprietary financial information. This is consistent with other existing product stewardship programs that collect such information.

<u>ESHB 2575</u> (Dead)	Redistricting comm'n reforms	H Rules 3C	Pellicciotti	Support	<i>Comments:</i> Among other provisions, requires the redistricting commission to ave additional public forums to receive public comment. Requires members of the redistricting commission to receive PRA and OPMA training. Requires the redistricting commission to post all materials to a web site. Requires lobbyists providing public comment at redistricting commission public meetings to identify themselves as lobbyists.
<u>HB 2652</u> (Dead)	Renewable ammonia	H RDev, Ag&NR	Doglio	Concerns	<i>Comments:</i> Creates a program to regular "renewable" or "sustainable" ammonia production, including submission of required reports to the state department of agriculture. Section 9 of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for confidential proprietary business information submitted to the department by regulated entities. This is consistent with other similar regulatory programs. However, there is no need for the new exemption to be in a separate section of the PRA, but should be combined into an existing section.
<u>HB 2674</u> (Dead) (2SSB 6361)	Campaign finance admin.	H State Govt & T	Hudgins	Support	<i>Comments:</i> PDC Request Bill. Clarifies when ballot measure campaigns must start reported to the PDC. Allows PDC commissioners to participate in campaigns over which they do not have jurisdiction, except for candidates over which they current have jurisdiction because they are an incumbent. Requires special disclosures for endorsements that do not pertain to the current election or office, and when the person being endorsed is not a filed candidate for the office. Clarifies the contents of F-1 financial affairs disclosure forms,
<u>HB 2695</u> (Dead)	Asthma home assistance	H HC/Wellness	Pollet	Concerns	<i>Comments:</i> Section 9 of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for health information under the act, but the new exemption is not referenced from the PRA.
<u>HB 2703</u> (Dead) (SB 6438)	Public records act/judiciary	H State Govt & T	Chapman	Support	<i>Comments:</i> Would expand the PRA definition of "agency" to include courts and judicial branch agencies, and the definition of "public records" to include court case files and judicial (administrative) records. This is likely a reaction to the court's determination that legislative records are subject to the PRA.
<u>HB 2716</u> (Dead) (SSB 6499)	Health info./retirement	H State Govt & T	Fitzgibbon	Neutral	<i>Comments:</i> Creates a new PRA exemption for medical information contained in the files of members of state retirement programs at the department of retirement systems.

<u>SHB 2742</u> (Dead) (2SSB 6281)	Personal data <i>Comments:</i> Create the "Washington Privacy Act" to protect personal data held by corporations. Section 9 of the bill regards "data protection assessments". Buried in this section is creation of a new PRA exemption via the language "Data protection assessments are confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW." This should be referenced from the PRA itself.	H Approps	Kloba	Concerns
<u>SHB 2772</u> (Dead)	Campaign finance admin. <i>Comments:</i> PDC Request Bill. Clarifies when ballot measure campaigns must start reported to the PDC. Allows PDC commissioners to participate in campaigns over which they do not have jurisdiction, except for candidates over which they current have jurisdiction because they are an incumbent. Requires special disclosures for endorsements that do not pertain to the current election or office, and when the person being endorsed is not a filed candidate for the office. Clarifies the contents of F-1 financial affairs disclosure forms,	H Rules 3C	Walsh	Support
<u>SHB 2789</u> (Dead) (SSB 6527)	Police deadly force data <i>Comments:</i> Requires WASPC to create a central database on police use of deadly force. Section 1(4) makes all records acquired by WASPC pursuant to building the database -- and the database itself -- completely exempt from disclosure. This is a continuation of WASPC's efforts to make itself immune from the Public Records Act. WASPC is a public agency like any other and must be subject to the PRA.	H Rules 3C	Lovick	Neutral
	The substitute bill REMOVES the PRA exemption for the database. WCOG's position is changed to NEUTRAL.			
<u>HB 2838</u> (Dead)	Cardiac and stroke outcomes <i>Comments:</i> Creates a statewide cardiac and stroke outcomes database in the Department of Health to try to improve cardiac and stroke quality of care. Section 9 creates a new PRA exemption for identifiable information in the database: "Data elements related to the identification of individual patients', providers', and facilities' care outcomes shall be confidential, are not subject to disclosure under the public records act, chapter 42.56 RCW, and shall not be subject to discovery by subpoena or admissible as evidence." This exemption is consistent with others related to health care information and information submitted on outcomes for quality improvement purposes. However, the exemption is not properly referenced from the PRA.	H HC/Wellness	Riccelli	Concerns
<u>HB 2947</u> (Dead)	Firearms safety measures <i>Comments:</i> Creates a buyback program for large-capacity gun magazines. Also creates an exemption from disclosure for names, addresses, and other personal information of people who participate in the buyback program. May not be dead despite being introduced after cutoff because it has budget implications (eliminates an existing tax exemption in order to fund it).	H Finance	Valdez	Neutral
<u>2SSB 5182</u> (Dead) (SHB 2794)	Juvenile record sealing <i>Comments:</i> Eliminates the ability to object to the sealing of juvenile court records, making the sealing process completely automatic in nearly all cases.	S Rules X	Kuderer	Concerns
<u>SB 5221</u> (Dead)	Political comm. disclosures <i>Comments:</i> Requires disclosure of the top five contributors who are NOT political committees, to prevent hiding the actual contributors under layers of committees.	S Rules X	Palumbo	Support

<p>SB 5246 (Dead)</p>	<p>Sunshine committee recs.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Addresses recommendations of the sunshine committee on the public records act. Enables agencies to release certain exempt personal information with consent of the subject of the record. Requires release of the residential city, state, and zip code of public employees. Exempts all contact information of dependents of public employees and volunteers. Clarifies that the investigative records exemption for unfair practices and discrimination by public employees is categorical until the investigation is complete and then the records must be released. Amends the exemption for confidential financial and proprietary information to require the information be marked confidential at the time of submission to the agency for the exemption to apply. Allows courts to award attorney fees to any defendant who prevails in an action to enjoin release of trade secret information under 42.56.540. Clarifies that bids submitted are exempt from disclosure until either the bid is awarded or the agency rejects all bids. Eliminates the exemption for lists of owners of time share and condominiums held by the Department of Licensing.</p> <p>Exempts the following from public inspection and copying: (1) Applications for public employment other than for vacancies in elective office; (2) Certain residential addresses but not including city, state, and zip codes, passports, and visa numbers; (3) Proprietary data, trade secrets, or other information that is submitted by a vendor to the department of social and health services for purposes of the development, acquisition, or implementation of state purchased health care; (4) Trade secrets; and (5) Bids, quotations, or proposals submitted to an agency for goods or services in response to a solicitation issued for the goods or services until the agency announces the apparent successful bidder based on predetermined criteria or decides not to accept any bids, quotations, or proposals.</p>	<p>S State Govt/Trib</p>	<p>Hunt</p>	<p>Support</p>
<p>2SSB 5292 (Dead)</p>	<p>Rx drug cost transparency</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Requires submission of data regarding drugs costs to OFM. OFM produces an annual report based on the information. Except for the report itself, all data submitted is exempt from disclosure. This new exemption is not referenced from the PRA</p>	<p>S Rules X</p>	<p>Keiser</p>	<p>Concerns</p>
<p>SSB 5338 (Dead) (2SHB 1422)</p>	<p>Vulnerable adults</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Sections 2(4), 2(5)(c), 5(7), and 7(18)(c) create new exemptions from PRA disclosure for records pertaining to vulnerable adults, without referencing the exemptions from within the PRA.</p>	<p>S Human Svcs, Ree</p>	<p>Darneille</p>	<p>Concerns</p>
<p>2SSB 5376 (Dead) (2SHB 1854)</p>	<p>Consumer data</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Creates a data protection regime in Washington similar to GDPR in the European Union. Section 8 requires data controllers to produce risk assessments and make them available to the Attorney General. Subsection 8(4) creates a new PRA exemption for the risk assessment, but does not reference it from the PRA.</p>	<p>S Rules X</p>	<p>Carlyle</p>	<p>Concerns</p>
<p>4SSB 5533 (Dead) (2SHB 1645)</p>	<p>Parental improvement certs.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Section 3(6) creates a new PRA exemption for "Information about reports, reviews, and hearings" related to applications for certificates of parental improvement, saying they "may be disclosed only in accordance with federal and state laws pertaining to child welfare records and child protective services reports." However, the new exemption does not reference RCW 42.56 and is not referenced from RCW 42.56.</p>	<p>S Rules 3</p>	<p>Braun</p>	<p>Concerns</p>
<p>SB 5787 (Dead)</p>	<p>City, district publ. records</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Amends the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.090, to accommodate agencies that do not</p>	<p>S Rules X</p>	<p>Walsh</p>	<p>Oppose</p>

have personnel or that have office hours fewer than 30 hours per week. Such agencies must display on their web site (only if they have one) how to contact them to make public records requests. Declares that a public records request is received by the agency only when agency personnel have actual knowledge of the request (presumably the burden of proof of actual knowledge falls on the requester). Allows such agencies to delay their initial response to a public records request until their next council/board meeting or 30 days. Given the ease by which any agency can receive and give an initial response to a public records request by email these days, it makes no sense to allow them to delay there response by 30 days or more.

<p>2SSB 6281 (Dead) (SHB 2742)</p>	<p>Personal data</p>	<p>S Conf appt</p>	<p>Carlyle</p>	<p>Concerns</p>
<p><i>Comments:</i> Create the "Washington Privacy Act" to protect personal data held by corporations. Section 9 of the bill regards "data protection assessments". Buried in this section is creation of a new PRA exemption via the language "Data protection assessments are confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW." This should be referenced from the PRA itself.</p>				
<p>SB 6285 (Dead) (SHB 2293)</p>	<p>Election security/PRA</p>	<p>S State Govt/Tri</p>	<p>Hunt</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p><i>Comments:</i> Creates new exemptions in the PRA for "The continuity of operations plan for election operations, and any security audits, security risk assessments, or security test results relating to physical security or cybersecurity of election operations or infrastructure. These records are exempt from disclosure in their entirety; and (8) Those portions of records containing information about election infrastructure, election security, or potential threats to election security, the public disclosure of which would have a substantial likelihood of increasing risk to the integrity of election operations or infrastructure." These are consistent with existing security-related exemptions for such functions as information technology. Secrecy of such plans does reduce the ability of experts outside the government to assess the strength of the plans, but this must be balanced against the risk of disclosing possible vulnerabilities to attackers.</p>				
<p>2SSB 6361 (Dead) (HB 2674)</p>	<p>Campaign finance admin.</p>	<p>S Rules X</p>	<p>Kuderer</p>	<p>Support</p>
<p><i>Comments:</i> PDC Request Bill. Clarifies when ballot measure campaigns must start reported to the PDC. Allows PDC commissioners to participate in campaigns over which they do not have jurisdiction, except for candidates over which they current have jurisdiction because they are an incumbent. Requires special disclosures for endorsements that do not pertain to the current election or office, and when the person being endorsed is not a filed candidate for the office. Clarifies the contents of F-1 financial affairs disclosure forms,</p>				
<p>SB 6431 (Dead)</p>	<p>Personal demographic details</p>	<p>S State Govt/Tri</p>	<p>Hunt</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p><i>Comments:</i> Creates a new exemption in the PRA for "Voluntarily submitted information collected and maintained by a state agency or higher education institution that identifies an individual state employee's personal demographic details. "Personal demographic details" means race or ethnicity, sexual orientation as defined by RCW 49.60.040(26), national origin, or status as a person with a disability. This exemption does not prevent the release of state employee demographic information in a deidentified or aggregate format."</p>				
<p>SB 6438 (Dead) (HB 2703)</p>	<p>Public records act/judiciary</p>	<p>S State Govt/Tri</p>	<p>Van De Wege</p>	<p>Support</p>
<p><i>Comments:</i> Would expand the PRA definition of "agency" to include courts and judicial branch agencies, and the definition of "public records" to include court case files and judicial (administrative)</p>				

records. This is likely a reaction to the court's determination that legislative records are subject to the PRA.

<u>SB 6439</u> (Dead) (ESHB 2327)	Sexual misconduct/postsec.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Randall	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> Section 7 of the bill creates in a new PRA exemption for "personal identifying information in an employee personnel file, student file, investigation file, settlement agreement, or other files held by a postsecondary educational institution that reveals the identity of witnesses to or victims of sexual misconduct committed at the postsecondary educational institution by an employee of the institution", but that "If the victim or witness indicates a desire for disclosure of the victim's or witness' personal identifying information, such desire shall govern." This is consistent with other exemptions for victim and witness information.			
<u>SSB 6527</u> (Dead) (SHB 2789)	Police deadly force data	S Ways & Means	Frockett	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> Requires WASPC to create a central database on police use of deadly force. Section 1(4) makes all records acquired by WASPC pursuant to building the database -- and the database itself -- completely exempt from disclosure. This is a continuation of WASPC's efforts to make itself immune from the Public Records Act. WASPC is a public agency like any other and must be subject to the PRA. The substitute bill REMOVES the PRA exemption for the database. WCOG's position is changed to NEUTRAL.			
<u>SB 6539</u> (Dead)	Health care info./leg. PRA	S State Govt/Trib	Becker	Concerns
	<i>Comments:</i> Amends the PRA, RCW 42.56.360, to add an exemption for "Health care information, as defined in RCW 70.02.010, provided to a legislator in the conduct of the legislator's official duties." The receipt of such information by legislators is rare, and usually occurs in the context of a constituent seeking help from the legislator in dealing with an agency that has refused services to the constituent or someone in their care. However, the definition of "health care information" is so broad that it could also encompass many requests for special favors to campaign donors or others such as getting them coverage that an ordinary person would not receive. If such an exemption is to exist it should be much more narrowly crafted and be required to meet the definition of privacy in RCW 42.56.050.			
<u>SB 6543</u> (Dead)	PRA/subsequent discovery	S State Govt/Tri	Short	Oppose
	<i>Comments:</i> Extends from two days to five days the period in which internal agency review of denials of access to records must be completed. Prohibits the court from penalizing an agency when the agency discovers additional responsive records after closure of a records request and produces the records to the requester within 15 days of closing the request. There is no need for this change; the agency could easily keep the request open for the additional 15 days while continuing to search for responsive records, and produce them before closing the request. The only practical application of this change is for the agency to produce records after the requester complains that all expected records were not produced.			
<u>SB 6589</u> (Dead)	Cannabis commission	S Labor & Commer	Stanford	Neutral
	<i>Comments:</i> Establishes a state commodity commission for cannabis, similar to other agricultural commissions. Sections 13 and 14 of the bill create an exemption for confidential proprietary financial			

and business information submitted to the commission by cannabis producers. This is similar to other exemptions related to information submitted to state commodity commissions.

[SB 6645](#)
(Dead)
(ESHB 2722)

Minimum recycled content

S Environment,
E

Das

Concerns

Comments: Creates a new state program to compel recycled content in many plastic products, which includes submission of confidential proprietary business information to the department of ecology. Section 5 of the bill creates a new PRA exemption for this information. However, the exemption does not need to be a separate section and should be combined with an existing section of the PRA.

[SB 6666](#)
(Dead)

Employee info. disclosure

S State
Govt/Tri

Hunt

Oppose

Comments: Amends the PRA to require that agencies notify employees and their labor unions when records are requested that contain personal information about the employee, and provide at least 10 days for the employee or union to file for an injunction under 42.56.540 before releasing the records. Also amends the PRA to exempt public employee birthdates from disclosure, and also exempt from disclosure payroll deductions including their amount and identification. Opposition to exemption of public employee birthdates is a top WCOG legislative priority.
