DEAD OR ALIVE 2016

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Banning outdoor burning and fireworks in 2016. House Bill 2310 prohibits the sale, purchase, use or discharge of consumer fireworks within the state from June 1-September 30, 2016; and prohibits unpermitted outdoor burning from July 1-September 30, 2016. Public Hearing in House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee – DEAD

Licensing recreational motorized mineral prospecting. House Bill 2467 requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to create and sell a license for recreational motorized mineral prospectors and prohibits prospecting without a license and in certain areas. Also requires a study to be completed evaluating the effects of recreational motorized mineral prospecting on fish habitat. Public Hearing in House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee – DEAD

Impounding livestock, i.e. 'Runaway Ray'. House Bill 2500 allows local governments the option to place impounded livestock in the care of a foster host versus a livestock auction, and allows that host the right of first refusal if the animal's owner is not located. Passed House 96-1; Public Hearing in Senate Agriculture and Water & Rural Economic Development Committee – DEAD

Supporting local suppression of wildland fire. House Bill 2596 appropriates dollars to a local suppression fund, which DNR may access to support local fire protection entities’ initial attack efforts in the form of released state assets, assistance or funding. Passed House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee; In House Appropriations Committee – DEAD

Establishing a CAFO discharge permit. House Bill 2840 requires the Departments of Agriculture and Ecology to establish a general permit for groundwater discharge from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) under the authority of the state; and allows a CAFO to choose the state permit or a combined permit offered under state and federal authority. Public Hearing in House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee – DEAD

Allowing GPS use by wildland firefighters. House Bill 2924 allows the department of natural resources to outfit wildland firefighters with GPS trackers for safety. Public Hearing in House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee – DEAD

Allowing forest resiliency burning despite weather conditions. House Bill 2928 allows the use of permitted prescribed burning forest health treatments during burn ban conditions to prevent catastrophic wildfire. Passed House 97-0-1; Passed Senate 48-0-1; Signed by Governor; Effective March 31, 2016

APPROPRIATIONS

Independent provider (IP) overtime. House Bill 1725 limits the number of hours DSHS is authorized to pay any single IP to 40 hours each work week, unless certain criteria are met and DSHS authorizes overtime hours, or an exception applies. Also requires DSHS to establish a spending plan each fiscal year that limits IP overtime expenditures to 8.75 percent of the total average of personal care hours for the fiscal year, as projected by the caseload forecast council (with ability for caseload forecast council to adopt temporary adjustment up to a maximum of 10 percent, if additional overtime hours are necessitated due to an IP shortage). Passed House 95-0-6; Passed Senate 42-1-6; Anticipate Signature by Governor and Would be Effective Upon Signature – ALIVE

As of April 11, 2016 – Governor Action on Regular Session Bills Complete
Retired teachers as substitutes. **House Bill 1737** allows retired teachers to continue to receive their pensions while returning to work as a substitute teacher, even though they retired under early retirement provisions that would otherwise suspend their benefits. *Passed House 96-1; Died in Senate Rules Committee – DEAD*

**Education Funding Task Force** **House Bill 2366** establishes the Task Force to continue the work of the McCleary work group with the purpose of making recommendations to the Legislature on implementing changes to basic education. *Passed House 64-34. Note: Senate Companion Bill 6195 Passed House 66-31-1 and Senate 26-23; Signed by Governor; Effective February 29, 2016.*

**Governor's teacher compensation proposal.** **House Bill 2472** would increase state allocations for certificated instructional staff, certificated administrative staff, and classified staff, with the highest increase for beginning teachers. Accompanies a proposal to end certain tax exemptions as a means to fund it. *Public Hearing in House Appropriations Committee – DEAD*

**Modifying nursing facility payment methodology.** **House Bill 2678** implements changes to the nursing facility payment methodology according to the recommendations from the nursing facility payment methodology work group. It is expected to improve quality of care for residents. *Passed House 96-1; Passed Senate 46-0-3; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016*

**Delaying planned reduction in the school levy lid and local effort assistance.** **House Bill 2698** delays the planned reduction in the school maintenance & operations maximum levy authority and corresponding local effort assistance provisions for one year. *Passed House 91-7; Passed Senate Early Learning & K-12 Committee; In Senate Ways & Means Committee – DEAD*

**Dynamic fiscal impact statements.** **House Bill 2830** requires the Office of Financial Management (OFM) to construct dynamic impact estimates that take into account other economic factors such as effects on persons to save, spend, invest, and expand or reduce their business activity. Also require regular fiscal notes regarding corrections, child welfare, and mental health issues to include impacts on other state or local programs. *Public Hearing in House Appropriations Committee – DEAD*

**Payments in Lieu of Property Tax.** **House Bill 2891** requires the Department of Fish & Wildlife to make PILT payments to eligible counties at current open space rates rather than 2009 rates. *Passed House 97-0; Passed Senate Early Learning & K-12 Committee; In Senate Ways & Means Committee – DEAD*

**BUSINESS & FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**Mortgage Lending Fraud Account.** **House Bill 2315** extends the Mortgage Lending Fraud Protection Account and related $1 surcharge assessed at the recording of a deed of trust through 2021. *Passed House 97-0; Died in Senate Rules Committee. Note: Senate Companion Bill 6282 Passed House 97-0-1 and Senate 49-0; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016*

**Payroll Cards.** **House Bill 2505** prohibits a financial institution from charging telephone and Internet balance inquiry fees and certain maintenance fees on payroll deposit accounts. *In House Rules Committee – DEAD*
DEAD OR ALIVE 2016

CAPITAL BUDGET

Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP). House Bill 2509 makes numerous changes to the WWRP program pursuant to the recommendations of the 2015 interim workgroup. Died in House Rules Committee. Note: Senate Companion Bill 6227 Passed House 77-20-1 and Senate 45-2-2; Signed by Governor; Effective March 31, 2016

Creating a cemetery preservation capital grant program. House Bill 2637 would create a new grant program for cemetery preservation projects less than $50,000. Passed House 98-0; Passed Senate 41-7-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Repeal of I-200. House Bill 2822 would repeal Initiative 200 (1998), which prohibits discrimination or preferential treatment in public education, employment, or contracting based on specified factors, including race and sex. Public Hearing in House Capital Budget Committee - DEAD

Chehalis river basin flood risk reduction. House Bill 2856 establishes the Office of Chehalis River Basin Flood Risk Reduction in the Department of Ecology, and creates the Chehalis River Basin Flood Risk Reduction Account in the State Treasury. Passed House 91-5-2; Passed Senate 46-2-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

K-3 and all-day Kindergarten class-size reduction related school construction. House Bill 2968 declares the legislative intent to utilize 0.5% of the funds designated to be transferred into the Budget Stabilization Account (BSA) for grant money to school districts for school construction necessary to meet K-3 and all-day Kindergarten class-size reduction requirements. On House Floor Calendar - DEAD

COMMERCE & GAMING

Local ordinances banning marijuana retailers only by public vote. House Bill 1438 requires a local ordinance banning the operation of a marijuana retailer only be enacted by a vote of the people either by a citizen initiative to get on ballot or by the local government submitting an ordinance to the voters. On House Floor Calendar - DEAD

Reducing the excise tax on marijuana. House Bill 2347 reduces the excise tax on the retail sale of marijuana products from 37% to 25%. Passed House Commerce & Gaming Committee; Public Hearing in House Finance Committee - DEAD

Prohibiting fantasy sports games. House Bill 2370 makes participating in fantasy football for valuable consideration of any kind illegal gambling. Also makes offering for play, operating, or advertising a fantasy sports game punishable as a class C felony and a violation of the Consumer Protection Act. Public Hearing in Commerce & Gaming Committee – DEAD

Distribution of liquor revenue to local governments. House Bill 2438 gradually increases the local government share of excess liquor revenue until the percentage-method for distributions is restored to the pre-Initiative-1183 distribution percentages. Passed House Commerce & Gaming Committee; In House Appropriations Committee – DEAD
DEAD OR ALIVE 2016

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Dental Health Aide Therapists (DHATs) in tribal setting. House Bill 1441 authorizes the practice of DHATs in tribal clinics, authorizes Medicaid reimbursement, and exempts DHATs from state dental practice licensing requirements. On House Floor Calendar – DEAD

Tribal gas compacts for non-reservation tribes. House Bill 1631 allows non-reservation tribes with land held in trust by the Federal government (specifically Swinomish) to enter into gas tax compacts with the Department of Licensing. Passed House 55-43; Public Hearing in Senate Transportation Committee – DEAD

Condominium conversion fees. House Bill 2395 authorizes cities to impose a condominium conversion fee, assessed on a square foot basis, for property owners converting multi-family rental housing into condominiums. Public Hearing in Community Development, Housing, & Tribal Affairs - DEAD

Property tax exemptions for affordable housing programs. House Bill 2544 authorizes cities to grant property tax exemptions for property owners that offer affordable housing, subject themselves to rent setting and subject themselves to a fine for withdrawal/disqualification from the program. Passed Community Development, Housing, & Tribal Affairs; Public Hearing in House Finance Committee – DEAD

Creating the Washington Tourism Marketing Authority. House Bill 2552 creates the Washington Tourism Marketing Authority, funded by contributions through a B&O tax credit program. Public Hearing in Community Development, Housing, & Tribal Affairs - DEAD

EARLY LEARNING & HUMAN SERVICES

Foster parent notification. HB 2591 requires DSHS to notify foster families of upcoming court dates and allows the court to receive a caregiver report. The Administrative Office of the Courts will collect data on foster parent participation in the child welfare system and provide information in the annual Dependency Timeliness Report. Passed House 96-0-1; Passed Senate 47-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Parent to Parent Program. HB 2394 creates a state-wide program that connects parents of individuals with developmental disabilities for support and resources. Passed House 94-2-2; Passed Senate 47-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Youth Host Homes. HB 2440 allows host homes to be exempt from DSHS foster licensing requirements when serving non-dependent youth. Passed House 98-0; Passed Senate 48-0; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

ABLE Act. HB 2323 allows individuals with disabilities to have limited investment accounts without jeopardizing their state and federal benefits. Passed House 83-13-1; Passed Senate 48-0-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Child care licensing requirements. HB 2511 allows child care providers to serve five year olds in same group, irrespective if they are in school or not. Passed House 96-0-2; Passed Senate 48-0-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016
EDUCATION

Charter schools. House Bill 2367 reestablishes public charter schools and funds the schools through the Opportunity Pathways Account. No Public Hearing in House Education Committee. Note: Senate Companion Bill 6194 Passed House 58-39; Passed Senate 26-23; Governor did NOT Sign; Effective March 31, 2016

Allergen info in schools. House Bill 1562 requires schools to conspicuously post allergen information wherever food is served in schools. In House Rules Committee – DEAD

Local Graduation Requirements. House Bill 1855 allows at risk, transient students to waive local graduation requirements if they have attended three or more high school and have met state graduation requirements. Passed House 97-0; In Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee – DEAD

Teacher shortages. House Bill 2573 addresses recruiting and retaining teachers. Initiates a campaign to recruit teachers, removes barriers for out-of-state teachers to be certified in Washington, expands scholarship opportunities for teaching candidates and encourages retired teachers to become substitutes without losing retirement benefits. Passed House 92-6; Died in Senate Rules Committee. Note: Similar Senate Bill 6455 Passed House 96-1-1 and Senate 48-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Visual Screening in Schools. House Bill 1865 requires schools to test for both distance and near visual acuity. Passed House Education Committee; Died in House Appropriations Committee. Note: Senate Companion Bill 6245 Passed House 96-1-1 and Senate 48-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

ENVIRONMENT

Extending the collection of fees on hydropower. House Bill 1130 allows the departments of ecology and fish and wildlife to continue charging hydropower generators a fee to carry out habitat work above dams. In Passed House 80-16-2; Passed Senate 46-3; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Reauthorizing the Pollution Liability Insurance Agency. House Bill 2357 reauthorizes the Pollution Liability Insurance Agency (PLIA), authorizes PLIA to make grants and loans to owners of underground storage tanks and conduct remedial actions with those owners, and reduces the possession tax on refined petroleum. Passed House 97-0; Passed Senate 47-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Disclosing potentially toxic effects of synthetic turf fields. House Bill 2547 requires owners of synthetic turf fields with crumb rubber fill to post a sign suggesting ways in which to reduce exposure to toxins potentially released by fields. Public Hearing in House Environment Committee – DEAD

Streamlining actions by watershed improvement districts. House Bill 2616 allows watershed improvement districts to access county dollars to carry out habitat work such as ditch cleaning and dike improvement. On House Floor Calendar – DEAD

Reorganizing actions of the Parks and Recreation Commission. House Bill 2667 requires a majority vote of commission members on proposals, extends maximum property lease terms from 50 to 80 years, requires the commission to consider public effects of vendors, and requires vendors to comply with commission practices. In House Rules Committee – DEAD

As of April 11, 2016 – Governor Action on Regular Session Bills Complete
Modifying Initiative 732, the Carbon Tax.  
House Bill 2777 allows the legislature to propose a modification of the carbon tax initiative, HI 732, which would also appear on the November 2016 ballot alongside the original I-732 if passed by the legislature.  
No Public Hearing in House Environment Committee – DEAD

FINANCE

Aerospace incentives clawback.  
House Bill 2638 reduces by half the preferential B&O tax rate and B&O tax credits if the firm's employment level is 4,000 or more employment positions below the employment baseline, and eliminates any preferential rate or credit if the firm's employment level is 5,000 or more positions below the baseline. Any year in which the employment growth in Washington is forecasted to be less than 1 percent, this clawback would not operate.  
Public Hearing in House Finance Committee - DEAD

Reducing frequency of sales tax changes.  
House Bill 2565 reduces the frequency with which local sales and use taxes may be changed, from four times a year to three times a year.  
Passed House 97-0-1; Passed Senate 47-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Modifying income eligibility threshold for seniors & veterans property tax exemptions.  
House Bill 2759 allows deduction for long-term care insurance, durable medical equipment, and healthcare insurance premiums from the calculation for combined disposable income used to determine eligibility.  It would also index the income threshold to a percentage of county median household income.  
In House Rules Committee - DEAD

Reducing certain tax penalties.  
House Bill 2540 reduces the current penalty for failure to file a survey or report, documents required to qualify for a variety of economic development related tax preferences, from one hundred percent of the amount of tax preference claimed to thirty-five percent, or fifty percent after ninety days of delinquency.  
Passed House 98-0; Passed Senate 47-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective July 1, 2016

Tax credit for higher education open source instructional materials.  
House Bill 2780 provides a tax credit to businesses that create open source instructional materials for use at private or public institutions of higher education, free of charge, if the material is adopted as the primary resource for a course and replaces materials the students would have otherwise been required to buy.  
Public Hearing in House Education Committee, then Re-Referred to House Finance Committee – DEAD

Tax preferences for utilities serving silicon smelters.  
House Bill 2977 establishes a public utility tax and B&O tax credit for utilities that sell natural gas or electricity to a silicon smelter.  
Passed House Finance Committee; In House Appropriations Committee – DEAD

Clarifying application of inheritance exemption to real estate excise tax.  
House Bill 2539 clarifies how real estate excise tax applies to inherited property.  
Passed House 98-0; Passed Senate 48-0; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016
Elimination of tax preferences. **House Bill 2996** eliminates the following: preferential B&O tax rate for travel agents and tour operators; preferential B&O tax rate for resellers of prescription drugs; preferential B&O tax rate for international investment management services; and sales and use tax exemption for bottled water. Also converts the nonresident sales tax exemption to a remittance program and narrows a real estate excise tax exemption related to transfers made in foreclosure proceedings or through enforcement of a judgment. Deposits the additional revenues into the education legacy trust account. *Passed House Finance Committee; Died in House Rules Committee - DEAD*

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Audits conducted by a private entity. **House Bill 2148** authorizes local governments to request a private financial audit, in lieu of one by the State Auditor, if the State Auditor approves the request. Also allows state agencies or local governments to appeal the results of any audit pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act and prohibits audit reports from being made public until the appeal process is complete. *Passed House 95-2-1; Public hearing in Senate Accountability & Reform Committee – DEAD*

Information technology budget requests. **House Bill 2125** requires state agencies to include certain information with budget requests for proposed information technology expenditures, in addition to budget request evaluation performed by the State Chief Information Officer. *Passed House General Government & Information Technology Committee – DEAD*

**HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS**

Raising smoking age to 21. **House Bill 2313** raises the legal age of purchase for smoking and vaping products from 18 to 21. Would not apply to Tribal Reservations and Federal installations. *Passed House Health Care & Wellness Committee; In House Appropriations Committee - DEAD*

Continuity of prescription drug coverage. **House Bill 2319** prohibits insurance carriers from switching an enrollee’s prescription drug coverage to generic or substitute drugs if patient and/or the prescribing physician objects. Prohibits carriers from increasing co-payments during enrollment period. *On House Floor Calendar – DEAD*

Pharmaceutical drug cost transparency. **House Bill 2363** requires pharmaceutical companies to disclose various costs for drug production including research & development, materials, manufacturing, advertisements, and administration. *Passed House Health Care & Wellness Committee – DEAD*

Third party administrators **House Bill 2445** requires third party administrators (TPAs) to register with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) and requires TPAs to furnish all financial and activity records to the OIC. *Passed House 96-0-2; Passed Senate 47-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective January 1, 2017*

Prescription drug donation program **House Bill 2458** allows individuals to participate in the state's surplus prescription drug donation program, provided the drugs are properly packaged and stored. *Passed House 96-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective January 1, 2017*

12 Month prescriptions for contraception **House Bill 2465** allows private insurers and Medicaid (Apple Health) to reimburse for a 12 month supply of contraceptives after one initial prescription. *Passed House 96-1; Died in Senate Rules Committee - DEAD*
DEAD OR ALIVE 2016

Banning certain flame retardants and granting rule making authority to the Department of Health to ban additional chemicals. House Bill 2545 bans five chemicals determined to be harmful from use in children’s products and furniture, and grants rule making authority to the Department of Health to ban further chemicals. Passed House 96-0-2; Passed Senate 48-0-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Authorizing Pharmacists to Prescribe and Dispense Contraceptives. House Bill 2681 requires the Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission to promote awareness by developing a sign or sticker for participating pharmacies. Passed House 92-4-2; Passed Senate 46-3; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

HIGHER EDUCATION

Free speech on college campuses. House Bill 2488 creates the Academic Bill of Rights, which addresses: (1) free expression on campus; (2) use of trigger warnings by faculty; (3) use of microaggressions; (4) retaliation for expression and whistleblowing; and (5) student rights in disciplinary proceedings. Public Hearing in House Higher Education Committee – DEAD

Washington Next Generation Educational Savings Account. House Bill 2662 creates an educational savings account for every child born or adopted in the state with a deposit of $250 for all children born or adopted in the state. Also provides an additional $279 matching grant for low-income families that also save $250. Intent is for program to be funded by private organizations. Passed House Higher Education Committee; In House Appropriations Committee – DEAD

Open education textbooks and course materials at four-year colleges and universities. House Bill 2680 creates a grant program at the public four-year colleges and universities for faculty to develop and obtain lower cost open education textbook and course materials. Passed House Higher Education Committee; In House Appropriations Committee – DEAD

Open education textbooks and course materials. House Bill 2686 creates grant programs at community & technical colleges (CTCs) and four-year colleges and universities to fund campus level coordinators to promote & facilitate expansion of the open course materials. Also creates a grant program for CTCs to create a degree or certificate program composed only of open education course materials and requires CTCs to revise their college catalogs and course descriptions to designate which courses use open educational resources. Passed House Higher Education Committee; In House Appropriations Committee – DEAD

Transparency of textbook and course material costs. House Bill 2796 requires community and technical colleges to include the cost of textbook and course materials to students in course description at the time of registration. Public Hearing in House Higher Education Committee – DEAD

College Bound Scholarship eligibility for undocumented students. House Bill 2801 aligns College Bound Scholarship citizenship requirements with State Need Grant requirements. Also allows recipients of the Opportunity Scholarship to renew their scholarship by filing the state financial aid form instead of the federal financial aid form, if they are ineligible to complete the federal form due to citizenship status. In House Rules Committee – DEAD

As of April 11, 2016 – Governor Action on Regular Session Bills Complete
Washington Promise Program/Free community & technical college.  **House Bill 2820** creates the Washington Promise program to provide free community & technical college tuition and fees to eligible students.  *Passed House Higher Education Committee; Public Hearing in House Appropriations Committee—DEAD*

**Free to Finish College program.**  **House Bill 2955** creates the Free to Finish College program to offer grant awards to cover the cost of tuition and fees for students who are 15 credits or less away from completing a degree or credential and who have not been enrolled for at least past three years.  *On House Floor Calendar—DEAD*

**JUDICIARY**

**Body worn cameras.**  **House Bill 2362** establishes Public Records Act provisions governing requests for and disclosure of certain body worn camera recording made by law enforcement and corrections officers.  Also requires law enforcement and corrections agencies that use body worn cameras to adopt policies covering their use, and establishes a task force to review and report on the use of body worn cameras.  *Passed House 57-39-2; Passed Senate 37-9-3; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016*

**Preservation of housing options for participants in government assistance programs.**  **House Bill 1565** amends the Residential Landlord-Tenant Act to prohibit certain adverse actions or disparate treatment of tenants or applicants based on their lawful source of income and provides that any person who violates the act may be liable for up to treble the damages sustained by the tenant, plus court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.  *Passed House 50-47; In Senate Human Services, Mental Health & Housing Committee—DEAD*

**Banning assault weapons and large capacity magazines.**  **House Bill 2354** bans certain semiautomatic weapons, including rifles, shotguns and pistols because of certain characteristics of their appearance, such as the capacity to accept a detachable magazine and a pistol grip, a folding or telescoping stock, and a shroud attached to the barrel allowing the bearer to hold the firearm without being burned, and magazines that have the capacity to accept more than ten rounds of ammunition.  *No Public Hearing in House Judiciary Committee—DEAD*

**Statewide ammunition fee to fund local public safety.**  **House Bill 2374** levies a fee upon the retail sale of all ammunition at five cents per round of ammunition with fees collected from the buyer by the seller paid to the department of revenue.  Directs the fees collected to be used for various public safety and criminal justice purposes including purposes related to firearm-related violence or the costs associated with the disposal by law enforcement agencies of judicially forfeited firearms.  *No Public Hearing in House Judiciary Committee—DEAD*

**Providing local authorities with the authority to regulate firearms in certain public places.**  **House Bill 2460** would end state preemption of the entire field of firearms regulation within the state, including the possession, purchase, sale, acquisition and transportation of firearms and give local governments the authority to regulate the possession of firearms in public parks and recreational facilities, public transportation and associated transit facilities, and public libraries, including a complete ban of the possession of all firearms in such locations.  *No Public Hearing in House Judiciary Committee—DEAD*
Human Rights Commission rules on gender segregated facilities. House Bill 2935 repeals the rule adopted by the Human Rights Commission on gender segregated facilities and prohibits the Commission from initiating any rule-making procedure involving the subject of gender segregated facilities. No Public Hearing in House Judiciary Committee - DEAD

Sex-specific use of school bathrooms and athletic facilities. House Bill 2941 requires schools to provide restroom facilities for each individual sex to be used separately by each sex or gender-neutral single occupant bathrooms to accommodate a student's privacy concerns, and defines "sex" as the biological sex or sex assigned at birth. Also exempts public schools from gender segregated facility rules adopted by the Human Rights Commission or the Superintendent of Public Instruction. No Public Hearing in House Judiciary Committee – DEAD

LABOR & WORKFORCE STANDARDS

Calculation of minimum wage. House Bill 2291 allows credit for health insurance in calculation of minimum wage, and permits a sub-minimum wage for youth employees. No Public Hearing in House Labor and Workforce Standards Committee - DEAD

Workers' compensation reforms. House Bill 2336, House Bill 2337, and House Bill 2338 (1) requires Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) to adjudicate claim closure requests from self-insured employers within 90 days of receipt; (2) terminates temporary total disability, or time loss, payments after 60 months; and (3) terminates time loss payments when the injured worker reached maximum medical improvement, or medical fixity; respectively. Public Hearing in House Labor and Workforce Standards Committee - DEAD

Consideration of traffic tickets in police officer reviews. House Bill 2399 prohibits consideration of the number of citations an officer issues, or the amount of penalties assessed, in any performance review of the law enforcement officer. Passed House 95-2; Passed Senate Commerce & Labor Committee; In Senate Transportation Committee - DEAD

Union and wage & hour reforms. House Bill 2489, House Bill 2490, and House Bill 2491 (1) prohibits differential treatment of union members in wage and hour laws; (2) requires state collective bargaining negotiations to be open public meetings and require periodic union recertification; and (3) creates a statewide preemption for minimum wage, including ordinances in effect at the time of passage; respectively. Public Hearing in House Labor and Workforce Standards Committee - DEAD

Prevailing wage based on collective bargaining agreements. House Bill 1231 requires L&I to calculate the rate of prevailing wage using collective bargaining agreements. Passed House 50-48; In Senate Commerce & Labor Committee - DEAD

Equal Pay Opportunity Act. House Bill 1646 modifies the existing Equal Pay Act to include prohibiting "less favorable employment opportunities" based on gender, would add additional remedies and litigation sanctions, and prohibit retaliation for certain workplace wage discussions. Passed House 56-41; Public Hearing in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee – DEAD
Workplace accommodations for pregnant women.  **House Bill 2307** (1) requires all employers to provide reasonable accommodation in employment for pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related health conditions, unless the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the employer’s business; (2) prohibits retaliation by the employer for an employee requesting or accepting accommodation.  *Passed House 52-45; In Senate Commerce & Labor Committee - DEAD*

Presumption of occupational disease for firefighters.  **House Bill 2806** eliminates the Social Security retirement offset for injured workers who either were receiving or had applied to receive Social Security benefits before being injured.  *Passed House 62-35; In Senate Commerce & Labor Committee – DEAD*

Apprenticeship utilization requirements.  **House Bill 2846** renders a contractor a non-responsible bidder for public works bidding purposes if the contractor was not in compliance with apprenticeship utilization requirements.  *In House Rules Committee – DEAD*

Prohibiting non-competition agreements in certain industries.  **House Bill 2406** makes non-competition agreements void and unenforceable for hair designers, cosmetologists, barbers, manicurists, estheticians, drywall applicators, musicians, and hourly workers in a fast-food establishments.  *On House Floor Calendar – DEAD*

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

School siting outside the urban growth areas.  **House Bill 1420** and **House Bill 2377**, **House Bill 2586** provide solutions recommended by the school siting task force.  *Public Hearings in House Local Government Committee - DEAD*

Helping churches shelter homeless people.  **House Bill 2929** prevents building officials from requiring churches to install fire sprinklers or put in windows when they invite homeless people to sleep in churches at night.  *Passed House 96-0-1; Passed Senate 48-0-1; Died in Concurrence Process - DEAD*

Economic deterioration in rural areas.  **House Bill 2719** and **House Bill 2459** empower rural communities that suffer economic deterioration to make economic development a priority in their Growth Management Act planning documents.  *No Public Hearing House Local Government Committee - DEAD*

Rural rail economic development.  **House Bill 2468** enables local governments to create economic development areas along railroads for rail dependent uses.  *Public Hearing in House Local Government Committee - DEAD*

Creating a commission to arbitrate public records requests.  **House Bill 2576** allows local authorities to limit the time they spend on answering public records requests based on their available resources and creates a commission to help arbitrate public records requests.  *On House Floor Calendar - DEAD*
PUBLIC SAFETY

Cybercrime. House Bill 2375 creates the crimes of Electronic Data Interference, Electronic Data Theft, Spoofing, and Electronic Data Tampering in the first and second degree. Passed the House 96-0-2; Passed Senate 46-1-2; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016

Establishing the crime of voyeurism in the second degree. House Bill 2970 creates a new crime of voyeurism 2nd degree when a person photographs or films the intimate areas of another person without that person's knowledge and consent under circumstances where the person has a reasonable expectation of privacy whether in a public or private place. Passed House 93-0-4; On Senate Floor Calendar – DEAD

Making felony sex offenses a crime that may be prosecuted at any time after its commission. House Bill 2873 eliminates the statutes of limitations for certain sex offenses - including 1st and 2nd degree rape, 1st and 2nd degree rape of a child, 1st and 2nd degree child molestation, 1st and 2nd degree incest, sexual exploitation of a minor, commercial sexual abuse of a minor and promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor - allowing a prosecutor to bring charges at any time after the commission of the offense. Passed House Public Safety Committee; In House General Government & Information Technology Committee - DEAD

Creating an Office of the Corrections Ombuds. House Bill 2817 creates an independent Office of the Corrections Ombuds to monitor conditions of correctional facilities and the rights of inmates. Passed House Public Safety Committee; Public Hearing in House Appropriations Committee - DEAD

Making a fourth driving under the influence offense a felony. House Bill 2706 makes it a felony level offense on a person's fourth Driving Under the Influence (DUI) offense instead of the person's fifth offense. Passed House Public Safety Committee; In House Appropriations Committee - DEAD

Concerning first degree rape. House Bill 2705 increases the seriousness level of 1st degree rape from seriousness level XII (12) to seriousness level XV (15), increasing the sentencing range of a first time offender from 93-123 months of incarceration time in prison to 240-320 months of incarceration time in prison. Passed House 98-0; In Senate Law & Justice Committee - DEAD

STATE GOVERNMENT

Voting Rights Act. House bill 1745 creates a state voting rights act, including a cause of action authorizing courts to order remedies for a violation of the act including redistricting within a political subdivision. Passed House 50-47; On Senate Floor Calendar - DEAD

Limiting out-of-state requests for public records. House Bill 2290 limits requests for public records to requests from in-state persons, businesses, and members of the news media. Public Hearing in House State Government Committee – DEAD

State purchase of goods from non-profit agencies for the blind. House Bill 2398 encourages procurement of goods from agencies for the blind by adding references in procurement law to existing purchasing requirements for blind-made goods and services. Passed House 97-0; Passed Senate 47-0-2; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016
DEAD OR ALIVE 2016

**Ballot drop boxes.** House Bill 2436 requires counties, at their expense, to provide a minimum of one permanent ballot drop box for every 15,000 residents by November 1, 2016. *On House Floor Calendar - DEAD*

**District-based elections.** House Bill 2617 authorizes political subdivisions to implement district-based elections. *Public Hearing in House State Government Committee - DEAD*

**Addressing the influence of corporations and money in the political system.** Initiative 735 would request the Washington congressional delegation propose a constitutional amendment overturning *Citizens United*. *In House Rules Committee – DEAD*

**TECHNOLOGY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Renewable energy promotion.** House Bill 2346 extends for ten years the cost recovery incentive program for solar energy systems among other renewable energy technologies. This is a program that gives utilities a capped Public Utility Tax Credit that gets passed to customers as capped incentive payments for each kilowatt hour produced by their system. Eliminates the sales tax exemption for renewable energy equipment. *Passed House 77-20-1; Passed Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee; In Senate Ways & Means Committee – DEAD.*

**Utility customer backbilling.** House Bill 2261 limits to six months the practice of utilities billing customers for up to three years of previously incurred energy bills where failure of utility equipment (failed meter) is the cause of the under-billing that the utility seeks to recoup. *On House Floor Calendar - DEAD.*

**Encouraging coal-fired electric generation plants to convert to natural gas.** House Bill 2715 would provide state sales and use tax exemption, in the form of a remittance of tax paid, for labor, services, and materials used to convert a coal plant to a natural gas plant. *Passed House Technology & Economic Development; In House Finance Committee – DEAD.*

**Accurate fuel mix information reporting to electric customers.** House Bill 2892 modifies how electric utilities report their mix of fuels used to generate electricity that serves retail customers so that it is more accurate, and directs the Department of Commerce to convene a work group to propose other modifications by December 1, 2016. *On House Floor Calendar - DEAD.*

**Establishing the Office of Privacy & Data Protection.** House Bill 2875 establishes an Office of Privacy and Data Protection within the Office of the Chief Information Officer, codifying the terms of Executive Order 16-01. *Passed House 97-0; Passed Senate 40-8-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016*

**Fishing Fleet Tax Preferences.** House Bill 2182 provides a preferential B&O tax rate for manufacturers of vessels or their components used to fish in federal fisheries. *On House Floor Calendar – DEAD*

**Biometric identifiers.** House Bill 1004 prohibits commercial capture of biometric data without consent, and regulate data retention and transfer. *Passed House 87-10; In Senate Law & Justice Committee - DEAD*
TRANSPORTATION

**SR 405 express toll lanes.** [House Bill 2312](#) provides congestion relief mechanisms needed because of WSDOT’s implementation of the 405 express toll lanes. *No Public Hearing in House Transportation Committee - DEAD*

**Distracted driving.** [House Bill 2574](#) curtails use of hand held cell phones by drivers while on the roadways. *Passed House Transportation Committee; In House Appropriations Committee - DEAD*

**Electric Vehicle Parking.** [House Bill 2330](#) enables property owners to determine their parking restrictions for electric vehicle charging stations because current law acts as a disincentive for property owners to install such stations. *Public Hearing in House Transportation Committee - DEAD*

**OFM to review WSDOT's performance.** [House Bill 2973](#) eliminates Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) from doing it's one performance report and the Office of Financial Management will do it instead. *Passed House 95-0-2; Died in Senate Transportation Committee. Note: Senate Companion Bill 6614 Passed House 95-0 and Senate 47-0; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016*

**Washington State Patrol pay raises & management improvements.** [House Bill 2872](#) directs the WSP to implement more than 20 recommendations of the Joint Transportation Committee's [WSP Recruitment and Retention Study](#). OFM is to have a consultant do a management survey. Troopers are given an additional 5 percent pay increase in 2016. WSP compensation in 2017 must be based on the pay and benefit amounts set by the highest paid law enforcement organizations in the state. *Passed House 92-4-2; Passed Senate 47-1-1; Signed by Governor; Effective June 9, 2016*