



Washington State Society of Anesthesiologists Legislative Report

Today (Friday, February 21) is the deadline for legislative policy committees to approve bills, sending them on either to a fiscal committee or to their chamber's Rules Committee, for further review. This is the first cutoff of the session.

Fiscal committees, primarily the Ways & Means Committee in the Senate and Appropriations in the House, along with each chamber's Transportation Committee, will have until next Friday, February 28, to hear and approve policy bills affecting one of the three budgets: operating, transportation or capital.

There were a flurry of bills getting last-minute consideration today, with the House and Senate Health Care Committees advancing 21 bills just this morning.

Although we are still about a month away from the state's next revenue forecast, legislative leaders are beginning to talk to the public about the state of our budget situation. House Democrats have [soft launched a link](#) to the Inslee "Book 1" budget, which assumed no new revenue and relied solely on cuts to balance the books. Their goal is to push back against the narrative from "[Budget Breakdown](#)," an effort organized by Enterprise Washington, which conveys the message that our budget woes are the result of over-spending. A [recent poll](#) indicated that nearly 60% of voters blame the budget shortfall on uncontrolled spending, but Democrats hope that demonstrating what may be on the chopping block if they're forced to adopt a no-revenue budget will help turn the tide.

Governor Ferguson is also expected to make some announcements next week about his perspective on the budget.

Several important health care-related bills remain viable this session, including legislation to create a health care provider registry, a bill regulating the corporate practice of medicine, and a proposal to reimburse PAs and ARNPs the same rates as physicians. However, a bill related to hospital mergers (HB 1881) failed to receive a vote in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee before today's deadline and is technically dead for this year. Bills proposing to regulate the medicinal use of psilocybin also did not advance.

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
SHB 1123 (SSB 5083) Health carrier reimbursement Ensuring access to primary care, behavioral health, and affordable hospital services. PEBB/SEBB Reimbursement Rate Cap	H Rules R	Macri
Noncompetition agreements	H Rules R	Berry

<u>SHB 1155</u> (SB 5437)	Prohibiting noncompetition agreements and clarifying nonsolicitation agreements.		
<u>HB 1306</u> (Dead)	International med. pathways Establishing preceptorship and hardship pathways to medical practice for international medical graduates.	H HC/Wellness	Reed
<u>HB 1319</u>	Wealth tax Enacting a wealth tax on the ownership of stocks, bonds, and other financial intangible property.	H Finance	Street
<u>HB 1320</u>	Business & occupation tax Modifying business and occupation tax rates to fund programs and services to benefit Washingtonians.	H Finance	Street
<u>HB 1392</u> (SB 5372)	Medicaid access program Creating the medicaid access program.	H Approps	Macri
<u>SHB 1430</u>	APRN & PA reimbursement Proposes parity advanced practice registered nurse and physician assistant reimbursement.	H 2nd Reading	Simmons
<u>HB 1433</u> (Dead)	Psychedelic substances Concerning access to psychedelic substances & legalizing the medical use of psilocybin.	H HC/Wellness	Macri
<u>HB 1445</u> (Dead)	Washington health trust Developing the Washington health trust.	H HC/Wellness	Parshley
<u>HB 1507</u> (Dead)	Health care nondisclosure Limiting health care nondisclosure agreements; prohibiting NDAs between physicians and patients.	H Civil R & Judi	Scott
<u>HB 1527</u> (Dead)	Health care claims mediation Concerning settlement demands or offers made prior to mandatory mediation of health care claims.	H Civil R & Judi	Bergquist
<u>HB 1546</u>	Radiologic technologists Concerning general supervision of diagnostic radiologic technologists, therapeutic radiologic technologists, and magnetic resonance imaging technologists by licensed physicians. Will continue to monitor for changes to supervisory regulations for AAPs.	H Exec Action	Parshley
<u>HB 1560</u> (SB 5638)	Hospital exec. excise tax Funding health care access by imposing an excise tax on the annual compensation paid to certain highly compensated hospital employees.	H Finance	Reed

<u>HB 1567</u> (Dead)	Health care administrators Concerning licensure of health care administrators.	H HC/Wellness	Stonier
<u>HB 1675</u> (SSB 5387)	Corp. practice of medicine Concerning the corporate practice of medicine.	H HC/Wellness	Thai
<u>HB 1686</u>	Health care entity registry Creating a health care entity registry.	H Exec Action	Bronoske
<u>HB 1718</u>	Health care prof. well-being Concerning well-being programs for certain health care professionals.	H Exec Action	Thai
<u>HB 1780</u> (Dead)	Doctor title/health provider Promoting accurate communications between patients and health care providers; Title transparency for ARNPs and PAs.	H HC/Wellness	Marshall
<u>HB 1812</u> (Dead)	Anesthesia services Concerning patient-centered equitable access to anesthesia services and reimbursement.	H HC/Wellness	Rule
<u>HB 1881</u> (Dead)	Health care marketplace Concerning material changes to the operations and governance structure of participants in the health care marketplace; Hospital Merger bill.	H Civil R & Judi	Taylor
<u>HB 1888</u> (Dead)	Naturopathic physician scope Concerning naturopathic physician scope of practice.	H HC/Wellness	Berg
<u>HB 1998</u>	Investment income/B&O tax Clarifying the scope of the investment income business and occupation tax deduction.	H Finance	Walen
<u>SSB 5083</u> (SHB 1123)	Health carrier reimbursement Ensuring access to primary care, behavioral health, and affordable hospital services. PEBB/SEBB Reimbursement rate cap	S Ways & Means	Robinson
<u>SSB 5118</u>	International medical grads Updating the requirements for the clinical experience license for international medical graduates.	S 2nd Reading	Valdez
<u>SB 5185</u> (Dead)	International med. pathways Establishing preceptorship and hardship pathways to medical practice for international medical graduates.	S Health & Long-	Saldana

<u>SB 5201</u> (Dead)	Psychedelic substances Concerning access to psychedelic substances & legalizing the medical use of psilocybin.	S Labor & Comm	Salomon
<u>SB 5233</u> (Dead)	Washington health trust Developing the Washington health trust.	S Health & Long-	Hasegawa
<u>SSB 5236</u>	Anesthetics/greenhouse gases Concerning emissions of greenhouse gases used for anesthetic purposes.	S Ways & Means	Slatter
<u>SB 5242</u> (Dead)	Behavioral health resources Establishing an interactive screening program to improve access to behavioral health resources for health care providers.	S Health & Long-	Orwall
<u>SSB 5254</u> (HB 1496)	Health care information Strengthening patients' rights regarding their health care information.	Passed, Senate Health Care	Orwall
<u>SB 5372</u> (HB 1392)	Medicaid access program Creating the medicaid access program.	S Health & Long-	Riccelli
<u>SSB 5387</u> (HB 1675)	Corp. practice of medicine Concerning the corporate practice of medicine.	Passed, Senate Health Care	Robinson
<u>SB 5424</u> (Dead)	UW health sciences campus Establishing a health sciences campus of the University of Washington.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Braun
<u>SB 5437</u> (Dead)	Noncompetition agreements Prohibiting noncompetition agreements and clarifying nonsolicitation agreements.	S Labor & Comm	Stanford
<u>SSB 5493</u>	Hospital price transparency Concerning hospital price transparency.	S Rules 2	Riccelli
<u>SSB 5579</u>	Health/contract terminations Prohibiting health carriers, facilities, and providers from making any public statements of any potential or planned contract terminations unless it satisfies a legal obligation.	Passed, Senate Health Care	Cleveland
<u>SB 5588</u> (Dead)	Health carriers & providers Concerning the relationships between health carriers and contracting providers.	S Health & Long-T	Cleveland

(HB
1589)

[SB 5638](#)

Hospital exec. excise tax

S Ways & Means

Saldana

(HB
1560)

Funding health care access by imposing an excise tax on the annual compensation paid to certain highly compensated hospital employees.

[SSB 5683](#)

Health carrier payment times

Passed, Senate Health Care

Slatter

Concerning health carrier transparency of payment timeliness of claims submitted by health care providers and health care facilities.
