

## Weekly Legislative Update: **Housing and Homelessness**

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**February 13, 2022**

### Bills Needing Action This Week

This is the week in which many of the affordable housing and homelessness bills began to move farther through the process.

These bills passed their houses of origin in the last week:

**SB 5566** Expanding eligibility for the independent youth housing program. It has been assigned to a committee in the House but no public hearing has been scheduled yet.

⚠️ **SB 5749** Concerning payments made by residential tenants. This bill has been scheduled for a public hearing in the House Housing, Human Services & Veterans Committee at 1:30 pm, **February 17**. **Sign in PRO for this bill [here](#).**

**SB 5868** Expanding the use of the rural counties public facilities sales and use tax to include affordable workforce housing. It has been assigned to a committee in the House but no public hearing has been scheduled yet.

**SB 5883** Concerning an unaccompanied homeless youth's ability to provide informed consent. This bill has passed the Senate but has not yet been assigned to a committee in the House.

⚠️ **HB 1593** Expanding the landlord mitigation program to alleviate the financial burden on victims attempting to flee domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking. It has been assigned to the Senate Housing & Local Government and will have a public hearing at 10:30 am on **February 16**. **Sign in PRO for this bill [here](#).**

These bills died because they did not move out of committee by the cut-off date:

- SB 5012, Providing a local government option for the funding of essential affordable housing programs
- SB 5033, Limiting the property tax exemption for improvements to single-family dwellings to the construction of accessory dwelling units
- HB 1035, Providing local governments with options to grant rent relief and preserve affordable housing in their communities
- HB 1128, Addressing residential landlord-tenant requirements in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- HB 1601, Expanding the students experiencing homelessness and foster youth pilot program.

The other bills listed on the issue page remain in play. Some may be passed before Monday; others may be passed on Monday or Tuesday. Any not passed by the evening of February 15 will die.

## How You Can Be Involved

- During the legislative session we will send Action Alerts in the [Legislative Newsletter](#). Please respond to these, which will direct you to an application to facilitate communicating with your legislators on an important vote in committees or on the chamber floor.
- Local Leagues in Washington have action chairs who coordinate action teams. Some local Leagues have education teams to take action locally. Contact your local League action chair to find out and join.
- You may also express your opinion on legislation with the LWVWA issue chairs. We will take your perspectives under considerations as we determine our support for legislation and prepare testimony. Cynthia Stewart, Growth Management Issue Chair, [cstewart@lwwa.org](mailto:cstewart@lwwa.org)