

## Weekly Legislative Update: **Growth Management**

Issue Team Chair: Cynthia Stewart

Contact: [cstewart@lwvwa.org](mailto:cstewart@lwvwa.org)

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### Bills Seeing Action This Week

Over the past week, between Wednesday and Friday, many of the growth management bills League supported, which had passed their houses of origin, had public hearings in the opposite chambers and are scheduled for executive sessions in those committees this coming week.

Bills League supports that have not yet had public hearings in the opposite chamber and for which the hearings are coming up in the week ahead at **8:00 am on Tuesday, February 22, in the Senate Housing & Local Government Committee** are:

⚠️ **[HB 1241](#) Relating to planning under the GMA** (increasing the timeline for plan revisions; progress reports; consultation with tribes; Commerce to resolve disputes).  
Sign in PRO before 7:00 am on Tuesday [here](#).

⚠️ **[HB 1717](#) Concerning tribal participation in planning under the GMA.** This bill authorizes a federally recognized Indian tribe to choose to participate in the local planning process under GMA and sets forth expectations for agreement between the tribe and jurisdiction about how that participation will be done. Also requires jurisdictions to collaborate with adjacent tribes when container port elements are addressed.  
Sign in PRO before 7:00 am on Tuesday [here](#).

⚠️ **[HB 1769](#) Concerning community municipal corporations.** This bill would remove the provisions in state law that allow community councils formed prior to an annexation to veto city land use actions post-annexation. There are currently two such community councils.  
Sign in PRO before 7:00 am on Tuesday [here](#).

One bill that did not get a public hearing is one on which League has not taken a position:

⚠️ **[SB 5593](#) Concerning urban growth area boundaries.** This bill provides flexibility to counties by allowing them to make revisions to an urban growth area boundary to accommodate patterns of development under certain conditions, provided that any revision to an urban growth area boundary cannot increase the total surface area of the urban growth area, and that any areas removed from the urban growth area cannot have been characterized by urban growth. The flexibility could be very beneficial to

counties but there are concerns about assuring that the outcomes do not violate the intentions of the GMA.

This bill will have a hearing in the **House Local Government Committee at 10:00 am on Wednesday, February 23. To express your opinion, either Pro or Con on this bill, go [here](#).**

Additionally, we will be examining the operating budget proposals from the House and Senate, which will be released and have a public hearing on Monday, to verify whether or not they include funding for implementation of HB 1220, passed last year, to help local jurisdictions produce their housing plans.

## 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@lwvwa.org](mailto:cstewart@lwvwa.org).