

Weekly Legislative Update: Revenue

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Bills Needing Action This Week

Note: When you Sign in “Pro”:

You may express support for bills in hearings with the online process. **Remember, only authorized members can speak for the League; the Issue Chairs will do that, so please leave the “Organization” box blank.** A more powerful influence is many voices speaking for themselves rather than many voices speaking for the League.

SB 5302 Establishing a property tax exemption for adult family homes that serve people with intellectual or developmental disabilities and are owned by a nonprofit. This bill passed the Senate Health & Long-Term Care Committee and has been scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Human Services Committee on Monday, January 30 at 10:30 am. **Please sign in PRO [here](#) before 9:30 am on Monday, January 30.**

SB 5509 Creating the Washington state public infrastructure bank is scheduled for public hearing on January 31 at 8:00 am in the Senate Business, Financial Services, Gaming & Trade Committee. **Please sign in PRO [here](#) before 7:00 am on Tuesday, January 31.**

On Tuesday, January 31, at 8:00 am, the House Finance Committee is holding public hearings on four bills that League supports. **Please sign in PRO to these bills as noted below before 7:00 am on Tuesday, January 31.**

- Three of the bills make changes to the Working Families Tax Credit, expanding the population served and in the case of HB 1477 adding a reporting requirement to evaluate the program. The Working Families Tax Credit helps to reduce the impact of the state’s very regressive tax structure on the lowest-income people of Washington.
 - **HB 1000 Providing sales tax relief by expanding the working families' tax credit. Sign in PRO [here](#).**
 - **HB 1075 Expanding eligibility for the working families' tax credit to everyone age 18 and older. Sign in PRO [here](#).**
 - **HB 1477 Making changes to the working families' tax credit. Sign in PRO [here](#).**

- The fourth bill relates to support for freight railroad service, a part of the transportation system that has been left behind in recent system changes.
 - [HB 1371](#) **Providing incentives to improve freight railroad infrastructure.** Sign in PRO [here](#).

Updates

[SJM 8001](#) **Concerning a national infrastructure bank**, would request that Congress pass and the President sign federal legislation to create an infrastructure bank. This bill passed the Senate Business, Financial Services, Gaming & Trade Committee on January 24 and is now in the Rules Committee.

[HB 1045](#) **Creating the evergreen basic income pilot program**, would establish a pilot project to test the feasibility of a basic income program in Washington State. The pilot would provide a cash benefit to the participants equal to the monthly rent of an average two-bedroom housing unit in the county of residence. This project benefit would not supplant existing benefits. There are a number of eligibility requirements. The proposal stems from a DSHS feasibility study that was completed in June 2022. This bill had a public hearing on January 11 and an executive session on January 20 but no action was taken.

[HB 1094](#) **Creating the Washington future fund program**, is intended to reduce wealth-building barriers to combat persistent poverty and promote economic resilience for Washingtonians by establishing a fund to be invested at birth and support qualifying individuals by making payments on behalf of eligible individuals between 18 and 35 years of age for education, training, and professional development; purchase of a residence; or creation or purchase of a business. The Fund would be managed by the State's investment board and the program would be overseen by an appointed Future Fund committee. This bill had a public hearing in the House Human Services, Youth, & Early Learning Committee on January 18 and action was taken in executive session on January 27 but no outcome has been reported as of this writing.

[HB 1052](#) **Providing a property tax exemption for qualified real and personal property owned or used by a nonprofit entity in providing qualified housing funded in whole or part through a local real estate excise tax.** This bill would create a financial incentive to nonprofit organizations that provide affordable housing. This bill had a public hearing in the House Finance Committee on January 17 but has not been scheduled yet for executive session.

[SB 5482](#) **Concerning the margin tax.** This bill is intended to create greater equity in the business and occupation tax structure, and thereby hardships on new businesses, small businesses, and unprofitable and low profit-margin businesses by shifting from the gross-receipts basis to one based on revenue after certain deductions or percentage reduction. This bill was one of the recommendations from the Tax Structure Work Group. This bill had a public hearing on January 26 but has not yet been scheduled for executive session.

SB 5249 Expanding eligibility for the working families' tax credit to everyone age 18 and older. This bill would expand eligibility to people from ages 25 to 65 to 18 and older. The bill had a public hearing in the Senate Ways & Means Committee but has not been scheduled for public hearing.

SB 5495 Concerning property tax rebates for homeowners and renters, would create a new Title in the RCW pertaining to rebates for primary residence owners and portions of payments in rent attributable to property tax. This bill had a public hearing on January 24 in the Senate Ways & Means Committee but has not been scheduled for executive session.

How You Can Be Involved

- Respond to Action Alerts in the legislative newsletter. These will primarily appear in the section of the newsletter related to revenue.
- Contact Cynthia Stewart, Revenue Issue Chair, cstewart@lwwwa.org to receive additional information.