

Bill Hot Sheet

Week of January 26, 2026



AWC creates this list as an easy reference guide for certain bills of interest to cities. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list of the bills that AWC is [tracking](#) or taking a position on. The list is updated weekly, and bills may be removed, added, or moved within categories at any time.

Priority bills – Support

HB 2163 / SB 5913	Clarifying existing law to definitively provide rules on the public defender caseload standards set by the state Supreme Court take precedence over guidance set forth by the state Bar Association.	Both need committee hearings
HB 2442	This omnibus local government revenue flexibility and enhancement proposal includes updates to existing REET revenues to add nuisance abatement as an allowable use; creates a new local option REET authority for affordable housing; establishes a new local option sales tax for services for children and families; creates more flexibility for the existing local option housing sales tax; and expands the time frames for voter approved levy lid lifts to up to 10 years.	Needs committee vote
HB 2559 / SB 5576	Local option to adopt a 4% excise tax on short-term rental lodging advertised through a web platform. Local governments would receive the revenue generated in their jurisdiction. Authorized expenditures include operating and capital costs of affordable housing programs including homeless housing assistance, temporary shelters, and other related services, as well as housing infrastructure projects.	HB 2559 needs committee vote SB 5576 needs committee hearing
HB 1717	Local option to adopt state and local sales tax remittance program on affordable housing with equal revenue sharing to housing developers and city. City can use revenue for affordable housing, O&M of affordable or permanent supportive housing, and behavioral health treatment programs.	HB 1717 scheduled for committee vote

Other bills – Support

HB 2224 / SB 6037	Allows a city to form a single city fire district without having to reduce the city's existing property tax revenue. The new fire district has the same taxing authority as any other fire district.	SB 6037 & HB 2224 Passed committee
HB 2120 / SB 5879	Eliminates the JLARC lodging tax reporting requirement. This reporting requirement takes up staff time and is unnecessary given the other accountability and reporting requirements cities are subject to with regular audits.	HB 2120 voted out of committee SB 5879 needs committee vote
HB 2270	Allows small cities additional flexibility to use lodging taxes for specific infrastructure needs and tourist season law enforcement.	Needs committee hearing
HB 2349	Increases community notifications to include multiple city leaders when a sexually violent predator is to be released or discharged.	Scheduled for committee hearing
HB 2209	Adds sentencing enhancements for convictions of theft, robbery, or trafficking or possessing stolen property related to dollar-value thresholds.	Scheduled for committee vote
HB 1529	Exempts a county's paving and striping of city and town streets under interlocal agreement from statutory public works requirements.	Needs committee vote

Bill Hot Sheet

Week of January 26, 2026



HB 2374	Provides that vehicles that appear to be electric-assisted bicycles but do not meet criteria for existing classes of e-bicycles are not e-bicycles but e-motorcycles; provides that e-motorcycles are “motorcycles” under RCW; and creates work group to examine whether training or investments could facilitate rule compliance and help consumers distinguish between vehicles.	Needs committee vote
SB 6239	Bill address government liability challenges by requiring claims over \$15,000 against state and local government to go to arbitration prior to going to court. This alternative dispute resolution process is intended to reduce costs.	Scheduled for committee hearing
HB 2174 / SB 6066	Allows a county, city, town, or WSDOT to create an “crash prevention zone” identifying public roads where there have been multiple traffic collisions—after conducting an engineering and traffic investigation of public roads in the zone—and doubles penalties for certain traffic infractions in that zone in accordance with posted signage. Both bills were voted out of committee but an amendment to HB 2174 did not include language that AWC sought excluding zone-related materials from evidence in civil actions. AWC prefers SB 6066 , which includes that language.	HB 2174 voted out of committee but needs amendment SB 6066 voted out of committee
HB 2420	Brings the cost threshold for use of a small works roster to award public works contracts up from \$350,000 to \$500,000, with a further increase of \$30,000 each year for five years, starting July 1, 2026.	Scheduled for committee hearing

Other – Requesting amendments

SB 6002 / HB 2332	Creates regulations for use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology used by law enforcement. Helpfully clarifies that ALPR data is not subject to release for any non-law enforcement purpose unless by court order. We are requesting amendments to address concerns about the retention time limits and prohibits use of the data for solving misdemeanor crimes. SB 6002 was amended to address some concerns including the retention time. Additional work is still needed.	SB 6002 passed out of committee HB 2332 needs committee vote
SB 5855 / HB 2173	Creates a private right of action if a person is detained by a law enforcement officer wearing a face covering. AWC seeks an amendment to cap the liability award possible, since the officer would be sued in their official capacity creating liability for the employing jurisdiction.	SB 5855 voted out of committee HB 2173 needs committee vote
SB 6015	Provides state-approved “permit-ready” housing plans that do not get reviewed at the local permit counter for code compliance under the building code, energy code, or fire code. Directs L&I to develop model ordinances that cities must adopt.	Scheduled for hearing
SB 6110	Like HB 2374 , provides that vehicles that appear to be electric-assisted bicycles but do not meet criteria for existing classes of e-bicycles are not e-bicycles, but stops short of providing that such vehicles are “motorcycles” under RCW or defining e-motorcycles; similarly creates work group, but charges it with recommending a new statutory framework for e-motorcycles.	Scheduled for committee hearing

Bill Hot Sheet

Week of January 26, 2026



Opposed

HB 2266 / SB 6069	GMA planning jurisdictions must allow transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, and indoor emergency housing (STEP housing) in all zones except industrial. The bill removes the ability to require operating agreements as a condition of permitting for emergency housing.	HB 2266 scheduled for executive session SB 6069 scheduled for hearing
HB 1622	Requires public employers to bargain the decisions around the adoption of AI related technology. This interferes with management rights to make business decisions and can slow down implementation of new software. Public employers are already required to bargain the impacts of implementing new technology on wages, hours, and working conditions.	Set for Committee vote
HB 2489	Prohibits adoption or enforcement of ordinances restricting “life-sustaining activities” on public property unless the city or town can demonstrate that (a newly defined) “adequate alternative shelter space” was available. To be “available,” the shelter must be in the city and allow pets, partners, family members, other support persons, and the individual’s personal property. Allows for a cause of action against the city with a prevailing plaintiff entitled to attorney fees and costs.	Scheduled for committee vote
SB 5729	Deems a building permit complete if prepared, stamped, and signed by a professional engineer or architect under specified conditions. Deems a project permit application approved following three reviews or requests for additional information by the local government if it complies with the comprehensive plan and development regulations. Prohibits recovery of costs for third-party review of plans if city staff has the requisite license.	Scheduled for hearing
SB 6026 / HB 2480	Requires GMA cities over 30,000 to allow residential uses in commercial and mixed-use zones. Prohibits cities from requiring first-floor retail. Cities must comply within a year. Cities have expressed significant concerns with the restrictions around first-floor retail and the time frames for compliance.	SB 6026 Scheduled for committee vote HB 2480 Set for committee hearing
HB 2102	Restricts courts from ordering defendants to pay costs except specifically authorized by statute, and curtails cities’ ability to collect on fees and penalties, both going forward and retroactively.	Needs committee vote
HB 2614 / SB 6204	Legalizes cannabis home grows of up to six plants per person/15 plants per housing unit. Places entire burden of enforcement on local jurisdictions based on visibility, smell, and number of plants.	HB 2614 scheduled for committee hearing SB 6204 set for committee hearing

Notes:

- Upcoming deadlines: Policy Committee cut-off February 4; Fiscal Committee cut-off February 9
- Committee action indicates the bill needs to be heard and/or voted on by a policy or fiscal committee