

Washington Recreation & Park Association

End of Week 8 Report – March 7, 2026

Friday, March 6th marked the last deadline before the end of the 2026 Legislative Session, where bills needed to have passed both the House and Senate chambers to remain alive and under consideration this year. After a bill passes both chambers, the bill either proceeds to the Governor to be signed into law (or vetoed) or returns to the original chamber on the Concurrence Calendar, which means the bill was amended by the second chamber and must be reapproved in its new amended form by the original chamber.

Concurrence Calendar Process: To pass the legislature, bills on the concurrence calendar require reconciling the differences between the two versions passed by each chamber. The chamber of origin can either concur with the opposing chamber's amendments, ask them to recede from their amendments, or request a conference committee with a limited group of legislators to craft a compromise version of the bill. The House and Senate must reach an agreement on the final version of the bill prior to end of session, or the bill dies.

Governor Signing Process: Once a bill is passed by the Legislature and delivered to the Governor, he has 5 days (excluding Sundays) to act on the bill, or 20 days to act if the bill is delivered to him within 5 days of the end of session. The clock starts once a bill is delivered which could be within days of passage, or the House and Senate may strategically delay delivering the bill to the Governor, so he has more time to act on the bill. In Washington, the Governor has four options on bills that reach his desk: 1) Sign the bill into law 2) Veto the entire bill 3) Partially Veto the bill by removing entire sections 4) Not act on the bill at all (ignore it), then the bill would go into effect. The Governor does not have line-item veto authority which means removing sentences or words within a section of the bill.

Over the next 5 days, the legislature will focus on budget negotiations, bills on the *Concurrence Calendar* and bills that are *Necessary to Implement the Budget*. The final day of the 2026 Legislative Session is Thursday, March 12.

2026 Session Cutoff Dates

- ~~February 4, 2026: House of Origin Policy Cutoff~~
- ~~February 9, 2026: House of Origin Fiscal Cutoff~~
- ~~February 17, 2026: House of Origin Floor Cutoff~~
- ~~February 25, 2026: Opposite House Policy Cutoff~~
- ~~March 2, 2026: Opposite House Fiscal Cutoff~~
- ~~March 6, 2026: Opposite House Floor Cutoff~~
- **March 12, 2026: Last Day of Session**

“Millionaires’ Tax” Update

The highly discussed “millionaires’ tax” – an income tax on households making more than \$1m in income – continues to move along in the process. The bill ([Senate Bill 6346](#)) previously passed the Senate Chamber on a vote of 27-22. The bill has since been deliberated in the House, with a hearing in the Finance Committee and then passage out of that committee on February 27th. Since then, the bill has been sitting in the Rules Committee where legislators and the Governor’s Office continued to negotiate the bill.

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On Friday, March 6, a new [floor striker](#) (new version of the bill) was posted online. Shortly after this version was made public, the Governor [issued a press release](#) on the revised bill proposal communicating his support for this version of the bill. This appears to indicate that the legislature and Governor’s office have an agreement on this version of the tax proposal. The House will need to bring the bill to a floor vote in the next few days, and then the bill will need to head back to the Senate Chamber for a concurrence vote. As mentioned above, this all needs to happen by March 12, the last day of the session.

Budget Development

Lawmakers are currently meeting behind the scenes to negotiate differences between the House and Senate versions of the three supplemental biennial budgets – the Operating, Capital, and Transportation budgets. Once negotiations are complete, the final budgets will be released to the public – usually with only a couple days left in session.

Budget Proposal Links – all budgets can be found [at this link here](#).

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Priority
HB 1526	Snack bar liquor licenses	Modifying the snack bar liquor license.	S Passed 3rd	Schmick		
ESHB 2095 (Inactive)	Public way vulnerable users	Protecting vulnerable users of public ways.	S Law & Justice	Reed		
HB 2100 (Inactive) (SB 6093)	Payroll expense tax	Enacting an excise tax on large operating companies on the amount of payroll expenses above the minimum wage threshold of the additional medicare tax to fund services to benefit Washingtonians and establishing the Well Washington fund account.	H Finance	Scott		
HB 2101 (Inactive)	Live presentations/sales tax	Exempting live presentations from retail sales and use tax.	H Finance	Dufault		
HB 2121 (Inactive)	Nonprofits, schools/taxes	Exempting nonprofits and schools from certain sales and use taxes on services.	H Finance	Walsh		
HB 2128 (Inactive)	Alcohol service/recreational	Concerning alcohol service at facilities with sports, amusement, or recreational activities	H ConsPro&Bus	Steele		

		engaged in by patrons.				
HB 2130 (Inactive)	New 2025 taxes repeal	Repealing new taxes imposed by Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5814 during the 2025 regular legislative session.	H Finance	Orcutt		
SHB 2224 (Inactive) (2SSB 6037)	Fire protection districts	Concerning fire protection districts.	H Rules R	Stuebe		
SHB 2257 (Inactive) (ESSB 6113)	Tax administration	Concerning taxes administered by the department of revenue.	H Rules R	Berg	Support	
HB 2258 (Inactive)	Animal control excise tax	Authorizing cities and counties the ability to levy a household excise tax for the operation, maintenance, and capital needs of animal control and shelter systems.	H Finance	Parshley		
HB 2272 (SB 6013)	Ski areas and winter sports	Updating terminology related to ski areas and winter sports activities.	Del to Gov	Hall		
HB 2278 (Inactive)	Tourism promotion areas	Concerning tourism promotion areas.	H Rules R	Barnard		
SHB 2289 (Inactive) (ESSB 5998)	Operating budget, supp.	Making 2025-2027 fiscal biennium supplemental operating appropriations.	H Rules R	Ormsby		
SHB 2295 (SSB 6003)	Capital budget, supplemental	Concerning the capital budget.	H Rules R	Tharinger		
SHB 2306 (ESSB 6005)	Transportation budget, supp.	Making supplemental transportation appropriations for the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium.	H Rules R	Fey		
SHB 2374 (Inactive)	Electric motorcycle, bicycle	Concerning electric-assisted bicycle and electric motorcycle regulation.	S Transportation	Zahn	Support	
ESHB 2442 (SB 6294)	Local government fund use	Providing local governments tax	S Passed 3rd	Berg	Support	Monitoring

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		resources and fund flexibility.				
E2SHB 2451	Local tax increment fin.	Concerning local tax increment financing.	H Spkr Signed	Duerr		
HB 2480 (Inactive) (E2SSB 6026)	Residential dev./zones	Concerning residential development in commercial and mixed-use zones.	H Local Govt	Street		
SHB 2489 (Inactive)	Public space/local use laws	Establishing statewide standards for when local governments may enforce laws regulating the use of public space for life-sustaining activities.	H Rules R	Gregerson		
HB 2502 (Inactive)	Local gov./sales & use tax	Improving local government funding by removing certain sales and use tax exemptions.	H Finance	Wylie		
SHB 2530 (Inactive) (SSB 6189)	Aquatics/sports PFD deadline	Changing the deadline for forming a public facilities district for regional aquatics and sports facilities.	H Rules R	Doglio		
ESHB 2711 (Inactive)	Transportation resources	Concerning transportation resources.	S 2nd Reading	Fey		
HB 2724 (Inactive) (ESSB 6346)	Tax on millionaires	Establishing a tax on millionaires.	H Finance	Fitzgibbon		
E2SSB 5098 (Inactive)	Weapons in certain areas	Restricting the possession of weapons on the premises of state or local public buildings, parks or playground facilities where children are likely to be present, and county fairs and county fair facilities.	H Civil R & Judi	Valdez		
SSB 5379 (Inactive)	Parks & rec./interest arb.	Granting interest arbitration to certain parks and recreation commission employees.	S Ways & Means	Stanford		

SB 5980 (Inactive)	Live presentations/sales tax	Exempting live presentations from retail sales and use tax.	S Ways & Means	Torres		
ESSB 5998 (SHB 2289)	Operating budget, supp.	Making 2025-2027 fiscal biennium supplemental operating appropriations.	S Conf appt	Robinson		
SSB 6001 (Inactive) (SHB 2228)	Scissor stairs	Concerning scissor stair regulations in the state building code.	S Rules X	Bateman		
SSB 6003 (SHB 2295)	Capital budget, supplemental	Concerning the capital budget.	H 2nd Reading	Trudeau		
ESSB 6005 (SHB 2306)	Transportation budget, supp.	Making supplemental transportation appropriations for the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium.	S Conf appt	Liias		
SB 6013 (HB 2272)	Ski areas and winter sports	Updating terminology related to ski areas and winter sports activities.	H Rules R	Torres		
E2SSB 6026 (HB 2480)	Residential dev./zones	Concerning residential development in commercial and mixed-use zones.	H Passed 3rd	Alvarado		
2SSB 6037 (Inactive) (SHB 2224)	Fire protection districts	Concerning fire protection districts.	S Rules X	Cortes		
SB 6093 (Inactive) (HB 2100)	Payroll expense tax	Enacting an excise tax on large operating companies on the amount of payroll expenses above the minimum wage threshold of the additional medicare tax to fund services to benefit Washingtonians and establishing the Well Washington fund account.	S Ways & Means	Saldana		
ESSB 6110	Electric bicycle, motorcycle	Addressing electric-assisted bicycles and electric motorcycles.	H Passed 3rd	Shewmake	Support	
ESSB 6113 (SHB 2257)	Tax administration	Concerning taxes administered by the	H Passed 3rd	Frame	Support	

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		department of revenue.				
SB 6123 (Inactive)	Local gov. employees/PRA	Concerning the protection of voluntary supplied personal information of local government employees.	S State Gov/Trib	Conway		
ESSB 6162 (HB 2621)	Property tax	Concerning property tax reform.	H Passed 3rd	Krishnadasan		
SSB 6189 (SHB 2530)	Aquatics/sports PFD deadline	Changing the deadline for forming a public facilities district for regional aquatics and sports facilities.	H Spkr Signed	Bateman		
ESSB 6311	Pedestrian passage	Providing for continuous, safe, and accessible pedestrian passage during certain construction projects.	H 2nd Reading	Liias		
ESSB 6346 (HB 2724)	Tax on millionaires	Establishing a tax on millionaires.	H 2nd Reading	Pedersen		
SSB 6351 (Inactive)	School sales tax exemptions	Increasing fiscal resources for students and children by providing targeted sales tax exemptions for schools and certain before-and-after school care programs and arts and cultural classes.	H Finance	Cortes		
SB 6352 (Inactive)	Transportation resources	Concerning transportation resources.	S Transportation	Liias		