**April 15, 2011**

**Washington Fire Chiefs Legislative Committee Report**

**Fire Chief Wayne Senter**

The following is an update of those bills and activities that relate to our priority legislation issues. To listen to testimony on our bills, go to [http://www.tvw.org](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx) type in the bill number in the find box, hit enter and then click on watch video. Click on the bill numbers in this report to go directly to bill details.

Top Five Priority Issues

* **Simple Majority Vote for EMS levies:** [SB 5381](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1476&year=2011) ([1476](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1476&year=2011)) This bill was not successful based on some skepticism about the bill and some confusion about the Constitutional implications. We will continue to work with the fire commissioners on this one.
* **Barriers to install Residential Sprinklers:** [HB 1295](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1295&year=2011) ([5206](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5206&year=2011)) This bill was successful and is on its way to being signed into law.
* **RFA improvements:** ([1731](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1731&year=2011)) as well as others (1854) were successful and on their way to becoming law.
* **Wildland Urban Interface Code:** SB [5207](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5207&year=2011) (1505) This bill was not successful as it was met some push-back regarding local costs, effectiveness of the program and local control issues. We are exploring future proposals on this issue.
* **No Mans Land:** [HB 1506](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1506&year=2011) ([SB 5373](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5373&year=2011)) This bill was successful and is on its way to being signed into law.

**Other related issues alive this session:**

**Public Records Request Reform:** [SB 5685](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5685&year=2011) and [HB 1899](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1899&year=2011), changing penalty amounts for public records violations. HB 1899 has passed both the House and Senate and needs only a concurrence vote before it heads to the Governor’s desk for final signature.

**Volunteer License Plates:** [HB 1136](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1136&year=2011), One amendment was added that provides the WSFFA with funding for their FF memorial fund. The House concurred in the Senate’s amendments, and the bill is on its way to becoming law.

**WABO Mutual Aid:** [HB 1406](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1406&year=2011) ([5221](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5221&year=2011)) This bill passed and is on its way to the Governor’s office for final signature.

**Intrastate Mutual Aid:** [HB 1585](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1585&year=2011) ([5420](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5420&year=2011)) This bill passed and is on its way to the Governor’s office for final signature.

**Ambulance Utility:** [HB 1596](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1596&year=2011) ([5493](http://www.tvw.org)) This bill passed and is on its way to the Governor’s office for final signature.

**Child care facilities located in publicly-owned buildings:** [HB 1776](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1776&year=2011) This bill passed and is on its way to the Governor’s office for final signature.

**HB 1478 provides local governments with more time to meet certain statutory requirements**, including a three-year delayed implementation of biofuel standards for vehicles. This bill passed the Senate with a favorable amendment. We are working on a concurrence vote by the House to send this to the Governor’s office for final signature.

**Other related issues that are dead this session:**

**Black Powder:** [HB 1066](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1066&year=2011)

**Fire Sprinkler Bill:** [HB 1155](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1155&year=2011)

**Death Benefit:** [SB 5160](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5160&year=2011) ([1450](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1450&year=2011)

**Public Records Request Reform:** [HB 1034](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1034&year=2011) ([SB 5025](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5025&year=2011)), [HB 1299](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1299&year=2011) ([SB 5089](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5089&year=2011)), [HB 1300](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1300&year=2011) ([SB 5088](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5088&year=2011)), and [HB 1044](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1044&year=2011) ([5049](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5237&year=2011)).

**Ballot Title Changes:** [HB 1158](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1158&year=2011)

**Fire Districts Annexations:** [SB 5143](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5143&year=2011) ([1799](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1799&year=2011)) [HB 1627](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1627&year=2011) ([5491](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5491&year=2011))

**Public Safety Authorities:** [HB 1230](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1230&year=2011) ([5155](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5155&year=2011))

**Presumptive coverage:** [SB 5354](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5354&year=2011) ([1445](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1445&year=2011)) [HB 1444](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1444&year=2011) ([5353](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5353&year=2011))

**Volunteer Pension:** [SB 5365](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5365&year=2011)

**Alternative Fuel requirements:** [HB 1141](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1141&year=2011)

**Providing flexibility for school districts:** [HB 1025](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=1025&year=2011)

**Modifying hospital and emergency service personnel reporting requirements to law enforcement**: [SB 5671](http://dlr.leg.wa.gov/billsummary/default.aspx?bill=5671&year=2011)

**HB 1702 obligates counties, cities, and towns to adopt deferral systems** for the collection of impact fees

**SB 5638** – concerning the exemption of flood control zone districts that are coextensive with a county from certain limitations upon regular property tax levies.

**Budget Issues:**

E-911 is fully funded in the current budget proposals.

LEOFF consolidation, we are studying this issue and will develop a position early next week. HB 2097 was introduced this past week, and has yet to be scheduled for public hearing. This will likely be part of end-game budget negotiations.

Sweep of LEOFF funds, we testified against this regressive move. HB 2068 and 2071 received public hearing on 4/14 in the House Ways & Means Committee. We are working with the State Council and other LEOFF 2 members in opposition to these bills.