



# Washington Fire Chiefs Legislative Report

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## Session Update

The 60-day 2014 legislative session got underway Monday, January 13. One of the first orders of business was to adopt a cutoff calendar that serves as deadlines to move bills from policy committees, fiscal committees, chamber of origin (House or Senate), and so on.

This year's cutoff calendar:

**January 13, 2014** First Day of Session

**February 7, 2014** Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.

**February 11, 2014** Last day to read in committee reports from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees in house of origin.

**February 18, 2014** Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).

**February 28, 2014** Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.

**March 3, 2014** Last day to read in opposite house committee reports from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.

**March 7, 2014\*** Last day to consider opposite house bills (5 p.m.) (Except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session).

**March 13, 2014** Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

\* After the 54th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, messages pertaining to amendments,

differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.

As always, if the legislature cannot complete its business in the 60-day session, it may be called back for a special session of up to 30 days. Currently, legislators are hopeful that all work can be finished in the 60-day period and that no special session(s) will be necessary.

**The following bill numbers are hyperlinked to the actual wording, status and companion bills. Once it is available hyperlinks of the hearing will be provided.**

## Top Five Issues

- Raise EMS Levy Cap to \$.75 – [HB 1136](#)
  - Awaiting hearing in House Finance Committee
- All Risk Mobilization [HB 1126](#) & SB 6003
  - HB 1126 will be heard in House Public Safety Committee on Jan 24
  - Awaiting hearing on SB 6003 in Senate Government Operations Committee
- Oppose Ambulance Billing Direct to Patient [HB 1263](#)
  - Working off-line with the insurance providers, Senator Jan Angel, and Rep. Dawn Morrell to ensure
- Allowing Municipality to Form RFA [HB 1654](#) & SB 5520
  - WSCFF taking the lead; both bills awaiting action in 2014.
- Allowing Renewal of Benefit Charge via Simple Majority for Fire Districts [HB 1486](#) & SB 5331
  - WSCFF taking the lead; both bills awaiting action in 2014.

### **Other Priority Bills**

- [HB 2266](#)/SB 6075 – allowing fire department and RFA personnel to do small public works projects under \$20,000
  - HB 2266 is scheduled for hearing in House Local Gov. Committee on Jan 22 at 8:00 am

- SB 6075 is scheduled for hearing in Senate Government Operations Committee on Jan 23 at 10:00 am

WFC Position: Support (Unintended consequences may have been created by the proposed solution, researching that issue now)

- [HB 2278](#) – removing the requirement that a fire district be “rural,” as defined as 10 or fewer persons per square mile, for the purposes of entering into an interlocal agreement with an adjacent city with an ambulance service
  - Scheduled for hearing in House Local Gov. Committee on Jan 22 at 8:00 am

WFC Position: Support

- [HB 2401](#) – requiring all battery-powered smoke detectors sold in Washington to have non-removable, non-replaceable ten-year batteries
  - Scheduled for hearing in House Local Gov Committee on Jan 23 at 10:00 am

WFC Position: Support

### **Other Bills of Interest**

- [HB 2255](#) – Concerning ambulance seat belt notification, air bags, and driver training.
  - Scheduled for hearing in House Transportation Committee on Jan 20 at 3:30 pm
- [HB 2260](#) – Concerning dwelling unit fire protection sprinkler systems
  - Scheduled for hearing in House Labor & Workforce Development Committee on Jan 23 at 8:00 am
- [HB 2347](#)/SB 6262 – Enhancing the safety of the transportation of oil.
  - 2347 scheduled for hearing in House Environment Committee on Jan 23 at 1:30 pm
  - 6262 awaiting action in Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee
- [HB 2124](#)/SB 5971 – Concerning the continuity of government and operations in the event of an emergency, disaster, or attack.
  - 2124 is scheduled for hearing in House Public Safety Committee on Jan 21 at 10:00 am
  - Awaiting hearing on SB 5971
- [HB 2239](#) – Exempting the identity of a caller to an enhanced 911 emergency communications system from the public records act.

- Awaiting action in House Government Operations & Elections Committee
- [HB 2128](#)/SB 6217 – Creating a public disclosure exemption for global positioning system data that shows the residence of an employee or agent of a criminal justice agency.
  - 2128 received [hearing](#) in House Government Ops & Elections Committee on Jan 15
  - 6217 awaiting action in Senate Gov Ops Committee
- [HB 2121](#)/SB 5964 – Concerning training public officials and employees regarding public records, records management, and open public meetings requirements.
  - 2121 received [hearing](#) in House Gov Ops on Jan 14; scheduled for Executive Session on Jan 21
  - 5964 received [hearing](#) in Senate Gov Ops on Jan 16
- [HB 2105](#) – Promoting transparency in government by requiring public agencies with governing bodies to post their agendas online in advance of meetings.
  - Received [hearing](#) in House Gov Ops on Jan 14; scheduled for executive session on Jan 21
- [HB 2456](#) – Correcting the expiration date of a definition of firefighter.
  - Scheduled for hearing in House Appropriations on Jan 23 at 3:30 pm
- [HB 2428](#) – Concerning authorizations of proposals for emergency medical care and service levies.
  - Awaiting action in House Finance Committee
- [SB 6183](#) – Requiring public employee collective bargaining sessions to be open meetings.
  - Awaiting action in Senate Government Operations Committee
- [SB 6199](#) – Addressing wildfires caused by incendiary devices.
  - Awaiting action in Senate Natural Resources Committee
- [SB 6201](#) – Creating an optional life annuity benefit for plan 2 members of the law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system.
  - Awaiting action in Senate Ways & Means Committee
- [HB 2103](#)/SB 5972 – Specifying recovery for fire damages to public or private forested lands.
  - 2103 scheduled for hearing in House Agriculture & Natural Resources on Jan 24 at 1:30 pm

- 5972 received [hearing](#) in Senate Natural Resources on Jan 14
- [SB 6048](#) – Concerning flame retardants (Hargrove)
  - Awaiting action in Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee
- [SB 5984](#) – Concerning flame retardants (Erickson)
  - Awaiting action in Senate, Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee
- [HB 1287](#)/SB 6162 – Subjecting federally recognized Indian tribes to the same conditions as state and local governments for property owned exclusively by the tribe.
- [SB 6172](#) – Protecting Washington citizens from warrantless surveillance, reducing liability, and establishing clear standards under which agencies may utilize unmanned aerial vehicles.
- [HB 2178](#) – Concerning unmanned aircraft. [Hearing](#) was held on January 16, 2014.
- [HB 2179](#) – Regarding government surveillance conducted with extraordinary sensing devices. [Hearing](#) was held on January 16, 2014.
- [HB 2479](#) – Placing restrictions on retired law enforcement officers and firefighters employed in certain public positions.
- [HB 2498](#) – Establishing a process for the payment of impact fees through provisions stipulated in recorded covenants.
- [SB 6244](#) – Placing restrictions on when representation under a public collective bargaining agreement may be challenged.
- [SB 6250](#) – Requiring submission of digital copies of public employees' collective bargaining agreements.
- [SB 6300](#) – Protecting public sector workers' rights through public disclosure of public sector unions' finances.
- [SB 6302](#) – Addressing health insurance coverage of emergency services and conforming with certain provisions of federal law.
- [SB 6306](#) – Exempting certain fire districts from use tax on vehicle purchases.
- [SB 6308](#) – Addressing bonuses paid to local government employees.