

Ecology Water Resources - Bills of Interest, 2025 Legislative Session - March 21, 2025

Active House Bills					
Bill No.	Bill Title	Prime Sponsor	Bill Description	Committee Activity	Progress
Active Senate Bills					
Bill No.	Bill Title	Prime Sponsor	Bill Description	Committee Activity	Progress
SB 5212	Relating to filing of adjudication claims for precode uses of groundwater and surface water in the water resource inventory area 1 water rights adjudication	Shewmake	Allows water users in the WRIA 1 general water rights adjudication to submit water right claims that have not previously been registered with Ecology's water right claims registry. <i>Substitute bill:</i> Subordinates any unregistered claims filed through the adjudication to existing permits, certificates, and claims registered prior to 1997.	SENATE Agriculture and Natural Resources: 1/16: Public hearing 1/30: Executive session HOUSE Agriculture and Natural Resources 3/19: Public hearing 3/21: Executive session	SENATE 1/13, First reading, referred to AgNR 1/30: Do pass with amendment 2/3: Referred to Rules 2/5: Placed on consent calendar 2/12: Third reading, passed 49-0 HOUSE 2/17: First reading, referred to AgNR 3/21: Do Pass
SB 5303	Extending the water supply milestone for the Yakima river basin integrated plan to 2035	Warnick	Extends the deadline to meet the RCW 90.38 new water storage goal of 214,000 acre-feet from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2035. <i>Substitute bill:</i> Clarifies the state treasurer's role in preparing supplementary chapters to cost estimate and financing report required under chapter 90.38 RCW. <i>Engrossed substitute bill:</i> Adds an expiration date of June 30, 2025, for interest payments to the department of natural resources required under RCW 90.38.130.	SENATE Agriculture and Natural Resources: 1/16: Public hearing 1/30: Executive session HOUSE Agriculture and Natural Resources 3/19: Public hearing 3/28: Executive session	SENATE 1/16: First reading, First reading, referred to AgNR 1/30: Do pass with amendment 2/3: Referred to Rules 2/5: Placed on second reading 2/12: Floor amendment adopted Third reading, passed 49-0 HOUSE 2/17: First reading, referred to AgNR
Active FYI Bills					
Bill No.	Bill Title	Prime Sponsor	Bill Description	Committee Activity	Progress
Inactive Bills					
Bill No.	Bill Title	Prime Sponsor	Bill Description	Committee Activity	Progress
HB 1691	Extending the water supply milestone for the Yakima river basin integrated plan to 2035	Dent	Extends the deadline to meet the RCW 90.38 new water storage goal of 214,000 acre-feet from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2035.	HOUSE Agriculture and Natural Resources:	HOUSE 1/29: First reading, referred to AgNR
SB 5261	Issuing water right permits for nonconsumptive hydropower use in water resource inventory areas in which minimum instream flows are not being met	Shewmake	This bill authorizes Ecology to permit small non-consumptive hydropower (<25kW) projects located in watersheds with unmet regulated surface flows. Ecology would be required to consult with WDFW and affected Tribes.	SENATE Agriculture and Natural Resources:	SENATE 1/14: First reading, First reading, referred to AgNR
SB 5640	Requiring proof of adequate water supply before permitting new energy facilities	Boehnke	Requires applicants for EFSEC certification of new energy facilities to demonstrate adequate water supply in project proposals.	SENATE Environment, Energy, and Technology:	SENATE 2/3: First reading, referred to EET
Inactive FYI Bills					
Bill No.	Bill Title	Prime Sponsor	Bill Description	Committee Activity	Progress
HB 1010	Authorizing accessory dwelling units in rural areas.	Low	Expands the authority of counties to authorize construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in rural areas. Population associated with new ADUs will not be counted toward rural or urban growth targets as part of planning processes.	HOUSE Housing:	HOUSE 1/13: First reading, referred to Housing
HB 1818	Concerning the administration of plats	Penner	Revises and updates regulations for approval of new subdivisions of land.	HOUSE Local Government: 2/11: Public hearing	HOUSE 2/4: First reading, referred to LG
SB 5413	Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside urban growth areas.	Lovelett	Authorizes counties to allow detached accessory dwelling units (ADUs) outside of urban growth areas and defines minimum regulatory requirements.	SENATE Housing:	SENATE 1/22: First reading, referred to Housing
SB 5633	Concerning the administration of plats	Lovelett	Revises and updates regulations for approval of new subdivisions of land.	HOUSE Local Government: 2/20: Public hearing	SENATE 2/3: First reading, referred to LG
HB 1345	Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside of urban growth areas.	Low	Authorizes counties to allow detached accessory dwelling units (ADUs) outside of urban growth areas (UGAs). Requires ADUs authorized outside of UGAs to meet the water supply requirements of RCW 19.27.097, limits usage to the limits defined in RCW 90.44.050, and requires meters on water use.	HOUSE Housing: 1/27: Public hearing 2/6: Executive session	HOUSE 1/16: First reading, referred to Housing 2/6: Do pass 2/10: Referred to Rules 3/6: Placed on second reading
SB 5117	Relating to protecting agriculture	Muzzall	Requires state agencies to analyze impacts to agriculture and perform agricultural economic assessments when considering significant actions. Directs Office of Financial Management to develop a fiscal note process to identify impacts to agriculture from legislation and regulation. <i>Substitute bill:</i> Removes requirements for state agencies to perform agricultural assessments for significant actions.	SENATE Agriculture and Natural Resources: 1/16: Public hearing 2/20: Executive session Ways and Means: 2/26: Public hearing	SENATE 1/13: First reading, referred to AgNR 2/20: Do pass with amendment Referred to Rules 2/21: Referred to Ways and Means
SB 5470	Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside urban growth areas	Goehner	Authorizes counties to allow detached accessory dwelling units (ADUs) outside of urban growth areas and defines minimum regulatory requirements. Specifies that ADUs are subject to the water supply requirements of RCW 19.27.097 (evidence of adequate water supply). <i>Substitute bill:</i> Adds usage limitation defined in RCW 90.44.050 and requires meters on water use.	SENATE Housing: 1/31: Public hearing 2/7: Executive session 2/12: Executive session Ways and Means: 2/20: Executive session	SENATE 1/23: First reading, referred to Housing 2/12: Do pass with amendments 2/13: Referred to Ways and Means 2/20: Referred to Rules without recommendation 3/3: Placed on second read