

Weekly Legislative Update: **Housing and Homelessness**

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The last week completed the floor action by the House and Senate for the Tuesday, February 15 cutoff, with committee hearings on Wednesday through Friday. During the lengthy and tough deliberations on the floor, there was not enough time to get to all of the bills that had been waiting in the Rules Committee to be pulled for floor action before the cutoff. Here are some of the bills that made it all the way to the Rules Committee but did not make it to the floor for a vote by the cutoff:

- SB 5043 Relating to the provision of housing for school district employees
- SB 5576 Addressing landlord-tenant relations by providing technical changes to eviction notice and summons
- HB 1100 Concerning the sale or lease of manufactured/mobile home communities and the property on which they sits forms and modifying certain eviction processes and programs.
- HB 1300 Addressing documentation and processes governing landlords' claims for damage to residential premises
- HB 1904 Protecting tenants from excessive rent and related fees by providing at least six months' notice for rent increases over a certain amount, allowing tenants the right to terminate a tenancy, and limiting late fees.
- HB 2048 Concerning temporary assistance for needy families time limit extensions.

However, some bills did progress, and we appreciate those of you who signed in PRO last week for public hearings. Those bills will have executive session committee votes in the week ahead. Now the following are some additional bills that could use your help in the week ahead.

Bills Needing Action This Week

The following two bills will have public hearings on Monday, February 21, at 10:00 am. If you are able to sign on PRO before 9:00 am on Monday, please do so as indicated.

⚠️ **SB 5868 Expanding the use of the rural counties public facilities sales and use tax to include affordable workforce housing.** This bill passed the Senate and is scheduled for public hearing in the House Finance Committee on Monday, February 21 at 10:00 am. If you are able to **sign on PRO before 9:00 am on Monday morning, please do so [here](#).**

⚠️ **[SB 5832](#) Expanding the multifamily tax exemption program to include converting existing multifamily units.** This bill passed the Senate and is scheduled for public hearing in the House Finance Committee on Monday, February 21 at 10:00 am. If you are able to **sign on PRO before 9:00 am on Monday morning, please do so [here](#).**

In addition, the following bill has a public hearing at 8:00 am on February 22 in the Senate Housing & Local Government Committee. If you are able to sign on PRO before 7:00 am on Tuesday, please do so as indicated.

⚠️ **[HB 1724](#) Ensuring oversight and coordination of permanent supportive housing resources to maximize the creation of high-quality housing opportunities for people living with disabling conditions in communities across Washington.** This bill passed the House and is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Housing & Local Government Committee at 8:00 am on Tuesday, February 22. If you are able to **sign on PRO before 7:00 am on Tuesday morning, please do so [here](#).**

The next cutoff is Wednesday next week, February 24. By that date, policy bills must pass out of the policy committees in the opposite chamber.

How You Can Be Involved

- During the legislative session we will send Action Alerts in the [Legislative Newsletter](#). Please respond to these, which will direct you to an application to facilitate communicating with your legislators on an important vote in committees or on the chamber floor.
- Local Leagues in Washington have action chairs who coordinate action teams. Some local Leagues have education teams to take action locally. Contact your local League action chair to find out and join.
- You may also express your opinion on legislation with the LWVWA issue chairs. We will take your perspectives under considerations as we determine our support for legislation and prepare testimony. Cynthia Stewart, Growth Management Issue Chair, cstewart@lwvwa.org