

Weekly Legislative Update: **Growth Management**

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February 12, 2023

Coming Up This Week

When you sign in “Pro”, you may express support for bills in hearings with the online process. Remember, only authorized members can speak for the League; the Issue Chairs will do that, so please leave the “Organization” box blank. A more powerful influence is many voices speaking for themselves rather than many voices speaking for the League.

SB 5412 Reducing local governments' land use permitting workloads. This bill passed the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee on February 7 and has been referred to the Transportation Committee where it has a public hearing on Monday, February 20 at 1:30 pm.

Please sign in PRO [here](#) before 12:30 pm on Monday.

HB 1611 Local government permitting. This bill passed the House Housing Committee on February 7 and has been referred to the Finance Committee, where it is scheduled for public hearing on Tuesday, February 21 at 8:00 am.

Please sign in PRO [here](#) before 7:00 am on Tuesday.

Bills that Passed

HB 1620 Concerning the number of inhabitants required for incorporation as a city or town would remove the requirement that an area must have at least 3,000 inhabitants, instead of the otherwise standard 1,500, to incorporate if it is within 5 air miles of a city with a population of 15,000 or more. This bill passed the House Local Government Committee as a substitute on February 3 and moved through the Rules Committee to the floor, where it passed as a substitute on February 9. It has been referred to the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee.

Updates

Note that some bills are in fiscal committees but have not been scheduled for public hearings or executive sessions yet in those committees. However, the fiscal committees have each reserved open agendas for referrals during the week ahead; but that timing prevents us from asking you to help with the bills by signing in. The cut-off for bills from fiscal committees is next Friday, February 24.

Bills in Rules Committee

SB 5235 Concerning accessory dwelling units. This passed the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee as a substitute on February 9 and has been referred to the Rules Committee, where it is now on second reading.

HB 1401 Allowing cities and counties to create a simple, standardized housing permit process for affordable housing units in areas designated for housing. This bill passed the House Housing Committee on February 2 and has been referred to the Rules Committee.

HB 1245/SB 5364 Increasing housing options through lot splitting, HB 1245 passed the House Housing Committee as a substitute on February 2 and has been referred to the Rules Committee. It is on second reading. **SB 5364** passed the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee as a substitute and is now in the Senate Rules Committee.

SB 5203/HB 1181 Improving the state's response to climate change by updating the state's planning framework. **SB 5203** passed the Senate Local Government, Land Use and Tribal Affairs Committee as a substitute and has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee but has not yet been scheduled for public hearing in that committee. **HB 1181** was passed out of the House Local Government Committee as a substitute bill and referred to the House Appropriations Committee, from which it passed as a second substitute and it is now in the House Rules Committee.

Other

HB 1133/SB 5357 Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside urban growth areas. (*Recall that League is watching this, in case it is amended to allow more than nominal change in rural areas.*) **HB 1133** had a public hearing on January 19 and was passed out of the House Housing Committee as a substitute bill on January 26. It is now in the House Rules Committee. **SB 5357** had a public hearing in the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee on January 26 but has not been scheduled for executive session.

HB 1167 Concerning residential housing regulations, establishes a grant program to assist counties and cities adopt preapproved middle housing plans and prohibits a city or county from imposing any regulations, reviews, or standards on multiplex housing that is not applied to detached single family residences. This bill passed the House Housing Committee as a substitute on February 2 and has been referred to the House Appropriations Committee. This bill had a public hearing in that committee on February 15 but has not been scheduled for executive session yet.

HB 1351/SB 5456 Encouraging transit-oriented development through a prohibition on the imposition of minimum parking requirements. **HB 1351** passed the House Local Government Committee on February 8 and has been referred to the House Rules Committee. **SB 5456** had a public hearing in the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee but no action was taken in executive session.

HB 1425 Facilitating municipal annexations, would require an interlocal agreement for annexed areas in which a sales and use tax is imposed to address certain criteria regarding loss and gain of revenue, development and ownership of infrastructure, and revenue sharing agreements. This bill passed the House Local Government Committee on February 3 and was referred to the Finance Committee, where it had a public hearing on February 16. It is scheduled for executive session on February 21.

HB 1723/SB 5651 Concerning equity and environmental justice in the growth management act would add environmental justice and equity as a goal in the Growth Management Act and as an element in local comprehensive plans. **HB 1723** had a public hearing on February 14 in the House Local Government Committee but has not been scheduled for executive session. **SB 5651** passed the Senate State Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee as a substitute on February 16 and has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee but has not been scheduled for public hearing yet.

HB 1735 Adding net ecological gain as a voluntary element of comprehensive plans under the growth management act passed the House Environment and Energy Committee on February 13 and was referred to the Appropriations Committee, where it has not yet been scheduled for public hearing.

SB 5190/HB 1110 Increasing middle housing in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing. **SB 5190** was passed from the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs on January 12 and referred to the Senate Housing Committee, where it was moved out of committee as a substitute bill and has been referred to the Ways & Means Committee but has not yet been scheduled for public hearing in that committee. **HB 1110** passed the House Housing Committee on February 7 as a substitute and has been referred to the Appropriations Committee but has not yet been scheduled for public hearing in that committee.

SB 5466 Promoting transit-oriented development, passed the Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee on February 7 and was referred to the Transportation Committee where it had a public hearing on February 13. It is scheduled for executive session on February 21.

How You Can Be Involved

- Respond to Action Alerts in the legislative newsletter. These will primarily appear in the section of the newsletter related to growth management.
- Contact Cynthia Stewart, cstewart@lwwwa.org, to receive additional information.