



## **February 20, 2014 - South Sound Chamber of Commerce Legislative Coalition Detail Bill Report compiled by our lobbyist Carolyn Logue of CA Logue Public Affairs.**

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*The South Sound Chamber of Commerce Legislative Coalition (SSCCLC) was formed to advocate for business and business-related policies impacting the South Sound region before the Legislature, Statewide elected officials such as the Governor, and other departments, agencies, boards and commissions. Member Chambers include: Auburn Area (Auburn, Algona and Pacific), Covington, Federal Way, Fife/Milton/Edgewood, Kent, Puyallup-Sumner, Renton and Southwest King County (Tukwila, Burien & Des Moines) Chambers of Commerce. Collectively, we represent approximately 3,262 businesses employing more than 185,977 workers in the South King County and North Pierce County region.*

*The primary goals of our Coalition are increasing jobs, competitiveness, and regional productivity. The South King and Pierce County region is an economic powerhouse for the state with significant manufacturing, retail, service and warehousing industries. In addition, it sits between the state's two largest seaports and highways in the region serve as major corridors for both north-south and east-west travel. Improving the ability move goods through increased freight mobility, move people by reducing traffic congestion, create jobs through reasonable regulations, and ensuring an educated workforce is not only important for the South Sound region is also important to the state's overall economy.*

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Health Care & Wellness (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/20 @ 10:00am**

- E2SSB 5540 - Exec Session - Expanding opportunities to purchase health care coverage from out-of-state carriers.

#### **Higher Education (Senate) - SHR 3, - 2/20 @ 1:30pm**

- SHB 2612 - Public Hearing - Changing provisions relating to the opportunity scholarship.

#### **Natural Resources & Parks (Senate) - SHR 1, - 2/20 @ 1:30pm**

- SHB 2261 - Public Hearing - Concerning the use of science to support significant agency actions.

#### **Health Care & Wellness (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/24 @ 1:30pm**

- ESSB 6016 - Public Hearing - Concerning the grace period for enrollees of the Washington health benefit exchange.
- ESSB 6228 - Public Hearing - Concerning transparency tools for consumer information on health care cost and quality.

**Government Operations & Elections (House) - HHR E, JLOB - 2/25 @ 10:00am**

- SB 6045 - Public Hearing - Promoting economic development through enhancing transparency and predictability of state agency permitting and review processes.
- SB 6045 - Exec Session - Promoting economic development through enhancing transparency and predictability of state agency permitting and review processes.

**Higher Education (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/25 @ 10:00am**

- E2SSB 6423 - Public Hearing - Changing provisions relating to the opportunity scholarship.

**Health Care & Wellness (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/26 @ 8:00am**

- E2SSB 5540 - Exec Session - Expanding opportunities to purchase health care coverage from out-of-state carriers.
- ESSB 6016 - Exec Session - Concerning the grace period for enrollees of the Washington health benefit exchange.
- ESSB 6228 - Exec Session - Concerning transparency tools for consumer information on health care cost and quality.

**Higher Education (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/26 @ 1:30pm**

- E2SSB 6423 - Exec Session - Changing provisions relating to the opportunity scholarship.

**Trade & Economic Development (Senate) - SHR 3, - 2/27 @ 8:00am**

- E2SHB 2192 - Public Hearing - Promoting economic development through enhancing transparency and predictability of state agency permitting and review processes.
- E2SHB 2192 - Exec Session - Promoting economic development through enhancing transparency and predictability of state agency permitting and review processes.

**BUSINESS AND CAPITAL**

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Position</u>
<a href="#"><b>ESHB 1287</b></a> Indian tribes/property tax Exempts private properties purchased by tribes from traditional property tax. This will result in a tax shift to other non-tribal businesses	S Ways & Means	Appleton	High	Oppose

HB 1287-S - DIGEST Addresses the leasehold tax and property taxes for property owned by a federally recognized Indian tribe.

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<a href="#"><u>HB 1462</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 5158)</u></a>	<b>Minimum wage and overtime</b>	H Labor/Work Dev	Manweller	High	Support
	Creating a good faith defense for certain minimum wage and overtime compensation complaints.				
	Creates a good faith defense for certain minimum wage and overtime compensation complaints.				
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<a href="#"><u>E2SHB</u></a> <a href="#"><u>2192 (SB</u></a> <a href="#"><u>6045)</u></a>	<b>State agency permitting</b>	S Trade & Economi	Smith	High	Support
	Promoting development through enhancing transparency and predictability of state agency permitting and review process.				
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<a href="#"><u>HB 2192-S2</u></a> - DIGEST	Requires certain agencies to: (1) Track and record the time it takes to make permitting decisions with regard to business permit applications; and (2) Prepare and submit to the office of regulatory assistance an inventory of all the permits that it issues. Requires the office of the chief information officer in consultation with the office of regulatory assistance, in order to ensure that agencies can post required information online with minimal expenditure of agency resources, to establish a central repository of this information, hosted on the office of regulatory assistance's web site. Provides that this act is null and void if appropriations are not approved.				
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<a href="#"><u>SHB 2201</u></a>	<b>State tax preferences</b>	H Passed 3rd	Carlyle	Medium	Concerns
	Improving fiscal accountability and transparency standards with respect to state tax preferences.				
	Establishes consistent standards for the collection of data to improve analysis of tax preferences and their benefits and public policy objective outcomes for taxpayers and relevant industries. Makes the information subject to public disclosure wherever possible to enable and improve lawmakers' and the public's understanding of the benefits and costs of tax preferences and ensures that the release of the information does not cause economic harm to taxpayers claiming the preferences.				
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<a href="#"><u>SHB 2261</u></a>	<b>Science use/agency actions</b>	S Natural Resourc	Short	High	Support
	Use of science to support significant agency actions.				
	Requires the department of fish and wildlife to identify and categorize on the department's web site each source of information, that it relies on in the course of preparing to take significant agency action, in the form of a bibliography, citation list, or similar list of sources.				
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<a href="#"><u>SHB 2262</u></a>	<b>Science use/agency actions</b>	S Energy, Environ	Short	High	Support
	Use of science to support significant agency actions.				
	Requires the department of ecology to identify and categorize each source of information, that it relies on in the course of preparing to take significant agency action, in the form of a bibliography, citation list, or similar list of sources.				
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<a href="#"><u>HB 2332</u></a>	<b>Wage violations, damages for</b>	S Commerce and La	Sawyer	High	Oppose
	Providing damages for wage violations.				

Provides damages for wage violations.

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<b>Employee antiretaliation act</b>	S Commerce and La	Ryu	High	Oppose
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Employment anti-retaliation act

[2SHB 2333](#)

Addresses retaliating and discriminating against employees and providing protection for employees with regard to the minimum wage act, the industrial welfare act, the wage payment act, prevailing wage provisions, and wage deduction provisions.

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<b>Employee status</b>	S Commerce and La	Riccelli	High	Oppose
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Ensure fairness to employers and employees

[HB 2334](#)

Establishes the employee fair classification act. Improves compliance with wage-related laws to help address the problems of the underground economy, level the playing field for honest employers and contractors, and protect workers.

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<b>Electrician certification</b>	S Commerce and La	Reykdal	Medium	Concerns
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Requiring completion of an apprenticeship program to receive a journeyman or residential specialty electrician certificate of competency

[ESHB 2500](#)

HB 2500-S - DIGEST Requires completion of an apprenticeship program to receive a journey level or residential specialty electrician certificate of competency.

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<b>Prevailing rate of wage</b>	S Commerce and La	Ormsby	Medium	Concerns
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Establishing the prevailing rate of wage based on collective bargaining agreements or other methods if collective bargaining agreements are not available.

[HB 2527](#)

Requires the industrial statistician to establish the prevailing rate of wage: (1) By adopting the hourly wage, usual benefits, and overtime pay established in collective bargaining agreements for those trades and occupations that have collective bargaining agreements; and (2) For those trades and occupations that have no collective bargaining agreements, by conducting wage and hour surveys.

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<b>Government contracting</b>	S Govt Ops	Hunt	High	Oppose
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Protecting taxpayers by providing for accountability and transparency in government contracting.

[2SHB 2743](#)  
[\(SB 6548\)](#)

Establishes the taxpayer protection act. Requires state agencies to conduct a comprehensive impact statement before issuing a request for a proposal to contract out to purchase services from a private sector entity or nonprofit organization that have been customarily and historically provided by a public employee or employees.

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<b>Struct. settlements/workers</b>	H Labor/Work Dev	Holmquist Newbry	High	Support
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Amending provisions governing structured settlements by removing age barriers and clarifying legislative intent.

[2ESSB](#)  
[5127 \(HB](#)  
[1097\)](#)

SB 5127-S.E - DIGEST Lowers age barriers and clarifies legislative intent with regard to structured settlements.

<a href="#"><u>SB 5158</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 1462)</u></a>	<b>Minimum wage and overtime</b>	H Labor/Work Dev	Braun	High	Support
	Creating a good faith defense for certain minimum wage and overtime compensation complaints.				
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<a href="#"><u>E2SSB</u></a> <a href="#"><u>5540</u></a>	<b>Health coverage/out-of-state</b>	H HC/Wellness	Parlette	High	Support
	Expanding opportunities to purchase health care coverage from out-of-state carriers.				
	SB 5540-S2 - DIGEST Expands opportunities to purchase health care coverage from out-of-state carriers by: (1) Exempting health benefit plans from certain statutory requirements; and (2) Authorizing the insurance commissioner to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states.				
<a href="#"><u>ESSB 6016</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 2571)</u></a>	<b>Health benefit exchange</b>	H HC/Wellness	Rivers	Medium	Concerns
	Ensuring continuity of care for enrollees of the Washington health benefit exchange during grace periods.				
	SB 6016-S - DIGEST Requires the state health benefit exchange to provide electronic notification to the qualified health plan before the sixth of the month indicating an enrollee has not paid a premium.				
<a href="#"><u>SB 6045</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(E2SHB</u></a> <a href="#"><u>2192)</u></a>	<b>State agency permitting</b>	H Govt Operations	Brown	High	Support
	Enhancing transparency and predictability of state agency permitting and review processes				
	Requires certain agencies to track and record the time it takes to make permitting decisions with regard to business permit applications.				
<a href="#"><u>2SSB 6096</u></a>	<b>Industrial/manuf. facilities</b>	H Finance	Pearson	High	Support
	Property tax exemption for value of new construction in targeted urban areas.				
	Provides property tax exemptions to encourage new manufacturing and industrial uses on undeveloped or underutilized lands zoned for industrial and manufacturing uses in targeted urban areas.				
<a href="#"><u>ESSB 6228</u></a>	<b>Health care cost and quality</b>	H HC/Wellness	Mullet	Medium	Support
	Transparency tools for consumer information on health care cost and quality.				
	SB 6228-S - DIGEST Requires certain health insurance carriers to: (1) Offer member transparency tools with certain price and quality information; and (2) Attest to the office of the insurance commissioner that the member transparency tools meet certain requirements and that access to the tools is available on the home page within the health plan's secured member web site.				
<a href="#"><u>SB 6464</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 2221)</u></a>	<b>Health insurance coverage</b>	S Passed 3rd	O'Ban	High	Support
	Broadening health insurance coverage options for the citizens of Washington.				
	Expands health insurance coverage options for Washington citizens by: (1) Allowing health carriers to continue to offer certain individual or small group health plans in the market that do not meet the requirements of the federal affordable care act; and (2) Allowing out-of-state carriers to offer insurance products in Washington.				

## EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Position</u>
<p><b>Opportunity scholarship</b> Opportunity scholarship program.</p> <p><a href="#">SHB 2612</a> (E2SSB 6423)</p> <p>Changes the month from May to October for the annual disbursement of scholarships from the scholarship account. Authorizes the opportunity scholarship board to elect to have the state investment board invest certain funds in the scholarship account and the endowment account. Requires the student achievement council to enter into an appropriate agreement with the program administrator to demonstrate exchange of consideration for the matching funds. Once money in the opportunity scholarship match transfer account is subject to the agreement and is deposited in the scholarship account or endowment account, the state acts in a fiduciary rather than ownership capacity with regard to those assets.</p>	S Higher Ed	Hansen	High	Support
<p><b>Educational attainment goals</b> Establishing statewide educational attainment goals.</p> <p><a href="#">ESHB 2626</a></p> <p>HB 2626-S - DIGEST Finds that: (1) A new strategy is needed for achieving system growth, high quality, and increased efficiency to meet the goals recommended by the student achievement council; (2) It is vital for the student achievement council to adopt a goal of what constitutes affordable tuition; and (3) The primary mission of the student achievement council is to propose to the governor and the legislature goals for increasing educational attainment, including recommending the resources necessary to achieve the goals and monitoring progress toward meeting the goals. Declares that the statewide educational attainment goals required to meet the societal and economic needs of the future are as follows: All adults, ages twenty-five to forty-four, will have a high school diploma or equivalent by 2023 and at least seventy percent of adults, ages twenty-five to forty-four, will have a postsecondary credential by 2023.</p>	S Higher Ed	Seaquist	Medium	Support
<p><b>Higher ed/low-income studnts</b> Informational program to increase applications from high-achieving low-income high school students to selective institutions of higher education.</p> <p><a href="#">2SHB 2694</a></p> <p>Requires the student achievement council to design and implement a program that provides information to high-achieving, low-income high school students, customized for each student, with the purpose of increasing the number of applications from this group of students to four-year institutions of higher education and independent, nonprofit baccalaureate degree-granting institutions in this state. Provides that this act is null and void if appropriations are not approved.</p>	S Higher Ed	Hansen	Medium	Support
<p><b>Opportunity scholarship</b> Opportunity scholarship program.</p> <p><a href="#">E2SSB 6423</a> (SHB 2612)</p> <p>SB 6423-S2 - DIGEST Changes the composition of the opportunity scholarship board. Changes the month from May to October for the annual disbursement of scholarships from the scholarship account. Authorizes the opportunity scholarship board to elect to have the state investment board invest the funds in the scholarship account and the endowment account. Requires the student achievement council to enter into an appropriate agreement with the program administrator to demonstrate exchange of consideration for the matching funds. Once money in the opportunity scholarship match transfer account is subject to the agreement and is deposited in the scholarship account or endowment account, the state acts in a fiduciary rather than ownership capacity with regard to those assets.</p>	S Passed 3rd	Bailey	Medium	Support

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<b>College bound scholarship</b>	H Approps Educati	Frockt	Medium	Support
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Creating a work group to make recommendations for the continued viability of the college bound scholarship program.

[ESSB 6436](#)

SB 6436-S - DIGEST Creates a college bound scholarship program work group and requires the work group to submit a report to the governor and the legislature with recommendations for making the college bound scholarship program viable, including funding.

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<b>Higher ed opportunities</b>	H Passed 3rd	Bailey	Medium	Support
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Expanding higher education opportunities for certain students.

[SB 6523](#)

Establishes the real hope act. Expands availability of state need grants to certain students. Makes an appropriation.

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## TRANSPORTATION

Bill Details

Status

Sponsor

Priority

Position

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<b>Trans sup budget 2013-2015</b>	S Transportation	Eide	High	Support
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[SB 6001](#)  
[\(HB 2762\)](#)

Transportation funding and appropriations.

Makes 2013-2015 supplemental transportation appropriations.

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