

HBs 1100, 1501 AND 1612 PASS HOUSE
FOUR BILLS STILL AWAIT A VOTE
CHAMBER CUT-OFF IS NEXT WEDNESDAY
GRASSROOTS HELP NEEDED ON HB 1731
PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR SB 5552

From a gun bill perspective, this has been a slow week. HB 1100 (CPL renewal notices) passed out of the House, but in amended form (the Senate version, SB 5268) passed clean last week). That means the two versions will have to be reconciled, either by one chamber accepting the other's language, or by a conference committee later in the session. HB 1501 (reporting of NICS denials) and HB 1612 also passed the House. All are headed for Senate Law & Justice.

At week's end, one other gun bill is on the House floor calendar: HB 1731 (I-594 tweaks). Three others, HBs 1122 and 1483, and SB 5506, have yet to be placed on their respective (House or Senate) floor calendar. The cut-off is next Wednesday, 8 March. Note that, historically, non-controversial bills are generally moved first to "clear the deck" for those with major disagreement.

As it sits right now, HB 1731, like SB 5222, makes some minor tweaks to ease some of the background check burden imposed by I-594 by adding a few more small exceptions to the requirement. An amendment to HB 1731, proposed by retread (he previously served in the House from 1995-2001) Representative John Koster (R-39) would make a significant change by allowing transfers without background checks if both parties to the transaction were Washington CPL holders.

The ATF has already acknowledged our CPL meets the highest federal standard by designating Washington a "NICS Alternative state" for federal checks (blocked by I-594), in addition to which it has passed by an internal Washington state criminal history check plus a Dept of Social and Health Services check. Plus CPL holders have a track record of good behavior, something someone walking off the street into a gun shop may not have. This is about the most common sense rationale you could use for a 594-waiver. If pre-cleared individuals are not granted a waiver, this clearly demonstrates that I-594 was not about background checks but about gun registration via FFL recordkeeping (something "background check" supporters continue to deny, admitted in public testimony in the Senate back in 1997 – "we want the audit trail").

Please contact your elected representatives ASAP and ask them to support the Koster amendment to HB 1731. <http://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder> or, if you know your district: <http://leg.wa.gov/House/Pages/MembersByDistrict.aspx>

A public hearing is scheduled for SB 5552 ((limited I-594 exemptions) in House Judiciary on Thursday, March 9, This is the first of the gun bills that passed out of one chamber to now start its way through the second. See details below.

BILL STATUS/GOAL POSITION:

HB 1000	Use of deadly force	Doglio (D-22)	DIED	OPPOSE
HB 1004	Possession of firearms/state of emergency	Shea (R-4)	DIED.	SUPPORT
HB 1015	Limiting restrictions on concealed carry	Shea (R-4)	DIED.	SUPPORT
SHB 1100	CPL renewal notice	Blake (D-19)	Passed House	SUPPORT
SHB 1122	Safe storage of firearms	Kagi (D-32)	H. Rules	OPPOSE
HB 1134	Assault weapon ban	Peterson	DIED.	OPPOSE
HB 1181	Prohibiting handgun sales registry	Blake (D-19)	DIED.	SUPPORT
HB 1174	Firearm safety education in schools	Muri (R-28)	DIED	SUPPORT
HB 1190	Prohibiting handgun sales registry	Taylor (R-15)	DIED.	SUPPORT
HB 1270	Encouraging voluntary use of locking devices	Harmsworth (R-44)	DIED	SUPPORT
HB 1380	Repeals I-594	Shea (R-4)	DIED.	SUPPORT
HB 1381	Universal recognition of all state CPLs	Blake (D-19)	DIED.	SUPPORT
HB 1387	Assault weapons background check	Jinkins (D-27)	DIED.	OPPOSE
HB 1483	Allows destruction of forfeited firearms	Lovick (D-44)	H. Rules	OPPOSE
HB 1501	Illegal purchase of firearms	Hansen (D-23)	Passed House	SUPPORT
HB 1529	Use of force	Ryu (D-32)	DIED	OPPOSE
HB 1592	Delivery of firearms to LEOs	Klippert (R-	DIED.	SUPPORT
2SHB 1612	Suicide prevention	Orwall (D-33)	Passed House	SUPPORT
HB 1725	I-594 check exemption for CPL holders	Koster (R-44)	DIED	SUPPORT
HB 1731	Certain exemptions to I-594	Jinkins (D27)	H. Rules	SUPPORT
HB 1900	Hunter ed funding/NRA license plates	Griffey (R-35)	DIED	. NEUTRAL
HB 1933	Transfer of firearms at non-profit events	Walsh (R-19)	DIED.	SUPPORT
SB 5000	Use of deadly force	McCoy (D-38)	DIED	OPPOSE
SB 5050	Assault weapon ban	Froct (D-3)	DIED	OPPOSE
SB 5073	Use of force	McCoy (D-38)	DIED	OPPOSE
SB 5216	Firearm safety education in schools	O'Ban (R-28)	DIED	SUPPORT
SB 5268	CPL renewal notice	Takko (D-19)	Passed Senate	SUPPORT
SB 5441	Involuntary freeze on firearm possession	Kuderer (D-)	DIED	NEUTRAL
SB 5444	Background check for "assault weapons"	Froct (D-46)	DIED	OPPOSE
SB 5463	Mandatory safe storage of firearms	Palumbo (D-	DIED	OPPOSE
SSB 5506	Transfer of firearms at non-profit events	Zeiger (R-25)	S. Rules	SUPPORT
SB 5552	Certain exemptions to I-594	Pedersen (D-43)	Passed Senate	SUPPORT
SB 5553	Suicidal, waiver of rights	Pedersen (D-43)	DIED	NEUTRAL
SB 5795	Mandatory firearm liability insurance	Chase (D-32)	DIED	OPPOSE

L&J = Law & Justice, Jud = Judiciary, PubSaf = Public Safety, HC = Health Care, H. K-12 = House Early education, Apropr = Appropriations, Fin = Finance, W&M = Ways & Means "S" before a bill number indicates Substitute (amended).

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED:

9 Mar House Judiciary House Hearing Room "A" John L. O'Brien Bldg
1:30 p.m. SB 5552

LEGISLATIVE HOT LINE: You may reach your Representatives and Senator by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000. Toll free!!! The hearing impaired may obtain TDD access at 1-800-635-9993. Also toll free!!!

1-800-562-6000 TDD 1-800-635-9993

OTHER DATA: Copies of pending legislation (bills), legislative schedules and other information are available on the legislature's web site at "www.leg.wa.gov". Bills are available in Acrobat (.pdf) format. You may download a free version of Adobe Acrobat Reader from Adobe's web site (<http://www.adobe.com>). You may also obtain hard copy bills, initiatives, etc, in the mail from the Legislative Bill Room FREE OF CHARGE by calling 1-360-786-7573. Copies of bills may also be ordered toll free by calling the Legislative Hotline at (800) 562-6000. You may also hear floor and committee hearing action live at <http://www.tvw.org/> (you need "RealAudio" to do this, available free at the TVW web site). Each bill's web page contains a link to any public hearing at the bottom of the page.

By reading the House and Senate "bill reports" (hbr, sbr) for each bill, you can see how individual committee members voted. By reading the "roll call" for each bill, you can see how the entire House or Senate voted on any bill. The beauty of the web site is that ALL this information is available, on line, to any citizen.

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Upcoming WAC gun show(s):

Puyallup 25-26 March
Puyallup 29-30 April

"The right of the individual citizen to bear arms in defense of himself, or the state, shall not be impaired, but nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing individuals or corporations to organize, maintain or employ an armed body of men."

Article 1, Section 24
Constitution of the State of Washington

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5

