

CHAMBER CUT-OFF PASSES, MORE BILLS DIE
BILL TRACKING LIST NARROWED
PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED
IT'S NOT OVER TIL IT'S OVER
MOUNT RAINIER FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET

5 p.m. on Wednesday was chamber cut-off: House bills that had not passed out of the House, and Senate bills that had not passed out of the Senate, died for the session. We are now down to a very manageable list of five bills to follow. 34 gun bills were filed this year, nowhere near the 60+ filed in the last two year biennium. And as is typical, most never passed the half-way mark.

As the 5 o'clock bell rang in Olympia on Wednesday, the House still hadn't reached HBs 1122, 1483 and 1731. The Senate stopped short of SB 5506. So those bills should be considered dead for the session, but the Senate version of HB 1731, SB 5552, is still running in the House. Keep in mind, too, that this is the first year of a biennium, meaning all the bills filed this year that did not make it can be called back next year. Or during any special session.

And now there are five. HB 1100, HB 1501, HB 1612, SB 5268 and SB 5552. Two of the bills are essentially duplicates: HB 1100 and SB 5268 both mandate mailing a renewal notice 90 days before a CPL expires, a long overdue fix. The HB 1100 was amended in the House, so it will have to be reconciled with SB 5268 in the next four weeks. HB 1501 requires FFLs to notify the State Patrol of NICS denials, who are then directed to initiate an investigation (many/most of which will go nowhere because of misidentifications). HB 1612 promotes suicide awareness education. And SB 5552 is the Senate version of the minor tweaks to I-594 background checks (e.g. no check required for in-laws, or for loans at the range where the owner stays with the firearm).

Not much of a positive outcome midway through, but if you look at all the anti-gun bills filed, it's encouraging to see none got traction. We're not going to see pro-gun bills sail through until a pro-gun House is put in place to match a pro-gun Senate.

Public hearings will be conducted on HB 1612 and SB 5268. SB 5552 will be subject to an executive session (committee vote). Details below.

We're halfway through the session, and already the bill list is down to five. But it's not over yet. And should a shooting incident occur that "fits" one of these bills, you can expect them to try and revive it. The fat lady doesn't sing until midnight on 23 April!

The Mount Rainier chapter of Friends of NRA will conduct its 24th annual Friends of NRA dinner and auction at the Emerald Queen Casino Conference Center in Fife on Saturday, April 8th. Doors open at 4:00 p.m. and dinner starts at 7:00. Nearly three dozen guns and hundreds of other prizes will be raffled off. If you have never attended one, I strongly urge you to consider it. It's a great event for a fun cause. For additional information call (253) 841-7113 or e-mail "visit2ndamd@comcast.net."

BILL STATUS/GOAL POSITION:

SHB 1100	CPL renewal notice	Blake (D-19)	S. L&J	SUPPORT
SHB 1122	Safe storage of firearms	Kagi (D-32)	DIED	OPPOSE
HB 1483	Allows destruction of forfeited firearms	Lovick (D-44)	DIED	OPPOSE
HB 1501	Illegal purchase of firearms	Hansen (D-23)	S. L&J	SUPPORT
2SHB 1612	Suicide prevention	Orwall (D-33)	S. HumSer	SUPPORT
SB 5268	CPL renewal notice	Takko (D-19)	H. Jud.	SUPPORT
SSB 5506	Transfer of firearms at non-profit events	Zeiger (R-25)	DIED	SUPPORT
SB 5552	Certain exemptions to I-594	Pedersen (D-43)	H. Jud	SUPPORT

L&J = Law & Justice, Jud = Judiciary, HumSer = Human Services, Apropr = Appropriations, Fin = Finance, W&M = Ways & Means "S" before a bill number indicates Substitute (amended).

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED:

14 Mar 1:30 p.m.	Senate Human Services HB 1612	Senate Hearing Room "2"	John A. Cherberg Bldg
15 Mar 8:00 a.m.	House Judiciary SB 5268	House Hearing Room "A"	John L. O'Brien Bldg
16 Mar 1:30 p.m.	House Judiciary SB 5552 (executive session)	House Hearing Room "A"	John L. O'Brien Bldg

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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