

SECOND HALF OF SESSION BEGINS
ONE BILL MOVES
BILLS SCHEDULED FOR HEARINGS
SECOND CHAMBER POLICY COMMITTEE CUT-OFF

The committee hearing/vote/floor session cycle has started all over again, after the 8 March original chamber cut-off. As House bills move through the Senate and vice versa, the next critical cut-off date is Wednesday, 29 March -- nearly two weeks off. The second half of the long session is off to a slow start. Of the five gun bills we are tracking, two had public hearings (1612 and 5268) and one passed out of committee (5552).

Senate Bill 5552, relaxing SOME of the background checks under I-594, passed out of 5552 amended and out of the House Judiciary Committee on what appeared to be a unanimous a voice vote on Wednesday. The bill was amended in committee to add firearms loaned to veterans color guards to the list of background check exemptions.

Recall this is the bill that COULD be amended to add CPL holders to the exemption list. That would change it from minor tweaks to a major pro-gun bill. But that's going to take pressure from constituents. The bill can be further amended on the House floor at the end of March/early April..

At this point, two bills (1100, 1501) are scheduled for public hearings and an executive session for 5268. Details below.

BILL STATUS/GOAL POSITION:

SHB 1100	CPL renewal notice	Blake (D-19)	S. L&J SUPPORT
HB 1501	Illegal purchase of firearms	Hansen (D-23)	S. L&J SUPPORT
2SHB 1612	Suicide prevention	Orwall (D-33)	S. HumSerSUPPORT
SB 5268	CPL renewal notice	Takko (D-19)	H. Jud. SUPPORT
SB 5552	Certain exemptions to I-594	Pedersen (D-43)	H. Rules 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 HEARINGS SCHEDULED:

21 Mar 10:00 a.m.	Senate Law & Justice HB 1100	Senate Hearing Room "4"	John A. Cherberg Bldg
22 Mar 8:00 a.m.	House Judiciary SB 5268 (executive session)	House Hearing Room "A"	John L. O'Brien Bldg

23 Mar Senate Law & Justice Senate Hearing Room "4" John L. O'Brien Bldg
10:00 a.m. SB 1501

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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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