

Washington State Department of Commerce Growth Management Services
2011 Legislative Session Bills of Interest - Final Report

Topic	Bill	Bill #	Title	Status (05/17/2011)
Planning commission	HB	1012	Planning commissioners term length Allows cities and counties to appoint planning commissioners to four-year or six-year terms. Current law allows only six-year terms.	C 59 L 11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Infrastructure	ESHB	1071	Creating a complete streets grants program Requires WSDOT to establish a complete streets grant program for cities and to design highway projects for all modes (peds, cyclists, transit, and drivers) for projects in cities and towns.	Gov signed 5/5/2011 C257, L 11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Transportation	EHB	1171	Concerning high capacity transportation system plan components and review. Limits the required planning process and expert review panel requirement for high capacity transportation systems to systems that include a fixed rail guide way or a bus rapid transit component that is planned by a regional transit authority.	Gov signed 04/20/2011 C127 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
ORA	HB	1178	Office of Regulatory Assistance Agency request bill by the Office of Regulatory Assistance makes ORA, rather than OFM responsible for reporting on agency rulemaking activities and repeals the sunset date of ORA.	C 149 L 11 Eff. 06/29/2011
Natural Resource Lands	ESHB	1421	Providing authority to create a Community forest trust Authorizes WDNR to create a community forest land trust in partnership with a local community, which must contribute at least 50% of the parcel's highest and best use development value through bonding, TDRs or PDRs, or conservation easements. Criteria to be used by WDNR in selecting forest lands for inclusion are listed in Sec 5. Selected lands are to be managed as working forests, with revenue generated to be used to repay the local community investment share.	Gov signed 04/29/2011 C216 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Growth Management	ESHB	1478	Delaying or modifying certain regulatory or statutory requirements affecting Cities & towns for fiscal relief Extends timeframes within which local government entities are required to act to comply with: (1) countywide planning policy and comprehensive plan review and revision requirements under the Growth Management Act; (2) alternative energy requirements pertaining to publicly owned fleet vehicles; (3) pavement rating reporting requirements; (4) the expending and	Del to Gov

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			encumbrance of impact fees; (5) permitting renewal for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination permits; and (6) master plan amendment requirements under the Shoreline Management Act (SMA). Modifies the SMA to require the Department of Ecology to strive to achieve final action on a submitted master program within 180 days of receipt and to post an annual assessment of its own performance related to this benchmark.	
Growth Management	HB	1582	Concerning forest practices applications leading to conversion of land for development purposes References in the Forest Practice Act to lands that were platted after January 1, 1960, are removed. These lands will not fall under the Class IV classification and are no longer automatically assumed to be lands that will be converted to a non-forestry land use. States Class IV forest practices include activities where forest lands are being converted to another use.	Gov Signed 04/29/2011 C207 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Regional fire protection service authority	SHB	1854	Annexation of territory by regional fire protection authorities Addresses effective dates for the transfer of powers, duties, and functions of certain fire protection jurisdictions to regional fire protection service authorities.	Gov signed 05/5/2011 C271 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Natural Resource Lands Ruckelshaus	ESHB	1886	Implementing recommendations of the Ruckelshaus Center process Amends the Growth Management Act to create the agriculture and critical areas voluntary stewardship program, as recommended in the report submitted by the Ruckelshaus Center resulting from the negotiated process directed by the Legislature in 2007. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes the Voluntary Stewardship Program (Program). • Authorizes participating counties to protect critical areas in areas used for agricultural activities through the Program rather than through regulatory requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA). • Directs the State Conservation Commission, with the advice of a statewide advisory committee, to administer the Program. • Establishes definitions and operational and implementation requirements for the Program. 	Del to Gov 4/19/2011 (\$127,233)
Transportation	ESHB	1967	Concerning public transportation systems Modifies the due dates and in some cases the subject matter for various reports regarding public transit systems. Requires that new state facilities in transit districts be sited in areas adequately accessible by transit service.	Del to Gov 04/19/2011

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Infrastructure	2SSB	5034	<p>Private infrastructure development Certain wastewater companies may not provide sewerage services for compensation without first obtaining certificates from the UTC. Wastewater companies subject to UTC jurisdiction are entities owning or proposing to develop and own sewerage systems (facilities and services to collect, treat, and dispose of sewage or storm or surface run-off) that are designed: for a peak daily flow of 27,000 to 100,000 gallons if treatment is by large OSS, or to serve 100 or more customers. Excluded from UTC jurisdiction are publicly-owned wastewater systems and wastewater company service to customers outside of a UGA.</p>	Gov signed 04/29/2011 C214 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Shoreline	SSB	5192	<p>Concerning provisions for notifications and appeals timelines under the Shoreline management act A master program takes effect 14 days from the date of Ecology's written notice of final action to the local government. Ecology must publish notice that a master program has been approved or disapproved. Ecology's final decision to approve or reject a master program may be appealed to the Growth Management Hearings Board by filing a petition within 60 days as provided in the Growth Management Act. Permit decisions may be appealed within 21 days of the date of filing (the date of actual receipt by Ecology of the local government's decision). Any permit decision must be filed with Ecology and the Attorney General by return receipt mail. Substantial development, conditional use, and variance permit decisions may be appealed within 21 days of the date of filing (the date Ecology's decision is transmitted to the local government)</p>	Gov signed 05/05/2011 C277 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Transfer of Development Rights	ESSB	5253	<p>Landscape conservation and local infrastructure. Revised for 1st Substitute: Concerning tax increment financing for landscape conservation and local infrastructure Authorizes qualifying cities to create Local Infrastructure Project Areas (LIPAs) within their boundaries and to finance public improvements in LIPAs through property taxes imposed by the city and the county within which the LIPA is located. Specifies that a qualifying city must reside within a county that borders Puget Sound, has 600,000 or more residents, and has an established transfer of development rights program. Establishes numerous administrative, procedural, and reporting requirements related to LIPA creation and financing. On or before September 1, 2011, each eligible county must report to the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) the total number of transferable development rights from agricultural and forest land of long-term commercial significance and designated rural lands that may be available for allocation to receiving cities. For purposes of LIPA provisions, a "receiving city" is a city within an eligible county that has a population plus employment of</p>	Gov signed 05/12/2011 C318 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011

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			22,500 or more. Reports and Rule-Making – PSRC, Participating Jurisdictions, and the Department of Commerce. Eligible counties, in collaboration with sponsoring cities, must provide a report to the Department of Commerce (COM) by March 1 of every other year.	
Shoreline	SB	5451	Relating Shoreline structures in a master program adopted under the SMA Amends the Shoreline Management Act, not GMA. Requires new SMPs to include provisions clarifying that existing legal structures be considered conforming. Redevelopment must include no net loss of functions. Bill doesn't restrict SMPs from limiting redevelopment of structures in hazardous areas.	Gov signed 05/12/2011 C323 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Annexation	ESB	5505	Allowing the use of federal census data to determine the resident population of annexed territory. Authorizes an annexing city to use updated 2010 federal decennial census data to account for the resident population of complete federal census blocks located in territory to be annexed, if the date of annexation occurs within 12 months after the release of the census data and the annexing city has a population of greater than 10,000 inhabitants.	Gov signed 05/12/2011 C342 L11 Eff. 05/12/2011
Economic Development	SSB	5741	Economic Development Commission Membership in the Commission is increased from 18 to 24 by adding two more private sector members, one more labor representative, a representative with expertise in international trade, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, and the Director of the Department of Agriculture.	Gov signed 05/10/2011 C311 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011
Coastal Resource	SSB	5784	Relating to advancing the regional ocean partnership Makes a Series of Findings and Statements Regarding Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. The Legislature: finds that Washington, Oregon, and California have a common interest in marine waters management, and that coordination between these states is essential to achieve effective resource management; recognizes the WCGA as an important step towards such coordination; and cites the potential for federal resources and policy gains resulting from coordination, and calls for continued efforts through the WCGA and the Legislatures.	Gov signed 05/05/2011 C250 L11 Eff. 07/22/2011