



Bill Tracking – Washington State Legislature 2018

Note: Bills in gray type are considered no longer eligible for consideration this legislative session.

Issue	Bill Numbers	Brief Summary	Position	Latest Status
First Responder OD Presumptions	1655	1655/6214 create coverage and presumption of occupational disease for LEOFF members with PTSD.	Oppose each as introduced; seeking limiting amendments	1655 passed House 85-11 on 1/18
	2633			2633 did not survive 2/14 cutoff
	6213	6213 expand the list of cancers and infections under current firefighter presumption, adds fire investigators, and creates new presumptions for law enforcement officers. AS AMENDED: 6213 removes stroke as a presumed condition, includes pre-employment testing provisions for certain conditions, and creates a study group for review of further conditions.		6213 and 6214 passed Senate, are being considered by House
Pension Discount Rate	2762 6393	Creates separate pension reserving statutes for State Fund and Self-Insured pensions, to allow for discounting reserves using different assumptions. L&I agency request bill.	Support	2762 did not survive 2/14 cutoff; 6393 passed Senate 2/13 and is being

				considered by House
IMEs	6226	Requires SIE to submit records for IME electronically or, if on paper, within 10 days of scheduled IME and directs L&I to develop access to telemedicine in IMEs. AS AMENDED: Adds flexibility to 10-day timeframe and requires worker consent for any telemedicine IME.	Concerns	Passed Senate 2/13, is being considered by the House
Hanford Worker OD Presumptions	1723 5940 6343	Creates a presumption of occupational disease across a broad number of conditions for workers who have performed work at the Department of Energy Hanford site. 6343 creates a task force to focus on health and safety at the Hanford site.	Oppose as introduced; seeking limiting amendments Support 6343	1723 passed House 76-22 on 1/11; as amended by Senate, passed 35-14 on 1/25 5940 passed Senate LC Committee on 1/15 6343 passed Senate 48-0 on 2/7, is being considered by the House
Social Security Offset	1336 6270	Eliminates SS offset against time loss/pension payments for those workers who had applied for or were receiving SS benefits prior to injury.	Oppose/monitor	1336 passed House 65-33 on 2/7, is being considered by House

6270 did not
survive 2/14 cutoff

WISHA Penalties	1953	L&I request legislation to conform WISHA maximum and minimum penalties to federal OSHA levels.	Monitor	Passed House 2/13, is being considered by Senate
Off-Duty Employee Conduct	5667	Provides that it is an unfair practice for an employer to take an adverse employment action, or discriminate, against an employee or prospective employee because that person participates in an activity that is lawful under state law.	Oppose; conflict with safety, drug testing policies	In Senate Rules Committee
Janitors	6227	Requires L&I to conduct a study of commercial janitorial safety and provide annual progress reports to the Legislature beginning 2018 until study is complete.	Monitor	Marked up in committee 1/17, in Senate Rules committee
Hearing Aids	6232 2591	As introduced, would require replacement of hearing aids in workers' compensation claims at least once every 5 years	Concerns; would rather handle in fee schedule/rule	Did not move out of committee in House or Senate.
Mental Health Providers	2865 6448	Expands the list of provider types who may provide mental health services on workers' compensation claims	Oppose	Appears unlikely to move this session

Transportation contractors – defining “truck”	<u>2705</u> <u>6478</u>	Defines “truck” for purposes of determining transportation contractors who are covered or not for workers’ compensation.	Monitor	Senate version scheduled for public hearing 2/1
Intoxication and WC benefits	<u>1228</u> <u>2697</u>	Limits benefits to medical aid for injuries caused by use of intoxicants.	Monitor/support	2697 heard in committee 1/23; unlikely to move
Worker classification and portable benefits	<u>2812</u>	Creates a worker classification and benefits system, defining independent contractor versus covered employer for purposes of various benefit systems including workers’ compensation	Monitor	Heard in committee 1/25