



## Bill Tracking – Washington State Legislature 2019

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

---

Issue	Bill Numbers	Brief Summary	Position	Latest Status
State Operating Budget	<a href="#">1109</a> <a href="#">5153</a>	Makes appropriations for the 2019-2021 biennium  Contains funding for first phase of L&I's massive IT replacement project, of which self-insureds will be charged a portion.	Monitoring L&I appropriations	In House/Senate financial committees
Wage Calculation/Benefits	<a href="#">5217</a> 1492	Reworks the statute governing the method by which wages are calculated  Replaces sliding scale with a 70 percent flat rate for temporary/permanent disability benefits	In process	Set for public hearing on 1/22 in Senate Labor Committee
Self-insurance claims issues	<a href="#">5474</a>	Provides (1) a requirement to seek allowance orders or request denial within 60 days, (2)	Supporting section 2, have	Awaiting hearing

Self-insurance <i>Dolph</i> fix	Awaiting House introduction ( <a href="#">click for draft</a> )	allows self-insured service of closing orders, (3) establishes a working group on penalties. Contains only section (2) from SB 5474, slightly modified, to allow SI service of department-issued closing orders	amendments for section 1 Support – WSIA request bill	Will need Hearing in House
Hanford occupational disease presumption	<a href="#">5507</a> <a href="#">1490</a>	Amends last year’s Hanford presumption law to remove pre-screening requirement if employer did not offer	Monitoring	Heard in Senate 1/24, scheduled in House, likely to pass
Firefighter occupational disease presumption	Awaiting House introduction	Bill language is still being negotiated but would add more conditions/occupations to RCW 51.32.185 as well as a scientific review panel to review future requests to add contended conditions	Negotiating	
Independent Contractors/Employee Classification	<a href="#">5513</a> <a href="#">1515</a>	Creates a new definition of/test for independent contractor and imposes broad liability across multiple employment law statutes for misclassification of true employees as independent contractors. Will lead to almost all independent contractors being reclassified as covered employees, including for workers’ comp.	Oppose	Scheduled for public hearing in Senate and House Labor Committees for 1/28
Firefighter Safety	<a href="#">5175</a>	Requires L&I to adopt a rule governing firefighter exposure to carcinogens, and directs \$100,000 to be allocated to purchase	Monitoring	Heard in Senate 1/22

protective equipment for firefighters in jurisdictions with limited resources.

Off-duty conduct  
protections

[5226](#)

Makes it a violation of the Washington Law Against Discrimination to take adverse action against an employee or prospective employee on the basis of off-duty lawful conduct.

Evaluating

In Senate Law &  
Justice Committee

Health energy  
workers board

[5627](#)

Many believe has to do with recreational marijuana use; could have workplace safety/drug testing implications  
Creates a healthy energy workers board in the state to collaborate on public health programs related to exposures at Hanford

Monitoring

In Senate Labor  
Committee