



## 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> <a href="#">1492</a>	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	Public hearing held on 1/22; negotiations ongoing
Self-insurance claims issues	<a href="#">5474</a> <a href="#">1682</a>	As amended, would allow self-insurers to validly serve department-issued closing orders		Senate hearing scheduled for 02/04

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, House 1/29, already voted out of both committees
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	Public hearing in Senate and House Labor Committees for 1/28; scheduled for House committee vote 02/04
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 protective equipment for firefighters in jurisdictions with limited resources.	Monitoring	Heard in Senate 1/22; set for committee vote 02/04
Off-duty conduct protections	<a href="#">5226</a>	Makes it a violation of the Washington Law Against Discrimination to take adverse action	Evaluating	Set for public hearing 02/07

against an employee or prospective employee on the basis of off-duty lawful conduct.

Many believe has to do with recreational marijuana use; could have workplace safety/drug testing implications

Health energy workers board

[5627](#)

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