



## Bill Tracking – Washington State Legislature 2019

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

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Issue	Bill Numbers	Brief Summary	Position	Latest Status
Confidentiality of claim records	<a href="#">1909</a> <a href="#">5844</a>	Proposed Amendment creates \$1,000 penalty for unauthorized disclosure of mental health information from injured worker claim file	Negotiated limiting amendment	House and Senate hearings 2/13, 2/14, set for committee votes 2/18
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	Oppose; negotiations ongoing; have been slowed down by inclement weather	House version not set for vote. Senate version set for committee vote 2/18. Unclear if will move from committee
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		House version voted out of committee 2/12; Senate version

				scheduled for vote 2/18
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	Passed House 67- 29 on 02/07, awaiting Senate floor vote
Firefighter occupational disease presumption	<a href="#">1913</a> <a href="#">5849</a>	Adds additional conditions/occupations to RCW 51.32.185 as well as a scientific review panel to review future requests to add contended conditions	Supporting compromise reached with union stakeholders	Voted out of House committee 2/14, Senate version unlikely to move
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	Senate version not apparently moving, House version set for possible vote 2/21
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	Awaiting floor vote in Senate

Off-duty conduct protections	<a href="#">5226</a>	<p>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.</p> <p>Many believe has to do with recreational marijuana use; could have workplace safety/drug testing implications</p> <p>Creates a healthy energy workers board in the state to collaborate on public health programs related to exposures at Hanford</p>	Opposing	<p>Heard in Senate Law &amp; Justice Committee 02/07, set for committee vote 02/14 but no vote held</p>
Workers' comp for freight transporters	<a href="#">1965</a>	Clarifies that freight brokers are not the employers for workers' comp purposes of common carriers with whom they contract to forward freight	Monitoring	Appears unlikely to receive consideration this session
Task force on 3-way workers' comp	<a href="#">2025</a>	Sets up a task force to work toward a competitive workers' comp system	Monitoring	No chance of receiving any attention anytime soon
State Operating Budget	<a href="#">1109</a> <a href="#">5153</a>	<p>Makes appropriations for the 2019-2021 biennium</p> <p>Contains funding for first phase of L&amp;I's massive IT replacement project, of which self-insureds will be charged a portion.</p>	Monitoring L&I appropriations	In House/Senate financial committees