



## 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
Confidentiality of claim records	<a href="#">1909</a> <a href="#">5844</a>	Proposed Amendment creates \$1,000 penalty for unauthorized disclosure of mental health condition or treatment information from injured worker claim file	Negotiated limiting amendment	House version passed 97-0 on 03/06; Senate Bill awaiting floor vote by 03/13
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; unclear whether bill will move further this session past Rules Committee	Senate version still in Rules Committee; unclear whether will advance this session
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	Support	Senate version passed 46-1 on 03/05; unclear whether House

				version will advance
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	House version passed 89-5 on 03/01
Independent Contractors/Employee Classification	<a href="#">5513</a> <a href="#">1515</a>	As amended in House, now creates a stakeholder working group on employee classification issues	As amended in House, now monitoring	Senate version not apparently moving, House version voted out of committee with amendments, 2/21
Firefighter Safety	<a href="#">5175</a>	As amended, provides various financial incentives to State Fund agency employers of firefighters to improve workplace safety and protective equipment	Monitoring	Awaiting floor vote in Senate
State Operating Budget	<a href="#">1109</a> <a href="#">5153</a>	Makes appropriations for the 2019-2021 biennium	Monitoring L&I appropriations	In House/Senate financial committees

		Contains funding for first phase of L&I's massive IT replacement project, of which self-insureds will be charged a portion.		
Off-duty conduct protections	<u>5226</u>	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.  Many believe has to do with recreational marijuana use; could have workplace safety/drug testing implications	Opposing	Heard in Senate Law & Justice Committee 02/07, set for committee vote 02/14 but no vote held
Workers' comp for freight transporters	<u>1961</u>	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	<u>2025</u>	Sets up a task force to work toward a competitive workers' comp system	Monitoring	No chance of receiving any attention anytime soon