



Washington State Commission On

African American Affairs

2021 Legislative Update

January 7, 2021

House Bills

HB 1002 COVID-19 grants/B&O tax

Effect of this bill: Establishes a tax exemption for pandemic relief

HB 1012 B&O tax credit/COVID-19.

Effect of this bill: Provides a tax credit to business due to the pandemic

HB 1016 Juneteenth

Effect of this bill: designates Juneteenth as a state legal holiday

HB 1054 Peace officer tactics & equip

Effect of this bill: Prohibits certain tactics used by peace officers such as the use of chokeholds, unleashed police dogs, tear gas.

HB 1071 Bias-based criminal offenses

Effect of this bill: Amends prosecutorial responsibility and chargeable offense statutes

HB 1078 Voter eligibility/felony

Effect of this bill: Restores voting rights to anyone convicted of a felony but outside of total DOC confinement.

HB 1108 Foreclosure assistance

Effect of this bill: Maintains funding and assistance for homeowners in foreclosure

HB 1113 School attendance

Effect of this bill: makes culturally responsive changes to support student success

HB 1121 Graduation requirement/emergency

Effect of this bill : authorizes school districts to grant individual student emergency waiver criteria towards graduation requirements

HB 1127 COVID-19 health data privacy

Effect of this bill: Establishes safeguards of an individual's COVID-19 health information

HB 1140 Juvenile access to attorneys

Effect of this bill: Provides an attorney to a juvenile before constitutional rights are waived

HB 1153 Language access in schools

Effect of this bill: Implements a language access program for culturally responsive, systemic family engagement

HB 1162 High school graduation

Effect of this bill: Inclusion of the culture, history, and government of the American Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state in high school graduation requirements

HB 1164 Firearm safety

Effect of this bill: Makes changes to the possession or transfer of large-capacity firearm magazines

Welcome to our first Legislative Update of the 2021 session.

Each week during session we share with you the legislative bills we are monitoring. With this information, you can effectively communicate your support or opposition on a measure with lawmakers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has moved legislative activities online; hearings are being conducted with remotely through Zoom. Anyone can arrange to testify on a bill. Find instructions [here](#) or on the legislature's website, www.leg.wa.gov. Connect with your representative via email, by calling their office or leave a voice message on the toll-free Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

The bills listed here are just a few of many being proposed this year. Check back frequently as the status and content of bills changes quickly.

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Senate Bills

SB 5010 Credit score/insurance rates

Effect of this bill: Prohibits the use of credit scores when determining insurance rates

SB 5012 Affordable housing funding

Effect of this bill: Permits local jurisdictions to implement a special excise tax to fund affordable housing programs.

SB 5044 Schools/equity training

Effect: Adds equity, diversity, inclusion and anti-racism to existing cultural competency training for school board directors, district, and school staff

SB 5047 Death penalty elimination

Effect of this bill: Eliminates the death penalty

SB 5052 Health equity zones

Effect of this bill: Creates health equity zones to address health disparities in communities of color

SB 5061 Unemployment insurance

Effect of this bill: Provides unemployment insurance benefits to high risk individuals, or those who live with high risk individuals, who voluntarily quit their jobs during a public health emergency

SB 5086 Voter eligibility/felony

Effect of this bill: Restores voter eligibility when a felon is out of DOC custody. Companion Bill HB 1078

SB 5094 Vascular neck restraints

Effect of this bill: Requires state and local law enforcement officers develop a written model policy on the use of vascular neck restraints.

SB 5097 Paid leave coverage

Effect of this bill: Expansion of the paid family and medical leave program

SB 5105 Office of Equity Task Force

Effect of this bill: Implementing Equity Office recommendations

SB 5117 Rental Vouchers/Offenders

Effect of this bill: Authorizes temporary rental assistance re-entry support

SB 5118 Reentry

Effect of this bill: Provides for actions to support offenders with re-entry

SB 5138 Financial Instit./B&O tax

Effect of this bill: Eliminates the B&O tax deduction for financial institutions to fund affordable housing

SB 5139 Rent increases, limiting

Effect of this bill: Limits the amount of a rent increase after expiration of the COVID rent moratorium

SB 5141 Env. Justice Task Force

Effect of this bill: Implements the recommendations of the Environmental Justice Task Force

SB 5153 School attendance

Effect of this bill: Implementing steps to reduce student absences

SB 5160 Landlord-tenant relations

Effect of this bill: Establishes eviction protections for tenants

SB 5183 Non-fatal strangulation

Effect of this bill: Develop best practices to medically support victims of domestic violence strangulation