

SIXTY EIGHTH DAY, MARCH 21, 2025

2025 REGULAR SESSION

SIXTY EIGHTH DAY**AFTERNOON SESSION**Senate Chamber, Olympia
Friday, March 21, 2025

The Senate was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by the President of the Senate, Lt. Governor Heck presiding. No roll call was taken.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed with and it was approved.

There being no objection, the Senate advanced to the first order of business.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

March 20, 2025

HB 1114 Prime Sponsor, Representative Leavitt: Concerning the respiratory care interstate compact. Reported by Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Orwall, Vice Chair; Muzzall, Ranking Member; Cleveland, Chair; Bateman; Chapman; Christian; Harris; Holy; Riccelli; Robinson and Slatter.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

SHB 1294 Prime Sponsor, Committee on Appropriations: Extending the pesticide application safety committee. Reported by Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Chapman, Chair; Krishnadasan, Vice Chair; Short, Ranking Member; Liias; Muzzall; Saldaña; Schoesler; Shewmake and Wagoner.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

March 20, 2025

SHB 1325 Prime Sponsor, Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources: Expanding enforcement options for certain fish and wildlife violations. Reported by Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Chapman, Chair; Krishnadasan, Vice Chair; Short, Ranking Member; Liias; Muzzall; Saldaña; Schoesler; Shewmake and Wagoner.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

SHB 1539 Prime Sponsor, Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources: Addressing wildfire protection and mitigation. Reported by Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass as amended. Signed by Senators Chapman, Chair; Krishnadasan, Vice Chair; Short, Ranking Member; Liias; Muzzall; Saldaña; Schoesler; Shewmake and Wagoner.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

HB 1553 Prime Sponsor, Representative Richards: Extending the dairy inspection program until June 30, 2031. Reported by Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Chapman, Chair; Krishnadasan, Vice Chair; Short, Ranking Member; Liias; Muzzall; Saldaña; Schoesler; Shewmake and Wagoner.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

E2SHB 1686 Prime Sponsor, Committee on Appropriations: Creating a health care entity registry. Reported by Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Orwall, Vice Chair; Muzzall, Ranking Member; Cleveland, Chair; Bateman; Chapman; Harris; Holy; Riccelli; Robinson and Slatter.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Christian.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

March 20, 2025

SHB 1824 Prime Sponsor, Committee on Health Care & Wellness: Concerning inspections for accredited birthing centers. Reported by Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

MAJORITY recommendation: Do pass. Signed by Senators Orwall, Vice Chair; Muzzall, Ranking Member; Cleveland, Chair; Bateman; Chapman; Christian; Harris; Holy; Riccelli; Robinson and Slatter.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

SGA 9058 JUAN E. MATA, appointed on April 27, 2023, for the term ending June 30, 2026, as Member of the Professional Educator Standards Board. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair, Early Learning; Harris, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hansen and Krishnadasan.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator McCune.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

SGA 9059 NICOLE A. TALBERT, appointed on April 27, 2023, for the term ending June 30, 2026, as Member of the Professional Educator Standards Board. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair, Early Learning; Harris, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hansen; Krishnadasan and McCune.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

SGA 9096 MICHAELA L. JACKSON, appointed on December 19, 2023, for the term ending June 30, 2027, as Member of the Professional Educator Standards Board. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair, Early Learning; Harris, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hansen and Krishnadasan.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator McCune.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

SGA 9097 KEVIN C. ROXAS, appointed on December 19, 2023, for the term ending June 30, 2026, as Member of the Professional Educator Standards Board. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair, Early Learning; Harris, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hansen; Krishnadasan and McCune.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 20, 2025

SGA 9098 DENISE A. MARESTEIN RENTERIA, appointed on December 21, 2023, for the term ending June 30, 2027, as Member of the Professional Educator Standards Board. Reported by Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Wilson, C., Vice Chair, Early Learning; Harris, Ranking Member; Dozier; Hansen and Krishnadasan.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator McCune.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 21, 2025

SGA 9112 MARK S. LYON, appointed on March 28, 2024, for the term ending September 8, 2026, as Member of the Public Employment Relations Commission. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Saldaña, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; Alvarado; Ramos and Stanford.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators King, Ranking Member; Braun; MacEwen and Schoesler.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 21, 2025

SGA 9186 HENRY E. FARBER, appointed on December 19, 2024, for the term ending September 8, 2029, as Member of the Public Employment Relations Commission. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Saldaña, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; King, Ranking Member; Alvarado; Braun; MacEwen; Ramos and Stanford.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senator Schoesler.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 21, 2025

SGA 9188 JAMES R. VOLLENDROFF, reappointed on December 18, 2024, for the term ending January 15, 2027, as Member of the Liquor and Cannabis Board. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Saldaña, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; Alvarado; MacEwen; Ramos and Stanford.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators King, Ranking Member; Braun and Schoesler.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 21, 2025

SGA 9203 PETER HOLMES, appointed on January 13, 2025, for the term ending January 15, 2025, as Member of the Liquor and Cannabis Board. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Saldaña, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; King, Ranking Member; Alvarado; MacEwen; Ramos and Stanford.

MINORITY recommendation: That it be referred without recommendation. Signed by Senators Braun and Schoesler.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 21, 2025

SGA 9208 CAMI FEEK, reappointed on January 15, 2025, for the term ending at the governors pleasure, as Director of the Employment Security Department - Agency Head. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Saldaña, Chair; Conway,

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Vice Chair; King, Ranking Member; Alvarado; Braun; MacEwen; Ramos; Schoesler and Stanford.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

March 21, 2025

SGA 9218 JOEL SACKS, appointed on January 15, 2025, for the term ending at the governors pleasure, as Director of the Department of Labor and Industries - Agency Head. Reported by Committee on Labor & Commerce

MAJORITY recommendation: That said appointment be confirmed. Signed by Senators Saldaña, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; King, Ranking Member; Alvarado; Braun; MacEwen; Ramos; Schoesler and Stanford.

Referred to Committee on Rules for second reading.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Riccelli, all measures listed on the Standing Committee report were referred to the committees as designated.

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate advanced to the fourth order of business.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

March 20, 2025

MR. PRESIDENT:
The House has passed:

HOUSE BILL NO. 1355,
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL NO. 1392,
and the same are herewith transmitted.
MELISSA PALMER, Deputy Chief Clerk

MOTION

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate advanced to the fifth order of business.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

SB 5792 by Senator Robinson

AN ACT Relating to temporary compensation reductions for state government employees during the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium; amending RCW 41.04.820, 43.03.3051, 41.04.340, 43.01.041, 41.06.500, 43.03.030, 41.32.010, 41.37.010, 41.40.010, and 43.43.120; reenacting and amending RCW 41.26.030 and 43.43.120; adding a new section to chapter 41.50 RCW; creating new sections; providing effective dates; providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5793 by Senator Robinson

AN ACT Relating to employer contributions and incentives for public and school employee health benefit plans; amending RCW 41.05.065, 41.05.740, 41.80.020, 41.56.500, 41.59.105, and 47.64.270; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5794 by Senators Salomon, and Lovelett

AN ACT Relating to improving the administration of tax preferences by adopting recommendations from the tax preference performance review process, eliminating obsolete tax preferences, clarifying legislative intent, and addressing changes in constitutional law; amending RCW 82.16.050, 82.04.260, 82.04.290, 48.14.0201, 82.04.110, 82.04.120, 82.04.43395, 82.12.022, 82.12.022, 82.21.040, 82.23A.030, 82.29A.130, 82.29A.130, 82.45.010, 82.45.010, 82.45.030, 82.64.030, 84.36.010, 84.36.030, 82.04.29004, 82.04.4451, 82.04.540, 82.04.620, 82.04.051, 82.04.257, 82.04.29001, 82.04.29002, 82.04.297, 82.04.360, 82.04.43396, 82.04.280, 82.48.030, 82.62.030, 82.85.010, 82.85.020, 82.85.040, 82.04.43391, 82.08.0262, 82.12.0254, 82.04.627, and 82.16.020; reenacting and amending RCW 82.04.260, 82.04.050, and 82.04.299; creating new sections; repealing RCW 82.04.4496, 82.16.0496, 82.08.9999, 82.12.9999, 82.08.809, 82.12.809, 82.04.062, 82.16.0497, 82.04.44525, 82.08.02566, 82.12.02566, 82.04.272, 82.04.315, 82.04.4292, 82.04.293, 82.04.29005, 82.16.046, 82.29A.132, 82.45.190, 82.08.02568, 82.12.02568, 82.04.4482, 82.16.0498, 82.12.0265, 36.100.090, 82.12.024, 82.04.545, 82.16.315, 82.16.0495, 36.102.070, 82.08.02569, 82.12.02569, 82.04.421, 82.04.4331, 82.04.4295, 82.04.447, 82.04.4332, 82.29A.137, and 82.04.434; providing effective dates; providing a contingent effective date; providing expiration dates; and providing a contingent expiration date.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5795 by Senators Krishnadasan, and Cortes

AN ACT Relating to reducing the state sales and use tax rate to make progress toward a more fair and balanced tax code for Washington state; amending RCW 82.08.020; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5796 by Senators Saldaña, and Robinson

AN ACT Relating to enacting an excise tax on large employers on the amount of payroll expenses above the social security wage threshold to fund public schools, health care, social services, and other programs and services to benefit Washingtonians; adding a new Title to the Revised Code of Washington to be codified as Title 50C RCW; creating a new section; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5797 by Senators Frame, and Dhingra

AN ACT Relating to enacting a tax on stocks, bonds, and other financial intangible assets for the benefit of public schools; amending RCW 82.32.160, 43.135.034, and 82.32.655; adding a new Title to the Revised Code of Washington to be codified as Title 84A RCW; creating new sections; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5798 by Senators Pedersen, and Riccelli

AN ACT Relating to property tax reform by increasing funding for public schools, public safety, criminal justice, community protection, and other vital public services commensurate with population growth and inflation, providing additional property tax reductions under the senior citizen property tax relief program, and making the use of

state property tax revenues more transparent; amending RCW 84.55.005, 84.55.100, 84.55.0101, 84.36.381, and 84.56.020; adding a new section to chapter 84.55 RCW; and creating new sections.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Riccelli, all measures listed on the Introduction and First Reading report were referred to the committees as designated.

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate advanced to the eighth order of business.

Senator Riccelli moved adoption of the following resolution:

SENATE RESOLUTION

8636

By Senators Riccelli and Hasegawa

WHEREAS, Washington is one of the most underserved states in the nation in terms of practicing physicians; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine is Washington's first community-based medical school, named after Washington State University's 10th president, and was founded in 2015 with a groundswell of community support to expand medical education and health care access in Washington; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine in 10 short years has graduated four classes of medical students, the first of which is completing its postgraduate residency training and is entering practice; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine has graduated 248 medicine doctors and more than 900 health care providers total since 2017; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine's Medical Program has exclusively admitted students from Washington since its inception; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine's Medical Program's student body includes individuals from 89 Washington communities across 26 counties; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine has relied on more than 235 clinical partners and more than 2,000 community faculty in Washington to train students in challenging health care environments, from Forks to Prosser, Morton to Grand Coulee, to dozens of other sites, including five tribal clinics; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine has established three medical residency programs, adding 58 resident physicians to the state's supply; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine has established research expertise in areas including sleep and human performance, substance use disorders, and health disparities; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine has consistently produced a stellar residency match rate, with 100 percent matching in the most recent graduating class; and

WHEREAS, The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine provided care to more than 1,000 patients in partnership with Range Community Clinic in the fiscal year 2023-2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate recognize the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine and honor its dedicated students, faculty, and staff who are working to improve health outcomes in Washington; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted to Washington State University.

Senators Riccelli and Schoesler spoke in favor of adoption of the resolution.

The President declared the question before the Senate to be the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 8636.

The motion by Senator Riccelli carried and the resolution was adopted by voice vote.

The President announced a meeting of the Committee on Rules immediately following adjournment.

Senator Hasegawa announced a meeting of the Democratic Caucus immediately following the meeting of the Committee on Rules.

Senator Muzzall announced a meeting of the Republican Caucus immediately following the meeting of the Committee on Rules.

MOTION

At 12:40 p.m., on motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate adjourned until 12:30 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2025.

DENNY HECK, President of the Senate

SARAH BANNISTER, Secretary of the Senate

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