

# Olympia

## 2009 Legislative Session

Board of Commissioners Update  
April 13, 2009

# Discussion Today

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- Status of legislative activity
- Bills of interest
- Questions

# External Affairs Legislative Activity

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- Beginning the 14<sup>th</sup> week of legislative session
- Met April 6 cut-off date
- Two intense weeks to go!
- About 650 bills and resolutions still “alive”
- Staff monitoring about 90 bills
- April 17 - Bills must pass opposite chambers
  - Except budget bills and bills with differences between the Houses

# Bills of Interest – I-937 Amendments

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- Governor compromise bill passed House Technology Committee
- Moved out of General Government Appropriations Committee due to leadership intervention on April 1
- Pending in Rules Committee
- Questions about how to address Tacoma /Clark concerns
- Tax incentives in HB 1009 critical to keeping SB 5840 alive – but \$34 million price tag weighing it down
- Governor's office talking with Department of Revenue; some agreement that the fiscal note should be less than \$34 million, which could help the bill's advancement

# Bills of Interest – Climate Change

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- SB 5735 approved by the House Ecology and Parks Committee on March 27 and passed House Ways and Means April 4
  - Allows Ecology to keep working within WCI
  - Requires agency to report recommendations on an “emissions reduction trajectory” by next year
    - (one amendment is to delay the report until March, 2010, which would let the legislature skip this issue next session)
  - Requires reporting on emissions reductions agreements made between the state and TransAlta
  - Does not contain an economic analysis requirement

# Public Works Trust Fund Raid

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- State intends to transfer funds from the public works trust fund to the state operating budget
- WPUA and the District opposed. PWTF has been source of financial assistance for District projects such as Monitor wastewater, Chelan Ridge Source Rehabilitation, and the upcoming construction of the North Wenatchee Reservoir
- WPUA members writing letters of support for the program (including the District)
- At this point, little hope of maintaining trust fund's integrity

# Other

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## ■ EHB 1836 – Public works and off-site prefabrication

- On public works projects over \$1 million, all contracts must contain a provision requiring an out-of-state contractor to submit a certified list of any off-site, prefabricated, project-specific items produced outside the state.
- For contracts over \$1 million, also requires the out-of-state contractor to produce certified payroll records.
- Concern about unfair competition on Idaho border
- Only applies to contracts between 9/1/09 and 12/13/2011
- Pending in Senate Rules Committee

# Questions

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