

# 2021 State Legislative Session Update

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# Why we're here today

- Update of the 2021 session
- Overview of bills of interest
- What to expect for the remainder of the session

For Board information only – no decisions

# Overview

- 12<sup>th</sup> District delegation committee assignments
  - Sen. Hawkins
    - Early Learning & K-12 Education (ranking member)
    - State Government & Elections
    - Transportation
  - Rep. Steele
    - Capital Budget (ranking minority member)
    - Appropriations
    - Education
  - Rep. Goehner
    - Local Government (ranking minority member)
    - Environment & Energy
    - Transportation
- 794 bills as of Jan. 28
- Virtual Session – workable but with some challenges
- Proclamations extended by the Legislature

# Committee Changes

- Eliminated the House Innovation, Technology & Economic Development committee. Telecom issues now with Community and Economic Development - Chair Rep. Cindy Ryu (D-Shoreline)
- Rep. Chapman (D-Port Angeles) now chairs the Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Committee
- Sen. Patty Kuderer (D-Bellevue) chairs the new Senate Housing & Local Government Committee

# Top 2021 Legislative Priorities

- Dryden wastewater funding
  - Capital fund request
  - Grant program requests
  - Support for program funding
- Clean Energy Fund
  - Support for program funding
  - Ensure program supports innovation projects

# Energy Issues

- Carbon pricing alternatives
  - SB 5126 cap and invest (governor request legislation sponsored by Sen. Carlyle)
  - Carbon tax
- HB 1091 low carbon fuel standard (Rep. Fitzgibbon)
- HB 1084/SB 5093 building decarbonization
- HB 1046 community solar
- SB 5000 hydrogen vehicles (Sen. Hawkins bill)

# Telecom Issues

- SB 5110 telecommunications companies (Sen. Ericksen)
- HB 1336 Retail telecom authority for PUDs (Rep. Hansen)
- Public Works Board and CERB funding for broadband
- Broadband Office funding
- Pole attachments and other possible issues associated with retail authority
- Digital equity

# Human Resources & Safety

- HB 1073 Paid Family & Medical Leave
- SB 5097 Paid Family & Medical Leave
- HB 1076 Workplace violations
- HB 1097 Worker protections



## Other Issues

- SB 5007 WPUDA bill to seek relief for utilities related to COVID-19 response
- SB 5158 Wildland fire advisory committee
- HB 1056 Public meetings during emergencies
- HB 1117 Net ecological gain requirement for public projects
- HB 1130 Affordability and reliability of electric services
- SB 5168 Electric utility advisory opinions for CETA compliance

Questions?