

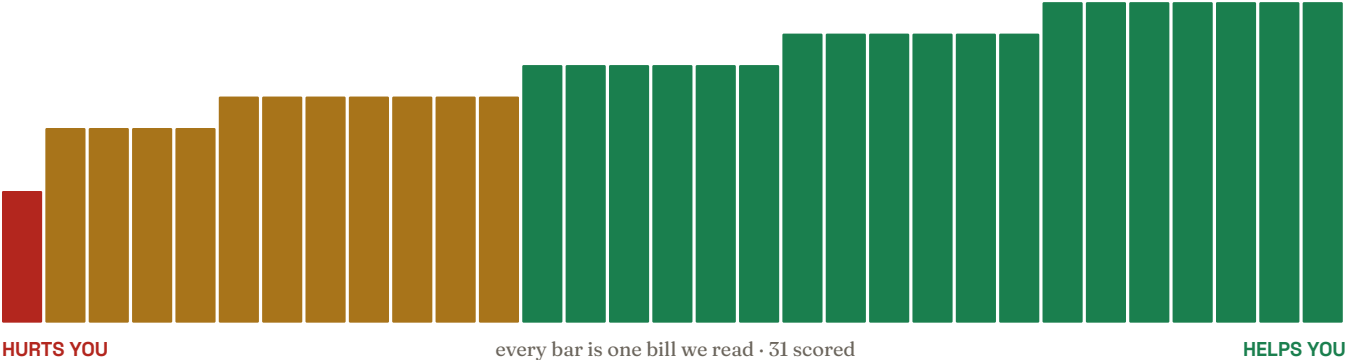


OBILLERATE • WATCHDOG

Washington Bill Book

2026

The Washington bills that matter most, each scored 1–10 on one question: does it help everyday people, or the interests behind it?



Our take on the left. The bill on the right. Room for your notes.

Every spread is one bill, twice.

On the **left** is our take: the Billometer score, what the bill means for you, and the factor-by-factor reasoning behind that score. On the **right** is the bill on the record: its official title, its status, where to read the real text, and space for your own notes.

THE BILLOMETER

One number, 1 to 10, answering a single question: does this help everyday people or hurt them? 1–4 hurts, 5–6 is mixed, 7–10 helps. It is our editorial judgement — which is exactly why every page shows the reasoning behind it. If you disagree with a score, you can see precisely where you disagree.

HOW THESE BILLS WERE CHOSEN

Ranked, not cherry-picked. This edition prints the 10 lowest-scoring and 10 highest-scoring of the 31 Washington bills we have fully analysed. A bill only qualifies if it passed our verification step, has a recorded official status, and has its reasoning attached. Thin entries are left out rather than padded. Note that only 143 bills in the entire country score 3 or below, so in most places the bottom of the list is not evil — it is merely mixed, and we label it that way.

THESE ARE PROPOSALS, NOT LAW

Unless a status line says otherwise. Bills move constantly; every page shows the status we recorded on 2026-09-11 and links to the live version.

Bill data from LegiScan (CC BY 4.0), Congress.gov and OpenStates. Analysis and scoring are Obillerate's own. Scores are editorial opinion, not legal advice — always read the official text before acting. Found an error? www.obillerate.com/corrections

10 worst, 10 best

THE WORST — LOWEST SCORING

- 3/10** HB2655 **The Data Centers Bill** — Tax break for new data centers in east Washington county
- 5/10** HB2437 **The Opioid Treatment Bill** — New fees for opioid treatment program accreditation are proposed
- 5/10** HB1373 **The Local Sales Bill** — Local sales tax to fund senior programs in Washington
- 5/10** HB2615 **The Businesses Save Bill** — New tax program could help businesses save money
- 5/10** HJM4013 **The Urged Join Bill** — Gov urged to join federal K12 scholarship tax credit
- 6/10** SB5808 **The Fund Health Bill** — State looks to fund health insurance premium help
- 6/10** SB6033 **The Waiver Penalties Bill** — Waiver for tax penalties helps businesses that missed sales tax
- 6/10** HB1843 **The Students Unemployment Bill** — Students could get unemployment help if they lose jobs
- 6/10** HB2188 **The Insurance Costs Bill** — Workers could see why their insurance costs more
- 6/10** SB5540 **The Unemployment Benefits Bill** — Students may get unemployment benefits under new proposal

THE BEST — HIGHEST SCORING

- 9/10** HB2187 **The Child Care Bill** — Washington state wants to help businesses pay for child care
- 9/10** HB2527 **The Chances Renters Bill** — More chances for renters to own their homes
- 9/10** HB1091 **The Early Release Bill** — No early release for violent sex offenders under supervision
- 9/10** HB1214 **The Adults Families Bill** — More Washington adults could get working families' tax credit
- 9/10** HB1623 **The Worker Tips Bill** — Washington state bill protects worker tips from credit card fees
- 9/10** SB5304 **The Homeless & Foster Bill** — More homeless and foster youth can go to tribal college
- 9/10** HB1070 **The Jail Workers Bill** — Jail workers could get help for PTSD on the job
- 8/10** HB1564 **The Child Care Bill** — Washington state helps businesses pay for child care
- 8/10** HB2025 **The Hidden Property Bill** — Tax credit boost to help renters with hidden property tax
- 8/10** HB1224 **The Families Credit Bill** — Washington bill aims to boost working families tax credit

The Data Centers Bill

Tax break for new data centers in east Washington county

WA HB2655 • Money & Damages

3/10 **OBLITERATE**
Hurts everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Tax breaks could lure big tech projects to the county, but they also reduce revenue that could fund schools and roads for everyday residents.

WHY IT SCORES 3/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (hurts)** — tax exemption reduces oversight.
lower tax revenue may limit state oversight of spending
- Rights & Protections (neutral)** — no direct impact on rights.
bill does not change individual legal rights
- Who Bears the Cost (hurts)** — shifts cost to taxpayers.
tax break reduces revenue that would fund public services
- Process Transparency (neutral)** — standard legislative process.
bill is in early stage, no special transparency measures

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Data center developers
Bearing the cost: Taxpayers

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (2R / 4D)

THE BILL ITSELF

Providing a retail sales and use tax exemption for the construction and equipping of new data centers located in a county east of the Cascades that borders another state and has a population of at least 500,000.

WA HB2655

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-26

WHAT IT DOES

The bill would let data center builders avoid paying sales tax on construction supplies, meaning less tax money for the state.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Data centers

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB2655) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=2655&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan — HB2655 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB2655/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb2655-092560

YOUR NOTES

The Opioid Treatment Bill

New fees for opioid treatment program accreditation are proposed

WA HB2437 • Healthcare & Insurance

5/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If this bill passes, it might make it more expensive for opioid treatment programs to operate, which could impact people needing help. Now is the time to think about how this might affect care.

WHY IT SCORES 5/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — The bill establishes a fee structure..
This could help fund oversight but may raise costs.
- Rights & Protections** (neutral) — No direct rights are removed..
The bill does not limit access to treatment.
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — Costs may shift to treatment programs..
Fees could increase operational costs for programs.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 9D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2026-01-30 — passed
Yes 3R/11D · No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Establishing fee authority for accreditation services provided to opioid treatment programs by the department of health.

WA HB2437 Introduced · recorded 2026-01-13

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would let the health department charge fees for checking opioid treatment programs, which could affect their costs.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB2437) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=2437&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan — HB2437 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB2437/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb2437-071959

YOUR NOTES

The Local Sales Bill

Local sales tax to fund senior programs in Washington

WA HB1373 • Money & Damages

5/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Citizens may see the same overall tax bill, but local governments get money for seniors while the state loses revenue, which could affect other services.

WHY IT SCORES 5/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — neutral.
no new oversight added
- Rights & Protections** (neutral) — neutral.
does not affect personal rights
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — cost shift.
local tax added, state revenue reduced
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — neutral.
bill is still in early stage

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: senior programs
Bearing the cost: state services

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (4R / 0D)

Imposing a local sales tax wholly credited against the state sales tax to support programs for senior citizens.

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-17

The Businesses Save Bill

New tax program could help businesses save money

WA HB2615 • Money & Damages

5/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If this bill passes, some businesses might get a break on their taxes. It's important to think about how this could affect regular people and the money they pay.

WHY IT SCORES 5/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — The bill provides a way for businesses to report taxes..
This could help businesses be more accountable for their taxes.
- Rights & Protections** (hurts) — The focus is on businesses, not everyday people..
Regular people may not benefit directly from this tax program.
- Who Bears the Cost** (neutral) — The cost impact is unclear..
It is unknown how this will affect tax revenue for the state.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (3R / 1D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2026-02-05 — passed
Yes 5R/9D · No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Codifying the voluntary disclosure tax program and authorizing temporary tax amnesty.

WA HB2615 Introduced · recorded 2026-01-22

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would create a way for businesses to report taxes and possibly save money on what they owe.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

Big Business

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB2615) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=2615&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan — HB2615 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB2615/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb2615-089269

YOUR NOTES

The Urged Join Bill

Gov urged to join federal K12 scholarship tax credit

WA HJM4013 • Money & Damages

5/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Parents could get money back on their taxes, making private school cheaper, while other taxpayers might see less state revenue for public schools. The bill is still early, so people can speak up now.

WHY IT SCORES 5/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (hurts)** — No clear oversight built into the framework.
The bill does not specify who will monitor the scholarship program
- Rights & Protections (neutral)** — Does not affect personal rights.
The bill does not change any legal protections for families
- Who Bears the Cost (hurts)** — Shifts cost to taxpayers.
Tax credits reduce state revenue, spreading the cost to all taxpayers
- Process Transparency (hurts)** — Limited detail on implementation.
The bill gives no specifics on how the program would be run

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (24R / 0D)

Urging Governor Ferguson to establish a framework with the legislature to opt Washington state into the federal tax-credit scholarship program for K-12 educational expenses.

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-23

The state would let families claim a federal tax credit for K12 school costs, lowering the money they owe the government.

Private schools

Official text (WA HJM4013) – <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=4013&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegisScan – HJM4013 – <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HJM4013/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hjm4013-091127

The Fund Health Bill

State looks to fund health insurance premium help

WA SB5808 • Healthcare & Insurance

6/10 **TOLERATE**
Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

People could afford coverage, but the bill needs support now to lock in funding before the next budget cycle.

WHY IT SCORES 6/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (neutral) — No specific oversight provisions mentioned..

Text does not describe reporting or accountability measures.

Rights & Protections (neutral) — No changes to legal rights are stated..

Bill focuses on funding, not on altering rights.

Who Bears the Cost (neutral) — Funding source not identified..

Unclear whether taxpayers or other sources will pay.

Process Transparency (neutral) — Limited procedural detail provided..

Only basic legislative steps are listed.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 1D)

HOW THEY VOTED

Senate • 2026-03-02 — passed

Yes 0R/13D • No 8R/1D

Revised for 1st substitute: Addressing funding for health insurance premium assistance.

Introduced · recorded 2025-04-08

The bill would set up money to help Washington residents pay their health insurance premiums.

Everyday People

Official text (WA SB5808) – <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=5808&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan – SB5808 – <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/SB5808/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-sb5808-021256

The Waiver Penalties Bill

Waiver for tax penalties helps businesses that missed sales tax

WA SB6033 • Money & Damages

6/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Right now the bill is just a proposal, but if it passes it could save small firms money and keep them from costly tax trouble, while the state may lose some revenue.

WHY IT SCORES 6/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (hurts)** — Waiver reduces penalty enforcement.
Taxpayers less accountable for tax collection errors
- Rights & Protections (helps)** — Provides protection for accidental errors.
Limits interest and penalties for inadvertent failures
- Who Bears the Cost (hurts)** — State loses revenue.
Waiver shifts cost of penalties to public finances
- Process Transparency (neutral)** — No new transparency measures.
Bill is still in committee with standard hearings

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (1R / 0D)

Providing a limited waiver of interest and penalties for taxpayers inadvertently failing to collect and remit sales and use taxes on select services.

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-12

The bill would let businesses avoid interest and penalties when they accidentally forget to collect sales tax on certain services.

Businesses

Official text (WA SB6033) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=6033&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-sb6033-068903

The Students Unemployment Bill

Students could get unemployment help if they lose jobs

WA HB1843 • Work & Wages

6/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill could change who gets unemployment money, especially for students. If it makes it easier for students to get help when they lose a job, it would give them money to live on while they look for new work. This could be good for students but might mean more money is paid out from the state's unemployment fund, which businesses pay into. We need to watch this bill closely to see exactly what changes it would make to...

WHY IT SCORES 6/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (neutral) — No direct impact on accountability for bad actors is clear from the summary..

The bill's summary does not provide details on how it would change accountability for any...

Rights & Protections (helps) — Could expand financial protections for students..

If the bill expands eligibility, it would offer more financial support to students who...

Who Bears the Cost (hurts) — Increased payouts from the unemployment fund are possible..

If more students become eligible for benefits, the state's unemployment insurance fund...

Process Transparency (neutral) — Bill has been reintroduced after being in a holding file..

The bill was placed in a House Rules 'X' file and then reintroduced, indicating a slower...

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Students who lose jobs

Bearing the cost: State unemployment fund, employers

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 9D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-02-18 — passed

Yes 2R/6D • No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Concerning students' eligibility to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

WA HB1843 Introduced · recorded 2025-02-05

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would change who can get unemployment money when they lose a job, possibly helping students get support.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB1843) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1843&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan — HB1843 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB1843/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb1843-955321

YOUR NOTES

The Insurance Costs Bill

Workers could see why their insurance costs more

WA HB2188 • Work & Wages

6/10 **TOLERATE**
Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill wants to make it clearer why the cost of industrial insurance, like workers' compensation, changes. If it passes, people might get more information about these rate increases. This could help workers and businesses understand where their money is going. The bill does not say exactly how it will make things more transparent or which rate increases it will cover. It is important to watch this bill to see if it truly...

WHY IT SCORES 6/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (helps)** — Could help people understand rate changes..
The bill aims to promote transparency in how industrial insurance rates are increased...
- Rights & Protections (neutral)** — No direct impact stated..
The bill's focus on transparency does not explicitly create or remove rights or...
- Who Bears the Cost (neutral)** — No cost shift specified..
The bill focuses on transparency of rate increases, not on who bears the cost of those...
- Process Transparency (helps)** — Bill's stated goal is transparency..
The bill's entire purpose is to promote transparency in industrial insurance rate...

FOLLOW THE MONEY

- Pushing for it:** Workers and businesses
- Bearing the cost:** No specific group mentioned

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (9R / 0D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2026-02-03 — passed
Yes 3R/5D · No 0R/0D

Promoting transparency in certain industrial insurance rate increases.

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-12

The Unemployment Benefits Bill

Students may get unemployment benefits under new proposal

WA SB5540 • Work & Wages

6/10 **TOLERATE**
Mixed — some good, some bad



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If this bill passes, students could get financial help when they need it most. It's important to support this change now.

WHY IT SCORES 6/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (neutral) — The bill seeks to clarify eligibility..
It does not add new costs or protections.

Rights & Protections (helps) — It expands rights for students..
Students could access benefits if they lose jobs.

Who Bears the Cost (neutral) — Costs are unclear..
The bill does not specify funding sources.

Process Transparency (neutral) — The bill is still in early stages..
More discussions are needed.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 2D)

HOW THEY VOTED

Senate · 2025-02-14 — passed

Yes 0R/5D · No 2R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Concerning students' eligibility to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

WA SB5540

 Introduced · recorded 2025-01-28

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would let students receive unemployment benefits if they lose their jobs, helping them during tough times.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA SB5540) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5540&Year=2025&Initiative=false>
LegiScan — SB5540 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/SB5540/2025>
Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-sb5540-943220

YOUR NOTES

The Child Care Bill

Washington state wants to help businesses pay for child care

WA HB2187 • Work & Wages

9/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill could make it easier for working parents to find and afford child care, which is a big cost for many families. Businesses might be more likely to offer child care help if they get a tax break for it. Some people might worry that this tax break means less money for other state services. But supporters say it helps families and keeps people working. Now is the time to tell your lawmakers if you think this is a good...

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — Neutral.
This bill does not directly address accountability for bad actors, but rather...
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Helps people.
By encouraging employers to offer child care assistance, this bill would indirectly...
- Who Bears the Cost** (helps) — Benefits employees.
The cost of the tax credit would be borne by Washington state taxpayers through reduced...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Transparent.
The bill is in the early 'Introduced' stage, allowing time for public input and review.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Businesses providing child care assistance
Bearing the cost: Washington state taxpayers

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (9R / 0D)

Supporting employers providing child care assistance to employees by establishing a business and occupation and public utility tax credit.

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-12

This bill would give tax breaks to businesses that help their workers pay for child care, making it easier for parents to work.

Employers

Official text (WA HB2187) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=2187&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan – HB2187 – <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB2187/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb2187-060941

The Chances Renters Bill

More chances for renters to own their homes

WA HB2527 • Housing & Property

9/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would make it easier for people who rent to eventually own their homes. It uses a federal program called the low-income housing tax credit. This program helps build affordable housing. Right now, many renters might not have a clear path to owning their place. This bill wants to change that by making sure these housing projects also plan for tenants to buy their homes later. This is important because owning a home...

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — Neutral.
The bill focuses on creating opportunities, not directly on accountability mechanisms.
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Increases opportunities.
It would increase opportunities for tenants to achieve homeownership, a significant...
- Who Bears the Cost** (neutral) — Leverages existing federal program.
The bill leverages the federal low-income housing tax credit program, not creating new...
- Process Transparency** (helps) — Public hearing scheduled.
A public hearing is scheduled, allowing for public input.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

- Pushing for it:** Low-income tenants
- Bearing the cost:** No direct opposition identified in terms of money

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (1R / 14D)

Increasing opportunities for tenants to own homes under eventual tenant ownership programs established under the federal low-income housing tax credit program.

Introduced · recorded 2026-01-16

This bill would help more renters buy their homes using a federal program that gives tax breaks for housing projects.

Everyday People

Official text (WA HB2527) – <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=2527&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan – HB2527 – <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB2527/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb2527-083301

The Early Release Bill

No early release for violent sex offenders under supervision

WA HB1091 • Criminal Justice

9/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would make sure that sexually violent predators cannot earn credits to shorten the time they are watched by the state. This means they would stay under supervision for the full time ordered, which could make communities safer. People who believe in strict supervision for serious offenders would support this. Others might worry about the costs of longer supervision, though the bill text does not mention this. It is...

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (helps)** — Increases accountability for sexually violent predators..
The bill makes sexually violent predators ineligible to earn supervision compliance...
- Rights & Protections (helps)** — Protects public safety..
By extending supervision, the bill aims to protect the public from individuals deemed...
- Who Bears the Cost (neutral)** — No clear cost shift mentioned..
The official text does not provide details on who would bear any potential costs...
- Process Transparency (neutral)** — No specific transparency issues noted..
The bill's text does not provide information to assess its impact on process transparency.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

- Pushing for it:** Public safety, victims of crime
- Bearing the cost:** The state (for longer supervision costs), sexually violent predators

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (6R / 2D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2025-01-23 — passed
Yes 3R/5D · No 0R/0D

THE BILL ITSELF

Concerning sexually violent predators' ineligibility to earn supervision compliance credit.

WA HB1091

 Introduced · recorded 2025-01-13

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would stop dangerous sex offenders from getting out of supervision early, which helps keep communities safer for everyone.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB1091) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1091&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan — HB1091 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB1091/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb1091-897321

YOUR NOTES

The Adults Families Bill

More Washington adults could get working families' tax credit

WA HB1214 • Work & Wages

9/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill wants to help more working families in Washington state. Right now, the Working Families' Tax Credit helps some people, but this bill would let *all* adults who are 18 and older get it. If this bill passes, more people could get money back from the state to help with things like food, rent, or bills. This is a chance for people to tell their lawmakers if they think more adults should get this help.

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — Neutral.
This bill is about expanding a tax credit, not about holding anyone accountable.
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Helps people.
It would give more adults access to a tax credit, which can help support their financial...
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — State pays.
The state budget would pay for more people to get this tax credit, but it means more...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Transparent.
The bill has had a public hearing, showing an open process.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Working families and adults age 18 and older
Bearing the cost: The state budget

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 8D)

THE BILL ITSELF

Expanding eligibility for the working families' tax credit to everyone age 18 and older.

WA HB1214 Introduced · recorded 2025-01-13

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would let more adults get money back from the state through a tax credit, helping them pay for daily needs.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB1214) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1214&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan — HB1214 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB1214/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb1214-909788

YOUR NOTES

The Worker Tips Bill

Washington state bill protects worker tips from credit card fees

WA HB1623 • Work & Wages

9/10

LIBERATE

Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would make sure that when you pay with a credit card, the business, not the worker, covers the fee for that transaction. Workers depend on tips to make a living, and these deductions can cut into their earnings. Some people might say businesses have costs too and need to cover them, but this bill says those costs should not come from worker tips. It is important to support this bill to help workers keep all their...

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (helps) — Businesses would be accountable for their own transaction fees..

The bill would make sure businesses, not workers, cover credit card processing costs...

Rights & Protections (helps) — Protects workers' right to their full tips..

This bill would protect workers' earnings by ensuring they receive 100% of their tips...

Who Bears the Cost (helps) — Shifts cost of credit card fees from employees back to businesses..

The cost of credit card processing fees for tips would be borne by the business, not the...

Process Transparency (neutral) — No information given about process transparency..

The bill's procedural status does not indicate any unusual lack of transparency.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Employees

Bearing the cost: Businesses

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 28D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-02-27 — passed

Yes 0R/18D • No 12R/1D

THE BILL ITSELF

Prohibiting deductions for credit card transaction processing fees from employee tips.

WA HB1623

 Introduced · recorded 2025-01-27

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would stop businesses from taking money out of your tips to pay for credit card fees, so you keep more of what you earn.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Workers

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB1623) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1623&Year=2025&Initiative=false>
LegiScan — HB1623 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB1623/2025>
Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb1623-941492

YOUR NOTES

The Homeless & Foster Bill

More homeless and foster youth can go to tribal college

WA SB5304 • Work & Wages

9/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill is a good idea because it would help young people who are homeless or in foster care get a better chance at going to college. By letting them use a special program at tribal colleges, it helps them learn skills and get jobs. This is important because everyone deserves a fair shot at an education, and this bill helps make that happen for some of our most vulnerable youth.

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Rights & Protections (helps) — Helps vulnerable youth get education..
The bill would allow more homeless students and foster youth to get help from a special...

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Homeless students, foster youth, tribal colleges
Bearing the cost: N/A

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 11D)

HOW THEY VOTED

Senate • 2025-02-18 — passed
Yes 8R/14D • No 0R/0D

Expanding eligibility for the students experiencing homelessness and foster youth program to an accredited tribal college.

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-16

This bill would let more homeless and foster youth use a school program to attend tribal colleges, helping them get an education.

Everyday People

Official text (WA SB5304) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=5304&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan – SB5304 – <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/SB5304/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-sb5304-922826

The Jail Workers Bill

Jail workers could get help for PTSD on the job

WA HB1070 • Work & Wages

9/10

LIBERATE

Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would help correctional facility workers who see hard things at work. It would make sure their industrial insurance, like workers' comp, covers their treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. Right now, it might be harder for them to get this help. This bill would make it clear that their mental health is important, just like a physical injury. Some might worry about how much this would cost the system...

WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

Accountability (helps) — Helps ensure industrial insurance covers mental health for workers..

The bill would make sure industrial insurance covers posttraumatic stress disorders for...

Rights & Protections (helps) — Expands workers' rights to mental health coverage..

Correctional facility workers would gain the right to have their posttraumatic stress...

Who Bears the Cost (hurts) — Costs for PTSD treatment would shift to industrial insurance..

The cost of treating posttraumatic stress disorder for correctional facility workers...

Process Transparency (neutral) — Bill is moving through regular legislative process..

The bill has been introduced, referred to committees, and had a public hearing, showing a...

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Correctional facility workers

Bearing the cost: Industrial insurance system

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (4R / 29D)

HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-01-31 — passed

Yes 0R/6D • No 0R/0D

Concerning industrial insurance coverage for posttraumatic stress disorders affecting correctional facility workers.

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-13

This bill would help jail workers get paid for treatment if they get PTSD from their job, making sure they get care.

Workers

Official text (WA HB1070) – <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=1070&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan – HB1070 – <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB1070/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb1070-896773

The Child Care Bill

Washington state helps businesses pay for child care

WA HB1564 • Work & Wages

8/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill wants to make it easier for working parents to find and pay for child care. It would give companies a tax credit, meaning they pay less in taxes, if they offer child care help to their employees. This could be a big help for families struggling with high child care costs. Some people might worry that giving tax breaks to businesses means less money for other state services. But supporters believe it helps the...

WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — Neutral impact.
The bill does not directly change how accountable companies are for their actions, but...
- Rights & Protections** (neutral) — Neutral impact.
The bill does not directly create or remove any rights or protections for individuals.
- Who Bears the Cost** (helps) — Costs shifted from families to state.
The state would give a tax credit, meaning less tax money for the state, but potentially...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Standard legislative process.
The bill has been introduced and had a public hearing, following normal steps.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: Employers providing child care assistance
Bearing the cost: Washington state (tax revenue)

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (6R / 5D)

Supporting employers providing child care assistance to employees by establishing a business and occupation and public utility tax credit.

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-23

This bill would give companies a tax break if they help their workers pay for child care, which could make child care more affordable for families.

Workers

Official text (WA HB1564) – <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=1564&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb1564-935727

The Hidden Property Bill

Tax credit boost to help renters with hidden property tax

WA HB2025 • Money & Damages

8/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people

1 • hurts you

helps you • 10

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

More money could ease rent burdens for families, but the state will need to fund the credit, possibly raising other taxes.

WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — no new oversight.
Bill does not change accountability mechanisms
- Rights & Protections** (neutral) — no rights change.
Bill does not affect legal rights
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — cost to state.
State must fund larger tax credit
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — standard process.
Bill follows usual legislative steps

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Pushing for it: working families
Bearing the cost: state treasury

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 12D)

THE BILL ITSELF

Increasing the working families' tax credit to reflect the economic impact of property taxes incorporated into rental amounts charged to residential tenants.

WA HB2025 Introduced · recorded 2025-02-25

WHAT IT DOES

The bill would raise the working families' tax credit to offset the extra property taxes landlords add to rent.

WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (WA HB2025) — <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=2025&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan — HB2025 — <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB2025/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb2025-981840

YOUR NOTES

The Families Credit Bill

Washington bill aims to boost working families tax credit

WA HB1224 • Money & Damages

8/10 **LIBERATE**
Helps everyday people



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

More refunds for working families could help household budgets, while the state will need money for the new data program; now is a good time to support the bill.

WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — No clear change to oversight..
Bill does not add new accountability measures.
- Rights & Protections** (neutral) — No rights removed..
Bill does not affect legal rights of individuals.
- Who Bears the Cost** (helps) — State likely funds data program..
Costs fall on government, not on consumers.
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Standard legislative process..
Bill is at early stage with typical referrals.

WHO'S BEHIND IT

Democrat-sponsored (OR / 7D)

Modifying the working families' tax credit by enhancing collection services and increasing participation rates through data-sharing agreements.

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-13

The bill would help more families get their tax credit by sharing data and improving collection services.

Everyday People

Official text (WA HB1224) – <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=1224&Year=2025&Initiative=false>

LegiScan – HB1224 – <https://legiscan.com/WA/bill/HB1224/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — www.obillerate.com/bill/wa-hb1224-909768



ABOUT THIS BOOK

Washington Bill Book 2026

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HOW TO CITE THIS

Obillerate, “Washington Bill Book 2026” (2026-09-11). www.obillerate.com/library/2026/

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