

2018 State Legislative Session Recap

Briefing to Port of Seattle Commission

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Overview

- High-level recap of sixty-day legislative session, ended on March 8th
 - Adopted three supplemental budgets: transportation, operating, and capital.
 - First time finishing without “special,” extended, sessions since 2014
- Port priority items – mixed success
 - Tourism enacted; SR 518 study funded
 - Workforce training and fishing fleet modernization bills died
- Additional items of interest
 - Initiative 200 repeal
 - Energy issues: Port officially endorsed carbon pricing proposal and Low Carbon Fuels Standard
 - Clean trucks: NWSA successful in moving legislation and securing funding regarding Clean Trucks
 - Representative Orwall’s airport impact study
- Work this interim

Priority Agenda Items

- **Workforce development:** Representative Tarleton once again introduced legislation to clarify port district worker training authority. It passed the House unanimously, but did not receive a vote in the Senate.
- **State Route 518 study:** The final transportation budget included \$500,000 for a study of corridor congestion issues on State Route 518, the main roadway that provides access to Sea-Tac Airport.



- **Statewide tourism marketing:** After seven years of advocacy, the Washington Tourism Alliance and its wide array of stakeholders were successful in enacting a statewide tourism marketing program.
- **Fishing fleet modernization:** Despite passing House, and being funded in final budget deal, Rep. Tarleton's fishing fleet modernization bill died on the final day.

Additional Items of Interest

These issues received formal support by Port of Seattle Commissioners or staff during 2018 session:

- ***Sustainable Aviation Biofuels work group:*** Sen. Billig (D-1st LD, Spokane) introduced a bill to reestablish a work group on aviation biofuels that has been dormant since 2017. The Port of Seattle supported that effort, and while the bill stalled Sen. Billig inserted language in the budget to formally reconvene the work group.
- ***Unit price contracting for port districts:*** The Port of Seattle, Port of Tacoma, and Washington Public Ports Association supported legislation to clarify that ports have the authority to use “unit priced contracting” methods. It passed both chambers and was enacted into law.
- ***NWSA’s clean truck authority:*** Legislation passed that clarifies the authority of port districts to offer programs relating to air quality improvement equipment and fuel programs that provide emission reductions for engines, vehicles, and vessels.”
- ***Harbor Maintenance Tax resolution:*** Another NWSA priority, this resolution put the legislature on record as demanding that the U.S. Congress develop a policy to reform the Harbor Maintenance Tax to address its impact on the competitiveness of Washington state ports.

Additional Items of Interest – Continued

- ***Initiative 200 Repeal:***
 - For the 3rd session running, the Port was vocally supportive of repealing I-200
 - Commissioner Bowman testified in support of SB 6406, a bill to repeal I-200
 - The legislation passed the State Government, Tribal Relations, and Elections Committee; it did not receive a vote on the Senate floor
- ***Energy issues:***
 - Low Carbon Fuels Standard: Port provided testimony; Passed House Environment Committee and House Transportation Committee
 - Inslee/Carlyle carbon pricing proposal: Cmr. Gregoire letter of support; aviation language added; did not reach Senate floor
- ***Airport issues:***
 - Rep. Orwall airport study
 - Rep. Pellicciotti noise abatement legislation
- ***Other:***
 - Rep. Gregerson governance legislation
 - Broadband authority for all port districts

Legislative Scorecard – 2018 Session

PRIORITY ITEMS	No Progress	Passed Committee of Origin	Passed Chamber of Origin	Budget Language Enacted	Legislation Enacted
Tourism Promotion (SB 5251)					✓
Workforce development (HB 1510)			✓		
SR 518 Corridor Study (budget only)				✓	
Land Use	NO RELEVANT LEGISLATION THIS SESSION				
Fishing Fleet Modernization (HB 1154)*			✓		
ADDITIONAL ITEMS					
Sustainable Aviation Biofuels Work Group (SB 6563)				✓	
Unit price contracting for ports (SB 6072)					✓
Initiative 200 Repeal (SB 6406)		✓			
Low Carbon Fuels Standard (HB 2338)		✓			
Carbon pricing proposal (SB 6203)		✓			
NWSA Clean Truck Bill (SB 6207)					✓

* - Priority from 2017 session

Next Steps

- Interim meetings with lawmakers (May-October 2018)
- Potential small group airport tours (June or July 2018)
- Commission trip to Eastern WA (August 2018)
- 2019 Legislative Agenda Development (now through November 2018)