



# DIGEST SUPPLEMENT

To Legislative Digest and History of Bills  
Supplement No. 55\*

FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

Monday, March 28, 2005

78th Day - 2005 Regular

## SENATE

SB 5029-S  
SB 5101-S  
SB 5119-S  
SB 5227-S  
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SB 5539-S  
SB 6010  
SB 6098

## HOUSE

HB 2305  
HJM 4021  
HJR 4213

## LIST OF BILLS IN DIGEST SUPPLEMENTS

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### HOUSE

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**House Bills**


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**HB 2305** by Representatives Hunt, Williams, Green and Haigh

Changing the voting age.

Amends RCW 29A.08.230 relating to changing the age to vote.

Declares that this act takes effect if the proposed amendment to Article VI, section 1 of the state Constitution allowing persons who are sixteen years of age or older to vote is validly submitted to and is approved and ratified by the voters at the next general election. If the proposed amendment is not approved and ratified, this act is void in its entirety.

-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --

Mar 25 First reading, referred to State Government Operations & Accountability.

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**House Joint Memorials**


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**HJM 4021** by Representatives Williams, Moeller, Hasegawa, Kirby, Chase, Sells, Hunt, Simpson, Wood, Ormsby and Darneille

Requesting the House of Representatives to strengthen its ethics rules.

Requests that the two major political parties in the House of Representatives are not given veto power over investigating their caucus members; urges that meetings of the Ethics Committee of the House of Representatives be open to the public; supports the House of Representatives adopting a "Three Strikes and You Are Out" ethics rule denying voting privileges for the remainder of his or her term to any House member that has been admonished by the Ethics Committee three times in the course of a year; and urges that the House of Representatives adopt a rule disqualifying members of the Ethics Committee from voting in matters involving the conduct of any House member to whose legal defense fund they have contributed, either personally or through a political action committee under their control.

-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --

Mar 25 First reading, referred to State Government Operations & Accountability.

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**House Joint Resolutions**


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**HJR 4213** by Representatives Hunt, Williams, Green and Haigh

Amending the Constitution to allow persons who are sixteen years of age to vote.

Proposes an amendment to the state Constitution to allow persons who are sixteen years of age to vote.

-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --

Mar 25 First reading, referred to State Government Operations & Accountability.

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**Senate Bills**


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**SB 5029-S** by Senate Committee on Water, Energy & Environment (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen, Rockefeller, Kohl-Welles, Kline, Franklin and Eide)

Requiring safe drinking water in schools.

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Recognizes that safe water delivered to a school can be adversely impacted by the plumbing in the facility, and finds that the best way to ensure that drinking water is safe in a particular school building is through testing water from individual taps and bubblers, setting action levels for drinking water quality, and developing and implementing corrective action plans when problems are found.

Declares an intent that the exclusive responsibility remains with the local school governing authority of the school institutions for: (1) Providing information to the public about water quality and other environmental health risks in their school facilities;

(2) Undertaking corrective actions to respond to exceedances of drinking water action levels in schools;

(3) Ensuring sufficient monitoring of drinking water in school facilities is conducted to identify where such exceedances are occurring;

(4) Ensuring test results are widely accessible to parents, students, staff, and local and state health departments; and

(5) Ensuring broad community participation with prioritizing and resolving water quality and other environmental health risks.

Requires the board to adopt rules for drinking water in school facilities by August 1, 2006.

Directs the state building code council to examine the uniform plumbing code for consistency with applicable state and federal standards for lead plumbing and solders, fixtures, bubblers, fountains, or other potential sources of lead contamination of drinking water, particularly regarding the application of the code to construction of school buildings. The council shall also examine the effectiveness of those standards in new plumbing construction projects to minimize the leaching of lead into the drinking water consumed at the tap.

Provides that, by December 1, 2006, the council must submit a report on its review to the appropriate legislative committees on their findings, with recommendations for actions to ensure the code is effective in its content, implementation, and enforcement to minimize in new plumbing construction projects the leaching of lead into the drinking water consumed at the tap.

-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --

Feb 10 WEE - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.  
And refer to Ways & Means.  
Referred to Ways & Means.

**SB 5101-S** by Senate Committee on Water, Energy & Environment (originally sponsored by Senators Poulsen, Morton, Fraser, Rockefeller, Pridemore, Regala, Hewitt, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Brown and Oke)

Providing incentives to support renewable energy.

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that the use of renewable energy resources generated from local sources such as solar and wind power benefit our state by reducing the load on the state's electric energy grid, by providing nonpolluting sources of electricity generation, and by the creation of jobs for local industries that develop and sell renewable energy products and technologies.

Finds that the state's economy can be enhanced through the creation of incentives to develop additional renewable energy industries in the state.

Declares an intent to provide incentives for the greater use of locally created renewable energy technologies, support and retain existing local industries, and create new opportunities for renewable energy industries to develop in Washington state.

**-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --**

- Feb 10 WEE - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.  
And refer to Ways & Means.  
Referred to Ways & Means.
- Mar 7 WM - Majority; do pass 1st substitute bill proposed by Water, Energy & Environment.  
Passed to Rules Committee for second reading.
- Mar 10 Placed on second reading by Rules Committee.
- Mar 11 1st substitute bill substituted.  
Rules suspended. Placed on Third Reading.  
Third reading, passed: yeas, 48; nays, 1; absent, 0.

**- IN THE HOUSE -**

- Mar 15 First reading, referred to Technology, Energy & Communications.

**SB 5119-S** by Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Parlette, Roach, Mulliken, Honeyford, Johnson, Carrell, Stevens, Oke, Deccio, Schoesler and Berkey)

Requiring a review of the local government whistleblower program.

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that there has been no review of the local government whistleblower act, chapter 42.41 RCW, since its adoption in 1992. By examining a sample of local government whistleblower programs for their effectiveness in fulfilling the policy and intent of the act, the legislature intends to determine whether changes to the act are needed or further review is warranted.

Directs the joint legislative audit and review committee to review a sample of local government whistleblower programs.

Requires the committee to make recommendations regarding improvements to better facilitate the reporting and investigation of improper governmental action in local governments. The committee shall provide a final report on this review by December 1, 2006.

**-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --**

- Feb 10 GO - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.  
And refer to Ways & Means.
- Feb 11 Referred to Ways & Means.

**SB 5227-S** by Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen, Doumit, Fraser and Rasmussen; by request of Department of Fish and Wildlife)

Decriminalizing certain hunter reporting requirements. Revised for 1st Substitute: Concerning wildlife reporting requirements.

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Authorizes the commission to, by rule, set an administrative penalty for failure to comply with rules requiring the reporting of taking or effort to harvest wildlife. The commission may also adopt rules requiring hunters who have not reported for the previous license year to complete a report and pay the assessed administrative penalty before a new hunting license is issued.

Provides that the total administrative penalty per hunter set by the commission must not exceed ten dollars.

Requires that, by December 31st of each year, the department shall report the rate of hunter compliance with the harvest reporting requirement, the administrative penalty imposed for failing to report, and the amount of administrative penalties collected during that year to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the senate and house of representatives.

**-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --**

- Feb 24 NROR - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.  
And refer to Ways & Means.  
Referred to Ways & Means.
- Mar 7 WM - Majority; do pass 1st substitute bill proposed by Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation.  
Passed to Rules Committee for second reading.

**SB 5310-S** by Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development (originally sponsored by Senators Johnson, Roach, Swecker, Schoesler, Stevens and Hewitt)

Prohibiting surveys of unemployment insurance claimants. Revised for 1st Substitute: Requiring the employment security department to include on survey materials that participation is voluntary.

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides that, whenever the department surveys either current or former unemployment insurance benefit recipients, it shall note, in large font, on both the survey instrument and on all accompanying correspondence that participation in the survey is entirely voluntary.

**-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --**

- Feb 28 LCRD - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.
- Mar 1 Passed to Rules Committee for second reading.  
Made eligible to be placed on second reading.
- Mar 11 Placed on second reading by Rules Committee.

**SB 5539-S** by Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen, Oke, Rasmussen, Doumit, Schmidt, Benson, Kastama, Shin, Pridemore, Franklin and Roach)

Creating the veterans conservation corps program. Revised for 1st Substitute: Establishing the veterans conservation corps.

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that many Washington citizens are veterans of armed forces conflicts that have important skills that may be employed in projects that help to protect and restore Washington's rivers, streams, lakes, marine waters, and open lands.

Finds that such work has demonstrated benefits for many veterans who are coping with posttraumatic stress disorder or have other mental health or substance abuse disorders related to their service in the armed forces.

Declares that it is the purpose of this act to create a program that provides state funding assistance for projects that restore Washington's waters, forests, and habitat through the primary participation of such veterans.

Requires the department to submit a report to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2009, on the use of veterans conservation corps members by state agencies and local sponsors of habitat restoration projects.

**-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --**

- Mar 24 WM - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.

**SB 6010** by Senator Fairley

Granting a right of return to employment to state employees who leave employment to serve in the Peace Corps. (REVISED FOR ENGROSSED: Granting a right of return to employment to state employees who leave employment to serve as Peace Corps or humanitarian organization volunteers or on faith-based missions.)

(AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 3/16/05)

Provides that any exempt or nonexempt full-time permanent employee who leaves employment to serve in the United States peace corps, or to participate in a program sponsored by a humanitarian organization or to participate in a faith-based mission, upon return shall be restored to his or her previous position or an equivalent one. In addition, the person shall be considered as having been on furlough or leave of absence during his or her period of service in the peace corps and shall be restored to the position without loss of seniority.

Declares that the person shall be entitled to participate in insurance, vacations, retirement pay, and other benefits

offered by the employer under established rules and practices relating to employees on furlough or leave of absence in effect with the employer at the time the person left for service in the peace corps.

**-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --**

- Feb 21 First reading, referred to Labor, Commerce, Research & Development.
- Mar 2 LCRD - Majority; do pass.  
Passed to Rules Committee for second reading.
- Mar 11 Placed on second reading by Rules Committee.
- Mar 16 Floor amendment(s) adopted.  
Rules suspended. Placed on Third Reading.  
Third reading, passed: yeas, 40; nays, 7; absent, 2.

**- IN THE HOUSE -**

- Mar 18 First reading, referred to State Government Operations & Accountability.

**SB 6098** by Senator Fraser

Regarding educational interpreters and services for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Finds that there is currently no requirement that educational interpreters for deaf and hard of hearing students be certified or meet standardized qualifications or competencies. The purpose of this act is to establish standards for certification and to standardize qualifications.

Appropriates the sum of forty-nine thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, from the general fund to the office of the superintendent of public instruction to participate in the assessment system for K-12 educational interpreters. Participation is for purposes of administration of the educational interpreter written and performance assessments.

**-- 2005 REGULAR SESSION --**

- Mar 25 First reading, referred to Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.