

34th District Democrats Legislative Action Committee 3-6-11

Attendance: Greg Doss, Steve Martin, Steve Butts, Jim Burrows, Kathy Minsch, Les Treall

Note: In the minutes under Banking, on payday loans, I reported that the current law sunsets if the new law does not pass. That is incorrect. I sought clarification from Senator Nelson's aid who informed me that the current law continues if the new law fails. Senator Nelson wrote the existing law.

We reviewed our Feb 21 lobby day. Three of us were amongst the 15 or so who participated. It was agreed that the overview by the legislators was good. It was unfortunate that we had to leave early from that to meet with our delegation. It was also unfortunate that we had only 15 minutes with all 3 of our delegation and so didn't have time to get the real behind the scenes scoop that we might have had if we had more time.

We reviewed the status of several bills.

Environment- Kathy

The clean water Jobs bill appears dead.

The phosphate bill is out of rules

The coal plant conversion is having a 3rd reading, and there was an agreement reached between the state and the Trans Alta Corp which owns the coal plant to shift it away from coal.

Public Safety and Health- Kathy for Ann Martin

SB5234 the prescription return bill and SB5231, the child products toxics bill have had 2nd reading but no further movement, and the House versions have stalled.

HB 1220 requiring transparency of insurance company's financials has passed in the House and is now in the Senate.

SB 5545 human trafficking and loosening surveillance practices- out of Senate

Local Government- Greg

Supplemental budget has been signed to get us through to the next biennium.

SSB 5541 would exempt UW from local parking tax, and now the addition of non profit hospitals getting the same exemption. Would cost Seattle \$3M+.

Also worried the legislature will keep the local portion of alcohol sales money, another several \$M. Combined these will result in closures of community centers and other public facilities.

Banking- Steve Martin

SB5547 Payday loans (removes limit of 8 per year) currently stalled in Senate. If it dies, the current law sunsets.

SB 5275 Foreclosures out of House moved to Senate.

Education- from Kathryn Sprigg via email

SB 5399, Education RIF, HB 1330, math graduation requirements, SB 5346, vouchers, SB 5455, teacher performance pay, have all stalled in committee.
SB 5470 suspension of COLAs for educational employees and SB 5475 education funding are part of the budget process.

Elections- from Marcee Stone via phone and email

SB 5021 Increasing disclosure of PACs has passed out of Senate and moving in the House.

SB 5297, placing restrictions on paid initiative signature gatherers. It is stalled at this time.

Public financing of Supreme Court elections has died.

Monday March 7 is a drop dead day where bills must be out of the house of origin, so many of the stalled bills will die today.

Our next meeting will be with the King County LAC, on March 20 from 2-4, at the Carpenters hall in Renton, 231 Burnett Ave, N.