

Washington State 2026 Session

Port of Edmonds

April 28, 2026



Washington State Legislature Overview

2026 Legislative Session

- The Washington State Legislature convenes annually on the 2nd Monday in January
- Legislative sessions are defined by the biennium, or the two-year period in which bills are considered
- 1st year of the biennium is a Long Session, lasting for 105 calendar days.
 - State's Budgets: Operating, Capital, Transportation
 - Policy Bills
 - All bills that do not pass during the long session are retained in present status and eligible in current form in the following short session
- 2nd year of the biennium is a Short Session, lasting for 60 calendar days
 - Adjustments, additions to the State Budgets: Operating, Capital, Transportation (Supplemental)
 - Policy Bills, including those from the previous long session

Legislative Composition

- House of Representatives - 60% Democratic Majority
 - 59 Democrats - 39 Republicans
- Senate - 60% Democratic Majority
 - 30 Democrats - 19 Republicans
- Governor Bob Ferguson
 - Democrat

State Legislative Update

Themes of 2026

- 60% Democratic Majorities in House & Senate
- Major topics
 - Biennial Budgets
 - Revenue - Raising revenue vs programmatic cuts
 - Affordability
 - Housing
 - Climate & Decarbonization

Policy Bills

- ~1200 bills introduced in 2026
- ~1000 bill considered from 2025
- 268 delivered to the Governor to be signed into law

State Legislative Update

Supplemental Budgets

- **Operating** - funds the day-to-day operations of state government, including education, human services, public safety, and state agencies.
- **Transportation** - funds state transportation agency operations, highway construction and preservation, ferries, and public transit. It is primarily funded through the state gas tax and other transportation-specific revenues.
- **Capital** - state's construction budget and includes funding for financing infrastructure projects such as public schools, higher education facilities, parks, behavioral health facilities, and other public works.

State Legislative Update

Operating Budget

- Final budget spends \$80.2 billion, an increase of \$2.4 billion from the \$77.8 billion budget adopted in 2025.
- Includes new revenue, program reductions, transfers of revenue from other accounts, and maintenance spending (\$1.7 b)
- **Revenue:**
 - Income Tax/Millionaires ([SB 6346](#))
 - Repeal of B&O Tax Exemption for Data Center Equipment ([SB 6231](#))
 - Repeal of B&O Tax Exemption for Prescription Drugs ([SB 6228](#))
 - B&O Tax On Certain Insurance Premiums ([HB 2487](#))
 - Reduction in Estate Taxes ([SB 637](#))
 - Highest rate moved to 35% in 2025
 - Reduces highest rate to 20% in 2026
- **Fund Transfers:**
 - \$880 million from Rainy Day Fund
 - \$375 million from Public Works Assistance Account

State Legislative Update

Transportation Budget

- Final budget spends \$16.6 billion
 - \$10.2 billion in capital projects
 - \$6.4 billion for operations.
 - Includes \$800 million in new bond authorization
 - Increases ferry system preservation by \$28 million over six years.
 - Focus on preservation & maintenance
 - Increase of 1.2 billion over the 2025 enacted budget.

Capital Budget

- \$4.5 billion in bond capacity from 2025-2027; appropriates \$435.1 million in bonds, transfers \$1 billion to operating budget, and spends \$387 million from Climate Commitment Act Account
- Allocated \$889 million in investments with particular emphasis on funding improvements to water quality, flood response and building decarbonization.

Notable Bills for Ports that Passed the Legislature

HB 2215: Fuel Supplier Compliance

This bill updates the Climate Commitment Act to clarify covered fuel suppliers, adjust reporting requirements, and authorize Ecology to modify applicability thresholds and implement an electronic compliance system

SB 5292: Ports in CETA

This bill will add public port districts to the definition of consumer-owned utilities under the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) if they generate and sell electricity to at least one customer.

HB 2199: Derelict Vessels

This bill will allow problem vessels that have not been registered for two years or more to be declared derelict and for the custody process to begin so they can be removed. It also makes minor changes to the custody process to ensure proper notification of the legal owner.

Port of Edmonds Legislative Funding Priorities

North Portwalk Project

- In 2024, Port of Edmonds was awarded \$1.5 million for North Portwalk Phase 2.
- Funding will be used for electrical upgrades to support current and expanded electrification
- Utilizing this funding is underway

Mid Marina Breakwater Project

- In 2025, Port of Edmonds was awarded \$412,000 for Mid-Marina Breakwater
- Funding has been utilized to extend the useful life of the mid-marina breakwater for an additional 10-12 years, while a full replacement project is planned

Port of Edmonds Legislative Funding Priorities

Looking ahead - Interim Activities

- Potential for additional funding opportunities in 2027 and 2028
 - Direct funding (earmarks)
 - Local & Community Projects
 - Climate Commitment Account funding
 - State Grants & other opportunities
 - Recreation and Conservation Office Grants
 - CERB
 - Local Tourism Dollars
 - Creation of new grants in 2027/2028
 - And more...

Continue to advocate for the North Portwalk Project

- Engagement with State, Local, and Federal Partners
- Continue to make progress on moving the project forward
- Strategically position our funding request for consideration in the 2027 Legislative Session

Thank you to our delegation



Sen. Marko Liias
21st Legislative District



Rep. Strom Peterson
21st Legislative District



Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self
21st Legislative District



Senator Jesse Salomon
32nd Legislative District



Rep. Cindy Ryu
32nd Legislative District



Rep. Lauren Davis
32nd Legislative District

Questions?

