Legislative Update – Week of March 22, 2021

The beginning of the end

With the closure of the first committee of the year, the legislature is eyeing an early wrap-up. This is in stark contrast to the three sessions the legislature endured in 2020. With more than 800 bills on the calendar this week and more next week, most of the work is still ahead of us.

Items to Watch this Week

Business Restrictions
SB320 HB0794 (Hensley/ Lynn)

Prohibits a private business from denying an individual the full and equal enjoyment of goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations of a place of public accommodation, resort, or amusement on the grounds of the wearing or use of a medical device like a mask, or whether the individual has received medical treatment like a vaccine.

You can watch the bill in Senate Commerce Committee Tuesday at 1:00 pm here.

Workforce Development SB 767 HB784 (Johnson/ Lamberth)

Part of Governor Lee's legislative agenda allows the department to contract with entities and organizations, including local governments, to create or operate community-based alternatives to incarceration; rewrites various provisions regarding community corrections, probation, probation revocation, and release on bail.

You can watch this bill in Senate Judiciary on Tuesday at 3:00 pm here.

SB 768 HB785 (Johnson/ Lamberth)

Part of Governor Lee's legislative, the "Reentry Success Act of 2021,"; revises various provisions on parole, including creating a presumption that an eligible inmate must be released on parole upon reaching the inmate's parole eligibility date.

You can watch this bill in Senate Judiciary on Tuesday at 3:00 pm here.

Taxes

SB 608 HB1011 (Watson/Hicks)

Adds 15 days to the current six-month extension of time in which taxpayers can file a franchise and excise tax

You can watch this bill in House Finance Subcommittee on Tuesday at 8:30 am here.