HB 2182  by Representative Peterson
Relating to providing a tiered tax on the possession of hazardous substances to provide for the current program’s immediate needs and a more stable source of revenue in the future.

Introduced by title and introductory section only, relating to providing a tiered tax on the possession of hazardous substances to provide for the current program’s immediate needs and a more stable source of revenue in the future.

-- 2017 REGULAR SESSION --
Mar 27  First reading, referred to Capital Budget
(Not Officially read and referred until adoption of Introduction report).

HB 2183  by Representative MacEwen
Creating the Washington state commission on minority affairs.

Creates the Washington state commission on minority affairs.
Abolishes the governor’s office of Indian affairs, the commission on African-American affairs, the commission on Asian Pacific American affairs, and the commission on Hispanic affairs and transfers their powers, duties, and functions to the Washington state commission on minority affairs.

Requires the Washington state commission on minority affairs to advise the governor, the legislature, and other state agencies on public policy that affects a disproportionate number of citizens who find themselves disadvantaged or isolated from the benefits of equal opportunity.

Repeals the following: (1) Chapter 43.113 RCW (the commission on African-American affairs); (2) Chapter 43.115 RCW (the commission on Hispanic affairs); and (3) Chapter 43.117 RCW (the commission on Asian Pacific American affairs).

HB 2184  by Representative Goodman
Concerning the sentencing and incarceration of offenders.

Creates the office of the corrections ombuds, which is funded through the office of the state auditor, for the purpose of: (1) Providing information to inmates, family members, and department employees, regarding the rights of inmates;
(2) Providing technical assistance to support inmate self-advocacy, alternative dispute resolution, and individual representation;
(3) Identifying systemic issues, reporting to the legislature, and advocating for systemic reform; and
(4) Monitoring and promoting compliance with statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to conditions of correctional facilities and the rights of inmates.

Requires the governor to convene an ombuds advisory council with several purposes in support of the ombuds function.

Requires the state auditor to designate, by a competitive bidding process, the nonprofit organization that will operate the office.

Requires the department of corrections to: (1) Immediately manually calculate the release date of a prisoner and the release dates of similarly sentenced prisoners if the department has knowledge or reason to believe that a computer calculation error is or has caused an error in the calculation of the release date of a prisoner; and
(2) Develop a mandatory sentencing elements worksheet, in consultation with the administrative office of the courts, superior court judges’ association, Washington association of prosecuting attorneys, Washington association of criminal defense lawyers,
Washington public defenders’ association, and
Washington association of county clerks.

Requires the joint legislative audit and review
committee to conduct a performance audit of the
information technology and records related units at the
department of corrections.

Requires the sentencing guidelines commission to
contract for the services of an external consultant to
evaluate the state’s sentencing laws and practices.

Creates the joint legislative task force on criminal
sentencing and requires the task force to review
sentencing laws after consideration of the consultant’s
study and recommendations.

Requires the office of financial management, in the
contract for the next regularly scheduled performance
audit, to require the audit to review relevant
documentation regarding the department of corrections
early release error, with particular focus on the ability of
the department’s employees to use the state employee
whistleblower program.

-- 2017 REGULAR SESSION --

Mar 27 First reading, referred to Public Safety
(Not Officially read and referred until adoption of Introduction report).

HB 2185  by Representative Lytton

Fulfilling the state’s paramount duty for all children
through equitable and responsible investments in the
state’s basic education program and reductions to local
effort contributions.

Addresses the state’s basic education program with
regard to: (1) Salary allocations;
(2) Local maintenance and operation levies—local
effort assistance;
(3) Enhancement of the program of basic education;
and
(4) Reporting, accounting, and transparency.

-- 2017 REGULAR SESSION --

Mar 28 First reading, referred to Appropriations
(Not Officially read and referred until adoption of Introduction report).

HB 2186  by Representative Lytton

Concerning investing in Washington families by
improving the fairness of the state’s excise tax system by
narrowing or eliminating tax preferences, imposing a
business and occupation tax surcharge while eliminating
tax liability for small businesses, enacting an excise tax on
capital gains, modifying the real estate excise tax, making
administrative changes, and implementing marketplace
fairness in Washington.

Addresses the state’s tax system with regard to: (1)
Capital gains taxes;
(2) Business and occupation tax rate change and
deduction;
(3) Eliminating the sales and use tax exemption for bottled water;
(4) Repealing the preferential business and occupation
tax rate for warehousing and reselling prescription drugs;
(5) Narrowing a use tax exemption for self-produced fuel;
(6) Eliminating the preferential business and
occupation tax rate for international investment
management services;
(7) Nonresident sales tax exemption remittances;
(8) Graduated real estate excise tax rates;
(9) Real estate excise tax on foreclosures;
(10) Requiring local governments that issue building
permits to supply subcontractor information to the
department of revenue;
(11) Remote sellers, referrers, and marketplace
facilitators;
(12) The expansion of an individual’s liability for an
entity’s unpaid tax obligations;
(13) Reducing interest on tax refunds; and
(14) Transfers to the education legacy trust account.

-- 2017 REGULAR SESSION --

Mar 28 First reading, referred to Finance (Not
Officially read and referred until adoption of Introduction report).

HB 2187  by Representatives Manweller and Hayes

Addressing the eligibility of emergency medical
technicians employed by public hospital districts for
membership in the law enforcement officers’ and
firefighters’ retirement system plan 2.

Clarifies that emergency medical technicians qualify
as firefighters, under chapter 459, Laws of 2005, only if
they provide certain emergency medical services.

-- 2017 REGULAR SESSION --

Mar 28 First reading, referred to Appropriations
(Not Officially read and referred until adoption of Introduction report).