SENATE BILL REPORT
SB 6160

As of January 29, 2026

Title: An act relating to improving government efficiency related to reports by state agencies by eliminating reports, replacing reports, changing the frequency of reports, and providing an alternative method for having information publicly available in place of reports.

Brief Description: Improving government efficiency related to reports by state agencies.

Sponsors: Senators Krishnadasan, Cortes, Hunt, Liias, Nobles, Riccelli, Shewmake and Slatter; by request of Office of Financial Management.

Brief History:
Committee Activity: State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections: 1/30/26.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Repeals the requirement for state agencies to submit certain reports.
- Modifies the frequency of certain reports from state agencies.
- Permits state agencies to place certain information online rather than submit a report to the Legislature.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, TRIBAL AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS

Staff: Danielle Creech (786-7412)

Background: Agency Report Requirements. Many state agencies are statutorily required to submit reports on a variety of topics to the Legislature, the Governor, or both. These reports may be required one-time, such as a one-time report due by July 1, 2003 by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to the Legislature describing progress in developing alternative plan processes or harvest restrictions. Other reports may be required regularly, such as the

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following:

- a report by the State Board of Education (SBE) on the progress and obstacles related to education goals, due October 15th in even-numbered years;
- an annual report by the Department of Revenue (DOR) listing public improvements undertaken by local governments and financed in part or in whole with hospital benefit zone financing;
- an annual report by the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) on the aerospace apprenticeship utilization rate;
- a report due in even-numbered years from the Office of Financial Management's Education Research and Data Center (ERDC) regarding student enrollment forecasts; and
- an annual report from the Health Care Authority regarding processes related to Medicaid increases.

Agencies may be statutorily required to provide certain information to the Legislature or other agencies in an unspecified format. For example, the Health Care Authority is required to provide annual updates to the Governor and the Legislature on the status of the Apple Health and Homes Program.

State agencies are also often statutorily required to post certain information publicly on their websites. Examples include:

- the Department of Ecology (Ecology) must list online the interagency agreements to which the department is a party or participant; and
- each agency covered by the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL Act) must publish or update a dashboard report on its website, describing progress on incorporating environmental justice in its strategic plan, obligations relating to budgets and funding, and environmental justice assessments of proposed significant agency actions.

Summary of Bill: The bill as referred to committee not considered.

Summary of Bill (Proposed Substitute): Repealed Reporting Requirements. The following reporting requirements are removed from law:

- eight reports from the Health Care Authority:
    1. an annual report due November 30th on the Public Employees' Benefits Board health plan;
    2. an annual report due December 30th on findings and recommendations for improving services and delivery of the partnership access line;
    3. a preliminary report due July 1, 2027, summarizing progress toward testing and developing health interventions related to cannabis consumption reduction and cessation;
    4. an annual report due November 1st on processes related to Medicaid rate increases;
    5. a biennial report related to provider performance on certain measures related to child health services;

6. beginning December 1, 2027, an annual update on the status of the Apple Health and Homes Program;
7. an annual report regarding customer service complaints and appeals for the quality or availability of health service;
8. a biennial report in collaboration with the Department of Health beginning on December 31, 2019, concerning impacts, benefits, and coordination related to managing, treating, and preventing diabetes; and
9. an annual report on the status of access to behavioral health services for children from birth through age 17;

- five reports from ERDC:
  1. an annual report on student course enrollment and completion related to Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics grants to high schools;
  2. a report due January of each year from 2014 to 2018 regarding student participation in the aerospace assembler program;
  3. an annual report from 2014 to 2018 regarding the enhanced manufacturing skills program;
  4. an annual report on the impacts of financial aid on degree completion outcomes; and
  5. a report by November 15th of even numbered years regarding student enrollment forecasts;
- five reports from DNR:
  1. an annual report due December 1st through the year 2000 on the status of several long-term multispecies landscape management plans;
  2. a one-time report on jointly-issued single multiyear permits required for the conduct of forest practices, due December 31, 2000;
  3. a one-time report describing progress in developing alternate plan processes or harvest restrictions, due July 1, 2003;
  4. a two-time report on the checklist road maintenance and abandonment plan approach, due on December 31, 2008 and 2013; and
  5. reports due to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the Legislature within 30 days of execution of a lease that extends terms beyond 55 years;
- four reports from the Department of Social and Health Services:
  1. a report due every six months beginning on December 1, 2010 regarding the transfer of persons to secure facilities;
  2. an annual report beginning in December of 2007 regarding recommendations and strategies related to subcontractor organizations participating in the Independent Youth Housing Program;
  3. a quarterly report regarding outcome measures of the WorkFirst Program; and
  4. an annual expenditure report regarding individual provider overtime;
- four reports from the Department of Commerce (Commerce):
  1. an annual report on the impact fee deferral process;
  2. an annual report on the performance of subcontractor organizations participating in the youth housing program and the performance of the program;

3. an annual report on certain revenue collected by local jurisdictions; and
4. the requirement to include to the extent practical the number of unit owners who report a delinquency within a year of restructuring modification from the annual foreclosure mediation program report due December 1st of each year;

- three reports from DOR:
  1. an annual report beginning December 1, 2019 detailing the amount of payments made under a provision regarding payment in lieu of property tax for retail telecommunications services;
  2. beginning October of 2019 and every six months thereafter, a report on certain data related to exemptions for vehicles using clean alternative fuels and electric vehicles; and
  3. an annual report listing public improvements undertaken by local governments and financed with hospital benefit zone financing;
- two reports from the Department of Financial Institutions:
  1. a report on non-profit debt adjusters, due by December 1, 2016 and 2017; and
  2. an annual report on the condition of banks, trust companies, credit unions, and other consumer lenders beginning in the 2009-2011 biennium;
- two reports from SBE:
  1. a report in collaboration with the Professional Educator Standards Board on boards of education progress and obstacles related to education goals, due October 15th in even-numbered years; and
  2. a report in collaboration with OFM, due by November 1, 2013 regarding the accountability framework for system of support for challenged schools;
- two reports from the Student Achievement Council:
  1. a report to the Governor and the Legislature regarding the number of accounts that have been rolled into the Washington College Savings Program from out of state and the number of accounts rolled out of the Washington College Savings Program to 529 plans into other states; and
  2. a report in collaboration with aerospace training or educational programs, to the Governor and Legislature, regarding the Aerospace Training Student Loan Program;
- two reports from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT):
  1. a report due from OFM during the legislative session in even-numbered years regarding objectives and performance measures of the transportation system; and
  2. the requirement for WSDOT to monitor express toll lanes and provide an annual report to the Transportation Commission and the Legislature on impacts from the project;
- two reports from Ecology:
  1. a requirement for the director to list on Ecology's website information about interagency agreements; and
  2. an annual report regarding the progress on setting instream flows;
- two reports from the Department of Corrections (DOC):
  1. an annual report due December 1st regarding the number of incarcerated

individuals who were transferred to home detention as part of the graduated reentry program for the prior year; and

2. a biennial report beginning in September of 2025 regarding the results of the early adoption incentive program and recommendations for aligning the incentive program with a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

- two reports from the Department of Licensing:
  1. an annual report on the autonomous vehicle self-certifying entities; and
  2. an annual report, beginning in 2000, on the operation of the filing office;
- one report from the Department of Children, Youth and Families:
  1. a report to the public after June 7, 2018 regarding the number of newborns transferred to qualified persons;
- one report from the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy (OCMA):
  1. a biennial report on the statewide training program on Washington's human trafficking laws, with a focus on effectiveness of that training; and
- one report from L&I:
  1. an annual report, beginning October 1, 2024, on the aerospace apprenticeship utilization rate.

Reporting Frequency or Reporting Date Modified. The reporting frequency or due date of the report is modified for the following reports:

- Commerce must submit the state homeless housing strategic plan to the Legislature by January 1, 2029 and every five years thereafter, rather than by July 1, 2019 and every five years thereafter;
- Commerce's annual update on the state's homeless housing strategic plan and its activities for the prior fiscal year, is due on January 1st of each year rather than December 1st. A report on the transitional housing operating and rent program has been added;
- an annual report from the OCMA regarding the healing, support, and transition services for adults with lived experience of sex trafficking is now biennial;
- a biennial report on WSDOT's green transportation project list is now due on November 1st of each even-numbered year, rather than December 1st of even-numbered years;
- an annual report from WSDOT on the projection of the carbon credit revenues generated and a preferred ten year reinvestment strategy is now biennial;
- an annual report from each HEAL Act agency regarding the incorporation of environmental justice in its strategic plan, obligations of agencies relating to budgets and funding, and the environmental justice assessments of proposed significant agency actions, is due on November 30th, rather than September 1st;
- a report from each HEAL Act agency regarding the application of council guidance, and progress in environmental justice is due on February 28th of each even-numbered year, rather than biennially;
- an annual report from Ecology regarding funding and any related reductions to greenhouse gas emissions is due on December 31st rather than September 30th. Language providing that reports are due on November 30th during the 2025-2027

biennium is stricken.

- Ecology is required to review the state hazardous waste management plan biennially and revise as necessary, rather than update at least once every five years;
- Ecology must provide the Yakima river basin integrated water resource management plan implementation status report by September 1st of even-numbered years beginning in 2026, rather than by December 1st of each odd-numbered year;
- an annual report from Ecology on the Columbia river water supply inventory by November 15th is now due biennially; and
- the annual report from SBE on the performance of the state's charter schools to the Governor, Legislature, and public at large, is now required by December 1st of each odd-numbered year, rather than March 1st of each year.

Added Reporting Requirements. A reporting requirement is added to the Student Achievement Council. The council must report to the Legislature by December 1st annually beginning in 2026 on the impacts of the Washington College Grant Program on degree completion outcomes, including the increase in the number of students using the extended eligibility.

Certain Reports to be Posted Online Rather Than Submitted to the Legislature. The following reports or information are now required to be posted to the agency's website, rather than submitted via a report:

- by December 31st of each year, beginning in 2026, the board of directors of the Washington Motion Picture Competitiveness Program must post on its website information on the approved motion picture competitiveness program;
- a biennial report regarding lead-based paint from Commerce is now due to be posted on Commerce's website by December 31st of every odd year;
- an annual report from DOC on the data collected regarding community custody violations is required to be published on DOC's website by November 1st of each year;
- an annual report from DOC on the number of offenders considered, granted, and denied for extraordinary medical placement is now required to be published on DOC's website;
- an annual report from DOC on contracts for telecommunication services and electronic media services is now required to be published on DOC's website, due December 1st of each year rather than November 1st; and
- within 60 days of audit findings of noncompliance, OFM must post on its website the agency's response and plan for remediation, rather than report to the Governor, state auditor, Joint Legislaive Audit and Review Committe, and the Legislature.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.