

Liability Reform Coalition

Bill tracker – First cut-off

February 27, 2009

Active bills are highlighted

Bill Number	Issue	LRC Position	Status
HB 1022 Rep. Williams (D) Companion bill: SB 5025	Changes provisions related to statutory costs and could be interpreted to create a new statutory basis to recover attorney fees. Allows a plaintiff to recover costs in addition to an award or a settlement.	Neutral / monitor only	House Rules Committee Passed out of House Judiciary 1/29/09
HB 1045 Rep. Williams (D)	Increases construction liability by providing additional causes of action for single home construction and allows for attorneys fees to be recovered.	Oppose	House Judiciary Committee Heard in committee 2/4/09
HB 1105 Rep. Williams (D)	Expands the public disclosure of records regarding a controversy/lawsuit when a state agency is involved.	Under review	House State Government and Tribal Affairs Committee
HB 1150 Rep. Williams (D)	Creates a cause of action for damages to a companion animal by an intentional and criminal act. Provides for exemplary damages up to three times actual damages plus attorneys fees.	Neutral / monitor only	House Rules Committee Passed out of House Judiciary Committee 1/29/09
HB 1393 Rep. Springer (D)	Provides for additional construction liability for any construction professional involved in the construction of a new home or a remodel of an existing home.	Oppose	House Ways and Means Committee Hearing scheduled for 2/27/09
HB 1553 Rep. Takko (D)	Addresses tort claims against state and local governments.	Under review	House Rules Committee Passed out of House Transportation Committee 2/17/09
HB 1683 Rep. Kirby (D)	Expands the state's Consumer Protection Act and increases the damages cap from \$10,000 to \$25,000.	Oppose	House Rules Committee Passed out of House Judiciary Committee 2/19/09
HB 1737 Rep. Green (D)	Allows plaintiffs to recover the amount billed by a health care provider, rather than the lower amount actually paid by the health insurer.	Oppose	House Judiciary Committee Hearing scheduled for 2/9/09
HB 1738 Rep. Lias (D)	Provides for public funding for judicial campaigns.	Oppose	House State Government and Tribal Affairs Committee
HB 1787 Rep. Kelley (D)	Regarding political advertising sponsor identification.	Under review	House State Government and Tribal Affairs Committee
HB 1937 Rep. Appleton (D)	Increases juror compensation.	Support	House Judiciary Committee
HB 1989	Provides immunity to public agencies regarding the use of navigational aids to	Support	House Judiciary Committee

Rep. Warnick (R)	mark hazards.		
HB 2054 Rep. Kirby Companion bill: SB 5964	Creates additional liability in asbestos-related cases, effectively overturning recent Supreme Court decisions.	Oppose	House Judiciary Committee
HB 2176 Rep. Conway (D) Companion bill: SB 5463	Creates a good faith defense for certain minimum wage and overtime compensation complaints.	Support	House Commerce and Labor Committee Heard in committee 2/17/09
SB 5025 Sen. Kline (D) Companion bill: HB 1022	Changes provisions related to statutory costs and could be interpreted to create a new statutory basis to recover attorney fees. Allows a plaintiff to recover costs in addition to an award or a settlement.	Neutral / monitor only	Senate Rules Committee Passed out of Senate Judiciary Committee 2/19/09
SB 5069 Sen. Jacobsen (D)	Provides liability protection for landowners who open their land for public use.	Support	Senate Rules Committee Passed out of Senate Natural Resources & Ocean and Recreation Committee 2/5/09 Heard in committee 1/22/09
SB 5144 Sen. Kline (D)	Allows private parties to bring lawsuits against vendors or contractors suspected of making a "false claim" for payment from a government entity. A false claim for payment is one based on a materially incorrect fact, statement, representation or record.	Oppose	Senate Judiciary Committee Scheduled for executive session 2/20/09 Heard in committee 2/13/09
SB 5224 Sen. Kline (D)	Allows private parties to bring lawsuits against vendors or contractors suspected of making a "false claim" for payment from a government entity. A false claim for payment is one based on a materially incorrect fact, statement, representation or record.	Oppose	Senate Judiciary Committee
SB 5349 Sen. Haugen (D)	Provides a "seatbelt defense" in auto accident causes by allowing the admissibility in a lawsuit of failing to wear a seatbelt.	Support	House Judiciary Committee
SB 5365 Sen. Marr (D) Companion bill: HB 1433	Allows for damages to state property caused by motor vehicles.	Under review	Senate Transportation Committee
SB 5422 Sen. Parlette (R)	Limiting liability for making certain land and water areas available for recreational use under a hydroelectric license.	Support	Senate Rules Committee Passed out of Natural Resources & Ocean and Recreation Committee 2/5/09 Heard in committee

			1/22/09
SB 5463 Sen. Holmquist Companion bill: HB 2176	Creates a good faith defense for certain minimum wage and overtime compensation complaints.	Support	Senate Labor and Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee Heard in committee 2/19/09
SB 5531 Sen. Regala (D)	Expands the state's Consumer Protection Act and increases the damages cap from \$10,000 to \$50,000.	Oppose	Senate Rules Committee Passed Senate Judiciary Committee 2/25/09
SB 5573 Sen. Franklin (D)	Allows plaintiffs to recover the amount billed by a health care provider, rather than the lower amount actually paid by the health insurer.	Oppose	Senate Judiciary Committee Heard in committee 2/11/09
SB 5591 Sen. Kline (D)	Expands whistleblower protections and causes of action allowed under those protections.	Oppose	Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee
SB 5886 Sen. Kline (D)	Regulates legal proceedings involving public hazards. Lowers the threshold for the causation of bringing such cases and limits the effectiveness of confidentiality agreements.	Oppose	Senate Rules Committee Passed Senate Judiciary Committee 2/25/09
SB 5895 Sen. Tom (D)	Increases contractor liability	Oppose	Senate Ways and Means Committee Heard in committee 2/26/09
SB 5912 Sen. Oemig	Provides public funding for judicial campaigns.	Oppose	Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee
SB 5964 Sen. McDermott Companion bill: HB 2054	Creates additional liability in asbestos-related cases for manufacturers who did not create asbestos products, effectively overturning two recent Supreme Court decisions.	Oppose	Senate Rules Committee Passed Senate Labor and Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee 2/25/09