

Legislative Comment

Having spent most of last week in Olympia, WA, I can attest to a real change in the legislative environment. While testifying as opposed to SB 5877 requiring a certain number of crew on certain trains while in Washington State, I was given 1 minute (60 seconds) for my testimony before the red light lite up. Beside me was a rail labor union representative who continued speaking several minutes after the red light came on and finally finished uninterrupted. Even though I was in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee, I could not be more disappointed that a balanced and fair opportunity was not provided. You can watch the testimony here:

<https://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2019021353>

Our segment begins at 48:00 minutes into the hearing. Not the way it used to be.

A buzz in the hall related to a first where SSB 5693 sponsored in part by Senator Saldana, requires retailers to provide on going reports regarding their supply chains to ensure no human trafficking or slavery was used within the procurement process. This bill passed on Feb 22nd and is headed to the Rules Committee for a second reading.

Also, there was ongoing discussion regarding SSB 5550 which is a continuation of a Bill last year to provide advance notice of pesticide applications incorporating the findings of a study group who held several meetings in 2018. There also is a recommendation from the study group to form the previous PIRT panel for their pesticide recommendations. FWAA met with Representative Tom Dent from the Moses Lake area who previously ran an aerial application business and now co-chairs the work study group. We had a meaningful discussion and were able to share our opinions. Last week was the first cut-off for several bills that did not move from committee.

The Oregon Legislature is displaying a much bigger blip on our radar screen since it has approximately 14 Bills involving pesticides. Again, the environment has changed and so its vital that we work with our allies to make certain Oregon is not disadvantaged in anyway particularly within the Agricultural business environment. Much more on this to follow.

Activities within Idaho for the most part is not currently a concern. There were some seed Bills of interest but they are no longer an immediate concern. Utah and Nevada also are be-

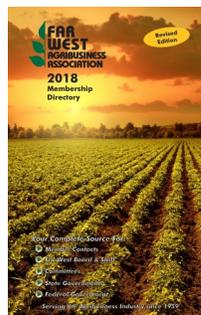
ing monitored and we are not aware of a business or industry threat.

-Jim Fitzgerald

A Couple of Reminders

- During the Legislative session for our five states, be sure to check the FWAA website at www.fwaa.org and access the weekly reports from our lobbyists in Washington, Idaho and Oregon. We will include any newsworthy mention from Utah and Nevada.
- Spring will come so while the temperatures are cold and snow cover exists be certain to make certain your safety and regulatory requirements are where they need to be. If you are an ASMARK subscriber, be certain to check your web-based to-do-list and complete any outstanding requirements. If you need help, call us at Far West and we will connect you with the necessary resources and expertise.
- 2019 FWAA dues are due. Thank you to those 64% who have sent in their dues and we kindly ask the remaining 36 % to please do so. Our operations depend upon it.
- We are approximately 45 days from going to print with our 2019 directory listing our membership and partners. If you have received a directory update form, please return those updates to include your current company contacts. If you wish to advertise within the directory please contact Errin or Karen at the FWAA office, both can be reached through admin@fwaa.org.

Our office will be closed on March 5 & 6th to attend our Board of Directors meeting. The office will reopen on March 7th.



2019 Membership Directory Ad Space Available!

Major Sponsor - Full Color Page or Two-Page Black & White Ad

\$650

Supporting Sponsor - Single Page Black & White Ad

\$350