

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 2039 S HB AMH FITZ H3243.2	Title: Env. & land use appeals
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Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Agency Name	2023-25		2025-27		2027-29	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts	Fiscal note not available					
Loc School dist-SPI						
Local Gov. Other						
Local Gov. Total						

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Administrative Office of the Courts	Fiscal note not available											
Department of Ecology	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts	Fiscal note not available								
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other									
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Administrative Office of the Courts	Fiscal note not available								
Department of Ecology	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts	Fiscal note not available								
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other									
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

Prepared by: Lisa Borkowski, OFM	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date Published: Preliminary 2/22/2024
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Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2039 S HB AMH FITZ H3243.2	Title: Env. & land use appeals	Agency: 461-Department of Ecology
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

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Agency Preparation: Jessica Moore	Phone: 360-529-7583	Date: 02/20/2024
Agency Approval: Erik Fairchild	Phone: 360-407-7005	Date: 02/20/2024
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 02/22/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

The differences between SHB 2039 and 2039-S AMH FITZ H3243.2 are as follows:

- A new section 2, that is identical to section 1, which would expire July 1, 2026, is added that would take effect July 1, 2026. Sections are renumbered accordingly.
- Section 3 is updated for provisions directly related to ELUHO.
- Section 11 is changed to have section 1 expire July 1, 2026, instead of take effect July 1, 2026. This change would establish the bill's appeal pathway for clean energy projects when the bill is effective, rather than 2026.
- A new section 12 is added that would make section 2 take effect July 1, 2026.

These changes do not change the fiscal impact for Ecology.

Currently, the Department of Ecology operates under current laws passed in 2021 (SB 5225 – in effect until July 1, 2026) that streamlined the process for seeking direct review by the Washington Court of Appeals for judicial review of administrative decisions made by “environmental boards,” including the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) and Shoreline Hearings Board (SHB).

This bill would continue current processes for direct review that were enacted in 2021 for clean energy projects and includes other streamlining and clarifying provisions.

Section 1 would amend RCW 34.05.518, the Administrative Procedures Act to allow the final decision of the PCHB or SHB to be directly reviewed by the Court of Appeals as defined in the Clean Energy Coordinated Permit Process Rule (RCW 43.158). The Superior Court would be permitted to certify cases for transfer if a motion is filed by any party to the appeal. Final decisions by administrative agencies may be certified by the Superior Court and transferred as a direct appeal to the Court of Appeals. Parties contesting Superior Court decisions related to certification of direct review may file a motion for discretionary review with the Court of Appeals. Per section 11, this section would expire July 1, 2026.

Section 2 mirrors section 1. Per section 12, this section would take effect July 1, 2026.

Section 3 would amend add a new section to chapter 43.21B RCW, Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office (ELUHO), that would allow a presiding officer to consolidate appeals for hearing if all parties agree, appeals for the same project are filed within 60 days of each other, the applicant requests a stay, or consolidation will expedite the disposition of the appeals, avoid duplication of testimony, and not prejudice the rights of any parties. If appeals are consolidated between the PCHB and SHB, appeals would be heard by the SHB within 240 days, though it can be extended.

Section 4 would amend RCW 90.58.180, Shoreline Management Act, to allow the presiding officer of the SHB to consolidate appeals for hearing if consolidation will expedite the disposition of the appeals, avoid duplication of testimony, and not prejudice the rights of any parties.

Section 5 would amend and reenact RCW 43.21B.110, ELUHO, to give the PCHB jurisdiction over appeals related to civil penalties, orders, and other actions under a variety of environmental and public health-related statutes, including those by local health departments related to solid waste permits.

Section 6 would amend and reenact RCW 43.21B.300, ELUHO, to add new civil penalties that are covered under penalty processes by Ecology or local air authorities for the following laws: RCW 70A.230.080 (mercury); RCW 70A.430.070 (children's safe products); RCW 70A.500.260 (electronic product recycling); RCW 70A.505.110 (mercury-containing

lights); and RCW 86.16.081 (floodplain management). These new civil penalties would be covered under appeals process by the PCHB.

Section 7 would amend RCW 70A.230.080, Mercury Law, to require penalties for violating the law to be imposed pursuant to RCW 43.21B.300, and would require appeals of penalties to go to the PCHB.

Section 8 would amend RCW 70A.300.120, Hazardous Waste Management, to add agency penalties as an action that may be appealed.

Section 9 would amend RCW 70A.430.070, Children's Safe Products Act, to require penalties for violating the law imposed pursuant to RCW 43.21B.300 and requires appeals to go to the PCHB.

Section 10 would amend RCW 86.16.081, Flood Management Act, to require penalties to be imposed consistently with the procedures in RCW 43.21B.300.

Section 11 would establish July 1, 2026, as the expiration date for Section 1 of the bill.

Section 12 would establish July 1, 2026, as the effective date for Section 2 of the bill.

Section 13 would amend RCW 70A.205.145 (Exemption from solid waste permit requirements – waste derived soil amendments) to exempt solid waste handling regulations for waste-derived soil amendments.

The processes proposed in this bill are currently in practice in the review of administrative decisions, with some small changes. The bill would enact these processes for clean energy projects. Despite the changes that differentiate it from the 2021 provision, these changes would not create new work for the agency, and therefore, there would be no fiscal impact to Ecology.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2039 S HB AMH FITZ H3243.2	Title: Env. & land use appeals	Agency: 468-Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

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Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

This bill 1) streamlines the process for parties to environmental and land use appeals to seek direct review by the Court of Appeals (COA), 2) requires consolidation of appeals of clean energy projects by environmental hearings boards when certain criteria are met, 3) gives authority to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) over cases related to the regulation of electronic products with screens greater than 4 inches; lead, cadmium, or phthalates in children's products and fire retardants; and uses/sales of mercury; and, 4) removes the exemption from solid waste permit requirements for waste-derived soil amendments meeting certain standards.

Sections 3 and 4: Consolidation of Appeals

Sec. 3 - Adds a new section to chapter 43.21B (PCHB) to consolidate appeals of clean energy project permits.

It requires the presiding officer to consolidate appeals if (a) appeals for permits related to the same project are filed within 60 days of each other, or, if permits are not filed within 60 days of each other, when the environmental boards issue a stay of the appeal and the stay of the appeal includes a stay of the construction of the project pending appeal; or (b) upon making a determination that (i) consolidation will expedite disposition of the appeals, (ii) consolidation will avoid duplication of testimony, and (iii) consolidation will not prejudice the rights of the parties.

When appeals of the same clean energy project are filed with the PCHB and with the Shorelines Hearings Board (SHB) are consolidated under the bill, the consolidated appeals must be heard by the PCHB.

The PCHB must issue its decision within 240 days of the date the last appeal was filed. The deadline may be extended up to 30 days and may be waived by all parties.

Sec. 4 – Incorporates consolidation as in Sec. 3 to the SHB.

No impact is anticipated as a result of these sections.

Sections 5, 6, 7, and 9: New Areas of Jurisdiction for PCHB

Sec. 5(1)(a) - Adds new PCHB jurisdiction over appeals under RCWs 70A.230 (Mercury), 70A.430.070 (Children's Safe Products), 70A.500.260 (Selling covered electronic products without participating in an approved plan prohibited).

Sec. 6(1) - Adds new PCHB jurisdiction regarding penalties consistent with amendments above.

Chapter 70A.500 regards certain covered electronic products, which are screens or products that have screens greater than 4" (with exceptions). Manufacturers selling or offering to sell such products must meet requirements regarding: Ecology-approved plan; registration; education and outreach; reporting; labeling; retailers; collector or transporter registrations; and performance standards. The program began Jan. 2007 and Ecology administers and issues penalties. This bill gives the PCHB review authority of those penalties.

Sec. 7 - Chapter 70A.230 regards prohibited uses/sales of mercury. Ecology administers and issues penalties if violations discovered. Adds new PCHB jurisdiction regarding mercury appeals. Consistent with amendments above.

Sec. 9 - Chapter 70A.430 regards children's safe products, prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or distribution of: children's products containing more than the specified levels of lead, cadmium, phthalates and fire retardants; and furniture containing more than specified level of fire retardant. Law in effect since Jan. 1, 2009 (fire retardants portion began 2017). Ecology

has been administering and issuing penalties. This bill gives PCHB review authority of those penalties. Consistent with amendments above.

NO FISCAL IMPACTS from Sections 5, 6, 7, and 9

Appeals under RCW 70A.230 (Mercury) and 70A.430.070 (Children's Safe Products) - These programs were implemented some time ago. Ecology reports no penalties issued under these programs to date and does not anticipate any in the future. Therefore, ELUHO anticipates no appeals in these areas.

Appeals under 70A.500.260 (Selling covered electronic products without participating in an approved plan prohibited) – Ecology reports that only four penalties have been issued under this program since 2007 and the trend of less one appeal annually is not expected to change. Therefore, ELUHO anticipates no appeals as a result of this program.

Section 13: Removing Solid Waste Exemption

Sec. 13 will remove the exemption (RCW 70A.205.145) from solid waste permit requirements for waste-derived soil amendments meeting certain standards.

This will increase appeals to the PCHB of grants or denials of solid waste permits (RCW 43.21B.110(1)(d)) related to those facilities that were formerly exempt from compliance. However, it will reduce appeals to the PCHB of approvals and denials of a solid waste permit exemption (RCW 43.21B.110(1)(c)). Therefore, no net fiscal impacts are anticipated.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

none

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

none

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

New rules would need to be created related to consolidating appeals.