

WHAT'S AVAILABLE ONLINE

Statutes: Revised Code of Washington (RCW), 1973-present: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/Rcw/>

Session Laws: Laws of Washington, 1854-present (consistently available for 1891-present): http://leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser/pages/session_laws.aspx (Tip - click the year to see a list of documents by chapter number.)

Bill text, summaries & reports, 1991-present: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/>

Floor and Committee Recordings: TVW.org, 1997-present: <https://tvw.org/video-search/>

Search for additional documents, some dating back to 1985: <http://search.leg.wa.gov/search.aspx#document>

Floor Journals, House (1891-present) and Senate (1941-present): <http://leg.wa.gov/LIC/Pages/Floor-Journals.aspx>

Final Legislative Report, 1975-2016: <http://leg.wa.gov/LIC/Pages/Final-Legislative-Reports.aspx>

Legislative Digest and History of Bills, 2005-2018: <http://leg.wa.gov/LIC/Pages/Digests-and-History-of-Bills.aspx>

Regulations: Washington Administrative Code (WAC), 1977-present: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/>

Proposed Regulations: Washington State Register, 1978-present: http://leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser/pages/washington_state_register.aspx

WHERE DO I START?

Legislative history is based on a bill number. To find a bill number, look for links to Session Laws at the bottom of the RCW section. The bill number is at the top of the Session Law. See instructions below for accessing bill information.

RCW History > Session Law Number > Bill Number > Bill and Supporting Documents

HOW DO I FIND THE INFORMATION I NEED? – Three Places to Start

The reference librarians at the Washington State Law Library have created these instructions for accessing free online legislative history documents. Read below to learn about three ways to access information through the Washington State Legislature’s website and then see examples of real searches performed on the site.

1. From the **Legislature’s home page** at <http://leg.wa.gov/> the menu in the sidebar on the left side of the page point to **Laws & Agency Rules** and **Bill Information**:



The **Laws & Agency Rules** page includes links to RCW, RCW Dispositions, State Constitution, WAC, Washington State Register, and more:

Search the **Bill Information** page by bill number to find reports, cross references and links to audio/video on TVW.org, for bills from 1991 to present:

2. The **Office of the Code Reviser's page**, <http://leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser/Pages/default.aspx>, provides direct access to RCW, Session Laws, WAC, Washington State Register, and more, including the Governor's Bill Action and Executive Orders as well as the Popular Name Table.

3. The advanced search functions at <http://search.leg.wa.gov/> will return some documents as far back as 1985.

First, choose to search the Legislative Resources.

Then, select the time frame and the types of documents to return.

Another option at the very bottom of the page, is to search the House and Senate Floor Journals.

The screenshot shows the 'Legislative Search' page of the Washington State Legislature website. The page is divided into several sections:

- Legislative Search:** Includes tabs for 'Search Terms', 'Zones', and 'Preferences'. It has a 'Clear Terms' button and a 'Search' button. The 'Search Type' dropdown is set to 'Legislative Documents'.
- Document Selection:** Includes a 'Clear Document Selection' button. It has a dropdown for 'Bills and Other Biennium Documents' with sub-tabs for 'House', 'Senate', and 'Both'. A time frame dropdown is set to '1985-86'. A list of document types includes 'All Bills, Memorials, and Resolutions', 'Amendment', 'Bill' (checked), 'Bill Report' (checked), 'Concurrent Resolution', 'Initiative', 'Joint Memorial', 'Joint Resolution', 'Passed Legislature', 'Resolution', 'Session Law', and 'Veto'. A 'Search' button is at the bottom right.
- Law Documents:** Includes a list of document types: 'RCW', 'RCW Disposition', 'Legislative Ethics', 'WA Constitution', and 'WAC'. A 'Search' button is at the bottom right.
- Yearly Documents:** Includes a dropdown for 'Journal' and 'WSR', and a time frame dropdown set to '2021'. A 'Search' button is at the bottom right.

Annotations with blue arrows point to the 'Legislative Documents' dropdown, the 'Both' tab, the '1985-86' dropdown, the 'Bill' and 'Bill Report' checkboxes, and the 'Journal' dropdown.

*SEE SAMPLE SEARCHES
ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES*

EXAMPLE #1

For our first example, we will find the bill information for the 2011 amendment to **RCW 28A.210.090**.

Step 1: Begin by finding the RCW online and reviewing the history notes which link to the Session Laws. To get to this section, go to the RCW page at <http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/> and scroll down to click into Title 28A, Common School Provisions. Select Chapter 28A.210, Health-Screening and Requirements, and then Section 28A.210.090, Immunization Program-Exemptions. The history notes are at the end of the section.

RCW 28A.210.090

Immunization program—Exemptions. (Effective July 1, 2022.)

(1) Any child shall be exempt in whole or in part from the immunization measures required by RCW 28A.210.060 through 28A.210.170 upon the presentation of any one or more of the certifications required by this section, on a form prescribed by the department of health:

(a) A written certification signed by a health care practitioner that a particular vaccine required by rule of the state board of health is, in his or her judgment, not advisable for the child: PROVIDED, That when it is determined that this particular vaccine is no longer contraindicated, the child will be required to have the vaccine;

(b) A written certification signed by any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child that the religious beliefs of the signator are contrary to the required immunization measures; or

(c) A written certification signed by any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child that the signator has either a philosophical or personal objection to the immunization of the child. A philosophical or personal objection may not be used to exempt a child from the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine.

(2)(a) The form presented on or after July 22, 2011, must include a statement to be signed by a health care practitioner stating that he or she provided the signator with information about the benefits and risks of immunization to the child. The form may be signed by a health care practitioner at any time prior to the enrollment of the child in a school or licensed day care. Photocopies of the signed form or a letter from the health care practitioner referencing the child's name shall be accepted in lieu of the original form.

(b) A health care practitioner who, in good faith, signs the statement provided for in (a) of this subsection is immune from civil liability for providing the signature.

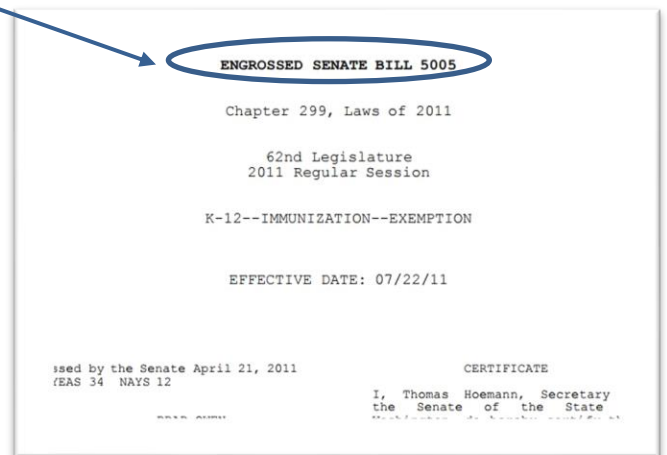
(c) Any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child who exempts the child due to religious beliefs pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section is not required to have the form provided for in (a) of this subsection signed by a health care practitioner if the parent or legal guardian demonstrates membership in a religious body or a church in which the religious beliefs or teachings of the church preclude a health care practitioner from providing medical treatment to the child.

(3) For purposes of this section, "health care practitioner" means a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, a naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW, a physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW.

[2020 c 80 § 27; 2019 c 362 § 2; 2011 c 299 § 1; 1991 c 3 § 290; 1990 c 33 § 193; 1984 c 40 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 118 § 4. Formerly RCW 28A.31.106.]

Step 2: Review the Session Law for the year of interest. We are looking for language enacted in 2011. Access the Session Law by clicking on link to 2011 c 299 § 1.

Then, find the bill number. Notice the bill number at the top of the page. The bill number of interest is **ESB 5005 (2011)**:



Step 3: Search for the bill information page to locate any supporting documents, links to video on TVW.org, etc.

Select 2011-2012 on the Bill Information page at <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/> and search for bill number 5005.

Bill Information

Search by Bill Number

5005

2011-12

The page for the bill will include a timeline of events. There are links to additional documents throughout the timeline. Keep scrolling down below the timeline to find links to documents and videos, if available.

Bill Information > SB 5005
 Search for another bill or initiative:
 Bill Initiative 2011-2012

SB 5005 - 2011-12

Concerning exemption from immunization.
 Sponsors: Keiser, Honeyford, Pflug, Becker, Regala, Carrell, Hobbs, Nelson, Rockefeller, Shin, Chase
 Companion Bill: HB 1015

Go to documents...
 Go to videos...

Bill History

2011 REGULAR SESSION

Dec 13 Prefiled for introduction.
 Jan 10 First reading, referred to Health & Long-Term Care. (View Original Bill)
 Jan 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care at 1:30 PM. (Committee Materials)
 Jan 19 Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care at 8:00 AM. (Committee Materials)
 HEA - Majority: do pass. (Majority Report)
 Jan 20 Passed to Rules Committee for second reading.
 Feb 1 Placed on second reading by Rules Committee.
 Feb 22 Floor amendment(s) adopted.
 Rules suspended. Placed on Third Reading.
 Third reading, passed; yeas, 35; nays, 11; absent, 0; excused, 3. (View 1st Engrossed) (View Roll Calls)

Scroll down to the bottom of the page, where you'll see a list of available documents, a list of amendments, and links to available audio/video.

IN THE HOUSE

Feb 23 First reading, referred to Health Care & Wellness.
 Bill as Passed to the House Committee on Health Care & Wellness at 9:00 AM

Available Documents

For a complete list of documents, go to Online Reports Text of a Legislative Document.

Bill Documents	Bill Digests	Bill Reports
Original Bill	Bill Digest	Senate Bill Report (Orig.)
Engrossed Bill		Senate Bill Report
Bill as Passed Legislature		Engrossed House Bill Analysis 2011
Session Law		Engrossed Senate Bill Report
		Engrossed House Bill Report
		Final Bill Report

Fiscal Note

Get Fiscal Note

Amendments

Amendment Name	Num	Sponsor	Type	Description	Action
5005.E AMH HCW H2234.2		Health Care & Wellness	Committee	Striker	ADOPTED
5005.E AMH HINK POWE 027	464	Hinkle	Floor	Pg 1 Ln 25	FAILED
5005.AMS HARG HANI 027	7	Hargrove	Floor	Pg 1 Ln 13	ADOPTED

Available Videos

(Video links take you to the TVW website)

NOTICE: TVW includes committee recordings from 1997 to present, but most of these are not linked on the bill page. If there are no videos listed, search for committee recordings at <http://tvw.org/video-search/>.

EXAMPLE #2

What if the bill I'm interested in is before 1991, and there's no bill information page online? You can do part of your research online before hitting the books! For this example, we'll use the same RCW, RCW 28A.210.090, but now we're interested in the amendments made in 1990, just before online bill information pages are available.

Step 1: This will be just like we did in Example #1! Begin by finding the RCW online and reviewing the history notes which link to the Session Laws. To get to this section, go to the RCW page at

http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/ and scroll down click into Title 28A, Common School Provisions. Select Chapter 28A.210, Health-Screening and Requirements, and then Section 28A.210.090, Immunization Program-Exemptions. The history notes are the end of the section.

RCW 28A.210.090 to

Immunization program—Exemptions. (Effective July 1, 2022.)

(1) Any child shall be exempt in whole or in part from the immunization measures required by RCW 28A.210.060 through 28A.210.170 upon the presentation of any one or more of the certifications required by this section, on a form prescribed by the department of health:

(a) A written certification signed by a health care practitioner that a particular vaccine required by rule of the state board of health is, in his or her judgment, not advisable for the child; PROVIDED, That when it is determined that this particular vaccine is no longer contraindicated, the child will be required to have the vaccine;

(b) A written certification signed by any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child that the religious beliefs of the signator are contrary to the required immunization measures; or

(c) A written certification signed by any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child that the signator has either a philosophical or personal objection to the immunization of the child. A philosophical or personal objection may not be used to exempt a child from the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine.

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(b) A health care practitioner who, in good faith, signs the statement provided for in (a) of this subsection is immune from civil liability for providing the signature.

(c) Any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child who exempts the child due to religious beliefs pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section is not required to have the form provided for in (a) of this subsection signed by a health care practitioner if the parent or legal guardian demonstrates membership in a religious body or a church in which the religious beliefs or teachings of the church preclude a health care practitioner from providing medical treatment to the child.

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[2020 c 80 § 27; 2019 c 362 § 2; 2011 c 299 § 1; 1991 c 3 § 290; 1990 c 33 § 193; 1984 c 40 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 118 § 4. Formerly RCW 28A.31.106.]

Step 2: Review the Session Law for the year of interest. Remember, this time we're interested in the amendment from 1990, not 2011. Access the Session Law by clicking on the link to 1990 c 33 s 193.

CHAPTER 33
(House Bill No. 2276)
TITLE 28A RCW—REORGANIZATION

AN ACT Relating to reorganization of Title 28A RCW; amending RCW 28A.01.020, 28A.01.130, 28A.41.110, 28A.58.750, 28A.58.754, 28A.58.758, 28A.41.130, 28A.41.140, 28A.41.160, 28A.41.160, 28A.41.170, 28A.41.145, 28A.41.150, 28A.41.162, 28A.41.050, 28A.41.053, 28A.41.055, 28A.41.112, 28A.41.175, 28A.13.005, 28A.13.010, 28A.13.020, 28A.13.030, 28A.13.040, 28A.13.045, 28A.13.060, 28A.13.070, 28A.13.080, 28A.03.300, 28A.03.320, 28A.03.367, 28A.24.055, 28A.24.065, 28A.24.111, 28A.24.120, 28A.24.170, 28A.24.172, 28A.24.175, 28A.58.428, 28A.58.133, 28A.41.505, 28A.41.510, 28A.41.515, 28A.41.520, 28A.41.525, 28A.41.540, 28A.41.180, 28A.120.014, 28A.120.016, 28A.120.022,

Then, find the bill number. Notice the bill number at the top of the page. The bill number of interest is HB 2276 from 1990.

Step 3: Now that you have the bill number you can search by bill number and session date at http://search.leg.wa.gov/, and then look at various sources of information in hard copy, including the bill books, journals, Final Legislative Report, and Legislative Digest & History of bills.