

# Legislative Session Update

**Exchange Board Meeting**

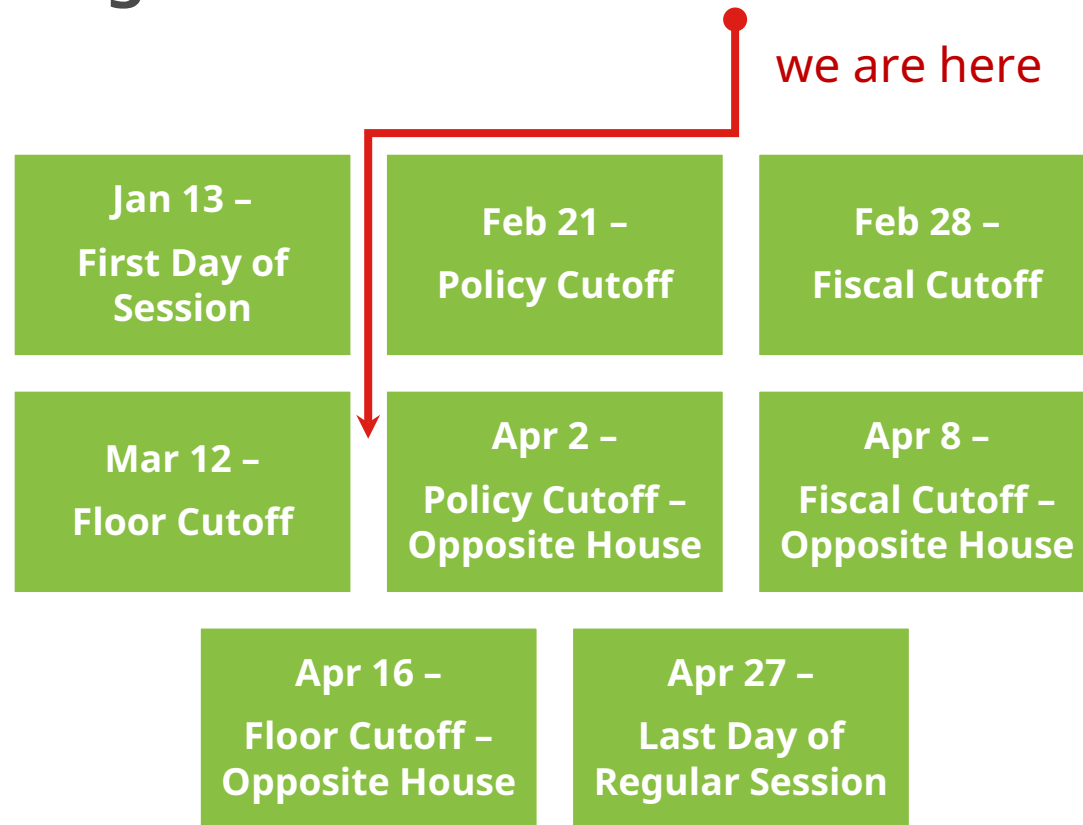
March 27, 2025

Shirley Prasad | Government Affairs Director



# Where we are in session

## Legislative calendar



## Session by the numbers

- ▶ Bills introduced: 1,800+
- ▶ Bills passed policy cutoff: 1,100+
- ▶ Bills passed fiscal cutoff: 700+
- ▶ Bills passed floor cutoff: 500+

\*Mar 24 - Senate and House Proposed Budgets

# Budget and legislative priorities

## ▶ Cascade Care Savings

- ▶ HSE and SEN Budgets – funded at \$55M for PY 2026

## ▶ Cost Containment

- ▶ **E2SSB 5083 – establishes a reference-based pricing model for PEBB and SEBB plans**
  - ▶ Recommendation from HCCTB, HCA request legislation
  - ▶ Status: passed Senate, exec session in House Appropriations Mar 24 - NTIB
- ▶ **E2SHB 1686 – creates a health care entity registry**
  - ▶ Recommendation from HCCTB
  - ▶ Status: passed House, passed Health Committee, referred to Ways & Means

# Notable bills still moving

- ▶ **ESSB 5480 – removing barriers created by medical debt**
  - ▶ HBE position: support
  - ▶ Status: passed Senate, exec session in House Cons Protection on Mar 25
- ▶ **SHB 1392 – creating the Medicaid access program (covered lives assessment)**
  - ▶ HBE position: concerns
  - ▶ Status: passed House, referred to Ways & Means – NTIB
- ▶ **SB 5077 – expanding voter registration by govt agencies**
  - ▶ HBE position: concerns
  - ▶ Status: passed Senate, exec session in House State Gov't on Mar 28

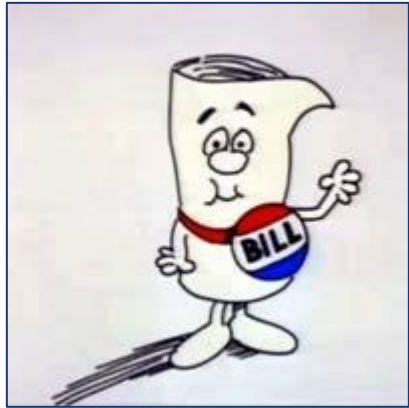
# Notable bills that are “dead”

- ▶ HB 1675 / SB 5387 – corporate practice of medicine
- ▶ HB 1881 / SB 5704 – health care mergers and consolidations
- ▶ HB 1482 – equity in health coverage
- ▶ HB 1566 / SB 5395 – improve transparency in prior authorization
- ▶ SB 5075 – cost sharing for pre- and post-natal care

# Notable budget items

- ▶ Apple Health Expansion (SEN only)
  - ▶ Savings from moving from managed care to fee for services
- ▶ Medicaid rate cuts (SEN and HSE)
  - ▶ Lab fees
  - ▶ Adult and pediatric dental (HSE only)
  - ▶ MCO physical health capitation rates
- ▶ Medicaid access program (covered lives assessment) (HSE only)

# What's next



Bills passed by Apr 16,  
unless necessary to implement  
the budget



Conference budget by Apr 27,  
otherwise special session



Threats to Medicaid, ACA  
marketplaces, enhanced  
premium tax credits, and more



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