



YOUTH IN POLITICS SUMMIT MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH 2025

BUS RIDER SCHEDULE

The bus pick up and drop off location is at

SWACH - 311 West 11th Street Vancouver, WA 98660

- 7:15 AM** **ARRIVE AT SWATCH PARKING LOT**
Park your car in the SWACH parking lot, Check-in, get a name tag, find a seat on the bus
- 7:30 AM** **BUS DEPARTS**
The bus will began driving to Olympia
- 9:25 AM** **BUS ARRIVES IN OLYMPIA**
The bus will arrive and park at the Campus
- 9:30 AM** **OWIES YOUTH VOICES IN POLICTICS PROGRAM BEGINS**
Please review the **backside** of this page to see the Agenda
- 3:30 PM** **OWIES YOUTH VOICES IN POLICTICS PROGRAM ENDS**
After the group photo, we will conclude activities and gather everyone back to the bus
- 3:45 PM** **BOARDING THE BUS**
All attendees will head back to the Olympia center, take care of any last minute needs, then board the bus for departure
- 4:00 PM** **BUS DEPARTS**
The bus will depart back to Vancouver
- 6:00 PM** **ARRIVE IN VANCOUVER**
The bus will arrive back to the SWACH parking lot in Vancouver, we estimate this time to be 6:00, depending on traffic

PLEASE PARK HERE!



IMAGE OF SWATCH'S FRONT ENTRANCE



IMAGE OF SWATCH'S PARKING LOT



SWACH

FOR ANY EVENT RELATED ISSUES PLEASE CALL/TEXT:
MIRACLE JOSLIN, 564-208-1840



YOUTH IN POLITICS SUMMIT

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH 2025

Agenda

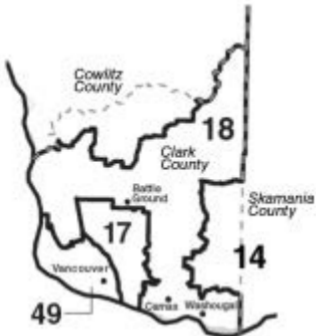
Date: President's Day, Monday, February 17th, 2025

Location: Capitol Building, 416 Sid Snyder Ave SW Olympia, Washington 98504

- 9:30 AM** **Arrive at Capitol Campus**
Grab your packet, connect with your group, check when your lawmaker meetings are scheduled
- 9:40 AM** **Meet at your Representative's office**
Check in with the front desk for your meeting
- 9:45 AM** **Meetings Start**
Each group will have 10 minutes PER MEETING to state their message and hand off letters
- 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM** **Watch a Live Caucus LEARNING THE PATHWAY OUT OF POVERTY**
See your lawmakers debate in real time
- 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM** **Lunch**
Walk to the United Churches of Olympia where we will have lunch waiting
- 12:35 PM** **Choose your Activity - Rallies or Sessions**
During this time you will attend 2 sessions or rallies that you previously indicated interest, your group leader for these activities may be different than your legislative group lead
- 2:00 PM** **Capitol Tour!**
Break into groups by district and plan your meeting!
- 3:00 PM** **Small Break**
Take a quick break before our group picture.
- 3:15 PM** **TAKING A PICTURE AT THE SUMMIT**
Meet at the Capitol steps for a group photo!
- 3:45 PM** **Head to United Churches of Olympia**
Walk to the bus pick-up location to get ready to head back to Vancouver, WA.
- 4:00 PM** **Bus Departing**

VANCOUVER AREA LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

Detail



Olympia Center to Capitol Campus Map



- A**
Olympia Center
- B**
Route 13 bus stop close to Olympia Center
- C**
Capitol Campus
- D**
Route 13 bus stop close to Capitol

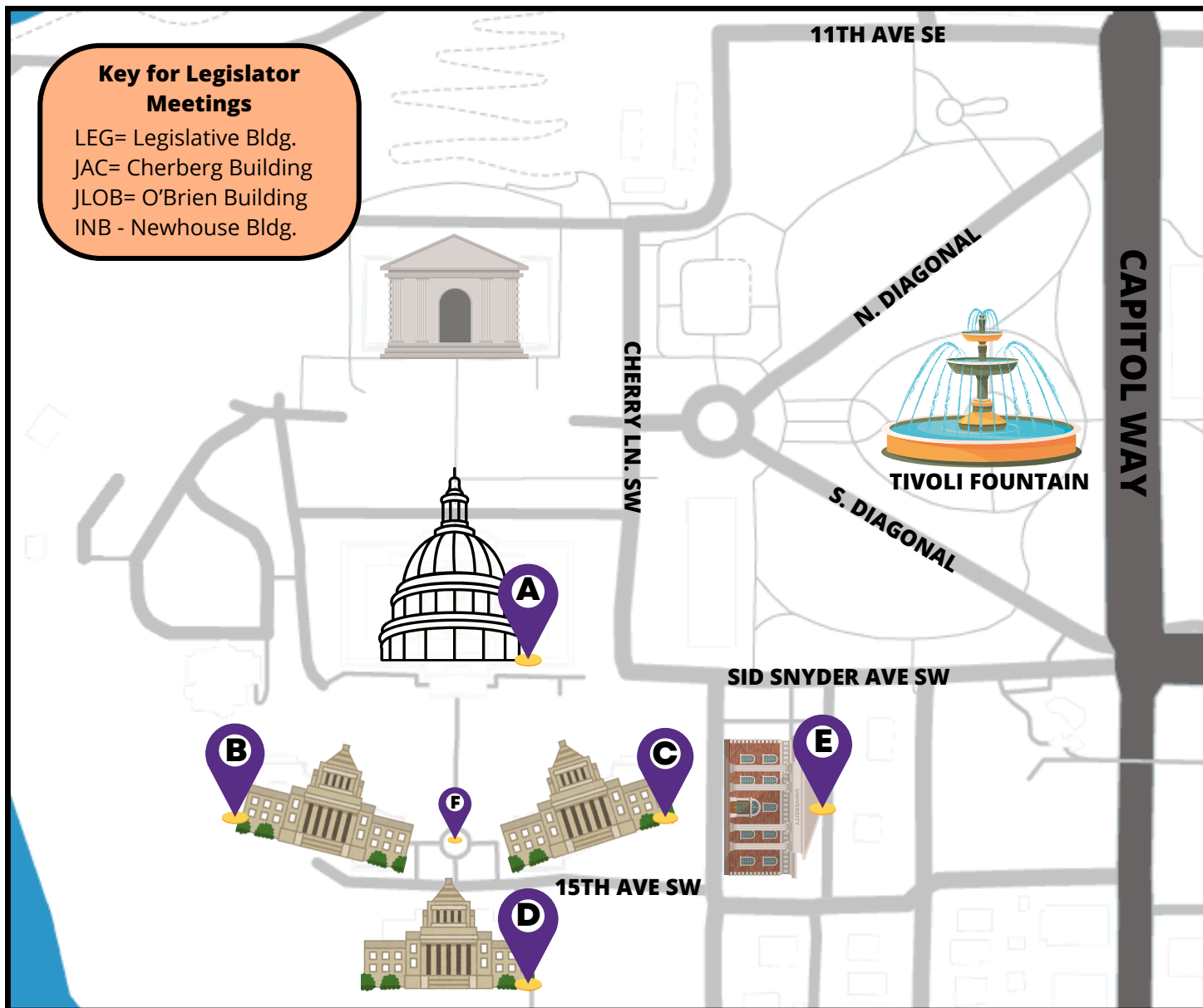
VIA BUS (ROUTE 13):

Bus rides are **free** across Olympia. Walk south on Capitol Way for two blocks and wait at the Route 13 stop just past 4th Ave. Buses come every 15 minutes. Ride route 13 for four stops to the Capitol Way at 11th Ave stop. Turn right down the N. Diagonal and walk until you reach the Capital Building.

WALKING:

(approx. 20 minutes, path marked in red)
Walk south on Capitol Way for 0.6 miles. After you pass 11th Ave SE, turn slightly right onto the N. Diagonal and follow it all the way to the Capitol Building.

Capitol Campus Map



Key for Legislator Meetings
 LEG= Legislative Bldg.
 JAC= Cherberg Building
 JLOB= O'Brien Building
 INB - Newhouse Bldg.

A Legislative Building: The Capitol building itself. Home to the House and Senate chambers.

B O'Brien Building: Offices for members of the House of Representatives.

C Cherberg Building: Offices of the members of the Senate.

D Pritchard Building: Legislative information center.

E Newhouse Building: Offices for members of the Senate.

F Sundial: Decorative centerpiece of the lawn.



LEGEND

-  Visitor parking
-  Disabled persons parking
-  Electric vehicle parking
-  DCFC electric vehicle parking
-  Campus building
-  Public restrooms
-  Food
-  Memorials & monuments
-  Construction zone

Map updated on January 2025



OVERVIEW OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



The Washington State Legislature is made up of two houses (or chambers), the Senate and the House of Representatives. Washington has 49 legislative districts, each of which elects a Senator and two Representatives. Senators serve four-year terms and Representatives serve two-year terms. The Senate and House of Representatives meet in session each year to create new laws, change existing laws, and enact budgets for the State.

The legislative cycle is two years long. Within that two-year cycle, there are two kinds of legislative sessions: regular sessions and extraordinary, or special, sessions. Regular sessions are mandated by the State Constitution and begin the second Monday in January each year. In the odd-numbered year, for example, 2005, the regular session is 105 days; in the even-numbered year, for example, 2006, it is 60 days. Extraordinary sessions are called by the Governor to address specific issues, usually the budget. There can be any number of extraordinary sessions within the two-year cycle, and they can last no more than 30 days.

The members of the House and Senate offer legislation, or bills, for consideration. The ideas for bills come from a number of places: something has happened in the last year that inspires new legislation (for instance, the change in people's perception of crime gave rise to the youth violence bills that were offered during the 1994 Session), a member wishes to address an issue that is specific to his or her district, the Legislature decides to tackle a major issue (such as regulatory reform), changes in technology dictate a change in the State's laws, etc.

Once a member introduces a bill, the legislative process begins. The process has a number of specific steps. If the bill makes it through all the steps in the chamber in which it was introduced (the "first house"), it goes to the other chamber (or "second house") and goes through the same steps there. Each step is identified and explained below.

Pre-filing: Members can pre-file bills for introduction beginning the first Monday in December. Pre-filed bills are officially introduced the first day of the session

Introduction, or First Reading: The first thing that happens to bills on the "floor" is introduction and referral to committee. This is also referred to as the bill's first reading. (Bills must have three readings in each house in order to pass the Legislature.)

Leadership determines to which committees bills will be referred; this is usually determined by the bill's subject matter. Bills that require an appropriation or that raise revenue must also go to a fiscal committee for review (**the Appropriations Committee in the House or the Ways and Means Committee in the Senate**).

Committee Action: The chair of each committee works with leadership and staff to schedule bills to be heard by the committee. Committees hold three kinds of meetings: (1) work sessions, where issues are determined and reviewed; (2) public hearings, where testimony from interested parties is taken; and (3) executive sessions, where the committee decides how it will report the bill to the whole house. Not all bills get scheduled for hearing, so a good number of bills never get any further than committee.



Bills can be reported in several fashions, the most usual being "do pass" (pass the bill just as it is), "do pass as amended" (pass the bill as amended by the committee), and "do pass substitute" (the committee offers a different version to take the place of the original bill).

The members on the prevailing side sign the "majority" report; those members who disagree with the majority sign the "minority" report. Not all bills coming out of committee have minority reports.

As a bill moves through the committee process, the staff prepares the "bill report." The bill report includes a legislative history of the bill, background on the issue, a summary of the legislation, the names of those who testified on the bill, and a summary of the testimony for and against the bill. The bill report is edited as the bill moves through the process. When the bill moves to the opposite house, that house prepares a bill report as well. A bill that has finally passed the Legislature would have House, Senate, and Final bill reports.

At the start of the session, both houses agree on dates by which bills have to be reported out of committee in order to be eligible for further consideration by the Legislature. There is a "cutoff" date for bills to be out of committee in the first house and one for bills to be out of committee in the second house.

Rules Committee: Once a bill has been reported by the appropriate committee(s), the floor acts on the committee report and then passes the bill to the Rules Committee. Usually, the floor adopts the committee's recommendation.

The Rules Committee is where leadership exercises the most control over the process. The Rules Committee is made up of members from both parties. Each member on the committee gets to select two or three bills that will move on to the next step in the process. Which bills a member selects could be the result of a party caucus, or another member approaching that member, or a piece of legislation about which the member feels strongly.

If you are a person with a disability and need a special accommodation, please contact the House at (360) 786-7271, or the Senate at (360) 786-7189. TTY 1-800-833-6388. For further legislative information, call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000, or check the internet at www.leg.wa.gov.

Rules Review/Rules White: The first step in the Rules Committee process is called Rules Review in the House and Rules White in the Senate (the report Overview of the Legislative Process that lists the bills in this step in the Senate is printed on white paper). Rules Committee members review the bills and decide whether or not to move them on to the next step.

Rules Consideration/Rules Green: The next step is called Rules Consideration in the House and Rules Green in the Senate (the report is printed on green paper). Sometimes bills skip this step and go to the calendar for second reading. It is another step that allows leadership to control the process.

Calendars/Bill Report Books: The Rules Committee decides which bills will be scheduled for second reading. Those bills that will probably require some debate are placed on the regular calendar.

Those that the rules committee agree are not controversial may be placed on the suspension calendar in the House, the consent calendar in the Senate.

Each house prepares documents that list the bills scheduled to be heard on the floor. The House prepares "bill report books" (containing an order of contents and the bill report of each bill on the calendar) and "floor calendars" (a list of the bills, a brief description for each, and the committee action on each). The Senate prepares "calendars" (with an order of contents and the bill report of each bill), and "flash calendars" (the list with the brief descriptions and committee actions). The Senate flash calendar lists only those bills that were "pulled" from Rules at the last Rules Committee meeting.

Second Reading: It is on second reading that the chamber discusses the merits of the legislation. It is here, too, where members can offer amendments to the bill. Most bills that get this far get their second reading in the couple of weeks following the committee cut-off.

If a bill has been amended in committee or on the floor in the first house, it is ordered engrossed. Engrossing a bill means incorporating the amendments into the body of the bill so that the second house gets one document. If a bill has been amended in the second house, it is returned to the first house with the amendments attached so that the first house can decide whether or not it wishes to agree with the changes the second house made.

Third Reading: Third reading is where the roll call vote on final passage is taken. If the bill finally passes, it continues in the process. If the bill fails on final passage, it goes no further. Under certain circumstances, the chamber may decide to reconsider the vote that was taken; in that case, the chamber has twenty-four hours to make a motion to reconsider the bill.

If the bill passes third reading in the second house and the second house did not amend the bill, the bill has passed the Legislature.

At the start of the session, both houses agree on "cut-off" dates by which bills have to be finally passed out of the first house and finally passed out of the second house.

Concurrence, Dispute, and Conference Committees: If the bill has been amended by the second house, the first house has to decide whether it will concur in the amendments or not. Leadership decides which bills returned from the second house will be discussed and places those bills on the concurrence calendar (House) or concurring calendar (Senate). If the first house concurs in the amendments, the bill has passed the Legislature.

If the first house disagrees with the second house, it can ask the second house to recede from the amendments. If the second house recedes, the bill has passed the Legislature.

If the two houses cannot resolve their differences, one of them can ask for a conference committee. Members from each house meet to discuss the differences. If they agree on what is to be done, the conference committee makes a report. Both houses must adopt the conference committee report for the bill to pass the Legislature. If one house does not adopt the conference committee report (whether by vote or inaction), the bill has not passed. The House Floor Activity Report and the Senate Floor Activity Report list the bills on the concurrence, dispute, and conference calendars.

Enrolling: Once a bill has finally passed the Legislature, it is enrolled. A certificate proclaiming that it has passed is attached and, if necessary, the amendments from the second house or conference committee are incorporated into the body of the bill. The bill is signed by the Speaker of the House, the Chief Clerk of the House, the President of the Senate, and the Secretary of the Senate and is sent to the Governor for his or her action.

Governor's actions: The Governor reviews the bill. The Governor may decide to sign it, veto part of it, or veto all of it. If the Governor vetoes part or all of it, the Legislature may vote to override the veto. (That happens rarely.) If the governor does not act on a bill after the allotted number of days, it is as if it were signed. From the Governor's desk, bills go to the Secretary of State who assigns a session law chapter number. The Chapter to Bill Table (available on the Internet) lists the bills that have passed the Legislature, the chapter numbers assigned by the Secretary of State, vetoes, short descriptions, and the effective dates.

Carryover: The Legislature works within the framework of a two-year cycle. For instance, the 2005-06 Session is the 59th Session of the Legislature. There will be a least two regular sessions, a "long" session in 2005 (105 days) and a "short" session in 2006 (60 days). There could also be any number of special sessions, none of which can last longer than 30 days.

Therefore, just because a bill did not make it all the way through during the regular session in the odd-numbered year (for example, 2005) does not mean it is "dead." At the end of the session, all bills in the second house are returned to the first house; so a House bill in committee in the Senate when session ends is returned to the House. At the start of the next session, be it a special session or the next regular session, bills from the previous session are reintroduced and retained in their present position.

"Carryover" bills can be taken up again in subsequent sessions during the biennium. The Legislature has a lot of latitude with these bills. The first house can place the bill on the calendar for third reading and send it right back to the second house, or it can make the bill go to committee and through the whole process again.

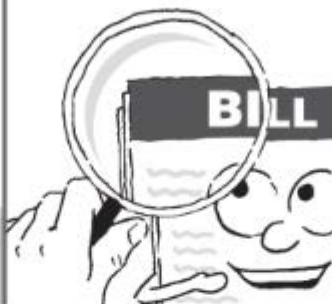
This is in addition to the new bills introduced during the current session. This procedure can make it difficult to keep track of bills during a special session or the second regular session. If a bill does not make it through the process by the end of the two-year cycle, it is "dead."

How a Bill Becomes a Law

A bill may be introduced in either the Senate or House of Representatives.



A committee studies the bill and often holds public hearings on it.

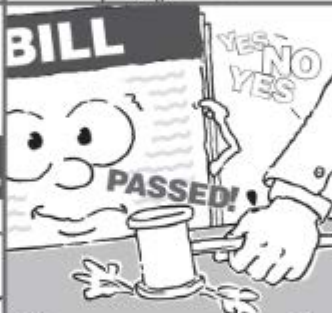
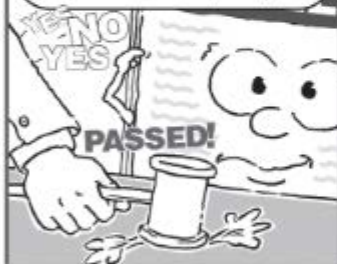


A committee report is read in open session of the House or Senate, and the bill is then referred to the Rules Committee.

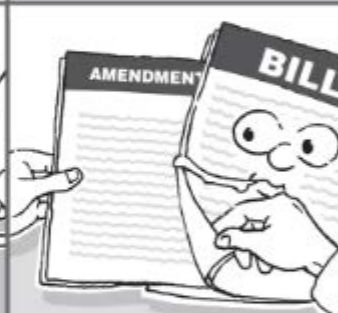


The rules committee decides which bills will be sent to the floor for further consideration and which bills won't.

At the second reading a bill is subject to debate and amendment before being placed on the third reading calendar for final passage.



After passing one house, the bill goes through the same procedure in the other house.



If amendments are made in one house, the other house must concur.

When the bill is accepted in both houses, it is signed by the respective leaders and sent to the Governor.



The Governor signs the bill into law or may veto all or part of it. If the Governor fails to act on the bill, it may become law without a signature.



HOUSE BILL 1296

Promoting a Safe and Supportive Public Education System

WHAT WOULD HOUSE BILL 1296 DO FOR SCHOOLS IN WASHINGTON?

FOR STUDENTS

- Ensures **student safety, access to education, and privacy are prioritized in school policies**
- Strengthens policies to **support transgender and gender-expansive students**, including addressing bullying and harassment and ensuring gender-inclusive practices
- Ensures students have **access to accurate, diverse, and inclusive curriculum** to support students feeling seen and valued
- **Prevents a school or parent from protesting student learning about topics** like the Civil Rights movement, race/racism, LGBTQ2S identities, etc.
- Establishes a **Statement of Student Rights**, ensuring students know their rights, including access to a free public education, freedom of speech and religion, and protections against discrimination

FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

- **Expands rights** for enrolling children in public schools **regardless of immigration status, housing or disabilities**
- Ensures **access to bilingual education, special education, and language services**

FOR EDUCATORS:

- Introduces **anti-retaliation protections for teachers and staff who support students'** legal rights, teach state-mandated standards, and use inclusive, culturally representative materials.
- **Provides guidance and training on supporting transgender and gender-expansive students**, with mandatory compliance rules for schools by 2026.

ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS:

- Strengthens enforcement by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), allowing sanctions for noncompliance with safety, privacy, and equity policies.
- Includes an emergency clause, **making these changes effective immediately to prioritize student safety and equity in public education.**

TESTIMONY TALKING POINTS

Below are **optional** talking points to support you in writing your testimony so you can tell lawmakers they should pass HB 1296

STUDENTS - consider sharing about:

- **Challenges you may have faced in school environments where your identity wasn't always respected or represented.** This bill ensures all students, regardless of background, have equal access to safe, supportive, and inclusive education.
 - Why it is important that you and other students have access to learning materials that reflect your identity.
 - Why it is important schools offer more protection against discrimination. How would that help your learning? What would more protection look like to you?
 - Your experience with bullying or harassment in school and how this bill would address that.
 - Your experience feeling unsafe at your school and why – or if you feel safe in your school, share why everyone deserves a school environment where they feel safe
-

PARENTS - consider sharing about:

- A time when your child needed support or faced challenges because of their identity
- Why it's important to you that school prioritize safety, inclusion, and accurate education
- A time when you witnessed another child face injustice or when you recognized inequities in your child's school
- Why it's important to you to stand up for all children and not just your own

TIPS

- **Practice your testimony out loud.** Depending how many individuals have registered to testify, you will likely have **one minute only** to share your testimony.
- Start your testimony by:
 - Addressing the committee “Chair Santos and members of the Committee”
 - Share your name & where you're from
 - Share your position on HB 1296 (Example, “I am speaking today to ask you to support HB 1296”)

THE SAFE SPACES, STRONG COMMUNITIES ACT: ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS AND PRESERVING THE RIGHT TO REASONABLY REGULATE USE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

HB 1380

Like many other states in the country, Washington is facing a growing homelessness crisis - the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that at least 28,000 people in Washington experienced homelessness in 2023. Many communities in Washington lack adequate shelter and have both a serious shortage of housing and significant issues with housing affordability. Many families and individuals who need and want shelter are unable to access it in their communities. As a result, too many of our unhoused neighbors in cities, towns, and counties across Washington live outside in unacceptably inhospitable conditions, including in shared public spaces. The Safe Spaces, Strong Communities Act (HB 1380) provides guideposts for local jurisdictions to recognize and respond to the challenges, enabling local governments to maintain public spaces by enacting reasonable regulations to protect all residents, including our vulnerable neighbors who have no option but to try to survive outside in their communities.

INVESTING IN HOUSING AND SHELTERS SAVES RESOURCES

The current approach to addressing homelessness relies heavily on requiring people to move when they do not have anywhere else to go, demanding use of expensive approaches such as policing and incarceration, which are ineffective at housing people long-term. Stop-gap and reactive solutions will always cost more than upfront investments. Expanding shelter space, investing in much-needed services and resources, including access to mental health supports and substance use treatment, are cost-effective and helpful ways cities could utilize the money typically spent on incarceration in ways that will save the resources long-term and are proven to help our unhoused neighbors.

The solution to homelessness is safe, healthy, and affordable housing; equitable access to medical care; voluntary, community-based mental health care; and substance use treatment. Homelessness affects real people — our neighbors, friends, and community members. When we prioritize affordable housing and support services, we create healthier, safer communities.

ALLOWS IMPLEMENTATION TO VARY BY COMMUNITY

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to addressing the homelessness crisis, and what is considered objectively reasonable may vary from locality to locality. This bill preserves the ability to enact reasonable time, place, and manner regulations to manage public spaces effectively for the benefit of an entire community.

The Safe Spaces, Strong Communities Act allows cities, towns, and counties to enact laws and regulations that best serve all members of its community, preserving public peace, health, and safety. It also provides guidance for local governments, protects them from litigation if they are compliant, and has no private right of action for monetary damages for any person who may bring a claim forward.

PROTECTS OUR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS

Too many Washingtonians have nowhere else to go; surviving and resting outside cannot be seen as voluntary. Arresting or fining people for sleeping in public spaces only worsens our ongoing homelessness crisis and diverts resources that are needed to address the root causes.

Local enforcement actions have led to the loss of medication, identification cards, medical records, family photos, sleeping bags, tarps, bedding, tents, and other vital personal property individuals need to live and survive. These laws represent, intentionally or not, a concerted effort by localities to make the lives of unhoused residents harder and set people back further while not providing solutions that resolve homelessness.

HB 1380 requires that any city, town, or county law regulating the acts of sitting, lying, sleeping, or keeping warm and dry outside must be “objectively reasonable” based on the circumstances.

This will provide cities, towns, and counties with the guidelines and framework they need in order to address the burgeoning homelessness crisis in a cost-effective way, while also protecting our unhoused neighbors.

HOUSE BILL 1903

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Mena, Berry, Doglio, Parshley, Simmons, Santos, Taylor, Scott, Ramel, Farivar, Hill, Pollet, and Duerr

Read first time 02/07/25. Referred to Committee on Environment & Energy.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a statewide low-income energy
2 assistance program; amending RCW 19.405.120 and 70A.65.260; adding
3 new sections to chapter 43.330 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
4 80.28 RCW; and creating a new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is an
7 urgent need for stronger policy and a new program option to secure
8 universally accessible low-income energy bill assistance and reduce
9 the over \$270,000,000 biennial energy burden in Washington. Many
10 income-eligible households do not have sufficient support. The
11 department of commerce November 2024 study of options for a statewide
12 energy assistance program in Washington lays out core features of a
13 just system to expand and secure access to energy affordability
14 measures. To address present and widening disparities in household
15 access to energy assistance will require easier applications, safe
16 data sharing, low barrier eligibility determinations, systematic
17 processes for filling in gaps in the reach of existing programs, and
18 guaranteed funding sources. The recommended program design promotes a
19 more centralized approach to energy assistance. Key elements include
20 those that reduce administrative burdens, but also improve the

1 experience and likelihood that an eligible household receives
2 assistance.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 The definitions in this section apply throughout sections 3 and 4
6 of this act unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

7 (1) "Low-income" has the same meaning as in RCW 19.405.020.

8 (2) "Community action council" has the same meaning as "community
9 action agency" in RCW 43.185C.010.

10 (3) "Energy assistance" means monetary assistance, such as a
11 grant program or discounts for low-income households, that lowers a
12 low-income household's energy burden.

13 (4) "Energy burden" has the same meaning as in RCW 19.405.020.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 (1) The statewide low-income energy assistance program is
17 established within the department. The purpose of the program is to
18 reduce energy burden for low-income households in Washington. The
19 department must begin providing energy assistance through the program
20 by July 1, 2026. The department must write rules to implement this
21 section.

22 (2) The department must establish enrollment details which must
23 include, but are not limited to:

24 (a) All low-income households are eligible to participate in the
25 program;

26 (b) Low-income households may apply directly to the program;

27 (c) Low-income households may self-attest that they meet income
28 qualifications;

29 (d) The department may verify that applicants and participants
30 meet the income qualifications, and may work with utilities and
31 community action councils to conduct this verification;

32 (e) There is no risk to eligibility based on immigration status
33 or income self-attestation; and

34 (f) The department must explore auto-enrollment of known eligible
35 households.

36 (3) The department must provide outreach for the program by:

Rent Stabilization

Pass statewide rent stabilization to increase housing stability, prevent displacement, and ensure renter households can meet other basic needs.

Throughout 2024 we heard from hundreds of renters who shared that they continue to face excessive rent increases, and the latest information about evictions show that by November, Washington already had more eviction filings than any year in recorded history.

Housing stability is essential, just like air to breathe and water to drink. We need to ensure there are fair rules in place that will keep rents reasonable and predictable.

House Bill 1217 (Alvarado/Macri) and Senate Bill 5222 (Trudeau/Chapman) would provide renters and manufactured homeowners with predictability over their housing costs by limiting annual rent increases to no more than 7% per year. The bills provide other important protections that would ensure tenants can stay in their homes including capping move-in costs and providing more notice of rent increases.

Rent stabilization would provide renters with the predictability needed to plan for rent increases in coming years. And this is critical because rent in Washington is already out of reach for many households, with the average monthly rent in Washington at \$1,833. A 7% increase would be \$128 per month or an additional \$1,539 per year. Limiting rent increases to no more than 7%, while still high, would provide predictability for renters and manufactured homeowners while preventing the egregious, unjustifiable rent increases that many, many are getting throughout the state. And many supportive landlords tell us that 7% is more than enough to keep up with costs, upkeep and repairs while still making a profit.

Why is rent stabilization needed?

- Washington is already one of the most expensive rental markets in the country, and many tenants receive excessive rent increases even while landlords are not performing basic repairs.
- Black, Indigenous, and other people of color households in Washington are disproportionately renters. In addition, data from the Census Bureau Pulse Survey in 2024 showed that Black renters in Washington receive higher rent increases than other demographic groups. Advancing tenant protections like rent stabilization is critical to address the housing needs of BIPOC households.
- Evictions continue to rise on a year-over-year basis, with several parts of our state seeing higher eviction rates than before the pandemic. Rent increases are a key driver of evictions and homelessness.

Monica Zazueta, a renter and mother from Vancouver, shared this in testimony in support of rent stabilization:

“I have had multiple rent increases, over the years, and I ask myself, what more do you want from me? Rent stabilization would give my family the security homeowners have, which is knowing what my housing costs will be. I am a human being, not a dollar sign, who wants to thrive just like you do.”

Rent Stabilization (continued)

The good news is that lawmakers have the opportunity to solve this problem this legislative session by passing HB 1217/SB 5222 to provide solid protections against destabilizing rent increases, while still allowing modest increases to cover repairs and other costs. Washington can stabilize renting households and manufactured homeowners and eliminate one of the key drivers of homelessness and housing instability.

Kelley Rinehart is a small landlord who supports rent stabilization:

“I am a ‘mom and pop’ landlord. I depend on this rental enterprise to be able to retire. I don’t raise rents beyond a cost of living adjustment, which is never more than 5 percent. This is a fair bill for reasonable and responsible landlords, and will stabilize the many renters in our state.”

What is “rent stabilization”?

Rent stabilization prevents excessive rent increases to help ensure that tenants can stay in their homes, but is different from rent control because it allows landlord to reset the rent in-between tenancies (often referred to as “vacancy decontrol”). Rent stabilization Preventing stops excessive, and often predatory, rent increases and is good public policy for Washington.

HB 1217/SB 5222

- Protects manufactured homeowners and residential tenants.
- Allows yearly rent increases of no more than 7%.
- Fees count as rent for the purposes of the increase.
- Requires six months' notice for all rent increases at 3% or more to provide tenants with more opportunity to plan for the increase.
- Caps late fees at 1.5% of total rent, and caps all move-in fees to equivalent of one month’s rent or less.
- Prevents landlords from treating month-to-month leases differently than fixed-term leases in terms of rent levels and fees. This is because landlords are currently charging “month to month fees” or a much higher rent increase to compel a tenant to sign a fixed-term lease. Tenants who are month to month are covered under Washington’s just cause eviction protections, unlike tenants who are on a fixed-term lease.
- Creates a landlord resource center and a model lease for landlords.
- Creates enforcement with a private right of action, penalties and also by the State’s Attorney General’s Office.
- In cases where the landlord attempts to raise the rent above what is allowed under the bill (unless that landlord is exempt) allows a tenant to quit their lease and move without penalty.
- Exempts new multifamily buildings for the first 10 years, subsidized housing already subject to rent caps and some owner-occupied rental situations including roommates, Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), and duplexes.

Follow the progress of rent stabilization and take action at wliha.org/25rentstabilization.

Stabilizing rents statewide for tenants and manufactured homeowners is a key policy element in our “Roadmap to Housing Justice”. Learn more at wliha.org/roadmap.

Know Your Role

Meeting with your lawmaker can be intimidating -- especially if it is your first time. With your group, divide up the following roles and practice acting out the meeting with your legislator. **Assign each person in your group one of the following roles:**

Introduce Yourself

ROLE #1: START THE MEETING/MAKE INTRODUCTIONS

Start the meeting with a brief round of introductions. If you represent an organization, introduce yourself and tell your elected official or staff person about your organization and where it is located

***Example:** Hello Representative/Senator _____. My name is _____ and I live in _____ (name of city/town) in your legislative district. I'll let everyone introduce themselves as well.*

Name Your Issue

ROLE #2: NAME THE ISSUE

State clearly and concisely what issue you want to discuss, what your position is, and what action you want your elected official to take. Offer a few supporting facts about why they should take your position.



***Example:** I'm here today to talk about _____ (name of a program/issue). This is an important issue to our community because _____.*

Share Your Personal Story

ROLE #3: STORY-TELLER

Share a personal story or concrete examples that highlight your experience with the issue and why you care about it.

***Example:** The (name of program/issue) is important to me because _____. The (name of program/issue) helps me meet my basic needs, such as _____.*

Make an Ask

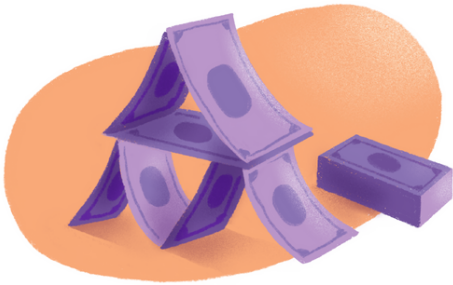
ROLE #4: MAKE AN ASK

Make an explicit "ask." Pose a direct, **yes-or-no question** to which the legislator can respond.



Example: *Can we count on you to support our bill to undo harmful TANF policies?*

ROLE #5: KEEP UP THE PRESSURE



Be prepared for how you will respond to your member's position. Have a plan to turn a "Yes" into a champion, an "Undecided" into a Yes, and to learn from the objections of "No."

Example (if "yes"): *How will you work to elevate this issue among other members of the legislature?*

Example (if "undecided"): *What additional information do you need from us to support this bill?*

Example (if "no"): *We really want to emphasize how important this issue is to our community because _____. Is there anything that might change your mind about this issue?*

Provide More Information

ROLE #6: SHARE THE HANDOUTS

Your lawmakers all received these fact sheets from us on Friday, January 13. That doesn't mean they had time to read them. You can ALWAYS follow up with an email thanking them for the meeting and resending the fact sheets.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Planner for Week 6: February 17–23, 2025

TIME	MON. 2/17 (36 th day)	TUES. 2/18 (37 th day)	WED. 2/19 (38 th day)	THURS. 2/20 (39 th day)	FRI. 2/21 (40 th day)	SAT. 2/22 (41 st day)
8:00 to 9:55		<u>GROUP II</u> Capital Budget HHR B Finance HHR A 9:55 – 10:00 AM Session*	<u>GROUP V</u> Ag & Nat Resources HHR B Civil Rights & Judiciary HHR A Labor & Workplace Stds HHR D Local Government HHR E Tech, Econ Dev, & Vets HHR C	<u>GROUP IV</u> Community Safety HHR D Education HHR A Environment & Energy HHR B Housing HHR C	<u>GROUP III</u> Cons Protect & Business HHR B Early Learn & Hum Svcs HHR D Health Care & Wellness HHR A Postsec Ed & Work HHR C State Govt & Tribal Rel HHR E 9:55 – 10:00 AM Session*	9:00 AM <u>GROUP I</u> Appropriations HHR A Transportation HHR B
10:30 to 12:25	Session / Caucus <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">President's Day</div>	<u>GROUP V</u> Ag & Nat Resources HHR B Civil Rights & Judiciary HHR A Labor & Workplace Stds HHR D Local Government HHR E Tech, Econ Dev, & Vets HHR C	Session / Caucus	Session / Caucus	<u>GROUP V</u> Ag & Nat Resources HHR B Civil Rights & Judiciary HHR A Labor & Workplace Stds HHR D Local Government HHR E Tech, Econ Dev, & Vets HHR C	
12:30 to 1:30						
1:30 to 3:25	<u>GROUP IV</u> Community Safety HHR D Education HHR A Environment & Energy HHR B Housing HHR C	<u>GROUP III</u> Cons Protect & Business HHR B Early Learn & Hum Svcs HHR D Health Care & Wellness HHR A Postsec Ed & Work HHR C State Govt & Tribal Rel HHR E	<u>GROUP III</u> Cons Protect & Business HHR B Early Learn & Hum Svcs HHR D Health Care & Wellness HHR A Postsec Ed & Work HHR C State Govt & Tribal Rel HHR E	<u>GROUP II</u> Capital Budget HHR B Finance HHR A	<u>GROUP II</u> Finance HHR A	
4:00 to 5:55	<u>GROUP I</u> Appropriations HHR A Transportation HHR B	<u>GROUP IV</u> Community Safety HHR D Education HHR A Environment & Energy HHR B Housing HHR C	<u>GROUP I</u> Appropriations HHR A Transportation HHR B	<u>GROUP I</u> Appropriations HHR A Transportation HHR B	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> CUTOFF (Policy Committees) </div> Session**	

*Pro Forma Session

**Pro Forma Session for reading in committee reports

Location:

All

Search Events

Monday, 2/17/2025 - 2/17/2025

African American Legislative Day

Location: Legislative Building - Columbia room, Legislative Building - North Steps,

Event Sponsor: Commission on African American Affairs

Event Type: Government

Begin Time: 9:00 a.m.

Set Up Time: 7:00 a.m.

Estimated Attendance: 300

End Time: 4:00 p.m.

Clean Up Time: 5:00 p.m.

Monday, 2/17/2025 - 2/17/2025

Planned Parenthood Volunteer Lobby Day Rally

Location: Legislative Building - North Steps, West Campus - Tivoli Fountain South Lawn,

Event Sponsor: Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates

Event Type: Public

Begin Time: 1:30 p.m.

Set Up Time: 12 p.m.

Estimated Attendance: 100

End Time: 2:15 p.m.

Clean Up Time: 2pm

Monday, 2/17/2025 - 2/17/2025

Cost Free College Rally

Location: West Campus - North Diagonal Lawn

Event Sponsor: Communities for Our Colleges

Event Type: Public

Begin Time: 9 a.m.

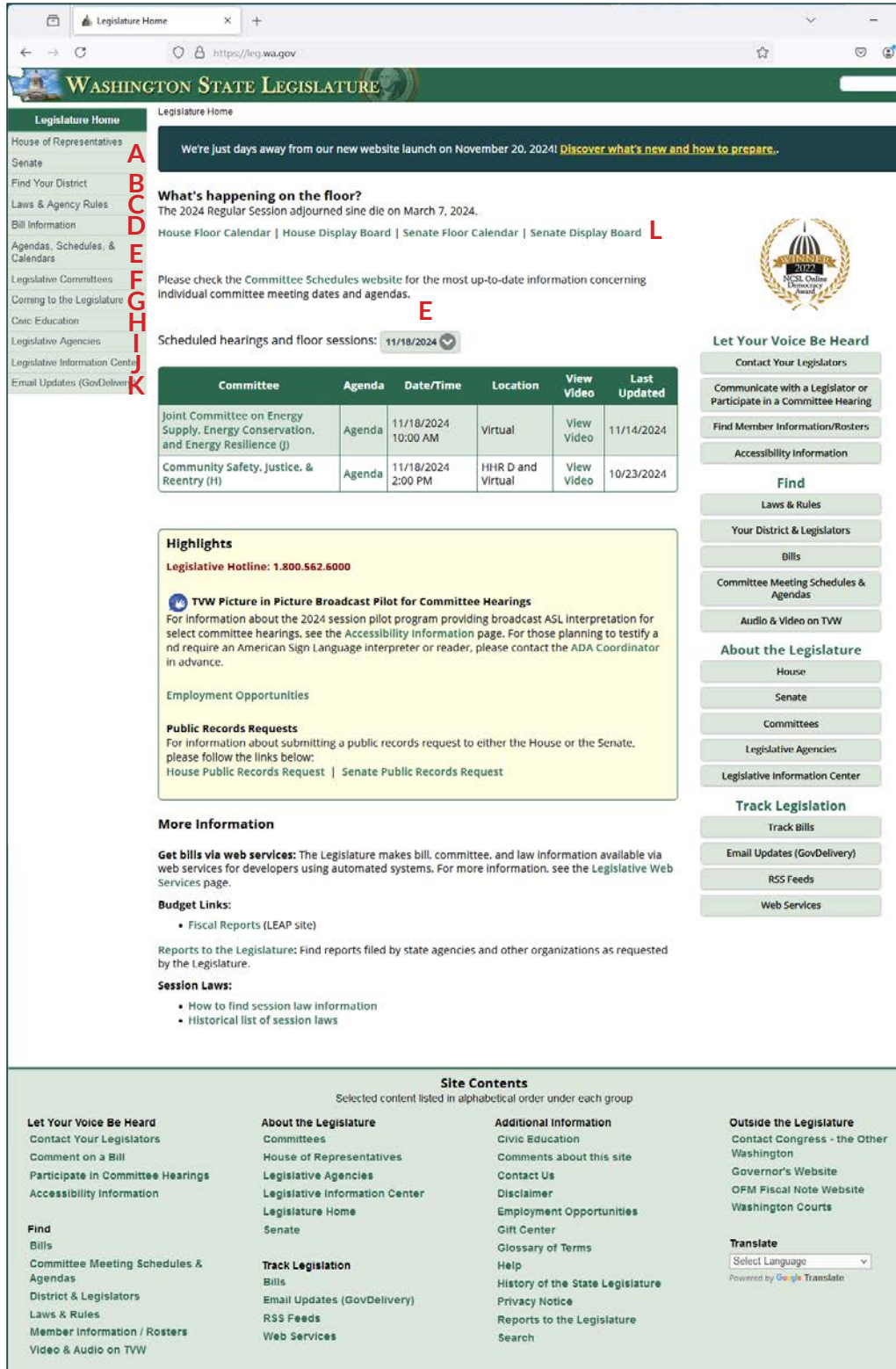
Set Up Time: 8 a.m.

Estimated Attendance: 200

End Time: 4 p.m.

Clean Up Time: 5 p.m.

Leg.wa.gov is being redesigned and is scheduled to be live November 20th. The main pages will be updated, but the apps won't be updated until later. Any URL that says *app.leg.wa.gov* will function and look the same (only the header and footer will change on those until interim 2025); like <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/crossref.aspx?year=2023> or <https://app.leg.wa.gov/bi/topicalindex>. [GovDelivery](#) and [WSL Account](#) will also remain in current form.



The screenshot shows the Washington State Legislature website with various navigation elements labeled A through L. The page includes a header with the logo, a main navigation menu on the left, a central content area with a table of scheduled hearings, and a right-hand sidebar with various service links. A 'Site Contents' section at the bottom lists all page links in alphabetical order.

Committee	Agenda	Date/Time	Location	View Video	Last Updated
Joint Committee on Energy Supply, Energy Conservation, and Energy Resilience (J)	Agenda	11/18/2024 10:00 AM	Virtual	View Video	11/14/2024
Community Safety, Justice, & Reentry (H)	Agenda	11/18/2024 2:00 PM	HHR D and Virtual	View Video	10/23/2024

- A Chambers
- B Find Your District
- C RCW/WAC
- D Bill Info
- E Agendas/Schedules/Calendars
- F Legislative Committees
- G Coming to the Legislature
- H Civic Education
- I Legislative Agencies
- J Legislative Information Center
- K Email Updates (GovDelivery)
- L Chamber Floor/Calendar

If you are a person with a disability and need a special accommodation, please contact the House at (360) 786-7271, or the Senate at (360) 786-7189. TTY 1-800-833-6388. For further legislative information, call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000, or check the internet at www.leg.wa.gov.

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Select Language Search Search

D E K L C H B A G I J

Bills, meetings, and session State laws and rules Learn and participate Legislators About the Legislature

Welcome to the Washington State Legislature

The Washington State Legislature is the state's lawmaking body, where elected Senators and Representatives come together to create and pass laws that shape the daily lives of Washingtonians.

I'm looking for: Bills and initiatives Laws and rules Legislators Committees

Find a bill or initiative

Biennium: 2023-24 Search bills by: Bill Initiative Enter bill number Search

Looking for something else? View [more ways to find bills](#).

Find out what's happening in the Legislature

The Legislature adjourned sine die on 03/07/2024
The next regular session convenes in 55 days(s) on 01/13/2025

Important legislative session dates

Today, November 19, 2024

12:00 PM

Statute Law Committee Other Sen. Conf. Rms ABC and Virtual [Agenda](#) [View Video](#)

See all meetings and events

How we make laws

Legislators introduce bills

First, legislators submit bills to the House or Senate. Leaders in those chambers choose which committees should receive them.

[Bill Introductions](#)

← ————— →

How we're structured

- A Chambers
- B Find Your District
- C RCW/WAC
- D Bill Info
- E Agendas/Schedules/Calendars
- F Legislative Committees
- G Coming to the Legislature
- H Civic Education
- I Legislative Agencies
- J Legislative Information Center
- K Email Updates (GovDelivery)
- L Chamber Floor/Calendar

Navigation Options *see next page*

Top Navigation Options

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Select Language Search Search

Bills, meetings, and session State laws and rules Learn and participate Legislators About the Legislature

Bills
Meetings and schedules
Session
Initiatives and referenda

Representatives come together to create and pass laws that shape the daily lives of Washingtonians.

I'm looking for: Bills and Initiatives Laws and rules Legislators Committees

Find a bill or initiative

Biennium Search bills by
2023-24 Bill Initiative Enter bill number Search

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WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Select Language Search Search

Bills, meetings, and session State laws and rules Learn and participate Legislators About the Legislature

Washington State Constitution
State laws (RCW)
State rules (WAC)
Washington State Register

State laws (RCW)

The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) is a list of all current state laws. This includes laws that the Legislature passed and the Governor signed, as well as laws that voters passed during elections.

Find state laws (RCW)

Look up state laws by citation number or go to all current state laws (RCWs).

Search laws by full or partial citation number (e.g. 4.04.010)

Enter RCW citation Search RCW

Go to state laws (RCW)

State rules (WAC)

The Washington Administrative Code (WAC) is a list of all current state rules. State agencies create rules based on the authority they receive from state laws.

Find state rules (WAC)

Look up state rules by citation number or go to all current state rules (WACs).

Search rules by full or partial citation number (e.g. 1-04-101)

Enter WAC citation Search WAC

Go to state rules (WAC)

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Select Language Search Search

Bills, meetings, and session State laws and rules Learn and participate Legislators About the Legislature

Civic education programs
How a bill becomes a law
How to participate in the lawmaking process
Educational resources

How a bill becomes a law

Want to know how we make state laws? Our educational resources can teach about the process and opportunities to participate.

Go to How a bill becomes a law

Participate in the lawmaking process

Find out how to get involved and make your voice heard in our state's legislative process.

How to participate in the lawmaking process

How to comment on a bill

You're welcome to share your opinion on bills we're considering. Learn how to send comments about bills to your legislators.

How to testify at a committee meeting

Share your thoughts on bills and current issues at committee hearings. See how to testify remotely, in person, or in writing.

All Representatives and Senators

Look up your legislator's contact information.

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Select Language Search Search

Bills, meetings, and session State laws and rules Learn and participate Legislators About the Legislature

District Finder
All Representatives and Senators
Legislator directories
House and Senate class photos

Find your legislative district

To see which legislators represent you, you'll need your legislative district number. Use our online tool to check which district you live in.

Look up your legislative district

Look up a legislator

Search for a specific Representative or Senator to view their contact information, membership details, committee assignments, voting records, and more.

Find a legislator

Search for a legislator by name or committee membership.

Search by
Name Committee Enter member name Find legislator

Need more ways to find legislators? View all representatives and senators.

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Select Language Search Search

Bills, meetings, and session State laws and rules Learn and participate Legislators About the Legislature

House of Representatives
Senate
Committees
Legislative agencies
Legislative procedures
Ethics
History of the Legislature

House of Representatives

The House is the lower chamber of the Legislature. Learn how it helps make Washington state's laws.

Senate

The Senate is the upper chamber of the Legislature. Learn how it helps make Washington state's laws.

Committees

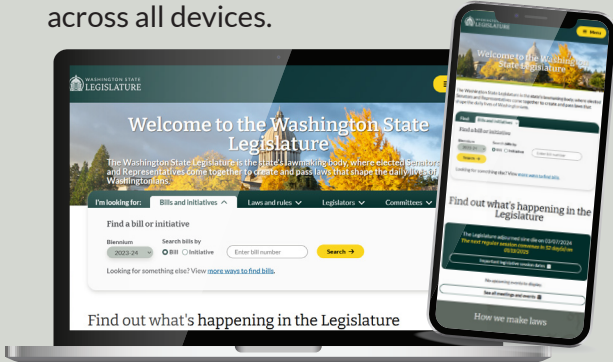
Search committees

Find a committee by name or member

Site Updates Include:

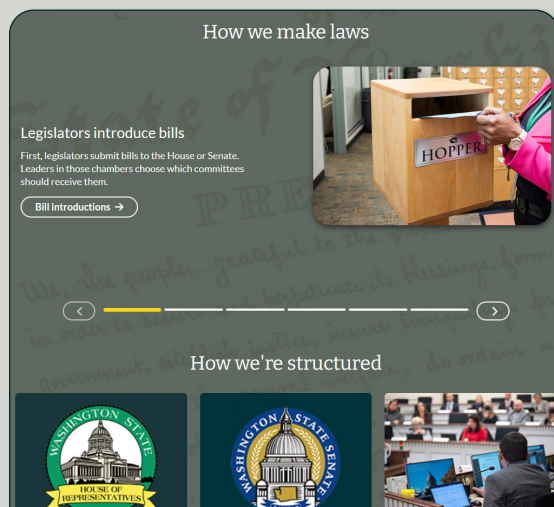
Seamless Navigation: It will be easier than ever to quickly find committee meeting information, legislative materials, and other key events.

Mobile-Optimized Design: Whether you're on your desktop, tablet, or phone, the new site will work smoothly across all devices.



Improved Accessibility: The website is designed to be more inclusive, with enhanced support for screen readers and other assistive technologies.

Streamlined Information: Content is organized in a way that makes it easier to scan and locate key information quickly.



About the Legislature

About the Legislature

Learn about the groups that make up the Legislature, including the House of Representatives, the Senate, committees, and legislative agencies.

Chambers



House of Representatives

The House is the lower chamber of the Legislature. Learn how it helps make Washington state's laws.



Senate

The Senate is the upper chamber of the Legislature. Learn how it helps make Washington state's laws.

Committees

Members of the House and Senate also serve on committees. Each committee reviews and hears testimony.

Search committees

Find a committee by name or member

Enter name [Search](#)

From the top navigation, or Menu, the drop-down arrow will provide links to the:

House of Representatives

- House Administration
- Office of Program Research

Senate

- Administration, Leadership, Schedules
- Senate Committee Services

Committees

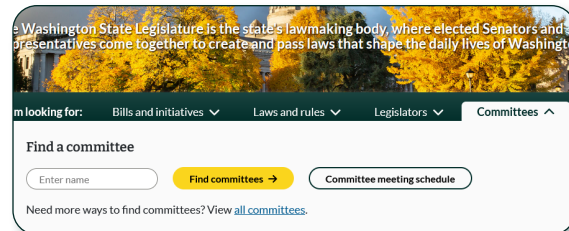
Legislative Information Center

Legislative agencies

Legislative procedures

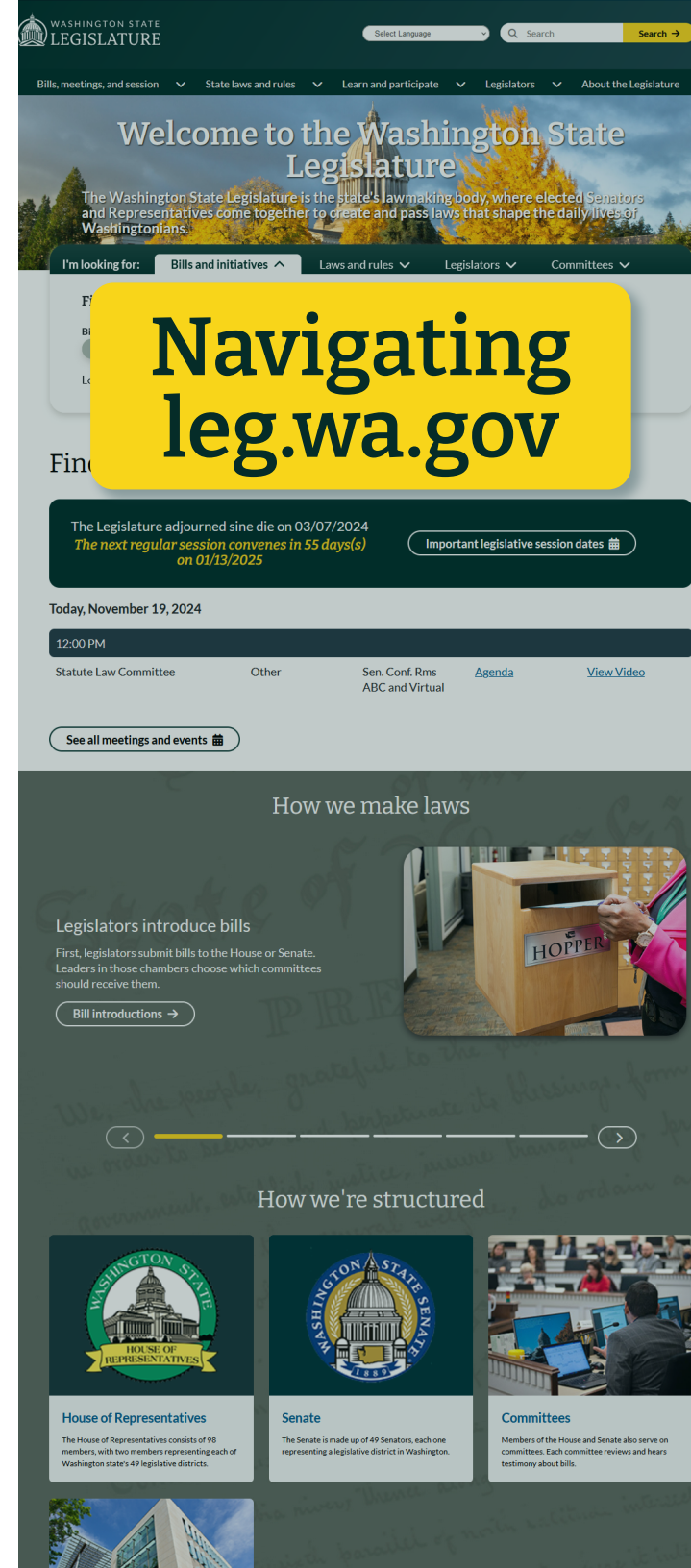
Ethics

History of the Legislature

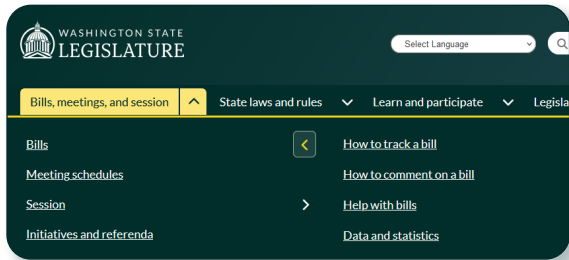


Committees

From the middle navigation find a committee by name, view all committees, link to Committee meeting schedule.



Bills, meetings, and session



From the top navigation, or Menu, the drop-down arrow will provide links to the: **Bills**

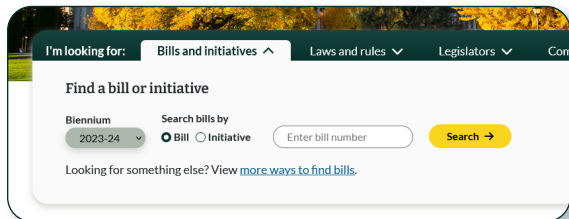
- How to track a bill
- How to comment on a bill
- Help with bills
- Data and statistics

Meeting schedules (this link will go to Committee Schedules, Agendas, and Documents)

Session

- How to testify at a committee meeting
- Session documents

Initiatives and referenda (this link will go to list of Initiatives by biennium)

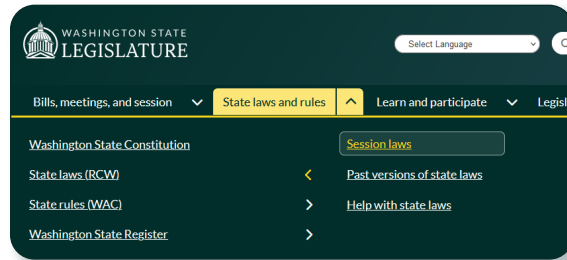


From the middle navigation:

Search for a bill or initiative by number and biennium.

If you are a person with a disability and need a special accommodation, please contact the House at (360) 786-7271, or the Senate at (360) 786-7189. TTY 1-800-833-6388. For further legislative information, call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000, or check the internet at www.leg.wa.gov.

State laws and rules



From the top navigation, or Menu, the drop-down arrow will provide links to the: **Washington State Constitution**

State laws (RCW)

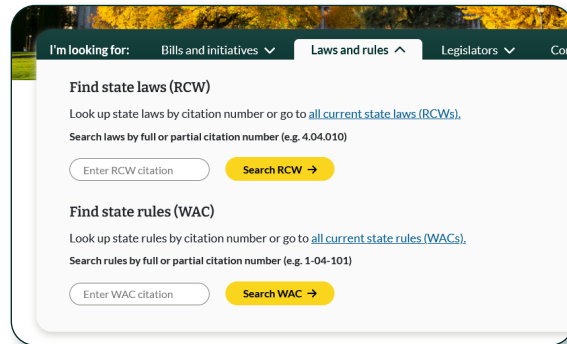
- Session laws
- Past versions of state laws
- Help with state laws

State laws (WACs)

- Past versions of state laws

Washington State Register

- Rule-making help
- Rule-making activity

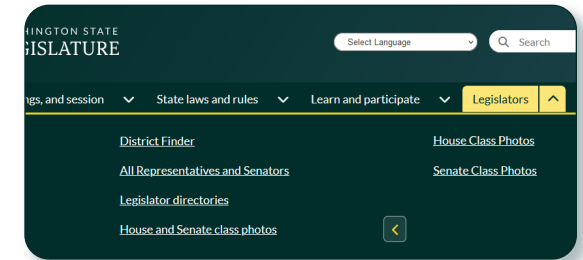


From the middle navigation:

Look up state laws by citation number or go to all current state laws (RCWs). This will go to the page that lists all the RCWs by title.

Look up state rules by citation number or go to all current state rules (WACs). This will go to the page that lists all the WACs by title.

Legislators



From the top navigation, or Menu, the drop-down arrow will provide links to the: **District Finder** (links to District Finder)

All Representatives and Senators (links to roster page, also with search options)

Legislator directories (links to current and previous telephone and pictorial directories)

House and Senate class photos (links to current and previous class photos)

More ways to engage with legislators

Roster of members

View legislators as a list, by committee, and my district

All Representatives and Senators

View all current members of the Washington State Legislature or look up a specific representative or senator

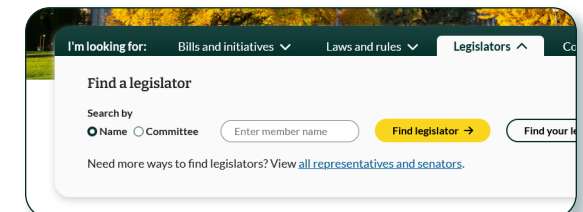
House and Senate class photos

View group photos of House and Senate members from 1889 to today

Click on the Legislators page gives similar options, including Roster of members.

Member Rosters & Information for 2023-2024

Roster
Members (Member, Party, District, Position, Room, Phone, E-mail, LA, LA E-mail)
Committee Members by Member (Member, Committees)
Committee Members by Committee (Committee, Chairs, Members)
Members by District and Counties (District, Member, Position, Counties, Chamber)
Leadership



From the middle navigation:

Find a legislator by name or committee.