

SENATOR  
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SERVING WASHINGTON'S 18TH DISTRICT



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**Dear Friends and Neighbors,**

Week three is drawing to a close and I am looking forward to spending some time at home with my family this weekend as we cheer on the Seahawks! Even the Senate showed their support for the big game with festive attire and a resolution to honor the team today.



This week I had a visit from the Backcountry Horsemen and it was great to have them in Olympia. If you are ever in the Olympia-area, please call my office to schedule a visit – I would love to meet you.

Thank you for staying connected with me and for the opportunity to represent you in our state Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann".

## Watch my Video Update



Please take a few moments to watch my [video update](#). I share three common-sense solutions that I think will help us complete our work on-time and on-budget here in Olympia.

## Tackling Chronic Unemployment

On Wednesday, several of my colleagues from the Majority Coalition and a few Republicans from the House joined together to announce a “Jobs Now!” plan to tackle the chronic unemployment in our state. The announcement came shortly after the [Worker Recovery Act](#) (WRA) was [approved by the Senate](#). The WRA is a measure that would increase options and protections for injured workers and reduce costs to the state-run workers’ compensation system.



The truth of the situation is that Washington returns fewer workers back to the job after an injury than any other state. In fact, we have the highest number of ‘time-loss’ days in the nation at 278 days, while our neighboring state of Oregon has on average only 65 ‘time-loss’ days.

Several injured workers were also present at the press conference and many of them [shared their stories](#) and the difference that the WRA would have made in their lives.

## Bill Approved for Undocumented Students

Today the Senate approved [Senate Bill 6523](#), which expands State Need Grant eligibility to undocumented students. While I was one of 10 ‘NO’ votes, my heart goes out to these students. I’m not immune to their pain, nor am I immune to the pain of the 32,000 legal students who have no chance at getting financial aid through the State Need Grant because resources are already maxed out. The measure will now move to the House of Representatives for consideration.

## Meet my Page

Jonathan Grall, a junior at Camas High School, spent the week in Olympia participating in the Senate Page Program.

I had the great pleasure of sponsoring him this week, and even in our short time together, I could tell that Jonathan is a very driven and focused young man.

I look forward to seeing where the future takes him!



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## Stay Connected!

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