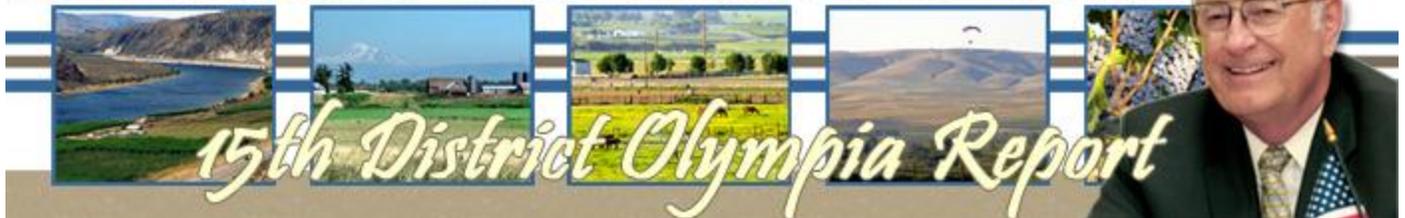


SENATOR JIM HONEYFORD



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Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development - Ranking; Ways & Means - Capital Budget; Energy, Environment & Telecommunications

First deadline of the 2013 session has passed

Greetings, and thanks for reading my Olympia Report e-newsletter! The 2013 legislative session is well underway, and we've just passed our first cutoff deadline. Friday was the last day that policy committees in both the House of Representatives and the Senate could consider bills from their body of origin. This week, only the [Senate Ways and Means Committee](#) and [Senate Transportation Committee](#) can continue to hold public hearings on bills until fiscal committee cutoff this Friday. After that, it's two weeks of the full Senate debating and passing bills in the Senate Chamber.



I'm pleased to report that three of my bills have already been passed by the full Senate and are now being considered by House committees. Seven more of my bills have received do-pass recommendations by Senate committees and are now making their way to the Rules committee in preparation for full Senate debate. You can read more about my bills and other issues facing the Legislature this session by visiting my website, jimhoneyford.senaterepublicans.wa.gov.

Funding schools - and school safety - first

I sponsored [Senate Bill 5445](#), which is currently being considered by the House Capital Budget Committee. It would appropriate \$10 million of capital funds to improve security at existing and future public schools based on the measures set forth in another bill, Senate Bill 5197. Two of the Majority Coalition Caucus' priorities are education and jobs, and as chair of the Senate capital budget committee I believe that early action in this matter will help to not only create construction jobs but provide for modern facilities that promote learning. Under SB 5445, \$475 million in general obligation bonds would be appropriated for the 2013-15 school construction assistance program, including the \$10 million grant program to improve security at public schools. The bill is written to take effect immediately after



being signed into law.

The Senate also passed [Senate Bill 5197](#) on the same day as my bill. That measure is in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy. SB 5197 would implement the use of silent panic-alarm systems in schools to expedite the response time of local law enforcement. It would also require an “optimal level of security” be incorporated into new school construction or major remodels of existing school buildings. Design considerations would vary based on the specific school site, but examples would allow for direct control and observation of the public who come on school grounds, installation of electric locks and a limit on the number of public entrances.

Both of these early-action measures will help reform education in the state of Washington.

More on my bills that survived cutoff

[Senate Bill 5054](#) - **Habitat and recreation lands.** This bill would require the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources and State Parks to ask the Legislature for permission to acquire new land. *Currently awaiting approval by the Senate Ways and Means Committee.*

[Senate Bill 5056](#) - **Employing minors/work permit.** This bill would allow an employer seeking a minor work permit endorsement to complete only the parts of a business license application that identify the employer and indicate the employer's plans to hire one or more minors, the duties of the minors and the estimated number of hours to be worked by minors (rather than the entire application). *Passed by the Senate; currently in the House Labor and Workforce Development Committee.*

[Senate Bill 5131](#) - **Laboratory equipment.** This bill would provide tax incentives for donations of modern laboratory equipment to higher education institutions and vocational skills centers. *Currently awaiting a hearing in the Senate Ways and Means Committee.*

[Senate Bill 5132](#) - **Estimated debt service costs.** This bill would require the state treasurer to estimate how much of the debt service appropriation is paying for debt due to state government agencies, public schools, local projects, and others. It would also require these estimates to be itemized in the appropriations bill. *Currently awaiting a vote of the full Senate.*

[Senate Bill 5770](#) - **Conservation districts.** This measure would permit conservation districts to use electronic deposits for employee pay and compensation. *Currently awaiting a vote of the full Senate.*

[Senate Bill 5792](#) - **Inmates in jails/health care.** This bill would require hospitals licensed and regulated by the Department of Health to contract with jails for inpatient, outpatient and ancillary services if deemed appropriate by the jail. *Currently awaiting approval by the Senate Ways and Means Committee.*

[Senate Bill 5824](#) - **Irrigation district financing.** This bill would make numerous changes to provisions governing local improvement districts created by irrigation districts. *Currently awaiting a vote of the full Senate.*

Honoring the Civil Air Patrol and Filipino-Americans



This session, I'm again sponsoring two resolutions to honor the Civil Air Patrol and the history and heritage of Filipino-Americans in Washington. As you know, I've been a proud member of the Civil Air Patrol for years, serving as a lieutenant colonel with both the Washington Wing Legislative Squadron and the Yakima Composite Squadron. The organization has helped to develop our state's young people into future leaders who go on to succeed in whatever they set their minds toward. With over 26,000 young people between the ages of 12 and 20, the Civil Air Patrol also provides both classroom and practical instruction in aerospace flight and rocketry with an emphasis on military history, leadership, and service to others. [You can read more about Senate Resolution 8621 here.](#)

The Filipino-American community is also a wonderful group of people that have many activities to preserve their heritage and culture, including traditional dances and a strong interest in education. They work hard in their communities, respect their elders and have fantastic food! Washington has the fourth largest population of Filipino-Americans in the United States and is the home to historic Filipino communities in Wapato, Bainbridge Island, Seattle, Tacoma, Auburn, and Bremerton, among others. Filipino-Americans form the largest Asian/Pacific Islander ethnic population in the state, and [you can read more about Senate Resolution 8617 here.](#)



In closing...

A big priority for me is getting your feedback as often as possible. It is one of the best tools I have to help me better represent you. As always, if you would like to contact me you can write, phone, e-mail, or stop by. It remains my honor to serve you in the Washington State Senate.



Sincerely,
Jim Honeyford

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

State Senator, 15th District