



SENATE

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

Working For All of Washington

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Contact:
Kimberly Wirtz
Kimberly.wirtz@leg.wa.gov



Priorities for Washington: Senate Republicans announce 2022 agenda

Restore public safety | Return affordability | Rebuild trust

OLYMPIA...The [Washington State Senate Republicans](#) announced their agenda for the 2022 Legislative Session, which begins Jan. 10. “Priorities for Washington” seeks to right the policy wrongs that have led to a more dangerous society, a higher cost of living and a state government that people increasingly find does not adequately represent them.

RESTORE PUBLIC SAFETY

“Anti-police policies passed by the majority last year completely missed the target,” said [Senate Republican Leader John Braun](#), R-Centralia. “Instead of improving the equity in law enforcement activities, these policies

have emboldened criminals to steal from and hurt law-abiding people and businesses. Police are treated like the enemy and hamstrung by the new laws. Offenders are given more rights than their victims. And now we are seeing prefiled bills that would make matters even worse. [House Bill 1692](#) would reduce the sentencing terms for those who commit drive-by murders by preventing it from being charged as aggravated first degree murder. The majority have thrown common sense out the window. People feel helpless and abandoned. We must repeal or fix the legislation causing this chaos.”

We will fight to:

- Fix anti-police laws (SB 5521, SB 5522 [Padden])
- Repeal the bill that allows criminals out of jail and into community custody early
- Stop the legalization of hard drugs (SB 5523 [Padden], SB 5524 [Honeyford])

RETURN AFFORDABILITY

“Inflation is the number one concern nationwide,” said [Senate Caucus Chair Judy Warnick](#), R-Moses Lake. “People are struggling with higher prices for food, housing, transportation and home-heating fuel. Overregulation, heavy taxation and supply chain problems are making it harder for people, especially those with lower incomes, to feed and house their families. The majority doesn’t seem to grasp that business owners must pass along the increased costs of more regulation and higher taxes onto the consumers – you, me and the single mother struggling to put food on her table pay dearly for their inflationary policies. Even the new \$0.80 hourly increase in the minimum wage will be passed on to the people. Someone who might receive that increase will end up paying for it through higher prices.”

We will fight to:

- Repeal the Long-Term Care Payroll Tax (SB 5234 [Padden])
- Reform policies that make renting or buying a home more expensive and more difficult
- Block efforts to impose a state income tax

REBUILD TRUST

“We’re seeing an erosion of the public trust in our education system, the Employment Security Department and the Department of Corrections,” said [Senate Republican Floor Leader Shelly Short](#), R-Addy. “Parents want school choice, but they get accused of undermining public education. They want input in what their children are learning, but they get accused of being terrorists for voicing their concerns. We need more local control of our schools and we need to empower parents to be part of our solutions.”

“Taxpayers were defrauded of hundreds of millions of dollars through the mishandling of funds that were intended to help Washingtonians feed their families and keep a roof over their heads during the shutdowns,” said [Senate Republican Whip Keith Wagoner](#), R-Sedro Wooley. “And we’re still being ruled by an autocratic governor who refuses to relinquish his emergency powers after nearly 700 days. This isn’t how representative government is supposed to work.”

We will fight to:

- Expand local control in education
- Protect school choice and parents’ rights (SB 5205 [Schoesler])

- Empower people via **The Balance Act**: Require all gubernatorial orders issued during a declared state of emergency to be subject to legislative approval after 30 days (SB 5039 – L. Wilson)

The 21 members of the Washington State Senate Republican Caucus, which includes Democrat Tim Sheldon of Shelton, are sponsoring additional legislation to address a variety of issues facing the Legislature in 2022. You can search bill information [here](#).

Additional resources:

- [SRC report on the failures of the Department of Corrections](#)
- [“Elephant in the Dome” podcast series](#)
- [“10 Facts Every Citizen Should Know”](#)
- [“All About the Income Tax”](#)
- [SRC Leadership Blog](#)
- [Audio/Video news from the SRC](#)
- [Economic Sense](#) by Sen. John Braun
- [Rational Steps](#) by Sen. Lynda Wilson

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[Washington State Senate Republicans](#)



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Priorities for Washington

Real solutions for real people



Restore PUBLIC SAFETY

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Return AFFORDABILITY

- Repeal the Long-Term Care Payroll Tax (SB 5234 [Padden])
- Reform policies that make renting or buying a home more expensive and more difficult
- Fight efforts to impose a state income tax



Rebuild TRUST

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Senate Republican Current List of Bills

SB 5534	Concerning the use of verifiable credentials.	12/13/2021	Brown
SJM 8007	Concerning the management of spent nuclear fuel.	12/13/2021	Brown
SB 5544	Establishing the Washington blockchain work group.	12/15/2021	Brown
SB 5514	Increasing the frequency of county legislative meetings at alternate locations.	12/8/2021	Dozier
SB 5515	Encouraging economic growth by providing a state business tax credit for new employment positions in the hospitality industry.	12/8/2021	Dozier
SB 5519	Replacing an inactive certificate status with an inactive license designation.	12/8/2021	Dozier
SB 5500	Concerning litter pickup during maintenance closures.	12/7/2021	Fortunato
SB 5501	Concerning state board of education membership.	12/7/2021	Fortunato
SB 5502	Requiring the removal of graffiti on department of transportation property.	12/7/2021	Fortunato
SB 5516	Requiring informed consent before performing an abortion.	12/8/2021	Fortunato
SB 5525	Allowing persons to take immediate action to remedy water quality conditions to protect public health and welfare without the threat of penalty.	12/9/2021	Fortunato
SB 5526	Studying the global availability of lithium and rare earth minerals for battery manufacturing.	12/9/2021	Fortunato
SB 5556	Providing financial relief to hotels, motels, and other lodging facilities impacted by the eviction moratorium.	12/17/2021	Fortunato
SB 5574	Concerning new counties.	12/21/2021	Fortunato
SB 5591	Providing certain limitations on uses and demographics for certain emergency housing and shelters.	12/23/2021	Fortunato
SB 5625	Concerning data collection on abortion procedures.	1/3/2022	Fortunato
SB 5487	Concerning small school district consolidation incentives for infrastructure enhancement and modernization.	12/6/2021	Hawkins
SB 5513	Expanding flexibility of existing lodging taxes for affordable workforce housing.	12/7/2021	Hawkins
SB 5603	Proposing a comprehensive study of the state route number 2 corridor to improve safety and mobility, including outreach to adjacent communities.	12/28/2021	Hawkins
SB 5509	Exempting fentanyl testing equipment from the definition of drug paraphernalia.	12/7/2021	Honeyford
SB 5511	Concerning uniform standard time for the state of Washington.	12/7/2021	Honeyford
SB 5512	Designating a state nickname.	12/7/2021	Honeyford

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SB 5524	Imposing a sentence of life in prison for controlled substances homicide for fentanyl-laced drugs.	12/9/2021	Honeyford
SB 5632	Concerning investments in critical water infrastructure projects.	1/4/2022	Honeyford
SB 5510	Concerning renewal of the sales and use tax for transportation benefit districts.	12/7/2021	King
SB 5549	Amending types of nonprofit organizations qualified to engage in certain bingo gambling activities and changes to the number of occurrences for unlicensed bingo activities.	12/16/2021	King
SB 5558	Concerning the bistrate governance of interstate toll bridges owned by local governments.	12/17/2021	King
SB 5578	Clarifying the method for determining the value of specified tangible personal property incorporated as part of certain public infrastructure for the purposes of use tax and business and occupation tax.	12/21/2021	King
SB 5521	Concerning good faith exceptions to the exclusionary evidence rule.	12/9/2021	Padden
SB 5522	Increasing the penalty for assaulting a law enforcement officer.	12/9/2021	Padden
SB 5523	Concerning possession of controlled substances.	12/9/2021	Padden
SB 5569	Improving public safety.	12/20/2021	Padden
SB 5621	Concerning intergovernmental tax charges and conflict resolution regarding water and sewage facilities.	12/30/2021	Padden
SB 5605	Concerning licensure of anesthesiologist assistants.	12/28/2021	Rivers
SB 5503	Studying the financial products available through the private market to replace the long-term services and supports trust program authorized in chapter 50B.04 RCW.	12/7/2021	Schoesler
SB 5643	Supporting youth development.	1/4/2022	Schoesler
SB 5565	Allowing fire districts and regional fire authorities to carry out certain treasurer functions.	12/20/2021	Sheldon
SB 5593	Concerning urban growth area boundaries.	12/23/2021	Short
SB 5594	Concerning public school instruction in awareness of bone marrow donation.	12/23/2021	Short
SB 5601	Empowering school district boards of directors.	12/27/2021	Short
SB 5640	Updating the motion picture competitiveness program to enhance funding and encourage productions in rural communities.	1/4/2022	Short
SB 5641	Promoting local agriculture through greenhouses.	1/4/2022	Short
SB 5545	Concerning survivor benefits.	12/15/2021	Wagoner

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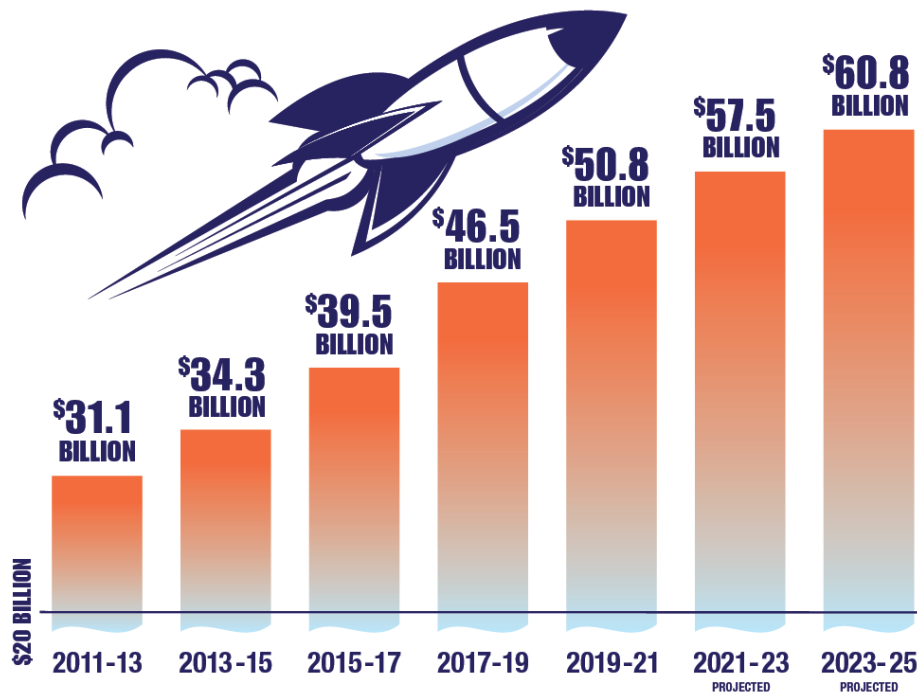
SB 5590	Eliminating the 2022 expiration date of the marine resources advisory council.	12/22/2021	Wagoner
SB 5638	Concerning expediting approval for applicants for an associate license as a social worker, mental health counselor, or marriage and family therapist.	1/4/2022	Wagoner
SB 5644	Concerning providing quality behavioral health co-response services	1/4/2022	Wagoner
SB 5646	Requiring full body scanners at correctional facilities.	1/4/2022	Wagoner
SB 5504	Extending current discover pass free days from state parks to all state recreation sites and lands.	12/7/2021	Warnick
SB 5624	Extending the expiration date of certain sections of chapter 92, Laws of 2019, regarding livestock identification.	1/3/2022	Warnick
SB 5492	Providing for the recycling of wind turbine blades.	12/6/2021	Wilson, J.
SB 5493	Reopening the renewable energy system incentive program for residential-scale systems.	12/6/2021	Wilson, J.
SB 5494	Prohibiting products that contain olefins derived from methanol manufactured from natural gas.	12/6/2021	Wilson, J.
SB 5495	Concerning catalytic converters.	12/6/2021	Wilson, J.
SB 5635	Addressing safety measures for tow truck operators and vehicles.	1/4/2022	Wilson, J.
SB 5607	Including individuals in jails and hospitals who were homeless before entering such facilities in the state's annual homeless census.	12/29/2021	Wilson, L.
SB 5608	Concerning free public access to state parks and lands.	12/29/2021	Wilson, L.
SB 5612	Ensuring domestic violence victims and survivors of victims have the opportunity to make a statement during sentencing for all domestic violence convictions.	12/29/2021	Wilson, L.
SB 5620	Concerning medicaid expenditures.	12/30/2021	Wilson, L.
SJR 8209	Amending Article I, section 20 of the Washington state Constitution.	1/3/2022	Wilson, L.

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SKYROCKETING TAX COLLECTIONS



Note: Projected revenue figures, from Washington Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, assume \$500M from new state income tax in 2023 and \$800M in 2023-25.

State tax collections are skyrocketing as if our COVID economic shutdown never happened, as increased business activity in Washington state leaves Olympia awash in money. Since the Washington Legislature adjourned its 2021 session last April 25, state economists have added nearly \$8 billion to projections of future tax collections.

It's proof that our tax system isn't broken. Nearly all this new money is the result of taxes on business. It didn't come from the poor, as some would like you to believe. Our thriving economy and fast-rising tax collections are the result of a tax system that gives Washington unique competitive advantages over other states.

It's proof that no emergency existed last year when majority Democrats passed a new state income tax on capital gains. We have so much money that any new program could be funded with existing revenues. By "declaring an emergency" in their legislation, the majority blocked a public referendum that would have overturned the new income tax.

By imposing a new income tax on capital gains due in 2023 – and targeting the sectors most responsible for this growth – majority Democrats risk **"killing the golden goose."** Rather than promoting arbitrary and specious theories of "fairness" that will damage our economy and ultimately place a greater burden on the people of Washington, tax reform should focus on reducing the burden on individuals and stimulating economic growth. **Stay tuned for more action on this issue in 2022.**



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Senate Republican Communications Assignments

Kimberly Wirtz

Communications Director
253-209-8890
Kimberly.wirtz@leg.wa.gov
Leadership/caucus

Booker Stallworth

Deputy Communications Director
360-338-5936
Booker.stallworth@leg.wa.gov
Brown, Honeyford, Padden

Eric Campbell

Senior Public Information Officer
360-480-2945
Eric.campbell@leg.wa.gov
Braun (in-district), Rivers, L. Wilson

Laudan Espinoza

Senior Public Information Officer
Director of Community Engagement & Inclusion
253-282-0416
Laudan.espinoza@leg.wa.gov
Fortunato, Muzzall, Warnick (in-district)

Tricia Gullion

Senior Public Information Officer
360-489-8254
Tricia.gullion@leg.wa.gov
Dozier, Gildon, Short, Wagoner

Erik Smith

Senior Public Information Officer
206-953-3874
Erik.smith@leg.wa.gov
*Sheldon, McCune, J. Wilson
(Sen. Ericksen's successor)*

Brian Zylstra

Senior Public Information Officer
360-827-0811
Brian.zylstra@leg.wa.gov
Hawkins, Holy, King, Schoesler

Tracy Ellis

Broadcast Coordinator
360-223-8172
Tracy.ellis@leg.wa.gov

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