Priorities for Washington: Senate Republicans announce 2022 agenda

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 prefilled 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 Woolley. “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

##

*Follow @WashingtonSRC on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.*

*Washington State Senate Republicans*
Priorities for Washington
Real solutions for real people

Restore PUBLIC SAFETY
• 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
• 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
• 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)

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

#UnSafeWA • #UnAffordableWA • #UntrustworthyWA

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @WashingtonSRC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Bill Title</th>
<th>Introduced</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SB 5524</td>
<td>Imposing a sentence of life in prison for controlled substances homicide for fentanyl-laced drugs.</td>
<td>12/9/2021</td>
<td>Honeyford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5632</td>
<td>Concerning investments in critical water infrastructure projects.</td>
<td>1/4/2022</td>
<td>Honeyford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5510</td>
<td>Concerning renewal of the sales and use tax for transportation benefit districts.</td>
<td>12/7/2021</td>
<td>King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5549</td>
<td>Amending types of nonprofit organizations qualified to engage in certain bingo gambling activities and changes to the number of occurrences for unlicensed bingo activities.</td>
<td>12/16/2021</td>
<td>King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5558</td>
<td>Concerning the bistate governance of interstate toll bridges owned by local governments.</td>
<td>12/17/2021</td>
<td>King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5578</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>12/21/2021</td>
<td>King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5521</td>
<td>Concerning good faith exceptions to the exclusionary evidence rule.</td>
<td>12/9/2021</td>
<td>Padden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5522</td>
<td>Increasing the penalty for assaulting a law enforcement officer.</td>
<td>12/9/2021</td>
<td>Padden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5523</td>
<td>Concerning possession of controlled substances.</td>
<td>12/9/2021</td>
<td>Padden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5569</td>
<td>Concerning renewal of the sales and use tax for transportation benefit districts.</td>
<td>12/7/2021</td>
<td>King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5565</td>
<td>Allowing fire districts and regional fire authorities to carry out certain treasurer functions.</td>
<td>12/20/2021</td>
<td>Sheldon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5593</td>
<td>Concerning urban growth area boundaries.</td>
<td>12/23/2021</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5594</td>
<td>Concerning public school instruction in awareness of bone marrow donation.</td>
<td>12/23/2021</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5601</td>
<td>Empowering school district boards of directors.</td>
<td>12/27/2021</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5640</td>
<td>Updating the motion picture competitiveness program to enhance funding and encourage productions in rural communities.</td>
<td>1/4/2022</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5641</td>
<td>Promoting local agriculture through greenhouses.</td>
<td>1/4/2022</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5545</td>
<td>Concerning survivor benefits.</td>
<td>12/15/2021</td>
<td>Wagoner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Number</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Sponsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5590</td>
<td>Eliminating the 2022 expiration date of the marine resources advisory council.</td>
<td>12/22/2021</td>
<td>Wagoner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5638</td>
<td>Concerning expediting approval for applicants for an associate license as a</td>
<td>1/4/2022</td>
<td>Wagoner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>social worker, mental health counselor, or marriage and family therapist.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5644</td>
<td>Concerning providing quality behavioral health co-response services</td>
<td>1/4/2022</td>
<td>Wagoner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5646</td>
<td>Requiring full body scanners at correctional facilities.</td>
<td>1/4/2022</td>
<td>Wagoner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5504</td>
<td>Extending current discover pass free days from state parks to all state</td>
<td>12/7/2021</td>
<td>Warnick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>recreation sites and lands.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5624</td>
<td>Extending the expiration date of certain sections of chapter 92, Laws of 2019,</td>
<td>1/3/2022</td>
<td>Warnick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>regarding livestock identification.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5492</td>
<td>Providing for the recycling of wind turbine blades.</td>
<td>12/6/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5493</td>
<td>Reopening the renewable energy system incentive program for residential-</td>
<td>12/6/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>scale systems.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5494</td>
<td>Prohibiting products that contain olefins derived from methanol manufactured</td>
<td>12/6/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from natural gas.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5495</td>
<td>Concerning catalytic converters.</td>
<td>12/6/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5635</td>
<td>Addressing safety measures for tow truck operators and vehicles.</td>
<td>1/4/2022</td>
<td>Wilson, J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5607</td>
<td>Including individuals in jails and hospitals who were homeless before</td>
<td>12/29/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>entering such facilities in the state's annual homeless census.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5608</td>
<td>Concerning free public access to state parks and lands.</td>
<td>12/29/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5612</td>
<td>Ensuring domestic violence victims and survivors of victims have the</td>
<td>12/29/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>opportunity to make a statement during sentencing for all domestic violence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>convictions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 5620</td>
<td>Concerning medicaid expenditures.</td>
<td>12/30/2021</td>
<td>Wilson, L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SJR 8209</td>
<td>Amending Article I, section 20 of the Washington state Constitution.</td>
<td>1/3/2022</td>
<td>Wilson, L.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.
Senate Republican Communications Assignments

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#UnSafeWA • #UnAffordableWA • #UntrustworthyWA
Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @WashingtonSRC