

19th Legislative District Survey



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Sen. Dean Takko



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Changes in Olympia

As you may have heard, there have been changes in your state leadership in the 19th Legislative District. In September, Sen. Brian Hatfield stepped down after more than two decades serving in Olympia. He's already hard at work in his new position working to bring rural economic development to the state.

Sen. Dean Takko was appointed to fill the 19th Legislative District senate seat on Oct. 22 after more than a decade in House of Representatives. Taking his place in the House is Rep. J.D. Rossetti, a member of the Longview School Board and the Pathways 2020 Board. The appointments were made by commissioners of the five counties in the 19th District: Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Lewis, Pacific and Grays Harbor.

Dear Friends,

As 2015 quickly comes to a close, we want to share a preview of major issues facing our state when lawmakers return to Olympia in January. We'd also like to hear from you directly, so we're including a survey about jobs, education, health care and other issues important to the 19th District.

The top priority in 2016 is fully funding our public schools.

Last session, the Legislature increased education funding by \$1.3 billion, but we still need to address the overreliance on our local levy system. Students deserve the same opportunities no matter how much their parents make.

Unfortunately, wealthier districts can use local levy dollars to attract the best teachers while working-class towns and rural communities can't keep up. The state Supreme Court has ruled that this is unfair and unconstitutional.

We plan on working across the aisle to close the opportunity gap and support our teachers, students and families.

Jobs are a high priority. The slow economic recovery is a reminder that we must look for ways to create good jobs and opportunity for everyone in the 19th District, so our new graduates don't have to leave their hometowns to start a career.

We'll also continue to take a serious look at natural resources and agriculture issues to protect our waters and forests while creating jobs.

Please take a moment to share your thoughts and ideas by answering this survey and mailing it back to any of our offices, or you can do it online at <https://goo.gl/Gi0cz3>.

There's a lot of work ahead of us during the upcoming 60-day session and we are honored to have the opportunity to represent you.

Sincerely,

Sen. Dean Takko

Rep. Brian Blake

Rep. JD Rossetti

We want to hear from you. You can fill out the survey below and mail it back to us, or fill it out online at <https://goo.gl/Gi0cz3> and save a stamp!

JOBS

How should we create more jobs in the 19th District?

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Bring more tourism with fishing, hiking, hunting and mountain biking |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Put folks in hard hats to work building bridges, roads and construction projects |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Make it easier to create and sustain new small businesses |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Boost natural resource jobs in the woods and on the ocean |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Increase internships and apprenticeships so young people can get jobs after they graduate and not leave the area |

Do you know anyone who was laid off during the Great Recession?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

What could we do to attract more tourists to the 19th District?

What's the biggest barrier to creating local jobs, and how could we fix it?

What do you think about allowing oil or coal terminals at our local ports — should we say yes to create jobs, or say no due to the environmental dangers?

Shade circles like this: ● Not like this: ☒ or this: ☑

EDUCATION

Do you have children or grandchildren in public schools or colleges?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

What's your top priority when it comes to education? Select one

- ☐ Improving local public schools so every kid gets a great education
- ☐ Making college tuition affordable to regular people again
- ☐ Giving kids who aren't going to UW or WSU a better path to the skilled trades
- ☐ Reducing the burden of standardized testing on students and teachers
- ☐ Making sure graduates have the skills local employers need

Our kids in the 19th District don't get the same education as students in wealthy zip codes in Seattle or Bellevue. The Supreme Court says that the state must fully fund all local schools. How should we do that?

Agree Disagree

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | End the unfair system of local property taxes and unequal funding for schools and make the state pay for all basic costs, including teacher salaries |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Pass tax fairness to reduce the tax burden on the middle class while asking the wealthiest to actually pay their share for schools |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Drastically cut funding for health care, prisons, higher education and natural resources to divert those funds to public schools |

HEALTH CARE

Does your family have health coverage?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

What's the biggest problem with health care in our district, and how could we solve it?

YOUR IDEAS

If you could solve any single problem—anything at all—what would you pick, and how would you fix it?

We'd love to share your comments with other lawmakers when we fight for legislation and funding for the 19th District. Would you like to leave your first name and town so we can tell your story? (Optional)

Name

Town

EMAIL UPDATES:

If you want to receive updates about issues important to the 19th District, please list your email here:

Mark your calendar and join us over the phone the first week of session!



19th LD telephone town hall on Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 6 p.m.

You can participate one of two ways: a wide swath of constituents across the district will receive a call a few minutes before the town hall begins, inviting them to stay on the line; or, if you don't receive the call but want to participate, please dial the toll-free line 877-229-8493, followed by the ID code 18646.



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RETURN ADDRESS

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Olympia, WA 98504-0600

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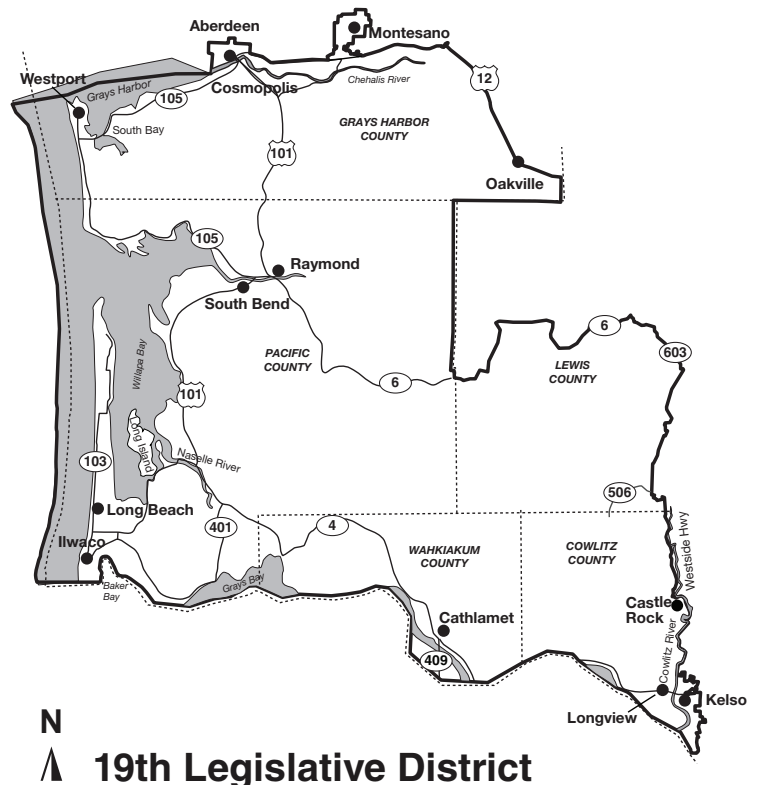
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