

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**NOEL FRAME**  
36<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

2017 MID-SESSION  
TOWN HALL



**Committees:**

- Finance (**Vice Chair**)
- Early Learning & Human Services
- Judiciary
- Labor & Workplace Standards

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**When I came to the legislature,** I made a promise to reduce systemic barriers to success. I am proud to say that five of my bills, which do just that, have passed the House and are on the way to the Senate. These bills help workers get the pay that they have earned, help children and families undergoing often traumatic transitions, and give students a better chance to succeed in college.

- **HB 1561** addresses the ever-increasing cost of college textbooks and materials. This bill will expand the use of open educational resources (OER) at public four-year colleges. OERs are open source instructional materials, which are free and available for use by anyone. Use of OERs in the state's community and technical colleges have created a 20 percent savings in costs of course materials.
- **HB 1672** ensures that the passage of time does not prevent workers from receiving the wages they are owed. This policy freezes the statute of limitations on recovery of wages while the prevailing wage determination is finalized. This bill passed through the House unanimously.
- **HB 1816** fills a need not directly addressed by the Homeless Youth Act – namely, lifting communication barriers between state agencies. The bill allows the Children's Administration to disclose certain confidential information about youth in the state's care to Crisis Residential Center (CRC) and HOPE Center staff. This information allows staff to make thoughtful decisions about placement, safety and service needs of these vulnerable youth.
- **HB 1930** will remove barriers to the reunification of families. Recently, judicial decisions have changed enough that the statute is out of date and the process for parent-child reunification is confusing and challenging. Parents who can show that they are responsible and can again be a fit parent should not have impossible barriers to reunifying with their children. I have been able to work with judges in our state on this bill to clarify the law so it reflects the requirements of the courts and allow families to be together.
- **HB 2037** allows students and colleges to continue to collaborate to make higher education accessible to students with disabilities. Last year I worked in partnership with now Lt Governor Cyrus Habib, to pass SB 6466. This bill initiated a task force to clear the barriers students with disabilities face when transferring from one institution of higher education to another. The task force needs more time. My bill will allow them to continue the work that they have started to standardize forms and processes to ensure these student avoid disruptions in their access to disability accommodations.



**Just over a year ago**, the Greenwood community experienced a massive gas pipeline explosion. Today the windows are no longer boarded up and the debris has been cleared, but the community and small businesses are still hurting. Through this experience, we have learned we need to help small businesses going through significant accidents like this. They need a bridge of financial help to “weather the storm” during the subsequent investigation. My bill, **HB 2135**, would allow the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission to develop a program of loans and grants for businesses and other private entities that have suffered damages in a pipeline explosion.



**Other important Legislation  
I am co-sponsoring on its way  
to the Senate**

- The Washington Voting Rights Act - HB 1800
- Equal Pay Opportunity Act - HB 1506
- Parental Rights of Rape Victims – HB 1576
- Pregnancy Accommodations - HB 1796