

Sen. Reuven Carlyle
Rep. Gael Tarleton
Rep. Noel Frame

36th Legislative District • Seattle 2018 Update from Olympia

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Olympia, WA 98504-0436



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LD36



SENATOR
Reuven Carlyle



Reuven.Carlyle@leg.wa.gov
360-786-7670

REPRESENTATIVE
Gael Tarleton



Gael.Tarleton@leg.wa.gov
360-786-7860

REPRESENTATIVE
Noel Frame



Noel.Frame@leg.wa.gov
360-786-7814

BUILDING A BETTER WASHINGTON

Democrats gained control of the Senate this year, which allowed us to pass two state construction budgets (SB 6090 & SB 6095) this session.

Those construction budgets invest \$5.4 billion toward projects.

A record \$1 billion for public schools—This is the first capital budget to ever invest \$1 billion to build public schools across our state.

\$862 million for colleges and universities—The two-year construction budget also includes a massive

investment in our public colleges and universities, with \$433 million going toward community and technical colleges.

Capital investments in our community include:

- Seattle Aquarium
- Seattle Opera
- Millionair Club Charity Kitchen
- Ballard fish ladder renovation
- Frantz H Coe Elementary School
- Yamasaki Courtyard renewal project

Dear neighbors,

The 2018 legislative session is known as the “short session” of 60 days. We took full advantage of every moment to push forward progressive policies that will create a better quality of life for Washington’s families, kids, and communities for decades to come. We worked with our colleagues to gain broad bipartisan support on diverse legislation, such as:

- Securing and expanding our democracy
- Getting us closer to equal pay for women
- Banning the harmful practice of gay conversion therapy
- Providing nutritious meals to low-income students
- Preserving the internet’s equality of access

Lawmakers also approved a balanced budget that fully addresses the last remaining element of the McCleary lawsuit, provides over \$400 million in relief from the 2017 GOP property tax increase that hurts middle-income families the most, and still secured healthy balances in our rainy day account.

In addition, we adopted two capital budgets with nearly unanimous support in both chambers that invest nearly \$5.4 billion in school construction, treatment facilities for those suffering with mental health and addiction illnesses, and community improvements.

Please reach out to us anytime with your questions and comments.

Your partners in service,


Senator
Reuven Carlyle


Representative
Gael Tarleton


Representative
Noel Frame

2018 PROGRESSIVE VICTORIES

Education Opportunities for All Students

Lawmakers **fully funded basic education on time**, putting the McCleary lawsuit to rest once and for all. We also **increased funding for special education** and enacted the **Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights and Breakfast After the Bell**, which will expand programs that provide nutritious meals to school kids from low-income families so they are ready to learn.

Gender Rights

We passed the **Equal Pay Opportunity Act**, a policy of vital importance to workplace equity statewide.

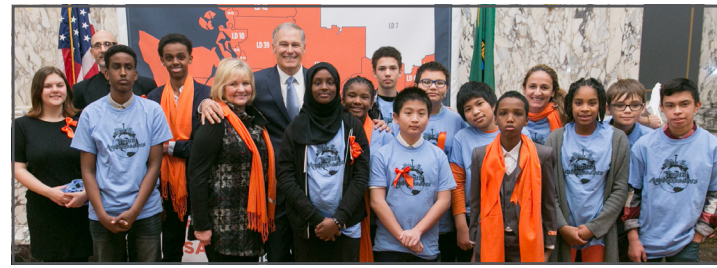
Lawmakers passed the **Reproductive Parity Act**, requiring health insurance plans that offer maternity coverage to cover contraception and abortion, and address reproductive health disparities for women.

We passed a **ban on conversion therapy** by requiring science and evidence-based approaches related to counseling for the LGBTQ community.

Access to Democracy

A package of new laws will protect and strengthen our democracy.

- The **DISCLOSE Act** exposes hidden money in elections.
- **Same-day voter registration** prevents needless barriers to eligible voters participating in our democracy.
- **Automatic voter registration** will make the process simpler and easier.
- **Youth voter pre-registration** lets high school students make the decision to be a voter and be eligible to exercise their right to vote the day they turn 18.
- The **Washington Voting Rights Act** helps majority-minority communities in every corner of the state receive fair representation in local government without going through the expense of federal lawsuits.



Gun Safety

The Legislature took steps towards common-sense gun safety by **banning bump stocks**, a device used in the Las Vegas mass shooting that allowed the shooter to fire more than 1,100 rounds from AR-15 rifles to wound 422 and kill 58 people.

Lawmakers also enacted laws to make it more difficult for domestic violence abusers to buy firearms. It will also now be possible for anyone struggling with mental illness to voluntarily place themselves on a firearms do-not-purchase list.

These are steps in the right direction, but they do not go far enough. The three of us are committed to meaningful, common-sense gun safety laws.

Consumer Protection

Washington became the first state in the nation to pass **net neutrality** so your internet provider can't slow down and speed up different web sites or charge you various speed rates for access to your internet.

Restrictions are now in place to protect you from unfair **credit freeze fees** charged by financial institutions, so you can freeze and unfreeze your credit accounts when there's a privacy breach like the notorious Equifax debacle.

The **Student Loan Bill of Rights** protects student loan borrowers from fraudulent and predatory practices by lenders that saddle students with spiraling debt.

Strong Communities

We continue to combat homelessness by raising the document recording fee from \$40 to \$62, which funds homeless services and investments across the state.

We are fighting back against housing discrimination by stopping landlords from turning away potential tenants who rely on Section 8 vouchers, Social Security, foster care vouchers or veterans' benefits.

The Fair Chance Act or 'ban the box' legislation ensures that everyone has an equal opportunity for employment and second chances.

MEMBER BILL SUMMARY

SENATOR Reuven Carlyle

As the new chair of the Senate Energy, Environment & Technology Committee, my goal is to tackle some of the most complex, difficult and important public issues facing our state by elevating our respect for science, data and evidence – from climate change to Puget Sound cleanup to net neutrality, internet privacy and much more.

I'm proud to have shepherded sweeping carbon pricing legislation through two major committees this year, a first in a state legislature in the country. By working with utilities, business, environmentalists and policy thought leaders to invest in next-generation energy and mitigation of climate impacts, we transformed the policy issue in a way that will help frame our response to this challenge going forward. We also passed a bill to outlaw non-native salmon farming.

REPRESENTATIVE Gael Tarleton

This session I was happy to be the prime sponsor for HB 2402, which seeks to build upon the great climate victory Washington's voters won in 2006 when they approved the Energy Independence Act.

This bill moved out of the policy committee and during the negotiating process became HB 2995 to create a 100-percent clean energy electric grid by 2045. The opportunities and challenges associated with moving our utilities off of fossil fuels were debated in three committees during this session, which was unprecedented progress on this legislation. The bill almost made it to the House floor for a vote before time ran out.

Washington has been a leader in taking the necessary steps to build a clean-energy economy. Now we must continue that momentum and keep fighting on behalf of our streams, our forests, and our kids.

REPRESENTATIVE Noel Frame

Along with many larger pieces of progressive legislation, bills I sponsored that were previously held up in the Republican-controlled Senate moved forward this session.

One such bill, HB 1561, helps make the dream of higher education more affordable and accessible by creating a grant program to expand the development of open educational resources, or open-source instructional materials that are free to students. While financial aid can help with tuition, textbooks are often not covered, yet contribute to the high price tag of a degree.

Another bill that found new life this session was HB 1672, a straightforward bill to ensure fairness for workers. In Washington, if you feel you are owed a prevailing wage you can file a complaint within a three-year statute of limitations. This new law stops the clock while a determination is being made, ensuring that workers don't lose their right to back wages.

After sponsoring legislation to repeal the death penalty each of my nine years serving in the Legislature, I was honored to partner with colleagues from both sides of the aisle to pass a bill in the Senate with strong bipartisan support. The bill did not see action in the House.

As a member of the powerful Ways & Means Committee, I'm particularly pleased to have played an instrumental role this year in pushing to lower property taxes in 2019 by \$0.30/1,000 following last year's property tax increase. I voted against the original plan due to disproportionately large impacts on the middle class and low income residents.

The Legislature received substantial criticism for passing public records legislation, a bill that was ultimately vetoed by the governor at the request of many legislators. I was one of only seven senators to vote against the plan itself because of a flawed process and insufficient policy development.

I'm glad to see significant climate legislation made it through the committee process in both the House and Senate this year. We're making progress! Unfortunately, we'll need to wait until 2019 before we can try again. There is a path to victory here. We must be relentless.

I worked on three other pieces of legislation during this short session, all of which were voted off the House floor with near-unanimous support and made it out of Senate policy committees with strong bipartisan "yes" votes:

- HB 1154 would provide incentives to update our aging fishing fleet
- HB 2678 would provide enhanced privacy and security for Washington residents by expanding the scope of cybercrimes
- HB 1510 would enable our public ports to partner with public and private organizations that are building the skilled workforce of the future for jobs in the maritime and manufacturing trades

One of my focuses this session was juvenile justice reform, working to address some of the problems with the way our current justice system handles young people. I sponsored HB 2895 to reduce the list of crimes that cause a juvenile to automatically be tried as an adult and extend juvenile rehabilitation's jurisdiction to age 25. I also sponsored HB 2932 to adjust state law so teens who choose to send consensual, sexually explicit images will no longer face being charged with a felony sex offense. While the "sexting" bill did not pass this session, I'm pleased to report that the Senate version of HB 2895 (SB 6160) became law.

Other legislation I worked on this session that did not pass includes bills to increase civil damages paid by employers who steal their employees' wages, to increase the amount of notice needed to terminate a rental agreement, and to decrease the burden on cities and counties by increasing state funding for public defense services.

ACCESS TO DEMOCRACY

HOUSE	SENATE	LAW
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓

- WASHINGTON VOTING RIGHTS**
Ensuring all communities have fair representation in local government
- SAME-DAY REGISTRATION**
Making it possible for more eligible voters to participate
- AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION**
Boosting registration rates and modernizing voting system
- DISCLOSE ACT**
Shining light on hidden money
- VOTER PRE-REGISTRATION**
Allowing 16 and 17-year-olds to pre-register to vote