

State of
Washington
House of
Representatives



May 3, 2019

Representative J.T. Wilcox
Republican Leader
Washington State House of Representatives
Legislative Building
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Republican Leader Wilcox:

We believe that diversity strengthens our state and the Washington State Legislature. We recognize that this includes differences of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, creed and national origin. Representative Matt Shea's direct involvement in extremist activities erodes the state's ideals of fairness and equality.

During the fall of 2017, Representative Shea communicated with political extremists who sought to violently disrupt the protests of people with opposing points of view. According to a number of reports, this conversation took place in an online private text "chat room" titled, in translation from Russian, "The White Movement," in which Representative Shea used the alias "True Warrior."

These discussions among these extremists included their suggestion to grab a "fist full of hair" and to "face slam" a protester into a Jersey barrier, followed by "...shaving her bald with a K-Bar USMC field knife." Other heinous threats too vile to describe here were made during these text communications. Representative Shea did not speak out against, and thus tacitly approved, the tortures and other violence discussed.

This extremist group also discussed additional tactics of surveillance and intimidation, including targeting the daycare locations of political opponents' children.

In addition, Representative Shea offered to conduct background checks on those with whom he and his associates disagreed.

Unfortunately, Representative Shea is not new to extremism, having distributed his "Biblical Basis for War" manifesto that included the statement, "If they do not yield – kill all males."

Through his words and actions, Representative Shea has aligned himself with voices that seek to erode the very ideals of our democracy and One Washington. If we choose to tolerate an escalating language of violence, and remain indifferent to this attack on our shared humanity, we believe that as a legislative body we will not truly serve all our constituents and this institution.

Further, Representative Shea's actions reflect negatively on and bring discredit to the Washington State House of Representatives.

With all this in mind, we request the following action:

- Publicly reprimand Representative Shea; and
- Remove Representative Shea from his position as ranking minority member of the House Committee on Environment & Energy.

In addition, the Speaker has indicated that the House will conduct an independent investigation to determine whether further action is warranted.

Please join with us to reassure the people we represent that hate and intolerance have no place in Washington state, and certainly not in the people's House.

Sincerely,



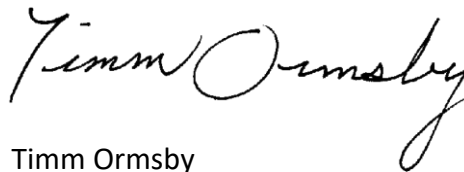
Derek Stanford
State Representative—1st Legislative District



Shelley Kloba
State Representative—1st Legislative District



Marcus Riccelli
State Representative—3rd Legislative District



Timm Ormsby
State Representative—3rd Legislative District



Bill Ramos
State Representative—5th Legislative District



Lisa Callan
State Representative—5th Legislative District



Dave Paul
State Representative—10th Legislative District



Steve Bergquist
State Representative—11th Legislative District



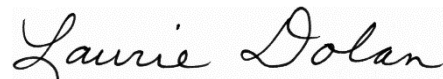
Brian Blake
State Representative—19th Legislative District



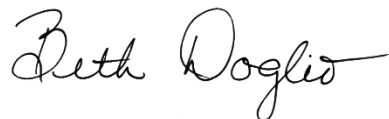
Strom Peterson
State Representative—21st Legislative District



Lillian Ortiz-Self
State Representative—21st Legislative District



Laurie Dolan
State Representative—22nd Legislative District



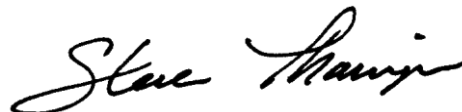
Beth Doglio
State Representative—22nd Legislative District



Sherry Appleton
State Representative—23rd Legislative District



Drew Hansen
State Representative—23rd Legislative District



Steve Tharinger
State Representative—24th Legislative District



Laurie Jinkins
State Representative—27th Legislative District



Jake Fey
State Representative—27th Legislative District



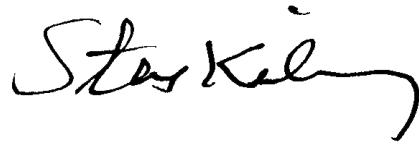
Mari Leavitt
State Representative—28th Legislative District



Christine Kilduff
State Representative—28th Legislative District



Melanie Morgan
State Representative—29th Legislative District



Steve Kirby
State Representative—29th Legislative District



Mike Pellicciotti
State Representative—30th Legislative District



Kristine Reeves
State Representative—30th Legislative District



Cindy Ryu
State Representative—32nd Legislative District



Lauren Davis
State Representative—32nd Legislative District



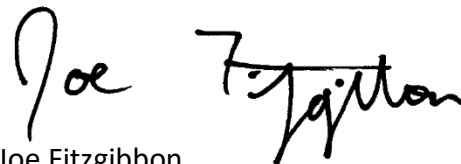
Tina Orwall
State Representative—33rd Legislative District



Mia Gregerson
State Representative—33rd Legislative District



Eileen Cody
State Representative—34th Legislative District



Joe Fitzgibbon
State Representative—34th Legislative District



Noel Frame
State Representative—36th Legislative District



Gael Tarleton
State Representative—36th Legislative District



Sharon Tomiko Santos
State Representative—37th Legislative District



Eric Pettigrew
State Representative—37th Legislative District



June Robinson
State Representative—38th Legislative District



Mike Sells
State Representative—38th Legislative District




Debra Lekanoff
State Representative—40th Legislative District



Jeff Morris
State Representative—40th Legislative District



Tana Senn
State Representative—41st Legislative District



My-Linh Thai
State Representative—41st Legislative District



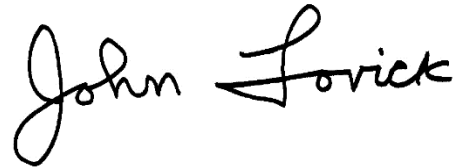
Sharon Shewmake
State Representative—42nd Legislative District



Nicole Macri
State Representative—43rd Legislative District



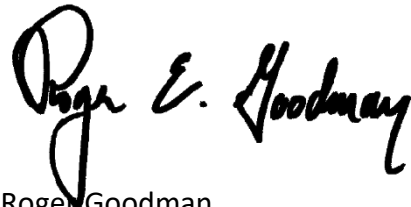
Frank Chopp
State Representative—43rd Legislative District



John Lovick
State Representative—44th Legislative District



Jared Mead
State Representative—44th Legislative District



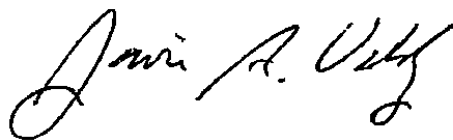
Roger Goodman
State Representative—45th Legislative District



Larry Springer
State Representative—45th Legislative District



Gerry Pollet
State Representative—46th Legislative District



Javier Valdez
State Representative—46th Legislative District



Debra Entenman
State Representative—47th Legislative District



Pat Sullivan
State Representative—47th Legislative District



Vandana Slatter
State Representative—48th Legislative District



Amy Walen
State Representative—48th Legislative District



Sharon Wylie
State Representative—49th Legislative District



Monica Jurado Stonier
State Representative—49th Legislative District