FYI: Election Year Restrictions
On election years, to prevent the use of state resources for election purposes, legislators who are up for re-election must comply with certain rules: From May 16, until after the November election results are certified, I can’t send out newsletters, and my website, as well as my official Facebook page, will be frozen, meaning no new content can be added during that period. However, I am your representative year-round, and I am allowed to respond directly to constituents who contact my office, so if you have questions or comments about legislative issues, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.
Dear friends and neighbors,

Many thanks to everyone who attended our recent virtual and district town halls. It was so refreshing to see folks in person, hear your concerns and address some of the main points you raised.

We talked about law enforcement reform and the bills we passed in 2021 aimed at reducing needless use of force and increasing trust between police officers and the communities they serve. After those laws went into effect, there was confusion around the definition of physical force and the ability of police to detain suspects. So, this session, we passed a couple of bills to clarify those concerns. You can read about them in our session report that should have reached your mailbox, or you can read it on my website.

Other issues raised at both town halls were housing and homelessness. Last year, we put $1.7 billion into rental assistance, homelessness response and permanent housing supports. This session, we added $350 million to continue those efforts, and transferred $500 million from the operating budget to the capital construction budget to pay for housing construction and acquisition needs across our state.

People in our district are rightfully concerned about the climate crisis, so we also talked about preserving the environment. Last year we passed the Climate Commitment Act and low-carbon fuel standards; this session we followed up with measures that reduce emissions from landfills, improve appliance efficiency standards, and update our energy code.

We also got questions about the budgets and investments in education and health care, supporting businesses and working families, the new Move Ahead Washington transportation package including $640m dedicated to Highway 18 funding, and much more.

To watch our recorded virtual town hall and read about these and other issues, please visit housedemocrats.wa.gov/Ramos or scan the QR code below.

I am committed to continue working on a recovery that moves everyone forward, increases equity, and improves conditions and opportunities for all Washingtonians.

As always, I am honored to serve you!

Sincerely,

Rep. Bill Ramos
5th Legislative District