### **INVESTING IN RECOVERY**

Everyone deserves to come out of this pandemic better than they went into it. Now is the right time to make smart, strategic investments in what workers, families and small business owners need to recover. That's why we passed a budget that provides:

- Education & Child Care: Funding for more school counselors, nurses and social workers: teacher salary increases: outdoor education; expanded access to preschool and child care programs; and supports for foster youth and their families
- Behavioral Health: Funding for behavioral health providers; opioid response programs and supports; and crisis, outreach and diversion programs
- Economic Development: Funding for a B&O tax credit for 70% of small businesses; assistance for restaurants and other hospitality businesses; grants to local chambers of commerce and main streets; and supports for arts, heritage and cultural organizations
- College & Workforce: Funding for a new state student loan program offering an interest rate of just 1%; nurse education opportunities and tuition assistance; and cybersecurity, digital literacy and cyber workforce development





Review

Legislative

2022

State Representative

**O'Brien Building** 

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## **2022 Legislative Review 41st LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT**





State Representative **Tana Senn** 

Neighbors,

We recently wrapped up our legislative session after passing dozens of policies that will help our communities recover and grow as we come out of this pandemic. A special thank you to the health care professionals, teachers, child care providers, grocery store workers and many others who have worked so hard throughout these difficult and stressful times.

During this year's 60-day session, we made big investments in affordable housing, education and behavioral health, as well as passing targeted funding I sponsored to help incarcerated parents navigate the child welfare system and for a new archive system for the Washington State Jewish Historical Society to preserve our state's Jewish history.

We also passed laws that increase access to health care for 2.2 million Washingtonians by standardizing the way hospitals provide "charity care," provide funding to support refugees and explore policies to promote blockchain technologies in our region. In addition, we clarified portions of the police reform package passed last year to strike the right balance to keep communities safe without jeopardizing the important progress we made. I invite you to keep reading for an update on more of our work this session.

It's an incredible honor to represent you in Olympia,

State Rep. Tana Senn

### **FUNDING LOCAL PROJECTS**

We made historic investments in transportation and capital projects this year. The passage of Move Ahead WA ushers in a cleaner, sustainable transportation future for our state with investments in everything from zero-emissions ferry technology and public transit to electric vehicle charging stations and bike and pedestrian grants. And our capital budget invests significantly in affordable housing, early learning and behavioral health facilities, wildfire prevention and more. Important investments in local projects will:

- Widen I-405 from Renton to Bellevue
- Improve Issaquah-Fall City Road to reduce congestion
- Close the "Bellevue Gap" in the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail
- Replace the fishing dock at Lake Boren Park in Newcastle
- Assist with Luther Burbank Park's waterfront activity center on Mercer Island



Our focus on addressing climate change included the passage of my legislation to allow school transportation levies to pay for electric school buses, as well as bills to make our appliances more energy efficient and to capture methane released from landfills.

### **ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE**

Access to democracy shouldn't be impeded by threats or armed intimidation. That's why I introduced HB 1630 to help keep local government spaces safe and ensure everyone can participate in our democracy without fear. This new law restricts guns at city and county council meetings, school board meetings and election and ballot counting sites. We also strengthened the state ban on unregistered and untraceable homemade "ghost guns" and prohibited the sale, manufacture and distribution of high-capacity magazines.

## **SUPPORTING KIDS & FAMILIES**

#### **MOMS CAUCUS**

As co-chair of the Moms Caucus, I'm proud to lead the advocacy efforts for bills that support families. Dozens of our priorities crossed the finish line this session, including legislation to provide a monthly diaper subsidy to low-income households and create a certification for birth doulas, who help families navigate labor, delivery and postpartum recovery.

#### **HOMELESS YOUTH**

No young person should be released into homelessness after they've been in a publicly funded system of care, such as foster care, in-patient behavioral health treatment or juvenile rehabilitation. I worked with dozens of community advocates to develop and pass my bill, HB 1905, that provides more services and supports to ensure young people have safe and stable housing when leaving a system of care — so we can break the cycle of homelessness before it starts.

#### **YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH**

We're in the middle of a youth mental health crisis. To help support young people, we passed bills that fund more counselors, nurses and social workers in our schools; allow students to take excused absences from school to care for their mental health; and provide more mental health supports in child care and after-school programs.





# **2022 Legislative Review** 41st LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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Local Government