

STAY IN TOUCH



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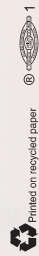
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38th Legislative District

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38th Legislative District 2023 UPDATE

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2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW



Rep. Julio Cortes



Rep. Mary Fosse



Sen. June Robinson

Dear friends and neighbors,

The Washington State Legislature recently concluded a historic session. We all worked together to tackle the issues facing our state head on — like housing, workforce issues, community safety, behavioral health, and reproductive freedom — and we have never been prouder to represent the 38th Legislative District.

Please see inside for highlights from the 2023 session.

— June, Julio & Mary

38th Legislative District

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2023 WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

BUILDING HEALTHIER & SAFER COMMUNITIES

Invested more than \$1.2 billion for behavioral health needs statewide, including substance use treatment, crisis facilities, pretrial diversion programs, and more.

Passed landmark reproductive health care legislation, such as the My Health My Data Act (HB 1155) to protect your private health data from being shared without your consent, the Shield Law (HB 1469) to safeguard people from anti-abortion laws in other states and added \$21 million of funding necessary to ensure continued access to reproductive health care.

Led the way on taking action to prevent mass shootings and deadly gun violence in our communities, becoming the 10th state to ban the manufacture, sale, importation, and distribution of assault weapons (HB 1240), and passed a bill requiring a 10-day waiting period and safety training for most firearm purchases (HB 1143). We know these are some of the most important steps we can take at the state level to protect our schools, our children, our places of worship, and our community gathering places from gun violence.

Regulated novel cannabis products, called “cannabinoids,” that were not covered by our state’s regulatory system, better protecting consumers from possible overdoses and increasing state revenue that can help fund substance use disorder programs in our communities (SB 5367).

A HOME FOR EVERYONE

Protected vulnerable homeowners, particularly low-income households and seniors, from predatory foreclosures (HB 1349 & HB 1636).

Protected responsible renters by giving landlords 30 days to submit a statement justifying the retention of any portion of a tenant’s deposit (HB 1074).

Made it easier for non-profits with limited resources to build affordable and supportive housing facilities by allowing municipalities to waive utility connection charges for these properties (HB 1326).

Provided youths in need of housing assistance and other related services (HB 1406).

Established a first-in-the-nation homeownership program to provide down payment and closing cost assistance to groups of people that have been targeted by deliberate housing barriers in statute (HB 1474).

Increased housing supply through the expanded use of accessory dwelling units, more diverse housing options, and easier use of existing buildings (HB 1337, HB 1110 & HB 1042).

Allocated \$519 million for housing and the immediate shelter needs of people experiencing homelessness across our state.

CREATING A STRONG WORKFORCE

Helped working families by addressing childcare and early learning access, affordability, and workforce shortages by:

- Expanding the statewide Working Connections Childcare Program (HB 1525 & SB 5225).
- Strengthening the childcare workforce by investing \$256 million.
- Investing \$1 million toward a new Tomorrow’s Hope Child Development Center in Everett.
- Securing \$84.4 million for additional ECEAP slots, \$15 million for children with complex needs, \$5 million increased funding for childcare facilities to offer non-standard hours, and \$256 million toward family childcare provider collective bargaining agreements for competitive pay and to address workforce retention and recruitment challenges.

Increased Warehouse Worker Protections by requiring certain warehouse distribution centers to provide workers with work quota transparency and gave the Department of Labor & Industries investigation and enforcement authority (HB 1762).

Protected workers by restoring L&I’s ability to make rules to prevent work-related musculoskeletal injuries like carpal tunnel, strains, and dislocations. This is impactful for Washington’s janitors, truck drivers, warehouse workers, and others in jobs prone to repetitive motion injuries (SB 5217).

Addressed the health care staffing shortage by mitigating unmanageable patient loads and worker burnout through creating an enforcement mechanism that requires hospitals to follow designated staffing plans (SB 5236).

Supported working families by expanding Unemployment Insurance eligibility to workers that must leave employment because of the death, illness, or disability of any family member, or when workers are unable to reconcile care obligations for a child or vulnerable adult (HB 1106). This will provide financial stability to Washington’s working families when they are faced with the impossible choice between work and caregiving.



SUCCESS FOR EVERY CHILD

Historic investments in K-12 education, including over \$400 million for special education.

Funded the Working Family Tax Credit, which has helped over 84,500 beneficiaries and put money back in the pockets of families and individuals who need it most (HB 1477).

Provided \$59 million to expand food access in schools, so children don’t go hungry.

Increased salaries and health care access for educators.



INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

Highlighted projects from the 2023 capital construction budget:

- Compass Health Broadway Behavioral Health Services in Everett.
- Port of Everett Electrification.
- Ebey Waterfront Trail Phase 4 in Marysville.
- Tulalip Creek Hatchery for salmon recovery.
- AquaSox ballpark facility maintenance in Everett.
- Replacement of Baker Hall at Everett Community College.
- Funding for cleaning up contaminated soils and sites.
- Forest Park pickleball court installation in Everett.

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Highlighted projects from the 2023 transportation budget:

- I-5/NB Marine View Dr. to SR 529 corridor and interchange.
- I-5/116th St. NE, 88th St. NE and SR 528/Marine Dr. Interchange.
- Future rebuild of the US 2 trestle.

Additionally, this session saw the formation of the first-ever Latino Democratic Caucus to ensure that the experiences, needs, and solutions of Latino people throughout Washington state are represented, prioritized, and realized in the legislative process.