

# 2026 END OF SESSION WRAP UP – 27TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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## Committees:

- Ways & Means (*Vice Chair - Capital Budget*)
- Law & Justice (*Vice Chair*)
- Housing



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## Committees:

- Rules (*Chair*)



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## Committees:

- Transportation (*Chair*)
- Environment & Energy

Dear neighbors,

The 2026 legislative session began with a lot of uncertainty and major challenges. Legislative Democrats were focused on addressing them.

Actions by the Trump Administration and the majority Republicans in Congress have created major economic uncertainty, leading to price increases for Washington's families and our small businesses. One of the most significant federal changes we had to address was H.R.1, passed by Congress last year, a law that made deep cuts to health care, food assistance, and other federal programs to pay for tax cuts for billionaires. This directly impacts our state budget. For example, we must now spend hundreds of millions of dollars just to comply with new federal red tape related to Medicaid and food benefits. In short, we are spending more to get less.

We also watched over the last few years as steep declines in state revenues for important programs and services to our most vulnerable have forced us to make dramatic cuts across the board. All of this is happening while we are watching as our neighbors and friends are being detained, harassed, and even killed by federal ICE agents with no due process or accountability, creating fear and distrust all around us.

We worked to protect the good things, stop the bad things, and make progress where possible. That was the 2026 session in a nutshell. This newsletter highlights the results of those efforts. To ensure more sustained economic stability in Washington, we passed a Millionaires Tax with revenues that will support our schools, healthcare and other programs Washingtonians count on. All three of us voted enthusiastically for this bill that brings more fairness to our state's tax code. We also created a program to help low-income Washingtonians help with utility bills and cut property taxes for more than 50,000 seniors and people with disabilities.

We are honored to serve as your 27th District legislative delegation. Sen. Trudeau continues her role as the Capital Budget lead on the Senate Ways & Means Committee, Rep. Fey continues to chair the House Transportation Committee, and Speaker Jinkins continues her top leadership role in the House. Together, we work for you and make sure our community's voice is well-represented.

We are happy to be back in the community now that session has ended, and are here to respond to your questions, comments, and concerns. Thanks for reading!

Sen. Yasmin Trudeau

Rep. Laurie Jinkins

Rep. Jake Fey



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The Millionaires Tax (SB 6346) is a 9.9% tax on households earning **over** \$1 million per year, with the first million exempt. Starting in 2029, less than 0.5% of taxpayers in Washington will pay – less than 30,000 households statewide – but **everyone** benefits from the additional revenue that will be invested in our public schools, health care, child care and more. It is also the biggest win for affordability this year. Highlights include:

- **NO sales tax** on diapers, over-the-counter medications, and hygiene products
- Expanding the Working Families Tax Credit to put more **money back in the pockets of 460,000 more Washingtonians**
- Doubling the Small Business Tax Credit so nearly **60% of businesses in our state will owe zero B&O tax**
- **Free school meals for all students** in Washington public schools

## Focusing on affordability

One of the biggest issues we hear from people across the 27th Legislative District is simple: life is too expensive. Whether it is housing, groceries, childcare, health care, or utility bills, too many families are being asked to do more with less.

This year, Democrats advanced a broad package of policies aimed at helping working families keep more money in their pockets and making the basics of everyday life more affordable. That includes efforts to expand affordable housing, lower barriers to building more homes, support responses to homelessness, and protect access to health care and other essential services.

Specifically, we worked to expand the senior citizen property tax relief program for over 50,000 Washingtonians and established a statewide program within the Department of Commerce to assist low-income families in paying their utility bills.

We also know that real affordability means fixing a tax system that asks too much of working people and too little of those at the very top. That is why we supported the Millionaires Tax, a proposal to make Washington's tax code fairer by asking the wealthiest earners to contribute more so we can invest in the services families rely on. Just as important, we have worked to expand policy like the Working Families Tax Credit, which helps put money back in the pockets of lower- and middle-income households that need it most.

Affordability is not just about one bill or one budget line. It is about building an economy where people can afford to stay in their homes, raise their kids, get to work, and plan for the future. That is what we will keep fighting for.



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## Capital budget – state infrastructure, creating jobs

Investing in local infrastructure is the opportunity to see, touch and feel government at work. As lead on our state’s Capital Budget, Senator Trudeau delivered on major local investments including:

- \$1.8 million for the Our Sisters House domestic violence shelter
- \$2 million for a new HVAC system at the Museum of Glass
- \$1.7 million for clean water upgrades at Tacoma’s North End Treatment Plant
- \$590,000 for ADA accessibility at the Ruston Community Center
- \$2 million to Thrive, for refugee housing assistance
- \$5 million to Nourish Food Bank

And more!

This biennium ended with the largest affordable housing investments ever in Washington, with more than \$200 million in this year’s budget. We also responded to last December’s flooding, with more than \$41 million provided to the most impacted counties to assess damage, make repairs, and plan for the future. We invested in statewide water infrastructure projects that will be important as we build housing and grow crops facing yet another drought year. In addition, we launched WA Builds, Washington’s new “Green Bank” to make low-cost loans to families and small businesses to invest in clean energy infrastructure.



With the leadership of House Transportation Chair, Rep. Jake Fey, we were proud to help deliver a supplemental transportation budget this session that reflects what our communities need most: safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability.

This year, we made a clear shift in priorities by focusing on preserving and maintaining the system we already have, while continuing to invest in the projects that keep Tacoma and Pierce County moving. That includes continued progress along the I-5 corridor through Tacoma, helping reduce congestion and improve reliability for both commuters and freight, as well as continued work on the Gateway Project and the new Port of Tacoma Road interchange, critical connections for our region.

We also made these important investments to support the Port of Tacoma and freight mobility, helps move goods efficiently and supports local jobs, while at the same time we must preserve roads, bridges, and highways so they remain safe and dependable for years to come.

One example of the renewed emphasis on preservation and maintenance is addressing urgent infrastructure needs like the Fairfax Bridge closures and investing in long-term solutions that improve safety, access, and reliability across our transportation system.

We also continued work to improve Washington State Ferries, support transit and regional mobility programs, invest in Amtrak Cascades, and expand electric vehicle and hydrogen fueling infrastructure.

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The federal government's aggressive escalation in states across the country is alarming. We all see the violent and inhumane immigration enforcement on the news and in our community, and we are deeply concerned by the Trump Administration's attacks on basic foundations of our government. We proudly voted for new laws that take a stand against unlawful actions, protect our community, and demand accountability from federal law enforcement:



- SB 6002: Sponsored by Senator Trudeau, the bill places guardrails around how data from automated license plate readers can be collected and used. It ensures law enforcement have the tools needed to solve serious crimes while providing Washingtonians with clear and strong protections for how this data is used, who accesses it, and clear consequences when the rules are violated
- HB 2242: Preserves access to vaccines and affordable preventive health care services in Washington. The legislation updates state law so coverage of vaccines is tied to recommendations from the Washington State Department of Health instead of federal guidance so we can rely on science and doctors, not conspiracy theories.
- SB 5855: Bans ICE and other law enforcement from wearing facial coverings. This ensures that when someone is acting on behalf of the government, they cannot use a mask to hide their identity and escape accountability.
- HB 2105: Requires federal agencies to obtain a judicial warrant or subpoena to access worker records, unless that contradicts federal law or an I-9 audit. It also requires workers are notified by employers when I-9 audits are planned.
- SB 5892: Ensures that confidential information like drivers' license numbers, social security numbers, and full birth dates are not disclosed by county election officials, including to unlawful requests made by the Trump Administration.