## State Representative JOE FITZGIBBON

34th Legislative District



Standing up for families, small businesses, and the environment.

### Investing in Our Communities

This session, we made historic investments in our communities to make Washington an even better, more prosperous state to call home.

#### **Supplemental Operating Budget**

- K-12 Education: \$808 million
- Homelessness & Housing: \$818 million
- Behavioral Health: \$277 million
- Public Safety, Legal Aid, and Corrections: \$215 million
- Natural Resources: \$620 million

#### **Supplemental Capital Budget**



- Housing & Shelter: \$439 million
- Early Learning, Public Schools, and Higher Education: \$101 million
  Broadband: \$100 million
- Essential Infrastructure: \$308 million
- Natural Resources: \$271 million



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### 2022 Session Report

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### State Representative JOE FITZGIBBON 34th Legislative District



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Standing up for families, small businesses, and the environment.

#### Dear friends and neighbors,

The 2021 legislative session was a landmark year in the fight against climate change. During the short 2022 session, we continued that work by passing legislation targeting greenhouse gas pollution from landfills & buildings. With the climate crisis upon us, we must do all we can to protect Washingtonians from the harms of climate change, air pollution, and environmental degradation. I'm proud of the work we achieved on this and many other fronts, including K-12 education, health care, housing, and public safety, during the 2022 session.

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#### **Tackling Our Climate Crisis**

Here are some of the steps we took this year to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, fight climate change, and transition to a clean energy future. I was proud to sponsor or cosponsor all of these bills.

**House Bill 1619** expands energy efficiency standards to more household appliances to reduce pollution and energy costs for Washington households.

**House Bill 1812** streamlines the siting process for new clean energy projects.

**House Bill 1799** reduces methane emissions by helping to redirect our surplus food to families who need it, while repurposing organic waste for composting at local farms and reducing plastic contamination in the compost stream.

**House Bill 1663** requires large municipal landfills to reduce methane emissions by capturing it before it pollutes our atmosphere.

**Senate Bill 5722**, sponsored by our own Senator Joe Nguyen, helps us reduce greenhouse gas pollution and energy costs for low-in-come families by improving energy efficiency & performance in existing buildings.

#### K-12 and Higher Education in Washington



All students deserve an opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed. This year, we focused on passing policies that prioritize student well-being, expand accessibility and cultural competency, and ensure that educators and students have the resources needed

to thrive. We must nurture opportunities for every young person to get a good start in life.

We're also making post-secondary education more accessible for everyone, so that all Washingtonians can get the degree or credential they need for a stable family wage job. These investments are also a contribution to the future of our state, building economic stability and growing our workforce.

**HB 1664** supports youth mental and physical health by bringing more counselors, nurses, and social workers into Washington schools.

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**HB 1153** increases language access and family engagement in K-12 education.

HB 1878 expands free school meals to more than 92,000 students.

**HB 1834** allows students to take excused absences to preserve their mental health.

HB 2078 expands access to outdoor school programs.

**HB 1590** stabilizes school funding for districts most affected by the pandemic.

HB 1736 establishes the low-interest WA Student Loan Program

#### Keeping Our Communities Safe

Last year the Legislature passed a comprehensive package of police reform legislation designed to set clear expectations for officers' behavior; set a baseline for acceptable use of force, tactics, and equipment; and ensure

ing mental health crises.

behavior; set a baseline for acceptable use of force, tactics, and equipment; and ensure accountability and transparency. That legislation has been effective, reducing police killings by 60% last year alone. This year, we worked to implement this legislation and passed clarifying legislation to ensure that first responders have the tools they need to respond to people experienc-



We also passed legislation to curtail gun violence, protect survivors of domestic abuse and harassment, crack down on catalytic converter theft, and find solutions to the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Persons.

**SB 5078** saves lives by limiting the size of a firearm magazine, helping to prevent mass shootings where high-capacity firearm magazines can cause 14 times as many injuries.

**HB 1630** bans weapons in school board meetings, ballot counting locations, or city or county council meetings, ensuring everyone has safe access to their democracy.

**HB 1815** adopts multiple strategies to target and reduce theft of catalytic converters.

HB 1705 strengthens our state's ban on untraceable ghost guns.

HB 1725 creates a special advisory for missing indigenous persons.

#### Move Ahead Washington: SB 5975 & 5974

This year, we passed historic transportation investments to meet urgent transportation needs for the 34<sup>th</sup> district. Thanks to our federal and local partners, the West Seattle Bridge is on track to

reopen later this year. New state transportation investments will complement this work by accelerating transit projects in our communities such as King County Metro's upcoming RapidRide bus service on Ambaum, 16<sup>th</sup>, and Delridge. We prioritized improving the



reliability of the ferry system, constructing new ferries, and enabling them to run on electricity instead of diesel fuel that pollutes our air and our climate. We invested in improving safety for pedestrians and bicyclists in communities that have historically seen underinvestment, such as White Center, and significantly increased grant programs to fund safe infrastructure such as safe walking and biking routes for kids to get to school. Finally, we took big steps forward in planning for a future high speed rail system connecting Seattle with Portland and Vancouver, BC.

