

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Washington State COVID-19 Site coronavirus.wa.gov

Links to official information from a wide range of trusted sources, including government and community services.

Snohomish Co. snohomishcountywa.gov • 425-388-3411

Latest news and information on coronavirus for our area.

Department of Health doh.wa.gov • 1-800-525-0127

DOH call center for general questions about COVID-19.

Phone lines: 6am-10pm. Language assistance: 800-525-0127.

WA 211 wa211.org or dial 2-1-1

2-1-1 can help connect you to many community services.

Washington Connection

www.washingtonconnection.org/home/home.go

1-877-501-2233 Families and individuals can apply for services such as food, cash, childcare, long-term care & Medicare savings programs.

OSPI k12.wa.us • 360-725-6000

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website has a page on COVID-19 Guidance and Resources for Educators, Students, and Families.

Childcare dcyf.wa.gov/coronavirus-covid-19 • 1-800-446-1114

The Dept. of Children, Youth, and Families' website may have answers to your questions related to childcare.

Housing hasco.org • 425-290-8499

If you are struggling to maintain safe housing during this crisis, reach out to the Snohomish County Housing Authority for assistance

Employment esd.wa.gov • 1-800-318-6022

The Employment Security Department has information for workers and businesses about benefits, such as Paid Family and Medical Leave, Unemployment Insurance, and SharedWork, among others.

Small Businesses disasterloan.sba.gov/ela • 1-800-659-2955

The Small Business Administration will provide disaster assistance loans for small businesses impacted by the coronavirus.

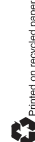
Taxpayer Assistance dor.wa.gov • 360-705-6705

The Department of Revenue has info. on relief for taxpayers, including extensions for filing and paying tax returns.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT TO THE 38TH DISTRICT

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT TO THE 38TH DISTRICT

SPRING 2020

Dear friends,

This is a time of great uncertainty due to the spread of novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in our state. We finished the 60-day legislative session on March 12, as the first social distancing measures were being enacted. It was clear that this crisis would require decisive and significant action by the Legislature.

We voted unanimously to appropriate **\$200 million to respond to the outbreak of COVID-19**. The package includes expanded testing capacity; increasing and loosening the restrictions on unemployment benefits; support for public health agencies and nursing homes struggling with the pandemic; small business assistance; and flexible funds that can be deployed as the situation develops.

In addition, the supplemental operating budget includes a long overdue cost of living adjustment for retired teachers, corrections officers, and other public servants, as well as honoring the promise made to Washington students last year in the Workforce Education Investment Act.

In this newsletter, you'll find some of the policies we passed this session, as well as a list of **COVID-19 resources** that we hope you'll find useful.

We are thankful for the service of the healthcare, first responder, childcare, delivery, grocery and so many other workers in our communities who stepped up during this crisis to make us all safer.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions, comments, or concerns.

Wishing health for you and your family,


John McCoy
SENATOR


June Robinson
REPRESENTATIVE


Mike Sells
REPRESENTATIVE

Supporting our Healthcare System

Now, more than ever, the well-being of our healthcare system is paramount. In 2020, we passed policies to improve transparency, reduce costs, and expand access to our healthcare system to help our communities stay healthy. Including overdue improvements to patient safety in our psychiatric institutions, increasing the flexibility of shared leave, removing barriers to substance use disorder treatment, and increased funding for foundational public health. We also established the Health Care Cost Transparency Board to monitor costs and set growth targets. This will help us better understand and limit out-of-control healthcare costs that have too many Washingtonians struggling to maintain both their health and finances. The Board findings will help us in our longer-term solution to make sure that we are spending in the right places.



Making Insulin Affordable



Corporations should not be profiting from prescription drugs that people need to survive. The cost of insulin has skyrocketed in the last several years, leaving many people with the terrible choice between the life-giving medication and basics like food and rent. To make it more affordable, we passed legislation that places a limit on the monthly out-of-pocket costs of insulin.

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education

We passed a law requiring school districts to teach age appropriate, medically accurate, comprehensive sexual health education to students. Most school districts – including all the ones in the 38th Legislative District – already teach sexual health education. The new law simply makes sure students have access to information to keep themselves safe, healthy, and to maintain healthy relationships.

Confronting the Housing & Homelessness Crisis

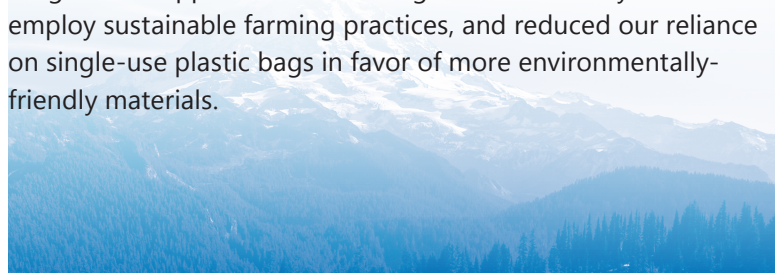
Washington faces a significant gap in affordable housing. In particular, we need more affordable housing for working families near our economic centers, so that people can afford to live where they work.

We passed legislation so local jurisdictions can increase their housing supply by expanding the authority of city and county councilmembers to use their sales and use tax for housing purposes. We also improved upon legislation passed last year to encourage cities to increase residential building capacity and cut red tape to deliver desperately needed affordable housing faster.

We also increased housing stability for Washington's families by allowing installment payments for tenancy move-in costs. Because, even when someone does find a place where they can afford to live, prohibitively high move-in costs can keep people in homelessness, or prevent someone from moving to a more affordable home.

Environmental Sustainability

House and Senate Democrats prioritized the well-being of Washingtonians – both present and future – by sending several forward-thinking, environmentally-conscious policies to the governor's desk. We updated our state's greenhouse gas emissions limits so that state agencies have clearer carbon reduction goals, established a Sustainable Farms and Fields Grant Program to support those in our agriculture industry who want to employ sustainable farming practices, and reduced our reliance on single-use plastic bags in favor of more environmentally-friendly materials.



Did you hear our state is FLATTENING THE CURVE?

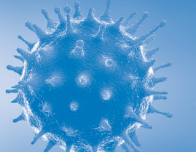
It's beginning to look that way!

This means we're all doing our part to help stop the spread.

It does not mean we're out of the woods.

Going back to our normal behavior now would undo all our progress, get more people sick or killed, and keep the state on lockdown for a lot longer. Nobody wants that.

COVID-19



So, let's keep up the good work:

BE CLEAN—Wash your hands frequently and disinfect surfaces (doorknobs, tables, counters, handrails.)

HANDS OFF—Don't touch your face, nose, eyes and mouth.

SIX FEET SAVES LIVES—When you go for a walk or to the store keep your distance and completely avoid crowds.

STAY HOME, STAY HEALTHY—This is the most important thing you can do right now. So pick up a hobby, read books, bake, play with your kids and engage with friends and loved ones over the phone or video chat.

COUGH, FEVER, SHORTNESS OF BREATH?—Call your doctor before going to a clinic or emergency room.

FIGHT STIGMA—COVID-19 doesn't care where you live, the color of your skin, or the language you speak. We're all in this together, and we're stronger as a community when we stand up against discrimination and actively prevent, interrupt, and respond to stigma.