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# 2024 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

State Representative  
**Tana Senn**

420 John L. O'Brien Building  
P.O. Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504-0600



Read more  
inside about the  
2024 legislative  
session, including  
my bill on electric  
school buses!

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# 2024 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

41<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



State Representative  
**Tana Senn**

**COMMITTEES:**

- Human Services, Youth, & Early Learning (*Chair*)
- Appropriations
- Innovation, Community & Economic Development, & Veterans

Dear Neighbors,

We recently concluded our fast-paced 2024 legislative session, passing hundreds of bills and updating our state budgets. We made strides in areas that needed additional focus, from increasing childcare and school funding and adding more law enforcement academy classes to increasing affordable housing investments and expanding fentanyl awareness, prevention, and treatment efforts. In this newsletter, I'll share some of the issues I championed this year.

While session is over, my work is far from it. I'll be busy working on childcare and behavioral health issues, in particular. I recently kicked off a bipartisan Early Learning Caucus, and I've been elected co-chair of the Behavioral Health Joint Legislative and Executive Committee to develop a five-year strategic plan for the state.

Whether it is at the grocery store, a community event, or on a hike, I look forward to seeing you in the district this interim. In addition, don't hesitate to reach out to schedule a meeting or phone call—they so often lead to great changes for our entire state.

Warmly,

**State Rep. Tana Senn**



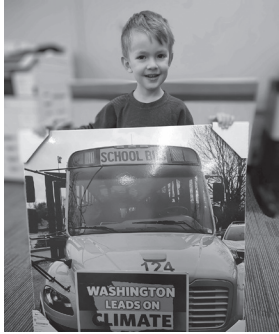
**OLYMPIA OFFICE:**  
420 John L. O'Brien Building  
P.O. Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504

**Phones:** (360) 786-7894 (office)  
**Email:** [Tana.Senn@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Tana.Senn@leg.wa.gov)  
**Website:** [housedemocrats.wa.gov/Senn](http://housedemocrats.wa.gov/Senn)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/RepTanaSenn](https://facebook.com/RepTanaSenn)

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## TAKING AN ELECTRIC LEAP



More zero-emission school buses are coming our way! With the passage of my [House Bill 1368](#)—one of our top environmental priorities—we are making a transformative shift toward a greener school transportation system that prioritizes our children’s health. In fact, once the total cost of ownership of electric school buses are the same or less than diesel ones, nearly all new school buses will be electric! To kick it off, \$40 million in grants from the Climate Commitment Act will be targeted this year to school districts in overburdened communities.

➤ **Fast Fact:** We also secured funding for an electric fire engine in Bellevue!

## Strengthening Families

### CARING FOR OUR LITTLEST ONES



Early interventions and high-quality early learning are among the best investments we can make. In particular, we doubled down on our support for Early Supports for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) with disabilities through passage of my [House Bill 1916](#). We also boosted funding for special education and critical supports for our childcare providers.

➤ **Fast Fact:** We dedicated funds to help reduce the wait time for autism diagnosis!

### SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS



Our seniors need resources and places to live in our community. Thanks to [House Bill 2015](#), we are accelerating the expansion of adult family homes to more quickly increase capacity. We also amended our long-term care benefit program, the Washington Cares Act, to make the funds portable if you move out of state.

➤ **Fast Fact:** The idea for [HB 2015](#) came directly from some of my constituents. Your voice and outreach matter!

# REP. TANA SENN

41<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

## Public Safety

### PREVENTING GUN VIOLENCE



We continue to make progress on gun responsibility, an ongoing priority for me. With my [House Bill 2021](#), law enforcement is required to destroy firearms acquired from buyback programs, ensuring these weapons don’t find their way back onto our streets. We also banned open carry in libraries, zoos and aquariums, and at transit centers.

➤ **Fast Fact:** You now must report a stolen or lost firearm within 24 hours.

### ADDRESSING HATE CRIMES



Our state has one of the nation’s highest hate crimes rate. To connect victims with needed services and to more accurately track them, we’re establishing a dedicated hate crimes hotline through [Senate Bill 5427](#).

➤ **Fast Fact:** As Chair of the Legislative Jewish Caucus, I’m proud to have secured over \$2 million for Nonprofit Security Grants to help protect religious and other nonprofit institutions.



### BUILDING HOUSING & SPACES FOR KIDS

Through the capital budget, we added \$127 million for affordable housing, with \$20 million dedicated to projects for people with disabilities. With kids in mind, we directed funds locally to the KidsQuest Museum in Bellevue and the Issaquah Cougar Mountain Zoo.

➤ **Fast Fact:** The Mercer Island Boys & Girls Club will be getting a much-needed new playground!