

1st Legislative District 2026 Session Report

Dear neighbors,

This session, we worked to help people afford their basic needs, made it easier to build more housing, and protected our rights from federal overreach. We also passed the Millionaires Tax, a historic step forward in fixing our upside-down tax code. The tax on household incomes made above \$1 million annually will help Washington pay for public schools, health care, higher education, and other essential services, while allowing us to reduce taxes for families and small businesses. Read on for more highlights from the 2026 session.

Whether you joined our town hall, called or emailed your thoughts on a bill, or testified in committee, we appreciate your participation in the legislative process. Please reach out anytime we can assist you and your family. It's an honor to serve our communities.

Sincerely,



Sen. Derek Stanford



Rep. Shelley Kloba



Rep. Davina Duerr

SEN. DEREK STANFORD
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Sen. Derek Stanford

AFFORDABILITY

Making Washington more affordable is one of our top priorities. This session, we delivered:

- Property tax relief to help more seniors and people with disabilities stay in their homes ([SB 6162](#)).
- A statewide energy bill assistance program for low-income households ([HB 1903](#)).
- The Pre-K Promise Account to fund up to 10,000 early learning slots in the next 10 years ([SB 5872](#)).

The Millionaires Tax ([SB 6346](#)) we passed will help make Washington more affordable by:

- Ensuring no public school student has to pay for school meals starting in 2029.
- Expanding the Working Families Tax Credit, putting money back in the pockets of an additional 460,000 households.
- Eliminating sales tax on personal care products, diapers, and over-the-counter drugs.
- Reducing or eliminating taxes for nearly 140,000 small businesses.

STRENGTHENING WORKER PROTECTIONS

People should have the freedom to get a new job without undue interference from their previous employer. That's why we're banning noncompete agreements ([HB 1155](#)), building on legislation I championed in 2019.

Too many families struggle to find affordable, quality child care. That's why we're creating a child care workforce standards board, which will recommend minimum employment standards to help improve staffing, recruitment, and retention ([HB 1128](#)).

We also passed legislation requiring employers to notify workers of federal inspections ([HB 2105](#)); establishing protections for domestic workers ([HB 2355](#)); and speeding up wage recovery efforts ([HB 2479](#)).

STANDING UP TO FEDERAL OVERREACH

We prohibited law enforcement from covering their faces ([SB 5855](#)); regulated automated license plate reader cameras to protect privacy ([SB 6002](#)); strengthened laws against impersonating a peace officer ([HB 2165](#)); protected sensitive voter data ([SB 5892](#)); and preserved access to affordable preventative health services and ensured vaccine coverage is tied to state recommendations instead of federal guidance ([HB 2242](#)).



Rep. Shelley Kloba

PROTECTING YOU, PROTECTING YOUR DATA

Responsible Innovation: AI Safeguards

Artificial intelligence (AI) holds enormous promise, from improving health care outcomes to enhancing state services, but it also amplifies the privacy risks, misinformation threats, and discrimination we're already seeing. Two main policies passed will help set reasonable guardrails so our state can benefit from AI while still protecting Washingtonians' rights and safety.

The first, [HB 2225](#), mandates that AI "companion" chatbots disclose regularly that they are not human and implement protocols to detect and respond to self-harm or suicidal ideation. It also prohibits AI chatbots from using manipulative engagement techniques and generating sexually explicit content with minors.

The second, [HB 1170](#), requires the largest AI developers (such as Google, Meta, and ChatGPT) to embed metadata into image, audio, and video content whenever their systems generate or manipulate media. This means AI-generated content will be "marked," helping reduce deception, identifying deepfakes, and giving people more context to evaluate the media they encounter, while still allowing innovation.

Protecting Your Data: The Fight Continues

Tracking and data collection are everywhere, often without our knowledge or real control. We continued our work to ensure stronger privacy rights for you through the People's Privacy Act, [HB 1671](#) (Kloba). The policy would give Washington residents more transparency and control over the collection and use of their data. This matters because unchecked data collection can be harmful: from using it to attack democracy by targeting individuals with misinformation campaigns, to threats to personal safety when sensitive data is exposed. Our goal is to bring more fairness, control, and transparency to how your data is used.

Regulating the out-of-control data broker industry is important, and a first step is to create a registry so that the public can see what companies are engaging in this business activity and see details about their use of your data. [HB 2483](#) (Kloba) would have made progress on common sense regulation and transparency.

COMPASSIONATE END OF LIFE CARE

In the final chapter of life, comfort should never be denied by bureaucracy. [HB 2152](#) (Kloba) will ensure that terminally ill patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and hospice facilities can access medically authorized cannabis as part of their end-of-life care. The bill, known as Ryan's Law in honor of a Washington resident whose experience in the final weeks of his life inspired similar laws across the country, passed with strong bipartisan support!

Rep. Davina Duerr

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

Cutting red tape to get things done

Permitting snags cause delays and raise the price of construction. [HB 2418](#) (Duerr) reduces costly delays that routinely get passed on to homebuyers and renters. In a housing crisis where time truly is money, HB 2418 helps get homes built faster, cheaper, and with fewer bureaucratic obstacles standing in the way.

Residential development in commercial and mixed-use zones

We face a significant housing supply crisis and need more than 1 million homes by 2044. In many cities, land zoned for commercial purposes can't be used for housing, and developers are often required to include ground-floor retail even when there's no demand for it. [SB 6026](#) removes those barriers so housing can be built in areas that already have roads, utilities, and transit.



Faster permits for high-capacity transit

[SB 6309](#) lets regional transit authorities apply for permits earlier and get them issued faster, saving time and money while getting projects completed faster.

Tax increment financing as a tool for growth

Tax increment financing was authorized in 2021 as an economic development tool. [HB 2451](#) (Duerr) clarifies the use of this tool and closes gaps in clarity, predictability, and coordination.

CAPITAL BUDGET INVESTMENTS

The new \$889 million supplemental capital budget funds construction projects across the state, including \$8.26 million here in the 1st District.

Those projects include:

- Burke-Gilman Trail ADA Accessibility - \$309,000
- Kirkland Green Loop Trail - \$515,000
- Woodinville Emergency Operations Center Backup Battery - \$371,000
- Ashley House Woodinville Renovation - \$304,000
- Bastyr University Healing Village - \$258,000
- Waynita Creek Restoration - \$1,500,000
- Cascadia College Gateway Building - \$5,000,000
- Biotech innovation and training at the UW-Bothell campus - \$250,000 in operating budget funds