

State Representative

Alex Ramel
Deputy Majority Whip

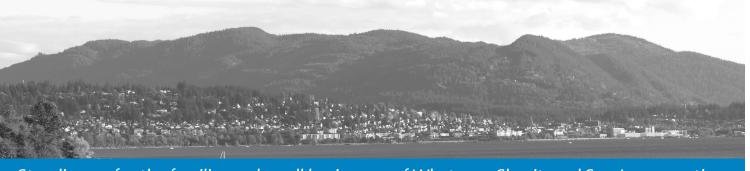
40th Legislative District

Olympia Office: LEG 132D P.O. Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504 Phone: (360) 786-7970

Alex.Ramel@leg.wa.gov housedemocrats.wa.gov/ramel

Committees: Environment & Energy Finance Transportation Rules

Toll-free Hotline: 1-800-562-6000 1-800-833-6388 (TTY)



Standing up for the families and small businesses of Whatcom, Skagit, and San Juan counties.

## Rep. Alex Ramel

LEG 132D PO Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504-0600



PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID SEATTLE, WA PERMIT NO. 1885 Dear friends and neighbors,

My excitement to serve comes from my experience as a single dad. For me, caring for our kids means caring for the community they live in and the future they will inherit. We just finished the short legislative session, and I'm pleased to report on what we accomplished as I worked side by side with Representative Lekanoff and Senator Lovelett.

**CLIMATE CHANGE:** Last year I helped draft our State Energy Strategy that will guide us to lower pollution, lower costs, and greater independence. Russia's unlawful invasion of Ukraine makes increasing our resiliency all the more important.

This year, we began implementation by electrifying public facilities, improving efficiency in existing buildings, deploying clean hydrogen and community solar, and supporting major investments in weatherizing low-income homes. We can do all of this while supporting workers and consumers.

**HOUSING:** The housing crisis is hurting so many people in Washington. So we're investing more than half a billion dollars into permanent supportive housing, shelters, and urgently needed affordable housing.

We also eliminated real estate excise taxes for affordable housing, made workforce housing an eligible use of local economic development money, and created a dedicated fund to advance affordable homeownership through community land trusts.

**LEADERSHIP:** I serve as Deputy Majority Whip and a member of the leadership team and help guide the priorities of the House of Representatives by passing policies for our kids, our communities, and our shared future.

## **OUR COMMUNITY'S PRIORITIES PASSED IN OLYMPIA:**

- Ferries: The Move Ahead Washington transportation package includes funding for 4 new WSF hybrid ferries as well as the workforce training and retention we so desperately need.
- Environmental Priorities: We approved much needed funding to open salmon habitat by removing barriers, and made historic investments in transit and active transportation infrastructure.
- **Supporting Workers:** We passed raises for teachers, adjusted rates for healthcare and childcare workers, and stronger pensions for police and firefighters. Working people are struggling, so we took action to respond to the rising costs of living.
- **Childcare:** We dedicated funding to help the Opportunity Council construct a new early childhood education facility in downtown Bellingham.
- Small Businesses: Small businesses drive our economy and were especially hard hit over the last two years. We expanded B&O tax credits and direct assistance for cultural and hospitality businesses.
- Community Projects: Our team secured \$4 million for the Mount Vernon Library Commons and \$14 million for the all-electric Guemes Island Ferry.

Serving communities of Whatcom, Skagit, and San Juan counties