

Sen. Reuven Carlyle
Rep. Noel Frame
Rep. Liz Berry

36th Legislative District • Seattle 2021 Update from Olympia

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LD36

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS TO REBUILD THE ECONOMY IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Legislature passed a historic \$6.1 billion construction budget including millions for investments in water, sewer, broadband, schools, colleges, early learning facilities, and more. We are excited to announce funding for several key projects in the 36th legislative district:

- \$2.6 million for critical repairs to Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center, an important cultural center for urban Natives in Seattle, social service provider to underserved populations, and home to a Seattle Public Preschool Program attended by predominantly low-income, BIPOC children.
- \$2.5 million to acquire the leased property for Aurora Commons, a nonprofit located on Aurora Ave/Highway 99 that provides services to vulnerable populations in North Seattle, including individuals experiencing homelessness and victims of commercial sexual exploitation.
- \$361,000 for urgent fire and safety repairs for the North Seattle Boys & Girls Club.
- \$2 million for The Seattle Aquarium to build a new Ocean Pavilion as part of its new expansion to complement the new waterfront replacing the Alaskan Way Viaduct.
- \$26,000 for upgrading the HVAC system at the National Nordic Museum in Ballard.



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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the 2021 legislative session began – the first-ever remote session – our state faced one of the most difficult times we've seen in a long while for families, small businesses, educators, students, frontline workers, our most vulnerable neighbors, and those painfully affected by systemic racism.

We were proud to meet these challenges by focusing our work this session on four specific areas:

COVID-19 Response



Economic Recovery



Racial Equity & Justice



Climate Change



We knew we had to build a stronger, better, more inclusive Washington.

That's why the Legislature used every tool available to protect and uplift the workers, families, and businesses that were hit the hardest. **One of the first bills we passed sent \$2.2 billion in federal funds to struggling renters, small landlords, working families, small businesses, and schools.** The last bill we passed was the Washington Recovery Budget, which delivers \$59 billion over the next two years to pay back rent, provide unemployment insurance tax relief for small businesses, expand food assistance, boost public health, support vulnerable communities, and much more.

Another focus this year was police reform and accountability. Law enforcement must make preserving and protecting human life their highest value. We passed bills banning dangerous police tactics like chokeholds, neck restraints and no-knock warrants; requiring officers to use de-escalation tactics and make deadly force a last resort; and creating an independent office to investigate police deadly uses of force. These bills are a step forward, but work remains to ensure everyone feels safe — regardless of where they come from or the color of their skin.

This was a historic legislative session as we recovered together.

Thank you for the incredible honor of representing you in Olympia. Please keep in touch.

Best wishes,

Senator
Reuven Carlyle

Representative
Noel Frame

Representative
Liz Berry

Representing part of Seattle: Belltown, Queen Anne, Interbay, Magnolia, Ballard, Greenwood and parts of South Lake Union and Phinney Ridge

SENATOR Reuven Carlyle

Climate Action & Environmental Justice

As chair of the Environment, Energy & Technology Committee, I'm proud to help lead our state's climate action. Washington now has among the strongest policies in the nation designed to grow our economy with clean energy jobs at a lower carbon footprint.

This year's environmental highlights include:

- **SB 5126**, the Climate Commitment Act, creates a cap-and-invest carbon reduction system. For the first time, it places a firm cap on statewide carbon and reduces that cap over time to meet science-based targets in 2050. It generates resources to invest in clean transportation projects, jobs, air quality improvements and equity for disproportionately impacted communities.
- **HB 1091**, which targets the state's largest source of emissions, the transportation sector, by creating a Clean Fuel Standard. This new program will achieve a 20 percent reduction in the carbon intensity of transportation fuels by 2038 by incentivizing use of biofuels, electric vehicle infrastructure, battery storage and other clean energy innovations.
- **SB 5141**, the HEAL Act, fits holistically with the Climate Commitment Act and the Clean Fuel Standard to tackle environmental health disparities among communities disproportionately impacted by pollution. The bill embeds environmental justice principles in state agencies and public investments.

Washington is now **the only state in the country** with an enforceable, binding path to achieve our state's statutory goals—and Paris Agreement-level reductions—of net-zero emissions by 2050.



Privacy

Privacy in our digital age is vital to our lives as consumers and individuals—and to our democracy. For three years I've worked to pass the Washington Privacy Act, **Senate Bill 5062**, to grant Washington residents the legal right to

know who is using consumers' data and why, the right to correct inaccurate personal data, the right to delete personal data, and the right to opt out of the processing of data for targeted advertisements. The Senate has passed the bill nearly unanimously each year but the House failed to take action. The bill's language has been adopted in Virginia and Colorado and continues to influence the national dialogue about this important issue.

Cybersecurity

In 2020, a major security breach involving a third-party vendor used by the Office of the Washington State Auditor exposed personal information from 1.6 million unemployment claims filed by Washingtonians. In response, in partnership with Gov. Jay Inslee, I introduced and the Legislature passed **Senate Bill 5432** to dramatically improve our security policies. The protection of personal information is a core public obligation and the state has not met the highest standard of care in the past.

Pacific Science Center

The Pacific Science Center provides some of the most successful STEM programs in our state. This year, I introduced and passed **Senate Bill 5080**, which gives the center greater financial flexibility to maintain and expand its services, including free or deeply discounted science education programs for low-income youth.

REPRESENTATIVE Noel Frame

Progressive Tax Reform

It has been my privilege to work toward reforming our state's regressive tax code since my appointment to the Legislature in 2016. This year, I was elected to serve as Chair of the Finance Committee, and it was an honor to lead our team during this critical time. In the wake of COVID-19, the inequities in our tax code have been further laid bare and it's become even more clear that it's not just important that the state *has* adequate revenues – it matters *where* the revenue comes from. The very people who need help the most cannot and should not disproportionately carry the responsibility of paying for economic recovery.

Instead, it's past time for the Legislature to take steps to balance the tax code so Washington's wealthiest residents share more equitably in the responsibility of funding the programs and services our communities need. To that end, multiple tax reform policies were introduced, including my proposed Washington State Wealth Tax (**HB 1406**), which would help create equity within the tax code by taxing the wealth building tools of billionaires: intangible financial assets such as publicly traded options, futures contracts, stocks and bonds.

Although the Wealth Tax did not move forward, we were able to take vital steps toward progressive tax reform this

session. We enacted a capital gains excise tax (**SB 5096**), implementing a 7% tax on the sale of stocks, bonds, and other long-term capital assets, with the first \$250,000 in profits exempted annually. Designed to avoid taxing working families, it includes several additional exemptions, such as all real estate, retirement accounts, and qualified family-owned small businesses. The new tax will affect only around 7,000 taxpayers—including some of the wealthiest Washingtonians—and will bolster recovery and the economic well-being of working families by funding affordable child care and our paramount duty to provide an education to the children of Washington.



In addition, we expanded and funded the Working Families Tax Rebate (**HB 1297**), making more than 400,000 taxpayers eligible for a sales tax rebate between \$300 and \$1,200. By putting money back in the pockets of Washingtonians who need it most, this new law strengthens working families' ability to meet their basic needs and will help stabilize our economy for years to come. Together, the two policies are a significant first step toward balancing our regressive tax code and supporting the economic well-being of working families in every corner of our state. We'll continue down the path of tax reform with the ongoing work of the Tax Structure Work Group and continued consideration of policies like my Wealth Tax proposal. [Learn more at **taxworkgroup.org**.](#)

Counsel for Foster Youth

This session I was also proud to successfully pass legislation (**HB 1219**) phasing in the appointment of counsel for all children in dependency proceedings (aka foster care). By giving the children whose lives are at the center of these proceedings their own attorney, they'll have someone in their corner, fighting for their wishes and their interests, advising them of their legal rights, and ensuring they understand the court proceedings so they can make informed decisions.

REPRESENTATIVE Liz Berry

This was my first session serving as your state representative and it's an honor to be your advocate in Olympia. Here are some of my highlights from the 2021 legislative session:

Protecting Workers

As Vice Chair of the House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee, I was proud to expand Washington's historic Paid Family and Medical Leave program to workers who lost eligibility because of job losses or furloughs due to COVID-19. This bill will provide direct stimulus benefits to 42,000 working families welcoming a new baby or caring for a sick family member. Additionally, we changed the definition of family under the program to be more inclusive of LGBTQ+ and immigrant workers and other workers of color.

I also worked on groundbreaking legislation to protect temporary workers, who are injured at twice the rate of permanent workers, a policy that is now being replicated in other states.



Reducing Plastic Pollution

As a passionate environmental champion, it was exciting to pass the nation's strongest policy on reforming our recycling systems. Our legislation mandates recycled content for plastic containers, bans expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam) products, and requires single serve plasticware to be provided only upon request. This bold step creates a market for recycled plastic here in Washington and reduces unnecessary plastic waste. This is critical for protecting the health of our marine wildlife and the Puget Sound ecosystem for generations to come.

A Voice for Families

As proud mom to George (5) and Eleanor (21 months), I was honored to co-chair the House Democratic Moms' Caucus to push for legislative priorities and budget investments that will make a difference for all the moms and dads, families, and children in Washington. We helped pass significant funding for childcare, Medicaid postpartum coverage, the Working Families Tax Credit, behavioral health resources for students, and a new diaper subsidy for TANF families.