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2023 Legislative Review

44th District

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COMMITTEES

- Innovation, Community & Economic Development, & Veterans (*Vice Chair*)
- Transportation (*Vice Chair*)
- Consumer Protection & Business



2023 Legislative Review 44th District

Neighbors,

My priorities going into the 2023 legislative session included building resiliency across the state, keeping Washingtonians safe, and addressing our housing crisis. I am glad that we were able to make progress on these issues.

Sincerely,



STATEWIDE RESILIENCY PROGRAM



I sponsored **House Bill 1728** requiring the Emergency Management Division (EMD) within the Military Department to develop and run a program improving disaster resilience. The program aims to better coordinate state and local disaster response efforts, ensure collaboration between agencies, and identify and mitigate all types of natural and human-caused hazards.

With the Governor's signature, the statewide resiliency program will now begin to promote collaboration between agencies to advance statewide resilience activities. The EMD will work with agency partners to identify opportunities to leverage funding and improve the resilience of communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems. This is necessary to ensure that when disaster strikes, Washington State is ready.

PROTECTING MOBILE HOME PARK RESIDENTS



Manufactured and mobile home residents are often forced to move because of site closure. Yet, they have done nothing wrong. Bearing the brunt of the financial hardship associated with relocating, there can be unique and substantial costs associated with moving from this type of housing. I introduced **House Bill 1771** that removes hurdles for tenants and provide

more time to move and remain eligible for assistance from the Manufactured Home Relocation Assistance Fund.

I am also proud to have voted for **Senate Bill 5198**, which requires landlords to provide tenants with two years notice before closure or conversion of a manufactured/mobile home community, with exceptions like compensating tenants for relocation or cost of their manufactured home to get a quicker closure date. It also requires landlords to provide written notice, providing tenant organizations the opportunity to compete to purchase when the owner is selling or leasing a manufactured home community. This ensures that community members can make the necessary arrangements to vacate and relocate if needed, which can take a considerable amount of time.

MAKING OUR ROADS SAFER

As a Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee, I spent a significant amount of time focusing on road safety. One bill that I helped shepherd through the process was **Senate Bill 5583**, requiring the Department of Licensing to expand requirements for driver training education for people ages 18 to 24. It is part of a package of bills introduced this session aimed at increasing traffic safety, following a report released by the Washington Traffic Safety Commission that showed a sharp increase fatal road incidents.

The Washington State Patrol is tasked with keeping our roads safe by responding to incidents, aiding motorists in crisis, and helping ensure the safety of road workers and other emergency responders. Recruitment at WSP has struggled in recent years, even though demand for in state and out-of-state candidates is high. Troopers at the Washington State Patrol (WSP) are a vital part of our highway safety system, enforcing roadway regulations and offering road assistance. In 2022, Washington experienced 745 traffic fatalities, its highest level in more than 30 years. **House Bill 1638** incentivizes the recruitment of qualified troopers to address workforce shortages and tackle our growing highway safety needs.

In previous sessions, I sponsored legislation to improve visibility for emergency vehicles. Though I didn't introduce legislation this year, I helped with **Senate Bill 5023**, allowing emergency tow trucks at the scene of an accident to use rear facing blue lights in addition to an intermittent or revolving red light. It also allows these vehicles to operate that red light when reentering the roadway from the scene of an emergency or accident and requires any driver on the road to slow down and move over if they can safely.



IMPORTANT COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS.

The state transportation and construction budgets made some critical investments into local projects that will benefit our communities. I am most excited about the \$650,000 invested to rebuild the Mays Pond Playground and the \$6,500,000 to create a sustainable aviation center. This partnership between Washington State University and Snohomish County will help us research aviation technologies to minimize aviation's contribution to climate change and reduce its impacts on the environment, while creating additional local opportunities for our workers.