

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 22ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

Laurie Dolan



2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REVIEW

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- Appropriations
- State Government & Tribal Relations
- Legislative Ethics Board

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Dear neighbors,

The 2022 legislative session is officially over. For a 60 day session, we were able to accomplish some amazing things!

From K-12 policies to ensure school districts can continue serving students to legislation that supports better treatment options and possible cures for cancer—I'm happy to share what we've accomplished together. This newsletter shares some major wins that support residents all over the state and set us on a path towards a much stronger Washington.

Even though the legislative session has come to an end, I encourage you to stay involved. Your input is important to ensure that the shared values and goals of our community are heard and reflected in all we do. I invite you to reach out to my office to share your thoughts and ideas or ask any questions.

It is my honor and pleasure to serve the 22nd District.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurie Dolan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Laurie Dolan
State Representative
22nd Legislative District



MAJOR WINS THIS SESSION



Stabilizing School Funding During the COVID-19 Pandemic (HB 1590 - Dolan)

With student enrollment rates fluctuating unpredictably throughout the pandemic, schools across Washington state have been struggling to ensure that funding is available for them to maintain staffing levels, instructional programs and COVID safety measures.

HB 1590 gives our schools the stability they need to operate safely, secure the jobs of our teachers and staff, and invest in our students' success. With the passage of HB 1590, \$364 million dollars will be sent to districts across the state.

Another critical education bill added extra nurses, counselors, school psychologists and social workers to the state's prototypical model. COVID has been hard on all of us, but particularly our children. By adding extra trained professionals to address their emotional and physical needs, we are doing all we can to help mitigate the trauma they have experienced through the past two years. I sponsored HB 1985 on behalf of the Governor to add this additional funding. HB 1985 ultimately became part of HB 1664.

Aerial Imaging Technology: Accessible for ALL (HB 1629)

This bill was brought to me on behalf of the Washington Association of County Officials and our County Assessors. Steve Drew, our Thurston County Assessor, is the Legislative Chair for the Washington State Association of county Assessors. HB 1629 is a study bill that requires the Department of Commerce—in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Information Officer, to find cost effective ways for local governments to purchase aerial images at the state level. The bill allows all jurisdictions, regardless of size, to purchase data from the state. The studies conducted through this bill will also help with identifying the potential uses of aerial imagery.

Larger Washington counties, such as King County and Clark County, have been using aerial imaging for many years—and the quality and the usefulness of the images are only advancing. Smaller areas will now be able to have access to this same technology. Additionally, this bill allows county assessors to get better data while also benefiting local governments and saving taxpayers money.

Teaming Up to Beat Cancer: The UW, Fred Hutch, and SCCA Partnership (HB 1744)

As you may know, I've battled cancer for years and am still fighting it. It truly takes a team to beat cancer.

I've experienced the efforts of the doctors and researchers working on treatments and possible cures firsthand. I'm alive today thanks to the work of the people at University of Washington Medicine, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA). I am deeply appreciative of their good work—and the two stem cell transplants that have kept me alive for the last 19 years. That's why, without hesitation, I sponsored HB 1744.

HB 1744 states that a comprehensive cancer center that enters a collaborative arrangement with an institution of higher education is not a state agency or state employer. It also establishes that the employees of a comprehensive cancer center are not state employees nor have any right or entitlement to any benefits conferred upon state employees if certain criteria are met.

This bill was critical to the new collaborative partnership between UW Medicine and Fred Hutch because it clarified that both organizations have separate identities, clearing the path for collaboration and coordination in their fight against cancer. It also merged the SCCA into Fred Hutch, making it much easier for patients by only having to deal with one nonprofit instead of two.

I'm very proud of all the work we accomplished to get this critical legislation passed to save lives here in Washington and around the world. Thank you for your support and for teaming up with me to beat cancer.



HIGHLIGHTS OF MY LEGISLATIVE CAREER 2017-2021

Education

- Worked with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the League of Women Voters to add civics education as a mandatory high school graduation requirement.
- Sponsored enrollment stabilization legislation during the COVID crisis to keep our school districts funded at pre-pandemic enrollment levels.
- Established regional school safety centers in each of our nine educational service districts, staffed by experts to train school employees in recognizing when a student may be a danger to themselves or others, and how to help that student get the help needed.
- Established training for school resource officers to increase understanding and skills to work with diverse student populations.

Labor

- Passed important legislation that recognizes our state employees are the foundation of state government, including a policy that requires, when the economy improves after a downturn, rehiring state employees who were laid off rather than outside contractors.
- COLA for TRS I and PERS I retirees: For the past six years I have been a tireless advocate for COLAs for our Plan I retirees who do not receive a permanent COLA. Although we have not been able to legislate a permanent COLA, we have been successful in several of the past years to get an annual COLA. Although these retirees have the benefit of a defined pension, they retired so long ago that their defined pension no longer pays for the ever increasing cost of living. Many of these employees worked without a COLA during several of their working years in the 1990's. School districts would say, "We can't afford to give you raises this year, but we will take care of you in your retirement." Now it is time for the state to make good on that promise, which is why I have worked so hard to add my voice to advocate for a permanent COLA for Plan I retirees.

Voting Rights

- Sponsored legislation to establish same-day voter registration.
- Worked to help voters with former felony convictions to be able to vote as soon as they exit prison.
- Passed several bills, most recently HB 1068, to protect sensitive voter information from public disclosure. Our Thurston County Auditor, Mary Hall, was the legislative chair for the Washington State Association of County Auditors when she brought this important bill to me.





GOODBYE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE 22ND

I am retiring as your state representative at the end of this term. It has been an absolute honor and privilege to have served the 22nd Legislative District as your voice at the Capitol. This job has been the highlight of my career because it allowed me to use a lifetime of skills to work on your behalf.

My decision is based on several exciting life changes including spending more time with my loved ones, traveling more with my husband as COVID restrictions begin to ease, exercising more, being able to plan my own calendar, and just enjoying some free time.

My favorite part of my legislative work has been all the wonderful and impactful experiences, stories, and thoughts you have shared with me. Together, we have passed some very important legislation over the past six years. I will always cherish the personal stories, innovative problem solving, hard work, friendship, humor, and grace that all of you have extended to me.

I will be present and reachable in my role as state representative until the end of 2022. Thank you for the privilege of serving our community.

Watch the official House Resolution honoring my years of service: <https://youtu.be/Er7P7EFUBVU>

