



# League of Women Voters of Washington

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[www.lwvwa.org / advocacy](http://www.lwvwa.org/advocacy)

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April 13 - 19, 2007

**SUCCESS:** **EHJR 4204**, which is a constitutional amendment that allows for a simple majority vote of the people to pass a school levy, passed the Senate on April 12 with the required two-thirds vote (passed House on March 12). Now, League members all across the state need to get involved in the campaign to see that voters approve the constitutional amendment this November. It took a simple majority to put the supermajority requirement into the State Constitution in 1944, and it will take a simple majority to take it out again this November.

The LWVWA has been working toward this day since 1977. **Thanks to all of you who have worked so long to get this passed.** Also, be sure to thank your representative if they voted in support of EHJR 4204 (see roll call at right).

**Contact:** Catherine Ahl, 360-697-7924, [cathahl@hotmail.com](mailto:cathahl@hotmail.com) or Nancy Jander, 253-851-9260, [nancyjander@comcast.net](mailto:nancyjander@comcast.net)

EHJR 4204	House (4/12)	Senate (3/12)
Yea	Alexander, Anderson, Appleton, Armstrong, Bailey, Barlow, Blake, Campbell, Chase, Chopp, Clibborn, Cody, Conway, Curtis, Darneille, Dickerson, Dunshee, Eddy, Eickmeyer, Ericks, Ericksen, Flannigan, Fromhold, Goodman, Grant, Green, Haigh, Haler, Hankins, Hasegawa, Hudgins, Hunt, Hunter, Hurst, Jarrett, Kagi, Kelley, Kenney, Kessler, Kirby, Lantz, Linville, Lovick, McCoy, McCune, McDermott, McDonald, McIntire, Miloscia, Moeller, Morrell, Morris, O'Brien, Ormsby, Pearson, Pedersen, Pettigrew, Priest, Quall, Roberts, Rodne, Rolfes, Santos, Schual-Berke, Seaquist, Sells, Simpson, Skinner, Sommers, Springer, B. Sullivan, P. Sullivan, Takko, Upthegrove, Van De Wege, Wallace, Walsh, Williams, and Wood	Berkey, Brandland, Brown, Clements, Eide, Fairley, Franklin, Fraser, Hatfield, Haugen, Hobbs, Jacobsen, Kastama, Kauffman, Keiser, Kilmer, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Marr, McAuliffe, Murray, Oemig, Pflug, Poulsen, Prentice, Pridemore, Rasmussen, Regala, Rockefeller, Shin, Spanel, Tom, and Weinstein
Nay	Ahern, Buri, Chandler, Condotta, Crouse, DeBolt, Dunn, Hailey, Hinkle, Kretz, Kristiansen, Newhouse, Orcutt, Roach, Ross, Schindler, Strow, Sump, and Warnick	Benton, Carrell, Delvin, Hargrove, Hewitt, Holmquist, Honeyford, McCaslin, Morton, Parlette, Roach, Schoesler, Sheldon, Stevens, Swecker, and Zarelli

**SUCCESS:** **SSB 5372**, the Puget Sound governance bill, passed the House by an overwhelmingly supportive vote of 86 to 12—a great vote for the Sound. Three key points are important in the final bill, in addition to its being a big win for Puget Sound: (1) An independent state agency will now be responsible for restoring the Sound to health by 2020. (2) The agency's work will be guided by science. (3) Implementers will be held accountable for results with some important tools specified in the bill, including fiscal consequences for those out of compliance with the action agenda for the Sound. The bill now goes to the Senate for concurrence, probably sometime after the 17<sup>th</sup>. Given the earlier support in the Senate and Sen. Rockefeller as prime sponsor, little opposition is anticipated. Then the governor has twenty days to make a decision on signing this landmark bill. Please call your representatives in the House and thank them for their overwhelming support for Puget Sound restoration.

**Contact:** Ann Aagaard, 425-488-8418, [aagaarda@nwlink.com](mailto:aagaarda@nwlink.com)

**SUCCESS:** **ESSB 5297**, the sex education bill (also known as the Healthy Youth Act), passed the House on April 11 and now goes to the governor for her signature. **Many thanks to those who worked in support of the bill** which, in its final version, says that by the time that the 2008 school year begins, every public school that offers sex ed must assure that its sexual health education curriculum is medically and scientifically accurate; age appropriate; appropriate for students regardless of gender, race, disability status, or sexual orientation; and includes information about abstinence but not to the exclusion of instruction on other methods of preventing unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease. Thank your representative if he/she supported the Healthy Youth Act (see roll calls at right).

**Contact:** Wayne Martin, 425-746-9960, [docmartin934@aol.com](mailto:docmartin934@aol.com)

ESSB 5297	House (4/11)	Senate (3/7)
Yea	Anderson, Appleton, Barlow, Blake, Chase, Chopp, Clibborn, Cody, Conway, Darneille, Dickerson, Dunshee, Eddy, Ericks, Flannigan, Fromhold, Goodman, Grant, Green, Haigh, Hankins, Hasegawa, Hudgins, Hunt, Hunter, Jarrett, Kagi, Kenney, Kessler, Kirby, Lantz, Linville, Lovick, McCoy, McDermott, McIntire, Moeller, Morrell, Morris, O'Brien, Ormsby, Pedersen, Pettigrew, Quall, Roberts, Rodne, Rolfes, Santos, Schual-Berke, Seaquist, Sells, Simpson, Sommers, Springer, B. Sullivan, P. Sullivan, Takko, Upthegrove, Van De Wege, Wallace, Walsh, Williams, Wood	Berkey, Brandland, Brown, Eide, Fairley, Franklin, Fraser, Hatfield, Haugen, Hobbs, Jacobsen, Kastama, Kauffman, Keiser, Kilmer, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Marr, McAuliffe, Murray, Oemig, Pflug, Poulsen, Prentice, Pridemore, Regala, Rockefeller, Spanel, Tom, and Weinstein; Pres. Owen signed
Nay	Ahern, Alexander, Armstrong, Bailey, Buri, Campbell, Chandler, Condotta, Crouse, Curtis, DeBolt, Dunn, Ericksen, Hailey, Haler, Hinkle, Hurst, Kelley, Kretz, Kristiansen, McCune, McDonald, Miloscia, Newhouse, Orcutt, Pearson, Priest, Roach, Ross, Schindler, Skinner, Strow, Sump, and Warnick	Benton, Carrell, Clements, Delvin, Hargrove, Hewitt, Holmquist, Honeyford, McCaslin, Morton, Parlette, Rasmussen, Roach, Schoesler, Sheldon, Shin, Stevens, Swecker, and Zarelli
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### BUDGET ACTION ITEM

**Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program (WWRP)—SUPPORT**

Increased funding for the WWRP would provide funds for 135 new state and local parks, trails, wildlife habitats, and working farms in your community and around the state.

**Status:** The increased WWRP funding level of \$100 million for the biennium is in good shape at this point in the legislative process: both the Senate and the House have included the \$100 million in their proposed budgets and the governor has indicated her commitment to support this amount in the final capital budget. BUT, changes can occur as the houses begin conferencing to iron out differences in the two budget proposals.

**Action:** If you have not contacted your legislator regarding his/her support for WWRP at this level, please do so now. For most legislators, thank that person for supporting WWRP at \$100 million. To find out about the projects in your district, go to the website for the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Coalition: [www.wildliferecreation.org](http://www.wildliferecreation.org). Under "My Backyard", you can find out this information by city, county, and legislative district. Consider sending this information to your legislator as you urge, or thank, him/her for continued support for the WWRP program.

**Contact:** Elizabeth Davis, 360-331-4184, [elizabethd@whidbey.com](mailto:elizabethd@whidbey.com)

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## ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

### Elections

A bill that would allow voter registration up to and on Election Day (SB 5561) is dead for this session but is still “alive” for the 2008 legislative session because it passed in its house of origin. The Secretary of State was opposed to this bill. Another House bill that sought to cancel the 2008 presidential primary, on the other hand, did not pass in its house of origin and therefore would need to be reintroduced in the 2008 legislature. Moreover, funds for the 2008 presidential primary are included in both the House and Senate budgets, although the actual date of that primary has not been set.

Several other bills we have been monitoring have passed in both houses and will go to the governor:

- SB 5408, which modifies primary election ballots, says that if a voter fails to select a major party in the check-off box on the consolidated ballot, his/her votes in partisan races will be counted anyway if the voter votes only for candidates of one political party in those races.
- HB 1528, which provides for electronic voter registration, will allow individuals who have a valid Washington driver’s license or state identification card the option of registering to vote on the Secretary of State’s website.
- SHB 1654, which modifies vote canvassing provisions, requires the county auditor to process and canvass ballots on a daily basis when the auditor is in possession of more than 10,000 absentee ballots that have yet to be processed, and allows a random audit of ballot counting equipment in counties voting entirely by mail. The random audit involves a comparison of a manual count to the machine count, and may involve up to either three precincts or six batches depending on the ballot counting procedures.

**Contact:** Susan Eidenschink, 253-572-9305, [susaneiden@juno.com](mailto:susaneiden@juno.com)

### Board of Pharmacy Rules

Two days—two wins! They were a long time coming. In addition to passage of the sex ed bill in the legislature April 11, on April 12 the **WA State Board of Pharmacy** voted for new rules which establish that it is the duty of the pharmacy, i.e., the business, to fill all legal prescriptions in a timely and professional manner.

**Contact:** Wayne Martin, 425-746-9960, [docmartin934@aol.com](mailto:docmartin934@aol.com)

### PRIORITIES FOR A HEALTHY WASHINGTON

League **supports** all four Priorities for a Healthy Washington:

Eliminate Toxic Flame Retardants (PBDEs) – **ESHB 1024** passed the legislature.

**Contact:** Elizabeth Davis, 360-331-4184, [elizabethd@whidbey.com](mailto:elizabethd@whidbey.com)

Increase Funding for Wildlife & Recreation – The increased WWRP funding level of \$100 million for the biennium is in good shape at this point in the legislative process: both the Senate and the House have included the \$100 million in their proposed budgets and the governor has indicated her commitment to support this amount in the final capital budget. BUT, changes can occur as the houses begin conferencing to iron out differences in the two budget proposals.

**Contact:** Elizabeth Davis, 360-331-4184, [elizabethd@whidbey.com](mailto:elizabethd@whidbey.com)

Promote Clean Cars/Clean Fuels – **ESSHB 1303** is on second reading in Senate Rules.

**Contact:** Toni Potter, 206-365-8949, [antoniapotter@comcast.net](mailto:antoniapotter@comcast.net)

Restore & Clean Up Puget Sound – **ESSB 5372** passed the legislature on April 10. This is a different bill than the Puget Sound governance bill, which also passed the legislature.

**Contact:** Ann Aagaard, 425-488-8418, [aagaarda@nwlink.com](mailto:aagaarda@nwlink.com)

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## FOR REFERENCE

### Key Session Dates

The 60th Washington State Legislature opened its long session on Monday, January 8. The 2007 legislative session in Olympia runs from January 8 to April 22. Every day (including Saturday, Sunday, and holidays) is counted in the 105-day session. The Lobby Team will meet regularly during the session to talk with the League lobbyist, Lonnie Johns-Brown, and to decide on priority action for the upcoming week.

**Jan. 8** – First day of regular session

**Jan. 19** – LWVWA Lobby Day

**Feb. 28** – Last day for any bill to be considered in **policy** committee of its “house of origin” (House for HB, or Senate for SB)

**Mar. 5** – Last day for any bill to be considered in **fiscal** committee of its “house of origin”

**Mar. 14** – Last day for bills to be considered on the floor of their “house of origin” (5 p.m.)

**Mar. 30** – Last day for bills to be considered in a **policy** committee of the opposite house (Senate for HB, or House for SB)

**Apr. 2** – Last day for bills to be considered in a **fiscal** committee of the opposite house

**Apr. 13** – Last day for bills to be considered on the floor of the opposite house (5 p.m.) except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implementing budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session.

**Apr. 22** – Last day of regular session

### CONTACT LISTS

Portfolios / Lobby Team – [www.lwvwa.org/about/officers.html](http://www.lwvwa.org/about/officers.html)

Legislators – [www.lwvwa.org/advocacy/newsletters/Legislators.pdf](http://www.lwvwa.org/advocacy/newsletters/Legislators.pdf)

Legislative Committees – [www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/committeelisting.aspx](http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/committeelisting.aspx)

Representation by legislative district – [www.lwvwa.org/advocacy/newsletters/DistrictReps.pdf](http://www.lwvwa.org/advocacy/newsletters/DistrictReps.pdf)

### LEAGUE POSITIONS

LWVWA positions – [www.lwvwa.org/advocacy/prog\\_in\\_action05-07.html](http://www.lwvwa.org/advocacy/prog_in_action05-07.html)

### RESOURCES

League action website – [lwvwa.org/advocacy](http://lwvwa.org/advocacy)

House Floor Activity as it happens – [flooractivityext.leg.wa.gov/default.aspx?chamber=3](http://flooractivityext.leg.wa.gov/default.aspx?chamber=3)

Senate Floor Activity as it happens – [flooractivityext.leg.wa.gov](http://flooractivityext.leg.wa.gov)

Public hearings as they happen – [tvw.org](http://tvw.org)

Bill information – text, analysis, status, committee action – [apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo)

Bill room (legislative information center) – **360-786-7573**

State budget information – [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)

Governor’s website – [governor.wa.gov](http://governor.wa.gov)

Washington state’s official website – [access.wa.gov](http://access.wa.gov)

#### Speaking to a Legislator

Visit, write to, call, or email the legislator directly (see contact list for legislators). Or, use the toll-free Legislative Hotline available weekdays from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm, and Saturdays from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm:

**800-562-6000** / TTY: 800-635-9993

Legislative hotline operators will send your message to one of your legislators, all three of your legislators, the governor and lieutenant governor, or all of these, as you request. Language translation services are also available. Person placing the call needs to know enough English to understand “Please Wait” and to report the language needed.

#### Addressing a Letter to a Legislator

Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Senator \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. Box 40600 P.O. Box 404[leg district]

Olympia, WA 98504-0600 Olympia, WA 98504-04[leg district]

#### Visiting Your Legislators

Citizens are welcome to visit their legislators in Olympia on any day during the session. Making an appointment first is prudent but not always required. Later in the session, town hall meetings back in the legislators’ home districts are good opportunities for talking to your legislators. Lobby day events provide organized support for visits.