



# League of Women Voters of Washington

Barbara Seitle, President // Marilyn Johnston, Lobby Team Coordinator // Newsletter edited by Laura McCarty

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

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## ACTION PRIORITY

February 9 - 14, 2007

"If you have time this week to make only one phone call, choose this..."

### **SUPPORT a local response to global warming**

#### **SB 5586—Environmental Community Priority for Clean Air / Clean Fuels**

Under this Senate bill, and its House companion **HB 1303**, clean energy use would be encouraged by

- replacement of polluting diesel engines, *especially school buses*
- use of incentives for developing in-state clean feedstock/fuels
- reduction of fossil fuel consumption in state fleets
- development of new technologies for displacing petroleum with electricity
- establishment of accounting procedures for Washington State that respond to global warming impacts
- creation of the Clean Energy Incentive Account

**Position:** (LWVUS) Energy, elements 3 and 5

**Status:** Public hearing for **SB 5586** was scheduled for the **Senate Committee on Water, Energy & Telecommunications** on Monday, February 13 at 10:00 AM.

**Action:** If you are a constituent of any of the following committee members, call and ask them to move this legislation forward in the Senate: **Poulsen, Rockefeller, Honeyford, Delvin, Fraser, Holmquist, Marr, Morton, Oemig, Pridemore, Regala**

**Contact:** Marian Wineman, 206-285-1066, [mwineman@comcast.net](mailto:mwineman@comcast.net)

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## Other ACTION ITEMS

"If you can make another call or two..."

#### **SUPPORT—SSB 5226 / HB 1589, HB 1186—Public Campaign Financing (Judicial Independence Act & Judicial Election Reform Act)**

The goal of public financing of campaigns is to reduce the impact of special interests in campaigns. The Senate bill would establish a six-year pilot program for public campaign financing for appellate judicial positions only. HB 1589 is SSB 5226's companion bill in the House. HB 1186, which creates a public financing system for appellate court positions, is similar to the Senate bill but also contains provisions for contribution limits on independent expenditures and for prohibiting use of the general treasury funds of corporations, limited liability partnerships, associations, or labor organizations for the purpose of influencing an election for an appellate court judicial position.

## League Positions:

- **Representative Government:** Action to facilitate changes in the state constitution to achieve a representative and effective state legislature. Action to limit methods of financing political campaigns in order to ensure the public's right to know, combat undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office, and promote citizen participation in the election process.
- **Campaign Financing:** Campaign contributions should be limited. These limits should apply to both state and out-of-state contributions. The PDC should implement laws pertaining to these limitations.
- **Administration of Justice:** Action to ensure that our courts are fair, efficient, accessible and staffed with qualified personnel.

**Status:** **SSB 5226** was reported out of the **Government Operations and Elections Committee** on February 1 and was referred to **Ways & Means Committee** on February 5. Public hearings for **HB 1589** and **HB 1186** were held February 7.

**Action:** Bipartisan wavering is putting the House judicial public campaign financing bills in jeopardy. **House State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee** members need to hear from constituents that they support HB 1186 and HB 1589. Action by LWVWA members could make a big difference in the fate of these bills, so please contact committee members now. Also, contact **Senate Ways & Means Committee** members urging them to hear and move SSB 5226 forward in the Senate.

**Contact:** Chris Chamberlin, 253-761-1376, [bcchamberlin@harbornet.com](mailto:bcchamberlin@harbornet.com)

## **SUPPORT—HB 1460 and SB 5446—Extending Mental Health Parity**

These bills extend the existing mental health parity requirements to individual and small group plans. Parity for the small group and individual insurance markets would match the existing schedule now in place for the large group market. Beginning January 1, 2008, co-payment requirements and maximum out-of-pocket limits would be in effect. Beginning July 1, 2010, arbitrary day/visit limits would be removed and a single deductible for mental health services and other health services would be introduced. *Please see the February 2 Legislative Newsletter (Vol. 39, No. 4) for additional information.*

**League Position:** The State League has been a member of the **Washington Coalition for Insurance Parity** since 2000 and was a strong supporter of the bill that passed last year to achieve parity for mental health coverage in the large group insurance market. The goal has always been to include people insured through individual and small group insurance plans under the parity requirements.

**Status:** The public hearing in the **Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee** was held on February 8. Now comes the hearing in the **House Health Care & Wellness Committee**. The House hearing is scheduled for February 12.

**Action:** If your legislator is on the House Health Care & Wellness Committee, call him/her in advance of the hearing and ask them to vote for this important bill. Committee members are **Cody (chair), Alexander, Barlow, Campbell, Condotta, Curtis, Green, Hinkle, Moeller, Morrell, Pedersen, Schual-Berke, Seaquist.**

**Contact:** Ann Brand, 206-533-6269, [anklbrand@comcast.net](mailto:anklbrand@comcast.net)

## **SUPPORT—SB 5507 & HB 1463—Reforming Washington's Vesting Laws**

The vast majority of other states have an approach to vesting of development rights that allows a landowner or developer to vest to the laws and regulations in effect only at the time the city or county makes a decision on their application to develop the property, in other words, with current land use standards, instead of those that were in effect at an earlier time when the landowner applied for vesting. This legislation would change the point of vesting for Washington to be the same as that in the majority of other states. (See Background for more information)

**League Position:** Regulation of land use should be consistent with a valid land use plan.

**Status:** These are companion bills. Both are in policy committees—HB 1463, which had a hearing a week ago on February 1, is in the **House Committee on Local Government**; while its companion in the Senate, SB 5507, had a hearing February 6 in the **Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections**.

**Action:** If you have legislators on either committee, call or write them to urge them to pass this legislation out of committee. *Say that these bills could be a great help toward establishing a healthy and sustainable future for the state of Washington.*

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

**SUPPORT—SB 5278 and HB 1551—Public Campaign Financing (Use of public funds to finance campaigns for local office)**

These bills would lift the ban (imposed in 1992 by Initiative 134) on use of public funds to finance political campaigns for local elective offices.

**League Positions:**

- **Representative Government:** Action to facilitate changes in the state constitution to achieve a representative and effective state legislature. Action to limit methods of financing political campaigns in order to ensure the public's right to know, combat undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office, and promote citizen participation in the election process.
- **Campaign Financing:** Campaign contributions should be limited. These limits should apply to both state and out-of-state contributions. The PDC should implement laws pertaining to these limitations.
- **Administration of Justice:** Action to ensure that our courts are fair, efficient, accessible and staffed with qualified personnel.

**Status:** A public hearing for **SB 5278** was held before the **Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee** on February 1. A public hearing for **HB 1551** was held before the **House State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee** on February 7.

**Action:** These local option bills may have a good chance of passing. They came close in 2006. Legislators on the Senate and House committees need encouragement from their constituents to move these bills along. *Contact committee members urging their support for the local option bills.*

**Contact:** Chris Chamberlin, 253-761-1376, [bcchamberlin@harbournet.com](mailto:bcchamberlin@harbournet.com)

**SUPPORT with concerns—HB 1569—Reforming the Health Care System in Washington State**

This is one of what will likely be several bills that seek to make health insurance more available and affordable. This bill deserves support, as it goes a long way toward expanding access to health care using the basic structure for health insurance currently in place.

**League Position:** The League supports reform of the existing health system that would ensure universal access for all residents to a comprehensive, uniform and affordable set of health services. While this bill does not fully reach this goal, it moves the system toward assuring that individuals and people who rely on insurance through the small group and association markets will have much greater access to insured health care.

**Status:** Work sessions and public hearings on this bill were held in the **House Committee on Health Care & Wellness**, which passed the bill, which is now in **House Appropriations Committee**.

**Action:** Contact your legislator on these committees and urge support for this bill.

**Contact:** Ann Brand, 206-533-6269, [anklbrand@comcast.net](mailto:anklbrand@comcast.net)

## **SUPPORT with concerns**—**HB 1825** and **SB 5729**—**Providing Dedicated Funding for Public Health**

These bills would

- establish a Local Public Health Financing Account to be funded through a portion of cigarette taxes
- fund core public health functions of statewide significance provided by local health jurisdictions
- establish the Public Health Improvement Committee to develop the Public Health Improvement Plan as well as performance measures for local health jurisdictions
- be a comprehensive effort to provide a stable and predictable source of funding and oversight for a public health system across the state. Some questions are anticipated about the amount of funding in the bill and its distribution across local health jurisdictions.

**League Position:** LWVUS Position on Health Care includes the following: “BASIC LEVEL OF QUALITY CARE: Every US resident should have access to a basic level of care that includes the prevention of disease, health promotion and education...” which are core public health functions.

**Status:** A public hearing on HB 1825 was held in the **House Committee on Health Care & Wellness**, and it passed out of committee and referred to **House Appropriations Committee** on February 12. A public hearing on SB 5729 was held in the **Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care** on February 7.

**Action:** Contact your legislators on these committees and urge support for this legislation.

**Contact:** Ann Brand, 206-533-6269, [anklbrand@comcast.net](mailto:anklbrand@comcast.net)

## **SUPPORT**—**HB 1827**—**Requiring a Tax Expenditure Report as Part of Biennial Budget Documents**

A tax expenditure report as part of the state’s budget documents would provide current information about the cost of tax exemptions at the time the legislature is considering spending and revenue measures for the biennial budget.

**League Position:** Any tax exemption proposal should be carefully evaluated for purpose, benefit, and cost; and, all tax exemptions should be periodically reviewed.

**Status:** This bill, introduced by Rep. Santos on January 30, has been scheduled for public hearing on February 13 at 10:00 AM in the **House Finance Committee**.

**Action:** If you have a representative on the Finance Committee, call or write them to say you support this bill.

**Contact:** Barbara Bush, 425-349-5184, [omi.bush@verizon.net](mailto:omi.bush@verizon.net)

## **SUPPORT**—**HB 1929**—**Authorizing Utilities to Engage in Environmental Mitigation Efforts to Offset their Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

This bill would grant utilities the authority to engage in mitigation activities to offset their utility's impact on the environment. Intended to correct the unfortunate ruling from the State Supreme Court last month in the **Okeson vs Seattle** case.

**Position:** (LWVUS) Energy, elements 3 and 5

**Status:** Public hearing in **House Committee on Technology, Energy & Communications** on February 13 at 10:00 AM.

**Action:** If you are a constituent of any of the following committee members call and ask your representative to support HB 1929: **Morris, McCoy, Crouse, McCune, Eddy, Ericksen, Hankins, Hudgins, Hurst, Takko, Van De Wege**

**Contact:** Marian Wineman, 206-285-1066, [mwineman@comcast.net](mailto:mwineman@comcast.net)

**SUPPORT—HJR 4204 and SJR 8207—Simple Majority for School Levies**

**League Position:** A simple majority is sufficient for passage of a levy.

**Status:** HJR 4204 was passed by the House Education Committee to House Rules Committee on February 6 and is eligible for second reading. HJR 4204 is expected to pass the House easily, but SJR 8207 still needs one or two votes to reach the required two-thirds majority vote, and amendments are expected.

**Action:** Contact your senator and ask for support without amendments. "Just let the people vote."

**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)

**SUPPORT—SB 5287—Relating to State Agency Goals for CO2 Reduction**

This would create deadlines for percent reductions in CO2 emissions from state fleets by certain years. No companion bill in house.

**Position:** (LWVUS) Energy, elements 3 and 5

**Status:** Public hearing in **Senate Water, Energy & Telecommunications Committee** on February 13 at 10:00 AM

**Action:** If you are a constituent of any of the following committee members, call and ask your senator to support SB 5287: **Poulsen, Rockefeller, Honeyford, Delvin, Fraser, Holmquist, Marr, Morton, Oemig, Pridemore, Regala**

**Contact:** Marian Wineman, 206-285-1066, [mwineman@comcast.net](mailto:mwineman@comcast.net)

**OPPOSE—Substitute Senate Bill 5627—Funding Structure for K-12 Education**

We supported with concerns the original bill, which authorized the WA State Institute of Public Policy to develop a new K-12 funding structure. The substitute bill calls for individuals appointed by the governor and legislators—rather than experts in school finance—to develop the funding plan, so we cannot support the substitute.

**League Positions:** The state has the responsibility for amply funding education. All programs mandated by the legislature should be fully funded by the state.

**Status:** Passed by the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee on February 7 and sent to **Ways & Means Committee**.

**Action:** Contact your senator if on the Ways & Means Committee and ask that the original SB 5627 be passed rather than the substitute bill.

**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)

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**ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND**

**Land Use Development Right Vesting Laws**

State law requires counties and cities planning under the Growth Management Act (GMA) to update their land use ordinances and comprehensive plans at regular intervals. Our current system allows a landowner to lock in ("vest") the right to develop property and to proceed in disregard of these updates, simply because an earlier (and now outdated) set of development regulations was in effect at the time the landowner applied for the vesting right. The vast majority of other states have an approach to

vesting of development rights that allows a landowner or developer to vest to the laws and regulations in effect at the time the city or county makes a decision on their application to develop the property, in other words, with current land use standards.

SB 5507 & HB 1463 would

(1) change the point of vesting in our state to be the same as that in the majority of other states

(2) would also implement the Growth Planning Hearing Board's orders if and when any determination of invalidity is made.

Rather than allowing projects to proceed under parts of the comprehensive plan or regulation that have been determined in a Board's final order to be invalid (as is currently the case), it would implement the final orders and ruling of the Board immediately. When the part or parts of the plan or regulation are changed to comply with the fulfillment of the goals of the GMA and the invalidity order has been lifted, the permits filed would then be in compliance with adopted policies consistent with the GMA.

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

### Streamlined Sales and Use Tax

SB 5089, which would conform Washington sales and use tax to streamlined sales and use tax agreement, passed in Senate on February 2, went over to the House where it was referred to House Finance Committee, and is scheduled for public hearing on February 14 at 1:30 PM.

**Contact:** Barbara Bush, 425-349-5184, [omi.bush@verizon.net](mailto:omi.bush@verizon.net)

### Reforming the Health Care System in Washington State

HB 1569, introduced by Rep. Eileen Cody, is the culmination of the recommendations coming from the governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Cost and Access (HCCA report). It is intended to make health insurance more available and affordable. In summary, this bill:

- Creates a Health Insurance Connector to simplify and improve the purchasing of health insurance for individuals and employees of small businesses.
- Combines individuals, employees of small employers, and individuals receiving health coverage through association plans into a single pool through the Connector.
- Eliminates the standard health questionnaire used in the individual market, and repeals the Washington State Health Insurance Pool (established to provide health insurance for individuals unable to obtain insurance because of their health history or other high risks factors).
- Establishes a premium subsidy mechanism for low income individuals.
- Establishes a reinsurance program in the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to lower the cost of health care coverage.

To understand the key components of this bill, the staff of the House Health Care & Wellness Committee provided the following summary of the bill. Some excerpts from this summary are included below.

- **Connector**—"A Washington State Health Insurance Connector is established. It will be administered by the Health Care Authority Administrator. The Connector will be governed by a 14-member Board. The Connector will be responsible for developing and approving all health benefit plans sold by carrier through the Connector for individuals, small employer groups, and employees receiving health coverage through association plans. Four or five plans will be offered, with at least three deductible and point-of-service cost-sharing options. Benefits plans will include a high deductible health plan, a plan comparable to the Basic health Plan, a plan with first dollar coverage for a fixed number of provider visits, and a plan comparable to plans offered by the public employees benefit board. All benefit plans offered through the Connector must include components

to improve quality of care and health outcomes. The Connector will be responsible for establishing eligibility procedures, collection and transmission of all premium payments and payroll deductions, and all other aspects of operating a health insurance coverage program. Health benefit plans to be offered through the Connector will include coverage for all current enrollees of the Basic Health Plan, who will be enrolled in the Connector and choose a health benefit plan. The Connector will charge a surcharge on all health benefit plans offered to pay for administrative and operational expenses.”

- **Enrollees**—“Individuals eligible to purchase health coverage through the Connector include all individuals who are not offered health insurance from an employer with more than fifty employees. This includes people who previously purchased health coverage through the individual market, small group market, and association health plans. Health benefit plans offered through the connector must be certified by the Insurance Commissioner.”

This legislation is a work in progress. The public hearings and work sessions that have occurred in House and Senate committees have resulted in accolades and approval for this approach to expanding access to health insurance, as well as the expression of some serious concerns about risk and cost. This approach uses an employer-based system of health insurance provision along with the provider/health plan systems already in place to open up access to people not now insured. The discussions thus far have yielded many ideas about how to resolve the difficulties that have been identified. The bill has qualified support from almost all quarters, and we will watch it as it unfolds.

**Contact:** Ann Brand, 206-533-6269, [anklbrand@comcast.net](mailto:anklbrand@comcast.net)

### Family and Medical Leave Insurance

A bill to create a Family and Medical Leave Insurance program in Washington, HB 1658, is being sponsored by Rep. Mary Lou Dickerson. The program would provide for up to five weeks of paid leave for the birth or placement of a new child; for a worker's serious illness; or to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, domestic partner, or parent. Benefits would be \$250 per week for full-time workers, prorated for part-time workers. The program would be funded through a 2 cents per hour payroll tax paid by workers (about \$3.50 per week, or \$40 per year). A public hearing was held on February 6 in the House Commerce and Labor Committee.

This year's bill is supported by labor groups, women, and children advocacy groups, and educators. Business groups say that it will add cost to doing business in this state and that it sets up mandates for employers. According to the state's Employment Security Department, small businesses are less likely to provide paid sick leave under this bill. Currently, about 70 percent of Washington companies provide full-time employees with paid vacation, and 44 percent provide paid sick leave.

**Contact:** Marjorie Reeves, 360-866-7507, [mpreeves@comcast.net](mailto:mpreeves@comcast.net)

### Elections and Voting

Some bills relating to elections and voting have been scheduled for hearings in the Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections and House Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs. They are:

- HB1473/SB 5530 – would allow ex-felons to have voting rights restored if they are not in total confinement in the custody of Department of Corrections or Federal Bureau of Prisons. House bill was referred to State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee. Senate bill is scheduled for public hearing in Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections on Tuesday, February 13. League supports these bills.

- SB 5196 – would require no primary for nonpartisan races for which only two candidates file. This bill was heard on February 1 in Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections. Passage of this bill would assure that those voting in the general election, rather than only those voting in the primary, will decide these races. About twice as many people vote in the general election as in the primary. League supports this bill.
- HB 1420/SB 5408 – would modify provisions on the primary election ballot to allow voters who vote a “straight party ticket” to have their votes counted, even though they do not identify a political party. Both bills received public hearings in their respective policy committees, passed out of committee, and are now in the Rules Committee of their respective houses. These bills were requested by the Secretary of State. League supports these bills, since voter intent is clearly established.

**Contact:** Betty Sullivan, 206-682-5240, [jaybetty2@msn.com](mailto:jaybetty2@msn.com)

### Early Learning

HB 1641, the Omnibus Washington Learns bill, was heard in the House, and SB 5501 in the Senate. These companion bills implement the Washington Learns recommendations, which are organized into the areas of early learning, K-12, and higher education.

After the hearing on the omnibus bills, it was decided by the legislators to split the legislation into three different bills representing the three areas.

HB 1663 is the House version of the early learning bill, and is titled Child Development and Early Learning. It was heard in the House Early Learning & Children’s Services Committee on February 6. The next day, the Senate early learning bill, SB 5501, was heard in the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee. Both bills would create an advisory committee to advise the newly created Early Learning Department, develop a quality improvement rating system (QRIS), work with the private-public partnership called Thrive By Five, and review and revise child care provider rules.

**Contact:** Marjorie Reeves, 360-866-7507, [mpreeves@comcast.net](mailto:mpreeves@comcast.net)

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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 HB)

**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

## C CONTACT LISTS

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

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

## L LEAGUE POSITIONS

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

## R RESOURCES

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