

SECOND DAY

MORNING SESSION

Senate Chamber, Olympia
 Tuesday, January 14, 2025

The Senate was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by the President of the Senate, Lt. Governor Heck presiding. No roll call was taken.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed with and it was approved.

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate advanced to the third order of business.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Washington, there was submitted to the electorate of the State of Washington for their approval or rejection at the state general election held on the 5th day of November, 2024, an initiative to the people, identified as Initiative Measure No. 2066 and entitled:

Initiative Measure No. 2066 concerns regulating energy services, including natural gas and electrification. This measure would repeal or prohibit certain laws and regulations that discourage natural gas use and/or promote electrification, and require certain utilities and local governments to provide natural gas to eligible customers.

WHEREAS, Steve Hobbs, as Secretary of State, has on the 4th day of December, 2024, canvassed the votes cast on this measure at the state general election and certified that 1,941,474 votes were cast in favor of Initiative Measure No. 2066 and 1,813,169 votes were cast against Initiative Measure No. 2066; and

WHEREAS, as appears from this certification, a majority of the votes cast on this measure at the state general election were in favor of its adoption;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the State of Washington, do hereby proclaim that the proposed law as set forth in Initiative Measure No. 2066 was approved by the voters of the State of Washington.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the state of Washington to be affixed this 4th day of December, 2024.

/s/
 Jay Inslee
 Governor

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ATTEST:
 /s/

Steve R. Hobbs
 Secretary of State

A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Washington, there was submitted to the electorate of the State of Washington for their approval or rejection at the state general election held on the 5th day of November, 2024, an initiative to the people, identified as Initiative Measure No. 2109 and entitled:

Initiative Measure No. 2109 concerns taxes. This measure would repeal an excise tax imposed on the sale or exchange of certain long-term capital assets by individuals who have annual capital gains of over \$250,000. This measure would decrease funding for K- 12 education, higher education, school construction, early learning, and childcare.

WHEREAS, Steve Hobbs, as Secretary of State, has on the 4th day of December, 2024, canvassed the votes cast on this measure at the state general election and certified that 1,364,510 votes were cast in favor of Initiative Measure No. 2109 and 2,437,419 votes were cast against Initiative Measure No. 2109; and

WHEREAS, as appears from this certification, said initiative measure failed to receive a majority of the votes cast thereon;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the State of Washington, do hereby proclaim that the voters of the State of Washington did not approve the proposed law as set forth in Initiative Measure No. 2109.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the state of Washington to be affixed this 4th day of December, 2024.

[seal]

/s/
 Jay Inslee
 Governor

ATTEST:

/s/
 Steve R. Hobbs
 Secretary of State

A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Washington, there was submitted to the electorate of the State of Washington for their approval or rejection at the state general election held on the 5th day of November, 2024, an initiative to the people, identified as Initiative Measure No. 2117 and entitled:

Initiative Measure No. 2117 concerns carbon tax credit trading. This measure would prohibit state agencies from imposing any type of carbon tax credit trading, and repeal legislation establishing a cap and invest program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This measure would decrease funding for investments in transportation, clean air, renewable energy, conservation, and emissions-reduction.

WHEREAS, Steve Hobbs, as Secretary of State, has on the 4th day of December, 2024, canvassed the votes cast on this measure at the state general election and certified that 1,437,103 votes were cast in favor of Initiative Measure No. 2117 and 2,340,077

votes were cast against Initiative Measure No. 2117; and

WHEREAS, as appears from this certification, said initiative measure failed to receive a majority of the votes cast thereon;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the State of Washington, do hereby proclaim that the voters of the State of Washington did not approve the proposed law as set forth in Initiative Measure No. 2117.

[seal] IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand and caused the seal
of the state of Washington to be affixed
this 4th day of December, 2024.
/s/
Jay Inslee
Governor

ATTEST:

/s/
Steve R. Hobbs
Secretary of State

A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Article 11, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Washington, there was submitted to the electorate of the State of Washington for their approval or rejection at the state general election held on the 5th day of November, 2024, an initiative to the legislature, identified as Initiative Measure No. 2124 and entitled:

Initiative Measure No. 2124 concerns state long term care insurance. This measure would provide that employees and self-employed people must elect to keep coverage under RCW 50B.04 and could opt-out any time. It would also repeal a law governing an exemption for employees. This measure would decrease funding for Washington's public insurance program providing long-term care benefits and services.

WHEREAS, Steve Hobbs, as Secretary of State, has on the 4th day of December, 2024, canvassed the votes cast on this measure at the state general election and certified that 1,668,435 votes were cast in favor of Initiative Measure No. 2124 and 2,077,216 votes were cast against Initiative Measure No. 2124; and

WHEREAS, as appears from this certification, said initiative measure failed to receive a majority of the votes cast thereon;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the State of Washington, do hereby proclaim that the voters of the State of Washington did not approve the proposed law as set forth in Initiative Measure No. 2124.

[seal] IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand and caused the seal
of the state of Washington to be affixed
this 4th day of December, 2024.
/s/
Jay Inslee
Governor

ATTEST:

/s/
Steve R. Hobbs
Secretary of State

MOTION

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate advanced to the

fourth order of business.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

January 13, 2025

MR. PRESIDENT:

The House has adopted:

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8401,
and the same are herewith transmitted.

MELISSA PALMER, Deputy Chief Clerk

MOTION

On motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate advanced to the fifth order of business.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

SB 5230 by Senator Wagoner

AN ACT Relating to providing exceptions for juvenile access to attorney; and amending RCW 13.40.740.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5231 by Senator Hansen

AN ACT Relating to reducing fees and expenses for services for people confined in state facilities; amending RCW 72.09.765; adding a new section to chapter 72.01 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5232 by Senator Wilson, C.

AN ACT Relating to updating eligible uses for the essential needs and housing support program; and amending RCW 43.185C.220, 43.185C.230, 36.22.250, 74.04.005, 74.04.805, and 74.62.030.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5233 by Senator Hasegawa

AN ACT Relating to the expansion and consolidation of public health plans in Washington under a unified financing system in order to universalize eligibility to all Washington residents, ensure comprehensive medical coverage including primary care, dental, vision, and prescription drug benefits, and achieve cost savings through administrative efficiency, bulk pricing, and cost controls; adding a new section to chapter 82.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.04 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 82 RCW; adding a new title to the Revised Code of Washington to be codified as Title 50C RCW; prescribing penalties; providing effective dates; providing a contingent effective date; and providing contingent expiration dates.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

SB 5234 by Senator Shewmake

AN ACT Relating to snowmobile registration fees; amending RCW 46.17.350; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Transportation.

SB 5235 by Senator Wellman

SECOND DAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

2025 REGULAR SESSION

AN ACT Relating to repealing and reorganizing outdated statutes concerning public schools; amending RCW 28A.175.145 and 28A.235.120; adding a new section to chapter 28A.235 RCW; recodifying RCW 28A.623.030; and repealing RCW 28A.335.300, 28A.415.315, 28A.415.330, 28A.415.380, 28A.600.045, 28A.605.040, 28A.623.005, 28A.623.010, 28A.623.020, 28A.625.100, 28A.625.110, 28A.625.150, 28A.630.198, 28A.630.810, 28A.655.071, 28A.655.130, 28A.655.280, 28A.690.010, 28A.690.020, and 28A.690.030.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5236 by Senator Slatter

AN ACT Relating to emissions of greenhouse gases used for anesthetic purposes; adding a new section to chapter 43.21A RCW; and creating new sections.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5237 by Senators Muzzall, and Lovick

AN ACT Relating to leaving a child unattended in a vehicle; amending RCW 9.91.060; prescribing penalties; and making an appropriation.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5238 by Senators Muzzall, and Lovick

AN ACT Relating to reckless driving in cases involving excessive speed; amending RCW 46.61.500; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5239 by Senator Slatter

AN ACT Relating to the retention of hospital medical records; and amending RCW 70.41.190.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

SB 5240 by Senators Wellman, and Slatter

AN ACT Relating to anaphylaxis medications in schools; and amending RCW 28A.210.383 and 28A.210.380.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5241 by Senators Lias, and Boehnke

AN ACT Relating to adding fusion energy to facilities that may obtain site certification for the purposes of chapter 80.50 RCW; amending RCW 80.50.060; and reenacting and amending RCW 80.50.020.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5242 by Senators Orwall, and Harris

AN ACT Relating to establishing an interactive screening program to improve access to behavioral health resources for health care providers; and adding new sections to chapter 43.70 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

SB 5243 by Senator Hasegawa

AN ACT Relating to restricting the use of health care premiums for political lobbying; adding a new chapter to Title 29B RCW; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

SB 5244 by Senators Riccelli, and Bateman

AN ACT Relating to providing an exemption for women, infants, and children program staff to perform hematological screening tests; and amending RCW 18.360.090.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

SB 5245 by Senators Krishnadasan, and Valdez

AN ACT Relating to the oath of office for members of the state legislature; amending RCW 29A.04.133 and 36.32.120; and adding a new section to chapter 44.04 RCW.

Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

SB 5246 by Senator Shewmake

AN ACT Relating to facilitating predictable and timely application decisions by the energy facility site evaluation council; amending RCW 80.50.090 and 80.50.100; and repealing RCW 80.50.075 and 80.50.320.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5247 by Senator Wilson, J.

AN ACT Relating to transferring ownership of the Naselle Youth Camp property to the Chinook Indian Nation; amending RCW 28A.190.005 and 72.05.010; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

SB 5248 by Senator Wilson, J.

AN ACT Relating to creating a work group to make recommendations concerning bridge collisions by large commercial vessels; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

Referred to Committee on Transportation.

SB 5249 by Senator Wilson, J.

AN ACT Relating to siting kit homes; amending RCW 35A.63.100 and 35.63.170; adding a new section to chapter 35.63 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 36.70 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Housing.

SB 5250 by Senator Wilson, J.

AN ACT Relating to improving legal processes to deter squatters; amending RCW 9A.52.105 and 9A.52.115; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5251 by Senator Christian

AN ACT Relating to lodging tax revenues; and amending RCW 67.28.1816.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5252 by Senator Shewmake

AN ACT Relating to removing the acreage limit on the property tax exemption for nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places; amending RCW 84.36.037; and creating new sections.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5253 by Senator Cortes

AN ACT Relating to extending special education services to students with disabilities until the end of the school year in which the student turns 22; amending RCW 28A.155.020, 28A.150.220, 28A.155.170, 28A.155.220, 28A.190.030, 28A.225.160, 28A.225.230, 28A.225.240, 72.40.040, and 72.40.060; creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5254 by Senators Orwall, and Trudeau

AN ACT Relating to strengthening patients' rights regarding their health care information by promoting access to information and providing enforcement protections for the appropriate use of the information; amending RCW 70.02.010, 70.02.030, 70.02.080, 70.02.090, 70.02.170, and 70.02.220; reenacting and amending RCW 70.02.260; and adding a new section to chapter 70.02 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

SB 5255 by Senator Christian

AN ACT Relating to juvenile detention pending disposition of a crime; and amending RCW 13.40.040 and 13.40.020.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5256 by Senator Christian

AN ACT Relating to victims' participation in hearings conducted by the indeterminate sentence review board; amending RCW 9.95.420, 10.95.030, 9.94A.730, 7.69.032, and 9.95.422; and reenacting and amending RCW 9.95.260.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5257 by Senator Christian

AN ACT Relating to modifying sentencing standards for juvenile firearm offenses; and amending RCW 13.40.0357.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5258 by Senator Gildon

AN ACT Relating to implementing state auditor recommendations for reducing improper medicaid concurrent enrollment payments; amending RCW 74.09.035; and adding new sections to chapter 74.09 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

SB 5259 by Senator Shewmake

AN ACT Relating to creating a sales and use tax exemption for bait purchased for commercial fishing; adding a new section to chapter 82.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.12 RCW; creating a new section; providing an effective date; and providing expiration dates.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5260 by Senator Christian

AN ACT Relating to emergency measures for managing juvenile populations at state juvenile correctional institutions; adding a new section to chapter 13.40 RCW; creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5261 by Senator Shewmake

AN ACT Relating to issuing water right permits for nonconsumptive hydropower use in water resource inventory areas in which minimum instream flows are not being met; and amending RCW 90.54.020 and 90.03.247.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

SB 5262 by Senators Kauffman, and Wilson, J.

AN ACT Relating to correcting obsolete or erroneous references in statutes administered by the insurance commissioner, by repealing defunct statutes and reports, aligning policy with federal law and current interpretations, making timeline adjustments, protecting patient data, and making technical corrections; amending RCW 42.56.400, 48.14.070, 48.19.460, 48.19.501, 48.19.540, 48.37.050, 48.38.010, 48.38.012, 48.43.0128, 48.43.115, 48.43.135, 48.43.743, 48.135.030, 48.140.040, 48.140.050, 48.150.100, and 48.160.020; repealing RCW 48.02.230, 48.02.240, 48.19.500, 48.43.049, 48.43.650, 48.140.070, and 48.160.005; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5263 by Senators Pedersen, and Braun

AN ACT Relating to special education funding; amending RCW 28A.150.390 and 28A.150.392; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5264 by Senator Robinson

AN ACT Relating to modifying retail taxes compacts between the state of Washington and federally recognized tribes located in Washington state by increasing the revenue-sharing percentages when a compacting tribe has completed a qualified capital investment; amending RCW 43.06.523; and creating new sections.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5265 by Senator King

AN ACT Relating to expanding minimum requirements for electrical inspectors to include certain out-of-state experience; and amending RCW 19.28.321.

Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

SB 5266 by Senators Frame, Wilson, J., Wilson, C., Trudeau, Orwall, and Bateman

AN ACT Relating to people convicted of one or more crimes committed before the person's 18th birthday petitioning the indeterminate sentence review board after reaching the age of 24 or older; amending RCW 9.94A.730; creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

Referred to Committee on Human Services.

SB 5267 by Senator Wagoner

AN ACT Relating to ensuring that offenders who are incarcerated and commit murder may be charged with the death penalty; adding new sections to chapter 10.95 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5268 by Senators Wagoner, and Dozier

AN ACT Relating to classifying unlawful possession of a firearm as a violent offense; amending RCW 9.94A.030 and 9.94A.030; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration date.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5269 by Senators Frame, Lovick, Valdez, Wellman, Hasegawa, Trudeau, and Saldaña

AN ACT Relating to providing judicial discretion to modify sentences in the interest of justice; amending RCW 10.73.100 and 9.94A.535; adding a new section to chapter 9.94A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 2.70 RCW; and creating new sections.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SJM 8007 by Senator Hasegawa

Concerning nuclear war checks and balances.

Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

SJM 8008 by Senators Krishnadasan, and Pedersen

Rescinding prior applications for a constitutional convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Riccelli, all measures listed on the Introduction and First Reading report were referred to the committees as designated.

At 10:18 a.m., on motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate declared to be at ease subject to the call of the President for the purpose of convening a Joint Session with the House of Representatives pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 4400.

The Senate proceeded to the House of Representatives.

Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 4400, the Senate appeared at the doors of the House of Representatives and requested admission to the Chamber. The Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, Mr. Andy Staubitz, and the Sergeant at Arms of the House, Mr. Johnny Alexander, escorted the President of the Senate, Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck, Senator Manka Dhingra, Senator John Lovick and Senator Judy Warnick to seats at the Rostrum. The senators were invited to seats within the Chamber.

The Speaker of the House, Representative Laurie Jinkins, called the Joint Session to order. The Clerk called the roll of the members of the House. The Clerk called the roll of the members of the Senate. A quorum of the Legislature was present.

Madam Speaker: "The first purpose of this Joint Session is to comply with the constitutional requirement of canvassing the vote for and against initiatives and for the constitutional elective officers."

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Canvass of the Returns of the General Election Held on November 5, 2024

I, Steve Hobbs, Secretary of State of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that according to the provisions of RCW 29A.60.250, I have canvassed the returns of the 3,961,569 votes cast in the November 5, 2024 General Election by the registered voters of the state for all statewide measures, statewide offices, those legislative and judicial offices whose jurisdiction encompasses more than one county, as received from the County Auditors. The votes cast for these measures and these candidates are as follows:

Initiative Measure No. 2066

Initiative Measure No. 2066 concerns regulating energy services, including natural gas and electrification. This measure would repeal or prohibit certain laws and regulations that discourage natural gas use and/or promote electrification, and require certain utilities and local governments to provide natural gas to eligible customers.

Yes	1,941,474
No	1,813,169

Initiative Measure No. 2109

Initiative Measure No. 2109 concerns taxes. This measure would repeal an excise tax imposed on the sale or exchange of certain long-term capital assets by individuals who have annual capital gains of over \$250,000. This measure would decrease funding for K-12 education, higher education, school construction, early learning, and childcare.

Yes	1,364,510
No	2,437,419

Initiative Measure No. 2117

Initiative Measure No. 2117 concerns carbon tax credit trading. This measure would prohibit state agencies from imposing any type of carbon tax credit trading, and repeal legislation establishing a cap and invest program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This measure would decrease funding for investments in transportation, clean air, renewable energy, conservation, and emissions-reduction.

Yes	1,437,103
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No 2,340,077

WRITE-IN

5,400

Initiative Measure No. 2124

Initiative Measure No. 2124 concerns state long term care insurance. This measure would provide that employees and self-employed people must elect to keep coverage under RCW 50B.04 and could opt-out any time. It would also repeal a law governing an exemption for employees. This measure would decrease funding for Washington's public insurance program providing long-term care benefits and services.

Yes 1,668,435

No 2,077,216

Ballot Name	Party Nominees	Votes
United States President / Vice President (4-year term)		
Kamala D. Harris / Tim Walz	Democratic Party Nominees	2,245,849
Donald J. Trump / JD Vance	Republican Party Nominees	1,530,923
Robert F. Kennedy Jr./ Nicole Shanahan	We The People Party Nominees	54,868
Jill Stein / Rudolph Ware	Green Party Nominees	29,754
Claudia De la Cruz / Karina Garcia	Socialism and Liberation Party Nominees	8,695
Rachele Fruit / Dennis Richter	Socialist Workers Party Nominees	824
Joseph Kishore / Jerry White	Socialist Equality Party Nominees	917
Chase Oliver / Mike ter Maat	Libertarian Party Nominees	16,428
Cornel West / Melina Abdullah	Justice For All Party Nominees	7,254
Shiva Ayyadurai / Crystal Ellis	Independent Candidates	3,323
WRITE-IN		25,408
Ballot Name	Party Preference	Votes
United States - U.S. Senator (6-year term)		
Maria Cantwell	(Prefers Democratic Party)	2,252,577
Dr Raul Garcia	(Prefers GOP Party)	1,549,187
WRITE-IN		10,627
Congressional District 1 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)		
Suzan DelBene	(Prefers Democratic Party)	227,213
Jeb Brewer	(Prefers Republican Party)	132,538
WRITE-IN		907
Congressional District 2 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)		
Rick Larsen	(Prefers Democratic Party)	263,750
Cody Hart	(Prefers MAGA Republican Party)	148,167
WRITE-IN		1,303
Congressional District 3 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)		
Marie Gluesenkamp Perez	(Prefers Democratic Party)	215,177
Joe Kent	(Prefers Republican Party)	199,054
WRITE-IN		1,673
Congressional District 4 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)		
Jerrod Sessler	(Prefers Republican Party)	136,175
Dan Newhouse	(Prefers Republican Party)	153,477

Congressional District 5 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)

Michael Baumgartner (Prefers Republican Party) 240,619

Carmela Conroy (Prefers Democratic Party) 156,074

WRITE-IN 593

Congressional District 6 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)

Emily Randall (Prefers Democratic Party) 239,687

Drew C MacEwen (Prefers Republican Party) 182,182

WRITE-IN 753

Congressional District 7 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)

Pramila Jayapal (Prefers Democratic Party) 352,286

Dan Alexander (Prefers Republican Party) 66,220

WRITE-IN 1,313

Congressional District 8 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)

Kim Schrier (Prefers Democratic Party) 224,607

Carmen Goers (Prefers Republican Party) 190,675

WRITE-IN 995

Congressional District 9 - U.S. Representative (2-year term)

Adam Smith (Prefers Democratic Party) 182,780

Melissa Chaudhry (Prefers Democratic Party) 90,601

WRITE-IN 5,917

Congressional District 10 - U.S. Representative (2-year Term)

Marilyn Strickland (Prefers Democratic Party) 203,732

Don Hewett (Prefers Republican Party) 143,492

WRITE-IN 820

Washington State - Governor (4-year term)

Bob Ferguson (Prefers Democratic Party) 2,143,368

Dave Reichert (Prefers Republican Party) 1,709,818

WRITE-IN 8,202

Washington State - Lt. Governor (4-year term)

Denny Heck (Prefers Democratic Party) 2,112,132

Dan Matthews (Prefers Republican Party) 1,674,025

WRITE-IN 4,376

Washington State - Secretary of State (4-year term)

Steve Hobbs (Prefers Democratic Party) 2,234,420

Dale Whitaker (Prefers Republican Party) 1,535,977

WRITE-IN 3,958

Washington State - State Treasurer (4-year term)

Mike Pellicciotti (Prefers Democratic Party) 2,148,764

Sharon Hanek (Prefers Republican Party) 1,600,370

WRITE-IN 3,261

Washington State - State Auditor (4-year term)

Pat (Patrice) McCarthy (Prefers Democratic Party) 2,170,306

Matt Hawkins (Prefers Republican Party) 1,568,750

WRITE-IN 3,262

Washington State - Attorney General (4-year term)

Pete Serrano (Prefers Republican Party) 1,669,884

Nick Brown (Prefers Democratic Party) 2,093,570

SECOND DAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

2025 REGULAR SESSION

WRITE-IN		3,616
Washington State – Commissioner of Public Lands (4-year term)		
Jaime Herrera Beutler	(Prefers Republican Party)	1,765,121
Dave Upthegrove	(Prefers Democratic Party)	1,969,936
WRITE-IN		8,394
Washington State – Superintendent of Public Instruction (4-year term)		
Chris Reykdal	Nonpartisan	1,746,848
David Olson	Nonpartisan	1,543,550
WRITE-IN		19,932
Washington State – Insurance Commissioner (4-year term)		
Patty Kuderer	(Prefers Democratic Party)	2,091,969
Phil Fortunato	(Prefers Republican Party)	1,598,032
WRITE-IN		4,430
Legislative District 1 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Derek Stanford	(Prefers Democratic Party)	60,591
WRITE-IN		2,490
Legislative District 1 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Davina Duerr	(Prefers Democratic Party)	55,168
Mark Davies	(Prefers Republican Party)	24,467
WRITE-IN		106
Legislative District 1 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Shelley Kloba	(Prefers Democratic Party)	59,587
WRITE-IN		2,388
Legislative District 2 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Jim McCune	(Prefers Republican Party)	47,997
Erasmus Ruiz Gonzalez	(Prefers Democratic Party)	28,016
WRITE-IN		118
Legislative District 2 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Andrew Barkis	(Prefers Republican Party)	59,179
WRITE-IN		2,958
Legislative District 2 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Matt Marshall	(Prefers Republican Party)	37,267
John Snaza	(Prefers Republican Party)	27,928
WRITE-IN		2,079
Legislative District 7 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Andrew Engell	(Prefers Republican Party)	48,785
Soo Ing-Moody	(Prefers Republican Party)	27,496
WRITE-IN		715
Legislative District 7 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Hunter Abell	(Prefers Republican Party)	58,071
Paul “Rocky” Dean	(Prefers Democratic Party)	23,929
WRITE-IN		119
Legislative District 8 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Stephanie Barnard	(Prefers Republican Party)	58,288
WRITE-IN		1,519
Legislative District 8 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		

April Connors	(Prefers Republican Party)	51,164
John Christenson	(Prefers Democratic Party)	21,360
WRITE-IN		114
Legislative District 9 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Mark G. Schoesler	(Prefers GOP Party)	57,974
WRITE-IN		2,967
Legislative District 9 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Mary Dye	(Prefers GOP Party)	50,468
Patrick Miller	(Prefers Democratic Party)	27,092
WRITE-IN		225
Legislative District 9 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Joe Schmick	(Prefers Republican Party)	50,211
Pam Kohlmeier	(Prefers Democratic Party)	28,236
WRITE-IN		109
Legislative District 10 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Ron Muzzall	(Prefers Republican Party)	45,889
Janet St Clair	(Prefers Democratic Party)	44,105
WRITE-IN		140
Legislative District 10 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Clyde Shavers	(Prefers Democratic Party)	47,473
Carrie R. Kennedy	(Prefers Republican Party)	41,578
WRITE-IN		172
Legislative District 10 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Dave Paul	(Prefers Democratic Party)	47,826
Gary Wray	(Prefers Republican Party)	41,137
WRITE-IN		118
Legislative District 12 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Keith W. Goehner	(Prefers Republican Party)	46,550
Jim Mayhew	(Prefers Democratic Party)	36,824
WRITE-IN		50
Legislative District 12 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Heather Koellen	(Prefers Democratic Party)	38,800
Brian Burnett	(Prefers Republican Party)	44,318
WRITE-IN		92
Legislative District 12 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Mike Steele	(Prefers Republican Party)	44,400
Daniel Scott	(Prefers Republican Party)	25,741
WRITE-IN		1,771
Legislative District 13 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Tom Dent	(Prefers Republican Party)	51,493
WRITE-IN		1,406
Legislative District 13 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Alex Ybarra	(Prefers Republican Party)	51,012
WRITE-IN		1,210
Legislative District 14 - State Senator (4-year term)		

Curtis King	(Prefers Republican Party)	17,762	Andi Day	(Prefers Democratic Party)	30,911
Maria Beltran	(Prefers Democratic Party)	16,543	WRITE-IN		74
WRITE-IN		90			
Legislative District 14 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)			Legislative District 19 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Chelsea Dimas	(Prefers Democratic Party)	15,418	Jim Walsh	(Prefers Republican Party)	48,544
Gloria Mendoza	(Prefers Republican Party)	18,263	Mike Coverdale	(Prefers Democratic Party)	32,094
WRITE-IN		189	WRITE-IN		76
Legislative District 14 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)			Legislative District 19 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Deb Manjarrez	(Prefers Republican Party)	17,188	Joel McEntire	(Prefers Republican Party)	49,665
Ana Ruiz Kennedy	(Prefers Democratic Party)	16,620	Terry Carlson	(Prefers Democratic Party)	30,141
WRITE-IN		113	WRITE-IN		77
Legislative District 15 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)			Legislative District 20 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Chris Corry	(Prefers Republican Party)	46,438	John Braun	(Prefers Republican Party)	69,172
Chase Foster	(States No Party Preference)	18,736	WRITE-IN		2,490
WRITE-IN		553	Legislative District 20 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Legislative District 15 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)			Peter Abbarno	(Prefers Republican Party)	67,633
Jeremie Dufault	(Prefers Republican Party)	44,514	Melvin Kaleolani Apana	(Prefers Culture Republican Party)	8,295
Rich Bright	(Prefers Republican Party)	17,035	WRITE-IN		1,799
WRITE-IN		1,391	Legislative District 20 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Legislative District 16 - State Senator (4-year term)			Ed Orcutt	(Prefers GOP Party)	66,170
Perry Dozier	(Prefers Republican Party)	45,054	WRITE-IN		2,293
Kari Isaacson	(Prefers Democratic Party)	25,998	Legislative District 24 - State Senator (4-year term)		
WRITE-IN		54	Mike Chapman	(Prefers Democratic Party)	52,108
Legislative District 16 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)			Marcia Kelbon	(Prefers Republican Party)	42,895
Mark Klicker	(Prefers Republican Party)	45,890	WRITE-IN		120
Linda Gunshefski	(Prefers Democratic Party)	25,232	Legislative District 24 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
WRITE-IN		35	Adam Bernbaum	(Prefers Democratic Party)	52,007
Legislative District 16 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)			Matthew Roberson	(Matt) (Prefers Republican Party)	42,555
Skyler Rude	(Prefers Republican Party)	46,596	WRITE-IN		132
Craig R Woodard	(Prefers Democratic Party)	24,145	Legislative District 24 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
WRITE-IN		40	Steve Tharinger	(Prefers Democratic Party)	52,481
Legislative District 17 - State Senator (4-year term)			Terry Roberts	(Prefers Republican Party)	42,265
Paul Harris	(Prefers Republican Party)	44,034	WRITE-IN		108
Marla Keethler	(Prefers Democratic Party)	42,019	Legislative District 26 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
WRITE-IN		135	Adison Richards	(Prefers Democratic Party)	46,833
Legislative District 17 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)			Jesse L. Young	(Prefers Republican Party)	43,503
Kevin Waters	(Prefers Republican Party)	55,952	WRITE-IN		129
WRITE-IN		4,045	Legislative District 26 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Legislative District 17 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)			Michelle Caldier	(Prefers Republican Party)	49,086
Terri Niles	(Prefers Democratic Party)	42,195	Tiffany Mitchell	(Prefers Democratic Party)	40,636
David Stuebe	(Prefers Republican Party)	43,022	WRITE-IN		187
WRITE-IN		148	Legislative District 31 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Legislative District 19 - State Senator (4-year term)			Drew Stokesbary	(Prefers Republican Party)	51,651
Jeff Wilson	(Prefers Republican Party)	48,920	Sara Sutterfield	(Prefers Democratic Party)	29,451

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WRITE-IN		79
Legislative District 31 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Joshua Penner	(Prefers Republican Party)	49,335
Brian L. Gunn	(Prefers Democratic Party)	31,338
WRITE-IN		96
Legislative District 32 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Cindy Ryu	(Prefers Democratic Party)	58,021
Lisa Rezac	(Prefers Republican Party)	20,084
WRITE-IN		128
Legislative District 32 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Lauren Davis	(Prefers Democratic Party)	58,169
Lori Theis	(Prefers Republican Party)	19,661
WRITE-IN		110
Legislative District 35 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Dan Griffey	(Prefers Republican Party)	65,027
WRITE-IN		3,604
Legislative District 35 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Travis Couture	(Prefers Republican Party)	51,999
James DeHart	(Prefers Democratic Party)	36,664
WRITE-IN		97
Legislative District 39 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Keith L. Wagoner	(Prefers Republican Party)	49,809
John Snow	(Prefers Democratic Party)	32,505
WRITE-IN		83
Legislative District 39 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Sam Low	(Prefers Republican Party)	44,515
Robert J. Sutherland	(Prefers Republican Party)	29,909
WRITE-IN		1,147
Legislative District 39 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Carolyn Eslick	(Prefers Republican Party)	45,612
Jackie Huey	(Prefers Republican Party)	25,802
WRITE-IN		1,479
Legislative District 40 - State Senator (4-year term)		
Elizabeth (Liz) Lovelett	(Prefers Democratic Party)	62,064
Charles Carrell	(Prefers Republican Party)	27,091
WRITE-IN		118
Legislative District 40 - State Representative Pos. 1 (2-year term)		
Debra Lekanoff	(Prefers Democratic Party)	63,993
WRITE-IN		2,565
Legislative District 40 - State Representative Pos. 2 (2-year term)		
Alex Ramel	(Prefers Democratic Party)	63,215
WRITE-IN		2,828
Supreme Court - Justice Position 2 (6-year term)		

Sal Mungia	Nonpartisan	1,644,253
Dave Larson	Nonpartisan	1,624,309
WRITE-IN		16,654
Supreme Court - Justice Position 8 (6-year term)		
Steve Gonzalez	Nonpartisan	2,564,372
WRITE-IN		61,866
Supreme Court - Justice Position 9 (6-year term)		
Sheryl Gordon	Nonpartisan	2,534,783
McCloud		
WRITE-IN		65,479
Court of Appeals, Division 1, District 3 - Judge Position 1 (6-year term)		
Cecily C. Hazelrigg	Nonpartisan	163,845
WRITE-IN		3,164
Court of Appeals, Division 2, District 2 - Judge Position 2 (6-year term)		
Rebecca Glasgow	Nonpartisan	300,669
WRITE-IN		7,489
Court of Appeals, Division 2, District 3 - Judge Position 1 (6-year term)		
Bernard F. Veljacic	Nonpartisan	247,867
WRITE-IN		6,435
Court of Appeals, Division 3, District 1 - Judge Position 1 (6-year short & full term)		
John O. Cooney	Nonpartisan	233,475
WRITE-IN		5,302
Court of Appeals, Division 3, District 3 - Judge Position 2 (6-year term)		
Rob Lawrence-Berrey	Nonpartisan	123,415
WRITE-IN		3,080
Asotin, Columbia, Garfield Superior Court - Judge Position 1 (4-year term)		
Brooke J. Burns	Nonpartisan	11,163
WRITE-IN		239
Benton, Franklin Superior Court - Judge Position 5 (4-year term)		
Bronson J. Brown	Nonpartisan	57,880
Shawn P. Sant	Nonpartisan	55,586
WRITE-IN		475
Ferry, Pend Oreille, Stevens Superior Court - Judge Position 1 (4-year term)		
Lisa Childress	Malpass Nonpartisan	20,790
N. Smith "Smitty"	Nonpartisan	13,437
Hagopian		
WRITE-IN		177
Ferry, Pend Oreille, Stevens Superior Court - Judge Position 2 (4-year term)		
Jessica Taylor Reeves	Nonpartisan	26,106
WRITE-IN		497
Ferry, Pend Oreille, Stevens Superior Court - Judge Position 3 (4-year term)		
Lech J. Radzinski	Nonpartisan	26,234
WRITE-IN		483

Klickitat, Skamania Superior Court - Judge Position 1 (4-year term)

Randall Krog	Nonpartisan	12,336
WRITE-IN		221

Pacific, Wahkiakum Superior Court - Judge Position 1 (4-year term)

Donald J. Richter	Nonpartisan	11,264
WRITE-IN		211

[seal] IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the state of Washington on this fourth day of December 2024, at Olympia, the State Capital.

/s/
Steve Hobbs
Secretary of State

Madam Speaker: "In view of the election results previously read, certified to by the Secretary of State, the Joint Session now declares the following qualified citizens to be the duly elected constitutional officers of the State of Washington:

Bob Ferguson	Governor
Denny Heck	Lieutenant Governor
Steve Hobbs	Secretary of State
Mike Pellicciotti	State Treasurer
Pat McCarthy	State Auditor
Nick Brown	Attorney General
Chris Reykdal	Superintendent of Public Instruction
Patty Kuderer	Insurance Commissioner
Dave Upthegrove	Commissioner of Public Lands

The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate signed the Certificates of Election for the duly elected constitutional officers.

The Speaker called upon President of the Senate, Lt. Governor Denny Heck to preside over the Joint Session.

President Heck: "This Joint Session has been convened to receive the state of the state message from his His Excellency, Governor Jay Inslee."

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

The President of the Senate appointed a committee of honor to escort the State Supreme Court Justices to the House Chamber: Senators Yasmin Trudeau and Keith Wagoner and Representatives Brian Burnett and Jamila Taylor.

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

The President of the Senate appointed a committee of honor to escort the statewide elected officials to the House Chamber: Senators Jessica Bateman and Leonard Christian and Representatives Victoria Hunt and David Stuebe.

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

The President of the Senate appointed a committee of honor to advise His Excellency, Governor Jay Inslee, that the Joint Session had assembled and to escort the Governor to the House Chamber: Senators Claudia Kauffman and Shelly Short and Representatives

Andrew Engell and Joe Fitzgibbon.

Sergeant at Arms Alexander announced the arrival of the Justices of the State Supreme Court at the Chamber door. The committee of honor, consisting of Senators Yasmin Trudeau and Keith Wagoner and Representatives Brian Burnett and Jamila Taylor, escorted Chief Justice and Justices to seats at the front of the House Chamber. The members of the Supreme Court were introduced by the President: Chief Justice Debra Stephens, Associate Chief Justice Charles Johnson, Justice Barbara Madsen, Justice Steven Gonzalez, Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud, Justice Mary Yu, Justice Raquel-Montoya-Lewis, Justice Helen Whitener, Justice Salvador Mungia, and retired Justice Susan Owens.

Sergeant at Arms Alexander announced the arrival of the statewide elected officials at the Chamber door. The committee of honor, consisting of Senators Jessica Bateman and Leonard Christian and Representatives Victoria Hunt and David Stuebe, escorted the statewide elected officials to seats at the front of the House Chamber. The statewide elected officials were introduced by the President: Secretary of State Steve Hobbs, State Treasurer Mike Pellicciotti, State Auditor Pat McCarthy, State Attorney General Bob Ferguson, and Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz.

The President recognized First Lady Trudi Inslee, former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, former Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, and the 21st Governor of the state of Washington, the Honorable Gary Locke, Chair of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Frances Charles, Chair of the Swinomish Tribe, Steve Edwards, Chair of the Suquamish Tribe, Leonard Forsman, Chair of the Squaxin Island Tribe, Kris Peters, and Chair of the Chehalis Tribe, Dustin Klatush, who were present in the gallery.

The President further introduced members of the Consular Association of Washington: Craig Weichel, Consul General of Canada; Mark Gantar, Honorary Consul of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; Uli Fischer, Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany; Makoto Iyori, Consul General of Japan; Petra Hilleberg, Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of Sweden; Viggo Forde, Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of Norway; Greg Lill, Honorary Consul of the Principality of Monaco; Anders Barria Roman, Honorary Consul of Republic of Chile; Matti Suokko, Honorary Consul of Republic of Finland; Prakash Gupta, Consul General of the Republic of India; Bernard Hensey, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Ireland; Eunji Seo, Consul General of the Republic of Korea; Imants Holmquist, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Latvia; Rasa Raisys, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Lithuania, Philippe Goetschel, Honorary Consul of the Swiss Confederation, Valeriy Goloborodko, Honorary Consul of Ukraine; Robin Twyman, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Hector Gudoy Priske, United Mexican States.

Sergeant at Arms Alexander announced the arrival of His Excellency, Governor Jay Inslee at the Chamber door. The committee of honor consisting of Senators Claudia Kauffman and Shelly Short and Representatives Andrew Engell and Joe Fitzgibbon escorted Governor Inslee to the Rostrum where he was introduced by the President.

The Washington State Patrol Honor Guard, commanded by Sergeant James Maguire, presented the Colors. The Honor Guard was comprised of Trooper Jeffery Bridges, Trooper Jeffery Eifert,

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Trooper Jared Raber, and Trooper Dean Gallanger.

The President led the Joint Session in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The National Anthem was performed by Miss Lena Hou.

The prayer was offered by Mr. Paul Benz, Ordained Minister in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Minister Benz: “Governor, I thank you for this moment.

When I found out the time limit for this invocation, I was thinking that I might have been before one of the committees and the time clock would be there but my suspicion is that I better get going otherwise I’ll get the hook in another way.

Let’s take a moment of silence to think to yourself for just a few seconds what you are thankful for today.

[moment of silence]

We give You thanks All Creator for the gift of life. To celebrate it and to enjoy it and to use it for the common good and not just ourself.

We thank You for Your spirits enduring presence in the world and here in this place. You count on us to be that presence as much as we can.

We thank You for those who made the commitment to be public servants and thank You for those assembled here in this chamber, our temple of democracy.

We thank You All Creator when life gives us longevity and we thank you for those here who have been public servants for many years, particularly we give thanks for Governor Inslee for his many years of public service to the people of our evergreen state and beyond.

We thank you for our first lady Trudy and for her important work and for their family. May you continue to bless him and his family as he leaves the office of governor but continues in his commitment to public service.

May each of us assembled here in this chamber strive to find our better angel as we now engage daily over the next four months in the oftentimes very difficult arena of governing and negotiating details of policies.

May we never forget those who are most greatly impacted by our actions and by our inactions in this place, those that are so often left behind, locked out, and marginalized.

Support us O God as we all continue in the struggle to make our government to be a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

Let the assembly say...

That was a very quiet Amen.

Let the assembly please say.

Amen.”

HONORING OUTGOING ELECTED OFFICIALS

President Heck: “So, our purpose here today is to receive the state of the state from his excellency governor Inslee but we should not let this moment pass without acknowledgement of four statewide elected officials who are leaving public office.

This isn’t a retirement event, but an expression of gratitude is in order for Governor Inslee and Susan Owens, not present Mike Kreidler and Hilary Franz because this is a little amazing. Listen to this. Collectively, they have more than 139 years of public office service. That’s more years than we have been a state. Such is the depth of their experience.

And what offices have they held along the way? School board, City Council, Tribal Judge, District Court Judge, State House, State Senate, Insurance Commissioner, Land Commissioner,

Congress, and Governor.

Such is the magnitude of their involvement. All the while having a north star lifting up communities in our state and we are all indebted to them for their considerable public service. Please express so now.”

The President introduced the Honorable Jay Inslee, Governor of the State of Washington.

STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

Good morning.

Thank you to Paul Benz for the invocation, as well as Lena Hou for her wonderful vocal talents. Astute observers may notice that Lena also sang the national anthem at our first inauguration 12 years ago when she was just 9 years old.

Lena, I’ve also aged just a little since then.

Mr. President, Madam Speaker, Mr. Chief Justice, distinguished justices of the court, members of the Legislature, Tribal leaders, local electeds, members of the Consular Corps, invited guests, and my fellow Washingtonians.

It’s great to be with you this morning. I come to you with pride in – and gratitude for – our state.

It was my life’s honor to be elected governor three times, to work for the people of Washington these 12 years. This is a place that means everything to me and Trudi. Man I do love this state.

Speaking of Trudi Inslee, I want to thank her and our family and give a special thanks to our grandchildren: Brooks, Nolan, Annie, Chase, Zoe, and Brody.

I also would like to share my deep appreciation for the 65,000 state employees who have dedicated their work to making life better for all Washingtonians.

We’ll miss the work and the relationships. But I’m not here to talk about the end of something. A new legislative session means we should talk about beginnings.

It was 35 years ago this week when I took my first oath of office as a legislator from the Yakima Valley. I took that oath in this building alongside many new faces.

My colleagues and I had great conviction, tremendous zeal, and full heads of hair. We were a new generation of legislators who sought to upend the status quo.

Today I notice the new faces around Olympia. I see fresh visions for where we want to take our state, leaders who want to make these dreams for Washington reality as fast as possible.

My freshman class quickly saw that change often takes patience and resilience.

But think about both the progress we’ve made and the time and efforts it took to make it.

We used to be a state that didn’t fund early childhood education until a champion named Representative June Leonard started moving the needle. We didn’t have outdoor heat protections for farmworkers. We didn’t have paid family leave, a public health option, or a strategy for youth homelessness. Washingtonians didn’t have marriage equality, but brave visionaries like Senator Cal Anderson weren’t quiet about this injustice.

Thanks to years of work by undaunted individuals who showed up session after session, all of those things came to pass eventually.

Since my terms in the Legislature, I’ve represented congressional districts on both sides of the Cascades. I’ve held three terms as governor. And in this moment, I see a state that is Evergreen and going ever forward.

To the new leaders here today I say: You will inevitably face frustration. You will struggle with the tyranny of the status quo. Do not lose patience. Do not trade in courage for comfort. Never

forget that Martin Luther King Jr. said the moral arc of the universe bends slowly but steadily toward justice...if we bend it.

Even as governor, it took years to pass cap-and-invest, a capital gains tax, an assault weapons ban, and the nation's most generous college financial aid program.

We kept working year in, year out. Eventually, we hit tremendous milestones in our state's history.

Together, we complied with the McCleary ruling for funding schools. It took years, but with heroic effort we got it done.

Together, we met the rapidly growing behavioral health demands highlighted by the Trueblood ruling.

Together we reduced youth homelessness by 40 percent.

Together we created the nation's best paid family leave, which has received over 1 million paid claims.

Together we passed the two biggest transportation funding packages in state history, putting thousands of people to work and broadening our focus beyond highways to include things like free transit for all Washingtonians 18 and younger.

There's more work to do, of course, but these accomplishments should give us confidence for the next steps. We keep moving forward. We pull together. Because we're the state of Washington.

We came together through setback and calamity. We did it during the Skagit River bridge collapse. We did it through multiple historic wildfire seasons. The people of Oso did it when the nation's worst landslide in history struck.

We rallied to welcome those fleeing war in places like Syria, Afghanistan, and Ukraine, because Washington's values make us a place of refuge and opportunity in an unstable world.

And we inspired a nation with how we cared for each other during COVID. If the rest of the country had adopted our approach to the pandemic, close to half a million lives would have been saved across America.

The secret to our success is we don't leave anybody behind. We follow the science. And we work together to make extremely difficult decisions.

Protecting that progress will be challenging this session. This budget situation is both one we've seen before and something entirely unique.

The Great Recession triggered major reductions in spending and services – \$11 billion in cuts, about the same amount of the budget gap we face today.

Today, our economy is not in decline. Unlike during the Great Recession, our economy is doing as well as it ever has – but that prosperity hasn't bloomed equally.

While fortunes for some are growing, so are lines at our food banks. Our economy provides more than enough to some, but our regressive tax system is unfair to most working families and jeopardizes our continued progress on the systems that Washingtonians depend upon.

For those who weren't here during the Great Recession, this is what \$11 billion in cuts looked like:

Suspending efforts to reduce class sizes and increase teacher pay.

Taking state health care away from 40,000 low-income Washingtonians.

Cutting higher education funding, causing tuition to soar.

Slashing mental health services at our state hospitals.

And reducing safety net programs for people with disabilities, the elderly and those living in poverty.

It's fitting to look at this budget differently.

Abstract numerical cuts actually mean concrete personal pain, like the pain of a kid who has to drop out of college because they can't afford a tuition hike. Like the pain of the mother who is told there's no room at the hospital for her child in the midst of a schizophrenic episode.

It took years to build back what we lost in that era. My budget in December proposed \$2 billion in budget cuts, but pruning significantly more than that I would consider a slide back to those dark days.

We have a strong economy, so why would we consider cuts to programs like housing or mental and behavioral health services at a time like this? Not when we're finally seeing progress. Not when the number of people needing these services is increasing. Not when these programs are saving lives and making our communities safer and healthier.

Washington voters just sent a strong message that they want to continue the path we're building.

In 12 years, we have built a strong engine of increasing justice and increasing health for our residents. We can't knock it off the tracks just as we've started rolling forward.

More than 55 percent of voters said they want to keep their long-term care. Washingtonians believe in our work on health care and human services. We should not consider anything that diminishes Washington's ambitions in this arena.

More than 64 percent of our state said we're keeping our capital gains tax on extraordinary profits. My budget honors that by asking those who have benefitted the most from Washington's booming economy to play more of a role protecting behavioral health, early learning and education.

Deep budget cuts always fall hardest on the people who can't afford them, like working families, or students trying to manage both their grades and their mental health, or the thousands who have been priced out by a housing market that has not kept pace with demand.

Here's one thing I know: There are influential people and organizations that have your phone numbers, who are going to work those contacts hard this session.

Whether the influential voices have you feted over lunch or cornered out in those halls, before you take that vote, I hope you think about the voiceless – the Washingtonians who don't have your cell numbers – and remember why you're here.

We have to protect what they value the most too, especially when it comes to our youth and our families.

We have to go forward on our investments in young people and education, like the work we've done to grow more support resources at our schools with social workers, paraeducators, and counselors.

Robert Daniel is a counselor at Discovery Middle School in Federal Way. He's here today.

They used to have one counselor serving more than 700 students' emotional, academic and social needs. Now places like Discovery Middle School have enough counselors meeting the recommended ratio to provide more robust, one-on-one counseling to the students who need it most.

Counselors like Robert don't just react when students are in crisis, they're proactively involved in bringing out each student's own strengths. They have more capacity to do that now thanks to this Legislature, but they still need your continued support.

Thank you, Robert, for being here.

This Legislature has a clear mandate to continue its progress in other areas, including climate. Washingtonians have your back in this fight. Sixty-two percent of voters chose to keep slashing pollution and strengthening our communities through cap-and-invest.

On the news the other morning from Los Angeles, there was a woman fleeing the fires, who turned around to go save her neighbor's house. They asked her why and she said, "I just could not sit there and do nothing."

And I thought of my state. And how we are doing something. We're building a clean energy economy that's the envy of the nation thanks to this Legislature.

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There's a nearly 100 percent consensus in the scientific community that climate change is happening and that it is human-caused. That's why I'm so heartened that we have acted.

Since we passed the Climate Commitment Act, the problem statement has grown, with increasing fires and heat domes; increasing rainstorms and flooding; increasing acidification of Puget Sound, loss of glacial ice on Mt. Rainier. The need for the programs funded by CCA will only continue to increase.

It's called the Climate Commitment Act for a reason. We ought to honor that commitment.

We shouldn't debilitate or steal from that central premise of why voters supported it.

We're joined today by Vanessa Kowoosh from Queets. Vanessa works at the Quinault Tribe's Generations building supporting the community's culture through history and language programs.

Community resources like these are threatened because the very land it's on is at risk due to sea level rise caused by climate change.

They're not the only coastal community living with this threat. The Climate Commitment Act is supporting them by charging polluters and investing in these communities' relocation to higher ground.

Thanks to the Climate Commitment Act, and the choice by lawmakers to honor its purpose, the people of Queets are getting a new Generations building on higher ground, safe from flooding, funded by cap-and-invest.

This is just one example of one way the CCA is keeping communities safer and healthier. Vanessa, we wish you well.

We know we have work ahead because there's a new federal administration as well.

Look: Our state will work with anyone on policies that are positive for Washington. But we will not bend the knee to a would-be authoritarian's worst impulses.

We will follow the Constitution. And we will be steadfast in our commitment to the progress of our state together.

Bob Ferguson, a guy who knows about defending Washingtonians, will become Washington's 24th governor tomorrow.

In November, Washington voters saw two different visions for the future of our state, and they chose to continue the path of progress.

Congratulations, Bob. Good luck.

I'm leaving state government, but my feet remain planted firmly in the fight for Washington's future.

Although my administration's time is at an end, we've been running full speed "through the tape" and now we are passing the baton. This Legislature knows how to keep going. The challenges ahead will not weaken the momentum of what we are doing here.

Washington state is a light to the world. We're a beacon of progress by so many measures. Because we follow the science. We work together. We refuse to leave our neighbors behind.

When the law said the state could put someone to death, we refused to accept an imperfect system. We ended the death penalty.

When the U.S. Supreme Court stole the right of choice, we stood up for reproductive health everywhere by welcoming patients and doctors to Washington.

When working families needed relief, we passed the Working Families Tax Credit, energy rebates, a public health option, and free transit for everyone 18 and younger.

When we saw LGBTQ youth being abused and manipulated by conversion therapy, we banned it. When we saw our state still had

racist housing covenants, we struck those down too.

And as gun deaths rose nationwide, we held the firearms industry accountable and passed some of the strongest reforms in America.

This Legislature has a lot of hard work ahead. You have the grit and the vision to keep up the pace of progress. I know this about you. It's why I'm grateful to have worked with all of you.

I woke up every morning these last 12 years asking how I could help Washingtonians realize their dreams. And every morning I was filled with confidence in the genius, the compassion and the grand ambitions of our great state of Washington.

Tomorrow morning, I know you all will wake up with the same sense of confidence, optimism, and hope.

To Washington, I bid you fair winds and following seas.

Thank you.

The President thanked the Governor for his remarks.

The President called upon the committee of honor consisting of Senators Claudia Kauffman and Shelly Short and Representatives Andrew Engell and Joe Fitzgibbon to escort His Excellency, Governor Inslee from the Chamber and the Governor retired from the House Chamber.

The President called upon the committee of honor consisting of Senators Jessica Bateman and Leonard Christian and Representatives Victoria Hunt and David Stuebe to escort the statewide elected officials from the Chamber and the statewide elected officials retired from the House Chamber.

The President called upon the committee of honor consisting of Senators Yasmin Trudeau and Keith Wagoner and Representatives Brian Burnett and Jamila Taylor to escort the Justices of the Supreme Court from the Chamber and the Justices of the Supreme Court retired from the House Chamber.

On motion of Representative Fitzgibbon, the Joint Session was dissolved. The President of the Senate thanked the Speaker and the House for their hospitality and returned the gavel to the Speaker. The Speaker (Representative Jenkins presiding) assumed the chair.

The Speaker called upon the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House to escort Lt. Governor Denny Heck, President of the Senate; Senator Manka Dhingra, Senator John Lovick and Senator Judy Warnick and members of the Washington State Senate from the Chamber and the Senate retired from the House Chamber.

MORNING SESSION

The Senate was called to order at 11:35 a.m. by President Heck.

MOTION

At 11:36 a.m., on motion of Senator Riccelli, the Senate adjourned until 11:15 a.m. Wednesday, January 15, 2025.

DENNY HECK, President of the Senate

SARAH BANNISTER, Secretary of the Senate

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5240	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	3	5264	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	4
5241	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	3	5265	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	4
5242	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	3	5266	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	5
5243	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	3	5267	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	5
5244	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	3	5268	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	5
5245	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	3	5269	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	5
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5252	Introduction & 1st Reading.....	4	Benz, Mr. Paul, Ordained Minister, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.....	11	
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