

State Representative Gina Mosbrucker

2018 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW



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- Community Development, Housing and Tribal Affairs (Assistant Ranking Republican)
- Business and Financial Services

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Each year, the minute I step foot on the Capitol campus, I am reminded of how privileged I am to serve our communities throughout the 14th Legislative District.

It has been a challenging biennium, with many highs and some lows and together, we have accomplished a great deal:

- We enacted a solution to the Hirst decision, which for too long left the authority of rural property owners in question.
- We secured dollars for important infrastructure projects throughout our district and state.
- We avoided capital gains income tax and carbon tax proposals.
- We took important steps to address our sexual assault exam kit backlog.
- We made positive strides in addressing our opioid crisis.
- We sought to improve our mental health system and provide more affordable housing by making critical investments in the state budget.
- We passed the first of its kind in the nation net neutrality legislation.
- And with historic investments in K-12 education the past two years, we may finally be able to move forward from the state Supreme Court's education-funding case, known as McCleary.

However, this session was not without its disappointments. We heard renewed calls for new taxes, we failed to bring meaningful property tax relief to taxpayers this year, and we fought against other policies harmful to our economy and Washington families.

In this newsletter, I'll discuss many of the highlights of the 2017 and 2018 sessions and provide an overview of our budget and other important legislative work.

As always, I encourage you to reach out to me with your questions, comments, and concerns for improving our communities and state. To be an effective advocate for you in the state House of Representatives, it's important I hear from you. Thank you for allowing me to be your state representative.

Honored to serve you,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Gina Mosbrucker".

Gina Mosbrucker
State Representative



Capital budget funds local projects

With the help of my seatmates Sen. Curtis King and Rep. Norm Johnson, we were able to secure millions of dollars in funding for local projects in the state capital budget, including:

- \$14.2 million for modernization projects in the Mount Adams School District;
- \$2.7 million for the Goldendale Observatory expansion;
- \$500,000 for the SOZO Sports Center in Yakima;
- \$448,000 for the Schilling Road Fire Station in Lyle;
- \$366,000 to address a safety problem to the current access to Beacon Rock State Park;
- \$195,000 for the Family Medicine remodel in Goldendale;
- \$150,000 for the Wishram School CTE Facility;
- \$134,000 for the Centerville Grange renovation;
- \$103,000 for Stevenson's waterfront trail development;
- \$40,000 for Skamania County Fair horse stall panels; and
- \$15,000 to renovate the historic officers' quarters at Fort Simcoe.

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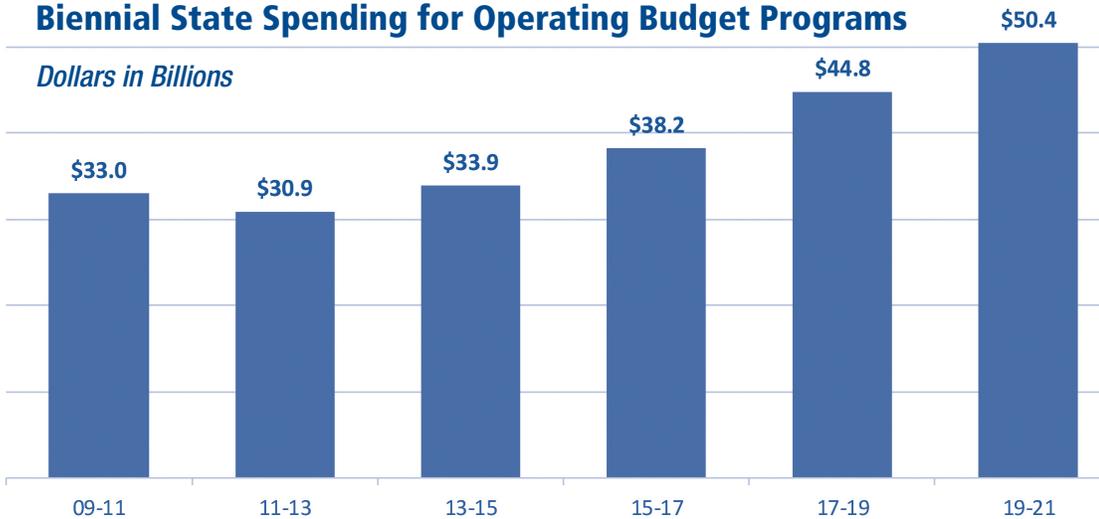
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LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

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Biennial State Spending for Operating Budget Programs

Dollars in Billions



In this display, State Spending (NGF-P) is defined as General Fund-State, Education Legacy, Opportunity Pathways, and Dedicated McCleary Penalty in FY19. Other dedicated state, federal and local accounts are excluded. Data through 15-17 are actual expenditures; data for 17-19 include the FY18 Supplemental Budget as passed the legislature (prior to partial veto); data for 19-21 are preliminary Outlook projections. Historical data adjusted for federal AARA, timing of certain payments and certain one-time appropriations to other accounts.

An overview of the state operating budget

The 2017-19 operating budget the Legislature approved last year makes historic investments in our K-12 education system, helps provide necessary services to the most vulnerable, provides funding to improve our mental health and foster care systems, and much more. The 2018 supplemental budget lawmakers passed in March builds on these investments, funneling even more money into K-12 education and higher education, mental health and behavioral health, affordable housing, and other human services. It also provides some property tax relief, but it won't take effect until 2019. While the minimal relief it will

provide is appreciated, Republicans had proposals that would have offered meaningful relief this year, but they were rejected.

Although there were some good things in these budgets, including making investments without requiring new taxes like a capital gains tax or a carbon tax, I voted against them. Under these plans, state spending is growing at an unsustainable rate — 16 percent over the previous budget. Additionally, they rely on one-time revenue sources and other gimmicks that ultimately violate the public's trust and put our state in a problematic situation should we face another economic downturn.



Representing you in Olympia

Earlier this year, I assumed a new role as the lead Republican on the House Labor and Workplace Standards Committee. The committee considers issues relating to unemployment compensation, collective bargaining, family leave, safety and health standards, and employment standards, such as wage laws and employment discrimination. As a business owner, I have a unique perspective on the issues covered by the committee. I have had the opportunity to work closely with fellow legislators and stakeholders on a number of important bills and helped to negotiate paid family leave and equal pay policies.

I am also the assistant ranking Republican on the House Community Development, Housing and Tribal Affairs Committee and serve as a member of the House Business and Financial Services Committee.

In addition to my committee assignments, I also participate in other groups and caucuses. In 2016, I worked across the aisle to launch the bipartisan, bicameral Washington State Business Caucus, which meets throughout sessions with employers to talk about policies that would help businesses thrive and create jobs. Just last year, I started the House Republican Women's Caucus to work on issues that uniquely affect Washington women. I also participate in the following caucuses:

- Aviation Caucus
- Human Trafficking Caucus
- Kids Caucus
- Local Government Caucus
- Outdoor Recreation Caucus
- Wildfire Caucus

I have also had the honor of representing our state on a few committees operated by national organizations, including the National Conference of State Legislatures' Law, Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee and the Legislative Effectiveness Committee, and the Council of State Governments West Energy and Environment Committee.



Republican response to the governor's State of the State speech

Last year, I was honored to be chosen by my fellow Republican colleagues to deliver the Republican response to the governor's

State of the State speech. I truly believe the Legislature should be focused on securing a better future for Washingtonians by preparing students for the marketplace and changing industry needs, improving the economic landscape statewide to attract and retain jobs, and that government should remain accountable to taxpayers by exercising fiscal responsibility in state budgeting.

You can still watch my speech by visiting my website at RepresentativeGinaMosbrucker.com.

YesVets reaches new milestone

YesVets, a statewide campaign I sponsored encouraging employers to say 'yes' to hiring veterans, reached a new milestone recently. The program, which has been in place since 2015, has now helped thousands of veterans find employment in Washington state.



As of today, more than 2,500 veterans have been hired and more than 600 Washington employers are partici-

pating in the program. This is a win-win for our economy and our veteran population, who have made so many sacrifices for their fellow Washingtonians. I would also be remiss to not applaud the speed at which the Employment Security Department, the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies collaborated to make this idea a reality.

Visit yesvets.org to learn more!

Washington becomes 33rd state to enact 'Erin's Law' legislation

At a young age, Erin Merryn endured years of sexual abuse at the hands of her cousin and a friend's uncle. When she got older, she wanted to help other children who suffered similar abuse, so she helped introduce and pass legislation in 2013 aimed at preventing the sexual abuse of students in her home state of Illinois. Since then, she has successfully advocated for similar legislation, known as Erin's Law, in dozens of states.



I was honored to sponsor Washington's version of Erin's Law, and it was signed into law earlier this year. The bill will require the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to establish a coordinated program to provide age-appropriate information and training pertaining to the prevention of sexual abuse of students. It will also require the OSPI to disseminate existing information and curricula to school districts.

Ensuring students have access to information and training that will help them speak up and stop sexual abuse is integral to a child's ability to learn, grow and succeed. Sadly, around 90 percent of the children who are sexually abused know the perpetrator. This isn't just about teaching children 'stranger danger.' It's about showing kids what to do when someone they're told to trust — a teacher, a family member, a coach — inappropriately touches or sexually abuses them. Our children need to know they don't have to endure an unhealthy relationship or situation, and that they can do something to make it stop.

Improving care for sexual assault survivors

As co-chair of the Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations (SAFE) Best Practices Task Force, I have focused on finding solutions that will provide better care for sexual assault survivors throughout Washington state.

This year, I sponsored House Bill 2101 that will explore ways to expand the availability of sexual assault nurse examiners (SANE) in hospitals. SANE nurses play a critical role in the detailed forensic investigations that are necessary for the prosecution of sex crimes. However, since the only SANE training available in Washington state is provided at Harborview Medical Center, nurses from other areas of our state find it difficult to participate in training, leaving gaps in care at hospitals.

My bill will require the Office of Crime Victim Advocacy (OCVA) to develop best practices for local communities seeking better access to SANE nurses. It also calls for the OCVA to develop strategies to make SANE training available to nurses in all regions of the state without requiring them to travel unreasonable distances or incur unreasonable expenses.

I also co-sponsored House Bill 1109. It provides victim-centered response training for law enforcement so they can best provide support to survivors. The bill also helps create local community response teams to conduct cold case investigations associated with previously unsubmitted rape test kits.

Aside from these important policy developments, the Legislature has also boosted funding to the tune of \$1.5 million to help ease the new backlog of untested kits. It's estimated there are roughly 10,000 untested kits in Washington state. I also sponsored a budget proviso that will fund the SAFE Task Force for another year so we can continue making progress on this important issue.

Travis Alert Act becomes law

At the age of 6, Travis King, a boy with autism from Wapato, wandered away from his home. He was eventually found, thankfully unharmed, in an irrigation ditch near their property.



The incident got the Kings thinking about what would happen to Travis if tragedy ever struck and they weren't around to care for their son. Having previously served as volunteer firefighters, the Kings wanted to find a way to alert first responders of the presence of an individual with autism at the scene of an emergency, and to help them properly tend to persons with special needs. Their advocacy and support eventually led me to sponsor the Travis Alert Act.

The bill, which was signed into law last year, calls for an assessment of the resources necessary to improve the Enhanced 911 program so information pertaining to an individual's disability or special need can be available to first responders before they arrive to the scene of an emergency. It also requires the Department of Health — in concert with other agencies — to review existing procedures and create a training program for first responders, providing instruction for how to best respond to emergencies involving individuals with special needs.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 68 children have been identified with autism spectrum disorder. We must foster a more inclusive environment and ensure individuals and families receive the support they need. The Travis Alert Act will do just that, by helping save lives and giving law enforcement more tools to help individuals with autism — and others with special needs — during emergencies.

Bill to help identify missing and murdered Native American women signed into law

A recent report from the National Institute of Justice found that more than four out of five Native American women have experienced violence in their lives. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention noted in 2016 that homicide is the third leading cause of death among Native American women between the ages of 10 and 24.



Those statistics are heartbreaking and unacceptable. With the help of Earth-Feather Sovereign, a member of the Confederated Tribes of the

Colville Reservation, I sponsored legislation this year to help us get our arms around this problem here in Washington state.

House Bill 2951 will require the Washington State Patrol (WSP) to work with tribal law enforcement, federally recognized tribes, Urban Indian organizations, and the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs to conduct a study to increase state resources for reporting and identifying missing Native American women.

When I began drafting this bill, I was shocked to learn there's currently no comprehensive data collection system for reporting or tracking missing Native American women. That's a travesty, and I know Washington can do better. The bill will give WSP, tribal law enforcement, and others the ability to work on solutions together to best address this problem.

Combatting the opioid crisis with Jeremy's Law

This year, I introduced House Bill 2447 to help prevent opioid abuse and addiction. The bill is known as Jeremy's Law for local former high school wrestling champ Jeremy Wolfe, who injured his knee and was prescribed Oxycontin and Vicodin to manage the pain. He developed an addiction to the opioids, and evidence shows this may have been the reason he eventually tried heroin. He overdosed, leaving him in a coma for 11 days and in the hospital for a month.

Thankfully, Jeremy has been clean for more than a year now. While that challenge is behind him, that didn't stop Jeremy and his family from wanting to help others in similar situations.



Jeremy's Law would have required health care practitioners to discuss dependency and overdose risks as well as provide pain management alternatives to opioids when prescribing them for the first time during the course of a patient's treatment. Since the misuse of opiates can lead to experimentation and addiction with heroin and other drugs, it's important we give patients

the knowledge necessary to make informed decisions about their pain management regimens.

During the session, the governor's office reached out and asked if they could make Jeremy's Law part of omnibus opioid legislation they were pursuing that would dramatically change the way we treat and prevent opioid use disorder. While that bill did not pass this year, the governor's office and I are hopeful provisions from Jeremy's Law will be implemented via rulemaking in the fall.

Cracking down on 'up-skirting,' voyeurism

Last year, the governor signed my bill that expands the ability to prosecute voyeurism by creating the crime of voyeurism in the second degree.

Voyeurism occurs when someone views, photographs, or films another person without the victim's knowledge or consent, so long as there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Previously, a person would have had to commit the act for the purpose of arousal or sexual gratification in order to be found guilty. Proving whether someone was seeking sexual gratification was too difficult a standard to meet for some crimes, so I sponsored House Bill 1200 to give prosecutors another tool in their toolbox to prosecute these wrongful acts.



WASHINGTON STATE • 14TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Looking ahead to 2019

I'll be reintroducing the following bills for the 2019 legislation session:

House Bill 1246 would require all school buses manufactured or assembled after a certain date to be equipped with a shoulder harness-type seat belt. After that date, every school bus would also be required to have automated school bus safety cameras used to detect 'stop paddle' violations and other vehicle infractions. Revenue collected from the violations would fund the seat-belt installations without requiring additional funding from school districts or the state operating budget.

House Bill 2975 would ease registration requirements for snow bike owners. Currently, snow bike owners are required to pay two registration fees — one to ride the motorcycle on the road, and the other to use the motorcycle as a snowmobile — to the Department of Licensing. This legislation would allow individuals to pay one \$50 fee to register their motorcycles for both on-road use and as snow bikes.

In addition to these, I'll be exploring legislation related to helping domestic violence survivors and preventing suicide.

If you have other ideas for how to improve our communities and state, please contact me at Gina.Mosbrucker@leg.wa.gov or call (360) 786-7856.

Thank you, Rep. Norm Johnson

My seatmate, State Representative Norm Johnson, has been a great advocate for the 14th Legislative District for the past 10 years. This will be Norm's last term in the Legislature. I hope you will join me in thanking him for his years of dedication and service to our great state. It has been an honor serving alongside him.



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