

Religious Coalition for the Common Good 2008 Priorities

For sponsors, bills and action - go to www.thewac.org, Current Legislation, State House and Senate Bill Search

Subject	Bill #	RCCG Priority	Outcome
Housing			
Housing Trust Fund	Budget Bill	Fund a \$100 million supplemental appropriation to increase the Housing Trust Fund	Passed with \$70M in budget
Condo Conversions	SHB2014	Grant authority to local jurisdictions to regulate Condominium Conversions and create more protection for renters.	Passed - on Governors desk
Homeless Families Funding	Budget Bill	Expand the Washington Families and THOR (Transitional Housing Operating and Rent) Fund for housing and services for homeless.	WA Families Fund \$6M, THOR \$2.5M
Healthcare			
SCHIP shortfall	Budget Bill	Compensate for any loss of funding in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) due to loss of Federal funding.	Commitment from Gov for no cuts
Healthcare Subsidies	HB2537	Develop system of subsidies for low-wage workers to access healthcare plans.	Subsidies to Health Care Account \$2.2M
Oral Health Parity	HB2121	Program to address oral health crisis in low-income seniors	Died
Poverty			
Measures to reduce poverty	HB2897 HB2898	Measures to include post-secondary ed. Opportunity Grants, Community jobs, housing stipends for disabled workers, Food Stamps and asset building (<u>Individual Development Accounts</u>).	Food stamp eligibility increased from 150 to 200% of poverty 3% increase for housing assistance to TANF recipients..
Living Wage Standards	HB2853	Provides for Living Wages on Public Contracts	Died
Environment			
Climate Action/Green Jobs	EngHB 2815	Set goals to reduce global warming and invest in clean energy jobs	Passed with \$2.059M in budget
Local Farms/Healthy Kids	EngSB 6483	Enable small and mid-size farmers to supply schools and foodbanks with local products	Passed with \$1.5 in budget
Urban Forestry	HB2844	Restore urban forests by keeping existing trees and planting new ones	Passed with \$386,000 in budget
Restorative Justice			
Reentry Services	Budget Bill	Expand reentry services for offenders from time of sentencing through post-release (e.g.housing, education)	No Action. \$ for education for inmates did not get in the budget.
Ombudsman Position	SSB5295	Create independent position of Corrections Ombudsman to maintain oversight of system	All volunteer citizen's advisory council in the Department of Corrections approved instead

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LFO Limits		Set moratorium on interest accumulating during incarceration due to Legal Financial Obligations	Legislation pulled
Tax Fairness			
Working Families Credit	HB3234 SB6809	Provide a tax credit for working families based on the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit	Passed with \$1.25M to set up. On Governor's desk.
Immigration			
New Americans Initiative	Exec Order Budget Bill	Statewide Policy Council created by exec. order. Funding of \$2M per year for 3 years to broaden the network and capacity of organizations that assist with naturalization.	Executive Order Signed. \$344,000 in budget for building capacity re: naturalization services.