A qualified elector* must be:

- at least eighteen years of age,
- a United States citizen, and
- a qualified elector* in the legislative district from which elected.

*A QUALIFIED ELECTOR... means any person who has resided in their district for at least thirty (30) days preceding the election at which he or she desires to vote, and who is registered as required by law.
WASHINGTON ELECTS 49 SENATORS AND 98 REPRESENTATIVES

LEGISLATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR

- DEBATING THE MERITS OF BILLS
- DRAFTING AND INTRODUCING BILLS
- VOTING TO PASS OR KILL BILLS

SENATORS SERVE 4 YR TERMS & REPRESENTATIVES SERVE 2 YR TERMS
HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW

LEGISLATOR INTRODUCES BILL

If senator, moves to senate
If representative, moves to house

SENATE

Bill assigned to a committee
COMMITTEES

PASS
FAIL

SENATE FLOOR

PASS
FAIL

Bill moves to House

HOUSE

Bill assigned to a committee
COMMITTEES

PASS
FAIL

HOUSE FLOOR

PASS
FAIL

Bill moves to Senate

BILL PASSES IN BOTH HOUSES

GOVERNOR

DOES NOTHING
SIGNS
VETOES

After 5 Business days
Senate overrides veto with 2/3 vote

BILL BECOMES LAW!
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

FIRST THINGS FIRST,
RESEARCH YOUR LEGISLATOR

If legislators don’t hear from you, they don’t know which issues matter to you.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

CONSTITUENTS

CONNECT WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS
EARLY AND OFTEN

WWW.LEG.WA.GOV
WAYS TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR

**CALL THEM OR WRITE THEM**

- **TIP 1**
  Know your district and the name of your legislator

- **TIP 2**
  Plan out what you will say

- **TIP 3**
  Remember to mention the bill number (if there is one) and why you are calling or writing

- **TIP 4**
  Make it short and sweet and get to your point quickly

- **TIP 5**
  Tell a personal story they can connect with

- **TIP 6**
  Problem, solution, action (i.e. “Vote yes on HB xxxx!”)

**MEET THEM IN PERSON**

- **STEP ONE**
  Schedule your meeting

- **STEP TWO**
  Be flexible and patient

- **STEP THREE**
  Prepare and educate yourself and establish a clear goal

- **STEP FOUR**
  Follow up and say thank you!
IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY

1. WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
   - SPREAD THE WORD
     Talk with friends and family on social media or in person. Don’t be afraid to talk politics, it’s important.

2. JOIN A CAUSE OR ORGANIZATION
   - ATTEND LEGISLATIVE COFFEES OR IN-DISTRICT MEETINGS

3. WRITE AN OP-ED

4. MARCH OR PROTEST
PERSONAL STORIES OF HOW A LAW IMPACTS YOU MATTER

SHOWING UP IS VITAL. NO MATTER HOW YOU DO IT.

Your efforts, stories, and voices are what will chip away at the boulder of injustice.

For more tips, visit: ACLU-WA.ORG