

CONDUCTOR: Navigating the Legislative Process

November 21, 2019

Power Up Handbook



- You should have received the handbook via email or at www.aclu-wa.org/power-up-handbook.
- If you missed a session, email activism@aclu-wa.org and we will send you the recording.



Power Up Preview

Tuesday, September 17 5:30-7pm	Laying the Foundation Welcome, Introduction to the ACLU, Moving from Issues to Action, Root Cause Tree Tool
Tuesday, October 1 5:30-7pm	Understanding Our Role in the Movement Race Equity & Allyship
Tuesday, October 29 5:30-7:30pm	Building Collective Power Personal Narrative, Recruiting Volunteers, Building Effective Teams
	Designing the Blueprint Identifying Stakeholders & Targets, Power Mapping, Strategy Chart
Thursday, November 14 5:30-7pm	Choosing & Using Tactics + Bringing It All Together Lawmaker Engagement Tactics, Sustaining Your Activism
Thursday, November 21 5:30-7pm	Navigating the Legislative Process Understanding Committees, Bill Process, & WA Legislative Website

Zoom Logistics

- The success of Power Up is built on participation!
 - On the Zoom toolbar, you can raise your hand to be unmuted or type a question or comment in the chat box.
 - Press *6 to unmute yourself on the phone.
- A recording of this call will be sent out tomorrow.

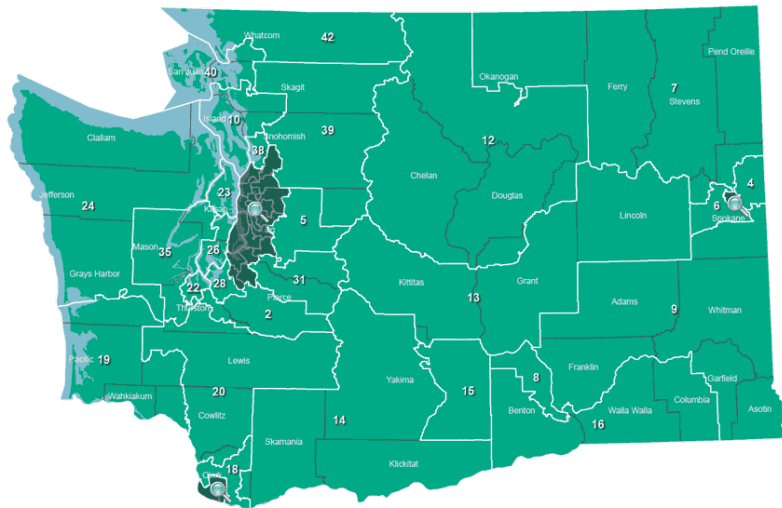
Agenda

1. Washington State Legislature 101
2. How a Bill Becomes Law
3. Online Legislative Tools
4. Preview: ACLU-WA's 2020 Legislative Agenda
5. Wrap-Up

Washington Legislature 101

Washington State Legislature

- 49 legislative districts, each with one Senator and two Representatives
- Senators serve four-year terms
- Representatives serve two-year terms
- Currently, the WA legislature has a Democratic majority in both chambers



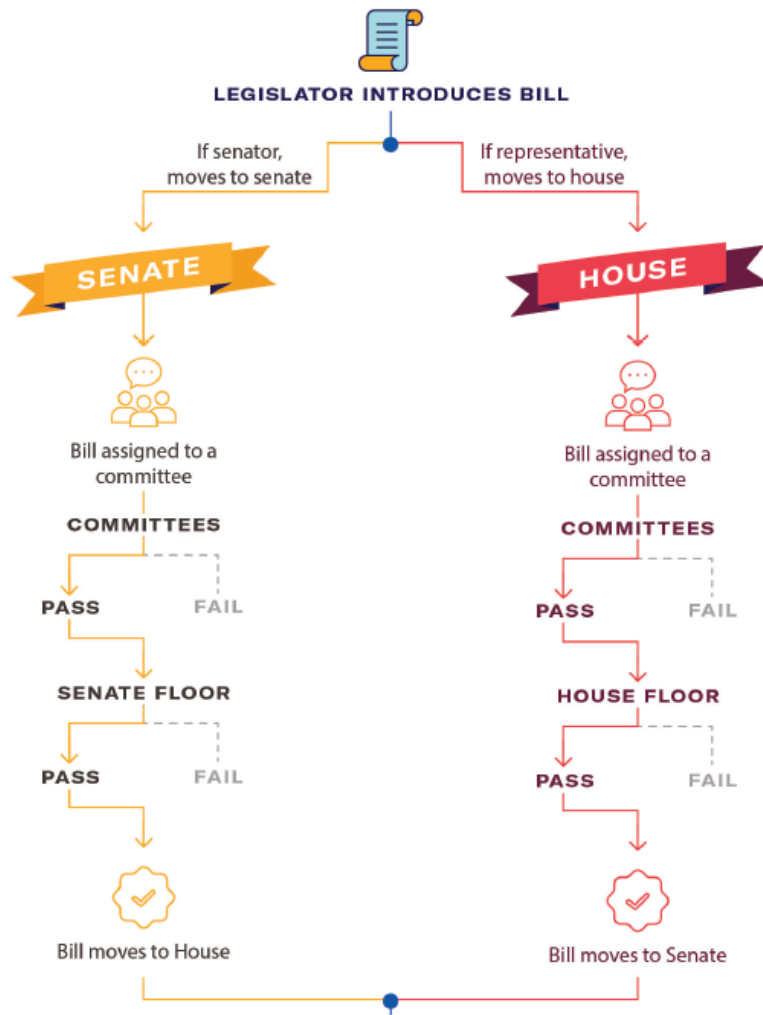
Washington State Legislature

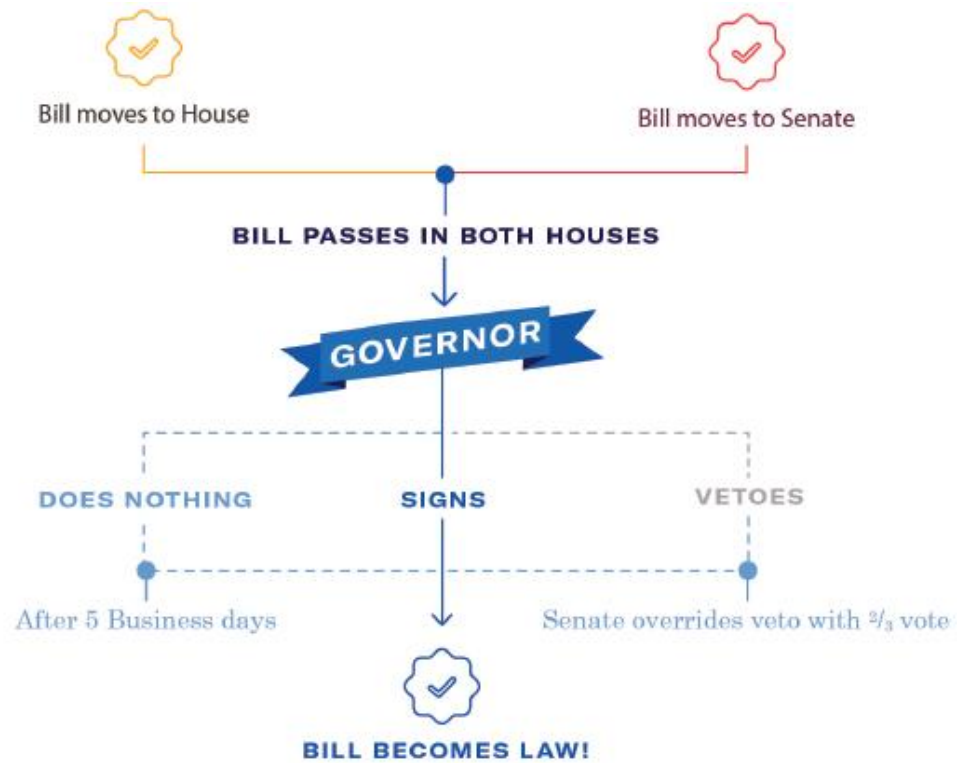


- Operates on a two-year biennium (one legislative cycle takes two years)
- Odd year sessions (lasting 105 days) focus on the state budget
- Even year sessions (lasting 60 days) focus on more policy issues
- Bills must pass through committees and floor votes in both chambers to be signed into law

How a Bill Becomes a Law

Bill Process





Cutoff Calendar

2019 Legislative Session

Monday, January 14	Session starts
Friday, February 22	Bills must pass policy committee in chamber of origin
Friday, March 1	Bills must pass fiscal committee in chamber of origin (if applicable)
Wednesday, March 13	Bills must be voted on by the full House or Senate
Wednesday, April 3	Bills must pass policy committee in opposite chamber
Tuesday, April 9	Bills must pass fiscal committee in opposite chamber (if applicable)
Wednesday, April 17	Bills must be voted on by the complete opposite chamber
Sunday, April 28	End of session

Using the Cutoff Calendar for Advocacy

- Understanding the cutoff calendar for bills is critical – your actions will make the most impact right before a cutoff date.
- For example, if your bill hasn't been scheduled for a vote and the policy committee cutoff is approaching, you need to call and email the committee chair to apply pressure.
- Volume – number of messages per day, and consistent messages – matters close to votes.
- Local jurisdictions will vary but increasing pressure right before a vote is usually a strong tactic.

Online Tools

Resource: www.leg.wa.gov



- Legislature Home**
- House of Representatives
- Senate
- Find Your District
- Laws & Agency Rules
- Bill Information
- Agendas, Schedules, & Calendars
- Legislative Committees
- Coming to the Legislature
- Legislative Agencies
- Legislative Information Center
- Email Updates (GovDelivery)

Legislature Home

What's happening on the floor

Today's calendar

Lawmaker Information

September 12-13 and November 21-22.

Scheduled hearings and floor sessions: Today

Committee	Agenda	Date/Time	Last Updated
There are no scheduled meetings for the selected date.			

Highlights

Legislative Hotline: 1.800.562.6000

[Employment Opportunities](#)

Public Records Requests

For information about submitting a public records request to either the House or the Senate, please follow the links below:

[House Public Records Request](#) | [Senate Public Records Request](#)

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What's happening on the floor?

The 2019 Regular Session adjourned sine die on April 28, 2019.

The 2019 Committee Assembly days are scheduled as follows: Senate - November 20-21; House - September 12-13 and November 21-22.

Search by Committee or Bill Number

Find Your District

Committee	Agenda	Date/Time	Last Updated
There are no scheduled meetings for the selected date.			

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**WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE**

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Bill Information
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Looking Ahead to 2020

ACLU-WA's 2020 Legislative Agenda

- Repeal the death penalty, which was ruled unconstitutional in October 2018 by the WA State Supreme Court
- Ensuring transparency and fairness in automated decision making
- Ending juvenile solitary confinement
- Placing a moratorium on government use of face surveillance technologies
- Extending Apple Health coverage up to age 26

ACLU-WA's 2020 Legislative Agenda (cont.)

- Prohibiting court staff and prosecutors from sharing information with ICE (“Courts for All”)
- Prohibiting health care entities from interfering with the information, resources, and services that doctors & nurses can provide (“Protecting Patient Care Act”)
- Ending license suspension for failure to pay the fine for a moving violation (DWLS3)
- Automatically restoring the right to vote as soon as a person leaves Dept. of Corrections confinement

Opportunities for Engagement

- Sign up for E-Activist list to receive legislative updates & to send action alerts to lawmakers
- Join the ACLU-WA People Power listserv
- Attend an in-district meeting with your lawmakers before session starts
- Register to lobby with us in Olympia on Tuesday, January 28
- Create or join a People Power group
- Host a PPCA postcard party
- ... or talk to us about other ideas you have!

Wrap-Up

Sustaining Your Activism

- Activism is a marathon, not a sprint!
- Find your community. Invite other groups you are a part of (faith-based, book club, school group, etc.) to join you in action.
- Educate yourself. Sign up for trainings, read books and articles by individuals from different backgrounds, and seek out speakers and authors who challenge you.
- Practice self-care.
- Make a plan. Create a plan to divide your work into manageable goals.
- Celebrate your victories!

Make Your Commitments

Practice: Make Your Commitments

Find people from your neighborhood or community. Share contact information and make a plan for when you will meet and what concrete next steps each of you will take before meeting, such as practicing sharing your personal narrative, creating a power analysis map, or having 1:1s to recruit new volunteers.

My name:	My phone number:	My email address:	My commitments:
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Teammates' names	Phone numbers	Email addresses	Commitments

We will meet on _____ [date] at _____ [time] by/at _____ [phone/Skype/local café, etc.]

We need your feedback!

Please watch for an email later
this week with an anonymous
evaluation survey.



For more information:

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www.aclu-wa.org

ACLU

Washington

WE THE PEOPLE