

JEFF HOLY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

2016 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
6TH DISTRICT

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The 2016 legislative session came to an end on March 29. It feels great to be back in our community and enjoying all it has to offer us.

The last two years of legislative sessions produced several accomplishments, including making historic investments in K-12 education, saving public charter schools, lowering college tuition, addressing problems in our mental health system, and helping the most vulnerable. These bipartisan solutions represent the best of our citizen Legislature.

There were also some disappointments, including my bill to reestablish integrity in law enforcement not passing. I talk about this measure and other unfinished business in this newsletter.

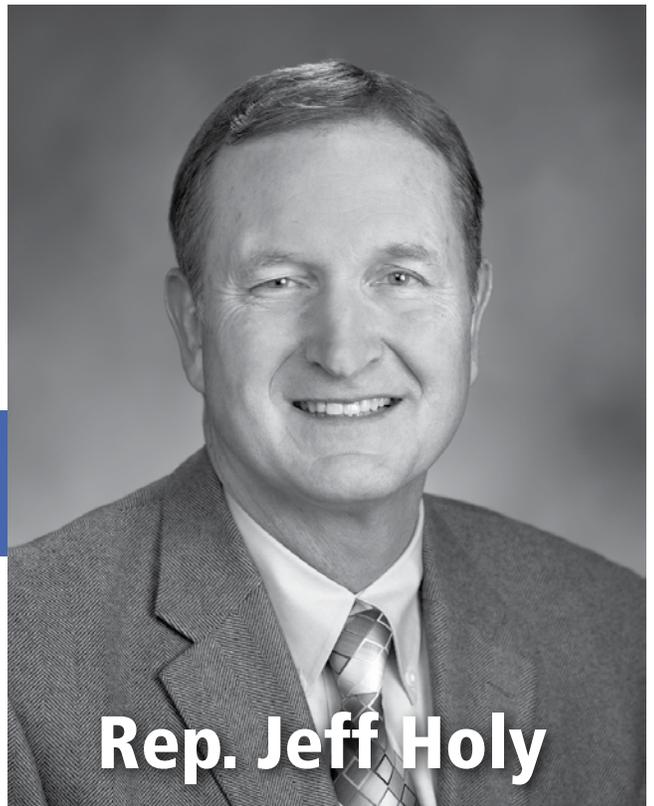
My priorities as your state lawmaker have always been taking care of the great people of the 6th District, including more opportunities for economic and educational growth. These priorities are reflected in my bill sponsorship and voting record. You can learn more by visiting my legislative website.

It is an honor to serve you. While the legislative session is over, I'm your state representative year-round. Please feel free to contact me with your questions, comments or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Jeff Holy
State Representative
6th Legislative District



Rep. Jeff Holy

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- State Government
(Ranking Member)
- Commerce and Gaming
(Assistant Ranking Member)
- Higher Education

2016 KEY SPONSORED AND CO-SPONSORED LEGISLATION:

Sponsored legislation:

HB 2398 – Clarifying current requirements for public purchase of goods and services from nonprofit agencies for the blind.

HB 2399 – Prohibiting the consideration of the number of citations for traffic infractions issued by a law enforcement officer in the performance review of the officer.

HB 2592 – Providing benefits for certain retirement system members who die or become disabled in the course of providing emergency management services.

Co-sponsored legislation:

HB 1390 – Concerning legal financial obligations.

HB 1448 – Providing procedures for responding to reports of threatened or attempted suicide.

HB 1553 – Encouraging certificates of restoration of opportunity.

HB 2623 – Concerning recounts of statewide advisory measures.

HB 2667 – Concerning administrative processes of the state parks and recreation commission that require a majority vote of the commission.

HB 2765 – Clarifying the limited authority of park rangers.

HB 2985 – Excluding certain school facilities from the inventory of educational space for determining eligibility for state assistance for common school construction.



Rep. Jeff Holy giving a speech on the House floor in support of House Bill 2399

Reestablishing integrity in law enforcement

I made great strides this session to reestablish integrity in law enforcement. I believe it is essential you, the citizens of this great state, trust not only the integrity of your law enforcement officers but also their intentions.

Through House Bill 2399, integrity in law enforcement would have been restored by eliminating a police agency's demand that an officer issue a specific volume of traffic tickets per shift. Agencies would also be prohibited from considering the number of citations for traffic infractions issued by an officer in his or her performance review. There are other measurable tools an agency can use to evaluate an officer's on-duty performance aside from how many tickets he or she did or did not issue. In this changing day and age, it is so important that our officers focus on community-oriented policing by getting to know the citizens and businesses of their communities and addressing the issues rather than just trying to fill a ticket quota. This bill would not prohibit law enforcement officers from issuing tickets for necessary infractions, but would remove the number of citations issued as a key component in an officer's performance evaluation process. This short session didn't give us the adequate timeline to work this bill through the legislative process, but I look forward to bringing it back during the 2017 session. Stay tuned!



A journey of a thousand steps begins with a successful first step!

The 6th District is a role model in providing alternative learning environments for our students. The Spokane area charter schools – PRIDE Prep and Spokane International Academy – continue to grow and provide valuable educational experiences to those students that thrive in this type of learning atmosphere. As one of your state leaders, it was imperative this session to fix the flawed Supreme Court decision that invalidated funding for these schools. Our solution-driven journey began with bipartisan House Bill 2367. It was disappointing when this bill did not move forward and our path seemed to have come to an end. Our fellow lawmakers across the rotunda were also working hard and passed a companion bill, Senate Bill 6194, bringing hope this journey wasn't over. The bill hit many speed bumps along the way, some large enough to stop it in its tracks, but with great Republican leadership, strong bipartisan perseverance, and taking one step at a time, this bill passed the Senate (26-23) and House (58-39), and the governor's desk, without signature, putting necessary funding back into our public charter schools. I am proud to have voted in support to fully fund the Washington Charter School Commission and ensure our Eastern Washington public charter schools are protected and continue to provide a quality education to our students.



During the 2016 legislative session, public charter school students from across the state came to the Capitol campus to let their voices be heard to save their schools!

Leading the effort for nonprofit services of the blind

It was an honor this session to work with our local Spokane branch of The Lighthouse for the Blind. This amazing organization provides employment, support and training opportunities for people who are blind. It was brought to my attention that in current state statute, all things being held equal, a Washington state government purchaser should give consideration, not a set aside, first to blind-made services. The state's procurement process has missed this component. House Bill 2398, The Lighthouse Bill, was passed into law this legislative session. It simply affirms the current procurement process to include blind-made services and gives the disabled a level playing field by integrating everyone in our community. This affirmation will go into effect June 2016.



From left to right: Rep. Marcus Riccelli, D-Spokane, Rep. Jeff Holy, R-Cheney, with Gov. Jay Inslee and staff of The Lighthouse for the Blind as bill signed into law

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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2016 Legislative Report



Staying connected throughout the year

As you know, 2016 is an election year. Restrictions are in place for the remainder of the year on the communications I send to you. However, I am not restricted from responding to your emails, phone calls and messages, nor am I restricted from having in-person meetings with you. Please continue to reach out to me as you normally would.

Rep. Jeff Holy – 6th District

2016 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some highlights and accomplishments of the hard work put forth by your citizen Legislature:

- ✓ Addressing the teacher shortage and enhancing teacher recruitment
- ✓ Providing visual screening for students
- ✓ Addressing Washington State Patrol recruitment, retention and pay raises
- ✓ Establishing the Washington Cybercrime Act
- ✓ Creating the Parent to Parent Program – a statewide program that connects parents of individuals with developmental disabilities with support and resources
- ✓ Holding state government accountable