

## 2013 bills sponsored by Rep. Jan Angel

---

### **Education:**

**House Bill 1054 - Arts/Tech education:** Regarding the allocation of one-half of one percent of original public school construction for equipment and technology purposes.

Would authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to allocate the one-half of one percent art allocation for the acquisition of instruction-related equipment and technology systems, rather than for acquisition of art, if requested by a school district's Board of Directors through a properly executed resolution.

**Status:** House Capital Budget Committee

**COMMENTS:** In reviewing new school construction reporting, I noted a large line item that I found out was one-half of one percent of the total construction amount that went for arts in the school. This bill does the same thing, but gives flexibility to the schools to use this same amount for technology or equipment. The bill received a hearing, but did not get out of committee.

### **Employment:**

**House Bill 1056 - Corporate officers:** Authorizing certain corporate officers to receive unemployment benefits.

Specifies that a corporate officer is unemployed if the officer's wages with the corporation are less than 25 percent of the officer's total wages.

**Status:** Bill signed by the governor on April 25, 2013.

**COMMENTS:** This bill was a result of a constituent coming to me, having her own small business of which she was the corporate officer of same. This business was not making enough to support her, so she set it aside and went to work for someone else. She was then laid off, and because she was a "corporate officer" of a corporation (even if it was just her), she could not claim unemployment. This was an unexpected error in a bill passed back in the 1990's that had just come to light with the tough economy. I offered this bill in the 2012 session and it passed unanimously out of the House and from the Senate Labor Committee, but stalled on the Senate floor during the budget issues. Hence, it died there. I tried for a week after to get the governor to bring it back during special session due to the degree of error affecting folks now with no means to claim unemployment. She declined and said only budget bills would be considered, so it was necessary to run this bill again this session. With the passage of this bill, the error will now be fixed.

## 2013 bills sponsored by Rep. Jan Angel

---

### **Finance:**

**House Bill 1604 – Taxes:** Reducing the frequency of local sales and use tax changes.

Would reduce the frequency of local sales and use tax changes from four times a year to twice a year.

**Status:** House Rules Committee

**COMMENTS:** This bill would help small business with reporting requirements by reducing the amount of reporting. This was a small business request bill. It passed the House Finance Committee, but did not get pulled out of Rules Committee to the House floor.

### **Government Operations:**

**House Bill 1051- Naming rights:** Authorizing government agencies to sell naming rights of public facilities.

Would allow the Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) to name transportation facilities at the request of any entity or person willing to pay for such naming rights, and directs the WSTC to adopt rules governing the applicable fees and guidelines governing the naming or renaming of state transportation facilities.

The bill would also direct the funds generated from the naming or renaming into specific accounts. It would limit the content that may appear as the name of a state transportation facility.

**Status:** House Transportation Committee

**COMMENTS:** This bill was heard in committee and received national attention. Recently, officials from a town in New York called me to ask how I had structured named rights and tolls, as they hoped to do the same for a \$4 billion bridge they were to build. Testimony from the Transportation Commission staff stated they had a study done on naming rights for ferry revenue and found that there was merit to this and showed it could be beneficial. This bill was not called to a vote by the chair and did not get out of committee.

### **Health Care:**

**House Bill 1263 - Emergency transportation services:** Reducing the financial loss to emergency medical care and transportation services by ensuring direct payment for emergency transportation services.

Would require an enrollee to prove that payment has been made by clear and convincing evidence before a health services contractor makes payment in the sole name of the enrollee.

**Status:** House Rules Committee

**COMMENTS:** This was a request bill by firefighters. They had experienced problems in this area. It passed the House Health Care and Wellness Committee and was placed on second reading for the House floor, but was not called by the Speaker for a vote.

## 2013 bills sponsored by Rep. Jan Angel

---

### **Local Government:**

**House Bill 1016 - Water purveyor facilities:** Relating to designating facilities and infrastructure of water purveyors as essential public facilities under Growth Management Act (GMA) planning requirements.

Facilities of Group A public water system water purveyors serving 100 or more service connections would be considered essential public facilities under the GMA. Group A public water system is defined as a public water system with 15 or more service connections, regardless of the number of people; or a system serving an average of 25 or more people per day for 60 or more days within a calendar year, regardless of the number of service connections; or a system serving 1,000 or more people for two or more consecutive days. Purveyor is defined to mean any agency or subdivision of the state or any municipal corporation, firm, company, mutual or cooperative association, institution, partnership, person, or any other entity, that owns or operates for wholesale or retail service a public water system, or the authorized agents of these entities.

**Status:** Returned to House Rules Committee from Senate second reading calendar.

**COMMENTS:** This was a request bill by the Pierce County Water Purveyors. We worked on this countywide and statewide. It had strong support, and was voted out of the House and passed the Senate Governmental Operations Committee. Yet a last-minute amendment request brought enough confusion to stall the measure at the close of session, leaving it on the Senate floor.

**House Bill 1052 - Sewer systems in urban areas:** Relating to local government selection of the appropriate sewer system as part of growth management.

Would authorize counties and cities that provide governmental services within urban growth areas to choose as the main source of sewage treatment for any location, any approved systems for sewage and solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or facilities, including on-site sewage systems.

**Status:** House Local Government Committee

**COMMENTS:** This bill was reworked from legislation I offered last session. Sewer purveyors came together from throughout the state to formulate this bill. It is a good bill for the people, but Futurewise, which is an environmental group, had concerns that it could create sprawl. I amended the bill to apply the provisions only to existing residential, as folks whose septic tanks failed had to hook up to sewer that may not even be in range. It was costing homeowners so much money they could not even afford that amount by getting a second mortgage on their homes. In fact, they were losing their homes because they could not repair the septic problems and were stuck. The measure received a public hearing, but did not advance from the House Local Government Committee. I will run this bill again. It is needed.

## 2013 bills sponsored by Rep. Jan Angel

---

### **Local Government (continued):**

**House Bill 1053 - Modifying rezoning notification:** Regarding effective public notice when zoning changes are being proposed – First introduced in 2011.

Would require counties, cities, and towns that are considering proposals to modify zoning requirements to provide written notice of the proposal to the owners of the property for which the rezone would apply. Would specify that the required notice must be provided prior to any hearing at which the rezone will be considered.

**Status:** House Local Government Committee

**COMMENTS:** This bill was a request of a North Kitsap Realtor who had experienced a number of issues with clients that they were not notified of possible changes in zoning to their land and it was becoming a problem. Counties did not want to spend the cost of a postcard mailing. The measure received a public hearing, but died in the House Local Government Committee.

**House Bill 1074 - Plat approvals:** Concerning requirements governing and associated with plat approvals.

Increases the final plat approval submission timeline from nine to 10 years for qualifying final plats, and removes a requirement that an associated project be within city limits. It also modifies land use timeline requirements by extending the valid land use timeline for qualifying lots in a final plat from nine to 10 years, and removes a requirement that an associated project be within city limits. In addition, it modifies provisions governing subdivisions by extending the period by which subdivisions are governed by the terms of approval of the final plat and requirements in effect at the time of approval from nine to 10 years, and removes a requirement that an associated project be within city limits.

**Status:** Bill signed by the governor on April 18, 2013.

**COMMENTS:** With the severe decline in housing and construction, often hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent to get to the final plat stage only to be lost with the time on the permit. This bill provides an additional extension of time. I introduced this bill last session to provide a time extension and it also passed. I hope the industry will bounce back enough so that another extension is not needed.

### **Parks:**

**House Bill 1055 – Park districts levies:** Concerning metropolitan park district property tax levies.

Would allow certain metropolitan park districts to submit a ballot proposition to voters of the district authorizing the protection of the district's tax levy from pro-rationing for taxes levied for collection in 2014 and thereafter.

**Status:** House Finance Committee

**COMMENTS:** This was a request bill from Pen Met Parks, Gig Harbor.

## 2013 bills sponsored by Rep. Jan Angel

---

### **Parks (continued):**

**House Bill 1704 - Saving state parks:** Regarding notice required by the State Parks and Recreation Commission.

Would require the State Parks and Recreation Commission to provide written notice to certain local government entities before it disposes of land or initiates the closure of a state park. Would allow local jurisdictions to purchase state parks that would otherwise be closed.

**Status:** House Rules Committee

**COMMENTS:** I ran this bill to allow options to local jurisdictions in the event that state parks would have to close, as was the case last session. This bill came out of committee unanimously, and sat on the House floor as the Speaker would not call it to a vote. This is a good bill and I will run it again.

**House Bill 1749 - Park districts levies:** Modifying metropolitan park district property tax levies to assist park districts with populations less than 20,000.

Would authorize any metropolitan park district with a population under 20,000 people to move up to 25 cents of its tax levy rate outside the \$5.90 aggregate local tax limit if it otherwise would be subject to pro-rationing.

**Status:** House Finance Committee

**COMMENTS:** This was a request bill by Key Pen Parks. The bill passed unanimously out of House Community Development Committee, went on to the House Finance Committee and was not moved out.

### **Transportation:**

**House Bill 1965 - Tacoma Narrows Bridge financing:** Addressing debt service from the Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account.

Would prohibit transfers to pay debt service from the Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account from exceeding \$60 million in a single fiscal year.

Would also allow additional funds to be borrowed from the motor vehicle fund to cover debt service costs above \$60 million in any single fiscal year for the purpose of maintaining toll rates.

**Status:** House Transportation Committee

**COMMENTS:** This was my attempt to lock in the tolls at current rates on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge on the Gig Harbor side because we on the peninsula are those captive to pay these tolls. The tolls are rising rapidly while the proposed vehicle usage is stagnating. This is a problem that must be addressed. I have asked for discussion on same and an amendment was made to the transportation budget to study this issue.

## 2013 bills sponsored by Rep. Jan Angel

---

### **Transportation (continued):**

**House Bill 1993 – Washington state ferries:** Concerning the construction and alteration of ferries.

Would require the Department of Transportation to develop a process for awarding competitively-bid contracts for ferry construction projects using a design-build procedure.

Would prohibit the Department of Transportation from making or designing a substantial alteration to a ferry acquired by the department pursuant to a contract advertised for bid before Aug. 1, 2013, unless the department has sought and received approval for the alteration from the Legislature.

**Status:** House Transportation Committee

**COMMENTS:** I feel that reform is needed in this area. This bill was not given a hearing.

### **Veterans:**

**House Bill 1615 – Jobs for veterans:** Providing a business and occupation tax credit for businesses that hire unemployed veterans.

Would authorize a \$2,000 business and occupation tax credit for employers hiring veterans and require the Department of Revenue to provide a report to the Legislature on the usage of the tax credit by December 1, 2016.

**Status:** House Finance Committee

**COMMENTS:** As the Community Development, Housing and Tribal Affairs Committee, which considers veterans issues, was a new committee for me this session, I reviewed the previous session's bills and found this to be a need. I offered this bill for that need - - to provide an incentive to small businesses to hire an unemployed veteran. I felt it was a win-win: helping the business hire a veteran, getting the veteran a job and saving unemployment dollars. The bill received a hearing, but died in the House Finance Committee.

**House Bill 1537 – Preferences for veterans' employment:** Addressing a veteran's preference for the purpose of public employment. Co-sponsored with Rep. Steve O'Ban.

Would authorize veterans to claim a preference in public employment upon receipt of their separation orders.

**Status:** Signed by the governor on April 27, 2013

**COMMENTS:** I signed on as the second sponsor on this bill as Rep. O'Ban and I had authored the very same bill. The measure came to our attention from a constituent that lived in Rep. O'Ban's district and requested help and then moved to my district and again requested help. Since Rep. O'Ban is a freshman legislator, I stepped back to be a prime co-sponsor so that he could be first on the bill.

## 2013 bills sponsored by Rep. Jan Angel

---

### **Welfare Drug Testing:**

**House Bill 1190 – Welfare eligibility:** Requiring drug testing for recipients of benefits under the temporary assistance for needy families program.

Would require the Department of Social and Health Services, under certain circumstances, to require drug testing for recipients of benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

**Status:** House Early Learning and Human Services Committee

**COMMENTS:** This bill attracted statewide support and attention. A hearing was scheduled and then rescinded. I called to find out why and was told it would be a work study. Last session when I ran this bill, I was told by the chair that this issue merited conversation. It appeared at that time, she liked this bill. I do feel that since a hearing was scheduled on the measure and then pulled, politics was involved. This bill brought much attention. There was statewide interest and I did interviews on radio, TV and newspapers all over the state.

### **Workforce Development:**

**House Bill 1616 – Industrial insurance:** Addressing contractor liability for industrial insurance premiums. Applies the law specifying that a construction contractor is not liable for the industrial insurance premiums of a subcontractor if certain conditions are met to all contractors.

**Status:** House Labor and Workforce Development Committee

**COMMENTS:** This bill was requested by ParaTransit in Bremerton. They had a large problem that was outside of their control which this bill would have solved for contractors. The measure had a hearing, but it died in committee. I will run this measure again.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

At their request, I wrote and presented resolutions for each of these organizations. Both resolutions were read and adopted on the House floor.

**House Resolution 4615 - Motorcycle safety awareness:** Recognizes Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

**Status:** Adopted Feb. 12, 2013.

**House Resolution 4637 - Brain injury awareness:** Honors the efforts of brain injury awareness organizations and individuals.

**Status:** Adopted March 19, 2013. (I have had the honor of running this resolution each year since the time of being a Kitsap County commissioner and I have carried on this tradition in the House.)

###