

Dave
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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

P.O. Box 40600
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**2016
Legislative
Report**

Rep. Dave Hayes – 10th District

SUCCESSES AT A GLANCE

- ✓ Invested an additional \$3 billion into K-12 education, a 19 percent increase.
- ✓ Lowered public college and university tuition rates.
- ✓ Prevented major tax increases.
- ✓ Strengthened Washington's firearm offender registration law.
- ✓ Gave Island County additional tools for transportation planning.
- ✓ Added a third district judge to relieve court backlogs in Skagit County.
- ✓ Extended priority registration for military spouses attending colleges and universities.

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**2016 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
10TH DISTRICT**

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The Legislature completed its business and adjourned from Olympia on March 29 after 60 days of a regular session and 20 days of a special session. We finished after passing a bipartisan supplemental operating budget that prioritized emergencies and court mandates, as well as provided additional funding for K-12 education — all without general tax increases.

It has been my greatest honor serving for the past three-and-a-half years as your 10th District state representative. During that time, but especially in my second term in office as a member of the House Education Committee, we have gone to great lengths to meet our constitutional paramount duty of providing ample resources and responsible policy in kindergarten through 12th grade for the education of our children. I have worked to fund education first while maintaining my opposition to passing unfunded mandates onto our local school districts.

In my legislative committees, I have sought to provide additional tools for law enforcement to protect public safety, secured reforms and efficiencies to help your transportation tax dollars go further, and worked to pass legislation helping military spouses have priority registration in our colleges and universities.

This report provides a brief look at these and other accomplishments. I look forward to working with you to make a difference for our state, our neighbors and our families.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Sincerely,



Rep. Dave Hayes



I am here to serve you!

I work for you throughout the year. Please call, email, send me a letter, or set an appointment to meet with me. My new legislative assistant, Mitchel Chitwood, is happy to take your call.

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COMMITTEES:

- Public Safety
(Assistant Ranking Republican)
- Education
- Transportation
- Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs

EDUCATION REMAINS PARAMOUNT

The \$38.2 billion 2015-17 state operating budget we adopted last June increased funding to K-12 education by nearly \$3 billion — a 19 percent increase. As much as 48 percent of the state budget is now directed for K-12 education — the largest amount in state history.

Teacher cost-of-living adjustments were reinstated, as well as a one-time salary increase for teachers. We also made major investments in early learning and reduced K-3 class sizes. Plus, we lowered tuition at Washington’s colleges and universities.

The supplemental operating budget we passed this year adds another \$15 million for K-12, including \$5 million to recruit and retain K-12 staff and support for beginning teachers. About \$41 million was added for mental-health programs. There’s an additional \$31 million for long-term care services and assistance for the developmentally disabled. The agreement also uses \$190 million from the Rainy Day Fund to pay for wildfire suppression last year.

SPECIAL SESSIONS STOPPED TAX INCREASES

Like many in our community, I became frustrated when the Legislature continued into three special sessions last year and one this year. It is largely because Democrats in the Legislature wanted to raise taxes last year by \$1.5 billion and this year by \$119 million. Republicans said “no” and helped to negotiate a bipartisan two-year operating budget and a supplemental operating budget, both of which increased education funding and avoided major tax increases.



Sen. Barbara Bailey, R-Oak Harbor, and Rep. Dave Hayes, R-Camano Island, talk with students from the Oak Harbor High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) program. The students came to the Capitol on Feb. 24 to witness the House of Representatives’ adoption of House Resolution 4667 by Rep. Hayes that honored the Oak Harbor NJROTC program for its 43-year history of accomplishments.

EDUCATION — What’s next to meet the McCleary education requirements?

The first measure signed by the governor this year, Senate Bill 6195, requires legislative action by the end of the 2017 session to eliminate our dependency on local school levies for basic education. I didn’t support this so-called “plan for a plan,” because it ties future legislatures to spending requirements and puts off key decisions until next year.

The measure establishes an education funding task force to make recommendations for next year, including the possible implementation of a “levy swap” after interim research has been completed on local spending and local labor markets. The concept of a levy swap is to put more of the burden of local school funding on the state and relieve that responsibility from local levies. We have until 2018 to meet the state Supreme Court requirements for fully funding basic education. It is believed these steps will lead to completion of McCleary requirements.



TRANSPORTATION — Moving our district and Washington forward

As a member of the House Transportation Committee, I had two significant transportation-related bills that became law:

- **Island County transportation planning** — House Bill 2815 gives Island County the authority to form a Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO). Under an RTPO, a county can prepare regional and local transportation planning and qualify for state and federal funding. Island County had been doing this for the past 24 years jointly with Skagit County. But last year, Skagit County voted to go it alone. The Legislature approved my Island County RTPO bill this year and it was signed into law.
- **Expedited permitting for bridge replacement** — House Bill 1851 saves time and money for local governments by streamlining the state’s permitting process for replacement of bridges that are deemed structurally deficient. It passed during the 2015 session and was signed into law.



Gov. Jay Inslee and Rep. Dave Hayes stand with the Arciniega family of Granite Falls, following the governor’s signing of House Bill 1052, which gives military spouses priority registration for higher education institutions in Washington. The idea came from Christian Arciniega, whose husband, Andres, is an active duty soldier. The measure was sponsored by Rep. Hayes. From left: Gov. Inslee, Christian Arciniega, Ava Arciniega (front), Kayla Arciniega, Andres Arciniega and Rep. Hayes.



PUBLIC SAFETY — Strengthening Washington’s firearm offender registration law

In 2013, the Legislature passed a measure that created a central firearm offender registry, but gave judges discretion on whether convicted felony firearm offenders would have to register. Fast forward to this year when I discovered out of 1,200 offenders eligible, only 86 were required by judges to register as a firearm offender. What good is a law if judges aren’t following through?

This year, I introduced House Bill 2410. It requires any person convicted or found “not guilty by reason of insanity” of a felony firearm offense involving sexual motivation, a crime against a child, or a serious violent offense to register as a felony firearm offender. Outside of these specific felonies, judges still have discretion of whether offenders must register for firearm crimes. The bill passed the Legislature and was signed into law.

THIRD SKAGIT COUNTY DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Population growth and an increase in cases created a backlog on the Skagit County Court’s docket that threatened our local justice system. To provide needed relief, the Legislature approved House Bill 1061, a measure I sponsored that added a third judge to the Skagit County District Court.