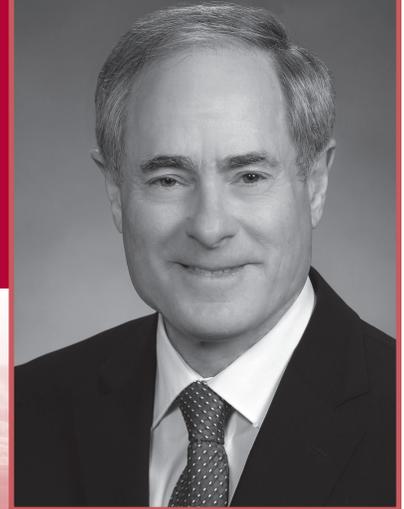


REP. TERRY NEALEY

16th DISTRICT 2012 Legislative Report



KEEPING IN TOUCH

E-mail:

Terry.Nealey@leg.wa.gov

Web page:

www.housepublicans.wa.gov/Nealey

Olympia Office:

P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600
360-786-7828

District Office:

26 East Main Suite 205
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-526-6284

2815 St. Andrews Loop
Suite 2-B
Pasco, WA 99301
509-543-3325

Toll-free Hotline:

1-800-562-6000

TTY (hearing impaired):

1-800-635-9993

Committees:

- Education Appropriations
- Technology, Energy & Communications
- Judiciary
- Environment

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The 2012 legislative sessions have finally come to an end. I am very happy to be back in beautiful Southeast Washington.

These sessions were unique; very challenging, but also highly rewarding. The final day of the session arrived at 7:30 a.m. on April 11, after 24 hours of voting, a 60-day regular session and 31 days of two special sessions.

With the sessions now behind me, I look forward to spending the upcoming months visiting with constituents and hearing about the priorities and issues that impact you, your family and your business.

I hope this newsletter provides you with helpful information and insight about my activities as your representative to the Legislature.

Keeping in touch with those I serve is an essential part of my job. You will find important numbers and addresses in this newsletter. I encourage you to contact me with your questions and comments.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Terry R. Nealey". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Terry Nealey
16th District Representative



Want to get periodic e-mail updates from me? Just visit my Web site and click the "sign up" button.

www.housepublicans.wa.gov/Nealey

2012 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

A SUSTAINABLE OPERATING BUDGET

By the time the Legislature adjourned we were in our sixth special session in the last two years dealing with the budget shortfall. Lacking any long-term approach, I have continually voted “no” on the operating budget. However, that changed this session.

A rare bipartisan coalition in the Senate created a philosophical majority which allowed for negotiating a more sustainable budget. With both parties being forced to compromise, the final budget included reforms and no new sales tax, such as the governor proposed. This operating budget also funds education, protects our most vulnerable citizens and prioritizes public safety. While I still have concerns with the final budget, I felt I could support it.



Rep. Nealey meets with a group of wine grape growers from Eastern Washington. The 16th Legislative District now represents the largest number of wineries and vineyard acres in the state.

Some additional reasons why I was a “yes” vote on the budget are:

- It did not “kick the can down the road” by postponing payments to schools. The original proposed budget delayed more than \$330 million dollars into the next fiscal biennium;
- It did not skip a payment to fund pension plans;
- It did not include a sales tax increase;
- It included reforms such as requiring a balanced budget over four years; medical insurance fairness, and long term pension reform;
- It preserved the funding for critical access hospitals; and
- It reserved levy equalization dollars for schools.



ESTATE TAX

I’m pleased that legislation I sponsored, House Bill 2224, passed this session. This measure modifies collection of estate tax by ensuring heirs who receive small inheritances, from larger estates, do not have to pay estate taxes on them. Heirs receiving larger amounts still pay estate taxes. The governor signed the bill March 29, and it will become law June 7, 2012.

ENERGY

One of the unintended consequences of I-937 forces PUD’s and utilities to purchase additional renewable energy, even when it is not needed. Conservation has reduced customer loads, but it does not qualify for renewable energy credits. I worked with a number of stakeholders to introduce legislation, House Bill 2682, to address this issue and help create a sustainable energy policy. We will continue to work together on this issue to seek solutions.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the final days of session the majority party made it clear that they intended to pass a bill that altered community supervision, Senate Bill 6204.

The aim of this legislation is to institute a new system of immediate but graduated sentences that has been shown to reduce recidivism. However, the legislation caused worry based on the types of offenders that would be released.

Through negotiations, House Republicans found a compromise and we passed an amended version of the bill. I supported the amended measure that guarantees the worst offenders are not allowed to quickly return to the streets.

Additionally, if the worst offenders commit a crime while on community supervision they will immediately go to jail.

TERRY NEALEY ★ 16th DISTRICT



Rep. Nealey was presented the Association of Washington business' Cornerstone Award from AWB Vice President of Government Affairs, Gary Chandler. The award is presented annually to Washington state legislators who have record of 80 percent or better on pro-business votes.



WATER RIGHTS

There is a backlog of water rights applications in Washington state. Previously, a law was passed to allow people outside the Department of Ecology to become independent examiners, but a \$50,000 bond was required for certification. Independent examiners have been unwilling to pay such a large amount in order to become certified. I introduced House Bill 2700 which would allow applicants to provide proof of insurance instead of paying for an expensive bond. This would streamline certification and shorten the costly wait for an approved water right. While the bill did not advance this year, I am determined to move it forward in the next legislative session.



A CAPITAL BUDGET THAT GETS WASHINGTON WORKING

Many people in our district are out of work or fearful of losing the jobs that they have. For this reason I was in support of the capital budget which funds several important, local economic development projects in our district. These projects include:

- Walla Walla State Veterans Home - \$45.6 million
- Southeast Area Technical Skills Center at Walla Walla Community College - \$10.35 million
- Alternative Energy Training and Innovation Center - \$3.67 million
- Railex Warehouse Infrastructure - \$2.75 million
- Pasco Heritage Industrial Rail Expansion – \$1.8 million
- Pasco Rail Hub Development – \$1.4 Million
- Columbia County Blue Mountain Station Site – \$750,000

Washington House Republicans

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16th District

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Video Center
Watch my weekly update of the 2012 session



VISIT MY WEB SITE

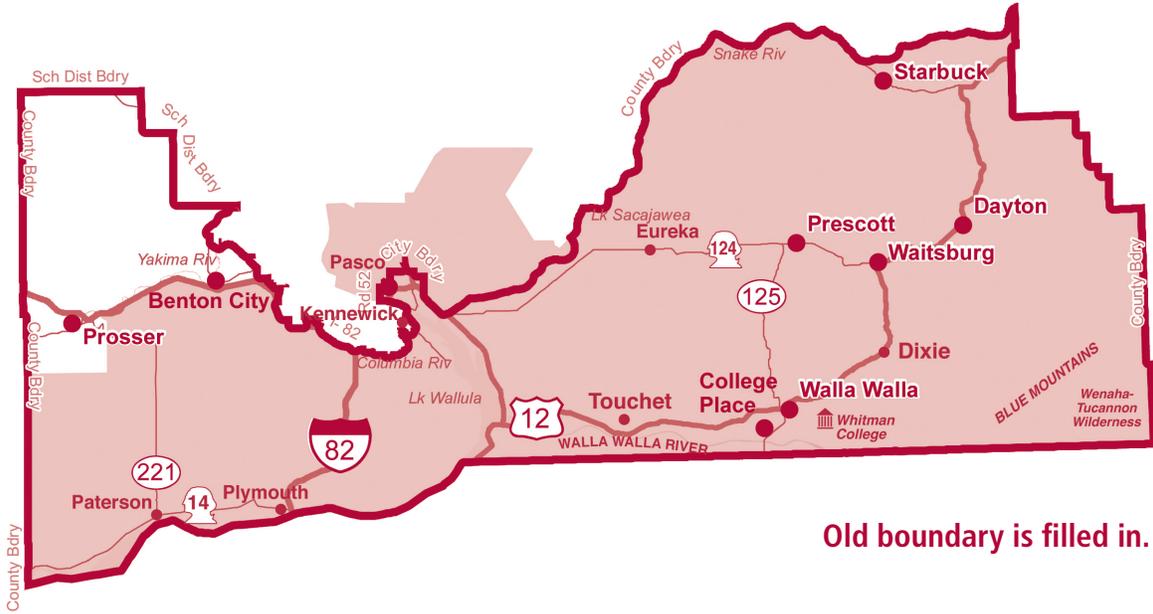
Sign up for my e-news updates, watch my videos, read my news releases, see where I stand on the issues that affect Southeast Washington and more on my Web site.

www.houseRepublicans.wa.gov/Nealey

REP. TERRY NEALEY ★ 16th DISTRICT

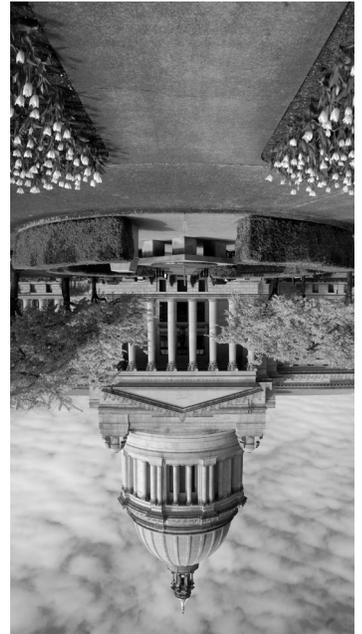
REDISTRICTING

Every ten years following the Census, the bipartisan Washington State Redistricting Commission convenes to redraw the state's legislative and congressional district lines. The process ensures all Washington citizens are fairly represented. You can see the changes in our legislative district in the map below.



Old boundary is filled in.

Printed on recycled paper



P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Rep. Terry Nealey

2012 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

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