

Advocacy 101 Slide Deck



Punnee paapee aakhan naahi. kar kar karnaa likh lai jaahu. Virtue and vice do not come by mere words; actions repeated, again and again, are engraved on the soul. (Pauri 20, Japji Sahib)

Tzedek, tzedek tirdof / צֶדֶק צֶדֶק תִּרְדּוֹף

Justice, justice thou shalt pursue.
(Deuteronomy 16:20, Torah)

“One of the many nuances of the word dharma itself means justice, in the sense of a belief that “all people possess intrinsic value, that all are endowed with inherent dignity and therefore should be helped to realize this dignity.” (Tara Mulay & Tuere Sala quoting Bhikku Bodhi)

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said that God says “I have forbidden oppression/wrongdoing for Myself and have made it forbidden amongst you, so do not oppress/wrong one another.” (Hadith Sahih Muslim)

Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows. (Isaiah 1:17, Bible)

Stand up firmly for justice, as a witness to God, even as against yourselves or your parents or your kin, and whether it be against rich or poor.
(Quran 4:135)

Make a Difference!

**Last year we helped pass
an Alert system for
Washington's missing
Indigenous persons. It
had a strong start.**

Six months in, 22 of 31
missing persons have
been found. (Luna Reyna,
Crosscut/December 28,
2022)



"Experts can be hired.
Real people, with real stories,
cannot." (Nancy Amidei)



Legislative process offers multiple entry points for our advocacy

- When giving our legislators IDEAS for BILLS
- When a bill is discussed in a POLICY COMMITTEE for each chamber, often with public Hearings in which we can sign in or testify (cutoff date in chamber of origin is 2-17-2023)
- When a bill is discussed in a FISCAL COMMITTEE for each chamber if there is a fiscal component (cutoff date in chamber of origin is 2-24-2023)
- When a bill goes to the RULES COMMITTEE
- When a bill is discussed and voted on in the FULL HOUSE and FULL SENATE
- When a bill goes to the GOVERNOR

This is a sample page from FAN's Advocacy Toolkit

← → ↻ fanwa.org/advocacy/advocacy-toolkit/ 🔍 📄 ☆ ⚙️ 👤 Update

FAITH ACTION NETWORK
A member of the Faith Community

Our Network Advocacy Events News Engage & Support About Us

Advocacy Toolkit

HOME ** RESOURCES ** Advocacy Toolkit

This is what faith in action looks like.

Whether you are just getting started or want to provide a refresher for your faith community or social justice group, below are a variety of resources to help. The first section highlights the building blocks of advocacy: **click on the images for documents and links that help you Learn the Basics, Contact Legislators, Mobilize Communities, and Utilize the Media.**

Scroll down to find more specific resources about issues FAN works on year-round. We hope that you will find them helpful to put your faith in action!

If you need help, please contact our Email Faith Action Network at fan@fanwa.org or call us at 206-425-8790. We would love to partner with you in your work.

To learn more about specific bills and legislation, check out our [Issue Fact Sheets](#). During the legislative session, [leg.wa.gov](#) will be your guide, as well the [Legislative Information Center](#).

Learn the Basics

Contact Legislators

Mobilize Communities

Utilize the Media

Additional Community Issues

Below are resources for issues beyond those specified in our [Legislative Issue Fact Sheets](#). We offer them for use in your faith communities.

Climate

Gender & Equity

Immigration

Vaccine

Click on each of the boxes in the center of the page to access links and documents related to that section

Legislative
Information Center:
<https://leg.wa.gov/>

Page from FAN
Advocacy Toolkit
showing some links

fanwa.org/advocacy/advocacy-toolkit/contact-legislators/

[Home](#) >> [Advocacy](#) >> [Advocacy Toolkit](#) >> Contact Legislators

This section of the Advocacy Toolkit provides helpful tips on contacting legislators on the state and federal levels through letter writing, phone calls, and in-person meetings.

[Find Your Districts:](#)
You can find both legislative and congressional districts at this link.

[Tips for Meeting with Legislators:](#)
This link provides an overview of how to meet with legislators.

[Advocacy by Letter, Postcard, or Email:](#)
How to contact your legislator via written word.

[Advocacy By Telephone:](#)
How to contact your legislator over the phone.

[How to Conduct a Virtual Meeting:](#)
How to contact your legislator in the time of COVID-19 and social distancing.

[Communicating with Congress: Emails, Letters, and Phone Calls:](#)
Tips for contacting federal elected officials.

[Developing Effective Messages/Desarrollo de Mensajes Efectivos:](#)
This link outlines how to create an effective message to take to legislative meetings, including a template to use in preparation. (English/Español)


[8 Tips for a Successful Olympia Visit:](#)
Read this document before preparing for a visit with your state legislators.

[8 Tips for a Successful Congressional Visit:](#)
Read this document before preparing for a visit with your federal legislators.

[Meeting with Your Legislator During the Interim:](#)
The Washington State legislature is in session only a few months per year. The off-season is a great time to meet with elected officials in their home districts to discuss the issues that matter to you!

[Meeting with Congress Members during the August Recess:](#)
The US Congress typically recesses during the month of August each year. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Advocacy Network shares this guide to

Legislative Information Center: <https://leg.wa.gov/> (sample page)



WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Legislature Home

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

Legislature Home

During 2022, in response to COVID-19, the House and Senate have made operational changes to adhere to public health guidance. Please go to the [House Covid-19 Operations](#) and [Senate Covid-19 Operations](#) plans for more details. All proceedings can be viewed on TVW. To view legislative proceedings click [here](#) for TVW. Please click [here](#) to go to the committee website pages. To find your Legislator click [here](#) or click [here](#) to send a message to your Legislator.

What's happening on the floor?

The Legislature will convene for a Regular Session on January 9, 2023.

[House Floor Calendar](#) | [House Display Board](#) | [Senate Floor Calendar](#) | [Senate Display Board](#)


Please check the [Committee Schedules](#) website for the most up-to-date information concerning individual committee meeting dates and agendas.

Scheduled hearings and floor sessions: 01/04/2023

Committee	Agenda	Date/Time	Location	View Video	Last Updated
JLARC - Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee (J)	Agenda	1/04/2023 10:00 AM	HHR A and Virtual	View Video	12/28/2022
JLARC I-900 Subcommittee for SAO Performance Audits (O)	Agenda	1/04/2023 1:00 PM	HHR A and Virtual	View Video	12/28/2022

Highlights

Legislative Hotline: 1.800.562.6000



Let Your Voice Be Heard

- [Contact Your Legislators](#)
- [Participating in the Process](#)
- [Find Member Information/Rosters](#)
- [Accessibility Information](#)

Find

- [Laws & Rules](#)
- [Your District & Legislators](#)
- [Bills](#)

IDENTIFY & LEARN ABOUT YOUR LEGISLATORS

- Find out which district you live in and who represents you in the WA legislature, as well as their aides.

<https://fanwa.org/advocacy/advocacy-toolkit/learn-the-basics/>

OR

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

- Legislative pages: Short biography, list of committees they're on and bills they are sponsoring at www.leg.wa.gov

LEARN ABOUT BILLS THAT MATTER TO YOU

PRIORITY AREAS OF ADVOCACY FOR FAITH ACTION NETWORK

In each category of our legislative agenda, we seek to advocate for and implement systems and policies that advance **racial equity**.

- PROMOTE ECONOMIC JUSTICE
- PROTECT AND EXPAND THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET
- REFORM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
- INCREASE GUN RESPONSIBILITY and PUBLIC SAFETY
- PROVIDE SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
- PROTECT HEALTHCARE ACCESS
- SUPPORT IMMIGRANT and REFUGEE RIGHTS



Bill Tracker

[Home](#) >> [Advocacy](#) >> Bill Tracker

Who are My Legislators?

Find out who your Washington State legislators are for [your legislative district](#).

The FAN Bill Tracker is updated once a week on Fridays. To check for more up-to-date information, click on the bill number to take you to the official Bill Information page on the [Washington State Legislature website](#).

Updated March 30, 2022

What's the Status of a Bill?

You can find more details on any bill from the legislature's [Bill information](#) page.

Advocating for a Economic Justice and Reducing Poverty

Category	Bill Number	Prime Sponsor	Bill Title/Description	Bill Status
Food/Nutrition	HB 1878 SB 5798	Rep. Riccioli Sen. C. Wilson	Expand free lunches to all students	PASSED. Governor signed on 3/4.
Food/Nutrition	HB 1833	Rep. Berg	Statewide multilingual tool for school meal applications and programs	PASSED. Governor signed on 3/23.
Economic Justice	SB 5838 HB 1947	Sen. Nobles Rep. Frame	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) diaper subsidy	PASSED. Governor signed on 3/17. Did not move past House Appropriations Committee. SB 5838 moved this policy forward.
Economic Justice	HB 2048	Rep. Peterson	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) time limit extensions	Did not move past House Rules Committee.

WAYS TO ADVOCATE

In-person/
Zoom

Online:
Emails
Bill comment form

Phone Call

Contact
the media

Testimony or
signing in
pro/con



"We speak as faith community leaders who believe that the moral compass of our nation is moving in a troubling direction...."

METHODS FOR CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATORS

The Washington State Legislature offers several methods for contacting legislators, leaving messages, and providing individual positions on bills and subject matters. Methods for contacting legislators are as follows: (1) [bill comment form](#), (2) [member e-mail forms](#), (3) direct email, (4) U.S. Postal Service [using addresses listed on the member directory pages: [House](#) / [Senate](#)], and (5) by phone. Each method is outlined in detail below.

Furthermore, classes are offered free of charge to those wishing to learn more about the legislative process, navigating the legislative web pages, tracking bills, and searching for RCWs, WACs, bills, and related documents: <http://leg.wa.gov/LIC/Pages/classes.aspx>.

Questions regarding contacting your legislators, attending classes, or general legislative business can be directed to support@leg.wa.gov.

BILL COMMENT FORM

1. Navigate to <http://leg.wa.gov>.
2. Click **Bill Information**.
3. Enter bill number in the Search by **Bill Number** text box.



WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Bill Information

Note: This page and the bill summary page have been redesigned as the first step in a long process to combine Bill information and related legislative documents sections of this website. If you encounter any difficulty using these pages, please let us know at support@leg.wa.gov.

Search by Bill Number

118 1191 2017-18 Search

Find Specific Text in a Bill

Search the full text of a bill

- If bill number is unknown, click the following link for tips on finding a bill number: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/plc>.
4. Click **Search**.
 5. Click **Comment on this bill** (located in the upper right hand corner).
 6. Complete form and **submit**.

MEMBER E-MAIL FORMS

1. Navigate to <http://leg.wa.gov>.
2. Click **Member Information / Rosters**.
3. Click appropriate **Chamber** under E-mail Forms.
4. Click **Member's Name**.
5. Complete form and **submit**.

DIRECT EMAIL

1. Navigate to <http://leg.wa.gov>.
2. Click **Member Information / Rosters**.
3. Click appropriate **Chamber** under Email Forms.
4. Create a new email message in tool of choice (i.e., Outlook, Yahoo, Gmail).
5. Use Email shown for member under Email column to **address message**.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

1. Navigate to <http://leg.wa.gov>.
 2. Click **Member Information / Rosters**.
 3. Click appropriate **Chamber** under Member Directory Pages.
 4. Scroll down page to view members' addresses.
- *Note: If a member is in district the district address will be listed; otherwise, the member is assumed to be in the Olympia office.*

BY PHONE

1. Navigate to <http://leg.wa.gov>.
 2. Click **Member Information / Rosters**.
 3. Click appropriate **Chamber** under Member Directory Pages.
 4. Scroll down page to view members' phone number(s).
- *Note: If a member is in district the district phone number will be listed; otherwise, the member is assumed to be in the Olympia office.*

OR

- *Call the Legislative Hotline, 1.800.562.6000, to leave a message for one or all the Legislators that represent your district. To find the Legislators that represent you, see Find Your District & Legislators below.*

FIND YOUR DISTRICT & LEGISLATORS

1. Navigate to <http://leg.wa.gov>.
2. Click **Find Your District & Legislators**.
3. Enter your street address, including city, state, and zip.
4. Click **Find My District**.

<https://leg.wa.gov/LIC/Documents/Contacting%20Your%20Legislators.pdf>

Legislative Information Center
360-786-7573
support@leg.wa.gov



IN PERSON/ ZOOM

Save the dates:

FAN legislative preview
Thursday, January 5 (6-7 PM) - Online

FAN advocacy 101
Sunday, January 8 (2-3 PM) - Online

Eastern WA Legislative Conference
Saturday, January 21 - Spokane & Online

Interfaith Advocacy Day
Thursday, February 9 - Olympia

More information
and registration:
<https://fanwa.org/interfaith-advocacy-day/>

FAITH ACTION NETWORK
A Partnership for the Common Good



ONLINE

Email from the comfort of your armchair



- a) Member email forms (Navigate to <http://leg.wa.gov>; click on "member info/rosters" to the right under "Let Your Voice be Heard"; click appropriate chamber under email forms; click member's name; complete form and submit)
- b) Directly: FIRST NAME.LAST NAME@LEG.WA.GOV
e.g., laurie.dolan@leg.wa.gov

Submit a comment on the legislative website

- Go to Washington's legislative website → Legislative Information Center → Methods to Contact Your Legislator → Comment
- Option to contact all your legislators at once

PHONE CALL

- a) Call directly. Phone number on WA legislative website → Member Info/Rosters
- b) Call on the legislative hotline: 1.800.562.6000



- Handy thing about this is that you can provide one message to all three of your representatives and the governor all at the same time.
- With interpreter services. (TTY for hearing impaired: 1-800-635-9993)
- During legislative session, open M-F 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

CONTACT the MEDIA

Letters to the editor to add pressure

TESTIMONY & CONVEYING YOUR POSITION FOR A HEARING

If you know the number of the bill you want to advocate for, as well as the name of the Committee hearing the bill, you can testify or sign in your position. You can get more information about each of these [here](#). FAN will also send you links for signing in pro/con on bills in our weekly emails. Options include:

1) **Testify orally either in person or remotely through zoom**

Often the group sponsoring legislation will identify some seasoned speakers to go first

2) **Submit Written Testimony**

If you do not wish to testify aloud in a committee hearing, you can still submit written testimony on a bill for the legislative record.

3) **State Your Position on a Bill Without Testifying**

Committee Sign In - Remote Testimony also allows you to select a chamber, committee, and bill, then indicate you wish to have your position noted (pro/con) for the legislative record.

Treat yourself afterwards!



Creating An Effective Message

- Tell your story
- Tell others' stories
- Emphasize your messengers and supporters (gives credibility)
- You don't need to be a policy expert!
- Demonstrate consistency and repetition
- Elevate directly impacted communities
- End with a call to action
- Make an ask and make an ask again



Do's and Don'ts

Don't endorse candidates

Don't get caught in the weeds on policy

Don't think you are unqualified

DO demonstrate shared interests

DO share your story

DO share about who else supports your
message

DO keep it brief

DO know your audience



For a step-by step process to developing an effective message, go to the FAN Advocacy Toolkit, Contact Legislators box, to access the link [Developing Effective Messages](#), in both Spanish and English.

Abbreviated Messaging Examples

Free School Meals for All Students: Providing meals as part of the right to education. This is a pathway to end child hunger and relieve financial burden on families.
(Jeff DeBray)

The following paragraph from an op ed by Rep. My Linh Thai is a great example of messaging even though it's not a policy ask):

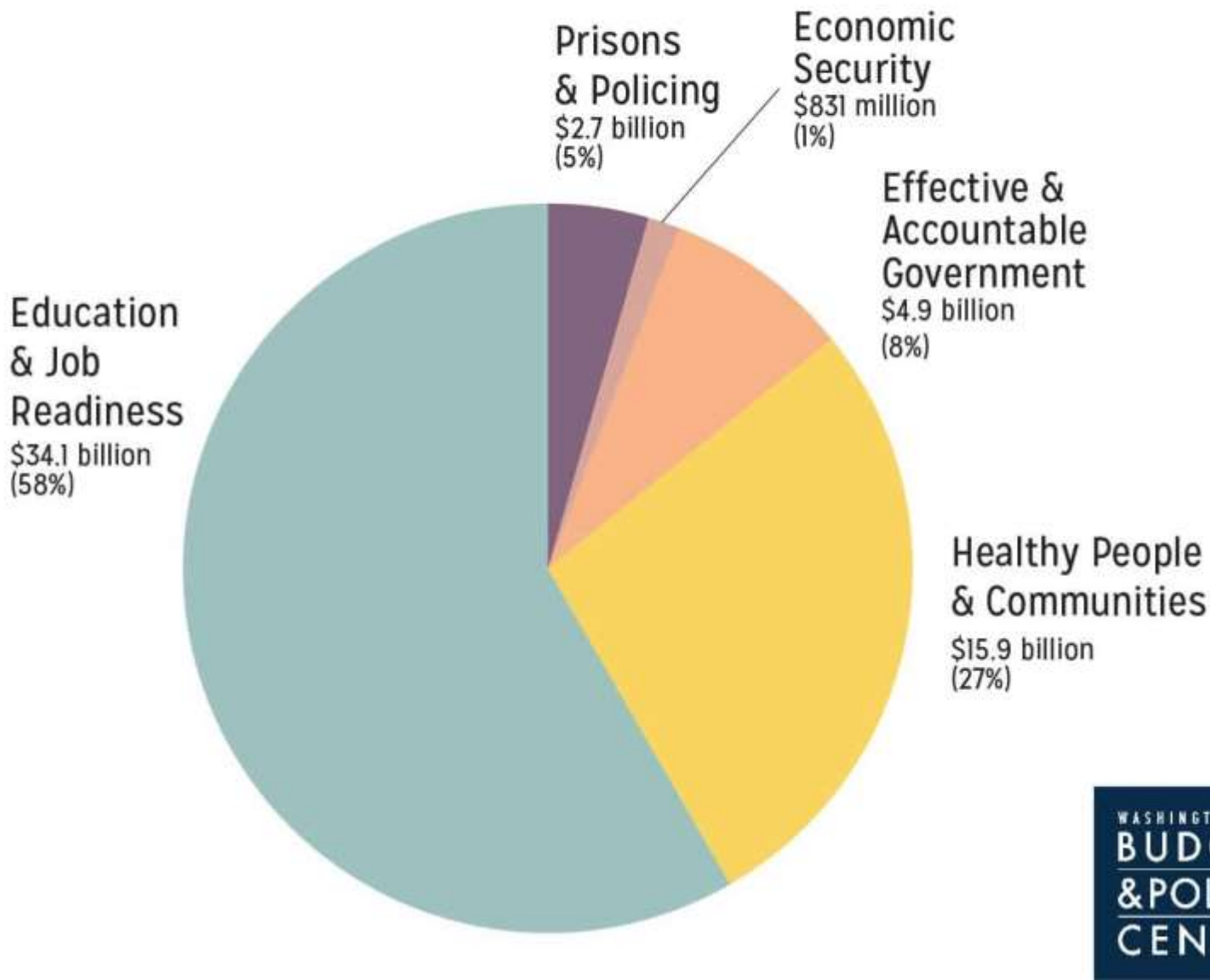
“I want to live in a Washington where people feel that they belong, that they are trusted, and that their community has their back. Everyone in our state should have the opportunities and support they need to thrive, and the Working Families Tax Credit can help do that. I urge all of you to spread the word to your neighbors and loved ones that this tax credit will be available to them in 2023. Let’s make sure every single eligible household applies and receives their cash.”

PLANNING ADVOCACY IN YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Check in the Mobilizing
Communities section of the
Advocacy Toolkit for ideas and
steps

State budget reflects lawmakers' values

Budget investments by funding area, 2021-23 operating budget, enacted



<https://budgetandpolicy.org/resources-tools/2020/12/2020-12-23-Gov-proposed-21-23-PI-value-pie-chart-updated-language.jpg>



Q&A and Sharing Your Suggestions



Policy Priorities – Kristin Ang



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**GO FORTH TO
TAKE ACTION!!!**

Stay in touch with us!
Subscribe at FANWA.org
for weekly emails or special invitations

Contact FAN staff at:

General inquiries FAN@fanwa.org

Partnership Coordinator, Elizabeth Dickinson Dickinson@fanwa.org

Policy Engagement Director, Kristin Ang Ang@fanwa.org

Call us at 206-625-9790