

SECOND DAY, JANUARY 11, 2022

2022 REGULAR SESSION

SECOND DAY

MORNING SESSION

Senate Chamber, Olympia
Tuesday, January 11, 2022

The Senate was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by the President of the Senate, Lt. Governor Heck presiding. No roll call was taken.

MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Pedersen, the reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed with and it was approved.

On motion of Senator Pedersen, the Senate advanced to the fourth order of business.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

January 11, 2022

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Speaker has signed:

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4405,

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4406,

and the same are herewith transmitted.

BERNARD DEAN, Chief Clerk

MOTION

On motion of Senator Pedersen, the Senate advanced to the fifth order of business.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

SB 5765 by Senators Randall and Keiser

AN ACT Relating to the practice of midwifery; and amending RCW 18.50.005, 18.50.010, 18.50.040, 18.50.102, 18.50.108, and 18.50.115.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5766 by Senators Randall and Trudeau

AN ACT Relating to preserving a pregnant individual's ability to access abortion care; amending RCW 9.02.100, 9.02.110, 9.02.130, 9.02.140, 9.02.160, 9.02.170, and 9.02.120; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5767 by Senators Stanford and Rivers

AN ACT Relating to regulating hemp-derived cannabinoids; amending RCW 69.50.101, 69.50.325, 69.50.326, and 69.50.363; reenacting and amending RCW 69.50.101; adding a new section to chapter 69.50 RCW; creating a new section; providing an effective date; providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs.

SB 5768 by Senator Kuderer

AN ACT Relating to protecting public health and safety by enhancing the regulation of vapor products; amending RCW

70.345.010 and 70.345.075; and adding new sections to chapter 70.345 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5769 by Senator Wilson, L.

AN ACT Relating to reforming the state tax system by providing tax relief to residents, employees, and employers; amending RCW 84.48.010, 84.69.020, 82.04.240, 82.04.2404, 82.04.260, 82.04.2909, 82.04.294, 82.04.280, and 82.32.790; adding a new section to chapter 84.36 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 84.52 RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW 82.87.010, 82.87.020, 82.87.030, 82.87.040, 82.87.050, 82.87.060, 82.87.070, 82.87.080, 82.87.090, 82.87.100, 82.87.110, 82.87.120, 82.87.130, 82.87.140, 82.04.4497, 82.87.150, 50B.04.010, 50B.04.020, 50B.04.030, 50B.04.040, 50B.04.050, 50B.04.060, 50B.04.070, 50B.04.080, 50B.04.085, 50B.04.090, 50B.04.095, 50B.04.100, 50B.04.110, 50B.04.120, 50B.04.130, 50B.04.140, 50B.04.150, 50B.04.160, and 50B.04.900; repealing 2017 3rd sp.s. c 37 s 518, 2017 c 135 s 9, 2010 c 114 s 104, and 2003 c 149 s 3; repealing 2021 c 196 ss 18 and 20 (uncodified); providing an effective date; and providing a contingent effective date.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5770 by Senator Mullet

AN ACT Relating to providing Washington state convention economy grants; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5771 by Senators Holy and Randall

AN ACT Relating to including certain residents who do not have a high school diploma or credential and the number of students expected to enroll in basic education for adults courses at community and technical colleges in caseload forecast council forecasting; amending RCW 43.88C.010 and 43.88C.050; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

SB 5772 by Senators Saldaña and Nguyen

AN ACT Relating to postconviction access to counsel; amending RCW 2.70.020 and 10.73.150; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5773 by Senators Stanford and Keiser

AN ACT Relating to extending collective bargaining rights to employees of the legislative branch of state government; amending RCW 41.80.005 and 41.80.010; and adding new sections to chapter 41.80 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs.

SB 5774 by Senator Conway

AN ACT Relating to creation of a work group to study and make recommendations on a monument to honor residents who died in the global war on terror; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

SB 5775 by Senators Wellman and Short

AN ACT Relating to the acceleration of broadband deployment; amending RCW 35.99.010; adding a new section to chapter 35.99 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 36 RCW; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5776 by Senators Trudeau and Dhingra

AN ACT Relating to creating the criminal justice integrated data system and a violence and death investigation resource center; amending RCW 42.56.240 and 43.103.040; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; and adding a new chapter to Title 10 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5777 by Senator Braun

AN ACT Relating to addressing the vaccination for COVID-19 requirement for children attending schools or day care centers; and amending RCW 28A.210.080.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5778 by Senator Braun

AN ACT Relating to addressing the current backlog of vehicle inspections; and amending RCW 46.12.560.

Referred to Committee on Transportation.

SB 5779 by Senator Padden

AN ACT Relating to oversight of bail funds; amending RCW 19.09.020 and 19.09.075; adding a new section to chapter 19.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.09 RCW; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5780 by Senator Padden

AN ACT Relating to altering eligibility for the graduated reentry program; amending RCW 9.94A.733; and reenacting and amending RCW 9.94A.728.

Referred to Committee on Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation.

SB 5781 by Senator Padden

AN ACT Relating to organized retail theft; and amending RCW 9A.56.350.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5782 by Senator Conway

AN ACT Relating to the defense community compatibility account; and amending RCW 43.330.515 and 43.330.520.

Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

SB 5783 by Senator Conway

AN ACT Relating to reestablishing the underground economy task force; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs.

SB 5784 by Senators Lovelett and Conway

AN ACT Relating to adding psychologists for mental health only claims to the list of those who can act as an attending provider; amending RCW 51.04.050, 51.28.010, 51.28.020, 51.28.030, 51.32.055, 51.32.090, 51.32.095, 51.36.010, 51.36.022, 51.36.060, and 51.36.070; adding a new section to chapter 51.08 RCW; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs.

SB 5785 by Senators Lovelett and Wilson, C.

AN ACT Relating to transitional food assistance; and amending RCW 74.08A.010.

Referred to Committee on Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation.

SB 5786 by Senator Schoesler

AN ACT Relating to protecting Puget Sound from wastewater pollution by requiring the department of ecology to strengthen the Puget Sound nutrient general permit; creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5787 by Senator Nguyen

AN ACT Relating to the linked deposit program; amending RCW 43.86A.030, 43.86A.040, and 43.86A.050; and reenacting and amending RCW 43.86A.060.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5788 by Senators Pedersen and Padden

AN ACT Relating to guardianship of minors; and amending RCW 11.130.225, 13.04.030, 26.12.172, 26.23.050, 11.130.010, 11.130.085, 11.130.210, and 11.130.215.

Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

SB 5789 by Senators Randall and Nobles

AN ACT Relating to creating the Washington career and college pathways innovation challenge program; reenacting and amending RCW 43.79A.040; adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW; and repealing RCW 28B.120.005, 28B.120.010, 28B.120.020, 28B.120.025, 28B.120.030, 28B.120.040, and 28B.120.900.

Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

SB 5790 by Senator Braun

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AN ACT Relating to strengthening critical community support services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; amending RCW 74.29.020, 74.29.037, 74.29.050, 74.29.080, and 28A.155.220; reenacting and amending RCW 74.29.010; adding a new section to chapter 71A.12 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 74.29 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5791 by Senator Schoesler

AN ACT Relating to law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system benefits; amending RCW 41.26.420, 41.26.463, 41.45.155, 41.45.158, 41.45.0604, and 41.26.802; adding new sections to chapter 41.26 RCW; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5792 by Senator Warnick

AN ACT Relating to tax incentives; amending RCW 84.25.030, 82.60.049, 82.04.294, 82.60.020, and 82.60.120; adding a new section to chapter 82.60 RCW; creating a new section; providing an effective date; and providing expiration dates.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5793 by Senators Wilson, C. and Trudeau

AN ACT Relating to stipends for low-income or underrepresented community members of state boards, commissions, councils, committees, and other similar groups; adding a new section to chapter 43.03 RCW; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

SB 5794 by Senators Dhingra and Kuderer

AN ACT Relating to continuity of coverage for prescription drugs prescribed for the treatment of behavioral health conditions; amending RCW 41.05.017; adding a new section to chapter 48.43 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5795 by Senator Hasegawa

AN ACT Relating to the application of the consumer protection act to the fair servicing and repair of manufactured products; adding a new chapter to Title 19 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5796 by Senators Saldaña and Stanford

AN ACT Relating to restructuring cannabis revenue appropriations to provide transparency and accountability and to increase community infrastructure and investment; amending RCW 69.50.530 and 69.50.540; and adding a new section to chapter 43.79 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs.

SB 5797 by Senators Liias and Short

AN ACT Relating to the opportunity scholarship program; and amending RCW 28B.145.010, 28B.145.030, and 28B.145.100.

Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

SB 5798 by Senator Wilson, C.

AN ACT Relating to increasing public school participation in the community eligibility provision of the United States department of agriculture; amending RCW 28A.235.300; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5799 by Senator Robinson

AN ACT Relating to modifying the application of the workforce education investment surcharge to provider clinics and affiliated organizations; amending RCW 82.04.299; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5800 by Senator Schoesler

AN ACT Relating to modifying tax and revenue laws in a manner that is estimated to not affect state or local tax collections by easing compliance burdens for taxpayers, clarifying ambiguities, making technical corrections, and providing administrative efficiencies; amending RCW 14.08.122, 19.02.115, 82.02.210, 82.04.299, 82.08.025661, 82.08.820, 82.08.9997, 82.12.02685, 82.12.820, 82.12.9997, 82.32.330, 82.32.534, 82.32.790, 82.62.030, and 84.52.065; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

SB 5801 by Senator Keiser

AN ACT Relating to attorney and witness fees in industrial insurance court appeals; and amending RCW 51.52.130.

Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs.

SB 5802 by Senator Fortunato

AN ACT Relating to providing additional financial relief for property owners using the senior citizen and disabled persons property tax exemption and deferral programs by increasing the income thresholds and lowering the interest rate for deferred property taxes; amending RCW 84.36.383, 84.36.385, 84.38.020, and 84.38.100; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5803 by Senator Rolfes

AN ACT Relating to establishing a presumption of liability for wildfires caused by an electric utility's equipment; amending RCW 76.04.760 and 76.04.495; adding a new section to chapter 4.24 RCW; adding a new section to

chapter 80.04 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5804 by Senator Braun

AN ACT Relating to prohibiting gain-of-function research; adding a new section to chapter 70.54 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5805 by Senator McCune

AN ACT Relating to requiring parental or legal guardian approval before a child participates in comprehensive sexual health education; amending RCW 28A.300.475; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5806 by Senator McCune

AN ACT Relating to providing parents and legal guardians access to instructional materials; adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

SB 5807 by Senator Warnick

AN ACT Relating to improving behavioral health outcomes for adults and children by enhancing engagement of state hospitals with the patients, their family members, and natural supports; amending RCW 72.23.010, 72.23.020, 72.23.025, 72.23.170, and 72.23.200; and adding new sections to chapter 72.23 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5808 by Senator King

AN ACT Relating to providing spoken language interpreters for medical appointments when the original spoken language interpreter fails to appear; and amending RCW 39.26.300.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5809 by Senator Brown

AN ACT Relating to increasing the state's investment in cancer research to improve health outcomes and save lives; amending RCW 43.348.080; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5810 by Senators Mullet and Dozier

AN ACT Relating to insurance regulation; and adding a new section to chapter 48.01 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Business, Financial Services & Trade.

SB 5811 by Senator Rivers

AN ACT Relating to freedom of pharmacy choice; amending RCW 48.200.020 and 48.200.280; and adding a new section to chapter 48.200 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5812 by Senators Warnick and Stanford

AN ACT Relating to including Benton county as a county qualifying for the farm internship program; amending RCW 49.12.471; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks.

SB 5813 by Senators Carlyle and Nguyen

AN ACT Relating to establishing data privacy protections to strengthen a consumer's ability to access, manage, and protect their personal data; adding a new section to chapter 42.56 RCW; adding new chapters to Title 19 RCW; creating a new section; prescribing penalties; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

SB 5814 by Senator Cleveland

AN ACT Relating to providing funding for medical evaluations of suspected victims of child abuse; adding new sections to chapter 7.68 RCW; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation.

SB 5815 by Senators Cleveland and Saldaña

AN ACT Relating to implementing an identicard program to provide individuals a Washington state-issued identicard; adding a new section to chapter 43.185C RCW; and providing an effective date.

Referred to Committee on Transportation.

SB 5816 by Senator Wagoner

AN ACT Relating to repealing the statewide 988 behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention line tax and funding the program through the state general fund; amending RCW 82.86.050; amending 2021 c 302 ss 301, 302, and 303 (uncodified); repealing RCW 82.86.020, 82.86.030, and 82.86.040; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SB 5817 by Senator Frockt

AN ACT Relating to restricting the use of synthetic media in campaigns for elective office; amending RCW 42.17A.005 and 42.17A.340; and adding a new section to chapter 42.17A RCW.

Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

SB 5818 by Senators Salomon and Liias

AN ACT Relating to promoting housing construction in cities through amendments to and limiting appeals under the state environmental policy act and growth management act; amending RCW 36.70A.600, 36.70A.070, 43.21C.495, 43.21C.501, and 4.84.370; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

Referred to Committee on Housing & Local Government.

Governor who appeared virtually from the State Reception Room.

SB 5819 by Senator Braun

AN ACT Relating to the developmental disabilities administration's no-paid services caseload; and adding a new section to chapter 71A.10 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

SJM 8008 by Senators Das and Lovelett

Asking the United States Government to enter into a fossil fuel nonproliferation treaty.

Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

Governor Inslee: “Good afternoon and welcome, Washingtonians, to a critical year in the state of Washington, uh, for our state.

We know every day of this legislative session is going to be an opportunity to make good on our commitments and to change the course of our future for the better. We have begun a short session with a long list of things to get done.

I can encapsulate the state of our state very simply – we need action.

We can wake up every morning the next 60 days understanding we need 'action, this day' – which was Churchill’s first order at the beginning of World War II, and I think it can serve to focus us on the tasks before us.

I would like to start today by thanking our frontline workers, our educators, our childcare providers, and our state employees for all they’ve done the last two years. I want to thank those who administer emergency services and plow the roads to keep Washington moving. Unprecedented weather events have demanded much of you already this year, including the National Guard, and we are all grateful.

And a special thank you to the health care workers who've worked tirelessly for two years with little time for rest. You are heroes, and we are grateful for your service.

I am very happy to welcome our new members in the Senate – Yasmin Trudeau and John Lovick – and Brandy Donaghy to the House.

My thoughts are also with the family of former state Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Fairhurst, who we lost in December.

And I would like to reiterate our condolences to the family of Senator Doug Ericksen, who we lost after a struggle with COVID in December. He is one of more than 10,000 Washingtonians lost to this virus – each of whom whose lives matter. And while we mourn our losses, let us also realize that because of our joint actions, we have saved thousands of lives.

We still need to contribute to the fight against COVID, that’s why attendance here today is limited, and everyone is socially distanced. We are doing everything possible today to keep people safe statewide: We are increasing access to testing, masking, and helping educators find new ways of doing business. The Legislature has been a strong partner in this pandemic. Last session, they extended 26 emergency orders through the end of the pandemic and made laudable investments in our recovery efforts.

This has been a long effort, but we are undaunted.

Look at all we have done together. If you compare our success to other states, we’ve saved more than 17,000 Washington lives. These people are still with us because of what all Washingtonians have contributed to stay safe and healthy.

It’s not an accident that our state continues to be named one of the best places anywhere to live, to work, to do business.

Since I’ve had the honor of being governor, we have implemented one of the best paid family leave programs in the country; we've provided significant new funds to schools under McCleary; we've passed the best environmental justice legislation in America; passed the Fair Start for and Kids Act to protect childcare options. We've successfully created more ways to connect people to careers beyond just college path. We've come back from multiple disasters, the Skagit Bridge collapse, the Oso landslide, historic wildfires, heat waves, drought, and now unprecedented flooding.

So you, as legislators, have a lot to be proud of. But now we

MOTION

On motion of Senator Pedersen, all measures listed on the Introduction and First Reading report were referred to the committees as designated.

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

President Heck: “For the information of those present we’ll now be going at ease to convene in joint session with the House of Representatives for the purpose of receiving Governor Inslee’s state of the state address. We will then return to the Senate floor to adjourn for the day.”

SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT

Pursuant to Article 2, Section 32 of the State Constitution and Senate Rule 1(5), the President announced the signing of and thereupon did sign in open session:

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4405 and HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4406.

MOTION

At 11:48 a.m., the President declared the Senate to be at ease for the purpose of convening a Joint Session with the House of Representatives and subject to the call of the President.

JOINT SESSION

Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 4406, the Senate appeared virtually at the Chamber of the House of Representatives. The senators were admitted into the virtual Chamber.

The Speaker (Representative Jinkins presiding) called upon President Heck to preside over the Joint Session. The President of the Senate accepted the gavel from the Speaker at the House Rostrum.

The President of the Senate, Lieutenant Governor Heck, called the Joint Session to order. The Clerk called the roll of the members of the House of Representatives. The Clerk called the roll of the members of the Senate. A quorum of the Legislature was declared present.

President Heck: “This Joint Session has been convened to receive the state of the state message from His Excellency, Governor Jay Inslee.”

The President introduced His Excellency, Jay Robert Inslee,

are going to be called upon to do more.

We face a variety and dimension of demands greater than ever as we enter 2022.

We must take action this day to keep and strengthen our commitments to those in need right now and in the future. We must take action this day to fight the homelessness crisis; to reverse social and economic disparities; to educate our children and serve those in foster care; to fund our transportation system; and to protect our salmon and orca. We must take action, this day, to fight the threat of climate change that is now hitting us so hard across our state.

Over the last year I've met people experiencing homelessness across our state, in Tacoma, Moses Lake, Walla Walla, Seattle and Spokane. We have seen what works to improve people's lives: A private place to live with a sense of dignity. That's why my supplemental budget includes an unprecedented \$815 million investment in safe housing for those experiencing homelessness and to create more options for those struggling with housing availability.

This budget also increases behavioral health services, continuing my administration's successful investments in these life-changing programs.

All of us know that wrap-around services are critical to helping people out of long-term homelessness. It is fundamental that people not only get a roof over their heads but get access to these necessary services. We simply have to provide rapid supportive housing as soon as possible, this year.

We also I think realize we need more opportunities for everyone when it comes to housing itself. We can't get more housed if there's nowhere to build housing.

So we must pass legislation that removes antiquated barriers to middle housing options in our cities – such as duplexes and town homes – and provides more housing supply to make sure it's available to all income levels. Look, we just can't tell our constituents we're fighting homelessness and yet not provide ways to actually build more housing. That means we must allow housing that meets the realities of our tremendous population and economic growth this century. I think this is also a generational issue, when you think about it: If our children and grandchildren are ever going to afford rent or a mortgage, we need more affordable housing.

My budget also reflects our need to take direct action to reduce poverty. I created a Poverty Reduction Workgroup, made up of people who have lived experiences in poverty so they could inform us. And using their recommendations, my budget would create a \$125 million reinvestment fund to address economic and social disparities across decades that are the legacy of federal policies that have hurt communities of color.

Our communities are suffering in other ways as well, like in our classrooms.

We know students have lost opportunities during remote learning despite the incredible efforts of our educators. To keep schools open, we have to invest more to deal with COVID and address learning opportunity loss.

We are committed to having our schools open this year, but the impacts of necessary closures linger. To help make sure educators and students have what they need, I propose reinvesting \$900 million to help schools address students' critical needs.

This proposal further empowers educators so that they can innovate to address what kids have suffered through because of COVID, just as they have done throughout the pandemic. Educators, when empowered, can develop solutions to overcome opportunity gaps.

We also propose increasing the number of school counselors, nurses, psychologists, and social workers available to serve K-12 students. Anyone who works with kids will tell you these services

are needed now more than ever.

Young people in foster care and their families also have been uniquely impacted by the pandemic. So we offer \$80 million to pay providers more for housing and support foster youth with complex needs; to help young people transition out of foster care or juvenile justice to a successful future.

While we put the pieces together to address these current needs that confront our communities, we also have to take action this day to address the long-term, existential threats to this state.

In December, I spoke with astronaut Kayla Barron, she's a Richland High School graduate. I was in my home – Kayla was aboard the International Space Station. She's a long way from home right now. She's traveling at 17,500 miles per hour above us, she's orbiting the Earth once every 90 minutes, so I was pretty honored that she took my call.

I asked her what perspective this experience gave her about our collective home, this planet. She said something that really has stuck with me.

She told me she was amazed by how thin our atmosphere is, how at night there is a burnt orange glow at its edge revealing just how paper thin the layer is between a livable world and the nothingness of space. She said, 'The most important thing we need to survive is the ability to breathe clean air.'

Our planet's fragile state is pretty clear from right here on the ground as well. Climate change is not merely a graph on a slide deck with an arrow pointed at calamity. It's found in the eyes of people who saw floods go through their windows in Everson last month; in the evacuees who returned to see the charred ruins of their homes in Malden; or the people in the Colville Tribes who lost 600,000 acres of commercial timber to wildfires.

When I look into the eyes of people who have lost their home and I see the pain they have, that's the pain of climate change. We have to do everything we can to fight it. Every corner of our state faces climate-related disasters today. Not tomorrow, right now. This is the fight for the future of our state. And we need action, this day.

My budget builds on the work we've done previously and puts \$626 million more toward this noble effort.

Legislators can be proud of the policies they've put to work here in our state already. And it's good to know we are not alone in this work.

The world looks to our state as leaders in climate innovation. This was reaffirmed in November at the COP26 [United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties, annual summit no. 26] in Glasgow, Scotland, where I led a coalition of sixty-eight state and local governments to commit to drastically reduce emissions. Together, we're charting a path to fight climate change by cutting greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030 and get to net-zero by 2050.

It is our state's legal obligation as well to reduce emissions – but it is also practical, and most importantly, a moral obligation. Legislators can be proud that their work created policies that will remove 43.5 million metric tons of pollution annually. But to meet our statutory commitment that we have made to the people of this state, we have to reduce emissions by 6 million more metric tons per year to reach our 2030 emissions limits. That's equivalent to the annual emissions of 1.3 million vehicles on the road.

So through legislation, we can rev up this future and make new and existing buildings perform better. We can modernize regulations and incentivize industry to ensure clean energy projects are built here in Washington with living-wage jobs; and make electric vehicles more affordable by giving families thousands of dollars in rebates.

Buildings are our state's second largest source of emissions, and many of them are energy inefficient, wasting resources and

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costing consumers thousands over the years. With buildings lasting anywhere from 50 to 100 years, we must act now to give Washingtonians more efficiencies and to decarbonize our homes, apartments, offices, retail spaces, and more.

To accomplish this, we have to require gas utilities to chart a path to decarbonize under the Climate Commitment Act. We can improve conditions for developers to grow clean energy resources here in our state.

Look, there's a lot of good news here.

We see the future's promise already burgeoning in Washington, at companies like Eviation in Arlington, where they're making the world's first, all-electric, commuter airplane; at Vicinity Motor Corp in Ferndale where they're going to be manufacturing electric buses; at the new solar farms popping up like dandelions in eastern Washington; and net zero buildings like the Climate Pledge Arena in Seattle and the Catalyst building in Spokane. We see clean energy projects built with strong labor standards, growing a broad range of union jobs and apprenticeship opportunities in their local communities, like at the Rattlesnake Flats Wind Farm in Adams County.

Now, with all of the multiple challenges we face right now, why do I believe this Legislature is up to the job of fighting carbon pollution this year?

It's because this is the Legislature that has in its hands the most beautiful place on the planet and the health of more than 7 million people in their hands. And I know you won't let the people down.

The same goes for salmon. As the future of salmon goes, so goes the future of our state. Our region's salmon are threatened by climate change, pollution, and habitat loss.

So we would invest \$187 million toward salmon recovery.

We also need to restore the green corridors along rivers and streams known as riparian habitat, which keeps the water clean and cool. Our legislation sets a unique ecological blueprint for each river and stream habitat to conserve and restore these critical lands.

This plan includes the Lorraine Loomis Act, it's named for the Swinomish leader in tribal salmon management, who we lost in August. I'll tell you, Lorraine was an inspiration to Washingtonians young and old. She brought us together in favor of salmon.

Our salmon cannot wait. They need action, this day.

To realize this future, we must do it together with our partners. Few are as critical in this effort as Washington state's tribal communities. So I'm introducing legislation that provides a stronger, clearer consultation process for projects that get funding through the Climate Commitment Act. We know we make progress when we work together.

We also need to invest in our aging transportation system in a way that meets the demands of the future while aggressively decreasing the impacts of climate change from the same system. We need more transportation and less pollution at the same time. That's why my 2022 transportation budget is no ordinary supplemental proposal.

We have a unique opportunity with one-time and new federal funds – along with state money – to provide nearly \$1 billion to fund transportation and clean transportation programs and activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector; that preserve the infrastructure we have and it needs help; and support critical investments to improve ferry service reliability. This includes \$324 million to support ferry electrification. Look, we desperately need boats – cleaner boats – to give Washingtonians reliable ferry services.

Now, to legislators: If you have bigger ambitions or bolder ideas in transportation, and I'm encouraged that some of you do, I am really ready to engage, and discuss and support your further

efforts.

My budget also supports increased diversity and inclusion in the transportation sector by addressing disparities in hiring and recruiting a diverse workforce at those entities.

The broader transportation system remains our number one emitter of greenhouse gases that pollute our air and water and drive climate change. Last session, this Legislature passed historic laws to reduce emissions – including the Climate Commitment Act – and we must not hesitate to take action, this day, to implement these laws. And we need a clean fuel standard as well.

These laws must go into effect in concert with our transportation budget. And I look forward to working with legislators to do this.

We've proposed necessary and prudent investments this session, but we also have to invest in our financial stability. To assure financial stability, our plan would build the reserve back to pre-pandemic levels in just four years from now. My budget puts \$2.5 billion toward our financial resilience this biennium. Putting this money in our Rainy Day Fund and reserve funds will place our state on better footing for the next emergency.

We just marked the one-year anniversary of the insurrection at our nation's Capitol. That insurrection continues this day, to this day under the banner of the big lie. The lie that our election was somehow not fair in the last election. The right to representative government today is under attack in this country, and unfortunately, I must say, also in our own state.

I'm pro-democracy. And I think all elected officials and others who care about our state and nation should be pro-democracy, too. Former Secretary of State Kim Wyman, Republican, deserves our respect for the exemplary and nonpartisan way she carried out her duties in the face of these same threats, and that is why I'm happy to welcome former Senator Steve Hobbs as our new secretary of state. Like Kim Wyman, he will help keep our state and local elections safe and secure.

It is time we stand up to those who challenge the integrity of our elections, who undermine the basic democratic principles and who would do away with the rule of law. I am calling on all legislators, Democrat and Republican, to acknowledge forcefully and vocally that the 2020 elections were won fair and square under our Constitution – and to denounce those officials who spread deception that strikes at the very foundation of our democracy.

So, I believe we should outlaw efforts by politicians to knowingly spread lies about elections when those lies result in violence – violence we have already seen in our state capitals, in our state capital, and, a year ago, in our nation's capital.

As we close today, I want to reiterate that this may be a 'short session,' but it is unlike any, perhaps, in our state's history. And we must act according to what this moment demands. We must be big. We must be bold. We must act at a scale commensurate to our challenges because of the multiple, urgent crises facing our state.

Too much is at stake to do otherwise. I am confident we can do this – because I have seen the Legislature rise to the moment before. But we must take action, this day.

We will continue to build our resiliency against COVID. We will meet the challenge of climate change while building the clean energy future with good jobs here in Washington. We will restore our children's opportunities. We will make necessary revisions to our long-term care bill and our police accountability measures. We will protect salmon and bring back our orca. We will house those impacted by homelessness and behavioral health conditions and provide more housing, affordable housing options for everyone.

This is our charge. We can do this if we act together.
There is no time to lose. We can start now by taking action this
day.
Thank you.”

The President thanked the Governor for his remarks.

With the consent of the body and without objection, the
President declared the Joint Session dissolved.

The President thanked the Speaker and the House for their
hospitality and returned the gavel to the Speaker (Representative
Jinkins presiding) who assumed the chair.

The President of the Senate, Lt. Governor Heck, retired from
the House Chamber and senators left the virtual Chamber.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Senate was called to order at 12:29 p.m. by President Heck.

MOTION

At 12:29 p.m., on motion of Senator Pedersen, the Senate
adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m. Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

DENNY HECK, President of the Senate

SARAH BANNISTER, Secretary of the Senate

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