









Outcomes of 2023 Legislative Priorities

BILLS



- 
Eliminating Advisory Votes (HB 1158/SB 5082) Remove advisory votes to make ballot language more accessible and invite more voters from Limited English Proficiency, naturalized, and younger age groups.
Outcome: Passed legislation, to become effective July 2023
- 
Secure Automatic Voting Registration (HB 1229/SB 5112) Improvements to WA state's AVR system that will eliminate human error, including automatically registering or updating voter's information.
Outcome: Passed legislation, to become effective July 2023
- 
Voting Rights Act Improvements (HB 1048/SB 5047) Expands right to challenge inequitable voting laws and election systems to previously excluded community members, such as tribes located in a political subdivision.
Outcome: Passed legislation, to become effective January 2024
- 
Working Families Tax Credit (HB 1477) Implement technical and administrative fixes to the WFTC program. This includes extending WFTC application filing period—currently one year—to three years and allowing married couples to file separately.
Outcome: Passed legislation, to become effective January 2024
- 
Assault Weapon Ban (HB 1240/SB 5265) Increase public safety and lower rates of mass killings in the state by banning the production, importation, distribution, and selling of assault weapons.
Outcome: Passed legislation, became effective April 2023

OPERATING BUDGET

- 
Health Equity for Immigrants (Budget request: sufficient funding) Provide a fully funded Medicaid-equivalent program, available to all WA state residents 138% FPL, regardless of immigration status.
Outcome: Partial funding received (\$45.7m). The program start-up date is delayed by six months, to launch July 2024. Program will be available to all undocumented immigrants and low-income groups.
- 
Immigrant Services Funding (Budget request: varies)

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Naturalization services: Lower naturalization application costs. <i>Outcome:</i> \$3.5m/year | WA New Americans Program: Connect recently arrived immigrants to legal and naturalization services. <i>Outcome:</i> \$2m/year | Legal Defense Fund: Increased legal defense services available to immigrants. <i>Outcome:</i> \$8m/year | LEP Pathways: Promote economic self-sufficiency for refugees and immigrants. <i>Outcome:</i> \$2.366m/year |
|--|---|---|--|
- 
International Families Justice Coalition (Budget request: \$150k/year) Receive sufficient funds from the Office of Civil and Legal Aid to provide low to no-cost legal services for vulnerable immigrants and survivors of domestic violence.
Outcome: Received \$150,000 per year

CAPITAL BUDGET

- 
Asia Pacific Cultural Center (Budget request: \$2 million) Based in Tacoma, the APCC aimed to receive sufficient funds for expansion construction, allowing additional space for recreational activities, offices, community classes, and more.
Outcome: \$2m provided to build the new center and \$1.08m provided for existing center's renovations
- 
Indian American Community Services (Budget request: \$2 million) Receive the funds necessary to purchase and implement structural changes in the Center to provide various support services, resources, and activities to the Indian American community, including vocational training, early learning, business support, behavioral health assistance, and more.
Outcome: Received \$794,000