

Note: Washington Votes.org, provided by the Washington Policy Center, makes the following information available. Below, you will find organized, somewhat condensed, and reduced from 310 passed bills in Washington State during the 2018 legislative session from <http://washingtonvotes.org/> , <http://www.washingtonvotes.org/MyLegislatorsKeyVotes.aspx> I added a few personal notes and, occasionally, background information or opinion pieces from other sources. I skimmed over 1264 introduced bills and listed those most significant for which all three of 24th district reps voted with very few exceptions. I included a few bills that did not pass out of either the Senate or House if they seemed noteworthy.

Susan Shotthafer, 24th WA Legislative District

Family Issues

Senate Bill 5722: Restricting the practice of conversion therapy

Passed [66 to 32 in the House](#) on February 28, Passed [32 to 16 in the Senate](#) on March 3, Mike Chapman told Terry Trudell he would not vote for this bill. Chapman did not voter at all.

<http://washingtonvotes.org/Legislation.aspx?ID=176142>

[Senate Bill 5722](#) is a bill aimed at prohibiting therapists from helping minors who experience unwanted same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria.

Children's Rights, Parental Rights, and Therapists Rights In Cross-hairs as Session Begins

Ban on Life Change Therapy for Minors: Ban on Life Change Therapy for Minors

<https://www.fpiw.org/blog/2018/01/05/childrens-rights-parental-rights-and-therapists-rights-in-cross-hairs-as-session-begins/>

2017 Senate Bill 6037: Concerning the uniform parentage act

Passed [27 to 21 in the Senate](#) on February 7, Passed [50 to 47 in the House](#) on February 28 (including Chapman and Tharinger) on February 28,

Noteworthy: Below, see the **numerous** GOP attempts to amend this bill.

<http://washingtonvotes.org/Legislation.aspx?ID=179159>

Third-Party Visitation

Senate Bill 5598: Granting relatives, including but not limited to grandparents, the right to seek visitation with a child through the courts

Passed [56 to 42 in the House](#) on March 2, (including Chapman and Tharinger) on March 2, Passed [43 to 6 in the Senate](#) on March 6,

<http://washingtonvotes.org/Legislation.aspx?ID=175780>

[Senate Bill 5598](#) would grant relatives, including but not limited to grandparents, the right to seek visitation with a child over the objection of the parents.

***Tuesday Was A Tough Day in Olympia,* by Joseph Backholm**

There are some things the law allows us to do voluntarily that it does not permit to be done commercially because introducing a profit motive creates too many obvious and egregious opportunities for exploitation.

But early this morning we decided that doesn't matter anymore.

Fourteen separate amendments were offered during the protracted debate including amendments that would have required:

1. Intended parents to be married so that children who are sold through this process would have two parents;
2. Surrogates to be citizens of the United States and a resident of Washington State so that poor, vulnerable women will not be induced into exploitative arrangements by the promise of quick money;
3. Adoption like screening for intended parents to ensure that their homes are a suitable environment for children; and
4. Limits on the number of children that could be purchased through commercial surrogacy.

Just last week a single, Japanese man was awarded custody of thirteen children he has purchased through surrogacy. With this bill, he will be allowed to come to Washington State and pay for 100 more if he wants to.

Every amendment was defeated along party lines.

The supporters of this bill are excited because it makes it easier for adults to get custody of someone else's child.

Read more: <http://www.fpiw.org/blog/2018/02/28/tuesday-was-a-tough-day-in-olympia/>

2018 Senate Bill 6219: Concerning health plan coverage of reproductive health care

Establishes contraceptive coverage requirements for health plans, to include coverage for all contraceptive drugs, devices, products and services, with no cost-sharing. ? Establishes an abortion coverage requirement for health plans that provide coverage for maternity care.

Passed [50 to 48 in the House](#) (including Chapman and Tharinger) on February 28, Passed [27 to 22 in the Senate](#) on March 3,

<http://washingtonvotes.org/Legislation.aspx?ID=179636>

Hearing Tuesday: “Free Abortions For All” , Joseph Backholm

According to the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), Washington State is given an A+ rating for their abortion policy. That basically means the abortion industry thinks Washington State is the gold standard.

That being said, you can always make more money and kill more babies.

That seems to be the reason for [SB 6219](#), which doesn't make abortion any more legal than it already is but would ensure that abortions will never be paid for by the woman who actually receives the abortion.

Read more: <http://www.fpiw.org/blog/2018/01/12/hearing-tuesday-free-abortions-for-all/>