

Ways you can leap into action!

SUBSCRIBE! Our free Legislative Alerts will keep you up to date on what's happening in Olympia and alert you when we need your help on important legislation. A note or a quick call from you to your legislators can have substantial impact. To subscribe, go to <https://quakervoicewa.org/sign-up/> and fill out the form.

JOIN one of the 3 working groups (criminal justice, environmental stewardship, and economic justice). Bring your concerns. We need Friends who care deeply, can become knowledgeable about a state or local issue, and are willing to champion it. Our Legislative Advocates can work with you and provide support and legislative expertise. (For our priorities, see <https://quakervoicewa.org>.)

BRING OUR WITNESS & CONCERNS into the life of your Meeting.

DONATE: Your contribution supports our part-time paid Legislative Advocates, whose efforts give us a recognized presence and voice in the capitol and increase the effectiveness of our volunteer lobbyists.

Contributions* may be made online at <https://quakervoicewa.org> or sent to PO Box 452, Olympia WA 98507.

* *Quaker Voice on Washington Public Policy* is not for profit, but because it is a lobbying organization contributions are NOT deductible for federal tax purposes.

Please hold the work of
Quaker Voice in the Light!



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Bringing the Quaker voice,
guided by testimonies and
spiritual devotion, to public
policy in Washington state.

<https://quakervoicewa.org>

Since 1997, Quaker Voice on Washington Public Policy (Quaker Voice) has worked effectively for social justice in the state of Washington.

In the centuries-old Quaker tradition of leading the struggle for human and civil rights, Quaker Voice focuses on issues that are not sufficiently addressed by other organizations in the areas of criminal justice, economic justice and local involvement in global environmental challenges.

We focus research on these issues and educate Friends, legislators, allies, and the public about them. We lobby in Olympia and provide Friends throughout the state with timely information on legislation and legislative actions and issues.

Successfully enacted legislation includes

- Establishing an independent corrections ombuds (took 12 years)
- Reducing plastic pollution
- Encouraging middle housing
- Restoring voting rights after prison
- Addressing historic exclusion from home ownership
- Reducing methane emissions from landfills
- Guaranteeing legal counsel in the eviction process (first state in the nation to do this)
- Reform of financial liabilities for people released from prison, helping them remake their lives (took 14 years)
- Restorative justice defined and recognized at the state level
- Strengthening appliance efficiency standards
- Helping to end the death penalty in WA state

Our efforts, often in coalitions, include educating legislators and allies who later take the lead.

Our Legislative Focus

Criminal Justice

Washington State's prison population is over 13,000 people. Of these, a highly disproportionate number are people of color.

Quaker Voice works to reduce those numbers by:

- Addressing racial and economic inequity in the criminal justice system
- Supporting sentencing reform, post-conviction review, educational opportunities for persons in prison, earned release time, and preparation and support for reentry
- Limiting and reforming solitary confinement
- Restoring voting rights to persons in the prison system, supporting gun responsibility, police accountability, and reform of traffic interactions

Environmental Stewardship

Climate change and the depletion of the earth's ecosystems have already begun to have a devastating impact on all of the earth's inhabitants, both human and non-human.

Quaker Voice supports:

- State and local action to address climate change
- Legislation leading to environmental justice
- Investment in restoring salmon, improving habitat, and protecting wildlife
- Action to reduce plastic pollution and other waste

Economic Justice

In the midst of wealth, too many Washingtonians are insecure in housing, food, and employment.

- Housing - Quaker Voice is working to even the playing field between renters and landlords and expand affordable housing options in the state.
- Health Care - We work toward health care for all that is affordable and accessible.
- Income Equity - We lobby for programs that promote an economy in which all Washingtonians have economic security, with programs such as Baby Bonds and Guaranteed Basic Income.



Other Issues of Concern to Friends

We support the efforts of individual Friends and Meetings to advocate on issues that reflect Friends testimonies, including peace, civil liberties, LGBTQ and Native American rights, and other concerns. Issues bridging the working groups or falling outside them may be brought to the Quaker Voice Board.