2022 Washington State Legislative Session Review By The Family Policy Institute of Washington

info@fpiwaction.org

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The 2022 Washington State legislative session adjourned on Thursday, March 10, with the passing of the supplemental operating budget. Here is a final synopsis of the bills FPIW monitored throughout the legislative session:

Bills that passed during the 2022 Session:

HB 1851 Thai Opposed: Changes the language related to abortion to gender-neutral pronouns rather than woman, and greatly expands who can provide abortions (physician assistants, nurse practitioners, health care providers) thus lowering the safety standards for abortions and verifying viability of the unborn child. Passed House Chamber 55 to 40. Passed Senate Chamber 28 to 21.

HB 1901 Goodman Opposed: This bill aims to add 'coercive control' to the list of behaviors judges can use to justify a charge of domestic violence. Expressing or advocating one's Christian beliefs to a spouse/partner or children regarding gender identity, sexual activity, abortion or gender transition treatment would be considered domestic violence and subject to a court ordered ban from one's home and contact with one's family for up to one year or longer. A recent California court hearing resulted in a father being banned from contact with his child for not agreeing with his son's gender transition treatment. This bill now considers words of disagreement 'violence'. In addition, monitoring one's spouse/partner's financial activity, movements, communications, or preventing one's child from attending extracurricular activity would be considered domestic violence. Also, normal parenting verbal conflicts and behaviors, such as yelling, nagging, harsh words, pleading, influencing, arguing and disagreements would be considered domestic violence and subject to drastic penalties without any need of evidence. Passed House Chamber 71 to 25. Passed Senate Chamber 30 to 17.

HB 1956 Hackney **Opposed:** Exempts from public disclosure information pertaining to males who suffer from gender dysphoria or deceitfully identifies as a woman and are then housed in female prisons, thus hiding from disclosure all criminal actions, rapes, and violent actions committed by males against the women. Passed House Chamber 57 to 28. Passed Senate Chamber 28 to 20.

HB 2057 Valdez Opposed: This bill seeks to promote CRT and racial/gender quota's via 'Diversity, Equity and Inclusion' (DIE) efforts within the Washington State Patrol workforce. It mandates the hiring of applicants based on race and gender rather than objective merits of experience and qualifications. Disproportionate demographics within WSP need to be addressed via the dismal faith, academic, cultural and criminal problems of different communities. Passed House Chamber 82 to 14. Passed Senate Chamber 36 to 12.

HB 5693 Rolfes Opposed: This operating budget funds a \$200,000 assisted suicide study report, an expansion of court hearings that will provide "protection bans" designed to persecute Christians expressing their faith, an expansion of Critical Race Theory and Sexual and Gender Indoctrination programs, expands failing human services programs (substance abuse, homelessness, mental health) and other anti-Christian policies and statutes. Passed House Chamber 56 to 37, passed Senate Chamber 29 to 19.

SB 5765 Randall **Opposed:** This bill expands the scope of work for midwives but conspicuously denies addressing the right to perform abortions. An amendment to specifically prohibit

midwives from performing abortions was defeated in Committee. Passed out of the Senate Chamber 27 to 20. Passed House Chamber 61 to 37.

SB 5883 Trudeau **Opposed:** Expands informed consent for unaccompanied or runaway homeless youth to receive health care treatment without parental permission and thus takes away a parent or guardian's right to make health care decisions for their children. This will make it easier for children to remain homeless or in a runaway status and harms the state's efforts to reunify families. Passed Senate Chamber 28 to 21. Passed House Chamber 57 to 41.

Bills that did not pass during the 2022 Session:

- **HB 1141** Rude **Opposed:** Expands physician-assisted suicide by eliminating safeguards including reducing the waiting period from 15 days to 3 days and no longer requiring the concurrence of two licensed physicians. **Passed House Chamber 58 to 37.** Died in the Senate Health & Long-Term Care Committee.
- **HB 1692** Simmons **Opposed:** Removes drive-by shootings from a list of first-degree murder charges that trigger the penalty of life in prison without parole because of equity/racial reasons. No hearing, dead.
- **SB 5688** Randall **Opposed:** Hospitals & clinics seeking mergers will be required to provide abortions, reproductive care, assisted suicide and gender surgeries & treatments. Fiscal Note, dead.
- **HB 1829** Johnson, J. **Opposed:** Creates a radical African American Studies specialty program for educators based on identity politics and CRT that opposes current Western Civilization and teaches a false history in a racial and pagan perspective, such as NY Times 1619 Project, and Howard Zinn. No other racial/geographic/immigrant group is petitioning to rewrite history. No hearing, dead.
- **HB 1840** Ortiz-Self **Opposed:** Requires community and technical colleges to set up a diversity and equity committee to promote Critical Race Theory (CRT) and gender and equal ideologies that will increase racism and sexual bigotries. Died in House Appropriations Committee.
- **SB 5537** Wellman **Opposed:** Reduces the age that children must begin school from age 8 to 5 and effectively mandates kindergarten for all children, including home schoolers. Died in Senate W&M Committee.
- **SB 5647** Robinson **Opposed**: This bill provides redefines infertility to include single individuals and those who have a same sex partner who need medical treatment to reproduce and mandates all health plans to cover all adult and child infertility treatments (embryo transfers, IVF, and surrogacy) No hearing, dead.
- **SB 5595** Wellman **Opposed:** Sets allocations for Social Emotive Learning staff which allows teachers, therapists, and counselors at public schools to counsel, teach and indoctrinate students' values, psychology, and emotions towards radical CRT, Sexual and Gender, anti-family ideologies that many parents and Christians oppose. Died in Senate Rules Committee.
- **SB 5909** Randall **Opposed:** The Democrats' version of 'limiting the governor's emergency powers' provides virtually no limits to his abuse of power. House and Senate leadership

will never get the unanimous approval required to limit the Governor's power and protect religious freedom. **Passed out of the Senate Chamber 29 to 20.** Died on House Floor.

Bills that passed out of both chambers have now been forwarded to the governor for signature. For most bills, the governor has 20 days after Sine Die to take action. After reviewing a bill he may sign it into law or veto it partially or entirely. In the case of a partial or full veto, the legislature may then vote to override the governor's action.

I would like to thank each of you for fighting for the Christian values that FPIW

supports. Despite the many bad bills that passed we can be encouraged that a considerable number did not. Please take the time to contact as many Republican lawmakers as possible by phone or email and thank them for their efforts to stop the barrage of bad legislation proposed by the Democratic Party this year. If not for their skilled negotiating and long hours on the Senate and House floors proposing endless amendments and debating these atrocious bills, the carnage could have been much worse.

It should be obvious by now that our greatest issue with the legislature is not simply about ideology. **It's really a numbers game.** Too few lawmakers represent our values. It is virtually impossible to defeat bad legislation when faced with such discouraging deficits in both the House and Senate chambers. That need needs to change. How do we get there?

Later this year, all 98 House seats and nearly half of the 49 Senate positions will be up for election. If you want to avoid another bad session next year, commit to working with FPIW and the contingent of Republican supporters across our fine state to overcome these deficits and overtake the Democratic stronghold in Olympia.

Here's how you can help: provide financial support and campaign for local and state Republican candidates; encourage your pastor and fellow church congregants to engage in the political process; persuade your family members, close friends and conservative neighbors to get involved; register to vote and learn about the issues facing your local community and state. Sign up for and contribute to FPIW Action and plan to become a member of your local FPIW Christian Caucus, which will be formalized in the months ahead.

Most importantly, commit to persistent prayer. Pray that godly men and women will choose to run for public office, that Christians would be energized to help campaign for godly candidates, and that the Holy Spirit would move in the hearts of believers to be the hands and feet of Jesus. After all, it is our Lord and Savior who told us the government is upon His shoulders.

I, and the rest of our FPIW staff, look forward to meeting with you this spring and summer as we fan out across the state to encourage and help mobilize God's people to bring about a positive change in Olympia in 2023. Please contact me with questions, concerns or feedback as we strive to do our work "unto the Lord". Many blessings …

About FPIW Action

<u>FPIW Action</u>, a 501c4, was formed for the express purpose of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and provide educational services to parents and others in order to strengthen families. It was established and associates with the <u>Family Policy Institute of Washington</u> (FPIW) as a Christian Social Welfare Organization that pursues good Christian education and policy activities, and expands FPIW's lobbying activities. FPIW Action secondarily holds elected representatives accountable by engaging in partisan political campaign work in WA state to its membership lists, to include ballot measures. FPIW Action has formed the Christian Policy Alliance PAC, a 527 Political Action Committee (PAC) for political activities. Donations to FPIW Action are not tax deductible.