

# Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness

HOMELESSINFO.ORG

## EASY ADVOCACY

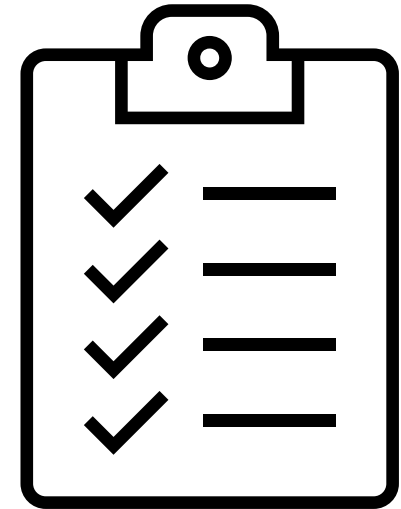
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Advocacy Power Half Hour 2/29/24

# Agenda

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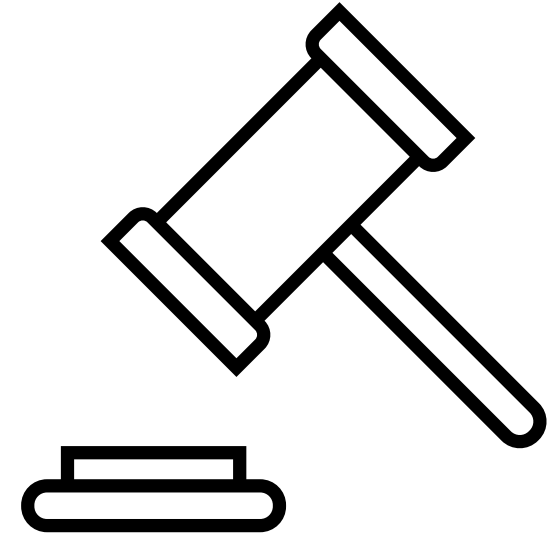
1. Find your district and legislator
2. Orientation to the Legislature
3. The Coalition's legislative priorities
4. Practice taking action!
5. Other ways to speak up



# Find your district

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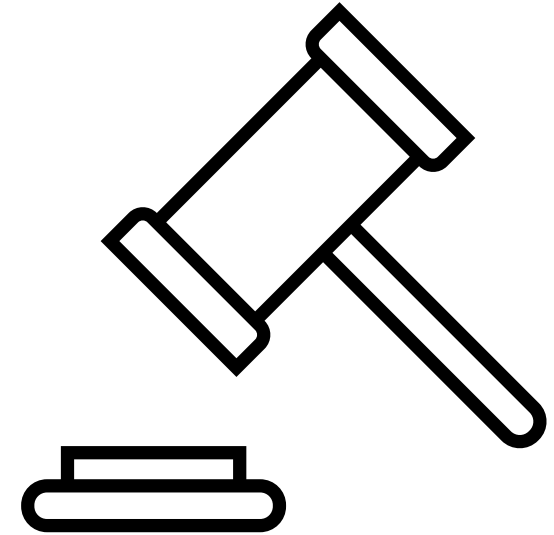
- Find your district & legislators here:  
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/>
- Each district has 2 representatives and 1 senator
- Put your district number in the chat



# Orientation to the Legislature

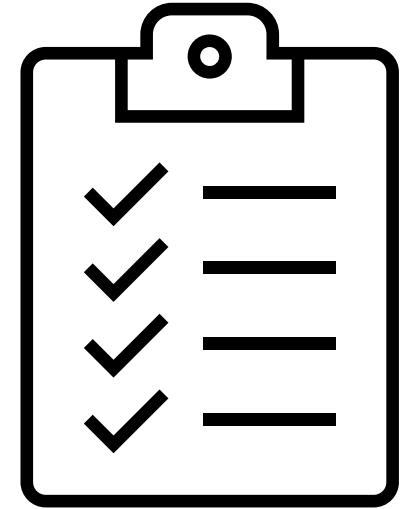
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- Short session: January 8 – March 7<sup>th</sup>
- Bills AND budget requests
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a biennial budget – more challenging to add significant funding and pass significant policy change
- Short sessions can be a strategic place to start or continue conversations that take years
  - Example: HB 2030 for voting rights



# The Coalition's Remaining 2024 Legislative Priorities

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## **Create stable revenue for homelessness services and housing**

- Backfill the Document Recording Fee - \$70 million
- Create permanent funding for the Housing Trust Fund (HB 2276, SB 6191)

## **Strengthen public benefits**

- Reinstate the TANF child support pass-through (HB 1652)


Check out our [blog](#) for more!

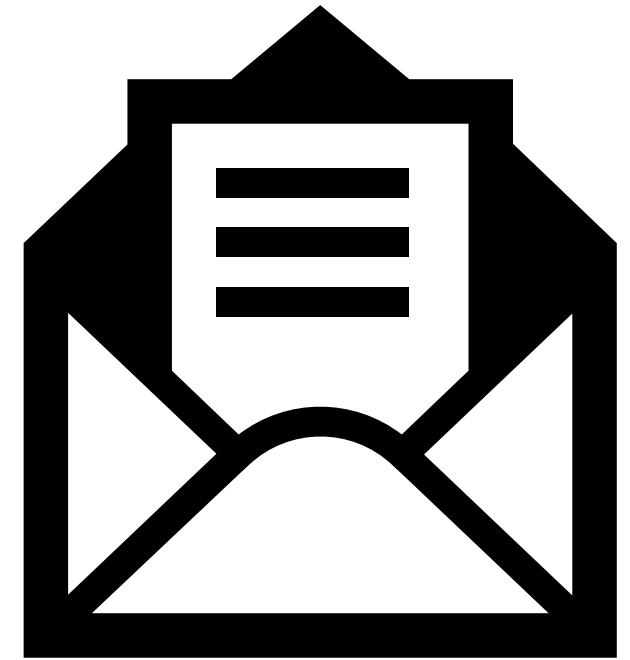
# Let's Practice!

## Email Your Lawmakers

### (1 minute each)

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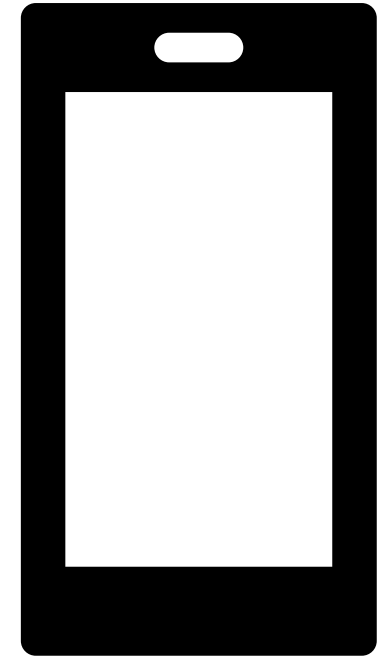
- **Your choice:**
    - Fund housing, shelter & public health
    - Support the TANF child-support pass through
    - Pass the Affordable Homes Act
  - [Sign up](#) for Coalition action alerts
  - **Tips:**
    - Personalize the email message in the first paragraph
    - Take action multiple times as bills move through the legislature
-  **You will NOT annoy your elected officials by emailing multiple times – they need to hear from you!**



# CALL YOUR LEGISLATORS (5 minutes)

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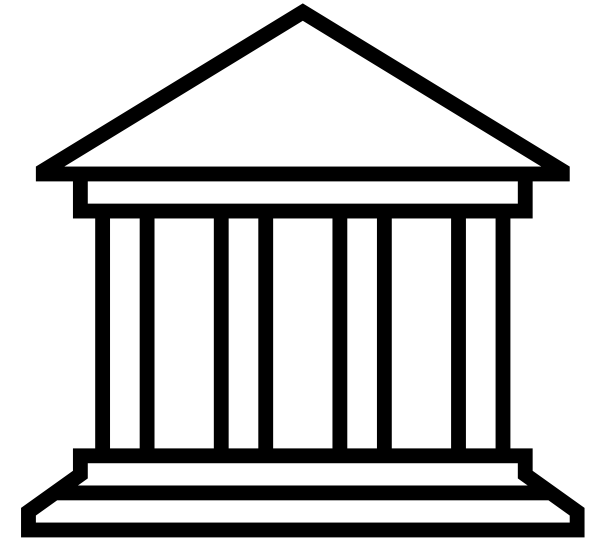
- LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE **1-800-562-6000**
- Callers to the Hotline can leave a brief message for their district legislators on issues of concern or on questions they may have about bills. These messages are forwarded electronically to the appropriate individuals.
- When leaving a message with the Hotline, please be prepared to give your name and street address.



# TESTIFY IN OLYMPIA (1+ hours)

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- You are an expert and legislators need to hear from you!
- Hybrid session-opportunities both remote and in-person
- Coalition staff can always offer support with writing testimony or any other support.
- Helpful information:
  - [Participating in the Legislative Process](#)
  - [Legislative Information Center](#)





# ATTEND AN ADVOCACY DAY IN OLYMPIA (1 day)

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- Washington Low Income Housing Alliance [Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Days](#)
  - Wednesday, January 30th @ Olympia
- Mockingbird Society [Youth Advocacy Day](#)
  - Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> @ Olympia
- Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network's [Immigrant and Refugee Lobby Day](#)
  - Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> @ Olympia

