

## You Made a Difference

The media climate against law enforcement has made your jobs harder and more dangerous. Politicians across the country are bowing to pressure and are removing long-standing protections officers need to adequately do their jobs. This disturbing trend is one that we are battling against in Olympia. Because of your efforts, we were able to stave further damaging backlash during this legislative session.

- Your political action committee (PAC), the Council of Police Political Support, contributes helps elect state legislative candidates that support law enforcement.
- Over 50 law enforcement officers from around the state participated in the WACOPS Day on the Hill and met individually with their legislators. Through this effort, our agenda was out early and relationships were built between the elected officials and their local officers.
- WACOPS lobbyists served in Olympia every day during the legislative session. These advocates testified, monitored legislation, counted votes and forcefully advanced law enforcements' interests.
- Officers from the around the state stayed engaged in the process throughout the legislative session, helped draft legislation, provided expert testimony, and maintained communication with their local legislators.

## About WACOPS

For more than 50 years the Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs has fought to strengthen the rights and quality of life for those who have dedicated their careers to protecting and serving our communities. We are the largest association in Washington dedicated to advocating on behalf of law enforcement officers, our agenda corresponds directly to the needs of our membership.



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# WACOPS 2016 Legislative Review

## Legislative Session Summary

The 2016 legislative session has concluded. Over the course of the short session, with only one special session called for, legislators worked to produce an update to the two-year budget passed last year. This budget is known as the “supplemental budget” and responds to unique circumstances like agency caseload changes and wildfires.

Overall, the law enforcement community came out well this year. Pensions, WACOPS' top priority, continued to be fully funded in the final budget. Bills providing resources for searching individuals on DOC community release also received great support in both houses.

In the long term, uncertainty continues to hang over Olympia due to unmet K-12 funding requirements set forth in the Washington Supreme Court's McCleary decision and other issues.

## Relevant Legislation

### Criminal Justice Issues

Bill #	Title	Short Description	Sponsor	Position	Status
SHB 2483	Child sex exploit./subpoenas	Protecting minors from sexual exploitation.	Sawyer	Support	Dead
HB 2704	Supervision of offenders	Authorizing general authority Washington peace officers to assist the department of corrections with the supervision of offenders.	Klippert	Support	Dead
SB 5069	Financial fraud instruments	Making the unlawful possession of instruments of financial fraud a crime.	Pearson	Support	Dead
SB 6230	Warrantless school searches	Including searches by school resource officers and local police school liaison officers within the warrantless school search exception.	O'Ban	Support	Dead
SB 6459	Peace officers/assisting DOC	Authorizing peace officers to assist the department of corrections with the supervision of offenders.	Rivers	Support	Passed

SB 6621	Policing task force	Providing for a task force on policing and the use of deadly force.	Fraser	Concerns	Dead
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**Pension & Retirement Issues**

Bill #	Title	Short Description	Sponsor	Position	Status
ESSB 5435	Optional salary deferral	Expanding participation in the Washington state deferred compensation program.	Bailey	Support	Passed
ESB 5873	LEOFF plan 1 retirees	Permitting persons to select a survivor benefit option.	Conway	Support	Passed
SB 5982	Retirement age/state systems	Addressing retirement age provisions for new members of the state retirement systems administered by the department of retirement systems.	Braun	Oppose	Dead
SB 6668	LEOFF 1 & TRS 1 merge	Merging the LEOFF 1 and TRS 1 pension plans.	Hill	Oppose	Dead
SB 6263 & HB 2592	Emergency mgmt. benefits	Providing benefits for certain retirement system members who die or become disabled in the course of providing emergency management services.	Warnick	Support	Passed
SSB 6264 & HB 2487	WSPRS/LEOFF annuities	Allowing certain Washington state patrol retirement system and law enforcement officers' and firefighters' members to purchase annuities.	Dammeier	Support	Passed

**Work Place Issues**

Bill #	Title	Short Description	Sponsor	Position	Status
HB 1512 & SB 5589	Peace officer disciplining	Encouraging fairness in disciplinary actions of peace officers.	Sells	Support	Dead
HB 1964 & SSB 5763	DFW commissioned officers	Addressing the public employees' collective bargaining act as applied to commissioned officers of the department of fish and wildlife.	Blake	Support	Dead
EHB 2362	Recordings/law enf., etc.	Cameras, body worn, legislative task force for examining law enforcement and corrections agency use of	Hansen	Support	Passed
HB 2907	Officer use of deadly force	Addressing the use of deadly force by a public officer or peace officer.	Moscoso	Oppose	Dead
ESHB 2908	Police/deadly force	Establishing the joint legislative task force on the use of deadly force in community policing.	Ryu	Support	Passed
SB 5476 & HB 1535	Firearm dealer deliveries	Concerning dealer deliveries to active law enforcement officers.	Dammeier	Support	Dead
SB 5955	Criminal justice training	Reimbursing the criminal justice training commission for basic law enforcement training.	Braun	Oppose	Dead

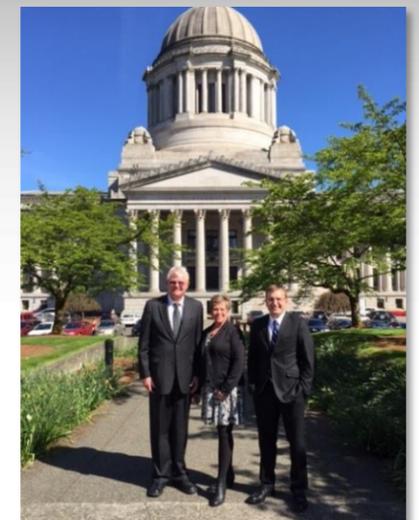
**Priority Legislation Update**

LEOFF Plan 2 Pension System

- The legislature continued to support pension contribution rates adopted by the LEOFF 2 Board and upheld the authority of the LEOFF board to set actuarial assumptions and contribution rates for the plan.
- The legislature fully funded the LEOFF 2 Plan Benefit Improvement Account (BIA) and the Governor vetoed harmful language related to the BIA.

Criminal Justice

- Officers will now have the chance to search an offender on DOC release if the officer has reasonable cause to believe an offender is in violation of the terms of supervision. The officer may conduct a search of the offender's person, automobile, or other personal property to search for evidence of the violation. The officer must notify the DOC upon substantiation that an offender has violated the offender's conditions of community supervision.



**Members in Olympia**



WACOPS members continued to build upon established relationships this year.

*Winter Membership Meeting* – Over 50 members participated in the WACOPS Day on the Hill, winter membership meeting, and the legislative reception. Members met with their Representatives and Senators to advance the WACOPS agenda. The WACOPS legislative reception is one of the largest receptions in Olympia and was attended this

year by over 100 elected officials and staff.

*Member Testimony* - WACOPS members testified during legislative hearings this year. From issues like searching DOC community release offenders to Brady Lists, our

members offered their expert testimony on a wide range of issues, helping inform legislators about issues facing law enforcement officers statewide.