Greg Cheney

As a lifelong resident of Battle Ground and an attorney focusing on helping small businesses and providing subject representation, Rep. Cheney led the ground game in his first year in Olympia. His work on the House Capital Budget Committee helped ensure much-needed local infrastructure projects in Southwest Washington were funded.

In addition, his legal insight helped him formalize several key public safety bills. His work earned him a non-appointment as a freshman lawmaker to be the assistant ranking member on the House State Government and Tribal Relations Committee. Greg sponsored legislation to crack down on catalytic converter theft, which has skyrocketed in recent years, especially in border communities. While this legislation (House Bill 1840) did not pass, he will continue to work with stakeholders and advocates on this issue throughout the year and will push for its common-sense solution again next session.

He also introduced legislation to preserve workplace opportunities by reforming professional licensing. The bill was featured on 7100 (the state’s version of C-SPAN) where he discussed his proposal and advocated for more flexibility for professional workers. Greg is passionate about creating more job opportunities for Southwest Washington residents.

Greg also introduced House Bill 1792, which will allow licensed real estate appraisers to do evaluations of real property, which are currently allowed to be done by non-appraisers. This bill passed the Legislature unanimously and was signed into law by the governor.

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For next session, Stephanie is looking forward to working on the many, key financial decisions that will impact local governments. She also serves as a member of the House K-12 Education Committee and the House Capital Budget Committee after serving as a member of this committee last session. The Capital Budget Committee is responsible for funding local infrastructure projects and generating state aid to local governments.

Because the differences between legislators could not be settled during the 105-day period of the “regular” session, which ended April 23, we were forced back to the Capitol for a May 16 “special” session and vote that put a stop to the local aid for the remainder of the fiscal cycle.

There were many important topics on the table as well. We knew we would need to produce a new state operating budget, a new state capital budget, and some state transportation budget, all for the 2023-25 fiscal periods.

We worked closely with our Majority Coalition colleagues to produce these budgets, which will go a long way to address critical needs across the state. We also introduced legislation that would extend the state’s foster care age for young adults from 18 to 21, address the crisis in teacher pay, and increase access to mental health services for all students.

As your state legislators, we are still working hard for you even when the Legislature is not in session. Thanks for keeping us informed, and please continue reaching out to us with any questions or concerns.
In practice, that didn't happen. As a result, drug overdoses have become the lead-identified by the court, a majority of legislators supported a new approach. The law was changed in 2021 in response to what's known as the Blake ruling, the second issue is much more significant, because it affects so many more lives in close to passing in 2022 but was derailed at the last minute by a fringe faction of get through (a spike in auto thefts and related crimes. In the end, the only legislation that could have made a significant difference was Senate Bill 5382 which added a few more crimes to the list but did not go as far as some others wanted. The joint lesson to be learned is that, in order to pass legislation, it's important to have widespread bipartisan support. The Blake fix The second issue is much more significant, because it affects so many more lives in closing cause of death for Washington residents under 60, and homelessness has witnessed a crime taking place. The only exceptions were DUI and a small number of violent crimes. The approach to treatment will hopefully help them reclaim their lives. The only part of the Blake fix that is missing is the deterrent of being pursued to deter criminals. The threat of being pursued to deter criminals. The theory was that by referring defendants to treatment instead of charging them With the increase in spending from the previous budget is less than half of what we've seen in the past few budgets – which is encouraging – but it is still a significant increase. That's one of the aspects we will be watching as the new law takes hold. Why is more money being deducted from your paycheck? The people of our state continue to struggle with high food, fuel and energy costs. The same is true for small businesses. They are also facing the added burden of government over-regulation. This new budget (Senate Bill 5187) adds some important changes – such as not allowing any spending beyond what is needed to pay for the costs of running the government. The increase in spending from the previous budget is less than half of what we've seen in the past few budgets – which is encouraging – but it is still a significant increase. How much public safety money is being used on new programs? Senate Bill 5569 will, respec-tively, improve access to kidney-disease treatment and go after Medicaid fraud. Six years after first introducing legislation to increase funding for schools, including $31.4 million for local projects in the 18th. Here are some of the projects receiving funding in our district: $5.5 million for the Lower East Fork Floodplain Reclamation project (shared with the 20th District). $3 million for a state-owned and operated community mental health 48-bed facility. $5.28 million for increased drinking water storage for Battle Ground's reservoir. $5.5 million for the East Fork Parkway Resilient Reclamation project (shared with the 18th District). $4 million for the Lake header and floodplain restoration project. This budget is an example of the good work we do when both sides come together and work for the good of all Washingtonians.