

2022 Legislative Session

After the historic gains across multiple issue areas in the 2021 session, the expectations for the 2022 session were lower, given the realities of a 60-day session and the looming election season. New investments, on top of last year's record setting amounts, were possible due to increased federal support and the continued improvement in our state's economy. These were in several areas of long-term Quaker Voice advocacy, including

- an historic 16-year **transportation budget** of \$16.9 billion (which includes work on the much-needed replacement for the Washington- Oregon I-5 bridge as well as big investments in public transportation such as electric ferries);
- strides on **gun control** with HB 1705, which bans untraceable, homemade "ghost guns" and SB 5078, which bans the sale, manufacture, and distribution of magazines with more than 10 rounds;
- Over \$430 million for **affordable housing**, facilities for the houseless, frontline homelessness service providers, and services to help transition people away from living unsheltered;
- Over \$290 million to **protect tenants** with pre-eviction legal aid, tenant's right to counsel, rental assistance, and foreclosure prevention, as well as
- \$37 million to permanently **increase the Aged, Blind, and Disabled** cash grant, from \$197 to \$417 per month.

Based on meetings with key legislators through the fall, Quaker Voice focused its efforts on an ambitious set of priority bills. The short-term legislative results were mixed, but groundwork was laid for longer-term developments – always a Quaker Voice specialty.

In the criminal justice area, a Quaker Voice priority passed, authorizing courts to take account of ability to pay in assigning certain fees and interest for restitution. At the same time, focusing on issues of equity and on the excesses and inhumaneness of incarceration, we helped lay the groundwork for legislation that would significantly reduce excessive sentencing enhancements, and significantly limit the use of solitary confinement.

While none of the Economic Justice priority bills in housing justice or mental health workforce development passed, the working group made gains in building collaborative relationships with legislators and like-minded organizations as well as improving how it engages with the legislative process. In the coming session, this working group plans to continue prioritizing affordable and accessible housing, healthcare, education, and other issues that level the socio-economic playing field.

In Environmental Stewardship, two crucial bills passed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions: reducing methane emissions and setting appliance efficiency standards. The working group will continue to pursue the Right to Repair next year, doing our part to fight against headwinds from some big firms in the attempt to be the first state in the nation to adopt legislation of this kind, which advances equity as well as environmental goals.

Quaker Voice Priority and Support Bills, 2022 Legislative Session

	Bill Number	Sponsor	Bill Description	Senate Action	House Action	Governor's Action	Final Status
Criminal Justice - Priority Bills	HB 1169	Goodman	Unstack Sentencing Enhancements	Passed Senate Law and Justice, placed on Second Reading Calendar no further action	Passed House 53 yes/45 no	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Criminal Justice - Priority Bills	HB 1412	Simmons	Waive fees and Restitution Interest	Passed Senate 38 yes/11 no	Passed House 70 yes/24 no	Governor Signed	Passed
Criminal Justice - Priority Bills	HB 1756	Peterson	Solitary Confinement	Did not reach Senate	Died in House Rules	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Criminal Justice - Support Bills	HB 1818	Simmons	Re-entry and Re-habilitation	Passed Senate 48yes/1 EX	passed House 87 yes/10 no	Governor Signed	Passed
Criminal Justice - Support Bills	SB 5036	Dhingra	Expansion of Clemency and Pardons	Passed Senate 28 yes/19 no	Died in House Public Safety	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Criminal Justice - Support Bills	SB 5307	Pedersen	Pretrial Release and Retention	Died in Senate Law and Justice	Did not reach House	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Criminal Justice - Support Bills	HB 1681	Simmons	Mandate vacating certain convictions	Did not reach Senate	Died in House Rules	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Criminal Justice - Support Bills	HB 1413	Hackney	Remove juvenile offense from Sentencing Range	Did not reach Senate	Died in House Rules	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Economic Justice - Priority Bills	SB 5884	Trudeau	Creating mental health specialists	Passed Senate 49 yes/0 no	Died in House Health Care	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Economic Justice - Priority Bills	SB 5670	Das	Creating more "middle" housing near transit	Died in Senate Ways and Means	Did not reach House	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Economic Justice – Priority Bills	HB 1782	Bateman	Companion to SB 5670	Did not reach Senate	Died in House Appropriations	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Economic Justice - Support Bills	HB 2009	Berry	Creating a Basic Income Trust	Did not reach Senate	Died in House Housing/Human Service and Veterans	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Economic Justice - Support Bills	SB 5576	Kuderer	Modifying Eviction Processes and Programs	Died in Senate Rules	Did not reach House	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Economic Justice - Support Bills	SB 5638	Wagoner	Expediting MSW Level Associate MH licenses	Passed Senate 49 yes/0 no	Died in House Health Care	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Economic Justice - Support Bills	SB 5825	Kuderer	Establishing rental and vacant property registration work program	Passed Senate 29 yes/20 no	Died in House Rules	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Environmental Stewardship – Priority Bills	HB 1810	Gregerson	Right to Repair	Did not reach Senate	Died on House Floor without a vote taken	Did not reach Governor	Did not pass
Environmental Stewardship – Priority Bills	HB 1663	Duerr	Reducing methane emissions in Landfills	Passed Senate 30 yes/17 no	Passed House 57 yes/40 no	Governor Signed	Passed
Environmental Stewardship – Priority Bills	HB 1619	Fitzgibbons	Appliance Efficiency Standards	Passed Senate 28 yes/ 21 no	Passed House 56 yes/ 39 no	Governor Signed	Passed

Summaries of Successful Legislation

Criminal Justice

Engrossed 4th Substitute House Bill 1412: concerning **legal financial obligations (LFO's)**, made the following changes to legal financial obligations. The changes apply only to restitution of LFO's owed to a state agency or to an insurer (in particular not those owed to a victim)

- Interest on Restitution: the court may elect not to order interest on restitution ordered by the court after inquiring into and considering whether the offender is indigent; the offender's available funds and other liabilities, such as child support and other LFOs; whether the offender is homeless or mentally ill. The court must also consider hardship to the victim if the interest is not imposed. In addition, on motion of an offender, the court may waive any interest imposed on restitution if the restitution principal has been paid in full.
- Time Period for Enforcement of LFOs: regardless of when the LFO judgment was entered, non- restitution LFOs may be enforced during the 10-year period following the offender's release from total confinement OR within 10 years of the judgment and sentence, whichever is later. The judgment may be extended only if the court finds that the offender has the current OR likely future ability to pay.
- Indigency standard: creates and new definition that covers when LFOs may be imposed, waived or reduced or enforced and when a person may be sanctioned for failure to pay LFOs.
- Remission of Fines: A defendant may at any time petition the sentencing court for remission of the payment of fines or unpaid portions of fines. The court may remit all or part of the amount due in fines or convert the amount to community restitution hours. Manifest hardship exists if the defendant is indigent.
- Criminal Filing Fee: upon motion of the defendant, the court may waive any previously imposed superior court criminal filing fee, if the court finds that the defendant is indigent.

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

Second Substitute House Bill 1818: Promotes successful **re-entry and rehabilitation** of persons convicted of criminal offenses by:

- Extending the period, the period for which the Department of Corrections (DOC) may provide housing vouchers from three months to six months
- Allows the DOC to provide housing vouchers to any person releasing from a state correctional facility if a voucher will support the person's release into the community by preventing housing instability or homelessness
- Eliminates supervision fees charged to persons who commit criminal offenses Effective

Date: Section 8, July 1, 2022. Rest of bill June 9, 2022 (90 days after adjournment)

Environmental Stewardship

Engrossed 2nd Substitute House Bill 1663: Will **reduce methane emissions** from landfills by:

- Establishing certain requirements related to methane emissions from municipal solid waste landfills.
- Establishing surface methane emissions standards for covered landfills.
- Requiring the owner or operator of a covered landfill with gas generation equivalent to 3.0 million British thermal units per hour to install and operate a gas collection and control system unless certain exceptions have been applied.
- Exempts municipal solid waste landfills that are subject to, and in compliance with, methane emissions requirements from coverage under the Climate Commitment Act.
- Expands the scope of permissible uses of funds within the Climate Commitment Account to include the installation of gas collection devices and gas control systems, and monitoring and reporting of methane emissions.

Effective Date: 90 Days after adjournment, June 9, 2022

Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1619: concerning **appliance efficiency standards**. Improves appliance efficiency standards by:

- Establishing new energy efficiency standards for air purifiers, commercial ovens, and electric vehicle supply equipment, beginning January 1, 2024.
- Updating the energy efficiency standards applicable to commercial hot food holding cabinets, beginning upon the Act's effective date, and portable electric spas and residential ventilating fans beginning January 1, 2024.
- Eliminating state efficiency standards for uninterruptible power suppliers and pool pumps.

Effective date (see exceptions above): 90 days after adjournment, June 9, 2022