

WFSE LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2023

ALL CONTRACTS FUNDED

No workforce in the state of Washington has more at stake in decisions made by the Legislature than state employees.

In 2023, our union showed up to get our contracts funded, protect the services we provide, and advocate for the public employees who make Washington happen.

Thanks to member advocacy, we expanded collective bargaining rights for WMS employees, protected public employee victims of domestic violence and stalking, improved child welfare policy, and more.

Visit www.wfse.org/news/fund-our-communities-fund-our-contracts for complete details.



MEMBER VOICES

"State workers deserve this raise because we genuinely try our hardest to get Washingtonians re-employed and off of unemployment. We give our all to help people."
Olivia Ericksen, Worksource Specialist, ESD, L. 1020

"This contract will help me do my work," which directly supports the communities and Tribes of Washington. We help plan for climate change and sea level rise, address erosion and flooding, and build a resilient, thriving future."
Henry Bell, Environmental Planner, Dept. of Ecology, L. 872

"The work I do directly benefits the citizens of Washington by providing timber sale revenue to trusts that fund K-12 schools, roads, and county public works."
Zachary Beebe, IT Data Manager, DNR, L. 443



PRIORITY BILLS

We expanded collective bargaining rights for public employees.

HB 1122: Allows WMS employees in salary band 1 and 2 the ability to collectively bargain and join a union.

We fought trades outsourcing in higher education and protected our members' work.

SB 5385: Increases higher education bid limits, protecting public employee work from outsourcing.

We protected confidentiality between a represented employee and their union.

HB 1187: Ensures communication between an employee and the union who represents them is not subject to subpoena.

We protected public employee victims of domestic violence and stalking.

HB 1533: Makes it easier for public employee victims of domestic violence and stalking to have their personal information redacted from public records requests.

We stood up for language access equity and professional standards for interpreters.

SB 5304: Protects the testing and certification standards of spoken language interpreters.

We brought back rewards for public employees who make innovative improvements.

SB 5015: Reestablishes the state Productivity Board and rewards the ingenuity of state employees.



All contracts funded



71% lobbied for the first time



1,256 Fund Our Communities postcards sent to legislators



175 member lobbyists



123 lobbying meetings



Members met with 103 legislators

GET INVOLVED

Our union is member led!

Together, we win strong contracts, get them funded, and advocate for a thriving Washington.

Visit www.wfse.org/news/fund-our-communities-fund-our-contracts to learn how you can help make positive change.