## WASHINGTON VOTING JUSTICE COALITION LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## HB 1932 EVEN YEAR ELECTIONS

Sponsor: Rep. Mia Gregerson



We know that change happens at the local level. Unfortunately, a state law from the 1960's requires Washington to hold local elections in odd-numbered years, when most voters do not return their ballots. Washington can elect leaders that truly speak for all of us by giving local communities the freedom to switch to even-year elections.

- Voter turnout is up to twice as high and far more diverse in even years, when we are also voting for president or our national representatives.
  - Only 36% of Washingtonians turned in their ballots in the last odd-year election (2023), a record low, compared to 63% in 2022 and 86% in 2020.
- Even year elections better represent Washington's diversity of age, race, and income. The voting population in odd years is whiter and older than our actual community.
- This one change increases voter turnout far more than all other election reforms Washington has implemented in the last decade, combined.

## **WHO WE ARE**

The Washington Voting Justice Coalition is committed to protecting and expanding voting rights across the state. We're a coalition of community-based organizations and individuals who believe that justice, participation, and the freedom to vote are the foundation of a real democracy. We believe that our vote is our instrument of change, and our tool to have a voice in our government.

Contact: info@wavotingjustice.org

