



**Puget
Sound
Advocates For
Retirement
Action**

PSARA 2024 Legislative Agenda



PSARA Legislative Agenda
<https://www.psara.org/psara-wa-legis-priorities>

PPSARA is a multi-generational grass roots organization advocating for seniors, in particular, and all people to be able to live their lives with economic security, dignity, and respect. We support the funding necessary to achieve that goal.

Health Care

PSARA believes that comprehensive, affordable, accessible, and culturally appropriate health care is a fundamental human right.

- **HB 2285/SB 5986** Bans abusive health care billing practices and stop ambulance billing abuses.
- **HB 1263/SB 5241 Keep Our Care Act** would provide public oversight of hospital mergers to keep health care services available across the state.
- Make improvements to Washington Cares Fund. Strengthen long-term care protection.

Climate and Environmental Justice

PSARA supports the right of all people to live and work in a clean and healthy environment.

- **HB 2049/SB 6005 ReWRAP Act:** Improves solid waste management.
- Add the Green Amendment to the Washington State Constitution.
- **HB 1282/SB 5322** Buy Clean, Buy Fair.
- **Support Amtrak** to improve passenger rail service and travel.

Housing and Homelessness

PSARA supports keeping people housed and preventing homelessness.

- **HB 2114/SB 5961 Protects manufactured homeowners and residential tenants** by capping rent increases at 5% each 12 months.
- **HB 2276/SB 6191 Creates a permanent funding source for affordable homes** through expansion of the state Real Estate Excise Tax ("REET") on transactions for expensive properties and create a new local option REET for cities and counties.
- **Support** legislation and funding to promote transit-oriented development w/affordability requirement. Seniors must have access to frequent transit service.
- **HB 1859 Support expansion of Senior Housing Bill of Rights.** This bill expands the rights of residents in long-term care facilities.

Workers' Rights and Economic Justice

PSARA supports policies that promote healthy families and workplaces.

- **HB 1094/SB 5125 Build economic security for low-income families** by creating the Washington Future Fund Program (**Baby Bonds**).
- **HB 1991/SB 5793 Expand the definition of family** in our state's sick and safe leave policy to match Paid Family Medical Leave's definition so that chosen and **extended family can take paid leave** to care for their loved ones.

Fiscal Reform

PSARA supports a state budget that is transparent, pays a living wage to state workers, and provides necessary social services.

- **HB 1473/SB 5486** Create a **Wealth Tax** and tax extraordinary financial assets.