



## 2019 Legislative Session Updates/Listening Session

### Representative Noel Frame

State Representative Noel Frame has served in the Washington State Legislature since January 2016. She was motivated to run for office by a strong commitment to fully fund public schools by fixing our state's regressive, upside-down and unfair tax code. Born and raised in Washington State, Noel is a former foster parent to two members of her own family. She is deeply committed to tackling the root causes of systemic issues facing families in crisis, such as eradicating poverty and increasing access to quality healthcare. Noel works to give a voice to those who are often forgotten in policy conversations, relying heavily on her nearly two decades of experience as an organizer to successfully navigate political systems. Noel is the Vice Chair of the House Human Services & Early Learning Committee, is the Co-Chair of the Children's Mental Health Work Group and serves on the Partnership Council for Juvenile Justice. She also serves on the Tax Structure Work Group and is a member of the House Committees on Finance and Rules, as well as Housing, Community Development & Veterans Affairs. Noel earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at the George Washington University in Washington, DC, with a B.A. in Political Communication and a M.A. in Political Management. From there she continued her advocacy in Washington State, serving as a political organizer and as a legislative correspondent for U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell. For five years, Noel was the Director of Progressive Majority Washington (now Amplify), where she collaborated with groups representing communities of color, youth, women, and the LGBTQ community to increase the number of people from those communities running for office. She recruited, trained, and advised candidates for political office, from local government all the way to the state legislature. As a part-time, citizen legislator, Noel now works as a community development and planning consultant at a small firm in the 36<sup>th</sup> District. Her experience working for a small business in Belltown gives her a unique perspective on the issues facing both employees and employers in small and growing companies.

### Senator Jeannie Darneille

I am proud and honored to represent the 27th Legislative District in the Senate, building upon the experience I gained during 12 years in the House of Representatives. I understand the needs and concerns of families struggling to make ends meet. In the House, I worked to increase education funding for all learners; expanded health care for children, families, and the disabled; developed a safe environment for children and adults to learn, grow, and thrive; safeguarded civil liberties; and promoted economic opportunities to create living-wage jobs that improve the well-being of families. This work is not finished and I intend to continue as Senator to be the voice of those in need. I've been described as being as tough as a 50-cent steak. I love that description. My faith and experience has motivated me to work to improve the lives of the poor. My career has included: a decade working in colleges and universities across four states and over 30 years working in non-profit social service agencies. Each position increased my awareness of issues such as health care, poverty, homelessness, homophobia and mental health. During the interim between sessions, I now work and consult with non-profit organizations as they go through leadership transitions. As the oldest of six children in an Air Force family, my folks taught me scores of life lessons – one of which centers on volunteerism. My volunteering started at Planned Parenthood in Bellingham and continues today. I have served on boards of directors for non-profit organizations across our community, cooked at the Hospitality Kitchen, worked on Habitat houses, and been a Big Sister. Suffice it to say, a person can get involved with many wonderful organizations in nearly 30 years. I know I have. The 27th District has a history of supplying the Senate with strong, dedicated, committed women – most recently, Sen. Debbie Regala and longtime Sen. Lorraine Wojahn, with whom I was fortunate to serve as her aide during the 1985 Legislative session. It is an honor to now hold the same position as those esteemed senators after their retirement in service to the Legislature. I received my bachelor's degree in



art history from Western Washington University and my master's in higher education administration from Colorado State University. I'm married to Howard Graham, an attorney in private practice specializing in disability issues. We are blessed with three great sons, one grandson, and for 30 years have lived within a five-block radius within the district. I'm 65 and an avid baseball fan (Go Rainiers!).