

## Participating in the Legislative Process - Topic: Affordable Housing

**About this curriculum:** This all-in-one curriculum about the Washington State Legislature details not only the intricacies of how a bill becomes a law, but also how Washingtonians can get involved in the process. This allows students to understand all the steps to become civically engaged while also tracking a topic of interest. For this curriculum kit, the bill is 2021's, HB 1782: Creating additional middle housing near transit and in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing.

**Grade Level Standards:**

- 6th - 8th
  - C2.6-8.2 Distinguish the structure, organization, powers, and limits of government at the local, state, and tribal levels.
  - C4.6-8.3 Employ strategies for civic involvement that address a state or local issue.
- 9th - 12th
  - C2.11-12.1 Analyze citizens' and institutions' effectiveness in addressing social and political problems at the local, state, tribal, national and/or international level.
  - C4.11-12.2 Analyze and evaluate ways of influencing local, state, and national governments and international organizations to establish or preserve individual rights and/or promote the common good.

**Compelling Questions:**

- How can students participate in the legislative process to solve WA state's problems?
- How does the issue of affordable housing illustrate bipartisanship?

**Organizing Concepts:** legislative process, exploration of social issues and perspectives, citizen action, lobbying, transparency.

Support Questions	How does the legislative session work, and what is my role within the legislature?			How do bills get considered, amended, publicly heard, and either pass or die?			How do bills change in the interim?
	<i>Week 1 Pre-session</i>	<i>Week 2 Session starts</i>	<i>Week 3 Committees and Hearings</i>	<i>Week 4 Cut-offs, Amendments, and the Rules</i>	<i>Week 5 Floor Action</i>	<i>Week 6 Budgets, concurrence, citizen participation</i>	<i>Week 7 Interim Centerpiece Policy</i>
<b>Essential Questions</b>	Who represents the people of Washington State?  How does the legislature function to represent the interests of the people?  What are ways that the community can participate in the legislature?	How does the makeup of the legislature ensure that multiple ideas are heard?  How does the committee structure ensure that multiple perspectives are heard in the lawmaking process?  How are policy committees different from fiscal committees?	How do policy committees help refine and shape public policy?  To what extent do personal testimonies influence legislators?  In the issue of housing, how do local, city, and state governments work together?	Why is the amendment process important to lawmakers and Washingtonians?  To what extent do cutoff dates benefit lawmakers and constituents?  How does the Rules Committee function as a gatekeeper?	What is the importance of time management in the legislative session?  How does the Floor Action work, and how is it used to progress some bills while killing others?  To what extent should politicians compromise?	Why is it important for the state to be fiscally responsible?  Why is it important for the House and the Senate to pass the same bills?  To what extent is the governor involved in the legislative process?	How does legislation change from one session to the next?  Focusing on housing, how do different jurisdictions work together to enact change?  How do citizens have a voice in the state legislature?
<b>Guides and Resources</b>	<a href="#">Wk 1 Lesson Plan</a>  <a href="#">Wk 1 Student Notebook</a>	<a href="#">Wk 2 Lesson Plan</a>  <a href="#">Wk 2 Student Notebook</a>	<a href="#">Wk 3 Lesson Plan</a>  <a href="#">Wk 3 Student Notebook</a>	<a href="#">Wk 4 Lesson Plan</a>  <a href="#">Wk 4 Student Notebook</a>	<a href="#">Wk 5 Lesson Plan</a>  <a href="#">Wk 5 Student Notebook</a>	<a href="#">Wk 6 Lesson Plan</a>  <a href="#">Wk 6 Student Notebook</a>	<a href="#">Week 7 Lesson Plan</a>  <a href="#">Week 7 Student Notebook</a>

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