Thank you, legislators, for your continued commitment to ensure economic justice and dignity for all workers by creating & passing legislation that supports high work and safety standards in the workplace. The Snohomish & Island County Labor Council (SICLC) represents union affiliates in Snohomish & Island County; 64 Unions, and approximately 50,000 working families across 2 counties, who would like to build upon what has been accomplished thus far for workers. We recognize this to be a short session ahead, and aim for practicable steps this session with a vision for more substantial changes in the next biennium.

**Transportation—Regional Projects**

Realizing transportation investment is necessary for sustaining a reliable infrastructure, creating family-wage jobs, and ensuring an equitable economic recovery for Washington; SICLC is asking for the legislature to move forward on two significant projects for our region:

**HWY 2/ Hewitt Ave. Trestle and I-405 Expansion to I-5**

**Apprenticeship/Training & Work Standards**

Pathways to trade apprenticeship programs must be recognized and supported the same as other postsecondary pathways and State Registered Apprentices must receive all available supports and services that other postsecondary students have access to. We also need strong training and work standards in order to meet industry needs and to ensure workplace safety.

*Examples of Legislation* —Fire-Resistant Material Applicators, Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Standards, Apprenticeship Utilization Requirements, Bid Listing, and High Hazard Prevailing Wage

**Childcare Infrastructure**

In order to remove barriers for workers, supports and access to childcare must be addressed. Particularly, cost and access to services outside traditional work hours. (Shift workers—medical staff, machinists, 1st responders, etc.; apprentices, journey workers and retail.)

**PERS 1/TERS 1 Retirement Systems Fix**

Due to the lack of consistent Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) since the removal of UCOLA in 2010, PERS 1 and TERS 1 retirees have lost, on average, 20% of their purchasing power. This is an extreme hardship for these retired workers that will only get worse over time. Support the passing of **SB 5676 & HB 1721** for a one time 3% increase is a first step.

**Please Pass:**

**SB 5326**—Bus Driver Benefits Bill—introduced last session, needs to be brought to a vote

**HB 1706**—Truck Drivers Ability To Access Restrooms Facilities, Reps. Sells /Wicks Sponsors

**HB 1831**—Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Standards Bill, Reps. Bronoske/Berry Sponsors

*For more information about Snohomish & Island County Labor Council Advocacy*,

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