

**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact:** John Barnes  
877-WAVOTES  
jbarnes@wavotes.org

## Missed Votes Report for Legislators Online at WashingtonVotes.org

Anyone can quickly and easily look up a legislator's missed votes from the 2006 Legislative Session, which adjourned on March 8. WashingtonVotes.org, the state's premier legislative information website that provides concise, plain-English, objective descriptions of every bill, amendment and vote of the Washington legislature, offers reports detailing missed roll call votes on bills and amendments.

### 2006 Session Quick Facts

- Bills introduced—2,204; Amendments introduced—1,846
- Bills passed legislature—391
- Roll Calls taken *on bills and amendments* in Senate—573; in House—707
- Number of legislators who didn't miss any of these votes: 66

WashingtonVotes.org Director John Barnes says the missed votes feature shows the advantages the site offers. "In order to obtain this information from the state, you would have to read and record information from thousands of pages of legislative documents," he said. "This feature is just one of many that WashingtonVotes.org offers for free to help make state government more understandable and accountable to citizens."

Barnes says that in most cases missed votes happen when other demands call a lawmaker off the floor for a few minutes, or when serious family or personal issues require absence for an entire day or longer. "Legislators are human too," Barnes observes. "People shouldn't jump to conclusions or assume bad faith. But if a legislator demonstrates a consistent pattern of missing votes, citizens have a right to ask why."

To see the total number of votes each Senator and Representative missed during the 2006 Session, go to [www.WashingtonVotes.org/MissedVotes.aspx](http://www.WashingtonVotes.org/MissedVotes.aspx). You can see reports from previous sessions by changing the date criteria at the top of the page. Click on a legislator's name for detailed information about the votes he or she missed.

WashingtonVotes.org contacted the three legislators from each house who missed the most votes. Their comments are included here, as is a complete list of the missed votes for the 2006 Session (current as of 3/16/06).

<b>Legislator</b>	<b>2006 Session Missed Votes</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Sen. Alex Deccio</b> (R-Yakima) 14 <sup>th</sup> District	213	"I was home in Yakima for 2 weeks undergoing medical testing."
<b>Sen. Bob Oke</b> (R-Port Orchard) 26 <sup>th</sup> District	190	"Near the end of session, I learned my blood cancer, multiple myeloma, had returned. In the final days of a session, we work long days into the late evenings, and each day dozens of votes are taken, mostly to concur in amendments on bills made by the opposite chamber. I missed votes during this time because I was hospitalized for blood transfusions and chemo therapy."
<b>Sen. Bob McCaslin</b> (R-Veradale) 4 <sup>th</sup> District	169	"Just prior to the 2006 legislative session, I injured my right hip. I needed hip replacement surgery at that time, but decided to tough it out for the session. The reason I missed as many votes as I did was because after spending 8-10 hours on the Senate floor, the pain became too great, so I went home leaving instructions to call me if my vote was needed. The reality is it takes 25 votes to pass a bill, and we, the minority Republicans, didn't have the votes to pass or block legislation."
<b>Rep. Shay Schual-Berke</b> (D-Seattle) 33 <sup>rd</sup> District	72	"I missed parts of 2 days of voting on the floor for personal reasons, during which time I missed these votes. Fortunately, I knew that my vote was not needed nor would have changed the outcome at those times as verified by the voting record which shows that all the bills passed either unanimously or by a significant margin."
<b>Rep. Glenn Anderson</b> (R-Fall City) 5 <sup>th</sup> District	51	"On Jan. 11 and 13 I was in Alaska on state business as the president of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region and missed 3 votes. On Feb. 14, the final cutoff date for legislation to be passed out of the House or considered dead, I was home sick with a horrible case of the flu that was going around the legislature and missed 48 votes that day."
<b>Rep. Mary Skinner</b> (R-Yakima) 14 <sup>th</sup> District	48	"There were 4 days during session that I was excused: Feb. 16, 27, 28, and March 3. I entered the session in January with some health problems related to my neck. I consulted my physician before leaving Yakima for Olympia, hoping these problems would remain subdued during session. Unfortunately, as session progressed, so did my pain. I remained in touch with my physician in an attempt to resolve these problems. Part of his recommendation was bed rest. The dates of my absence and the resulting missed votes are directly due to these health problems. I believe it is important to note for my constituents that I was in constant communication with the leaders of the House during those dates and kept apprised of the issues at hand to ensure that my absence would not affect my ability to represent the citizens of the 14 <sup>th</sup> District."

## Number of Missed Votes for Each Legislator in the 2006 Session (1/9-3/8)\*

<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>			
Brad Benson (R-Spokane)	37	John Ahern (R-Spokane)	11	Patricia Lantz (D- Gig Harbor)	0
Don Benton (R-Vancouver)	38	Gary Alexander (R-Olympia)	3	Kelli Linville (D-Bellingham)	0
Jean Berkey (D-Everett)	4	Glenn Anderson (R-Fall City)	51	John Lovick (D-Mill Creek)	0
Dale Brandland (R-Bellingham)	50	Sherry Appleton (D-Poulsbo)	0	John McCoy (D-Tulalip)	1
Lisa Brown (D-Spokane)	87	Mike Armstrong (R-Wenatchee)	0	Jim McCune (R-Graham)	0
Michael Carrell (R-Lakewood)	9	Barbara Bailey (R-Oak Harbor)	0	Joe McDermott (D-Seattle)	0
Alex Deccio (R-Yakima)	213	Brian Blake (D-Aberdeen)	0	Joyce McDonald (R-Puyallup)	11
Jerome Delvin (R-Richland)	33	Jim Buck (R-Joyce)	0	Jim McIntire (D-Seattle)	16
Mark Doumit (D-Cathlamet)	50	David Buri (R-Colfax)	0	Mark Miloscia (D-Federal Way)	0
Tracey Eide (D-Federal Way)	2	Tom Campbell (R-Spanaway)	31	Jim Moeller (D-Vancouver)	0
Luke Esser (R-Bellevue)	7	Bruce Chandler (R-Granger)	0	Dawn Morrell (D-Puyallup)	5
Darlene Fairley (D-Lk Forest Park)	16	Maralyn Chase (D-Shoreline)	0	Jeff Morris (D-Sedro Woolley)	2
Bill Finkbeiner (R-Kirkland)	88	Frank Chopp (D-Seattle)	6	Ed Murray (D-Seattle)	7
Rosa Franklin (D-Tacoma)	4	Jim Clements (R-Selah)	0	Dan Newhouse (R-Sunnyside)	0
Karen Fraser (D-Olympia)	5	Judy Clibborn (D-Mercer Island)	5	Toby Nixon (R-Kirkland)	0
Jim Hargrove (D-Hoquiam)	59	Eileen Cody (D-Seattle)	4	Al O'Brien (D-Mount. Terrace)	0
Mary Haugen (D-Camano Is.)	46	Cary Condotta (R-Wenatchee)	0	Ed Orcutt (R-Kalama)	0
Mike Hewitt (R-Walla Walla)	44	Steve Conway (D-Tacoma)	0	Timm Ormsby (D-Spokane)	0
Jim Honeyford (R-Sunnyside)	25	Don Cox (R-Colfax)	23	Kirk Pearson (R-Monroe)	0
Ken Jacobsen (D-Seattle)	30	Larry Crouse (R-Spokane)	0	Eric Pettigrew (D-Seattle)	10
Stephen Johnson (R-Kent)	31	Richard Curtis (R-Camas)	7	Skip Priest (R-Federal Way)	0
Jim Kastama (D-Puyallup)	0	Jeannie Darneille (D-Tacoma)	0	David Quall (D-Mt. Vernon)	42
Karen Keiser (D-Des Moines)	1	Richard DeBolt (R-Chehalis)	6	Dan Roach (R-Bonney Lake)	0
Adam Kline (D-Seattle)	44	Mary Lou Dickerson (D-Seattle)	0	Mary Helen Roberts (D-Edmonds)	0
Jeanne Kohl-Welles (D-Seattle)	16	Jim Dunn (R-Bush Prairie)	0	Jay Rodne (R-Snoqualmie)	0
Rosemary McAuliffe (D-Bothell)	23	Hans Dunshee (D-Snohomish)	5	Sharon Tomiko Santos (D-Seattle)	0
Bob McCaslin (R-Veradale)	169	William Eickmeyer (D-Belfair)	21	Lynn Schindler (R-Otis Orchards)	0
Bob Morton (R-Kettle Falls)	11	Mark Ericks (D-Bothell)	0	Shay Schual-Berke (D-Seattle)	72
Joyce Mulliken (R-Ephrata)	41	Doug Ericksen (R-Ferndale)	0	Mike Sells (D-Everett)	0
Bob Oke (R-Port Orchard)	190	Dennis Flannigan (D-Tacoma)	0	John Serben (R-Spokane)	0
Linda Evans Parlette (R-Wenatch.)	57	Bill Fromhold (D-Vancouver)	21	Jan Shabro (R-Bonney Lake)	0
Cheryl Pflug (R-Issaquah)	45	Bill Grant (D-Walla Walla)	0	Geoff Simpson (D-Kent)	18
Erik Poulsen (D-Seattle)	27	Tami Green (D-Lakewood)	0	Mary Skinner (R-Yakima)	48
Margarita Prentice (D-Seattle)	32	Kathy Haigh (D-Shelton)	0	Helen Sommers (D-Seattle)	6
Craig Pridemore (D-Vancouver)	11	Larry Haler (R-Richland)	0	Larry Springer (D-Kirkland)	0
Marilyn Rasmussen (D-Eatonville)	1	Shirley Hankins (R-Richland)	0	Chris Strow (R-Clinton)	0
Debbie Regala (D-Tacoma)	15	Bob Hasegawa (D-Seattle)	16	Brian Sullivan (D-Mukilteo)	0
Pam Roach (R-Auburn)	10	Bill Hinkle (R-Cle Elum)	5	Pat Sullivan (D-Covington)	0
Phil Rockefeller (D-Bainbridge Is.)	11	Janéa Holmquist (R-Ephrata)	38	Bob Sump (R-Republic)	0
Dave Schmidt (R-Bothell)	19	Zack Hudgins (D-Tukwila)	0	Dean Takko (D-Longview)	0
Mark Schoesler (R-Ritzville)	0	Sam Hunt (D-Olympia)	0	Gigi Talcott (R-Tacoma)	12
Tim Sheldon (D-Hoodsport)	1	Ross Hunter (D-Medina)	11	Rodney Tom (R-Medina)	0
Paull Shin (D-Mukilteo)	3	Fred Jarrett (R-Mercer Island)	0	Dave Upthegrove (D-Des Moines)	10
Harriet Spanel (D-Bellingham)	1	Ruth Kagi (D-Lake Forest Park)	0	Deb Wallace (D-Vancouver)	0
Val Stevens (R-Arlington)	28	Phyllis Kenney (D-Seattle)	6	Maureen Walsh (R-Walla Walla)	0
Dan Swecker (R-Rochester)	26	Lynn Kessler (D-Hoquiam)	0	Brendan Williams (D-Olympia)	17
Pat Thibaudeau (D-Seattle)	28	Derek Kilmer (D-Gig Harbor)	0	Alex Wood (D-Spokane)	0
Brian Weinstein (D-Mercer Is.)	3	Steve Kirby (D-Tacoma)	0	Beverly Woods (R-Poulsbo)	0
Joseph Zarelli (R-Ridgefield)	22	Joel Kretz (R-Wauconda)	3		
		Dan Kristiansen (R-Snohomish)	0		

\*Number of Missed Votes includes when legislator was formally excused and when they did not vote

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