

For Immediate Release:
June 9, 2013

For Interview Contact:
Sen. Janéa Holmquist Newbry (360) 786-7624

Holmquist Newbry supports Senate budget that lives within its means

OLYMPIA... Sen. Janéa Holmquist Newbry voted yesterday for passage of the Washington State Senate's updated state budget, which she hopes will allow the Legislature to finish its business in Olympia before the Tuesday deadline for the current special session.

"The Senate is doing its job," said Holmquist Newbry, R-Moses Lake. "This is the second time we approved a sustainable budget that has no new taxes, provides a substantial increase in general education funding, preserves the rainy day fund and grows by less than inflation."

The Senate's budget package provides for basic education by limiting the growth rate for non-education spending. \$1.5 billion in new funding goes towards education, bringing per pupil spending up to \$1000. In contrast, the House of Representatives' budget, released on Thursday, relies on more than \$500 million in new taxes, but provides much less per pupil.

Holmquist Newbry is also enthusiastic about the workers' compensation reform that is an essential part of the Senate's budget package. This proposed measure, passed by the Senate today, will provide additional options and choices for workers and protect employers and workers from more than \$1 billion in tax increases.

Holmquist Newbry hopes the budget, which passed with a 25-23 vote, will meet with a positive reception when it reaches the House.

"We've reached out to our House colleagues," said Holmquist Newbry. "We've made some compromises in this updated budget package, but we've kept our principles and integrity intact. I am very proud of this package. It is exactly what our state needs."

—30—

For more information contact **Paul Schlien** at (360) 786-7504 or paul.schlien@leg.wa.gov.
Visit us online at www.MajorityCoalitionCaucus.org and follow on Twitter [@WashingtonMCC](https://twitter.com/WashingtonMCC).