



# Debbie Regala

## Quick Facts

**Birth:** April 27, 1945  
Tacoma, Washington

**Death:**

**Occupation:** Community Volunteer

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat

**Years served:** 1994-2001 (H)  
2001-2012 (S)

**Office:** Representative, Senator

**District:** 27 (Pierce County)

## Personal:

- Lifelong resident of Tacoma
- Married, 3 children

## Education:

- University of Puget Sound, B.A. in Foreign Language/Education
- Graduated from Stadium High School in Tacoma

## Community Service:

- Work-site coordinator on three projects which brought together diverse groups of young people to do environmental restoration.
- Werlin Reading Tutor
- Habitat for Humanity, Blitz Build
- Habitat for Humanity Women's Build
- McCarver Elementary, parent volunteer, 14 years
- Various school committees, including Facilities Review, and Restructuring
- St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Lector - 20 years, Marriage Preparation Team - 10 years and Parish Council
- Tacoma Recreation Foundation, board member
- Tacoma Public Art Task Force
- Point Defiance Zoological Society

## Affiliations:

- American Leadership Forum, Tacoma/Pierce County, board member
- Sexual Assault Center of Pierce County, board member
- Forever Green Park Study Council
- The Nature Conservancy, board member
- Tacoma Art Museum: Activities Council 3 years, Docent 8 years
- Pt. Defiance Zoological Society, board of directors, 6 years

## Awards:

## Legislative & State Service:

- Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC)
- Legislative Ethics Board
- Joint Committee on Pension Policy
- Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Elected November 2000 to the Senate. Took over Senator Lorraine Wojahn's seat, which she had held for 24 years.
- Sworn in December 2, 1994 to serve Representative Art Wang's unexpired term.

**Committees:** (1995) Capital Budget; Natural Resources; Agriculture and Ecology (1997) Appropriations; Natural Resources; Agriculture and Ecology (1999) Natural Resources, co-chair; Appropriations (2001) Environment, Energy and Water; Education; Labor, Commerce and Financial Institutions; Ways and Means (2003) Children, Family Services & Corrections; Natural Resources, Energy and Water; Ways & Means

**Leadership, Positions & Appointments:**

- Senate Democratic Whip, 2004
- Assistant Democratic Floor Leader, 2003
- Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, President, 1989 and 1991
- Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, commissioner, 1986-1992

**Sources:**

- "Clear party lines, no complications in 27<sup>th</sup> House race," by Barbara Clements, *The News Tribune*, October 25, 1996.
- "Activist Debbie Regala to run for 27<sup>th</sup> District House seat," by Barbara Clements, *The News Tribune*, July 3, 1994.