



# Margaret Hurley

## Quick Facts

**Birth:** Winnebago, Minnesota

**Death:**

**Occupation:** Teacher

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat

**Years served:** 1953-1979 (H)  
1979-1985 (S)

**Office:** Representative, Senator

**District:** 3 (Spokane County)

## Personal:

- Raised on a ranch in the Methow Valley
- 4 children, husband Joseph Hurley died in 1968
- Married Leonard "Pete" Peterson in 1991

## Education:

- Holy Names Normal School, Spokane, teaching certificate, B.A.
- Eastern Washington College of Education, post graduate work

## Community Service:

- Citizens Against Residential Freeways
- Good Shepherd Home, advisory board

## Affiliations:

- Eastern Washington University Foundation
- Ladies Auxiliary
- National Order of Women Legislators
- Spokane Bar Association
- Spokane Watercolor Society

## Awards:

- Distinguished Community Service, Spokane, 1955
- Holy Names Marian Medal, 1968
- Woman of the Year, Spokane County Business and Professional Women, 1968
- Woman of the Year, State Business and Professional Women, 1969

## **Legislative & State Service:**

- Husband Joseph E. Hurley served as a Representative for District 3 during the sessions of 1939, 1941, and again in 1951. She was then elected to his seat in 1953.
- Involved in the coalition of 1963: <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/oralhistory/timeline.aspx?t=4>
- Stopped a portion of Interstate 90 from going through the city of Spokane
- As chair of the House Parks and Recreation Committee she tried, unsuccessfully, to pass legislation that would have prohibited automobiles from driving on beaches. She was able to help establish more urban parks.
- Elected to the Senate on November 6, 1979 to serve James E. Keefe's unexpired term.
- As chair of a Senate subcommittee on nuclear wastes she worked to curb the waste created by nuclear power plants.

**Committees:** (1953) Appropriations; Education and Libraries; Medicine, Dentistry and Drugs; Social Security (1955) Banks and Banking, chair; Education; Industrial Insurance; Military, Veterans and Civil Defense; Revenue and Taxation (1957) Banks and Banking; Medicine, Dentistry and Drugs; Rules and Order; Social Security and Public Assistance; Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Revenue and Taxation (1959) Banks and Financial Institutions; Public Utilities; Rules and Order; Social Security and Public Assistance; Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Revenue and Taxation (1961) Banks and Financial Institutions; Public Utilities; Rules and Order; Social Security and Public Assistance; Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Revenue and Taxation (1963) Constitution, Elections and Apportionment; Rules and Order; Social Security and Public Assistance; Water Resources and Pollution Control (1965) Licenses, chair; Banking and Insurance; Social Security and Public Assistance; Ways and means, Subcommittee on Revenue (1967) Financial Institutions and Insurance; Public Health and Welfare; Revenue and Taxation (1969) Financial Institutions and Insurance; Revenue and Taxation; State Government and Legislative Procedures (1971) Natural Resources and Ecology; Revenue and Taxation; State Government (1973) Parks and Recreation, chair; State Government; Ways and Means-Revenue (1975) Parks and Recreation, chair; State Government; Ways and Means-Revenue (1977) Parks and Recreation, chair; Elections and Governmental Ethics; Financial Institutions (1979) Parks and Recreation, executive chair; Financial Institutions; Institutions (1981) Parks and Ecology, chair; Commerce and Labor; Energy and Utilities (1983) Energy and Utilities, vice-chair; Parks and Ecology; Rules

Throughout her long career Margaret Hurley fought passionately for numerous causes including environmental issues, Washington State Parks, not driving on ocean beaches, welfare education, anti-abortion, regulating charities, education, and taxation. Only the bills that she was able to push through the legislature and gain a passing vote on are listed below.

### **House Bills sponsored:**

#### **(1953 session)**

No bills sponsored that passed

#### **(1955 session)**

442-Eliminating the definition "hourly nursery" from the child welfare act

Signed by Governor Langlie

480-Requiring that at least 6% of bank and trust company savings deposits be available in cash at all times

Signed by Governor Langlie

#### **(1957 session)**

No bills sponsored that passed

#### **(1959 session)**

No bills sponsored that passed

#### **(1961 session)**

71-Providing additional method for canceling registration of deceased voters

Signed by Governor Rosellini

73-Raising fees of election officials

Signed by Governor Rosellini

101-Relating to guardian bonds

Signed by Governor Rosellini

107-Establishing method of providing funds for drainage districts

Signed by Governor Rosellini

286-Relating to state patrol retirement system

Signed by Governor Rosellini

519-Relating to surplus commodities

Signed by Governor Rosellini

521-Creating a work relief program under public assistance

Signed by Governor Rosellini

#### **(1963 session)**

253-Pertaining to surplus commodities for use of public assistance recipients

Signed by Governor Rosellini  
514-Changes public assistance laws to conform to federal requirements  
Signed by Governor Rosellini

**(1965 session)**

271-Allowing department of public assistance to coordinate state aid to federal programs respecting earnings of those receiving assistance  
Signed by Governor Evans  
307-Providing for payment of eye care service benefits under insurance contracts whether such care is performed by physician or optometrist  
Signed by Governor Evans, partial veto  
437-Requires wine tax collections to be made at wholesale instead of retail  
Signed by Governor Evans

**(1967 session)**

626-Providing P.U.D. support to counties  
Signed by Governor Evans

**(1969 session)**

123-Regulating use of dangerous weapons  
Signed by Governor Evans  
188-Authorizing fire protection for state colleges  
Signed by Governor Evans  
229-Authorizing conveyance of certain Camp Murray property for public educational purposes  
Signed by Governor Evans  
230-Prescribing the governor's regulatory power concerning use and disposition of military property  
Signed by Governor Evans  
257-Authorizing private school students to attend public schools on a part time basis  
Signed by Governor Evans  
311-Making it a crime to inhale or smell toxic glue vapors, possess such glues, or to sell such glues to a minor  
Signed by Governor Evans  
375-Providing recipients of public assistance the opportunity to find and prepare for employment  
Signed by Governor Evans  
539-Authorizing inter-local cooperative agreements between cities and counties for bus service  
Signed by Governor Evans  
572-Reporting and recording motor vehicle accidents  
Signed by Governor Evans  
597-Providing for the positive identification of persons living in Washington  
Signed by Governor Evans

**(1970 second extraordinary session)**

13-Changing weighting schedule for distribution of state funds to certain high schools and non-high districts  
Signed by Governor Evans  
127-Providing minimum pension for certain pensioners under Supreme Court judges' retirement act  
Signed by Governor Evans  
162-Relating to civil disturbance and providing penalties  
Signed by Governor Evans

**(1971 session)**

106-Protecting endangered species of fish and wildlife  
Signed by Governor Evans  
130-Authorizing the state treasurer to cash certain checks for state officers and employees  
Signed by Governor Evans  
229-Amending various items concerning public service companies  
Signed by Governor Evans  
273-Requiring environmental impact reports on interstate and primary state highways  
Signed by Governor Evans  
773-Protecting deer and elk during certain periods of the year  
Signed by Governor Evans

**(1973 session)**

224-Making certain changes in the executive conflict of interest act  
Signed by Governor Evans

**(1973 extraordinary session)**

389-Providing for the exchange of lands having commercial recreational leasing potential

Signed by Governor Evans

766-Providing for the regulation of legend drugs

Signed by Governor Evans

1007-Appropriating funds for grasshopper control

Signed by Governor Evans

**(1974 extraordinary session)**

1181-Providing for the sale of certain second class shore lands

Signed by Governor Evans

**(1975 session)**

305-Staggering renewal date for motor vehicle registration

Signed by Governor Evans

422-Permitting tax adjustments upon property destroyed at any time during the year

Signed by Governor Evans

**(1977 session)**

285-Renaming Sun Lakes State Park to Victor Aloysius Meyers State Park

Signed by Governor Ray

402-Requiring state agencies to submit budgets that may or may not require increased taxes

Signed by Governor Ray

656-Mandating certain public agencies to make surplus books, equipment, etc. available at depreciated cost to private schools

Signed by Governor Ray

741-Modifying property tax exemption laws pertaining to recapture penalties, reapplication procedures, and notification of change of use

Signed by Governor Ray

839-Making the leasehold excise tax inapplicable to certain property within certain historical sites

Signed by Governor Ray

**(1979 session)**

58-Prohibiting blind bidding for feature motion pictures

Signed by Governor Ray

92-Allowing corporate employees to withdraw from industrial insurance eligibility

Signed by Governor Ray

320-Extending the 106 percent levy limit to the state

Signed by Governor Ray

352-Establishing procedures for termination of parent-child relationships

Signed by Governor Ray

689-Requiring persons convicted of littering to pick up or remove the deposited litter

Signed by Governor Ray

803-Modifying banking laws

Signed by Governor Ray

806-Authorizing the Supervisor of banking to issue cease and desist orders against mutual savings banks engaging in certain practices

Signed by Governor Ray

808-Permitting corporations doing a trust business to deposit securities held in trust in other banks and trust companies

Signed by Governor Ray

1241-Providing a property tax exemption for property held for park purposes by nonprofit organizations

Signed by Governor Ray

1281-Regulating snowmobiles

Partially vetoed by Governor Ray

**House Joint Memorials sponsored:**

**(1961 session)**

2-Memorializing Congress to issue stamp commemorating establishment of Fort Okanogan

Passed

**(1963 extraordinary session)**

1-Proposing constitutional amendment prohibiting interference with state in its apportionment of representation in its legislature

Passed

**(1970 second extraordinary session)**

3-Petitioning the President, Congress and the Department of State to undertake more determined efforts in support of captured American men and those missing in action

Passed

**(1973 session)**

5-Requesting issuance of an Expo '74 commemorative postage stamp  
Signed by Governor Evans

**(1975 session)**

7-Requesting Congress continue hot lunch program for elderly  
Passed

**House Joint Resolutions sponsored:**

**(1963 extraordinary session)**

4-Proposing constitutional amendment relating to apportionment and districting of legislative districts  
Passed

**House Concurrent Resolutions sponsored:**

**(1963 session)**

1-Notifying the Governor that the legislature is organized  
Passed

2-Relating to joint session to receive the Governor's message  
Passed

3-Relating to a joint session to receive the Governor's budget message  
Passed

5-Relating to joint session for the purpose of viewing a film by the National Geographic Society  
Passed

6-Relating to memorial services commemorating deceased members of the legislature  
Passed

**(Extraordinary session)**

1-Notifying the Governor that the legislature is organized  
Passed

2-Adopting the joint rules  
Passed

**(1973 extraordinary session)**

18-Resolving that the department of social and health services proceed with a work incentive program  
Passed

**(1974 extraordinary session)**

63-Commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Seattle opera Association  
Passed

**House Floor Resolutions sponsored:**

**(1967 session)**

67-37-Requesting study by legislative council of detrimental effects of noxious weeds  
Passed

67-56-Directing analysis by legislative council of "dog-napping" problem  
Passed

67-75-Extending greeting to Wylie W. Brown on 80<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Passed

**(1969 session)**

69-57-Recognizing cultural value of work done by Pacific Northwest Indian Center  
Passed

69-76-Authorizing a study of air pollution  
Passed

69-86-Commending John L. Chamber, Jr. as Executive Secretary of Washington State Association of County Commissioners  
Passed

69-132-Congratulating Harry S. Truman on his eighty-fifth birthday  
Passed

69-138-Urging adoption of orderly procedures regarding student grievances  
Passed

**(1970 second extraordinary session)**

70-7-Expressing sorrow over death of Dwight L. Spracher  
Passed

70-46-Recognizing Boy Scout Week and commending those who work to make programs a success  
Passed

70-56-Directing study be made concerning a new governor's mansion  
Passed

**(1971 session)**

71-72-Commending Representative Gladys Kirk on her efforts and accomplishments  
Passed

71-87-Study by Legislative Council of need for legislation to reimburse people for adverse effects of construction of public facilities near their property  
Passed

71-91-Study by Legislative Council of the desirability of requiring all legislation containing direct or indirect appropriations be approved by the Appropriations Committee  
Passed

**(1973 session)**

6-Extending congratulations to Arnie Weinmeister on his elevation to the vice presidency of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters  
Passed

10-Conveying sympathy to the family of President Lyndon B. Johnson  
Passed

17-Commends Horace W. Bozarth for his years of public service  
Passed

18-Expressing thanks to Malcolm "Dutch" McBeath for years of service as Chief Clerk  
Passed

22-Expressing appreciation to Eugene A. Prince for his service as Sergeant at Arms of the House  
Passed

25-Congratulating the students and faculty of the Department of Technology, Western Washington State College for high honors earned  
Passed

**(1974 extraordinary session)**

210-Requesting school districts reduce special levies  
Passed

**(1975 session)**

46-Commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the founding of St. Michael's parish in Olympia  
Passed

48-Requiring the director of DSHS to delegate authority and responsibility to warden of Walla Walla State Penitentiary

**(1976 extraordinary session)**

65-Extends sympathy to family on death of Representative Charles R. Savage  
Passed

95-Expressing condolences to the family of Judge Robert Corpening Finley

**Senate Bills sponsored:**

**(1980 session)**

3240-Enacting the coordinated Review and Accountability Act of 1980  
Partially vetoed by Governor Ray

3280-Revising laws relating to real estate brokers and salesmen  
Signed by Governor Ray

**(1981 session)**

3255-Clarifying the law regulating carrying concealed weapons  
Full veto by Governor Spellman

3343-Modifying the interagency committee for outdoor recreation  
Signed by Governor Spellman

3386-Authorizing legislative review of agency rules by a joint select committee with power to suspend  
Signed by Governor Spellman

3453-Providing for the renovation, redevelopment, maintenance, and operation of state parks  
Signed by Governor Spellman

3610-Authorizing a class L liquor license for nonprofit arts organizations  
Signed by Governor Spellman

3797-Modifying provisions relating to the management of joint operating agencies  
Signed by Governor Spellman

3972-Providing for a study on the feasibility of completing nuclear power plants  
Signed by Governor Spellman

**(1982 session)**

4697-Authorizing payroll deductions for IRA's

Signed by Governor Spellman

4859-Permitting prepayment of retail sales and use taxes imposed by cities, counties and metropolitan municipal corporations

Signed by Governor Spellman

**(1982 extraordinary session)**

5030-Modifying the taxation of low-level radioactive waste disposal

Signed by Governor Spellman

**(1983 session)**

3006-Revising the state environmental policy act

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

3026-Modifying provisions relating to consumer warranties

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

3224-Authorizing the provision of heating services by governmental entities

Signed by Governor Spellman

3248-Requiring the salaries of persons in public employment to be adjusted to achieve comparable worth

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

3273-Establishing the Washington radioactive waste commission

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

3433-Creating the Washington higher education facilities authority to provide financing to private non-profit higher education institutions

Substitute and partially vetoed by Governor Spellman

3535-Modifying provisions relating to containers for milk-based and soy-based beverages

Signed by Governor Spellman

3757-Modifying provisions relating to nursing homes

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

4245-Revising provisions relating to hazardous waste management

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

**(1984 session)**

3620-Establishing a limit for registration fees for air contaminant sources

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

4490-Restricting utilities from terminating utility service for residential space heat

Substituted and partially vetoed by Governor Spellman

4730-Requiring the extension of health insurance coverage in child support orders under certain circumstances

Substituted and signed by Governor Spellman

**Senate Joint Memorials sponsored:**

**(1983 session)**

106-Calling for a mutual and variable freeze on nuclear weapons

Passed

**(1984 session)**

127-Requesting the Department of Energy to study crystalline rock at potential radioactive waste sites

Passed

131-Requesting consideration of nuclear waste policy and liability

Passed

**Senate Concurrent Resolutions sponsored:**

**(1983 session)**

108-Congratulating the United States Senior Ladies Figure Skating Champion

Passed

**(1984 session)**

142-Recommendation the scope of agreements concerning nuclear waste disposal sites

Passed

**Leadership, Positions & Appointments:**

- Assistant Floor Leader for the Dissident Democrats, 1963
- Minority Caucus Secretary, 1971

**Sources:**

Articles:

- Duncan, Don, "The Coalition, Two of the Principals," *The Seattle Times*, January 27, 1963
- Fox, Clayton, "The Wrath of the Irish Descends on Highways," *The Daily Olympian*, February 11, 1971
- "Rep. Hurley Backs Off," *Seattle Times*, January 27, 1973
- Rinearson, Peter, "The Odd Couple, Representatives Margaret Hurley and Shirley Winsley: If the vote is 50-48 instead of 49-49, chances are that one or the other of them has voted with the opposition." *The Seattle Times*, April 5, 1979
- Bonino, Rick, "Hurley Easily Beats Link," *The Spokesman-Review*, November 7, 1979
- "Senator to Fight N-Project," *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, October 1, 1980
- Parker, Laura, "Hurley Holds Yachtsman's Nomination in Detention," *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, March 25, 1981
- Moody, Dick, "Hurley to retire from Legislature," *The Spokesman-Review*, June 28, 1984
- Layton, Mike, "Good old boys can relax now, Maggie's leaving," *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, July 3, 1984

Books:

- *Margaret Hurley: An Oral History*, interviewed by Laurie Mercier, Washington State Oral History Program, Office of the Secretary of State, 1995—Available at the Washington State Library