

## **Equitable Access to Health Care**

The ASWWU recognizes the right to equitable access of affordable health services among all communities. Regardless of race, immigration status, and economic status, the areas of need for all communities must be addressed with proper action. Not only should services be affordable, but they must also be readily available for everyone to ensure the safety and health of individuals. BIPOC and immigrant communities are not given the proper resources to meet their individual and varying needs, leaving many with unattended needs. The ASWWU also recognizes the right to a safe abortion for all. Student health plans vary and often do not have the same coverage as other plans. Health carriers for student health plans are not required by law to cover abortions, which must be addressed. Pregnant individuals must have the proper information on all their options and have their choice be respected.

ASWWU strongly advocates for:

- The creation of health equity zones and working closely with communities to address needs with the passing of [SB 5052](#).
- Passing of [HB 1009](#), which would help ensure that services like abortion are available for students and information on access such services are readily available by all healthcare providers.

## **Make Juneteenth a Legal Holiday**

The ASWWU recognizes June 19th as a significant holiday commonly known as Juneteenth that must be recognized by all persons. The lack of knowledge of Black struggles and Black history must be addressed. Therefore, while striving to make Juneteenth a legal holiday and taking a step towards recognizing this important date, there must be more work towards ensuring that Black history is accurately represented and that the holidays that commemorate these milestones are created with Black communities in mind. We ask that further action be taken to ensure that Black communities can properly celebrate these holidays rather than still having to work through them.

ASWWU strongly advocates for:

- The passage of [HB 1016](#), which would make Juneteenth a legal holiday.

## **Equitable Living and Housing**

The ASWWU recognizes the economic challenges faced by individuals in Washington state. With COVID-19 reaching its one-year mark, these economic challenges have been further amplified. The struggle and tremendous amount of work needed to pay off bills has been around before the pandemic. The ASWWU recognizes that there must be help provided during and after the pandemic.

ASWWU strongly advocates for:

- The passing of [SB 5007](#) addressing economic challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic by reducing cost on electric utilities and providing aid to low-income customers.
- [SB 5012](#): Providing a local government option for the funding of essential affordable housing programs.