

Can Ferguson Hide his Record on Crime and Become Governor of Washington?

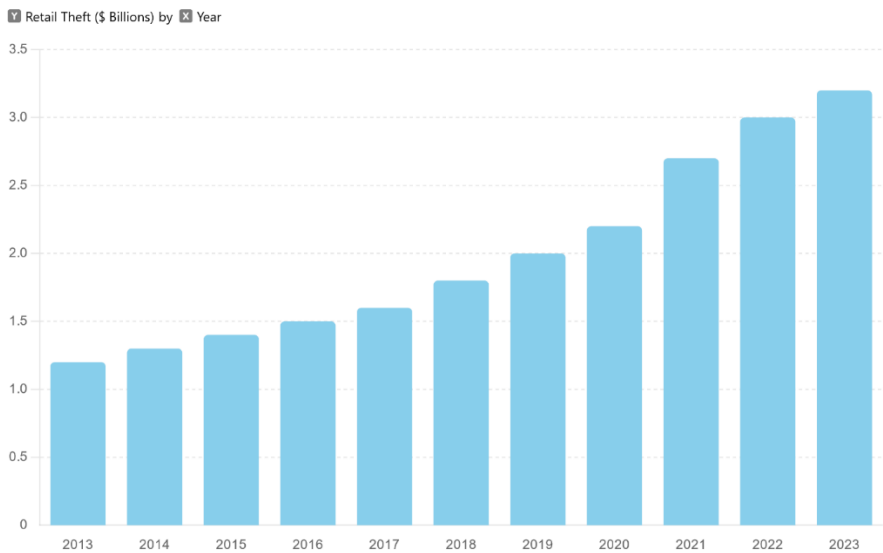


Why Bob Ferguson's Record on Crime Shows a Lack of Concern for Washington State

Washington State has faced a growing crisis of crime, particularly in retail theft, under the leadership of Attorney General Bob Ferguson. Despite his long tenure, Ferguson has shown that his priorities lie elsewhere—specifically in national litigations that have earned him the nickname "Bobby Sue," rather than in the safety and well-being of Washington's citizens.

Ferguson's Misplaced Priorities: During his time as Attorney General, Ferguson has filed numerous lawsuits against the federal government, becoming the most litigious AG in the country. However, this focus on national issues has come at the expense of addressing crime within our state. For example, retail theft has skyrocketed, with the value of stolen goods increasing by 151% from 2019 to 2020 alone. Small businesses are being hit the hardest, yet Ferguson's response has been slow and inadequate.

Retail Theft In Washington State (2013-2023) Source: Washington Retail Association And W...



Late and Ineffective Action: It wasn't until 2023—after nearly a decade in office—that Ferguson established the Organized Retail Crime Unit. This move, though necessary, came far too late and has yielded minimal results. The most notable prosecution during his tenure was the conviction of Shawn Nanez, who stole \$145,000 worth of merchandise. This single case is insignificant compared to the billions lost during Ferguson's time in office.

Kept Secret the attempt to invalidate all the initiatives: Go Washington has been the group to collect the required signatures for the initiatives. Bob Ferguson was the only top five Gubernatorial candidate who was against the capital gains tax initiative. On August 9th, Go Washington received a call that the group headed by Bill Gates and Steve Ballmer had filed to invalidate all the initiatives. They were not notified that this suit existed until it was in front of a judge. This deceitful move to invalidate several hundred thousand citizen signatures, and to not notify the main stakeholders that they were being challenged, was an example of political foul play. The Attorney General knew about the lawsuit and chose not to inform Go Washington. This was a very sneaky underhanded non-action on his part. Thankfully the judge ruled that the signatures were legal, and the initiatives will proceed to the ballot. It is scary to think that we live in a state where two billionaires can use legal trickery to try to invalidate the will of the citizens. They get an assist Bob Ferguson, by hiding the suit from the stakeholders.

The contrast is Obvious

Dave Reichert: A Proven Leader on Public Safety: In stark contrast, Dave Reichert has a proven record of prioritizing crime reduction and public safety. As the sheriff who captured the Green River Killer, Reichert demonstrated his commitment to justice and his ability to tackle even the most challenging cases. His experience as a law enforcement officer and U.S. Congressman makes him uniquely qualified to address the crime wave plaguing Washington.

Reichert's Commitment to Crime Reduction: Reichert understands that public safety is paramount. His approach involves close collaboration with local law enforcement, effective resource allocation, and the implementation of strategies that have been proven to reduce crime rates. Unlike Ferguson, who has been more focused on gaining national attention, Reichert's dedication is to the people of Washington and their safety.

Setting the Record Straight on Dave Reichert and Abortion Rights

In Washington, abortion rights have been codified in state law for decades, they were in fact reaffirmed in 2022, after the overturn of Roe vs. Wade gave the States the ability to make their own legislation on abortion. The Governor does not have the authority alone to change and Dave Reichert has made it clear that he respects these laws and has no intention of repealing them. While serving in Congress, Reichert voted to allow abortions up to 20 weeks and beyond in cases of rape, incest, or when the mother's life is at risk. This is similar to Washington law, except Washington allows abortion up to 24 weeks.

Some recent advertisements by the Ferguson campaign have inaccurately addressed the facts suggesting that Reichert's voting record is an attack on women's reproductive rights. However, this misrepresentation of the facts is an attempt to divert attention from the pressing issues facing Washington today, including the challenges that have arisen during Attorney General Bob Ferguson's 12 year tenure as Attorney General.

Washington voters need to understand the facts not just the hype or spin, WWM is committed to providing you with accurate and balanced information on the key issues in this important to the voters who have been marginalized over the years as public officials like Ferguson pander to special interests rather than the moderate citizens of Washington.

At Western Washington Moderates, we are committed to exposing the records. Stay tuned as we continue to bring you the issues that matter most to Washington voters.
