



State of Washington

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC)

June 17, 2009, Update to 2009-11 JLARC Work Plan

Study Mandates & Other Scheduled Committee Projects	Study Origin	Planned Report Date	Short Description	JLARC Staff Contact
Medicaid Prescription Drug Purchasing Performance Review	JLARC Sponsored	Prelim: Jun 2009 Final: Jul 2009	This JLARC-sponsored performance audit of Medicaid prescription drug purchasing examines the creation and implementation of the state preferred drug list and the impact the list has had on Medical Assistance prescription drug utilization and costs.	John Bowden – 360.786.5298 Bowden.john@leg.wa.gov
Performance Audits of Tax Preferences	EHB 1069 (2006)	Prelim: Jul 2009 Final: Dec 2009	JLARC is to review tax preferences on an annual basis, according to a ten year schedule developed by the Citizen Commission for Performance Measurement of Tax Preferences. JLARC will provide recommendations as to whether specific preferences should be continued, modified, or terminated. A similar report will also be provided in 2010.	Mary Welsh – 360.786.5193 Welsh.mary@leg.wa.gov
Evaluation of Accuracy of Capital Project Estimates	ESHB 2765 (2008)	Prelim: Jul 2009 Final: Sep 2009	This audit will review the processes used by state agencies to prepare estimates of the costs for capital projects, and assess their accuracy compared to final project costs.	Mark Fleming – 360.786.5181 Fleming.Mark@leg.wa.gov
Health Professions Disciplinary Activities Workload Model Review	SHB 2974 (2006)	Prelim: Sep 2009 Final: Oct 2009	This study will review the model and formulas developed by DOH to estimate the workload for its health professions disciplinary activities. It will also review how the model has been used since it was developed.	Elisabeth Donner – 360.786.5190 Donner.elisabeth@leg.wa.gov
Performance Review of Home Care Quality Authority	Initiative 775 (2001)	Prelim: Sep 2009 Final: Oct 2009	As mandated in RCW 74.39A.290, this audit will evaluate the services provided by the Home Care Quality Authority (HCQA) to meet its statutory duties. This is the second of two reviews of HCQA directed in statute.	Fara Daun – 360.786.5174 Daun.f@leg.wa.gov
Review of Child Support Guidelines and Schedule	2SHB 1009 (2007)	Prelim: Dec 2009 Final: Jan 2010	This study will review and analyze data from the child support order summary report, the recommendations of the child support work group, the current child support guidelines, and other relevant research and data regarding the cost of child rearing and deviation from child support guidelines.	Stacia Hollar – 360.786.5191 Hollar.stacia@leg.wa.gov
Review Scoping and Cost Estimates for Transportation Highway Improvement and Preservation Projects	ESSB 5352 (2009)	Prelim: Dec 2009 Final: Jan 2010	This performance audit will involve a review of scoping and cost estimates for transportation highway improvement and preservation projects. The review will examine whether the scoping and cost estimate guidelines used by the Department of Transportation are consistent with construction industry practices and other appropriate standards. It will also include an analysis of a selection of scope and cost estimates developed by the Department for future projects.	John Woolley – 360.786.5184 Woolley.john@leg.wa.gov

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K-12 Facility Inventory Project: Phase 2	ESHB 2765 (2008)	Prelim: Dec 2009 Final: Jan 2010	This study will define and develop a pilot facility condition and inventory system for K-12 public school facilities. This pilot will include a variety of data elements from the pilot sites, with a focus on facility condition and use of space. The pilot will identify the type of data that could inform policymakers on a variety of topics, such as classroom capacity and energy efficiency. It will also include and analysis of the cost and feasibility of expanding the pilot statewide.	Nina Oman – 360.786.5186 Oman.nina@leg.wa.gov
Analysis of Credit Card Payment Options at WSDOT	ESSB 5352 (2009)	Prelim: Jan 2010 Final: Feb 2010	This study will include an analysis of the cost of credit card payment options at the Department of Transportation. For programs where a credit card payment option is offered, the review is to include: 1) an analysis of the direct and indirect cost per transaction to process customer payments using credit cards; 2) an analysis of the direct and indirect cost per transaction for other methods of processing customer payments; 3) an analysis of the historical and projected total aggregate costs for processing all forms of customer payments; 4) identification of whether there are customer service, administrative, and revenue collection benefits resulting from credit card usage; and 5) a review of the use of credit card payment options in other agencies and other states.	David Dean – 360.786.5293 Dean.david@leg.wa.gov
Study of the Relationship Between Cost and Size of School Districts	ESHB 1244 (2009)	Prelim: May 2010 Final: Jun 2010	This study will analyze the relationship between the cost of school districts and their enrollment size. The study is to include: 1) an analysis of how categories of costs vary related to size; 2) a review of other factors that may impact costs; 3) case studies on the change in cost patterns occurring after school district consolidations and for school districts operating under state oversight conditions; and 4) a review of available research on nonfinancial benefits and impacts associated with school district size.	JLARC Staff
Evaluation of the Department of Early Learning	2SHB 2964 (2006)	Prelim: Jun 2010 Final: Jul 2010	The Legislature established the Department of Early Learning in 2006. JLARC will evaluate the Department's efforts in nine areas. 1) Have services and programs that were previously administered separately been effectively integrated? 2) Have reporting and monitoring activities been consolidated and made more efficient? 3) Has consolidation resulted in administrative efficiencies within the Department? 4) Have child care and early learning services improved? 5) Is subsidized child care available? 6) Is subsidized child care affordable? 7) Has the Department been an effective partner in the nongovernmental private-public partnership? 8) Has the Department put in place procedures to respect parents and legal guardians and provide them the opportunity to participate in the development of policies and program decisions affecting their children? 9) Has the Department conducted parent outreach and education?	Sylvia Gil – 360.786.5179 Gil.sylvia@leg.wa.gov

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Evaluation of Information Sharing and Attainment of Medicaid Services for Offenders Released into the Community	ESHB 1244 (2009)	Prelim: Aug 2010 Final: Sep 2010	This study will evaluate the implementation of legislation designed to improve communication, collaboration, and expedited Medicaid attainment with regard to persons released from confinement who have mental health or chemical dependency disorders. The review will evaluate the implementation of provisions related to these topics from several recent laws: E2SSB 6358 (2004); E2SSB 5763 (2005); E2SHB 1290 (2005); and 2SHB 1088 (2007).	JLARC Staff
Review of the Operations of the DSHS DDD Employment and Day Services Program	ESHB 1244 (2009)	Prelim: Sep 2010 Final: Oct 2010	This study will examine the operations of employment and day services provided by the Division of Developmental Disabilities at the Department of Social and Health Services and administered by the counties. The examination will review the contracts for services, including employment services, day services, child development services and other state funded services to the developmentally disabled. The report will provide a description of how funds are used and the rates paid to vendors, and it will review best practices the agency may use for the development of a consistent, outcome-based contract with the counties.	JLARC Staff
Motion Picture Industry	2SSB 6558 (2006)	Prelim: Oct 2010 Final: Dec 2010	The Legislature established a motion picture competitiveness program in 2006 to provide incentives for motion picture production in the state. The legislation establishes a business and occupation tax credit for donations to an approved non-profit corporation that would operate the program. The non-profit corporation will use the donations from taxpayers to provide funding assistance to motion picture production companies. This study will determine the effectiveness of the program, including: 1) the amount of state revenue generated; 2) the number of family wage jobs with benefits created; and 3) adherence to criteria used for providing funding assistance to motion picture productions.	Nina Oman – 360.786.5186 Oman.nina@leg.wa.gov
Office of Regulatory Assistance Sunset Review	2SSB 5122 (2007)	Prelim: Oct 2010 Final: Dec 2010	JLARC is required to complete a program and fiscal review of the Office of Regulatory Assistance (ORA) by December 2010, in advance of ORA's statutory sunset date of June 30, 2011.	JLARC Staff

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Review of Revenue, Expenditures and Performance Outcomes for 4-Year Public Higher Education Institutions	ESHB 2344 (2009)	Prelim: Oct 2010 Final: Dec 2010	This study is a performance audit of the four year higher education institutions. The purpose of the audit is to create a transparent link between revenues, expenditures, performance outcomes outlined in performance agreements with the Legislature, and the higher education strategic master plan adopted by the Legislature. The audit will: 1) identify standardized cost categories; 2) estimate annual costs at each institution for these cost categories; 3) identify the fund sources that support the various cost categories; and 4) identify barrier or gaps in linking revenues, expenditures, and performance measures. As appropriate, the audit may also address cost savings, gaps or overlaps in services, feasibility of pooling technology systems, statutory or regulatory changes necessary to meet performance agreement objectives, and development of a uniform higher education performance, budgeting, accounting, and reporting system.	JLARC Staff
Study of State Recreational Boating Programs	ESHB 1244 (2009)	Prelim: Oct 2010 Final: Dec 2010	This study will review the state's recreational boating programs. The review will include an examination of the revenue sources for state recreational boating programs; expenditures for state boating programs; methods of administering state recreational boating programs, including the roles of both state and local government entities; and approaches other states have taken to funding and administering their recreational boating programs.	JLARC Staff
Review of Mitigation Provisions in Washington's Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement	SSB 5089 (2007)	Prelim: Dec 2010 Final: Jan 2011	The Legislature created the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Mitigation Account in 2007. The purpose of the account is to mitigate the negative fiscal impacts to local taxing jurisdictions as a result of the streamlined sales tax. JLARC will review the mitigation provisions to determine the extent to which they address the needs of local taxing jurisdictions where the streamlined sales tax sourcing provisions had the greatest fiscal impact.	JLARC Staff
Performance Audit of Washington State Ferries Capital Cost Accounting Practices	ESSB 5352 (2009)	Prelim: Jan 2011 Final: Feb 2011	This performance audit evaluates the capital cost accounting practices of the Washington State Ferries. The audit will review how costs are assigned to capital accounts; implementation of the life-cycle cost model to determine if it was developed as required and is maintained and updated when asset inspections are made; and implementation of the agency's cost allocation methodology.	JLARC Staff
Review of Washington's Workplace Safety and Health Program	ESHB 1244 (2009)	Prelim: Apr 2011 Final: May 2011	This study will review the state's workplace safety and health program. The review will examine workplace safety inspection, enforcement, training, and outreach efforts compared to other states and federal programs; analyze workplace injury and illness rates and trends in Washington; identify factors that may influence workplace safety and health; and identify practices that may improve workplace safety and health and/or impact insurance costs.	JLARC Staff

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Performance Review of the High-Performance Public Buildings Program	ESSB 5509 (2005)	Prelim: May 2011 Final: Jun 2011	This study will include a performance review of the High-Performance Public Buildings Program. This review shall: 1) identify the costs of implementing high-performance building standards in major facility design and construction; 2) identify operating savings attributable to high-performance building standards, including savings in energy, utility, and maintenance costs; 3) identify the impact of high-performance building standards on worker productivity and student performance; and 4) evaluate the effectiveness of the high-performance building standards.	JLARC Staff
Study of Washington State's Risk Management Practices	ESHB 1244 (2009)	Prelim: May 2011 Final: Jun 2011	This study will review the effect of risk management practices on tort payouts. The review will include an analysis of the state's laws, policies, procedures, and practices as they relate to the conduct of post-incident reviews and the impact of such reviews on the state's conduct and liability.	JLARC Staff
Initiative 900 Requirements				
Legislative Hearings on SAO Audits	Initiative 900 (2005) ESSB 6386 (2006)	Ongoing	Initiative 900, passed in the November 2005 General Election, authorized the separately elected State Auditor to conduct performance audits of state and local government agencies. I-900 requires the Legislature to hold public hearings within 30 days of the State Auditor releasing an audit, to consider audit findings and receive public testimony.	Ruta Fanning – 360.786.5175 Fanning.ruta@leg.wa.gov
Report on Legislative Implementation of SAO Recommendations	Initiative 900 (2005) ESSB 6386 (2006)	Jul 2009 Jun 2010 Jun 2011	Initiative 900, passed in the November 2005 General Election, authorized the separately elected State Auditor to conduct performance audits of state and local government agencies. I-900 directs JLARC to report on the status of legislative implementation of SAO recommendations.	Ruta Fanning – 360.786.5175 Fanning.ruta@leg.wa.gov