



Senate Committee Services Staff Issue Area Document

(Committee Links for Committee Staff Issues and Staff)

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Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development (786-7411)

[Bob Lee, Staff Coordinator/Analyst - 786-7404](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Agricultural Land
- Agricultural Products
 - Production, Sale, and Marketing
- Food Safety
- Commodity Commissions
- Water rights/water quantity

[Diane Smith, Staff Counsel - 786-7410](#)

[Also staff of the [Environment](#) Committee]

- Agricultural Loan Programs
- Meat Labeling and Processing
- Anaerobic Digesters
- Legal Issues

[Dixie Huff, Committee Assistant - 786-7462](#)

(Committee Contact)

Early Learning & K-12 Education (786-7420)

[Susan Mielke, Sr. Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7422](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Basic Education
- High School Graduation Requirements, including Statewide Assessments
- Special Education
- Quality Education Council
- State Council for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children

[Stephanie Christensen, Session Analyst – 786-7405](#)

[Also staff of the [Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection](#) Committee]

- General Education Issues

[Lidia Mori, Staff Counsel - 786-7755](#)

- Early Learning
- Student Health
- Student and Educator Safety
- Financial Education Public-Private Partnership
- Achievement Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee

[Ingrid Munqia, Staff Counsel - 786-7423](#)

[Also staff of the [Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection](#) Committee]

- Teacher Certification and Employment Issues
- School District Levies and Levy Equalization

[Sarah Unbehaun, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7491](#)

(Committee Contact)

Economic Development, Trade & Innovation (786-7409)

[Jack Brummel, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7428](#) &

(Lead Committee Contact)

[Edward Redmond, Analyst - 786-7471](#)

[Also staff of the [Financial Institutions, Housing & Insurance](#) Committee]

- International Relations and International Trade
- Economic Development Incentives

- Technical Assistance to Businesses
- Tourism
- Economic and Trade Development Strategies
- Total Quality Management
- Technology-Driven Economic Development
- International Relations and International Trade
- Economic Development Incentives
- Technical Assistance to Businesses
- Tourism
- Economic and Trade Development Strategies
- Total Quality Management
- Technology-Driven Economic Development

[Dominique Crisp, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7462](#)

(Committee Contact)

Energy, Natural Resources & Marine Waters (786-7419)

[Curt Gavigan, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7437](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Fish & Wildlife
- Parks & Recreation
- State Lands Management
- Marine Resources
- Forestry, forest Health & Fire
- Geology & Surface Mining

[William Bridges, Sr. Staff Counsel - 786-7402](#)

[Also staff of the [Environment](#) Committee]

- Energy
- Telecommunications

[Angeline Thomas, Session Counsel – 786-7470](#)

- General Natural Resources & Marine Water Issues

[Nahal Ghoghaie, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7415](#)

(Committee Contact)

Environment (786-7406)

[Jan Odano, Staff Coordinator/Analyst -786-7486](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Air Quality
- Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction
- Nuclear & Radioactive Waste
- Toxic Chemical Cleanup

[William Bridges, Staff Counsel - 786-7416](#)

[Also staff of the [Energy, Natural Resources & Marine Waters](#) Committee]

- Energy
- Telecommunications

[Karen Epps, Staff Counsel - 786-7424](#)

[Also staff of the [Government Operations & Elections](#) Committee]

- Water Quality
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Municipal Water
- On-Site Sewage Systems

- Stormwater Management Act Shorelines Management Act

[Diane Smith, Staff Counsel - 786-7410](#)

[Also staff of the [Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development](#) Committee]

- State Environmental Policy Act
- Solid Waste & Recycling
- Product Stewardship

[Michael McMahon, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7426](#)

(Committee Contact)

Financial Institutions, Housing & Insurance (786-7408)

[Alison Mendiola, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7483](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Payday Lending
- Foreclosures
- Construction Defects
- Mortgage Brokers
- Mobile Home Parks
- Landlord-Tenant
- Loan Originators
- Credit Ratings & Scoring
- Home Owners' and Condo Associations
- Uniform Commercial Code
- Life insurance and Life Settlements
- Homeowners' Insurance, Rates & Forms
- Re-insurance
- Financial Solvency of Insurers
- Market Conduct of Insurers
- Banking (shared)

[Edward Redmond, Analyst - 786-7471](#)

[Also staff of the [Economic Development, Trade & Innovation](#) Committee]

- Insurance Claims & Fraud
- Banking (primary contact)
- Credit Unions
- Securities Regulation
- Public Depositories

[Ariel LeMoine, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7423](#)

(Committee Contact)

Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections (786-7432)

[Sharon Swanson, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7447](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Campaign Finance
- Domestic Partners
- Public Records Act
- Veterans
- Military Affairs
- Sunshine Committee- Public Disclosure Act
- Open Public Meetings
- Vesting
- Emergency Management

- Wrongful Death
- Elections

[Karen Epps, Staff Counsel - 786-7424](#)

[Also staff of the [Environment](#) Committee]

- Growth Management
- Transfer of Development Rights
- Shoreline Management
- Annexation
- Special Purpose Districts
- Local Government

[Sam Thompson, Staff Counsel - 786-7413](#)

- Historic Preservation
- Disincorporation
- Archives
- Human Remains
- Annexation
- Tribal Relations / Retrocession
- Public Works
- Elections
- Local Government

[Lindsey Lasher, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7423](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Health & Long-Term Care \(786-7456\)](#)

[Kathy Buchli, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7488](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Developmental Disabilities
- Workforce
- Public Health
 - Emergency Response
 - Hospital health and safety regulation
 - Health Disparities
 - Reproductive Health
- Health Care Fraud
- Health Care Consumer Protection
 - Health Care Privacy/Medical Records
 - HIPAA
 - Medical Malpractice
 - Prescription Drugs
 - Advanced directives/end of life
 - Drug Take Back
 - Hospital Reporting
 - Vaccines
 - Pain Management
- Certificate of Need

[Mich'l Needham, Analyst - 786-7442](#)

- ACA - Federal Health Care Reform
 - Insurance Changes
 - Medicaid Expansion
 - Exchange Development

- Health Care Financing/Insurance – Public and Private
 - Health Insurance Access and Regulation
 - Health Plan Contracting
 - Basic Health Plan
 - Medicaid/Medicare
 - Public Employee Benefits
 - Prescription Drugs
 - Mental Health Parity
 - Medical Practice Innovations
 - Long-term Care Financing
- Wellness
- Tribal Programs
- Joint Select Committee

[Veronica Warnock, Session Counsel – 786-7490](#)

- Long-Term Care
 - Elder Care
 - Guardianship
- Facility Regulation
 - Hospital licensing
 - Advanced Directives/Guardianship
 - Health Information Technology
 - Regulating Advanced Technologies
- Public Health
 - School-based Health Care Services
 - Environmental Health
 - Tobacco
- Health Care Professions
 - Licensing/Certification/Registration
 - Scope of Practice
 - Prescriptive Authority
 - Disciplinary Procedures
 - Workforce Issues
- Medical use of cannabis

[Brittany Yunker, Committee Assistant - 786-7407](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Higher Education & Workforce Development \(786-7415\)](#)

[Kim Cushing, Staff Coordinator - 786-7421](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Public & Independent Baccalaureate Colleges and Universities
- Public Community & Technical Colleges
- Financial Aid
- Tuition
- Governance

[Katherine Taylor, Staff Counsel - 786-7434](#)

[Also staff of the [Judiciary](#) Committee]

- Campus Safety
- For-Profit Colleges
- Workforce Training
- Private Career Schools
- Faculty

[Lauren Rafanelli, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7415](#)
(Committee Contact)

Human Services & Corrections (786-7414)

[Jennifer Strus, Sr. Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7316](#)
(Lead Committee Contact)

- Child Welfare/Child Protection
- Truancy/Becca Bill
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (Workfirst)
- Disability Lifeline Program (formerly General Assistance)
- Juvenile Justice

[Shani Bauer, Staff Counsel - 786-7468](#)

- Department of Corrections
- Sex Offenders
- Child Support
- Sentencing Guidelines Commission

[Kevin Black, Staff Counsel - 786-7747](#)

- Mental Health/Substance Abuse
- Dangerous Mentally Ill Offender Program
- Dissolution Issues
- Truancy/Becca Bill
- Domestic Violence Issues

[Josh Platis, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7407](#)
(Committee Contact)

Judiciary (786-7455)

[Aldo Melchiori, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7439](#)
(Lead Committee Contact)

- Domestic Violence
- DUI
- Motor Vehicle Related Issues
- Eminent Domain
- New Crimes & Sentencing Changes
- Tort Reform
- General Criminal and Civil
- Collection Issues
- Trusts
- General Criminal Issues
- Collection and Garnishment

[Katherine Taylor, Staff Counsel - 786-7434](#)

[Also staff of the [Higher Education & Workforce Development](#) Committee]

- General Civil and Court Related Subject Matter
- Motor Vehicle Related Issues
- Landlord/Tenant
- Laws Pertaining to Animals
- Court Administration Issues
- Guardianship and Probate Issues

[Juliana Roe, Staff Counsel - 786-7438](#)

- Business Law
- General Criminal

- School-Related Criminal Issues
- Laws Relating to Animal Cruelty

[Sandy Wibbels, Committee Assistant - 786-7491](#)

(Committee Contact)

Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection (786-7426)

[Mac Nicholson, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7445](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Unemployment Insurance
- Worker Retraining
- Prevailing Wage

[Stephanie Christensen, Session Analyst – 786-7405](#)

[Also staff of the [Early Learning & K-12 Education](#) Committee]

- Apprenticeship
- Worker Rights/Benefits
- Professional Licensing

[Ingrid Munqia, Staff Counsel - 786-7423](#)

[Also staff of the [Early Learning & K-12 Education](#) Committee]

- Regulation of Professions
- Lottery
- Collective Bargaining
- Worker Privacy & Personnel Practices
- Consumer Protection

[Edith Rice, Staff Counsel - 786-7444](#)

- Construction Trades Licensing and Regulation
- Liquor
- Gambling
- Horse Racing
- Human Trafficking

[Kellee Keeqan, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7426](#)

(Committee Contact)

Transportation (786-7300)

[Kelly Simpson, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7403](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

Budget Assignments

- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Transportation Commission

Policy Assignments

- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- State & Regional Transportation Governance
- State and Regional Transportation Planning
- Transportation Element of Growth Management Act
- Special Purpose Districts

[Amanda Cecil, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7429](#)

Budget Assignments

- Department of Licensing
- WSP
- Traffic Safety Commission

- Local Programs/Resources
 - DOT--Local Programs (Z)
 - Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB)
 - Transportation Improvement Board (TIB)
 - County Road Administration Board (CRAB)

Policy Assignments

- DOL
 - Drivers
 - Vehicles
- Revenue Forecasts
- Taxes/Fees

[Hayley Gamble, Fiscal Analyst -786-7452](#)

Budget Assignments

- Washington State Ferries
 - Operating
 - Capital
- DOT—Rail
 - Operating
 - Capital
- DOT—Facilities
 - Operating
 - Capital
- DOT—Aviation
- DOT--Planning, Data, & Research
- DOT—Public Transportation

Policy Assignments

- Washington State Ferries
- Rail
- Local transit agencies, including Sound Transit

[Kim Johnson, Counsel - 786-7472](#)

Budget Assignments

- Budget Bill Coordination
- DOT-Public/Private Partnerships
- State Parks & Rec
- Archaeology & Historic Preservation
- Department of Agriculture

Policy Assignments

- Traffic Safety/Rules of the Road
- Bicycles
- Motorcycles/Motor Scooters
- Transportation Security Issues (e.g., valid identification and legal presence)
- Initiative/Referendum Issues

[Clint McCarthy, Fiscal Analyst -786-7319](#)

Budget Assignments

- Highway construction projects
- DOT--Toll Ops
- DOT--Highway Improvements
- DOT--Highway Maintenance
- DOT--Highway Preservation
- DOT--Traffic Ops
- DOT—Information Technology

- DOT—Management
- DOT—Program Mgmt & Support
- Compensation/ Pension/ Health Benefits
- Internal service activities

Policy Assignments

- Tolls
- Highways
- Environmental issues

[David Ward, Budget Coordinator - 786-7341](#)

Budget Assignments

- Treasurer (Bond Retirement And Interest)
- JTC, LEAP, OFM

Policy Assignments

- Revenue Forecasts
- Financial Plans/Fund Balances
- Bonds and other indebtedness

[Catherine Nicolaj, Committee Assistant - 786-7430](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Ways & Means \(786-7715\)](#)

[David Schumacher, Sr. Staff Coordinator -786-7474](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

[Megan Atkinson, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7446](#)

- Department of Services for the Blind
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- DSHS - Administration & Support Services
- DSHS - Alcohol and Substance Abuse
- DSHS - Developmental Disabilities
- DSHS - Information System Services
- DSHS - Long Term Care
- DSHS - Payments to other Agencies
- DSHS - Vocational Rehabilitation
- Office of Administrative Hearings

[Michael Bezanson, Fiscal Analyst -786-7449](#)

- Columbia River Gorge Commission
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Ecology
- Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Department of Natural Resources
- Environmental Hearings Office
- Growth Management Hearings Board
- Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Pollution Liability Insurance Agency
- Puget Sound Partnership
- State Conservation Commission
- Utilities & Transportation Commission

[Dean Carlson, Revenue Analyst - 786-7305](#)

- Revenue Policy Issues
- Board of Tax Appeals

- Caseload Forecast Council
- Department of Revenue
- Economic & Revenue Forecast Council
- Liquor Control Board

[Dianne Criswell, Revenue Counsel - 786-7433](#)

- Gambling Commission
- Horse Racing Commission
- State Lottery Commission
- State Patrol (non-transportation portion)

[Elise Greef, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7708](#)

- Public Schools (K-12 Education)
- Superintendent of Public Instruction

[Jenny Greenlee, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7711](#)

- Consolidated Technology Services
- Department of Early Learning
- Department of Enterprise Services
- DSHS - Child Support Services
- DSHS - Children & Family Services
- DSHS - Economic Services
- TANF Issues

[Maria Hovde, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7710](#)

- Central Washington University
- Community and Technical Colleges
- Eastern Washington University
- Higher Education Coordinating Board
- The Evergreen State College
- University of Washington
- Washington State University
- Western Washington University
- Workforce Training & Education Board

[Steve Jones, Budget Counsel - 786-7440](#)

- Attorney General
- House of Representatives
- Insurance Commissioner
- Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee
- Joint Legislative Systems Committee
- LEAP Committee
- Office of Financial Management
- Office of the Governor
- Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- Public Disclosure Commission
- Secretary of State
- Senate
- Special Appropriations to the Governor
- State Auditor
- State Treasurer
- Statute Law Committee
- Sundry Claims

[Sherry McNamara, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7402](#)

- Arts Commission
- Washington State Historical Society
- Eastern Washington Historical Society

- Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
- Board of Accountancy
- Commission on African-American Affairs
- Commission on Asian-American Affairs
- Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- Department of Financial Institutions
- Human Rights Commission
- Military Department
- Minority & Women's Business Enterprises
- Office on Indian Affairs
- Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals
- Department of Employment Security
- Department of Labor and Industries
- Courts
 - Court of Appeals
 - Law Library
 - Office of the Administrator for the Courts
 - Office of Civil Legal Aid
 - Office of Public Defense
 - Supreme Court

[Bryon Moore, Operating Budget Coordinator - 786-7726](#)

- Operating Budget Issues

[Richard Ramsey, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7412](#)

- Department of Commerce
- Criminal Justice Training Commission
- Department of Corrections
- DSHS - Juvenile Rehabilitation
- DSHS - Special Commitment Center
- Forensics Investigation Council
- Justice Assistance Grant (formerly Byrne Grant)

[Brian Sims, Capital Budget Coordinator - 786-7431](#)

- Bond Retirement and Interest
- Local Government Assistance
- Municipal Research Council

[Erik Sund, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7454](#)

- Board for Volunteer Firefighters
- Collective Bargaining
- Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials
- Deferred Compensation Commission
- Department of Retirement Systems
- Employee Compensation/Health Benefits
- PEBB Benefits
- Personnel Appeals Board
- Public Employment Relations Commission
- State Actuary
- State Investment Board
- Commission on Judicial Conduct

[Tim Yowell, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7435](#)

- Basic Health Plan
- Low Income Health Care (Medicaid)
- DSHS - Mental Health

- Health Care Authority (including administration)
- Health Services Account

[Devon Nichols, Committee Assistant - 786-7716](#)

(Committee Contact)

- Department of Licensing (non-transportation portion)
- School for the Blind
- School for the Deaf
- Department of Health (DOH)
 - DOH - Environmental Health Programs
 - DOH - Health Professions Licensing
- Life Science Discovery Fund

[Megan Christophersen, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7715](#)

(Committee Contact)