



Washington State Senate 2022 Interim Committee Meeting Schedules and Work Plans

Compiled by Senate Committee Services on behalf of Committee Chairs, at the request of the Facilities & Operations Committee

April 2022

2022 Senate Interim Plans

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To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

To sign up for e-mail notifications, including updates to meeting dates and times,
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Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September/October	Tour	Cathlamet/ Columbia River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbia River Salmon Fishery/Pound nets/Gill nets
September	Tour	Bellingham and Everett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green crab eradication • Eelgrass conservation
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
May 9	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of project development process • Tier 1 projects • Task force discussion and possible action
July	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
October	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

May 24	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and introductions • Review of options impacted by the Foster decision • Pilot projects update • Stream flow, seasonality, and climate change impacts • Storage and return flows • Task Force discussion
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June 22	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation programs from other states • Comparative review of impairment and mitigation in other Western states • Task Force discussion
September	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation/ Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
October	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation/ Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

May 31	Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Election of Chair and Vice Chair • Current and projected conditions • Yakima Basin conditions • Update on projected river and stream levels and impacts to fish • Impacts to municipalities
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COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Alternative Fishing Gear	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Jeff Olsen (360) 786-7428
References: ESSB 5693 Sec. 308(65); SSB 5567 (2022)	
<p>Description: The 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget directs the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to reduce the number of nontribal commercial gillnet fishing licenses on the Columbia River through a voluntary buy-back program. In addition, DFW must make recommendations to the Legislature for any necessary changes in statute, regulations, or program funding levels to transition Lower Columbia River mainstem gillnet fisheries to alternative, selective fishing gears, including pound nets or other gears capable of benefitting wild salmon conservation through mark-selective harvest practices.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the gill net license buyback program and the recommendations for any changes and draft legislation as directed.</p>	

Organic Farming

Completion Date: December 2022

Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424

Description: The National Organic Program (NOP) is a regulatory program housed within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service. The NOP is responsible for developing national standards for organically produced agricultural products. To sell or label products as organic, operations must follow the specifications set out by the USDA organic regulations, including being certified by a USDA accredited certification agency. The Washington Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is accredited as a certification agent by USDA, and WSDA inspects and certifies organic operations to verify they are meeting the requirements of USDA organic standards.

Committee staff will research and provide information to legislators about organic farming in Washington.

Task Forces on Water Issues

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424

References: ESSB 6168 (2020); SSB 6329 (2020); 2SSB 6382 (2020); SHB 2696 (2020), SHB 1080 (2021); RCW 90.86

Description: Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation. Legislation passed in 2018, established the Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation (Mitigation Task Force). The Mitigation Task Force must review the treatment of surface water and groundwater appropriations as they relate to instream flows and fish habitat. The Mitigation Task Force is required to develop and recommend a mitigation sequencing process and scoring system to address such appropriations. The Mitigation Task Force submitted a November 15, 2019, report to the Legislature and must submit an additional report by November 15, 2022.

Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply. In 2018, the Legislature passed ESSB 6095, establishing the Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply (Water Supply Task Force). The Water Supply Task Force must review surface and groundwater needs and uses as they relate to agricultural uses, domestic potable water uses, and instream flows, and develop and recommend studies. The Water Supply Task Force must focus on water resource inventory areas (WRIAs) 3 and 4. WRIA 3 is in the western portion of Skagit County and WRIA 4 is in the eastern portions of Whatcom, Skagit, and Snohomish counties. The Water Supply Task Force approved two studies, Skagit Basin Supply and Demand Analysis and a Review of the Duke Engineering Estuary Study Report in December 2019. The studies are projected to be completed in June 2021 and January 2021, respectively. The Water Supply Task Force will review and consider proposals for possible next steps related to the two studies.

Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought. The Department of Ecology issued a drought emergency order on July 24, 2021, which expires on June 1, 2022. When a drought conditions order is in effect, Ecology must provide the Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought (Drought Committee) with at least monthly reports describing drought response activities of Ecology and other state and federal agencies. The Drought Committee is authorized to make recommendations to the Legislature on

budgetary and legislative actions to improve the state's drought response programs and planning.

Committee staff will provide support to the task forces, assist as directed by members of the task forces, and draft legislation as requested.

Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
July	Behavioral Health Facility Tour and Court Observation	Sites TBD within King County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involuntary treatment • Supportive housing
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
April 19	Children & Youth Behavioral Health Work Group	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
June 10	Children & Youth Behavioral Health Work Group	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
August 9	Children & Youth Behavioral Health Work Group	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
September 15	Children & Youth Behavioral Health Work Group	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
October 10	Children & Youth Behavioral Health Work Group	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

May 10	Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
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July 12	Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee	Virtual	• TBD
September 20	Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee	Virtual	• TBD
November 15	Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee	Virtual	• TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group	
Completion Date: December 26, 2026	Staff: Kevin Black (360) 786-7747
References: 2SHB 2737 (2020) ; 2SHB 1325 (2021) ; 2SHB 1890 (2022) ; Official website	
<p>Description: The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group was established in law in 2016 and expires in 2026. The work group is currently staffed by the Health Care Authority. The work group maintains six advisory subcommittees, including a new subcommittee added in legislation adopted in 2022.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings of the work group and select subcommittees, and provide support to the appointed legislative membership of the work group.</p>	

Crisis Response Improvement Committee/Steering Committee	
Completion Date: June 30, 2024	Staff: Kevin Black (360) 786-7747
References: E2SHB 1477	
<p>Description: The Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee and its Steering Committee are established by legislation with appointed legislative members to develop an integrated behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention system and monitor and make recommendations related to funding crisis services.</p> <p>Primary staff support is provided by Health Management Associates, a consultant group contracted through the Behavioral Health Institute at Harborview Medical Center, but statute specifies that legislative staff have a role to assist the Steering Committee. Staff will attend meetings and assist as requested.</p>	

Business, Financial Services & Trade

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

Program Evaluation of Select Bills from Previous Sessions	
Completion Date: October 1, 2022	Staff: Clint McCarthy (360) 786-7319; Kellee Gunn (360) 786-7429
References: ESHB 1108 (2021) , ESHB 1189 (2021) , HB 1399 (2021) , 2SSB 5315 (2021) , SSB 6052 (2020) , SHB 1798 (2020) , SSB 5106 (2020)	
Description: Staff will work with stakeholders and agency staff to follow up on a variety of bills passed between 2019 and 2021, to compare proposed outcomes to actual outcomes. Proposed outcomes will be gleaned from committee testimony and then compared to actual results based on collaboration with agency staff and stakeholders. Results will be presented to the Chair and Ranking member to develop an agenda for Assembly Days.	

Early Learning & K-12 Education

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
TBD	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaming in education
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early learning overview and update

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Early Learning and K-12 Education Legislatively Created Groups with Legislative Members	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434; Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416; Ben Omdal (360) 786-7442
References: ESB 6620, Sec. 3 (2016); 2SHB 1344, Sec. 4 (2019) & ESSB 5092, Sec. 129 and 229 (2021); 2SHB 2737, Sec. 1 (2020); E2SSB 5828, Sec. 3 (2007); 2SSB 5973, Sec. 2 (2009); SHB 2455, Sec. 2 (2004); SSB 5248 (2009); E2SHB 1295, Sec. 14 (2021); ESSB 5092, Sec. 951 (2021); 2E2SHB 1661, Sec. 1010 (2017); SSB 6428, Sec. 15 and 17 (1992); E2SHB 1600, Sec. 3 (2018); SHB 2711, Sec. 2 (2020)	
<p>Description: The Legislature has created several councils, committees, task forces, work groups, and advisory groups with legislators as members. Committee staff will provide research and support to the individual legislators serving on the following legislatively created groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual School Safety Summit • Child Care Collaborative Task Force • Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group • Early Learning Advisory Council • Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee • Financial Education Public-Private Partnership • Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children • Institutional Education Structure and Accountability Advisory Group (no legislative members) • K-12 Basic Education Compensation Advisory Committee (no legislative members) • Oversight Board for Children, Youth, and Families • State Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families • Work-Integrated Learning Advisory Committee and Subcommittee • Work Group to Address the Needs of Students in Foster Care, Experiencing Homelessness, or Both 	

Parental Rights in K-12 Education	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434
References: Title 28A RCW; Chapter 23.06B; Title 392 WAC	
<p>Description: State law and rules regarding K-12 education refer to and require certain actions involving parents and guardians. Committee staff will review current state law, rules, and model policies to identify and categorize these references to parents and guardians.</p> <p>Staff will also identify existing systems where any of this information is communicated to parents and guardians such as information available through the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Office of the Education Ombuds, and referral services.</p>	

High School and Beyond Plans	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Benjamin Omdal (360) 786-7442
References: RCW 28A.230.090; RCW 28A.230.215; RCW 28A.655.250; SSB 5249 (2021)	
<p>Description: Each student in Washington public schools must have a High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) to guide the student's high school experience and inform course taking that is aligned with the student's goals for education or training and career after high school. A HSBP must be initiated for students during seventh or eighth grade.</p> <p>In 2021, the Mastery-Based Learning Work Group developed a Washington State Profile of a Graduate describing the cross-disciplinary skills a student should have developed by the time they graduate high school. The Work Group's report explained that HSBP implementation is uneven across the state and more research is needed around promising practices districts use in their HSBP process and how the HSBP can support the Profile.</p> <p>Committee staff will summarize recent recommendations regarding the HSBP. Staff will also develop a survey for school districts to help understand how the HSBP requirements are being implemented including the technology that school districts are using, and how staff, parents, and students use the HSBP. Staff will summarize the results of the survey.</p>	

Teacher Preparation Programs	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Benjamin Omdal (360) 786-7442
References: Chapter 28A.410 RCW	
<p>Description: The Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) approves educator and teacher preparation programs in Washington State. Committee staff will review PESB's approval process, standards, and requirements to determine how these preparation programs monitor and update their programs as educational requirements change.</p> <p>Staff will also develop a survey for preparation programs to help understand how they are implementing changing requirements and incorporating topics such as mastery-based learning; technology and online learning; and cultural competency, diversity, equity, and inclusion standards of practice. Staff will summarize the results of the survey.</p>	

Environment, Energy & Technology

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview on reports and trends on siting renewable energy facilities
Fall	Tour	Eastern Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy issues related to renewable resources, electric generating facility siting, electricity transmission, and electric utility challenges
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Review of Washington State's Climate Policies	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Kim Cushing (360) 786-7421; Greg Vogel (360) 786-7413; Angela Kleis (360) 786-7469
References: E2SSB 5126 (2021) , E2SSB 5141 (2021) , E2SHB 1050 (2021) , E3SHB 1091 (2021) , E2SHB 1287 (2021) , E2SHB 2311 (2020) , E2SSB 5116 (2019) , E2SHB 1112 (2019) , E3SHB 1257 (2019) , 2SHB 1444 (2019)	
<p>Description: Updated in 2020, state law establishes a series of decennial limits on the emission of greenhouse gases within the state, beginning in 2020 and decreasing through 2050. In recent years, the Legislature has enacted several policies to reduce the output of greenhouse gases in the state and achieve these statutory limits, including a cap and invest program, clean fuel standard, clean energy standard (known as the Clean Energy Transformation Act), clean buildings standards, appliance efficiency standards, and phasing out hydrofluorocarbons.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor implementation of these new policies and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Statutory Work Groups and Committees Related to Energy and Technology

Completion Date: Ongoing

Staff: Kim Cushing (360) 786-7421; Angela Kleis (360) 786-7469

References: Chapter 44.39 RCW; ESSB 5092, Sec. 607(18); RCW 43.105.285 and .287; [E2SSB 5116 \(2019\)](#); [ESSB 5544 \(2022\)](#); [E2SHB 1723 \(2022\)](#)

Description: Committee staff will monitor and provide updates on the various environment, energy, and technology work groups and committees with legislative members, which include the following:

- The Joint Committee on Energy Supply and Energy Conservation. The Joint Committee reviews plans proposed by the Governor for programs, controls, standards, and priorities for the production, allocation, and consumption of energy during any current or anticipated conditions of energy supply alert, or energy emergency, and make recommendations back to the Governor.
- The Sustainable Aviation Biofuels Work Group. The Washington State University Office of Clean Technology must convene a work group to further the development of sustainable aviation fuel as a productive industry in Washington, and provide recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by December 1, 2022.
- Technology Services Board. The Technology Services Board is created within the Consolidated Technology Services Agency with a focus on information technology strategic planning, enterprise architecture, standards and policies, and major project oversight.
- Washington State Blockchain Work Group. This work group is established to examine various potential applications for blockchain technology. A report on potential uses and impacts of blockchain and recommended policies must be submitted to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2023.
- Digital Equity Forum. This forum, which is cofacilitated by the Statewide Broadband Office and the Office of Equity, is established to develop recommendations to advance digital connectivity in the state and to advise on the Digital Equity Opportunity Program and the Digital Equity Planning Grant Program. Recommendations must be transmitted to the Legislature by October 28, 2025, and every odd-numbered year thereafter.

Health & Long Term Care

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Tour	King County/ Yakima County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and housing
TBD	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicaid coverage and the COVID-19 public health emergency
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
July	Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight/ Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD
November	Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight/ Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

To be determined	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disabilities/ Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD
To be determined	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disabilities/ Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410
References: E2SHB 2572 - Sec. 3 (2014)	
Description: Several agencies and entities have a role in implementing health care policy in Washington, including the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, the Department of	

Health, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Health Care Authority, and the Health Benefit Exchange. The Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight will provide oversight between these agencies and organizations.

Committee staff and the House Health Care and Wellness Committee Staff will jointly staff the Joint Select Committee.

Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disabilities

Completion Date: June 30, 2023

Staff: LeighBeth Merrick (360) 786-7445

References: ESSB 5092, Sec 201 (8)

Description: The Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability was established in 2013 and will continue through June 2023. The Committee is charged with making recommendations and identifying key strategic actions to prepare for the aging of Washington's population.

The Committee may focus on issues relating to the health care needs of aging people and people with disabilities; financing mechanisms for long-term services and supports; advance care planning and advance care directives; needs of the aging demographic impacted by reduced federal support; protecting the rights of vulnerable adults; promoting client safety through residential care services and protecting aging people and people with disabilities from physical abuse and financial exploitation; and housing, land use, and transportation planning for communities to adapt to the aging demographic.

Health and Housing Tour

Completion Date: September

Staff: LeighBeth Merrick (360) 786-7445

Description: The Health & Long Term Care Committee will tour facilities engaged in the work of housing vulnerable populations and connecting them with physical and mental health services.

As requested by senators, legislation may be developed based on lessons learned from the tour.

The Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Commission

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: LeighBeth Merrick (360) 786-7445

References: 2SHB 1087 (2019)

Description: The Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Act was enacted in 2019 and created a long-term care insurance benefit for all eligible Washington employees that will cover some of the cost of long-term services and supports. The Trust Act also created the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Commission, which consists of legislators, administering agencies, and stakeholder representatives. The Commission makes recommendations regarding criteria for determining who is a qualified individual, minimum provider qualifications, service payment maximums, actions needed to maintain Trust solvency, and monitoring agency expenses.

The Commission must begin submitting their recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2021. Beginning November 15, 2020, the Commission must submit annual reports detailing the program's administrative expenses.

The Department of Social and Health Services must staff the Commission. Committee staff will monitor the Commission on behalf of the Health and Long Term Care Committee.

Telemedicine Collaborative	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: SB 6163 (2018) & ESHB 1196 (2021)	
<p>Description: The Collaborative for the Advancement of Telemedicine was created to enhance the understanding of health services through telemedicine. The Collaborative is convened by the University of Washington Telehealth Services and participants include four legislators, representatives of the academic community, hospitals, clinics, health care providers, insurance carriers, and other interested parties. The Collaborative terminates December 31, 2023.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the Collaborative on behalf of the Health & Long Term Care Committee.</p>	

The Universal Health Care Commission	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410
References: SB 5399 (2021)	
<p>Description: The Universal Health Care Commission was established to create immediate changes in Washington's health care access and delivery system and to prepare the state for the creation of a universal health care system for all Washington residents through a unified financing system once the necessary federal authority becomes available. The Health Care Authority must staff the Commission.</p> <p>The Commission must submit a baseline report to the Governor and the Legislature by November 1, 2022, with recommendations for changes to the health care system to increase access and an evaluation of the state's readiness to implement a universal health care system. The Commission must submit annual reports thereafter detailing its progress.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the Commission on behalf of the Health and Long Term Care Committee.</p>	

Higher Education & Workforce Development COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Campus Sexual Misconduct Investigations	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Kellee Gunn (360) 786-7429
<p>Description: Institutions of higher education that participate in the federal student financial aid programs are subject to the requirements of the Clery Act and Title IX. These federal acts establish certain reporting requirements and procedures in cases of sexual violence.</p> <p>In 2015, the Washington State Legislature enacted two bills related to campus sexual assault—SSB 5719, which created a task force on campus sexual assault prevention, and SSB 5518, which created procedures to address campus sexual violence.</p> <p>Staff will work with institutions of higher education to understand what has changed at the federal level that may impact campus and state policy, as well as review the enactment of recommendations from the 2015 Task Force on Campus Sexual Assault Prevention.</p>	

Residency Work Group	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Alicia Kinne-Clawson (360) 786-7407
<p>Description: In 2021, the Legislature passed E2SSB 5194 which made changes to the residency pathway for students without U.S. citizenship status. In 2022, the Legislature further modified residency for this category of students as well as students affiliated with the military, in ESSB 5874.</p> <p>In ESSB 5693, the Legislature directed the Washington Student Achievement Council to form a work group to convene stakeholders across higher education to recommend changes to residency to ensure consistent application and more equitable access.</p> <p>Staff will follow the work group and any possible recommendations in anticipation of possible legislation for the 2023-24 legislative biennium.</p>	

Implementation of Student Access and Success Legislation	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Alicia Kinne-Clawson (360) 786-7407
<p>Description: Since 2019, the Legislature has passed over a dozen bills authorizing new programs or expanding existing ones, aimed at increasing student access and improving postsecondary completion rates.</p>	

Staff will work with higher education stakeholders to catalogue new programs passed in the last four years, the implementation status, and any known outcomes.

Housing & Local Government

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
July	Tour	Seattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eviction court/Housing Justice Project (King County), with updates on the Eviction Resolution Pilot Program, indigent tenant legal representation program, and rental assistance programs
September/October	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of middle housing/ADU zoning policies Housing benefit districts Local permitting challenges and recent policy proposals Interplay of and jurisdictional issues between local governments and special purpose districts
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Growth Policy Framework Reforms	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Maggie Douglas (360) 786-7279; Jeff Olsen (360) 786-7428
References: SB 5092 (2021)	
<p>Description: SSB 5092 includes a budget proviso for the Department of Commerce to convene a task force to make recommendations regarding needed reforms to the state's growth policy framework, including the Growth Management Act, the State Environmental Policy Act, and other statutes related to growth, change, economic development, housing, social equity, and environmental conservation.</p> <p>The task force must involve diverse perspectives including, but not limited to, representatives of counties; cities; special districts; the real estate, building, and agricultural industries; planning and environmental organizations; tribal governments; and state agencies. The work group must report on its activities and recommendations prior to the</p>	

2023 legislative session.

Committee staff will monitor the task force and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Eviction Resolution Pilot and Indigent Tenant Legal Representation Programs

Completion Date: December 2022, Ongoing | Staff: Brandon Popovac (360) 786-7465

References: [E2SSB 5160, Secs. 7 & 8 \(2021\)](#); [ESSB 5092, Sec. 115\(11\) \(2021\)](#)

Description: E2SSB 5160 requires the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to contract with dispute resolution centers (DRCs) to establish a two-year statewide eviction resolution pilot program (ERPP) to help resolve nonpayment of rent cases. DRCs must report to AOC on January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, on certain ERPP data and information, with AOC reporting the same data and information to the Legislature by July 1, 2022, and July 1, 2023.

E2SSB 5160 also requires courts to appoint attorneys for indigent tenants in unlawful detainer (eviction) proceedings. The Office of Civil Legal Aid (OCLA) is responsible for implementing this legal representation services program. The 2021 biennial operating budget requires OCLA to report to the Legislature on program expenditures and outcomes by June 30, 2022.

Staff will continue to monitor implementation of the ERPP and legal representation services programs, share any program data received with members, and provide any other information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Impoundment of Vehicles Used as Residences

Completion Date: December 2022 | Staff: Brandon Popovac (360) 786-7465

References: [ESSB 5689, Sec. 109\(2\) \(2022\)](#)

Description: In 2021, the Washington Supreme Court in *City of Seattle v. Long* addressed several issues related to the impoundment of vehicles used as residences. In that case, Mr. Long's vehicular home was towed after a minor parking infraction. The court held that the impoundment and associated costs imposed on Mr. Long were constitutionally excessive under the eighth amendment's excessive fines clause, and that when determining whether an impound and associated costs and fines are excessive, courts must consider the person's ability to pay the fine and costs.

The court also held that vehicular homes are automatically protected under Washington State's Homestead Act, chapter 6.13 RCW, which protects homes from forced sale for the debts of their owners. Because the court ruled that vehicles people use as homes are to be automatically protected as homesteads, the decision raises conflicts with the current impound statutes, which allow tow operators to automatically sell any vehicles not redeemed through payment within certain timelines.

The 2022 supplemental transportation budget provides funding to Washington State University to convene a work group to review the legal findings and holdings in *City of Seattle v. Long*, make recommendations in amending provisions concerning towing and impounding

vehicles under chapter 46.55 RCW, and report to the Legislature and the Governor on such findings and recommended legislative changes by December 1, 2022.

Staff will attend or monitor work group meetings and provide any information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Completion Date: Ongoing

Staff: Brandon Popovac (360) 786-7465

References: [ESHB 1866 \(2022\)](#), [SHB 1724 \(2022\)](#)

Description: ESHB 1866 establishes the Apple Health and Homes Program to provide eligible persons with a permanent supportive housing (PSH) benefit and a community support services benefit. It also establishes the Office of Apple Health and Homes within the Department of Commerce to lead efforts to coordinate a spectrum of practice efforts related to providing PSH, including allocating funding for PSH units through a newly created account; making awards or loans to housing providers to acquire, build, and operate PSH units; collaborating with the Health Care Authority (HCA) on certain oversight and reporting; developing a program dashboard; and creating work plans and milestones to achieve the goal of providing PSH units for all eligible individuals.

The HCA must establish a work group to provide feedback on its foundational community supports program as it aligns with the PSH benefit. The HCA and new office must submit annual progress reports on program implementation through 2026, provide a final implementation report by December 1, 2026, and provide annual program updates beginning December 1, 2027.

SHB 1724 establishes a PSH advisory committee, comprised of 26 members appointed by the director of Commerce and reflecting the geographic, racial, and ethnic diversity of the state while including historically marginalized communities. The advisory committee must meet quarterly to provide guidance and recommendations on the administration of PSH resources, and report annually its recommendations to enhance the coordination and availability of PSH to the Legislature and Governor until December 31, 2027.

Staff will attend or monitor HCA work group and PSH advisory committee meetings, monitor implementation of the Apple Health and Homes Program and activities of the new Office of Apple Health and Homes, and provide any information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June	TBD	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for youth exiting public systems of care—JR and foster care
September/October	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of telecommunication services in prisons, jails, and juvenile detention facilities
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Sex Offender Policy Board	
Completion Date: December 1, 2022	Staff: Kelsey-anne Fung (360) 786-7479; Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: project request letter ; E2SSB 5163 (2021)	
<p>Description: On March 1, 2021, the Sex Offender Policy Board received an assignment from the Senate Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation Committee to convene, research, and make recommendations regarding the policies and practices for youth who have committed sex offenses. In addition, E2SSB 5163 made several changes related to less restrictive alternative (LRA) placements for civilly committed sexually violent predators (SVP), and directed the board to continue its review of SVP and LRA policies and best practices, monitor implementation of E2SSB 5163, and provide semiannual updates to the Legislature during the 2021-2023 biennium. The board advises the Governor and Legislature on issues related to sex offender management and sex offender policy.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Kelsey-anne Fung (360) 786-7479
References: ESSB 5092 (2021)	
<p>Description: A proviso in the 2021 operating budget established the Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards. The task force must review, among other issues, adequacy of jail standards, current data on jails, and how local jails compare to jail standards and practices in other states.</p> <p>The task force is staffed by the Office of the Attorney General. The task force must report findings and recommendations to the Governor and appropriate committees of the Legislature by June 30, 2023.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: Executive Order 15-03 ; Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice	
<p>Description: The Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice, established in 2010, is the primary planning agency for juvenile justice-related matters in Washington.</p> <p>The council is staffed by the Office of Juvenile Justice within the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Members of the council include an appointed member from the Senate and House of Representatives.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Department of Children, Youth, and Families Oversight Board	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488; Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: 2E2SHB 1661 ; 2SSB 5331 (2021) ; Oversight Board	
<p>Description: In 2017, the Legislature created the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) and the Oversight Board for DCYF. The purpose of the board is to monitor and ensure DCYF achieves the stated outcomes of chapter 6, Laws of 2017 3rd sp. sess., and complies with administrative acts, relevant statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to early learning, juvenile rehabilitation, juvenile justice, and children and family services. Members of the board include two senators and two representatives from the Legislature.</p> <p>2SSB 5331 (2021) directs early childhood court programs to collect and review its data, including data related to race and ethnicity of program participants, to assess its effectiveness and share this data with the board. The board is to share this data and hold or offer to assist in holding statewide meetings to support alignment to the core components and statewide consistency.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight Task Force	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488
References: E3SHB 1482 (2018) ; Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Task Force	
<p>Description: This task force oversees the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and WorkFirst programs and works collaboratively to develop and monitor strategies to prevent and address adverse childhood experiences and reduce intergenerational poverty. Eight legislative members are appointed to the task force along with eight members from state agencies.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Washington Future Fund Committee	
Completion Date: December 2022	Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488
References: ESSB 5693 (Sec. 123) (2022) ; SSB 5752 (2022)	
<p>Description: The Washington Future Fund Committee, housed within the State Treasurer's office, is to consult with experts to study and gather data on inequities including racial wealth gaps in Washington and examine how investment programs such as the Washington Future Fund Program or similar "baby bonds" investment programs can impact wealth inequities and the future financial stability of the Washington State Treasury.</p> <p>The Committee will analyze the Washington Fund and other baby bonds investment models and provide recommendations for program implementation. The Committee will report on the findings of the data collection, analysis, and any recommendations for legislative action to the Legislature by December 1, 2022.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
May	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulating cannabinoids
September	Work Session	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Problem gambling reports Horse Racing Commission viability Governance structure for regulation of liquor and cannabis
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update from the Employment Security Department (ESD) on the stakeholder work group studying the application to transportation network companies and drivers of unemployment insurance, family and medical leave insurance program, and long-term services and supports trust program. Update from the Washington State Institute for Public Policy on the study related to the underground economy in the construction industry Update from the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee on performance audits related to state agency programs and services to address the needs of farmworkers Updates from ESD on the unemployment insurance trust fund and family and medical leave insurance account

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Liquor and Cannabis Governance Research	
Completion Date: August 31, 2022	Staff: Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627; Jarrett Sacks (360) 786-7448
References: RCW 66.08.012	
<p>Description: The Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) regulates liquor, tobacco, vapor, and cannabis products in Washington. LCB is administered by a three-member board appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for six-year staggered terms. The Governor may appoint one of the members as chair of the Board, and a majority of the members constitutes a quorum of the Board.</p> <p>Committee staff will research the governance structure in other jurisdictions relative to liquor and cannabis regulation with a focus on states with privatized liquor and legal medical and recreational cannabis markets.</p>	

Paid Family and Medical Leave Program Legislative Task Force	
Completion Date: December 31, 2022	Staff: Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627
References: 2SSB 5649	
<p>Description: 2SSB 5649 establishes a legislative task force on Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) program premiums with members from both chambers and parties of the Legislature, the voting members of the PFML Advisory Committee, and Governor appointees representing the Governor's Office and the Employment Security Department (ESD).</p> <p>The task force must review ESD reports to the Legislature and make recommendations for any legislative modifications to the PFML program to ensure the lowest future premium rates necessary to maintain solvency of the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Account in the next four years while limiting premium rates. The task force must issue a final report to the Legislature by December 30, 2022.</p> <p>In conjunction with committee staff from the House Office of Program Research, committee staff will support the work of the task force.</p>	

Transportation Network Companies and Drivers	
Completion Date: December 31, 2022	Staff: Susan Jones (360) 786-7404
References: ESHB 2076	
<p>Description: ESHB 2076 establishes minimum per mile and per minute rates for drivers of transportation network companies (TNCs) and provides drivers with paid sick time, and workers' compensation, along with addressing other matters. The bill also creates a fund for a Driver Resource Center to, among other things, support drivers in resolving disputes related to</p>	

deactivations. The Center must be a nonprofit organization, selected by Labor & Industries that:

- allows drivers the right to be members of the organization;
- has demonstrated experience providing dispute resolution and deactivation representation services to gig economy drivers in the state; and
- provides culturally competent driver representation services, outreach, and education.

The TNCs must enter into Labor & Industries approved agreements with the Center to provide an appeals' process for drivers whose accounts have been deactivated.

The Employment Security Department must commence a stakeholder work group to study the appropriate application of unemployment insurance, family and medical leave, and long-term services and supports trust program on transportation network companies and drivers in this state. By December 1, 2022, the commissioner must submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature on findings and suggested changes to state law to establish applicable rates and terms by which transportation network companies and drivers participate in relevant state-run programs.

Committee staff will monitor the work group, implementation of the act, and any rule-making related to the act.

Monitor Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and Family and Medical Leave Insurance Account

Completion Date: December 31, 2022

Staff: Susan Jones (360) 786-7404, Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627

References: ESSB 5061; ESSB 5649

Description: The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund is maintained by the Employment Security Department (ESD). Employer contributions are made to the trust fund. Unemployment benefits are paid from the trust fund. Annually, beginning on December 1, 2021, through 2025, ESD, in consultation with the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee, must provide a report to the Legislature and the Governor about the status of the trust fund.

The Family and Medical Leave Insurance Account is maintained by ESD. The account is funded by employer and employee premiums. ESSB 5649 contains several provisions relative to monitoring and reporting on the financial status and solvency of the account.

Committee staff will monitor advisory committee and other meetings related to the status of the trust fund and the account.

Law & Justice

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June	Work Session/ Tour	East King County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tort liability • Hate crime restorative justice recommendations • Doxing
September	Work Session	Tri-Cities area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention – Crime Data • Firearm background check • Consumer Protection Act (catalytic converter theft/firearms)
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee recommendations • Criminal sentencing task force recommendations • Name, image, and likeness (college athletes)

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Addressing the <i>State v. Blake</i> Decision	
Completion Date: December 30th, 2022	Staff: Joe McKittrick (360) 786-7287
References: ESB 5476	
<p>Description: ESB 5476 reduced the penalty for possession of a controlled substance or counterfeit controlled substance from a felony to a gross misdemeanor. It requires prosecutors to divert a person's first and second violations for possession of a controlled substance, counterfeit controlled substance, or legend drug, and encourages diversion thereafter when agreed to by the defendant and prosecutor. The bill requires the Health Care Authority to establish the Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee to make recommendations for implementation of substance use recovery services plans including recommendations for reforms to the law, and authorizes presiding judges of superior courts to appoint court commissioners with the authority to conduct resentencing hearings and vacate convictions pursuant to <i>State v. Blake</i>.</p> <p>Committee staff will work with relevant stakeholder groups to identify barriers to implementation and potential follow-up legislation topics. Committee staff will also work with Senators and caucus staff to draft requested legislation related to addressing the <i>State v. Blake</i> decision.</p>	

Washington Firearms Laws Summary 2022

Completion Date: September 21, 2022	Staff: Joe McKittrick (360) 786-7287
References: ESHB 1630; ESHB 1705; ESSB 5038; ESSB 5078	
<p>Description: In 2022, the Legislature passed a number of bills related to firearms including prohibitions on the manufacture, importation, and distribution of large capacity magazines; limits on the open carry of weapons at public demonstrations and the State Capitol; prohibitions related to ghost guns; and limiting the possession and carrying of firearms at meetings of local government governing bodies, school district boards of directors, and certain election-related facilities.</p> <p>Committee staff will draft a summary of Washington firearm laws through 2022. The summary will address, among other topics, eligibility to possess firearms, sales and transfers of firearms, restoration of firearm rights, firearms and domestic violence, and select recent firearm legislation.</p>	

Tort Liability

Completion Date: December 30, 2022	Staff: Ryan Giannini (360) 786-7285
References: SB 5893	
<p>Description: SB 5893 if enacted will make changes to how attorney's fees are disputed by parties charged with the payment of attorney's fees and set a fixed percentage in which attorney's fees may be paid from a common fund recovery. SB 5893 will also confer standing to plaintiffs who allege violations of statutes that are remediable by an award of statutory damages and require courts to adjust statutory awards based on changes in the consumer price index.</p> <p>Committee staff will assist with acquiring input from stakeholders, providing relevant background information, and drafting the bill.</p>	

Trafficking of Persons

Completion Date: December 30, 2022	Staff: Ryan Giannini (360) 786-7285
References: SB 5030 , SB 5813 , HB 1055 , 3SSB 5164 , ESSB 5180 , SHB 1725 , SHB 1571 , and others	
<p>Description: Since the 2017 legislative session, the Legislature passed several bills related to human trafficking.</p> <p>Committee staff will update the index of Washington laws on human trafficking and sexual exploitation of minors to provide summaries of bills related to human trafficking that the Legislature passed since 2017. Committee staff will reformat this index, provide additional resources, and publish the index for public use.</p>	

Hate Crimes and Doxing

Completion Date: December 30, 2022	Staff: Tim Ford (360) 786-7423
References: SB 5881 & SB 5092	
<p>Description: SB 5881 if enacted will create a new crime of doxing, or the posting of personally identifiable information without consent which is likely to result in harassment.</p>	

The University of Washington received funding by a proviso in the 2021 operating budget (SB 5092) to research the effect of restorative justice as a response to hate crimes. The UW submitted a report to the Legislature with its recommendations in December of 2021.

Committee staff will acquire input from stakeholders, summarize the relevant background information, and draft requested legislation related to hate crimes and doxing.

Interbranch Advisory Committee	
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Completion Date: December 30, 2022	Staff: Tim Ford (360) 786-7423
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References: SB 5490

Description: The Legislature enacted SB 5490 which created the Interbranch Advisory Committee, to foster coordination and planning between the three branches of government regarding issues of mutual concern, and to provide access to justice.

Committee staff will attend the meetings of the committee, and provide support for legislative members as requested, including drafting requested legislation.

State Government & Elections

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September 21, 22, 28, or 29	Work Session	Hybrid/Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefings from ethnic commissions • Office of Equity update • CPARB Business Diversity Report • Equity impact statements • Future of the state workforce
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked choice voting in the presidential primary • Ballot curing • Automatic Voter Registration Work Group update • Redistricting update • Voters' pamphlets • Election security budget update

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
TBD	Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs/ Work Session	TBD	• TBD
TBD	Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs/ Work Session	TBD	• TBD
TBD	Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs/ Work Session	TBD	• TBD

November 30	Legislative Oral History Committee/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of chair and vice chair • Update on projects that were previously approved • Committee budget update • Future projects
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COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Emergency Management	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Melissa Van Gorkom (360)-786-7491
References: Chapter 38.52 RCW - Emergency Management Act (EMA); RCW 43.06.010, 210 and 220; SSB 5555 (2022); SHB 1703 (2022); ESSB 5693 (2022); ESSB 5092 (2021); SCR 8402 (2021); Governor's Proclamations ; other 2022 Legislation Introduced - SB 5909; SB 5943; SCR 8405; SHB 1620 and HB 1772	
<p>Description: The Military Department administers the state's comprehensive emergency management plan, operates the state emergency operations center, and engages in public outreach and training for disaster preparedness and state disaster response programs.</p> <p>In 2022 the agency is facilitating state participation in a national level exercise for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Cascadia Rising 2022, to practice focused disaster recovery for an earthquake scenario through a series of training events. The agency is also facilitating a task force to conduct a comprehensive after-action review of the statewide pandemic response and recovery. A report of the initial findings of the task force are due to the Governor and the Legislature by June 30, 2022, and the final report is due by June 30, 2023.</p> <p>In 2022, the Legislature updated the EMA to allow for 911 system upgrades as technology evolves and establish a board to create a certification and training program for public safety telecommunicators throughout the state. The Legislature also included a budget proviso for the Military Department to work with the Ruckelshaus Center to compare traditional decision-making systems with other decision-making structures and provide recommendations for future emergency responses, and contract for the development of a plan for a state-level disaster individual assistance program. Findings and recommendations are to be reported to the Legislature by June 30, 2023.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor implementation of legislation, reports progress, and ongoing emergencies, and provide information, schedule work sessions, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Capitol Campus	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Melissa Van Gorkom (360)-786-7491
References: Chapters 43.34 and 79.24 RCW; Chapter 200-230 WAC; RCW 43.17.070 and 43.82.020; other 2022 Legislation Introduced - EHB 2073 (2022); SB 5570 (2022)	
Description: In 2022, legislation was introduced relating to capital campus responsibilities of the State Capitol Committee, the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee, and the Department of Enterprise Services. The State Capital Committee approved creation of a	

Statute Update Work Group facilitated by Enterprise Services to review the statutes and administrative code relating to the State Capital Committee and Capital Campus Design Advisory Committee, and provide recommendations to the State Capital Committee and the Legislature to address any changes that may be necessary to the statute.

Committee staff will monitor workgroup meetings, conduct research, schedule work sessions and draft legislation, as directed.

Redistricting

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Sam Brown (360) 786-7470

References: Article II, section 43 of the Washington State Constitution; Chapters 29A.76C, 44.05, and 44.07F RCW; Title 417 WAC; SB 5560 (2022)

Description: In late 2021, the Washington State Redistricting Commission, under its constitutional and statutory authority, approved a plan for Washington's congressional and legislative districts to be effective until 2032. Shortly thereafter, a series of lawsuits were filed challenging both the districting plan under federal law and whether the Commission's approval of the new districting plan complied with the state Open Public Meetings Act. In response, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law SB 5560 in 2022, which further detailed procedures for the Commission to consider and adopt the redistricting plan.

Committee staff will monitor pending litigation against the Commission, individual commissioners, and the districting plan itself; any meetings of the Commission; and conduct research, schedule work sessions, and draft legislation as directed.

Automatic Voter Registration

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Sam Brown (360) 786-7470

References: Chapter 434-324 WAC; 2SHB 2595 (2018); ESSB 6313 (2020); 2SSB 5636 (2022); ESSB 5693, sec. 120(19) (2022)

Description: Since 2019, Washington has automatically registered eligible applicants for certain services at the Department of Licensing and Health Benefit Exchange who consent to the opportunity to vote. Several other states have since implemented processes which require eligible applicants for services at certain state agencies to affirmatively decline the opportunity to be registered to vote—turning an opt-in process into an opt-out process.

In 2022, the Legislature considered 2SSB 5636, which would have turned Washington's automatic voter registration system into an opt-out system. Subsequently, the Legislature appropriated money in the supplemental operating budget for elections officials and state agencies to upgrade Washington's automatic voter registration processes, and a work group is expected to issue a report later this year on Washington's automatic voter registration processes.

Committee staff will monitor the activities of elections officials about automatic voter registration, analyze the results of the work group report, conduct research, including into processes in other states, and draft legislation as directed.

Transportation

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public-private partnerships
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Legislative Equity Initiatives	
Completion Date: Status Update December 1, 2022	Staff: Bryon Moore (360) 786-7726; Danny Masterson (360) 786-7454
References: ESSB 5974 - Sections 104, 105, 417, 426, & 429; ESSB 5689 - Sections 108, 202, 203, 206, & 207	
<p>Description: In the 2022 session, the Legislature enacted a variety of equity initiatives dealing with transportation agencies or funding. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> making transportation funding from the Climate Commitment Act subject to certain environmental justice and overburdened communities’ oversight and spending requirements; creating the Connecting Communities program to address where transportation infrastructure has bisected communities and created obstacles to local active transportation; providing Office of Equity oversight of the Washington State Patrol's implementation of its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Recruitment and Retention Plan and related efforts; allowing three boards—the County Road Administration Board, the Transportation Improvement Board, and the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board—that provide funds to local government to opt into the HEAL Act provisions; and directing the Interagency Electric Vehicle Coordinating Council to ensure that the state’s EV programs and activities benefit vulnerable and overburdened communities. <p>Committee staff will monitor the progress of these initiatives, provide periodic updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.</p>	

Federal-Aid Highway Funding Distribution Work Group	
Completion Date: September 30, 2022	Staff: Hayley Gamble 786-7452
References: ESSB 5689 – Section 204(12)	
<p>Description: The 2022 transportation budget directs the Joint Transportation Committee to convene a work group to discuss, collaborate, and develop recommendations to the Committee on the distribution of federal-aid highway formula program funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to state and local governments in future biennia.</p>	

The work group must include the Governor’s Office, Office of Financial Management staff, as well as specified stakeholders. Following meetings of the work group, the Committee must consult with the Governor’s Office and provide recommendations to the Legislature on the allocation of Jobs Act funding by September 30, 2022.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of the work group, provide periodic updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.

Ultra-High Speed Rail	
Completion Date: Status Update December 1, 2022	Staff: Jenna Forty 786-7755
References: ESSB 5689 - Sections 204 & 223	
<p>Description: The Legislature directed the Joint Transportation committee to conduct a review and assessment of base assumptions used in prior studies of the ultra-high speed rail corridor between Vancouver, British Columbia and Portland, Oregon. The review will analyze the previously completed feasibility study, business case analysis, and report on governance framework, engagement plans, and financial strategy.</p> <p>Concurrently, the Department of Transportation was directed to form a policy committee to advance the governance framework of the ultra-high speed rail corridor, in conjunction with Oregon and British Columbia, with the goal to establish a coordinating entity.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the progress of these initiatives, provide periodic updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.</p>	

Reconnecting the South Park Neighborhood	
Completion Date: Status Update December 1, 2022	Staff: Danny Masterson 786-7454
References: ESSB 5689 - Section 219(11)	
<p>Description: The 2022 transportation budget provided the Washington State Department of Transportation \$600,000 for the City of Seattle’s Office of Planning and Community Development to support an equitable development initiative to reconnect the South Park neighborhood, currently divided by State Route 99.</p> <p>The support work must include a public engagement and visioning process, and a feasibility study of decommissioning SR 99 in the South Park neighborhood. The support work must be conducted in coordination and partnership with entities and neighborhoods potentially impacted by changes to the operation of SR 99. The City must provide a report on the plan, including recommendations, by January 1, 2025.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the progress of the planning work, provide periodic updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.</p>	

Ways & Means

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Work Session	TBD	• TBD
December 1-2 Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	• TBD

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

2022 Supplemental Legislative Budget Notes	
Completion Date: Fall 2022	Staff: Ways & Means Committee (360) 786-7715
<p>Description: Legislative fiscal staff in the Senate and House will work together with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program staff to publish <i>Legislative Budget Notes</i> by fall 2022. <i>Legislative Budget Notes</i> is a publication that represents the official record of legislative action on the omnibus operating, transportation, and capital budgets. It is used by legislators, legislative staff, state agencies, and the public to determine the legislative intent behind the hundreds of policy changes embedded in the three major documents.</p>	

2023 Citizen's Guide to K-12 Finance	
Completion Date: January 2023	Staff: Kayla Hammer (360) 786-7305
<p>Description: The Ways & Means Committee will update the <i>Citizen's Guide to K-12 Finance</i>. The guide is published annually and serves as a resource for members, legislative staff, and the public to answer frequently asked questions regarding K-12 finance. The guide will be published at the start of the 2023 legislative session and will be available with the committee, as well as online.</p>	

2023 Citizen's Guides to the State Operating and Capital Budgets	
Completion Date: January 2023	Staff: James Kettel (360) 786-7459; Michael Bezanson (360) 786-7449
<p>Description: The Senate Ways & Means Committee and the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program will publish updated versions of the <i>Citizen's Guide to the Operating Budget</i> and the <i>Citizen's Guide to the Capital Budget</i> for the 2023 legislative session. The guides are published on a biennial basis for use by members, legislative staff, and the public to answer basic questions about the Washington State operating and capital biennial budgets. The guides will be published at the start of the 2023 legislative session and will be available with the committee, as well as online.</p>	

2023 Legislative Guide to Washington State & Local Taxes	
Completion Date: January 2023	Staff: Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438; Alia Kennedy (360) 786-7405
<p>Description: Committee staff will update the <i>Legislative Guide to Washington State and Local Taxes</i>. The guide serves as an overview of Washington’s full tax structure for members, legislative staff, and the public. The updated guide will reflect the changes made in the 2022 legislative session. The guide will be published at the start of the 2023 legislative session and will be available from committee staff, as well as online.</p>	

Four-Year Balanced Budget and Outlook	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Corban Nemeth (360) 786-7736
<p>Description: Beginning with the 2013-2015 biennium, Ch. 8, laws of 2012 (SSB 6636) requires budgets at the time of passage be projected to be balanced for current and following biennia based on a maintenance level projection. The Economic and Revenue Forecast Council must prepare a budget outlook document for the Governor's proposed budget and for the budget enacted by the Legislature.</p> <p>To assist the council in preparing the state budget outlooks, a State Budget Outlook Work Group is created, consisting of one staff person from the Office of Financial Management, the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee, the Office of the State Treasurer, the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, the Caseload Forecast Council, the Senate Ways & Means Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee. Legislative staff will participate in the work group and provide technical assistance.</p>	

Caseload Forecast Council Technical (Staff) Work Groups	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Ways & Means Committee (360) 786-7715
<p>Description: Staff will monitor changes and trends and provide input regarding caseload forecasts for entitlement programs for the public schools, medical assistance, long-term care, developmental disabilities, foster care, adoption support, general assistance, corrections, and juvenile rehabilitation. The caseload forecasts are used to develop the majority of the budgets for these programs.</p> <p>The work groups meet periodically and include staff from the Senate Ways & Means Committee, House Appropriations Committee, Caseload Forecast Council, Office of Financial Management, the Department of Social and Health Services, and other caseload-driven agencies.</p>	

Joint Committee on Employment Relations	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Amanda Cecil (360) 786-7460
References: RCW 41.80.007	
<p>Description: The Joint Committee on Employment Relations meets annually to consider matters related to collective bargaining with state employees. During the 2022 calendar year,</p>	

the Committee is expected to meet up to five times, including one meeting following the Governor's budget submittal so the Governor can advise the Committee on appropriations and legislation necessary to implement the agreements.

Staff will provide support to the Committee and monitor activity.

Joint Legislative Taskforce on Water Supply

Completion Date: June 2023

Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424; Jed Herman (360) 786-7346

References: [SHB 1080 \(2021\)](#); [ESHB 1102 \(2019\)](#); [ESSB 6095 \(2018\)](#)

Description: Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply. In 2018, the Legislature passed ESSB 6095, establishing the Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply (Water Supply Task Force). The Water Supply Task Force must review surface and groundwater needs and uses as they relate to agricultural uses, domestic potable water uses, and instream flows, and develop and recommend studies. The Water Supply Task Force must focus on water resource inventory areas (WRIAs) 3 and 4. WRIA 3 is in the western portion of Skagit County and WRIA 4 is in the eastern portions of Whatcom, Skagit, and Snohomish counties. The Water Supply Task Force approved two studies, Skagit Basin Supply and Demand Analysis and a Review of the Duke Engineering Estuary Study Report in December 2019. The studies are projected to be completed in June 2021 and January 2021, respectively. The Water Supply Task Force will review and consider proposals for possible next steps related to the two studies.

Local Government Finance and Distributions

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Alia Kennedy (360) 786-7405; Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438

Description: Staff maintain a reference guide to the over \$200 million dollars in state distributions to local governments, primarily cities and counties. This information is available at the fiscal.wa.gov website. The reference guide is intended for use by members, legislative staff, local governments, and the public, of state shared revenues, distributions, grants, and loan programs that benefit local governments.

Staff will continue working with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program to develop more complete information on the variety of different forms of assistance to local governments, better search capabilities, and mapping tools.

Pension Funding Council

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Amanda Cecil (360) 786-7460

Description: The Pension Funding Council is directed to meet annually. During odd numbered years the Council must adopt certain long-term economic assumptions that are used to establish pension rates in the subsequent year. During even numbered years the Council must adopt pension funding rates for the subsequent fiscal biennia.

During the 2022 calendar year, the Council is expected to meet two times during July. The first meeting will include educational briefings from the Office of the State Actuary on projected pension rates and other pension matters. At the second meeting, the Council is expected to adopt pension funding rates for the 2023-25 fiscal biennium.

Committee staff will provide support to the Council.

Tax Structure Work Group

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438

Description: The 2001-03 operating budget created a Washington State Tax Structure Study Work Group to study the elasticity, equity, and adequacy of the state's tax system, and to develop multiple alternatives to the existing tax system. The Work Group submitted a final report in November 2002, that laid out a framework of tax principles used in the analysis of Washington's tax structure, evaluated Washington's tax structure at the time against the backdrop of these principles, and recommended numerous alternatives to improve Washington's tax structure.

The 2021-23 operating budget bill (section 137 of Ch. 232, laws of 2021 (ESSB 5092)) reauthorizes and expands the membership and scope of the Work Group. Over the course of several biennia, the Work Group will engage in the following tasks:

- update the data and research that informed the recommendations of the 2001-03 Tax Structure Study Committee;
- make preliminary recommendations to improve Washington's current tax structure;
- engage in a series of public meetings to solicit stakeholder and taxpayer feedback; and
- prepare a final report for submittal to the Legislature.

Staff will monitor and provide support to the Work Group.

Rural County Sales and Use Tax

Completion Date: January 2023

Staff: Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438

Description: Rural counties may impose a 0.09 percent sales and use tax, credited against the state sales tax rate, to fund certain public facilities and economic development activities. Thirty-two counties currently impose the tax. Revenues collected from the tax must be used to finance public facilities serving economic development purposes in rural counties and to finance personnel in economic development offices. Counties must annually report to the State Auditor's Office (SAO) a list of projects implemented and expenditures made using revenues from the rural public facility tax.

A budget proviso adopted in the 2022 legislative session requires the SAO to provide a publicly accessible searchable system on its website containing the project information and other expenditure information included in the annual report submitted by counties (section 124(6) of Ch. 297, laws of 2022 (ESSB 5693)). The tax expires 25 years after the tax was first imposed by the county.

In January 2023, the Ways and Means Committee will receive an update on the status of the searchable system. The Committee will also receive documentation identifying the

specific expiration date of the rural county tax for those 32 counties currently imposing the tax.