

STATE OF WASHINGTON

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COMMITTEE (JLARC)



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AGENDA

March 26, 2008
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
John A. Cherberg Building
Senate Hearing Room 4
Olympia, Washington

➤ Brief descriptions of agenda items are on the reverse side.

- 10:00 – 10:15 Committee Business:
- Introduction of Newly Appointed JLARC Member
 - 2008 Legislative Highlights: Legislation Affecting JLARC
- 10:15 – 10:20 *1. Approval of January 9, 2008, JLARC Meeting Minutes
- 10:20 – 10:50 *2. [Department of Fish and Wildlife Cost Analysis – Proposed Final Report](#)
- 10:50 – 11:35 3. Proposed Scope and Objectives
- a. [Performance Audit of the Prescription Drug Consortium](#)
 - b. [Comparing Costs and Characteristics of Housing Assistance Programs](#)
 - c. [State Health Coverage Eligibility Study](#)
- 11:35 – 11:45 4. Other

* Action Item

➤ Please note that times listed above are estimated and may vary. Every effort will be made, however, to adhere to the proposed timelines.

Introduction of Newly Appointed JLARC Member

2008 Legislative Highlights: Legislation Affecting JLARC: JLARC staff will provide a recap of new study mandates and legislation from the 2008 Legislative Session related to JLARC.

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Approval of minutes from the January 9, 2008, JLARC meeting.
2. **Department of Fish and Wildlife Cost Analysis – Proposed Final Report:** The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is mandated to preserve, protect, perpetuate, and manage wildlife and fish. Resources for the Department's broad range of services are provided through a complex structure of different funds and revenues. The 2007-09 Biennial Operating Budget directed JLARC to examine how WDFW makes decisions on which funds or revenues to use for its various services and activities. The audit provides information regarding: 1) sources, strings, and stability of Department funding; 2) Department expenditures and choice of fund sources; and 3) an alternative view of Department expenditures. The audit makes three recommendations to improve financial information for decision makers. These recommendations are focused on improving license fee revenue forecasting, improving fund balance accounting, and requiring reporting on the amount of state funds needed to match federal funds.
3. **Proposed Scope and Objectives**
 - a. Performance Audit of Prescription Drug Consortium: In 2005, the Legislature passed SSB 5471 (RCW 70.14.060) which created the Prescription Drug Purchasing Consortium. This legislation required each state health care program that directly purchases prescription drugs to do so through the Consortium, unless greater cost savings can be achieved through federal programs or other purchasing arrangements. SSB 5471 directed JLARC to conduct a performance audit of the Consortium by December 2008.
 - b. Comparing Costs and Characteristics of Housing Assistance Programs: The 2007-09 Biennial Operating Budget directs JLARC to conduct an evaluation and comparison of the cost efficiency of rental housing voucher programs versus other housing programs intended to assist low-income households. Using the principles of life-cycle cost analysis, JLARC will determine how the costs for housing vouchers compare to costs for other housing programs (e.g., construction and rehabilitation programs) intended to assist low-income households. In addition, the study will examine who pays the costs of each program and highlight program characteristics relevant to state policy makers.
 - c. State Health Coverage Eligibility Study: After considering earlier JLARC health care studies, the Committee determined a need for reviewing eligibility criteria and procedures for health coverage programs that involve state funding. The 2007-09 Biennial Operating Budget subsequently directed JLARC to undertake this study. The study will identify health coverage programs relevant to the assignment, review the eligibility criteria for each program, and identify whether eligibility is determined under state or federal law. JLARC will also review the processes and internal controls by which individual eligibility is determined, verified, and re-determined.