



# Senate Committee Services Staff Issue Area Document

(Committee Links for Committee Staff Issues and Staff)

Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

Early Learning & K-12 Education

Economic Development & International Trade

Energy, Environment & Technology

Financial Institution & Insurance

Health & Long Term Care

Higher Education & Workforce Development

Human Services & Corrections

Labor & Commerce

Law & Justice

Local Government

State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections

Transportation

Ways & Means

## Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks (786-7419)

### [Karen Epps, Sr. Coordinator - 786-7424](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Agriculture
- Agricultural Pests, Diseases and Chemical Treatment
- Commodity Commissions
- Conservation Districts
- Dairy Nutrient Management
- Food Labeling, Processing and Safety
- Livestock
- Drought
- Water Resources

### [Angela Kleis, Research Analyst – 786-7469](#)

[Also staff of the [Energy, Environment & Technology Committee](#)]

- Recreation and State Parks
- Geology and Surface Mining

### [Jeff Olsen, Sr. Research Analyst - 786-7428](#)

- Fish and Wildlife Governance
- Wildlife Issues
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- State Lands Management
- Forest Health and Fire
- Forestry and Timber
- Salmon Recovery

### [Alison Riffer, Committee Assistant - 786-7430](#)

(Committee Contact)

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

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

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Basic Education
- High School Graduation Requirements, including Statewide Assessments
- Special Education
- Charter Schools
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education

### [Ailey Kato, Counsel - 786-7434](#)

- Early Learning
- Student Health
- Student and Educator Safety
- Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee
- Student Discipline

### [Benjamin Omdal, Counsel - 786-7442](#)

- Collective bargaining for school employees
- Dual Credits

- Running Start
- College in the High School
- Paraeducators
- Teacher preparation and certification
- Teacher and principal evaluations
- Professional Educators Standards Board

[Alison Riffer, Committee Assistant - 786-7430](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

### Economic Development & International Relations (786-7440)

[Alex Fairfortune, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7416](#)

- Economic Development and Incentives
- International Trade and Export Assistance
- Regional and Sector Based Development
- Regulatory Assistance
- Technical Assistance to Businesses
- Small Business Assistance
- Tourism

[Greg Vogel, Counsel - 786-7413](#)

[Also staff of the [Local Government Committee](#)]

[Jasmin Adams, Committee Assistant - 786-7716](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

### Energy, Environment & Technology (786-7406)

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

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Air Quality
- Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction
- Solid Waste Management
- Telecommunications
- Water Quality

[Kim Cushing, Sr. Counsel - 786-7421](#)

- Energy Generation and Transmission
- Electric Vehicles
- Carbon Policy

[Angela Kleis, Research Analyst – 786-7469](#)

[Also staff of the [Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks Committee](#)]

- Technology
- Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Standards
- State Environmental Policy Act

[Alison Riffer, Committee Assistant - 786-7430](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

## Financial Institutions & Insurance (786-7409)

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

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Banking
- Credit Unions
- Credit Ratings and Scoring
- Payday Lending
- Foreclosures
- Mortgage Brokers
- Public Depositories
- Securities Regulation
- Home Owners' and Condo Associations
- Mobile Home Parks
- Landlord-Tenant
- Insurance Property & Casualty
- Life Insurance

[Jarrett Sacks, Counsel - 786-7448](#)

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

[Carly Johnson, Committee Assistant – 786-7441](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

## Health & Long Term Care (786-7456)

[Evan Klein, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7483](#)

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Drugs and Drug Policy
- Health Care Financing/Insurance–Public and Private
- Medicaid

[Greg Attanasio, Counsel - 786-7410](#)

- Facility Regulation
- Health Care Professions
- Public Health

[LeighBeth Merrick, Research Analyst - 786-7445](#)

- Developmental Disabilities
- Long-Term Care
- Medicaid

[Sierra Daley, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7467](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

## Higher Education & Workforce Development (786-7415)

### [Alicia Kinne-Clawson, Coordinator/Analyst - 786-7407](#)

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Colleges and Universities
- Financial Aid
- Governance
- Tuition
- Academic Affairs
- Medical Education
- Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC)

### [Kellee Gunn, Research Analyst - 786-7429](#)

- Campus Safety/Sexual Assault Prevention
- Faculty Issues
- For-Profit Schools
- Student Issues
- Textbooks
- Veterans Issues
- Workforce Education

### [Carly Johnson, Committee Assistant – 786-7441](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

## Human Services & Corrections (786-7414)

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

- Juvenile Justice
- Economic Services
  - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
  - WorkFirst
  - SNAP (Food Stamps)
  - Aged, Blind & Disabled
  - Housing & Essential Needs (HEN) Grant
  - Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA)
- Sex Offenders: Civil commitment
- Behavioral Health & Long Term Care Committee (backup to Keri Waterland)
- Developmental Disability Services

### [Brandon Popovac, Sr. Counsel - 786-7465](#)

- Housing (Affordable Housing & Homelessness)
- Child Welfare/Child Protection
  - Family Assessment Response (FAR)
  - Extended Foster Care Services
  - Legal Representation in Dependencies
  - Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

- At-Risk Youth/CHINS/Truancy
- Status Offenders

[Keri Waterland, Sr. Research Analyst - 786-7490](#)

- Corrections/Offender Reentry
- Behavioral Health (Mental Health/Substance Use Disorders)
  - Competency to Stand Trial/Criminal Insanity
  - Involuntary Treatment Act Civil Commitments
  - Behavioral Health Organizations
  - Crisis Diversion/Jail Diversion
  - Offender Reentry Community Safety Program
- Domestic Violence Issues
- Crime Victims
- Criminal Justice Treatment Account
- Vulnerable Adults/Abuse & Neglect, APS

[Carly Johnson, Committee Assistant – 786-7441](#)

(Committee Contact)

**Labor & Commerce (786-7426)**

[Susan Jones, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7404](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Industrial Insurance
- Unemployment Insurance
- Worker Retraining
- Tribal Compacts
- Gambling
- Horse Racing
- Lottery

[Richard Rodger, Sr. Counsel - 786-7461](#)

- Liquor
- Marijuana
- Personnel Practices
- Employment Standards
- Family and Medical Leave

[Jarrett Sacks, Counsel - 786-7448](#)

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

- Consumer Protection
- Apprenticeship
- Prevailing Wage
- Professional Licensing
- Construction Trades Licensing and Regulation
- Labor Trafficking
- Collective Bargaining

[Dana King, Committee Assistant – 786-7784](#)

(Committee Contact)

## Law & Justice (786-7455)

### [Tim Ford, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7423](#)

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Collection Issues
- Tort Law
- Firearms
- General Criminal and Civil
- Guardianship and Probate Issues
- Business Law
- Eminent Domain
- Unpiloted Aerial Vehicles
- Body Worn Camera Task Force
- Uniform Laws

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

- Body Worn Camera Task Force
- Corrections
- Firearms
- Sex Offenders
- DUI
- New Crimes and Sentencing Changes
- General Criminal Issues
- Motor Vehicle Related Issues
- Use of Deadly Force Task Force

### [Melissa Burke-Cain, Sr. Counsel - 786-7755](#)

- Human Trafficking
- Trusts
- General Civil and Court Related Subject Matter
- Court Administration Issues
- Domestic Violence
- General Criminal
- Laws Relating to Animal Cruelty
- Family Law
- Public Health-Related Court and Criminal Matters

### [Melissa Van Gorkom, Research Analyst – 786-7491](#)

[Also staff of the [State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections Committee](#)]

- DUI

### [Carly Johnson, Committee Assistant - 786-7441](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

## Local Government (786-7467)

### [Bonnie Kim, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7316](#)

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Administrative Procedures Act
- City and County Governance

- Growth Management Act
- Property Taxes
- Public Contracting Procedures
- Public Works
- Special Purpose Districts

[Greg Vogel, Counsel - 786-7413](#)

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

- Annexation
- Emergency Management
- Fire Protection
- Growth Management Act
- Government Incorporation
- Land Use and Development
- Special Purpose Districts
- Vesting

[Sierra Daley, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7467](#)

(Committee Contact)

**State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections (786-7473)**

[Sam Brown, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7470](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Veterans Affairs
- Military Affairs
- Ethics and Conflict of Interest
- Public Records and Disclosure
- Open Public Meetings
- Elections
- Campaign Finance
- Initiatives and Referendums
- Signature Gathering
- Performance Management of State Government Programs and Agencies

[Melissa Van Gorkom, Research Analyst – 786-7491](#)

- Audits of State Government Programs and Agencies
- Emergency Management
- Information Technology at State Agencies
- Public Contracting Procedures
- Public Works
- Administrative Procedure Act
- Civil Service
- Tribal Relations
- Regulatory Reform
- Historic Preservation
- Archives

[Sierra Daley, Committee Assistant - 786-7473](#)

(Committee Contact)



## Transportation (786-7300)

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

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

#### *Budget Assignments*

- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Washington State Transportation Commission

#### *Policy Assignments*

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

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

#### *Budget Assignments*

- Office of State Treasurer (OST) (Bond Retirement and Interest)
- Joint Transportation Committee
- Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP)
- Office of Financial Management (OFM)
- Budget Bill Development & Coordination

#### *Policy Assignments*

- Financial Plans/Fund Balances
- Bonds Issuance & Retirement

### [Erica Bramlet, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7321](#)

#### *Budget Assignments*

- DOT – Toll Operations
- DOT – Highway Improvements
- DOT – Management
- DOT – Highway Maintenance
- DOT – Highway Preservation
- DOT – Traffic Operations
- DOT – Planning, Data, and Research
- DOT – Program Management and Support
- Archeology and Historic Preservation
- State Parks and Recreation

#### *Policy Assignments*

- Tolls
- Highways
- Environmental Issues

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

#### *Budget Assignments*

- Washington State Ferries
  - Operating
  - Capital
- DOT – Rail
  - Operating
  - Capital

- DOT – Facilities
  - Operating
  - Capital
- DOT – Aviation
- DOT – Public Transportation

*Policy Assignments*

- Washington State Ferries
- Rail
- Local Transit Agencies, including Sound Transit
- Board of Pilotage Commissioners

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

*Budget Assignments*

- Budget Bill Development and Drafting
- DOT – Public/Private Partnerships
- Traffic Safety Commission

*Policy Assignments*

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

[Bryon Moore, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7726](#)

*Budget Assignments*

- Department of Licensing
  - Drivers
  - Vehicles
- Department of Agriculture
- Washington State Patrol
  - Operating
  - Capitol
- DOT – Information Technology
- DOT – Equipment Fund
- DOT – Charges from Other Agencies
- DOT – Local Programs
- Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB)
- Transportation Improvement Board (TIB)
- County Road Administration Board (CRAB)

*Policy Assignments*

- Department of Licensing
  - Drivers
  - Vehicles
- State Transportation Revenue Forecast
- State & Local Transportation Taxes & Fees
- Washington State Patrol

[Dana King, Committee Assistant – 786-7784](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

## Ways & Means (786-7715)

[Michael Bezanson, Staff Coordinator - 786-7449](#)

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

Vacant

- Operating Budget Issues

[Jeff Mitchell, Revenue Coordinator - 786-7438](#)

- Revenue Policy Issues
- K-12 Local Levies

[Richard Ramsey, Capital Budget Coordinator - 786-7412](#)

- Capital Budget-related Issues & Programs
- Bond Retirement and Interest
- K-12 Capital Issues
- Local Government Assistance
- Municipal Research Council

[Amanda Cecil, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7460](#)

- Board for Volunteer Firefighters
- Collective Bargaining
- Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials
- Department of Retirement Systems
- Employee Compensation
- Employee Compensation/Health Benefits
- Pensions
- Public Employment Relations Commission
- SEBB Benefits
- State Actuary
- State Investment Board

[Claire Goodwin, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7736](#)

- Arts Commission
- Attorney General
- Board of Accountancy
- Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals
- Commission on African-American Affairs
- Commission on Asian-American Affairs
- Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- Consolidated Technology Services
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Employment Security
- Department of Enterprise Services
- Department of Financial Institutions
- Department of Labor and Industries
- Department of Licensing (non-transportation)
- Eastern Washington Historical Society
- Gambling Commission
- Horse Racing Commission
- Human Rights Commission
- Interagency Billing Model
- Minority & Women's Business Enterprises

- Office of Administrative Hearings
- Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
- Office of Chief Information Officer
- Office of Financial Management
- Office on Indian Affairs
- Secretary of State
- State Auditor
- State Lottery Commission
- State Treasurer
- Washington State Historical Society

[Jed Herman, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7346](#)

- Columbia River Gorge Commission
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Ecology
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Natural Resources
- Environmental and Land Use Hearing Office
- Military Department
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Pollution Liability Insurance Agency
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Recreation and Conservation Office
- State Conservation Commission
- Utilities and Transportation Commission

[Maria Hovde, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7474](#)

- Department of Early Learning
- DSHS—Child Support Services
- DSHS—Children and Family Services
- DSHS—Economic Services
- DSHS—Juvenile Rehabilitation
- TANF Issues

[Alia Kennedy, Revenue Counsel - 786-7405](#)

- Revenue Policy Issues
- Board of Tax Appeals
- Department of Revenue
- Liquor Cannabis Board

[James Kettel, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7459](#)

- DSHS—Administration and Support Services
- DSHS—Developmental Disabilities
- DSHS—Information System Services
- DSHS—Long Term Care
- DSHS—Payments to Other Agencies
- DSHS—Vocational Rehabilitation
- Department of Services for the Blind
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Life Science Discovery Fund
- School for the Blind
- Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss

[Daniel Masterson, Fiscal Analyst 786-7454](#)

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

[Julie Murray, Sr. Budget Counsel - 786-7711](#)

- Courts:
  - Commission on Judicial Conduct
  - Court of Appeals
  - Law Library
  - Office of the Administrator for the Courts
  - Office of Civil Legal Aid
  - Office of Public Defense
  - Supreme Court
- Caseload Forecast Council
- Economic & Revenue Forecast Council
- House of Representatives
- Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee
- Joint Legislative Systems Committee
- LEAP Committee
- Office of the Governor
- Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- Public Disclosure Commission
- Senate
- Special Appropriations to the Governor
- Statute Law Committee
- Sundry Claims

[Jeff Naas, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7708](#)

[Sarian Scott, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7729](#)

- Public Schools (K-12 Education)
- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Washington State Charter School Commission

[Sandy Stith, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7710](#)

- Health Benefits Exchange
- Health Care Authority (including administration)
- Insurance Commissioner
- Low Income Health Care (Medicaid)

[Travis Sugarman, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7446](#)

- Criminal Justice Training Commission
- Department of Corrections
- DSHS—Alcohol and Substance Abuse
- DSHS—Juvenile Rehabilitation
- DSHS—Mental Health
- DSHS—Special Commitment Center
- Forensics Investigation Council

- Justice Assistance Grant (formerly Byrne Grant)
- State Patrol (non-transportation portion)

[Jasmin Adams, Committee Assistant - 786-7716](#)

*(Committee Contact)*