



# Senate Committee Services Staff Issue Area Document

(committee name links to committee staff issues and staff contacts)

[Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks](#)

[Early Learning & K-12 Education](#)

[Environment, Energy & Technology](#)

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## Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks (786-7411)

### [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
- Recreation and State Parks
- Drought
- Water Resources

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

[Also staff of the Housing Stability & Affordability Committee]

- Fish and Wildlife Governance
- Wildlife Issues
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Geology and Surface Mining
- State Lands Management
- Forest Health and Fire
- Forestry and Timber
- Salmon Recovery
- Recreation and State Parks

### [Megan Tudor, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7411](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

### [Samantha Greenleaf, Session Committee Clerk - 786-7381](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

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

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

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

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

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

- Basic Education
- Special Education
- Levies
- Charter Schools

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

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

- Dual Language and Bilingual Education
- Dual Credits, College in the High School, Running Start
- Paraeducators
- Collective Bargaining for School Employees
- Educator Preparation, Certification, and Evaluation

[Rebecca Dzieza, Session Committee Assistant - 786-7420](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Michael Hartmann, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7479](#)

(Committee Contact)

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

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

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Energy Generation and Transmission
- Climate Policy

[Jan Odano, Analyst – 786-7486](#)

- Air/Water Quality
- Toxic Substances
- Solid Waste and Recycling
- Oil Spills and Prevention

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

- Technology
- Telecommunications
- Electric Vehicles

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

[Also staff of the Local Government Committee]

- Shoreline Management Act
- Puget Sound Partnership

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

(Committee Contact)

[Victor Dugal, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7409](#)

(Committee Contact)

### Financial Institutions, Economic Development & 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
- Insurance Property & Casualty
- Life Insurance

[Kellee Gunn, Analyst – 786-7429](#)

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

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

[Callin Silvernail, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7444](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Michael Hartmann, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7479](#)

(Committee Contact)

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

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

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Health Care Financing/Insurance–Public and Private
- Medicaid
- Telemedicine

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

- Facility Regulation
- Health Care Professions
- Public Health
- Prescription Drugs

[Kevin Black, Counsel – 786-7747](#)

[Also staff of the Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation Committee]

- ITA/Forensic Commitments
- Mental Health
- Substance Use Disorders
- State Hospitals

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

- Developmental Disabilities
- Long-Term Care
- Medicaid
- Opioids

[Sierra Daley, Committee Assistant – 786-7463](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Samantha Greenleaf, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7381](#)

(Committee Contact)

**Behavioral Health Subcommittee (786-7401)  
of the Health & Long Term Care Committee**

[Kevin Black, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7483](#)

*(Lead Subcommittee Contact)*

[Also staff of the Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation Committee]

- ITA/Forensic Commitments
- Mental Health
- Substance Use Disorders
- State Hospitals

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

*(Committee Contact)*

[Mary Louise Farley – Session Committee Clerk – 786-7439](#)

*(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)
- Textbooks
- Veterans Issues

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

[Also staff of the Financial Institutions, Economic Development & Insurance Committee]

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

[Russell Horton, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7415](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

[Maria Garza, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7431](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

## Housing Stability & Affordability (786-7402)

### [Brandon Popovac, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7465](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Housing Affordability
- Housing Stability
- Housing Authorities
- Housing Trust Fund
- Homeless Housing Program
- Transitional Housing Operating and Rent Program
- Homelessness Prevention
- Youth Homelessness
- Manufactured/Mobile Home Parks
- Manufactured/Mobile Home Landlord-Tenant Act

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

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

- Housing Affordability

### [Elizabeth Weeks, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7402](#)

(Committee Contact)

### [Ries t'Sas, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7436](#)

(Committee Contact)

## Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation (786-7414)

### [Alison Mendiola, Coordinator/Counsel – 786-7488](#)

- Economic Services
  - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
  - WorkFirst
  - SNAP (Food Stamps)
  - Aged, Blind & Disabled
  - Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA)
- Child Welfare/Child Protection
  - Family Assessment Response (FAR)
  - Foster Care
  - Legal Representation in Dependencies
  - Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

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

[Also staff of the Health & Long Term Care Committee and Behavioral Health Subcommittee]

- Juvenile Justice

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

- Corrections/Offender Reentry
- Sex Offenders: Civil commitment
- At-Risk Youth/CHINS/Truancy
- Status Offenders

- Domestic Violence Issues
- Crime Victims
- Criminal Justice Treatment Account
- Vulnerable Adults/Abuse & Neglect, APS

[Scott Anderson, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7414](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Ries t'Sas, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7436](#)

(Committee Contact)

## Labor & Commerce (786-7426)

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

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Industrial Insurance
- Unemployment Insurance
- Worker Retraining
- Professional Licensing
- 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 State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections Committee]

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

[Ryann Woods, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7426](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Matthew Southard, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7462](#)

(Committee Contact)

## Law & Justice (786-7455)

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

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Collection Issues
- Tort Law

- DUI
- Firearms
- General Criminal and Civil
- Guardianship and Probate Issues
- Business Law
- Unpiloted Aerial Vehicles
- Uniform Laws

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

- Firearms
- Sex Offenders
- Domestic Violence Protection Orders
- Home-owners Associations
- Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act
- New Crimes and Sentencing Changes
- General Criminal Issues
- Motor Vehicle Related Issues

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

- Human Trafficking
- 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

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

*(Committee Contact)*

[Marie Louise Farley, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7439](#)

*(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 Environment, Energy & Technology Committee]

- Annexation
- Emergency Management
- Fire Protection
- Growth Management Act
- Government Incorporation
- Land Use and Development



- Special Purpose Districts
- Vesting

[Ivy Richardson, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7467](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Maria Garza, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7431](#)

(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

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

[Also staff of the Labor & Commerce Committee]

[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

[Aaron Eskenazi, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7473](#)

(Committee Contact)

[Matthew Southard, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7444](#)

(Committee Contact)

## Transportation (786-7300)

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

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

#### *Budget Assignments*

- Joint Transportation Committee (JTC)
- 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)
- 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)*

[David Woltjer, Session Committee Clerk – 786-7307](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

**Ways & Means (786-7715)**[Michael Bezanson, Staff Coordinator - 786-7449](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

[James Kettel, Operating Budget Coordinator - 786-7459](#)

- Operating Budget Issues

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

- Revenue and Tax Policy Issues

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

- K-12 Capital Issues
- Local Government Assistance
- Municipal Research Council

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

- House of Representatives
- Senate
- Special Appropriations to the Governor
- Sundry Claims

[Michele Alishahi, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7433](#)

- 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

[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
- PEBB Benefits
- Pensions
- Public Employment Relations Commission
- SEBB Benefits
- State Actuary
- State Investment Board

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

- Arts Commission
- Commission on African-American Affairs
- Commission on Asian-American Affairs
- Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- 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
- Criminal Justice Training Commission
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Licensing (non-transportation)
- Eastern Washington Historical Society
- Forensics Investigation Council
- Human Rights Commission
- Minority & Women's Business Enterprises
- Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
- Office on Indian Affairs
- State Patrol (non-transportation)
- Washington State Historical Society

[Kayla Hammer, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7303](#)

K-12 Education

- OSPI/Statewide Programs
- School Safety
- Pupil Transportation
- School Food Services
- Educational Service Districts (ESDs)
- Institutional Education Programs
- Highly Capable Students
- Education Reform Programs
- Transitional Bilingual Programs
- Learning Assistance Programs
- Charter Schools

[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](#)

- Bond Retirement and Interest
- DCYF – Early Learning
- DCYF – Child Welfare
- DSHS/CSYF – Juvenile Rehabilitation
- DSHS – Children Support Services
- DSHS – Economic Services
- TANF Issues

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

- Revenue Policy Issues
- Board of Tax Appeals
- Department of Revenue
- Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee
- Liquor Cannabis Board

[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

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

K-12 Education

- Apportionment
- Compensation
- Special Education
- Levies
- Local Effort Assistance (LEA)

[Sarian Scott, Outlook Coordinator - 786-7729](#)

- Attorney General
- Board of Accountancy
- Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals
- Caseload Forecast Council
- Consolidated Technology Services
- Department of Employment Security
- Department of Enterprise Services
- Department of Financial Institutions
- Department of Labor and Industries
- Economic & Revenue Forecast Council
- Gambling Commission
- Horse Racing Commission
- Interagency Billing Model
- Joint Legislative Systems Committee
- LEAP Committee
- Office of Administrative Hearings
- Office of Chief Information Officer
- Office of Financial Management

- Office of the Governor
- Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- Public Disclosure Commission
- Secretary of State
- State Auditor
- State Lottery Commission
- State Treasurer
- Statute Law Committee

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

- Health Benefits Exchange
- Insurance Commissioner
- HCA – Low Income Health Care (Medicaid)

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

- Department of Corrections
- DSHS/HCA Behavioral Health
- DSHS – Special Commitment Center
- Justice Assistance Grant (formerly Byrne Grant)

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

*(Committee Contact)*

[Maya Gillett, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7484](#)

*(Committee Contact)*

[Nazeedah Khan, Session Committee Assistant – 786-7471](#)

*(Committee Contact)*