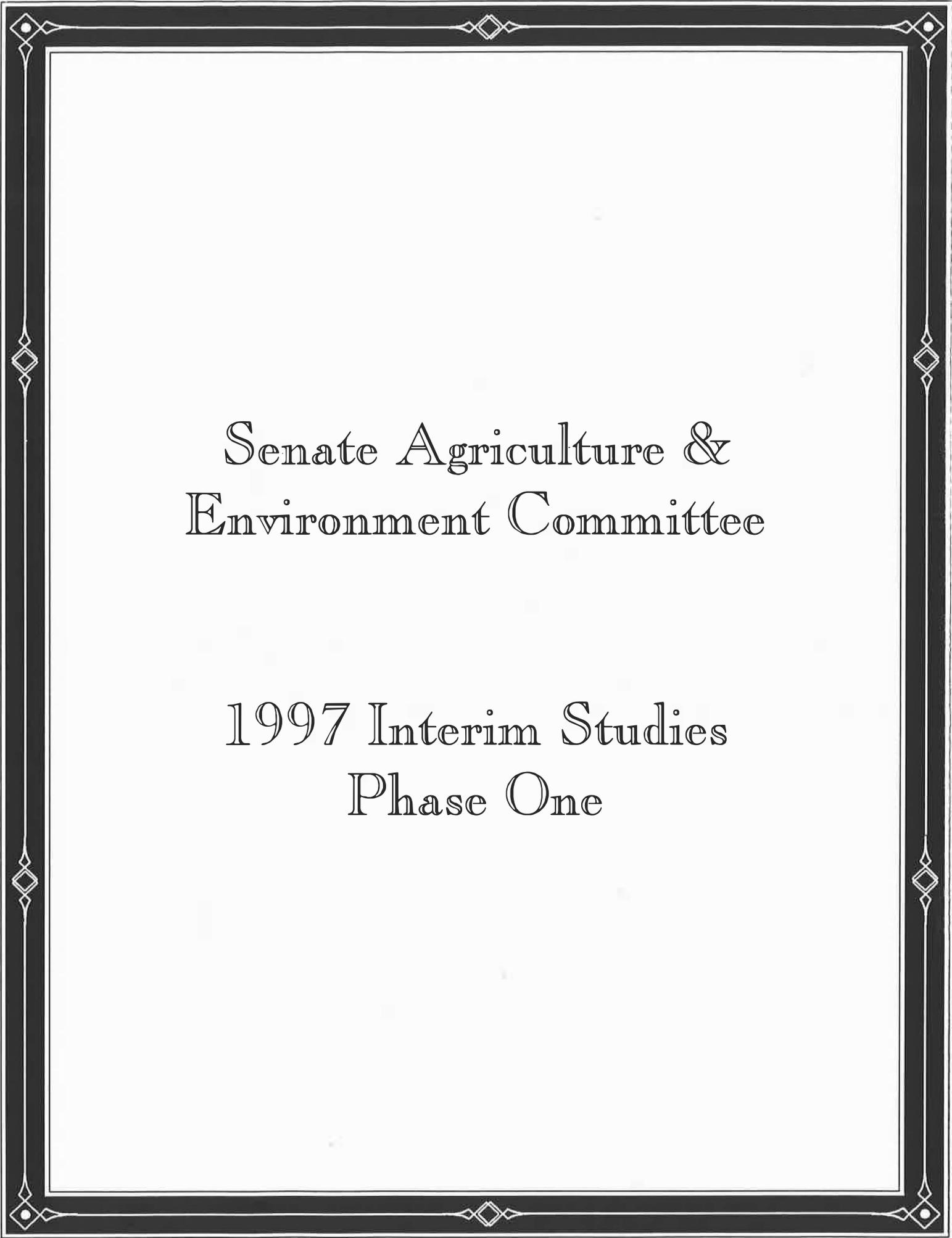


Senate Committee Services

1997 Interim Work Plan





Senate Agriculture &
Environment Committee

1997 Interim Studies
Phase One

SENATE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDIES AND ACTIVITIES

The format for developing committee interim plans for the Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee has been modified this interim to be more flexible and to better respond to issues that emerge during the interim. The committee will be using a phased approach whereby topics for committee meetings, tours and other committee activities will be based on the information known at the time the phase is commenced. This will include a combination of topics carried over from the 1997 session, topics that emerge during the interim, current activities of state agencies, and an identification of issues that are anticipated to be topics for the 1998 session.

Thus, instead of attempting to develop list of interim studies that include issues that had not yet emerged, the committee will develop a list during at least three phases based on the information known at the time and that correspond with scheduled committee assemblies in September and December.

PHASE ONE

During the last few days of the 1997 legislative session, several unresolved issues were identified by committee members that need additional consideration prior to the 1998 legislative session. Three of these issues were slated for early review by the committee, namely;

1. Livestock Identification Program;
2. Dairy Waste Management Program; and
3. State Apiary Program.

A tour was scheduled to gather additional information and to better acquaint committee members and staff with the current programs, the involved interest groups, and the wants and needs of each interest group. In addition, the farm worker housing issue was subsequently added to the list. These four topics were the subject of an intensive two day tour by the committee in June.

PHASE TWO

The development of the second list of issues is to take place after completion of the June tour and prior to scheduling of committee meetings and information gathering tours to be held during the committee assembly in mid September. The process to develop this list will include a poll of committee members, an update on state agencies conducting activities within the jurisdiction of the committee, and a review of emerging issues that fall within the area of the committee's jurisdiction. The second list of issues should be available by early to mid August.

PHASE THREE

This phase will take place after the committee meeting assembly in mid-September and continuing through the committee assembly in early December. This phase is anticipated to include issues that have emerged since August, issues that were worked on in the previous two phases, and possibly a review of agency request legislation.

In addition to the topics that are topics of formal committee meetings and information gathering tours, the committee will continue to monitor and examine issues that are of interest of members and those that are within the jurisdiction of the committee. Please inquire if there are questions.

SELECT COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

There is one select committee that will continue its work during this interim. The Lakes Health Committee is a separately authorized committee but one for which staffing will be provided by the staff assigned to the Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee. Information is included regarding the scheduled meetings and activities.

DAIRY WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

ISSUE: Is the current dairy waste management program being administered properly?
Should changes be made in the program's administration?

PROJECT TEAM:

Bob Lee — Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee
Kari Guy — Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Washington Dairy Federation
Department of Ecology
State Conservation Commission

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Ecology has authority to regulate activities that affect the quality of state surface and ground water. Ecology is the delegated state agency to administer provision of the federal Clean Water Act. There are federal regulations adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that prohibit significant discharges of dairy waste to surface waters except in a 25 year/24 hour rainfall event.

In 1993, state legislation was enacted that provided timelines for the Department of Ecology to react to complaints regarding dairy waste discharges. In addition, the 1993 legislation retained the authority for the Department to investigate dairies that may be discharging wastes into surface or ground waters. Technical and financial assistance was made available through the State Conservation Commission to assist dairy farmers in developing dairy waste management plans that would satisfy state and federal regulatory requirements. During the 1997 legislative session, an additional block of funding for this technical and financial assistance was provided to be administered through the State Conservation Commission.

The Environmental Protection Agency has expressed dissatisfaction with the level of inspection for and compliance with federal requirements. EPA has been critical of the level of inspection and enforcement activities conducted by the Department of Ecology. EPA has conducted an inspection and enforcement sweeps of dairy farms in portions of Whatcom County and has announced plans to continue such sweeps in other regions of the state. The Department of Ecology also has announced their plan to conduct similar intensive inspections of dairy farms in three watersheds during the rainy season later this winter.

The number of dairy farms in Washington State has been falling rapidly in recent years. There are a number of pressures on dairy farms including low milk prices, pressures of urbanization and compliance with environmental regulations. The state has dramatically different climatic and rainfall conditions which present differing challenges to dairy farms in controlling the runoff of precipitation and water used by manure handling systems.

(con't)

OBJECTIVES:

- Obtain from the State Conservation Commission an estimate of the number of dairy farms that are likely in compliance with state and federal regulations by having current dairy waste management plans, and the number of and cost to dairy farms that may be required to come into compliance with water quality regulations. Collect information as to possible funding sources, as well as constraints to accessing or developing funding sources.
- Become more familiar with the kinds of practices and systems that are components to dairy waste management plans, and how dairy waste management plans are developed, and the capacity of conservation districts to provide technical assistance to engineer dairy waste management plans.
- Better understand the factors evaluated by dairy farmers to determine whether to install systems, cease operation of the dairy farm, or consider alternatives to avoid costly systems.
- Monitor activities of the EPA and the Department of Ecology regarding inspections of dairies with watersheds.
- Better understand the basis and possible consequences of failure of a watershed to meet water quality standards including plans to reduce levels to withing total maximum daily load (TMDL) levels.
- Review legislation proposed during the 1997 session that addressed some regulatory issues pertaining to compliance by dairy farms with water quality requirements.

MEETING DATES AND TRAVEL:

The committee plans to include background briefings and a tour of dairy waste management facilities during the committee tour in June. Staff will subsequently gather information from involved agencies and affected interests and provide updates to committee members on a regular basis.

REVIEW OF THE STATE APIARY PROGRAM

ISSUE: The scope of the state apiary program and how it should be funded.

PROJECT TEAM:

Bob Lee — Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee
Vic Moon — Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Department of Agriculture
Washington State Beekeepers Association
Washington Professional Beekeepers Assn
Washington State Horticultural Association

BACKGROUND:

In 1994, funding for the state apiary program changed from a combination of a hive registration fee and state general fund money to a combination of the hive registration fee and a 50 cents per hive pollination fee. The pollination fee is to be paid by the grower, collected by the apiarist and remitted to the department.

There is disagreement as to what the apiary program should do and how it should be funded. Other legislation requested by the apiary industry has not moved forward due to failure to resolve the program and funding issue.

OBJECTIVES:

- Compare the views of competing beekeeper associations as to what the apiary program should do and monitor the apiary program business plan development process by the Department of Agriculture.
- Better understand how the present funding mechanisms were enacted.
- Determine what the horticultural industry, which depends on pollinating bees for successful production, views are regarding the benefits of the program and how the program should be funded.
- Obtain information as to the existence and functions of state apiary programs from other states that have a horticultural industry with a high degree of reliance on honey bee for pollination.

MEETING DATES AND TRAVEL:

The committee will visit an apiary and learn more about intra and interstate movement of bees. The committee will hear from associations representing beekeepers, and obtain periodic updates on the Department's effort to formulate a apiary program business plan. The tour and discussion with interest groups is scheduled for June.

LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

ISSUE: The livestock identification (brands) present program scope and the future of livestock identification in Washington

PROJECT TEAM:

Vic Moon — Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee
Bob Lee — Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee
Law and Justice staff for law enforcement aspects.

OTHER CONTACTS:

Livestock owner interest groups
Department of Agriculture
Owners of registered brands
Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

BACKGROUND:

There have been many attempts to update the livestock identification program and to provide adequate funding. Conflicts between different livestock owner groups have made agreement on the program unattainable. The program periodically is in debt and the Department of Agriculture is hampered by conflicting views on what type of program is needed, and how it may be most effectively administered.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Examine the current program
2. Identify what users now pay.
3. Outline what each user group needs (as opposed to wants).
4. Look at other states' programs.
5. Review relevant programs in other western states having open range.
6. Identify enforcement needs.
7. Develop funding options.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

The Senate Agriculture and Environment committee will review staff work on a regular basis in order to set policy for possible legislation.

MEETINGS AND TRAVEL SCHEDULE:

The committee will tour various types of livestock operations (dairy cattle, beef cattle, feedlots, and public livestock markets) to become more familiar with the needs and wants of various industry segments. Also, the tour will provide committee members with a better understanding of how the Department currently performs livestock brand inspections and the operation of the entire livestock identification system.

TIMELINES:

Work will begin directly after session with the tour to be conducted in June. Staff interaction will continue with interested committee members, the Department of Agriculture, the Livestock Identification Advisory Committee, and the various segments of the livestock industry.



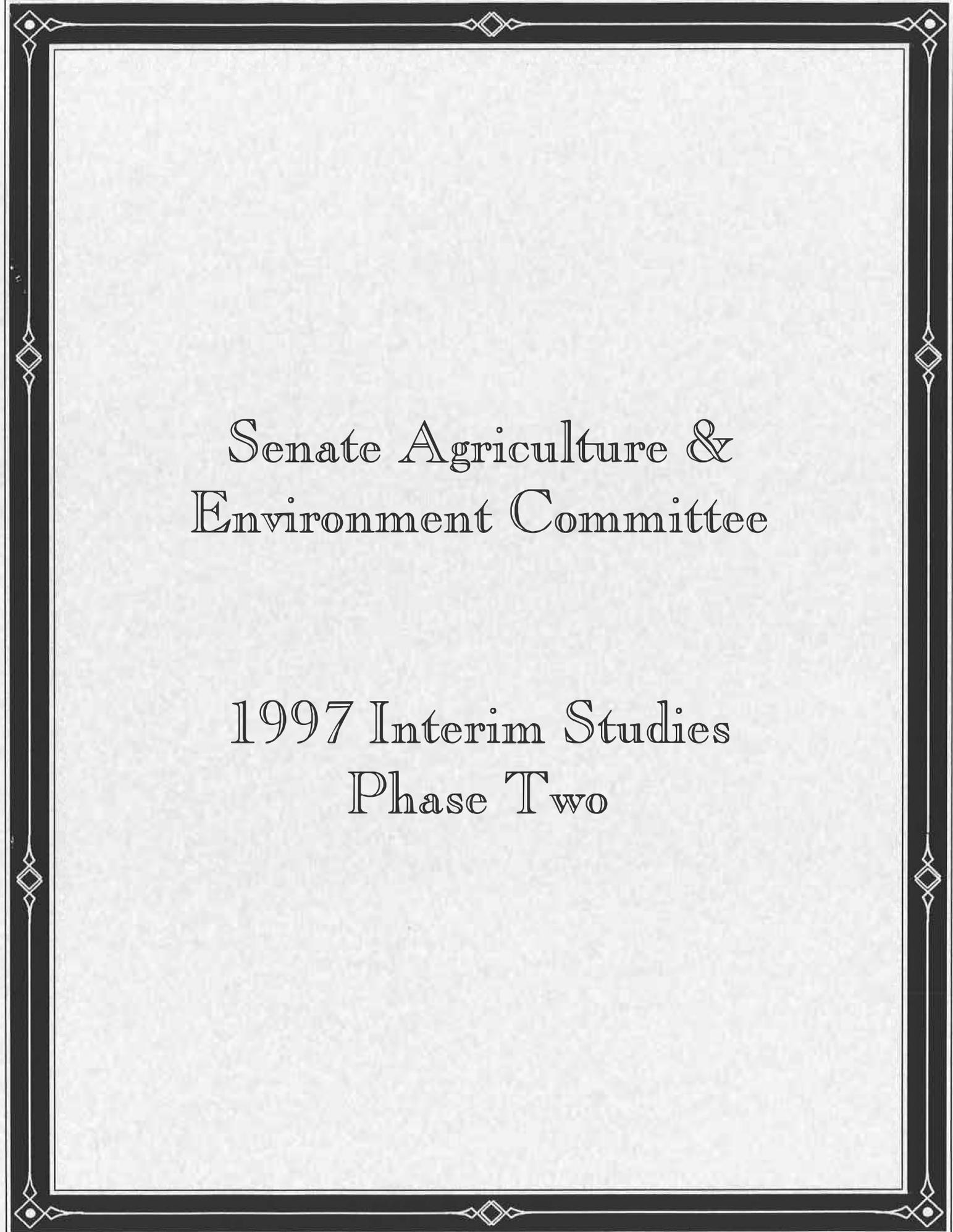
Washington State Legislature

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON LAKE HEALTH Notice of Meetings

The Joint Select Committee on Lake Health is planning five work sessions to develop lake management recommendations for the 1998 legislative session. All interested parties are invited to attend and participate in the work sessions. Meetings times and discussion topics are listed below.

Date and Time	Subject
June 30, 1997 9:00 to 11:30 AM Conference Room B John A. Cherberg Bldg Olympia, WA	Review of issues related to aquatic pesticide use: update of the aquatic plants management EIS; state registration of pesticides; and permitting for lake pesticide applications.
July 28, 1997 9:00 to 11:30 AM	Lake management planning and pollution prevention.
August 25, 1997 9:00 to 11:30 AM	Options for lake association organization and local funding.
September 29, 1997 9:00 to 11:30 AM	State funding, public education, and technical assistance.
October 27, 1997 9:00 to 11:30 AM	Review draft recommendations and legislation.

For more information or meeting locations, please call committee staff at (360) 786-7407.



Senate Agriculture &
Environment Committee

1997 Interim Studies
Phase Two

**SENATE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDIES AND ACTIVITIES
PHASE TWO**

Issue: Unused Agricultural Statutes

Background: A comprehensive review of existing agricultural statutes has not been done in a number of years.

Tasks: Review exiting agricultural statutes. Identify statutes that have been in effect for at least ten years and which are no longer being actively used.

Product: Memo/report to committee members.

Staff: Bob Lee (786-7404)

Issue: Use of Industrial Wastes in Fertilizer

Background: Recent articles in the Seattle Times raised concerns about the use of industrial by-products in fertilizers. The focus of the articles was on the practice of recycling byproducts by blending the byproducts with other ingredients to sell as a fertilizer. Under existing fertilizer regulation, a guaranteed analysis of the minimum percentage of plant nutrients must be provided for each fertilizer. There is no requirement to disclose or label other ingredients. It is unclear whether the use of industrial byproducts in fertilizer pose a threat to human health or the environment.

Tasks: Review studies by state agencies and WSU and interpretation of fertilizer and food crop samples. Assess the extent of the use of byproducts in fertilizers in Washington. Describe scope of existing hazardous waste law and fertilizer laws and relationship to current issue. Monitor development of proposed legislation by state agencies.

Product: Memo/report to committee members.

Staff: Kari Guy (786-7437)

Issue: Regional Water Resource Planning and Municipal Water Supply Issues

Background: In 1993, funds were appropriated to initiate water resource planning in the Central Puget Sound region. Water supply utilities in the region have been cooperatively evaluating water supply and demand to determine whether supplies are sufficient to accommodate growth management plans in major portions of Snohomish, King and Pierce counties. Additionally, this evaluation include an analysis of whether water suppliers are able to assure the timely provision of water.

Recently, the Department of Ecology has approved the Second Supply Project and interim agreements have been reached on sharing costs and benefits of this project. There remain some areas that are facing immediate and long term water shortages. Efforts to provide temporary solutions have been making progress in some cases.

An agreement in principal has been reached on a Habitat Conservation Plan for the Lake Washington/Cedar River Watershed which involves the Seattle Water Department, other utilities and the Corps of Engineers. An agreement has been entered between Tacoma and the Muckleshoot Tribe regarding augmentation of flows and mitigation for habitat on the Green River.

In 1991, legislation was passed to grandfather existing municipal water interties. A legal interpretation of this statute was issued by the State Attorney General in 1996. Legislation sought by municipal water supply interests on a range of issues was passed by the legislature in 1997 but was not signed by the Governor.

Tasks: Arrange for presentations to be made on the plans that have been developed regarding providing water for the Central Puget Sound region. Consult with utility representatives and the Department of Ecology to gain an understanding of unresolved municipal water issues that impair the ability to implement the plan. Examine the role of state agencies in the approval of the regional water resource plan.

Product: Memo/report to committee members.

Staff: Bob Lee (786-7404)

Issue: **Water Quality Standards**

Background: Under the federal Clean Water Act, the state must establish water quality standards for the waters of the state, and identify waters not meeting those standards. The state is then required to prioritize the waters not meeting standards, and establish the total maximum daily load (TMDL) of pollutants that is necessary to achieve water quality standards. Implementation of the TMDL may require measures to control point and nonpoint water pollution beyond those limits currently established in discharge permits or nonpoint source management plans. In 1996, over 600 water bodies were on Washington's list of impaired or threatened water bodies. A TMDL has been completed or is underway in approximately 40 water bodies. The Department of Ecology is proposing the adoption of additional water quality standards for lakes.

Tasks: Review how water quality standards were set. Describe state, federal, and local roles in establishing and modifying water quality standards. Review the implications of water bodies not meeting the standards and when and how total maximum daily loads (TMDL) of pollutants are set.

Product: Memo/report to committee members

Staff: Kari Guy (786-7437)

Issue: **Hillis Water Rights Decision**

Background: As a result of litigation that is commonly referred to as the "Hillis Decision", the process of using basin assessments to determine whether there is water available for additional water right permits was interrupted. The court found the Department of Ecology had erred by not adopting an administrative rule upon

which to base the basin assessments. The Department of Ecology responded with the adoption of emergency rules.

Tasks: Summarize the Hillis Decisions. Report on the activities by the Department of Ecology to respond to the Hillis Decision.

Product: Memo/report to committee members.

Staff: *Bob Lee (786-7404)*

SENATE COMMERCE AND LABOR
COMMITTEE

1997 INTERIM STUDIES

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REVIEW OF WASHINGTON'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SYSTEM*

PROJECT TEAM:

Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Chris Cordes, House Commerce and Labor Committee
Pam Madson, House Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Employment Security
Business representatives
Labor representatives
National Conference of State Legislatures
National Conference of State Governors

BACKGROUND:

In 1994-95 a Legislative Task Force on Unemployment Insurance (U.I.) was established to review the general operations of the State Employment Security Department. As a result of the Task Force recommendations numerous legislative proposals were enacted. During the 1997 session the Commerce and Labor Committee reviewed SB 6034 that would modify the current tax system with regards to "high" and "low" cost employers. This proposed legislation did not pass the legislature. In response, the House and Senate Commerce and Labor Committees have directed a comprehensive review of the state's Unemployment Insurance system.

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify major shifts in U.I. tax burdens among employer groups
- Determine reasons for shift in tax burdens
- Identify major programmatic costs impacting the U.I. trust fund
- Review the impact of the unemployment insurance system in meeting its goals and objectives in conjunction with the cost effectiveness of the program
- Provide policy options regarding taxation policy and program administration

RESOURCES/PROCESS:

- Computer and Graphics services
- Site visits to Unemployment Insurance Offices

TIMELINE:

- May - June: Develop study plan and assemble materials
- July - September: Present information to committees. Define areas of in-depth review
- October - November: Undertake in-depth review of identified issue areas
- December: Provide committees with policy options

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES:

- September 17, 1997 -- Olympia
- October 9, 1997 -- Olympia
- December 3, 1997 -- Olympia

**Joint with House Commerce and Labor Committee*

PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE STATE'S WORKERS' COMPENSATION SYSTEM*

PROJECT TEAM:

Jack Brummel, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

CONTACTS:

JLARC

Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee

Labor and Industries staff

Association of Washington Business

Washington State Labor Council

House committee staff

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Labor and Industries administers and regulates the state's industrial insurance system, including regulation of employers and groups who are qualified to self-insure their workers' compensation obligations. The department operates the industrial insurance state fund and manages the claims of injured workers whose employers are insured by the state fund. In recent years, over 250,000 workers' compensation claims have been filed per year. Close to \$1 billion in benefits are provided to injured workers each year. A typical claim now costs the system about \$5,000.

Since 1989 overhead costs per claim have risen about 10% per year in Washington while the number of injuries and claims have declined. Washington has one of the highest ratios of state workers administering industrial insurance to covered workers of any state. For the 1997-99 biennium the department has requested an additional 42 claims managers. While the legislature has authorized studies of long-term disability, managed care, and non-payment of premiums in the last few years, there has never been a comprehensive performance audit of the department. SB 6030 authorizes such an audit, to be conducted this year with a preliminary report by December 31 and a final report by August 1998. The bill calls for the audit to be conducted in consultation with the Senate and House Commerce and Labor Committees.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review history and functions of workers' compensation in Washington
- Compile relevant data on caseload, budgets, and staffing
- Review opportunities for system improvement that have been highlighted by other studies (additional issues specifically raised by SB 6030 will be addressed by the consultant hired through contract with JLARC)

RESOURCES/PROCESS: Joint House and Senate committee hearing

TIMELINE: June - December: Compile data for committee review at December hearing

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: December 4, 1997 -- Olympia

** Joint with House Commerce and Labor Committee*

REVIEW OF HORSE RACING SIMULCASTING BILL (ESSB 5762)

PROJECT TEAM:

JLARC staff

Traci Ratzliff, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

Kenny Pittman, House Trade and Economic Development Committee

Maura Sullivan, Senate Ways and Means Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

State Horse Racing Commission

Thoroughbred Horse Breeder's Association

Emerald Downs race track operator

Yakima Meadows race track operator

Playfair race track operator

BACKGROUND:

ESSB 5762 directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) to conduct a study of the impact of the provisions of ESSB 5762. Specifically, this bill directs JLARC to measure the extent to which the simulcasting of in- and out-of-state races and other provisions of ESSB 5762 *directly impacts* the following:

- the purses offered at Emerald Downs, Playfair, and Yakima Meadows;
- attendance at Emerald Downs, Playfair and Yakima Meadows race tracks;
- the breeding of horses in this state;
- the number of horses running at Emerald Downs, Playfair, and Yakima Meadows;
- the capacity of Emerald Downs, Playfair, and Yakima Meadows to remain economically viable; and
- the benefit to small nonprofit race tracks in this state.

JLARC is required to complete this report by June 30, 2000. It is directed to provide its findings including any recommendations to the legislature concerning modifications that could be made to existing state laws to improve the ability of ESSB 5762 in meeting its intended goals, by December 1, 2000.

OBJECTIVES:

- Provide assistance to JLARC staff in developing and implementing the study required by ESSB 5762
- Review the work of the JLARC staff as they collect and analyze data to assure the accurate measurement of the direct impacts of the provisions of the ESSB 5762 on the thoroughbred race tracks in this state
- Review the experiences of other state's that have implemented similar simulcasting provisions to identify successes/difficulties associated with their policies

RESOURCES/PROCESS:

- Field trip to facilities
- Committee Assembly meeting/presentation

TIMELINE: Work on this study will begin immediately and continue throughout the three year study period

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: December 5, 1997 -- Olympia

FUNDING ALTERNATIVES FOR CONTINUATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING TRUST FUND*

PROJECT TEAM:

Jack Brummel and Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Pam Madson, House Commerce and Labor Committee

CONTACTS:

Earl Hale, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
Ellen O'Brien Saunders, Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
Association of Washington Business
Washington State Labor Council
Carver Gayton and Gary Gallwas, Employment Security Department

BACKGROUND:

The Employment and Training Trust Fund was created in 1993 by HB 1988 to provide funding for displaced worker training and to upgrade the capacity of the Employment Security (ES) department. A new tax was imposed on employers to pay for the trust fund, offset by a corresponding reduction in unemployment insurance premiums. Under HB 1988, the new tax will no longer be imposed after June 30, 1997, and the fund will expire in 1998. There has been some debate about whether the fund should continue and where the funds should come from.

Preliminary findings by JLARC on the outcomes from trust fund expenditures indicate that the training components through the Community Colleges have some merit, but that expenditures for ES efforts should cease. Consistent with this, the biennial budget proposal provides for continued funding for another year, but from the general fund, rather than via the tax created in HB 1988. This is seen as a stop-gap measure.

OBJECTIVES/QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS:

- What is the justification for the state's role in funding training for displaced workers?
- What are the objectives of the training funded through the Employment and Training Trust Fund?
- What are the appropriate criteria for evaluating the alternative funding sources for the Employment and Training Trust Fund?
- What are the options?
- How do each of the options measure up against the criteria? What are the consequences, tax incidences, and trade-offs associated with each of the options?
- What, if any, restrictions on the use of the funds would assist in meeting the objectives of the training and optimizing outcomes?

RESOURCES/PROCESS: Committee Assembly hearing/presentation

TIMELINE: June - December: Compile data, construct alternatives and prepare analysis for committee review

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: December 4, 1997 -- Olympia

** Joint with House Commerce and Labor Committee*

CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION AND BONDING REQUIREMENTS

PROJECT TEAM:

Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Paul Bushman, summer intern

OTHER CONTACTS:

National Association of Credit Managers
United Subcontractors Association
Building and Construction Trades Council
Western Building Material Association
Independent Business Association
Associated General Contractors
Building Industry Association
Department of Labor and Industries
Office of the Attorney General

BACKGROUND:

Under state law, general and specialty contractors are required to register with the Department of Labor and Industries. The statute sets out certain requirements, including bonding requirements, that must be met prior to registration. SHB 1903, passed in the 1997 session, is one of a number of bills which have come before the legislature in recent years addressing the obligations of building contractors under the registration statute. Despite this legislation, disagreements still exist regarding the appropriate bonding amount, and the time period during which the required bond can be drawn against. The latter issue is prompted in part by confusion resulting from a 1988 State Court of Appeals decision interpreting the current law, and subsequent legislative responses. These issues were left unaddressed by SHB 1903, with the notion that they would be examined during the interim and possibly be the subject of legislation for the 1998 session.

OBJECTIVES:

- Determine the criteria that should be used to determine the appropriate bonding amount for general and specialty contractors; also, determine the appropriate bonding amount that should be required of contractors prior to registration
- Determine the appropriate length of time that contractor's bonds should be available to be drawn against by eligible parties
- Provide committee with policy options

TIMELINE: To be determined.

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: December 4, 1997 -- Olympia

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION/WORKERS COMPENSATION

PROJECT TEAM:

Jack Brummel, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Michael Arnis, Labor and Industries

Clif Finch, Association of Washington Business

Jeff Johnson, Washington State Labor Council

Vocational Rehabilitation Services subcommittee of Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee

BACKGROUND:

Approximately 10,000 injured workers are actively involved in rehabilitation at any point in time. Over \$45 million is spent annually by the Department of Labor and Industries for vocational rehabilitation services. Only \$5.5 million, or 12 percent, of this is spent on retraining. The Department started a vocational rehabilitation business process redesign two years ago, but no new process has been implemented. They are currently working with a subcommittee of the Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee to develop recommendations for change of the system.

OBJECTIVES:

- Track the progress of the Vocational Rehabilitation subcommittee
- Gather available data on the system; explore how other states integrate rehabilitation and retraining
- Develop options and recommendations for legislative action

RESOURCES/PROCESS: Committee Assembly presentation

TIMELINE:

- Ongoing through the fall for objectives 1 and 2
- By December 1 for objective 3

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: September 17, 1997 -- Everett

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

PROJECT TEAM:

Jack Brummel, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Tim Douglas, Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development

BACKGROUND:

In 1993 the Legislature formed the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development by combining the Department of Community Development and the Department of Trade and Economic Development. This past session there was a House bill that would have dismantled the Agency. The Department is going through a process this summer of evaluating its functions and assessing potential strategies for meeting its goals. Recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature are expected before next session.

OBJECTIVES:

- Track the department's process
- Prepare a memo for the committee that offers a historical perspective on the issues the department is addressing
- Review the department's recommendations and, as needed, critique them for the committee and present alternatives

RESOURCES/PROCESS: Committee Assembly hearing/presentation

TIMELINE:

- Objective 1 will be ongoing until the fall
- Objectives 2 and 3 will be completed before the 1998 session

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: September 19, 1997 -- Olympia

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

PROJECT TEAM:

Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Jack Brummel, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Ellen O'Brien Saunders, Bryan Wilson, and Kera Kester, Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
Dan McConnen, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
Gary Gallwas and Chris Webster, Employment Security Department
Brenda Trolin, National Conference of State Legislatures

BACKGROUND:

A major recommendation of the 1994-95 Legislative Task Force on Unemployment Insurance included the "need for a legislative review to conduct a design/performance evaluation of training programs in Washington". Added emphasis was placed on this recommendation in light of recent federal initiatives to block grant employment and training funds to the states. A major portion of the federal block grant initiative is expected to pass in 1997.

In addition, the Workforce Board is undertaking a comprehensive review and evaluation of the state's employment and training programs, and is expected to report its major findings in the Fall of 1997.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review the board's strategic plan for evaluating the various employment and training programs in Washington
- Brief members on the progress of the evaluation process
- Develop a study report outlining findings and recommendations, if appropriate

RESOURCE/PROCESS:

- Joint House and Senate committee hearing
- Field trip to training centers

TIMELINE:

- June: Review board's evaluation plan
- July - December: Review evaluation process
- December - January: Develop report

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES:

- July 18, 1997 -- Pasco
- September 16, 1997 -- Everett
- November 6, 1997 -- Olympia

HORSE RACING INDUSTRY

PROJECT TEAM:

Traci Ratzliff, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Pam Madson, House Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Bruce Batson, Horse Racing Commission
Ralph Vacca, HBPA
owners/operators of Class 1 racing facilities
owners/operators of nonprofit tracks

BACKGROUND:

The Horse Racing industry provides significant economic benefits to the state. The advent of other gambling/entertainment activities within the state in recent years have impacted the economic viability of the industry from the larger Class 1 facilities to the smaller nonprofit race tracks. The Legislature approved full card simulcasting during the 1996 session which is intended to increase the revenues generated from horse racing at the three major horse tracks in the state. Additional revenues will also flow to the nonprofit tracks as a result of this legislation.

OBJECTIVES:

- Gather information on the challenges/difficulties faced by the major and small, nonprofit tracks in the state
- Track the economic impact of the full card simulcasting legislation on the major race tracks and the nonprofit tracks in the state
- Review/identify potential solutions to short/long term challenges faced by the horse racing industry
- Obtain information from other states on solutions implemented to resolve the economic difficulties experienced by the horse racing industries in these states
- Provide information to committee members via memos/briefings/etc. re: findings

ACTIVITIES:

- Visit large/small tracks and talk with operators, horsemen, others re: challenges faced by the industry
- Gather information/data from Horse Racing Commission regarding operation of live race tracks in the state
- Attend Horse Racing Commission meetings, as necessary, to monitor decisions/actions impacting viability of industry

TIMELINE: Ongoing from June through December

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES:

- July 18, 1997 -- Yakima
- July 21, 1997 -- Elma
- December 5, 1997 -- Olympia

CARD ROOM ENHANCEMENTS

PROJECT TEAM:

Traci Ratzliff, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Pam Madson, House Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Frank Miller, Carrie Tellefson, Ben Bishop and Jon McCoy, Gambling Commission
Vito Chiechi and others, Licensed Beverage Association

BACKGROUND:

The legislature has enacted several proposals in recent years designed to increase the economic viability of the commercial card room industry in this state. These proposals include: increasing the number of tables that can be operated in such establishments from 5 to 15; allowing player supported jackpots; and permitting house banked card games.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review the implementation of recent legislative proposals to assess the economic/social/legal impacts of these initiatives
- Gather and review data from the Gambling Commission to assess success of new activities in stimulating the revenues of commercial card rooms
- Provide update on activities to committee members

ACTIVITIES:

- Attend relevant Gambling Commission meetings which deal with implementation of card room enhancements
- Meet with Gambling Commission to discuss/gather information re: impacts of card room enhancements
- Visit card rooms implementing enhancements to discuss benefits/costs of such initiatives

TIMELINE: June - December: Gather information, meet with industry and Gambling Commission, and attend relevant Gambling Commission/industry meetings

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: December 5, 1997 -- Olympia

LEGALIZED GAMBLING IN WASHINGTON

PROJECT TEAM:

Traci Ratzliff, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee Committee

Paul Bushmann, summer intern

Pam Madson, House Commerce and Labor Committee Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Frank Miller, Carrie Tellefson, Ben Bishop and Jon McCoy, Gambling Commission

Bruce Batson, Horse Racing Commission

Roger Wilson, Lottery Commission

Representatives of Commercial Stimulant and Charitable Gaming industries

Representatives of tribes operating Class II and Class III gaming

BACKGROUND:

The legal gambling industry in this state has gone through tremendous change over the last 60 years. From the 1930's to the early seventies, Horse racing offered virtually the only legal form of in-state gambling. In the 1970's social and charitable gaming were authorized. In the 1980's the state lottery was authorized. In 1988, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act was enacted by Congress which permitted federally recognized tribes to operate, under certain conditions, various forms of gaming. These changes have expanded the legalized forms of gaming available in this state and have caused economic/social impacts for those in the industry (as the market becomes more saturated), as well as the citizens of this state (as a result of increased exposure to gambling activities and the associated transportation/public safety, and development issues).

OBJECTIVES:

- Review history of gambling in this state from 1930's to present
- Gather data regarding the economic changes that have occurred within the industry as more forms of gambling have been legalized
- Identify economic trends within the industry and segments of the industry that have emerged
- Review experiences of other states and relevant research to identify similarities in the history of legalized gambling/gambling activities and the economic/social impacts of such activities
- Provide information (via memos/committee briefings, etc) to committee members, as desired

TIMELINE: June through December

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: December 5, 1997 -- Olympia

STATE MINIMUM WAGE LAW AND THE FEDERAL FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

PROJECT TEAM:

Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Paul Bushman, summer intern

OTHER CONTACTS:

Department of Labor and Industries
U.S. Department of Labor

BACKGROUND:

In addition to setting the wage itself, separate state and federal laws govern the nuances of minimum wage and overtime. Which employees are covered, what can and cannot be included as wages, how wages paid and overtime owed are to be calculated, and the penalties for violations are just some of the details established under these laws. Because these laws are a foundation of employee well-being, however, there is a general hesitancy to examine their efficacy for fear that doing so would lead to the lessening of existing standards. Yet because they are so fundamental, employers can be overwhelmed by the differing details. Bills introduced in recent years also indicate some concern that in these details, the laws lack the flexibility desired by both employers and employees. Yet changes in state law which allow actions not authorized by federal law serve little purpose.

OBJECTIVES:

- Examine what the differences are, in detail, between the state minimum wage and overtime laws and the minimum wage and overtime laws under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, as reflected in the statutes themselves, the rules and regulations which implement them, and the court cases which interpret them
- Find if there are inconsistencies or omissions in the state law, or inconsistencies between the state law and the federal law which should be addressed by legislation
- Determine what changes could be made in state law to provide greater flexibility without diminishing employment standards or running afoul of federal law

DELIVERABLE: Annotated matrix comparing federal and state wage and hour laws, accompanied by a memo discussing possible legislative options

RESOURCES/PROCESS: Committee Assembly hearing/presentation

TIMELINE: To be determined

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: December 5, 1997 -- Olympia

COMMUNITIES OF EXCELLENCE

PROJECT TEAM:

Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

In conjunction with the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Northwest Policy Center.

ORGANIZATIONS/INDIVIDUALS TO BE CONTACTED:

Dan Pilcher, National Conference of State Legislatures

Joe Cortwright, Consultant

Paul Sommers, Northwest Policy Center, University of Washington

Corporation for Enterprise Development

Money Magazine

Grant Thornton Associates

McKinsey Consulting

Stanford Research Institute

BACKGROUND:

During the past several decades, numerous states and regions have diligently sought to improve the standard of living for their citizens. The determined and executed paths that policy makers have chosen have been varied and numerous, ranging from comprehensive strategic plans and the development of in-depth benchmark indicators, to unique programs targeted at export promotion and worker training. However, even with the current array of state strategies to promote economic development, no clear and widely accepted formula exists on the necessary steps to position communities throughout the nation to meet the challenges of global competition and the growing expectations of their citizens.

Historically, the economic and social development strategies of the states and regions have evolved over time, responding to their unique circumstances and varied challenges. In general, across the U.S., states and their communities enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world. However, certain communities appear to have surpassed the above average standard of economic performance and social development and have attained a new standard, one of "excellence".

The questions we intend to explore, and hopefully gain a better understanding of, include: what have been the origins and catalysts for these developments; how has this "excellence" been nurtured and sustained; and what can other states and communities learn from their experience.

STUDY OUTLINE:

- 1. Definitions - What do we mean by "excellence":** In regards to economic and social development, no simple or widely acceptable definition exists. Some constituencies rely on quantitative data such as wages earned, rate of unemployment etc., while other sources attempt to develop a qualitative portrait comprising of income comparisons and environmental indicators. However, numerous entities have developed a collage of report cards on communities, ranging from Money Magazine to the Corporation for Enterprise Development. a review of this already "plowed ground" may prove satisfactory to an inclusive definition of the term "excellence.

- 2. Identification - Where do these communities exist:** In order to gain a through perspective on the range of possible communities, a comprehensive "draft" listing will be developed. This process may include a historic perspective of those communities which fit the determined profile. However, the core of this stage shall concern itself with a world-wide cataloging of potential communities of "excellence".
- 3. Community Profiles - What do these places look like:** A key element in translating "principles" into "practices" is the profiling of those communities who appear to have attained the "prize". Some important questions have to be answered in order to benefit from their experience. These include: what were the origins and catalysts in the development of the community; what are the major characteristics and themes of their success; and how have these communities responded to economic and social change and challenges.
- 4. Analysis - How do these communities function:** An integral part of the review entails a close examination of a very limited number of "model" communities. The difficult part of this process will not only be the analysis but also the distillation and exclusion process. But the key questions on the origin, blooming and fruition of these communities may be explored in detail to ascertain the "bits and pieces" of their story and how their experience could be a model for other communities. The committee may wish to focus their attention on a wide range of communities to gather an understanding of the local, state, national or global character of community under review.
- 5. Findings and Recommendations - What can we learn from these communities:** After all the definitions, identifications, profiling and analysis is done, what can be said about this phenomena of "excellence"? What finding and recommendations can be supported that will assist a wide range of communities throughout the states in their policies programs to assist the economic development and enhance the quality of life for their citizens? The answer to these fundamental questions will be the measure of our review.

TIMELINE: Ongoing activities with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

ALASKA-WASHINGTON TRADE RELATIONSHIP.

PROJECT TEAM:

Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Jack Brummel, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

The Transportation Institute
Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce
Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce
Robert Chase and Glenn Pascal

BACKGROUND:

During the 1997 session the Commerce and Labor Committee received a presentation on a recent study *Alaska's Economic Impact on the Puget Sound Region*, which was commissioned by the Seattle and Tacoma-Pierce County Chambers of Commerce. The report outlined the significant historical and current impact of Alaskan trade on the Puget Sound economy. The study highlighted the integral role that this trade relationship plays in the state's economy, stating "[t]his unique relationship provides a wide range of benefits, to Alaska and to the Puget Sound including where the impact is felt from Bellingham to Tacoma". Recent data indicates that Alaskan trade accounts for over 90,000 jobs and approximately \$3 billion in earnings within the Puget Sound. In addition, Alaska provides 87% of the regions petroleum refining needs.

OBJECTIVES:

- Outline the major economic impacts of Alaskan trade on Washington
- Identify the major industry areas and services driving the trade relationship
- Determine possible policy options to enhance the trade relationship
- Provide committee members with findings and recommendations to promote beneficial trade policies

RESOURCES/PROCESS:

- Field trips to Port facilities
- Committee Assembly meeting/presentation

TIMELINE: 1997-98 time period

FIREWORKS: IMPLEMENTATION OF SB 5970 AND DEPARTMENT WAC PROPOSALS.

PROJECT TEAM:

Patrick Woods, Senate Commerce and Labor Committee
Pam Madson, House Commerce and Labor Committee

OTHER CONTACTS:

Fire Protection Service, Washington State Patrol
Fireworks industry representatives
Local Governments representatives, including fire protection officials

BACKGROUND:

During the 1997 session the Legislature enacted SB 5970 which provided for increased uniformity in the regulatory requirements placed on retail fireworks operations. Portions of the bill concerning the transfer of licenses and local permit fees along with increases in the hours of sale and use of fireworks were vetoed by the governor.

After the legislative session the State Patrol implemented an emergency WAC rule which had a significant impact on the fireworks industry. In addition, the State Fire Protection Service of the Washington State Patrol has indicated that a comprehensive WAC process will be initiated after the 4th of July, which will address numerous unresolved regulatory issues. While state policies and regulations regarding fireworks have undergone some modification in recent years, a general overview of fireworks related issues has not been undertaken by the House and Senate Commerce and Labor Committees.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review the policy directions passed by the Legislature under SB 5970 which was enacted with a partial veto in 1997
- Review the implementation of SB 5970 and its impact on fireworks related issues
- Analyze the provisions of the recent May 16th State Patrol emergency WAC and review its impact on fireworks related issues
- Monitor and report to the committee on the Department's interim permanent WAC process
- Provide committee members with policy options regarding the regulation of fireworks in Washington

RESOURCES/PROCESS: Committee Assembly meeting/presentation

TIMELINE:

- May-June: Review policy directives in SB 5970 and emergency WAC
- July-October: Monitor and report on permanent WAC process
- November- December: Develop legislative policy options and draft legislation, if necessary

WORK SESSION/HEARING DATES: June 3, 1997 -- Olympia

DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITTEE INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS

PROJECT TEAM:

Commerce and Labor Staff

Ways and Means Staff: Maura Sullivan, Cathy Baker, etc.

Senate Graphics staff

Legislative Support Center staff

Executive Branch Agency Personnel, including:

- Employment Security Department
- Labor and Industries
- Public Employment Relations Commission
- Horse Racing Commission

OTHER CONTACTS:

Graeme Sacrison, Employment Security

Suzanne Major, Labor and Industries

Bruce Batson, Horse Racing Commission

Marv Schurke, Public Employees Relations Commission;

TVW Staff

BACKGROUND:

The Commerce and Labor Committee acts upon a wide spectrum of issues that come before the Legislature each year. Many legislative proposals, such as workers compensation and unemployment insurance, tend to pose complex policy and technical questions that have a significant impact on workers and businesses in Washington. Committee members are often required to provide policy direction on these issues within a very limited time frame. In addition, term limits will pose an additional challenge to the committee review process due to the significant increase in new members and the loss of senior legislators with long-term knowledge of issue areas.

A major challenge facing staff is not only to understand thoroughly the numerous and complex issues coming before the committee for review and action, but also to make these issues understandable to new members and other participants in the legislative process. One avenue of action which may greatly improve the transfer of information between members and staff is the development of interesting and knowledgeable committee presentations and resource materials. This process has been recently aided by the effective use of technology including Power Point software, video clips and high resolution projectors. In addition, computer disks and CD-ROMs are conducive to individual learning styles and can be reviewed at the discretion of the user.

OBJECTIVES:

- In consultation with committee members, identify major issue areas that require or would be conducive to informational briefings (i.e. workers compensation, collective bargaining, unemployment insurance, horse racing etc.)
- Develop a consistent and interesting format for presentations in consultation with members, Senate Graphics, and LSC
- Develop a comprehensive committee presentations on each of the identified issue areas
- Review process and final product with members and staff team; make modifications as necessary to improve presentations

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- Graphics staff support
- LSC staff and computer support
- Limited in-state travel to observe state of the art facilities and practices (i.e. Microsoft, Washington Software Association, and King Co. Council chambers).

TIME LINE:

- June: Organizational meeting, form team, identify issue areas, and contact agency staff
- July - August: Develop standard conventions for presentations and assemble informational material, development stage for briefing materials
- September - October: Trial presentations before committee
- December: Review of process and modifications prior to session

SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE
Committee Hearing Schedule - Interim 1997

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE OF MEETING
7/17/97 - 7/18/97	TBA	Yakima/Pasco?	Joint House and Senate Committees	(1) Long-term disability pilot project; (2) Co-location site and one-stop career center, (3) Workforce development system programs review; and (4) Yakima horse racing track.	Site visit Work Session
7/21/97	9:30 am	Elma/ Grays Harbor	Senate Commerce & Labor Committee	Horse Racing	Site visit
9/16/97	TBA	Everett	Joint House and Senate Committees	(1) Long-term disability pilot project; (2) Workforce training classes; (3) Co-location site and one-stop career center.	Site visit
9/17/97	TBA	Olympia	Joint House and Senate Committees	Unemployment Insurance review	Work session
9/19/97	TBA	Olympia	Senate Commerce & Labor Committee	Contractor Registration Review of CTED	Public Hearing
10/8/97	TBA	Olympia	Joint House and Senate Committees	Workforce Development system programs review.	Work Session
10/9/97	TBA	Olympia	Joint House and Senate Committees	Unemployment insurance review.	Work Session
11/6/97	TBA	Olympia	Joint House and Senate Committees.	Workforce development system programs review	Work Session
12/3/97	TBA	Olympia	Joint House and Senate Committees	Unemployment insurance review	Work session
12/4/97	TBA	Olympia	Senate Commerce & Labor Committee	(1) Review of the State Worker Compensation System Performance Audit. (2) Employment & Training Trust Fund	Work session
12/5/97	TBA	Olympia	Senate Commerce & Labor Committee	(1) Review of Gambling related studies (2) Wage and Hour Regulations	Work session

Background: In 1993, the Legislature created the Joint Select Committee on Education Restructuring (ESHB 1209, Chapter 336, sec. 1001, Laws of 1993). The primary purpose of the Committee is to "*monitor, review and annually report to the Legislature on the implementation of education restructuring at the state and local level.*"

Project: Annual report to the Legislature by the Joint Select Committee on Education Restructuring (JSCER) on the implementation of education restructuring in Washington, due each September 1. The following are the statutorily required components of the annual report.

- The progress of the Commission on Student Learning (CSL) in the completion of its tasks and other statutory assignments;
- The success of the Center for the Improvement of Student Learning;
- The number of school districts seeking waivers from Basic Education Act requirements under current law or any subsequent legislation;
- The success of alternative programs districts pursue;
- The progress and success of the CSL, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board of Education, Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges in aligning college and university entrance requirements with the state's essential academic learning requirements, the certificate of mastery or other legislative directives to restructure the K-12 education system;
- The JSCER must seek advice from educators, business and labor leaders, parents, and others during its deliberations.

Background: In 1995, the Legislature directed the JSCER to conduct a study of waivers of state laws or rules necessary for school districts to implement education restructuring (Ch. 208, sec. 1, Laws of 1995). The report is due to the Legislature by December 1, 1997.

Project: Report to the Legislature by the JSCER on the use of waivers of state requirements. The statutorily required components of the report are as follows:

- Whether the waivers currently sought by school districts are used to implement specific essential academic learning requirements and student learning goals developed under education reform.
- The use of the waivers provided by Chapter 525, Laws of 1987 by the schools for the twenty-first century program; and

- The use of waivers provided under other statutes.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
INTERIM STUDIES--1997

786-7405

Government Operations Committee Interim 1997

PER DIEM The commissioners of various special purpose districts receive a per diem compensation. The rate and the total amount allowed per calendar year are established by statute. Staff will conduct a statute search to identify all per diems (or equivalents) so that committee members can determine if an increase in the rates and the total amounts of per diem is warranted. Staff will also analyze the consequences of allowing special purpose districts to establish their own compensation levels. Commissioners of local units of government which are not allowed to receive a per diem will also be identified. As of 7-10 staff has completed the statute search.

WHISTLEBLOWER RETALIATION Any person who is a whistleblower and who as a result of being a whistleblower has been subjected to workplace reprisal or retaliatory action has remedies provided under the state Human Rights Commission. Members of the committee have received numerous complaints from whistleblowers who feel they have been retaliated against, but cannot get their complaints heard for at least a year from the time they notify the Commission. Staff will work with the Office of State Auditor, which administers the state Whistleblower Act, and the Human Rights Commission to determine the extent of the problem. Staff will also interview whistleblowers who feel that the "system" does not work to protect whistleblowers from retaliation. The interviews will be time-consuming. As of 7-10 staff has met with a representative of the Office of State Auditor to begin refining our methodology.

RESTRICTIONS ON MAILINGS General restrictions exist prohibiting the use of public facilities to promote a political campaign. Express restrictions exist on mailings that a legislator may make with public funds during the 12-month period preceding the last day for certifying election results for the legislator's election to office. During this period, a legislator may mail one identical newsletter to constituents no later than 30 days after the start of a regular legislative session and one identical newsletter to constituents no later than 60 days after the end of a regular session. Staff will investigate the possibility of loosening these restrictions and then applying the same restrictions to other state-elected officials.

FLOOR AMENDMENTS Examination of the consequences of the Oregon system which does not allow for floor amendments without the unanimous consent of the body. It is impossible to appreciate how this works without talking to leadership members and staff of the Oregon Legislature. Senator McCaslin hopes to invite some of them up here for a roundtable discussion so that we can begin to appreciate the dynamics of this process. Direction as to how to proceed will be solicited from the Office of the Secretary of the Senate.

GROUP HOME ZONING Some cities have raised concerns about their inability to properly

zone group homes in the wake of a U.S. Supreme Court case (dealing with the City of Edmond) and a recent federal court decision (dealing with the City of Bellevue). Congress is considering a bill which may clarify the situation. Among other things, cities feel that they cannot ensure that safety requirements in group homes are being complied with. Scott Snyder, Edmond City Attorney, who argued its case before the U.S. Supreme Court, has offered his assistance. This topic will be on the agenda for the Committee's September meeting.

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS Treasurer---Larger fire protection districts would like the ability hire their own financial officer to pay claims or other obligations of the district by check. This duty is currently performed by the county treasurer.

Service Charge--- Fire protection districts are allowed to levy up to \$1.50/\$1000.00 of assessed valuation (given the vagaries of prorationing, they are essentially guaranteed a levy of \$0.75). These 3 \$0.50 levies are all subject to the 106 percent limitation. A fire protection district may levy a benefit service charge in lieu of the third \$0.50 levy. This charge can be levied for a period not exceeding 6 years with a supermajority vote of the people. The charge may not exceed an amount equal to 60 percent of the operating budget for the year charge is to be collected. Some fire districts in which the benefit charge is in effect would like the ability to make the charge permanent. If such a permanent charge is approved by the voters the district may not impose any special or property tax levies during the period in which the permanent fire protection district charge is in effect.

REGULATORY REFORM Staff would like to pick out a few agencies and work with them in discovering any problems that may exist in implementing various facets of the regulatory reform bills passed during the last 2 sessions. In many instances, it is difficult for an agency to articulate or the legislature to appreciate administrative problems which may arise that present substantial difficulties in complying with the legislation. Staff is working with a group of agency and business representatives whose goal is to identify problems and develop informal solutions.

INCAPACITATION OF INCUMBENT It appears that there is no constitutional or statutory provisions dealing with state elected officials when they become incapacitated or disabled. There are provisions for elected officials who are called up for military service (someone is appointed to their position while they are away). The Chair of the Committee will request an opinion from the Office or Attorney General as to what is the state of the law at this time. Staff will then draft legislation, perhaps encompassing some of the procedures in the U.S. Constitution relating to the incapacitation of the President.

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT Staff will review a consultant's report from 1989 to the Centennial Commission on Washington's heritage programs to determine if any of the recommendations on efficiency, accountability, and delivery of services warrant legislation.

**Washington State Senate
Health and Long-Term Care Committee**

**Interim Study Activities
1997**



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Washington State Senate

Health and Long-Term Care Committee

Senator Alex Deccio
Chair

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee Members
From: Senator Alex Deccio, Chairman
Re: Interim Study Activities

Thank you for your participation in our Committee work session on interim projects. The discussion helped to focus on several priority activities. This memo presents them as our interim study plan.

Interim Priorities

First, we heard of the bipartisan leadership's interest in identifying a limited number of high priority topics which the Senate might pursue as "original research" projects. The emphasis would be on projects where there is a lot of legislative interest, where new information needs to be developed, and where legislative action may be needed either to improve the efficiency or effectiveness of an existing program, or to set a new policy direction.

The Committee agreed on at least two topics in this area. They are Long Term Care and Welfare Reform. Based on our meeting and on discussions with some of you individually, staff has developed Preliminary Study Objectives for these two studies. They are Attachments I and II. Pending the necessary approvals, staff will be developing more detailed study plans, including staffing arrangements, suggested public hearings and other activities.

Next, we identified two topics where Committee Member interest is high, and where a significant level of staff and Committee Member time may be needed, but where the goal would be a broader common understanding of existing information, issues or directions. These topics are Developmental Disabilities and Managed Care Regulation. Summaries of anticipated interim activity on these topics are contained in Attachments III and IV.

Third, several of you expressed interest in seeing staff develop information Guides and other materials which might help you, your staff or your constituents understand existing state statutes, programs or policy issues. A proposed list of such Guides is Attachment V.

Other Assignments

In addition to these projects, Committee staff will continue to monitor the operations of state government in health, long term care and welfare, and will continue to respond to your requests for assistance with research, bill drafting and policy analysis. A listing these projects we are aware of at this time is contained in Attachment VI for your information. As always, you may add to this list by simply requesting assistance from me or any of the committee staff.

ATTACHMENT I

LONG TERM CARE STUDY

Scope

This study will encompass state and federally funded activities to provide services and support for those living with chronic illnesses, including people who are aged, developmentally disabled, mentally ill, or who have substance abuse problems. Emphasis will be placed on home and community services and supports, including in-home services, home health, hospice, ambulatory services and supports, and care in residential settings.

Objectives

The study will

- Produce summary charts and other comparative descriptions of current long term care (LTC) facilities, services and supports, including legal and regulatory authorities, eligibility, intake processes, occupancy limits, typical clientele, care or treatment goals, service standards, staffing standards, facility standards, discharge processes, quality assurance requirements, payment rates, and oversight agencies and mechanisms.
- Determine the extent to which current aggregate LTC service system capacity meets the health and safety needs of the state's LTC population.
- Determine the extent to which current LTC residential and service placements are appropriate for the identified health and safety needs of the residents in those settings.
- Assess the adequacy of the discharge and referral process at promoting health and safety.
- Determine the extent to which training and supervision of direct care staff are adequate to ensure health, safety and appropriate care of LTC residents.
- Identify opportunities to simplify and consolidate rules among categories of care.
- Determine the adequacy and equity of payment rates to cover health, safety and other care needs across LTC settings.
- Identify and assess the costs and benefits of alternative ways to (1) establish and update nursing home payment rates, (2) provide fair and timely mechanisms to reconcile payments with actual costs, and (3) review industry appeals of state rate making decisions.

ATTACHMENT II

WELFARE REFORM STUDY

Background and Scope

The New Welfare Policy (both our state's and the federal law) includes a clear focus on work and temporary financial assistance rather than eligibility for entitlement to cash transfer payments. But many aspects of the new policy are not well understood by the state and private organizations that must implement them. Others are experimental and may have unanticipated consequences. The effect of time limits, work activities and other requirements on the welfare caseload, and the consequences for those who do not become self-sufficient are matters of significant interest to policy makers.

In addition, implementation monitoring will be especially important, as the agencies charged with reform interpret the Act.

Objectives

- Consult with JLARC and the Washington Institute for Public Policy on the development and performance of the Outcome Measures Study, the Child Care Availability and Affordability Study, the WorkFirst Study and other evaluations required under the Act
- Report on other states' welfare reform efforts, including their development of efficient and effective child care subsidy arrangements, welfare to work activities, contract services arrangements and treatment of legal immigrants.
- Summarize existing studies to identify the characteristics of welfare recipients that seem most to affect self-sufficiency and employability, such as learning disability, IQ, and domestic violence victimization.
- Determine the cost-benefit and net revenue effects of implementation of license suspension for noncompliance with child support.
- Provide staff contact and participation in a national study on "The New Federalism," by the Urban Institute. (Washington State is one of 12 states chosen to participate in this 5-year project, which includes an intensive evaluation of the effects of welfare reform.)
- Report on the effects of the naturalization facilitation outreach required under the new Act and report on methods used in Washington and other states, such as California, in expediting citizenship for legal immigrants.
- Report on efforts under the Act to decrease the rate of illegitimacy and abortion; to staff the Joint Task Force on Abstinence Education Oversight, and to implement OFM's new Interagency Task Force on Unintended Pregnancy.

ATTACHMENT III

CONSENSUS ON CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Background and Scope

The long standing philosophical differences among advocates for people with developmental disabilities have resulted in significant deterioration in public support for these programs. While the state department of social and health services, the legislature and many professional groups have a broad base of information about current or possible program options, their costs and effectiveness, there is little agreement among advocates, program operators and policy makers about what directions to pursue.

SB 6019 (Deccio) which did not pass in the 1997 legislative session, was an effort to stabilize institutional and community care for people with developmental disabilities until consensus could be reached on next steps toward service improvement. This committee interim activity would involve monitoring and reporting on a broad mediation to be convened by the department of social and health services at Senator Deccio's request.

Objectives

The mediation will seek consensus on

- a clear description of the needs of all people with developmental disabilities (using available information to the maximum extent feasible),
- a definition of the proper role of all supports and facilities dedicated to the care of people with developmental disabilities,
- next steps to promote the personal safety, financial stability and overall health and well being of people with developmental disabilities, and
- specific roles for existing state residential habilitation centers and on the use of any of their facilities that may no longer be needed.

The department anticipates its work will be complete no later than December 1, 1997. Senate staff will observe the work group's meetings, periodically brief the Chairman and other interested committee members, and summarize the results of the mediation process at a committee hearing on the subject in December 1997. To the extent the Chairman or committee members request legislation to codify any of the agreements reached in the mediation, such legislation would be prepared.

ATTACHMENT IV

REVIEW OF MANAGED CARE REGULATION

Background and Scope

Managed care is now the dominate arrangement under which Washingtonians receive medical services, with no less than 3 million of our residents in some form of managed care plan. Each of the past three legislative sessions have seen passage of new managed care regulatory policies ranging from expanded whistle blower protections (HB 1046 — Rep. Dyer in 1995) to new disclosure requirements (SB 6392 — Senator Wood in 1996), and particular service standards (SB 5178 — Senator Wood in 1997 and SB 6120 — Senator Quigley in 1996) to the privatization of standard setting for grievance procedures and utilization review (HB 2018 — Rep. Dyer in 1997).

But demands for additional regulation continue. More than 20 states proposed additional managed care regulations within the past year, at least one state (New York) passed a comprehensive bill, and no less than three comprehensive proposals are pending in Congress. Several proposals made to the Washington state Senate during the 1997 legislative session will be back in 1998.

Objectives

The study will:

- Summarize existing managed care disclosure requirements, and analyze options for consolidating these requirements into a more focused set of requirements to promote consumer understanding.
- Identify legal or constitutional problems which might attend the delegation of state managed care regulation to private entities through the process known as "deeming", and analyze options for solving them.
- Identify opportunities, options, benefits and costs of consolidating managed care regulatory requirements enforced by the insurance commissioner with managed care purchasing requirements within the medicaid, BHP and public employee purchasing programs.
- Determine the extent to which existing managed care requirements address quality assurance, and analyze options for promoting the effectiveness of such regulations.

ATTACHMENT V

Legislator's Guides to Selected Policy Topics

The goal of this activity is to produce brief, readable guides to selected health or welfare policy programs or topics. These Guides are intended as tools for Senate members, their staffs or the public. Several identified thus far are:

- **Health Insurance Primer**, including information on medicaid, medicare, basic health plan, insurance regulation, ERISA, insurance markets, mandated benefits etc.
- **Untangling State Regulation of the Health Professions**, including information on all regulated professions, their scopes of practice, number of license holders, training, education and disciplinary requirements, etc.
- **Overview of State Residency Requirements**, including constitutional issues, requirements for federal program participation, comparisons with higher education residency requirements, etc.
- **Due Process and Health Law**, including basic elements of due process, constitutional and legal principles which apply to health care decision making, informed consent, standards for involuntary treatment, etc.
- **Confidentiality and Health Records**, including the application of the Public Records Act, federal requirements, STD information, etc.

ATTACHMENT VI

Other Assignments

1. Identify the practical and regulatory barriers to implementing nurse delegation.
2. Monitor federal efforts to regulate telemedicine.
3. Participate in joint study to determine the adequacy of current trauma care funding for uncompensated care.
4. Monitor efforts to assure adequate health professional discipline in our state's Resident Protection Program.
5. Monitor Department of Health's study of the state's hospital data system.
6. Follow up on legislative efforts to expand dental hygienist's professional scope of practice to permit independent practice in schools.
7. Monitor and be prepared to respond as necessary to U.S. Supreme Court decision on physician assisted suicide. Identify possible legislative action to improve end of life care.
8. Re-examine the extension of health benefits to retired public employees as outlined in SB 5550.
9. Monitor and assist as needed in the sunrise review requested of the Department of Health by Senator Deccio regarding cranial hair prostheses for alopecia areata; osteoporosis services; medical rehabilitation services; medical rehabilitation services and chiropractic services as essential health services of the UBP and the BHP, and serious mental illness.
10. Re-examine current on efforts to redraft legislation eliminating Certificate of Need and developing a regulatory program for ambulatory surgical centers.
11. Participate in a joint study with the House Health Care Committee on the "Wickline Clause" issue per ESHB 2018.

**1997 INTERIM PROJECTS
FOR
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Members

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Senator Shirley Winsley, Vice Chair

Senator Albert Bauer

Senator Patricia Hale

Senator Jeanne Kohl, Ranking Minority

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COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

SENATOR JEANNETTE WOOD, CHAIR

1997 INTERIM

ISSUE TUITION POLICY

BACKGROUND: Until 1995, the Legislature had for many years established in statute that tuition would be a percentage of the instructional costs at public colleges and universities. The 1995 Legislature removed the direct link to cost of instruction and set forth dollar amounts for tuition at the public higher education institutions. A specific amount is set for residents and nonresidents enrolled as undergraduates, graduates, or professional students. The Legislature intended that the setting forth of dollar amounts would be a "transition measure until final action is taken in 1997." The House and the Senate have not been able to reach agreement on a tuition policy, therefore, SSB 6062 provides \$100,000 for a study of financial aid and tuition by the legislative fiscal committees. (The fiscal committees will gather data that the policy committees will then use as a platform for making policy decisions.)

OBJECTIVES

1. Examine the relationships among the residency definitions, the waiver programs, the reciprocity agreements, and tuition rates for distance learning programs.
2. Review higher education funding policy to determine the role of the general fund in relation to the role of tuition. What is the share of responsibility to be carried by the state; what share should students and families provide through tuition?
3. Provide comparative data from other states on methods of establishing tuition rates and the relationship of tuition to state funding.
4. Examine the issue of "time-to-degree" and the possible effects of an excess-credit surcharge.

ISSUE FINANCIAL AID

BACKGROUND: Needy state residents attending accredited in-state public and private institutions of higher education are eligible to receive assistance from several state-funded student aid programs including the State Need Grant program, the State Work Study program, and the Educational Opportunity Grant program. Institutional aid administrators provide students with an aid package which may include assistance from a combination of state, federal, and institutional aid programs. In order to minimize administrative effort and expense, regulations for state and federal programs are generally as compatible as laws permit. During the 1996 interim, a task force of the Higher Education Coordinating Board conducted a study of financial aid and made several recommendations adopted by the Board. A few recommendations required additional analysis so the task force will continue its study. In addition, the 1997 budget provides \$100,000 for a study of tuition and financial aid by the legislative fiscal committees. (The data provided through the HECB task force and the fiscal committees will be the platform for the policy decisions of the policy committees.

OBJECTIVES

1. Determine the advisability of a tuition based financial aid program.
2. Investigate the "coordination of benefits" issue as it relates to the award of financial aid — what other resources are available to the financial aid recipients? Are students independent or dependent? Are students traditional students? Or non-traditional, working adults?
3. Gather information on current usage and distribution of financial aid.
4. Make comparisons of alternative methods of financial aid distribution and their impacts on the sectors of higher education and the students served within each sector.

ISSUE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

BACKGROUND: Under Washington law, one of the duties of the Higher Education Coordinating Board is to make recommendations to increase the participation of minority students in Washington higher education institutions. Each institution has an individual approach for enhancing the ethnic diversity of its campus and each is provided funds solely to recruit and retain minority students and faculty. During the 1997 legislative session, the higher education committee examined two bills which would have provided financial assistance based on race. Recent federal court decisions and a lawsuit against the University of Washington School of Law raise several issues regarding the constitutionality of race-based admissions policies and financial aid programs in higher education.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Examine current higher education admissions policies and financial aid programs
2. Research and analyze affirmative action law, especially in the area of higher education.
3. Learn more information about the pending University of Washington case and determine potential implications for higher education in Washington.
4. Prepare comprehensive summary of the information to make legislators aware of potential implications of laws providing benefits based on race or gender.
5. Prepare a comprehensive summary of the effects of Title IX on both the common schools and the higher education institutions.

ISSUE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER INITIATIVES

BACKGROUND: Partnerships between universities and private industry are becoming a significant issue in higher education. Faculty at research institutions develop new technology and then patent the invention. The institutions market the technology developed in university laboratories to private companies. The companies use that technology to create a marketable product. Both the faculty and the university receive profits from the patented technology. Washington has three facilities that focus on the transfer of technology from campuses to businesses.

The Washington Technology Center at the University of Washington and the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute, and the Office of Intellectual Property Administration at Washington State University have brought many companies to Washington. Senate Bill 5443, in the 1997 session, asked for funding for Advanced Technology Research Initiatives at the University of Washington and Washington State University. The intent of the legislation was to establish research groups lead by full professors who have worked on internationally recognized technology research who could recruit other internationally recognized faculty. Although the legislation did not pass, it raises issues regarding technology transfer and the current facilities in Washington State.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Examine the WTC and SIRTI. What is their history? What is their role in Washington? Are these facilities sufficient for addressing the growing field of technology transfer?
2. Learn more about advanced technology research initiatives? Look at activities in other states such as the Research triangle in North Carolina.
3. Examine the relationships with private industry. This could be a collaborative effort with the Commerce and Labor Committee.

ISSUE DISTANCE LEARNING/TELECOMMUNICATIONS

BACKGROUND: The state of Washington affirmed its efforts toward statewide technology planning in 1987 by requiring the Superintendent of Public instruction and the Higher Education Coordinating Board to jointly develop and recommend an educational telecommunications network plan to provide coordination between the common schools and higher education institutions. In the same year, the Department of Community Development and the Department of Information Services were charged with the responsibility of conducting a study for a video telecommunications plan for state government.

As one of its duties, the Information Services Board is "to assure the cost-effective development and incremental implementation of a state-wide video telecommunications system...." In addition, the 1995-97 budget states that "Prior to any such expenditure by a public institution of postsecondary education, a telecommunications expenditure plan shall be approved by the higher education coordinating board. The higher education coordinating board shall coordinate the use of video telecommunications for instruction and instructional support in postsecondary education, including the review and approval of instructional telecommunications course offerings."

The 1996 Legislature created the K-20 Telecommunications Oversight and Policy Committee (TOPC) to approve a network design and implementation plan for a common telecommunications backbone. Access to educational opportunities for Washington citizens is enhanced by maximum use of a common telecommunications backbone network in building and expanding education technology systems. Coordinated policy and planning will ensure program quality, interoperability, and efficient service delivery.

The TOPC will continue its oversight role because the 1997 Legislature chose to disagree on a more permanent governance plan for the network. SB 6004 creates the education technology revolving fund in the custody of the State Treasurer.

OBJECTIVES

1. TOPC has requested an AGO regarding the sharing of the network with the private education institutions. How the network proceeds is dependent on the outcome.
2. Develop the sub-committee structure that is necessary for the policy decisions that must be made to ensure a collaborative and coordinated network.
3. How will the development of the Western Governor's University affect the ongoing development of the K-20 network?

OTHER CROSS COMMITTEE ISSUES

- DAYCARE (Higher Education, Health and Long-Term Care, Human Services and Corrections, Ways and Means)
- COMPETENCY BASED ADMISSIONS (Higher Education, Education)
- CERTIFICATE OF MASTERY (Education, Higher Education)
- EDUCATOR PREPARATION (Education, Higher Education)
- WORKFORCE TRAINING (Higher Education, Commerce and Labor, Welfare Reform)
- TRUSTEE AND REGENT QUALIFICATIONS (Collaboration with the governor's office and other agencies is required so this project is definitely only a possibility.)

SUGGESTED LIST OF INTERIM MONITORING PROJECTS MEETINGS/CAMPUS VISITS

1. Higher Education Coordinating Board
2. State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
3. Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
4. Joint Advisory Group on High School - Postsecondary Options
5. Admissions Standards Action Committee
6. Telecommunications Oversight and Policy Committee
7. Campus visits as requested by the committee members

Senate Human Services & Corrections Committee

1997 Interim Projects

MAJOR PROJECTS

- Drug Affected Infants
- Older Children in Foster Care
- Improvements in Child Care
- Local Alternatives to Incarceration Programs
- Local Incarceration Cost Recovery Programs
- "Determinate Plus" Sentencing for Sex Offenders

MINOR PROJECTS

- Psychotropic Drug Use for Foster Children
- Federal Adoption Laws
- Safety of Correctional Officers
- Mentally Ill Offenders

GUIDES

- Dependency Laws
- CHINS and ARY Petitions
- Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Treatment
- Sex Offender Registration & Public Notification Requirements
- Community Supervision
- Correctional Industries
- Reference to Selected Offenses

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Project descriptions prepared by the Human Services & Corrections Committee:
Corrections - Andrea Mcnamara, Staff Counsel (360-786-7483)
Human Services - Richard Rodger, Senior Counsel (360-786-7461)

MAJOR PROJECTS

DRUG AFFECTED INFANTS

BACKGROUND:

Research suggests that prenatal drug exposure places a child at high risk of having medical, psychological and social problems after birth. Drug-affected infants are often born prematurely, have low birth weights and other significant medical problems. The long-term effects of drug exposure may lead to learning disabilities, hyperactivity, articulation and socialization problems, including anti-social behavior. Researchers agree that early interventions can help reduce the long-term adverse impacts on children who are prenatally exposed to drugs.

A major public policy goal is the prevention of drug use by women of child-bearing age who have a history of giving birth to drug-affected infants or the prevention of these women becoming pregnant while they continue to use drugs. If these women continue to give birth to drug affected infants the state has the option of using the dependency statutes to ensure those children are given safe and stable homes in which to be raised.

The dependency statutes provide a list of "aggravated circumstances" for the court to consider in reaching its decision to order an expedited termination of parental rights. This process is used when there is clear evidence that the child or children should not be returned to the parent in the foreseeable future. The aggravated circumstances includes a list of acts which, if committed by the parent, would justify the expedited termination. Those acts include criminal offenses or the failure to complete alcohol or substance treatment when such failure has already led to the termination of parental rights for another child.

OBJECTIVES:

Preparation of a report presenting the following:

1. An analysis of the constitutional issues surrounding the use of involuntary medical treatments to protect children from prenatal drug exposure.
2. Evaluate and research the alternatives for the committee to consider regarding the expansion or revision of the expedited termination process.
3. Draft legislation to meet the requests of the committee member with the following goals:
 - (A) Prevention of drug use by women of child-bearing age who have a history of giving birth to drug-affected infants or the prevention of these women becoming pregnant while they continue to use drugs; and

(B) Expand or make necessary improvements to the list of acts and offenses justifying expedited termination of parental rights and determine which children should be included within the scope of each act or offense.

TIMELINES:

Meetings with relevant interest groups to be conducted during June. An interim update will be provided to committee members in September. The update will outline the initial findings & recommend alternatives for consideration by the members. Legislation will be drafted in October to meet the members' requests.

OLDER CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

BACKGROUND:

Data indicates that older children entering foster care are proportionately less likely to obtain a permanent residential placement. The permanent placement may include reunification with their parent(s), adoption, long-term placement with a relative, creation of a guardianship, or placement in an independent living program.

While there is no adequate data on what the long-term effect is of the lack of an adequate placement, researchers indicate children who "age-out" of the foster care system may be at higher risk of failure to achieve long-term emotional, economic, and educational stability. The same concern exists for homeless youth and youth who are released from the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA) and lack a stable home environment.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify sources of information and expertise regarding older children in foster care, JRA, and homeless youth.
2. Meet with the interest groups who provide services and research on this population of youth.
3. Identify available options and mandates appropriate to increasing successful permanent placements.
4. Prepare a report identifying timelines, benefits, and costs of the alternatives.
5. Draft legislation to meet the requests of the committee member with the following goals: Creation of adequate transition services and stable homes or living environments for older children (age 13 to 17) who: (1) are "aging-out" of the foster care system without a permanent placement; (2) left home without entry into the foster care system; or (3) are released from JRA without an adequate placement alternative.

TIMELINES:

Meetings with relevant interest groups to be conducted in June and August. An interim update will be provided to committee members by October 1997. The update will outline the initial findings & suggest alternatives for the members to consider. Legislation will be drafted in November and December to meet the members requests.

IMPROVEMENTS IN CHILD CARE (Intern Project)

BACKGROUND:

The ability to achieve economic success for many working families and the success of welfare reform are related to the availability of affordable child care. Barriers to improving child care include employer costs, low wages of child care workers, inadequate training, and the inability of parents to obtain adequate information on child care providers.

Various legislative proposals have attempted to address these various concerns individually, but a more comprehensive analysis of the issues relating to child care is necessary.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Review legislative proposals (SB 5344, SSB 5708, SSB 5158, 2SSB 5660, and EHB 3901) and regulatory guidelines to determine practical recommendations for the committee's consideration.
2. Prepare a report identifying possible changes to the Washington Administrative Code provisions to meet the identified goals and necessary legislative changes.
3. Identify the costs of the alternatives.
4. Draft legislation as directed.

TIMELINES:

Meetings with relevant interest groups to be conducted in June and July. An interim update will be provided to committee members in August 1997. The update will outline the initial findings & suggest alternatives for the members to consider.

LOCAL ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION PROGRAMS

BACKGROUND:

State law authorizes local jurisdictions to use a number of "alternatives to incarceration" as sanctions for criminal offenses with sentences of one year or less. Currently, total confinement time may be converted--at a prescribed conversion rate--into partial confinement (including home detention) or community service (for non-violent offenders only). Electronic monitoring and day reporting are also used in some jurisdictions.

It is generally accepted that, when used appropriately, alternatives to total confinement can be a highly cost-effective way to relieve the pressures of overpopulation in local jails without jeopardizing public safety. Some further believe that alternatives are a more effective sanction than incarceration for affecting behavior change and reducing recidivism.

Despite these beliefs, many local jurisdictions in Washington have not implemented alternatives to incarceration programs. There is interest in determining whether changes in state policy are needed or feasible to support expansion of alternatives to incarceration programs.

OBJECTIVES:

Preparation of a report containing the following elements:

1. A recent history of alternatives to incarceration programs in Washington, including the legislature's role in the development of these programs and the factors currently driving the interest in expansion of alternatives;
2. A description of each type of alternative currently being used in Washington, including where they are being used and how many offenders are participating. To the extent ascertainable, this description will also include public perceptions of the alternatives, their safety records, impacts on recidivism, and cost-effectiveness;
3. The summary of a literature review to compare Washington's alternatives to those of other states in terms of types of alternatives, eligibility, public safety/recidivism, public perception, and cost-effectiveness;
4. Identification of statutory and financial barriers to more successful implementation of local alternatives to incarceration programs;
5. Identification of legislative options to facilitate an increase in the use of local alternatives to incarceration programs, and an assessment of their feasibility.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

Much of the research for this project can be conducted from Olympia, but the project will also require site visits to local jurisdictions with alternatives to incarceration programs (initially Whatcom, Snohomish, and King). Two to five stakeholder focus group meetings will be necessary at various locations around the state.

TIMELINES:

Work will begin in June, 1997. Stakeholder focus group meetings will be set up in August and conducted during September and October. The final report will be completed by December Committee Assembly.

LOCAL INCARCERATION COST RECOVERY PROGRAMS

BACKGROUND:

Current law authorizes counties and municipalities to recover costs of incarceration from offenders under specified circumstances. The terms and conditions of the incarceration cost recovery program are guided--generally--by state law, but each local jurisdiction is responsible for implementing its own program. State law authorizes collection of up to \$50 per day from inmates with the means to pay. These fees are secondary to collection of other legal financial obligations such as victim restitution and fines. The fees are remitted to the local jurisdiction and must be used by the city or county for criminal justice purposes.

The number of local jurisdictions operating incarceration cost recovery programs is unknown, and it is unclear what portion of the statewide total local incarceration costs are reimbursed by offenders who serve time in city and county jails.

Concerns have been raised by local jail administrators and county officials about inadequacies in the state enabling statutes. Additionally, the perception exists that other barriers are preventing successful implementation of local cost recovery programs.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Conduct a survey of local jurisdictions throughout the state to determine how many programs are currently operating and how much money is being collected.
2. Prepare a report, utilizing the survey results and a literature review, that includes the following components:
 - A description and evaluation of the elements of existing programs; including administration, collection procedures and rates, costs of operating the program, and uses of the funds collected;
 - Identification of statutory and financial barriers to more successful implementation of local cost recovery programs; and
 - Identification of legislative options to facilitate an increase in the use of local cost recovery programs.

TIMELINES:

Work will begin in May, 1997. The survey instrument will be designed and appropriate contact people will be established within each jurisdiction to be surveyed. Surveys will be mailed by June 1, with a requested return date of June 30. Reminder notices and/or telephone calls will be required throughout June to encourage the most complete participation possible.

Follow-up investigations with survey participants will occur in July, through both telephone and in-person discussions. Survey results will be written up by the September Committee Assembly for presentation to the Human Services & Corrections Committee. Preparation of the final report will be completed by the December Committee Assembly.

"DETERMINATE PLUS" SENTENCING FOR SEX OFFENDERS

BACKGROUND:

For the past two years, the Legislature has considered a bill (SB 5006, Sen. Long) that would make major changes in the sentencing policy for sex offenders, moving from a purely determinate model to a blending of determinate and indeterminate sentencing. It is viewed by many as the most fundamental policy change to be considered in the 16 years since implementation of the Sentencing Reform Act.

The issues it raises are both philosophical and pragmatic, with potentially dramatic implications for offenders, the courts, the Department of Corrections, and community safety. These issues will become even more immediate if the United States Supreme Court's impending decision overturns the civil commitment law for sexually violent predators that was enacted as part of the Community Protection Act.

The Sentencing Guidelines Commission has convened a Task Force to study the issues raised by SB 5006 and, if necessary, the Supreme Court's decision, with the hopes of creating consensus on the elements of sound public policy regarding sex offender sentencing.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Participate in the work of the SGC Task Force by attending task force meetings, representing the legislative directives of SB 5006, and reporting regularly on the progress and direction of the task force to Sen. Long and other interested members.
2. Prepare a memorandum with an independent analysis of how the task force's recommendations support or detract from the goals of SB 5006.
3. Re-write SB 5006 or draft new legislation based on Members' responses to the task force's recommendations.

TIMELINES:

The Task Force will begin in May, 1997, and will meet regularly through August. The memorandum will be prepared in September, and if directed, draft legislation will follow.

MINOR PROJECTS

- *CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE & USE OF PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS*

This issue involves determining appropriate safeguards for the prescription and administration of psychotropic drugs for children in the care of the state.

Objectives:

Examine statutory and regulatory guidelines for prescribing and administering psychotropic drugs. Determine incidence levels of prescribed medications for children in foster care. Identify possible shortcomings in existing notice requirements and protections.

Draft proposals for statutory changes or recommend rule or policy changes, as necessary.

- *ADOPTION*

This project involves monitoring proposed federal legislation regarding changes to the adoption laws. The federal act is expected to be approved and signed into law this year.

Objective:

Work with the Attorney General and advocacy groups to draft any necessary changes to Washington's statutes.

- *SAFETY OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS*

This issue may involve an in-depth examination of any number of several areas related to correctional officer safety, including: Towers/electric fences, staffing ratios, inmate discipline, staff training, operating & capital budget issues.

Objectives:

Draft letter to Washington Public Employees Association (WPEA) on behalf of Human Services & Corrections Committee Members, requesting WPEA to identify priority safety issues that, in their view, require legislative action.

Review the following in order to evaluate the issues identified by WPEA: Independent study of staff safety contracted by the Department of Corrections (DOC) in '96-'97; applicable risk management policies; relevant incident reports; employee grievances; Labor & Industries claims; other sources identified by WPEA or DOC as necessary.

Prepare legislation as directed.

- ***MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS***

This issue involves monitoring the development of the pilot project created in 2SSB 6002 (Sen. Long, 1997) for high risk mentally ill offenders being released from prison. The pilot project must be developed over the next year and implemented by July 1, 1998. The bill included the creation of an oversight committee to provide guidance on policy matters and to resolve disputes.

Objectives:

Monitor the work of oversight committee by attending meetings, reviewing minutes and written materials prepared by the committee, and/or meeting individually with oversight committee members.

Examine, through meetings with the Department of Social & Health Services and the Department of Corrections, the unresolved issue relating to state liability and indemnification of private service providers.

Prepare legislation for the 1998 session, if necessary, to resolve the liability/indemnification issue.

GUIDES TO SELECTED POLICY TOPICS

The goal of these projects is to produce brief, informative guides on selected Human Services & Corrections policy issues or programs. The Guides are intended for use by Senate Members, legislative staff, and other interested people.

- ***GUIDE TO SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.*** This Guide will include an outline of registration requirements, procedures for early release from registration requirements, and a description of the public notification process.
- ***GUIDE TO COMMUNITY SUPERVISION.*** This Guide will include definitions and descriptions of each type of community-based supervision program (*i.e.*, probation, parole, community supervision, community custody, community placement, and post-release supervision), with emphasis on identifying their differences.
- ***GUIDE TO CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES.*** This Guide will include definitions and descriptions of the different types of Correctional Industries (*i.e.*, Class I, II, III, and IV), information on the governance/administration of correctional industries, and an outline of the legislative mandates for growth in correctional industries work opportunities.
- ***GUIDE TO SELECTED OFFENSES.*** This Guide will include reference lists and a description of the elements of all offenses in each of the following statutory categories (with examples): "Sex Offenses," "Serious Violent Offenses," "Violent Offenses," and "Most Serious (Three Strike) Offenses."
- ***GUIDE TO THE DEPENDENCY LAWS.*** This guide will include a description of the dependency process and the use of the expedited process for the termination of parental rights. A flow chart will be prepared to show the statutory timelines.
- ***GUIDES FOR THE CHINS AND ARY.*** The child in need of services (CHINS) and the At-Risk Youth (ARY) petitions are processes which are available to parents, children and the DSHS to seek judicial assistance to families. This guide will explain the differences between the petitions and explain the options available. Flow charts will also be included.
- ***GUIDES FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREATMENT.*** ESSB 5082 provides a mechanism for parents to initiate treatment for their minor children's private mental health and chemical dependency treatment. These guides will explain the process for the admission, evaluation and treatment reviews as contained in the act.



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Washington State Senate
Human Services and Corrections
Committee

Senator Jeanine Long
 Chair

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Senator Jim Hargrove	412-A Leg	7646
Senator Jeanne Kohl	424 JAC	7670
Senator Ray Schow	204 Inst	7658
Senator Val Stevens	105 Inst	7676

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Washington State Senate
Natural Resources and Parks
Committee

Senator Bob Oke
Chair

Senate
Natural Resources and Parks
Committee
Interim Study Proposal
1997

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL

ISSUE: Endangered Species Act Listings of Anadromous Fish By the Federal Government and the State Response to Avoid Listings or Manage Anadromous Fish If Listings Occur

PROJECT TEAM:

**Ross Antipa, Senate Natural Resources and Parks
Cathy Baker, Senate Ways and Means**

OTHER CONTACTS:

**Bob Nichols, Office of Financial Management
Sam Wright, Fish and Wildlife Department**

BACKGROUND:

A number of anadromous fish populations may be listed as threatened or endangered by the National Marine Fisheries Service or the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service within Washington watersheds in the near future. It is anticipated that the economic effects of listing anadromous fish under the endangered species act (ESA) will be much more costly than the effects from the spotted owl listings, some experts estimate perhaps as much as a hundred times more costly. This is because anadromous fish protection will require restrictions on all human activities that effect water and fish habitat over wide geographic areas. Major economic impacts will occur to the fishing industry, the hydroelectric industry (including ratepayers), and the agriculture industry.

The federal endangered species act allows states to take a pro-active role in species protection in order to avoid species listings. The state Fish and Wildlife Department was instructed by the legislature to develop a wild salmonid policy in 1993 (2ESHB 1309), the due date for the policy was July 1, 1994. The department did not complete the policy in a timely manner, the draft report was released for public comment in March 1997. The wild salmon policy is now under review. The treaty Indian tribes have expressed concern over the policy, as have some non-Indian fishing groups. Completion and acceptance of the policy is necessary in order for the legislature to provide stable funding for the wild salmonid policy and for the federal government to consider the wild salmonid policy as sufficient for fish protection in order to avoid endangered species listings.

Funding levels for salmon recovery on the Columbia River are approaching \$500,000,000 annually due, in part, to the ESA listings. It is anticipated that pending listings may be very costly if they cannot be avoided.

OBJECTIVES

1. Monitor Oregon plan to avoid listing of coastal coho salmon. The Oregon Legislature has appropriated \$30,000,000 as part of a \$45,000,000 package to avoid listing the coastal coho. The federal government has not ruled upon the acceptability of the Oregon plan. Washington

should learn from the Oregon experience if at all possible, since Oregon is facing earlier listings than Washington.

2. Assist and encourage the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission to finalize and gain acceptance for the wild salmonid policy. Determine if the policy will require legislative approval. Prepare and evaluate funding package for the policy. Analyze policy for other legislation necessary for implementation.
3. Identify policy options for the mass marking program, hatchery operation, habitat restoration, cooperative volunteer projects, regulatory remedies, incentive programs and other initiatives necessary for pro-active avoidance of ESA listings.
4. Examine federal policies on ESA as they are developed. Develop options for legislative approval that would allow the state to best adapt to ESA, or to avoid ESA. Determine ways for greater predictability in ESA situations.
5. Develop a restructuring plan for displaced fisheries due to ESA. Redeploy resources into fisheries that do not have adverse effects upon depressed stocks. Identify innovative solutions to maintaining the economic viability of the recreational and commercial fisheries.
6. Communicate with treaty Indian tribes to assure that state efforts to respond to ESA are made in consideration with treaty fishing objectives.
7. Budget implications of the decisions packages developed above.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

In-house staffing is anticipated to accomplish the objectives listed. The rate of progress is somewhat dependent upon federal agency ESA decisions, and their speed in reacting to state policies specified in the wild salmon plan. If the federal government reacts with a number of ESA listings in the near future it may be necessary to increase staff resources in response.

ANTICIPATED MEETINGS AND TRAVEL

Portland, Oregon - Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission
Seattle - National Marine Fisheries Service
Olympia - Northwest Indian Fish Commission, Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission
Vancouver, B.C. - Pacific Salmon Commission
Various locations - Pacific Fisheries Management Council, Pacific Northwest Power Planning Council

TIME LINES

Work will begin following the 1997 session. Public hearings will be conducted by the Department of Fish and Wildlife on the wild salmon plan during April and May. Legislative hearings will not be necessary until draft legislation is prepared, most probably in December 1997 or January 1998. Legislation will be drafted during the fall of 1997.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL

ISSUE: Code Revision of Title 75 and 77 and Consolidation into One Title

PROJECT TEAM:

Ross Antipa
Vic Moon

OTHER CONTACTS:

Terry Oxley, Dept of Fish and Wildlife
Ron Swatfigure, Dept of Fish and Wildlife
Fish and Wildlife Commission staff

BACKGROUND:

Merger of the Department of Fisheries (Title 75) and Department of Wildlife (Title 77) occurred in 1994 (SHB 2055, C 2 L 93 E1). The resulting Department of Fish and Wildlife has remained until this time with two separate titles which have not been reconciled or consolidated. The most troublesome aspect of the dual titles is the enforcement statutes for fish and wildlife crimes. These statutes need revision, modernization, reconciliation, and consolidation.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Consolidation of Title 75 and 77 into a single code by the 1998 legislative session.
2. Rewrite and consolidation of the Fisheries and Wildlife enforcement codes. This may be prepared as a separate bill depending on the amount of substantive changes, or it may be a component of the Title 75 and 77 consolidation.
3. Consult with the Department of Fish and Wildlife in order to make the code revision as workable as possible.
4. Attempt to keep substantive changes to a minimum in order to keep controversy to a minimum during the legislative consideration of the bill.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

All resources needed will be provided in-house.

ANTICIPATED MEETINGS AND TRAVEL:

None

TIME LINES

Work will begin in May 1997. Bills will be ready for sponsorship by December 1997.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL

ISSUE: Management of Aquatic Land Resources with Regard to Lease Rates, Port Districts, Municipal Ports, and Shellfish.

PROJECT TEAM:

Vic Moon - Senate Natural Resources and Parks
Cathy Baker - Senate Ways and Means
Kari Guy - Senate Agriculture and Environment

OTHER CONTACTS:

John Woodring - Attorney for Marina Owners
Stan Biles - DNR
Craig Partridge - DNR
Terry Oxley - Fish and Wildlife
Eric Johnson - Port Districts
Gary Lowe - Cities and Counties

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Natural Resources manages over two million acres of state-owned aquatic lands that are used for a wide variety of water dependent and non-water dependent purposes. The policies regarding aquatic land management were updated by the 1984 Legislature. Water dependent uses were encouraged by offering reduced rental rates.

The value of aquatic land is determined using the assessed land value of the upland tax parcel used in conjunction with the aquatic land or the nearest upland tax parcel used for water dependent uses. The initial determination of annual rental rates is calculated by multiplying the aquatic land value by the real capitalization rate. The valuation method may result in inequities if the nearest upland tax parcel used for water dependent uses has a significantly different use than another parcel. The parcels may, also, have very different physical characteristics.

The Department of Natural Resources and a port district may agree to allow the port to manage state-owned aquatic lands adjacent to uplands used by the port. Port districts do not pay rent for aquatic lands used for water dependent uses, but pay 85 percent of rent revenues attributed to non-water dependent uses. Other publically owned marinas do not enjoy these same privileges. Some port facilities have expanded beyond the boundaries authorized by law. The expanded facilities provide protection to some private landowners and provide a public service.

Prior to emergence of the dive fisheries in the 1970's, harvesting of geoducks occurred only on state leased or privately held aquatic farms. By 1991, over 50% of all geoducks on the market came from non-tribal Washington divers. By 1996 Washington geoducks accounted for less than 15%. Tribal fisheries are allotted 50% of the harvestable geoducks by court order.

The Department of Natural Resources currently designates harvest tracts, administers geoduck harvest agreements, and enforces commercial violations. It is unlawful to commercially harvest geoduck clams without a geoduck fishery license issued by the department of Fish and Wildlife. Only a person who has entered into a geoduck harvesting agreement with the Department of Natural Resources may hold a license. Licenses expire when the underlying harvest agreement terminates. The commissioner of the department of natural resources determines the number of licenses that may be issued for each harvest area and the number of units of gear under each license.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Examine the current aquatic land rental rates for the purpose of determining whether inequities exist and consideration of whether legislative changes are appropriate to provide more fair rental rates for water dependent uses.
2. Review the Department of Natural Resources rules and regulations regarding how port district aquatic lands boundaries are determined and suggest revision as appropriate.
3. Determine whether current port district management agreements are being administered properly and whether port districts may have overstepped their boundaries and propose solutions.
4. Perform a comprehensive review of the management and administration of the geoduck fishery including how harvest tracts are identified and marketed, the bidding process, licensing of harvesters and divers, and enforcement. Develop appropriate legislation to help stabilize the industry while providing the greatest sustainable return on the resource and security for harvesters and divers.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Parks will periodically review work plans and to ensure that progress is being made to answer the questions and draft salient legislation for consideration during the 1998 Legislative Session.

MEETING AND TRAVEL SCHEDULE:

A precise schedule will be developed upon approval of this interim work project.

TIMELINES:

Work will begin in September 1997. The review of present statutes and administrative code will be complete by October 1997. Input from the appropriate state agencies will be complete by October 1997. Public hearings and input from municipalities, port districts and participants in the geoduck fishery will be conducted in November 1997. If legislation is appropriate, initial drafts will be complete by January 1, 1998.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL

ISSUE: The return on investment for each Department of Natural Resources federally created trust and for the DNR managed county trusts has been reported differently by the DNR and by the trust beneficiaries. The legislature needs accurate figures for return from lands and the value of lands as a fixed asset.

PROJECT TEAM:

Vic Moon - Senate Natural Resources and Parks
David Schumacher - Senate Ways and Means
Cathy Baker - Senate Ways and Means
Catherine Mele-Hunter - Financial Institutions, Insurance and Housing

OTHER CONTACTS:

Jim Smego - DNR
Investment expert - State Treasurer
Trust and financial expert - Washington State University
Bill Vogler - Association of Counties
Tim Boyd - Private timber, Washington Forest Protection Association

BACKGROUND:

There have been several conflicting reports on the asset value of the state and federally granted state trust lands. In addition, the annual income from these assets over time has been reported from less than 2% to 8.6%. There are some private timber lands getting 20% + income. With so many conflicting and confusing reports, the legislature needs an accurate independent evaluation of trust value and trust income.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Establish public land valuation procedures.
2. Evaluate the trust land base.
3. Describe how land is valued and how income is given to the trusts.
4. Compare to similar land bases for comparative return on investment analysis.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

The Senate Natural Resources and Parks Committee, the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and the Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance and Housing Committee will conduct the study. Public hearings and informal meetings will be required. Some academic institution help may be needed, otherwise all resources are in-house.

MEETING AND TRAVEL SCHEDULE TO BE DEVELOPED

TIMELINES:

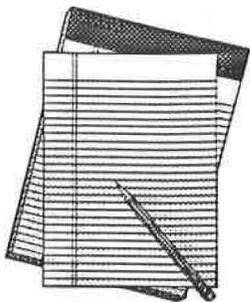
A minimum of four months of staff time (part-time since other studies are involved) starting in May. Progress can be reported at the September and December committee weekends. A final report should be prepared by December 1, 1997 for the committee weekend.

LIST OF INTERIM MONITORING PROJECTS

- 1) Increased funding for volunteer and cooperative projects. Ross
- 2) Steelhead management plans. Ross
- 3) Wildlife Commission activities. Ross
- 4) Nonindigenous species task force. Ross
- 5) Unstable slopes, erosion, vegetation removal, forest practices. Vic
- 6) Permitting requirements for vegetation removal. Vic
- 7) State agency land purchases and inventory. Vic
- 8) Forest fire assessments. Vic
- 9) Day use fees state parks. Vic
- 10) State parks reservation system. Vic
- 11) Natural area preserve system. Vic

Senate Ways and Means 1997 Interim Study Proposals

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Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

ISSUE

- The imposition and distribution of the motor vehicle excise tax and the implications of using it for transportation funding.

PROJECT TEAM

- Terry Wilson, Senate Ways and Means
- David Schumacher, Senate Ways and Means
- Gene Baxstrom, Legislative Transportation Committee
- Roger Horn, Legislative Transportation Committee
- Jim Lux, House Appropriations
- Bob Longman, House Finance (monitor only)

OTHER CONTACTS

- Department of Licensing

BACKGROUND

- In 1937, the legislature enacted the motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) and exempted motor vehicles from the property tax. As a replacement for the property tax, the revenues from the tax were used for general governmental purposes. Over the years, the MVET has been increasingly used as a source of funding for local government needs and transportation-related programs. Legislation has been introduced in the Legislature over the past few years to use more MVET revenues for transportation-related purposes.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 8415, adopted in 1997, directed the staff of the fiscal committees of the Legislature to examine the imposition and distribution of the motor vehicle excise tax, with the goal of using motor vehicle excise tax revenue for transportation purposes.

OBJECTIVES

- The examination mandated by SCR 8415 will include a review of:
 - The historical distribution of the tax revenues;

- The current distribution of the revenues;
- Current and historical purposes of the tax;
- The adequacy of state transportation funding from the motor vehicle excise tax and the revenue needs of other state and local programs;
- The rate of the motor vehicle excise tax compared to other states in the context of the total tax burden on motor vehicle owners; and
- The implications of Initiative 601 as it pertains to transferring money and/or programs out of the General Fund.

OPTIONS

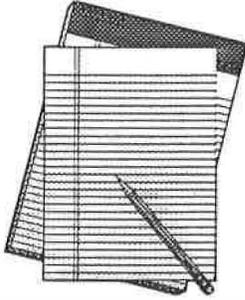
- Several options will be developed to achieve the goal of using motor vehicle excise tax revenue for transportation purposes while balancing the revenue needs of other state and local programs. These options may include:
 - Simplifying the current MVET distribution formulas.
 - Transferring all or part of the General Fund portion of the MVET to the Transportation Fund. (Either at one time or gradually over time.)
 - Increasing the distributions to local governments.
 - Transferring MVET revenues other than General Fund portion to the Transportation Fund.
 - Reduce the overall MVET paid by taxpayers. (By changing the rate, the base, the depreciation schedule, etc.)

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Available internally.

TIMELINES

- Work will begin in May, 1997. Workgroup meetings will be conducted in June, July, August, and September. A final report will be completed by December 31, 1997.



Enhanced 911 Funding

ISSUE

- Funding an enhanced 911 system.

PROJECT TEAM

- Margaret Allen, House Energy & Utilities
- Linda Brooks, House Finance
- Phil Moeller, Senate Energy & Utilities
- Bryon Moore, Senate Ways & Means
- Jeff Olsen, House Appropriations
- Diane Smith, Senate Government Operations
- Terry Wilson, Senate Ways and Means

OTHER CONTACTS

- Military Department
- Department of Revenue
- Association of Washington Counties

BACKGROUND

- In 1991, the voters approved Referendum 42 which mandated the implementation of a statewide E911 system by the end of 1998. Due to the complexity of the E911 system and the amounts of resources required to implement and maintain the E911 system, concern has been expressed about the adequacy of long-term funding for the system. A study of E911 conducted by the Department of Revenue pursuant to chapter 96, Laws of 1994, and completed in 1995 concluded that E911 could be implemented statewide by 1998 based on the then current technology. It was not known if funding was sufficient to provide E911 for cellular phones.

Concern over funding has been heightened by the changes in the telecommunications industry over last several years, including: changes in telecommunications technology; the increase in the number of telephone companies; the growth in wireless telecommunications; and changes in federal telecommunication requirements and laws.

OBJECTIVES

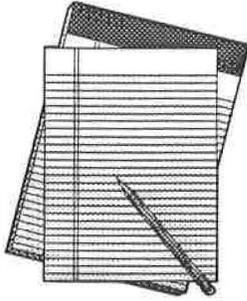
1. Assist the Military Department in a study of the adequacy of E911 funding.
2. Preparation of a final report that includes the following elements:
 - Identification of the state responsibility in the implementation and maintenance of the E911 system.
 - Analysis of current revenues and expenditures for the E911 system at both the state and local levels.
 - Assessment of the adequacy of current state funding of the E911 system.
 - Description and evaluation of other issues affecting the E911 system, including, changes in technology; growth in cellular communications, federal mandates, replacement costs, and the 311 system developments in some jurisdictions.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- A legislative staff workgroup will provide assistance and oversight of the study. Agency staff will have primary responsibility for conducting and coordinating the study.

TIMELINES

- Work will begin in May, 1997. Workgroup meetings and tours will be conducted in June, July, August, and September. A final report will be completed by December 1, 1997.



Levy Equalization

ISSUE

- Which districts should receive state levy equalization funds and in what amount?

PROJECT TEAM

- Bill Freund, Senate Ways and Means
- Jack Daray, House Appropriations

BACKGROUND

- ESHB 2069 requires the House and Senate fiscal committees to study data and issues relevant to levy equalization and prepare a report of findings and recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 1997.

OBJECTIVES

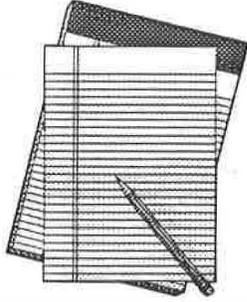
1. Explanation of the levy lid and levy equalization.
2. Explore underlying reasons for levy equalization eligibility.
3. Determine whether other factors should be considered for eligibility.
4. Prepare and develop rationale for alternatives to the current equalization formula.
5. Prepare report to the legislature with findings and recommendations.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- A joint subcommittee appointed by the chairs of the legislative fiscal committees of the legislature will provide assistance and oversight of the study.

TIMELINES

- 3 meetings: September, October, and November 1997. Final report December 1, 1997.



Tuition and Financial Aid

ISSUE

- Allocation of higher education financial aid and comparative tuition data.

PROJECT TEAM

- Michael Groesch, Senate Ways and Means
- Mary Alice Grobins, House Appropriations

OTHER CONTACTS

- Susan Patrick, Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Rhonda Coats, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
- Tom Parker, Washington Friends of Higher Education

BACKGROUND

- In 1996 a subcommittee of the Higher Education Coordinating Board conducted a study of financial aid leading to recommendations to change the distribution of the State Need Grant. Among the recommendations were the proposals create a new index of the grant to independent students and to base the grant amount on tuition costs rather than the “cost of attendance”. Concerns which the subcommittee wished to address were the perception that the Need Grant was becoming too concentrated among independent students and that “cost of attendance” methodology used for calculating the grant amount does not reflect the true cost differences among the educational sectors.

These recommendations were not adopted by the Board. In addition to concerns that the total number of grants would be reduced because the changes would result in a higher average grant amount, the effects of the redistribution on income categories of students generated conflict between the state’s educational sectors. The issues identified by the subcommittee were taken up in the 1997 Legislative debate on financial aid. Continuing confusion over impacts led to a Legislative request for additional information on current usage and distribution of aid as well as the development and analysis of other alternatives to the allocation of state financial aid.

While this study is being conducted the federal government will be making some large changes to the amount and types of financial aid that will be available through the Department of Education. It is anticipated that the Pell grant will be expanded and that tax credits or tax deductions will be available for low and middle income families for higher education expenses.

OBJECTIVES

1. Provide a brief history of financial aid programs in Washington illustrating the changes in financial aid distribution over time and the causes for those changes.
2. Describe the different philosophies embodied in the distribution of financial aid at the public and private higher ed institutions in Washington and illustrate how those philosophies are reflected in student profiles.
3. Describe and verify available data on financial aid recipients in Washington. Identify gaps in existing data and develop strategies for integrating data from various existing resources.
4. Compare Washington's methodology for aid distribution to other states with need based programs. Based on information gained from interviews with financial aid officers and from examples of other states' allocation models, develop alternative state aid methodologies.
5. Perform scenario analysis on alternative methodologies using statewide financial aid database. Illustrate changes in aid distribution by sector and income level from current situation. Integrate pending federal changes into scenario analysis.
6. Develop descriptive summary of various tuition philosophies, tuition setting mechanisms and tuition control mechanisms.

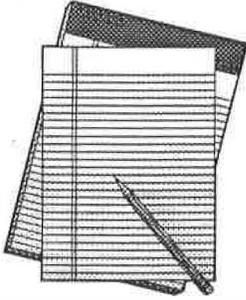
RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Two project committees are recommended. The first is a representative panel of financial aid officers to assist in describing current practices and philosophies, providing data to a central database and identifying alternative methodologies for distributing aid. The second committee is recommended for data verification and development of an integrated financial aid database. Group membership would include Legislative staff, OFM, HECB, State Board for Community Colleges and institutional staff.

In addition to state employees identified, three contracts are proposed. Objectives 1 through 3 above can be expedited through interagency contract with the Washington Institute for Public Policy. Programming and database development may be purchased on an hourly basis or may be incorporated in the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a master contract. The RFP for the master contract will include assistance with federal changes and expertise on national comparisons, alternatives development and report generation. The Senate budget contains \$100,000 for the study. It is desirable to hold some funds in reserve for additional data analysis and scenario modeling which may be suggested by Legislative members after the study is released.

TIMELINES

- Project team meetings can begin in mid June. Information on historic and current practices can begin in latter part of June through interagency contract with Washington Public Policy Institute. Work on data structure and analysis can proceed following personal service contract award with private programmer or firm. RFP for national consultant will be completed by July 1, bids due in mid to late July and contract awarded in August 1997. Progress reports will be received in October and November, with work completed and report to the Legislature by January 15, 1997.



Criminal Justice Training

ISSUE

- Adequacy and funding of law enforcement training.

PROJECT TEAM

- Dick Armstrong, Senate Law and Justice
- Dave Johnson, House Appropriations
- Bryon Moore, Senate Ways and Means

OTHER CONTACTS

- Criminal Justice Training Commission
- Office of Financial Management

BACKGROUND

- Responding to concerns about the criminal justice training system, the Legislature passed SHB Bill 2323 in the 1996 session. The legislation required the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) to conduct a study: (1) evaluating the desirability and feasibility of providing law enforcement training to pre-employed law enforcement officer applicants; (2) reviewing the adequacy of the basic law enforcement training program; (3) evaluating the status of supervisory, management and advanced training program; and (4) making recommendations regarding sources of funding to adequately support all recommendations.

Some of the recommendations resulting from the WASPC study were included in E2SHB 1423 passed in 1997 session. Other recommendations were premised on further evaluation and refinement during the 1997 interim. ESHB 2259, the 1997-99 biennial operating budget, included funding for an expanded study of law enforcement and corrections training. The study is divided into two main parts: (1) the Criminal Justice Training Commission will convene a workgroup to continue the work begun by the WASPC study in 1996, and identify the feasibility and rationale for any proposed changes to the current criminal justice training system; (2) a private sector consultant will prepare a cost fee analysis of current and proposed course offerings.

OBJECTIVES

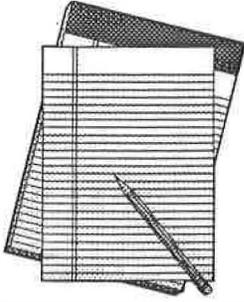
1. Participate in the CJTC study workgroup, providing guidance regarding the legislative intent of E2SHB 1423 and ESHB 2259.
2. Monitor the cost and fee analysis, and provide guidance as needed.
3. Provide study updates to interested members and additional information, as directed.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Legislative staff will provide assistance, but agency staff will have primary responsibility for conducting and coordinating the study.

TIMELINES

- The CJTC study group will be convened in July and meet regularly thereafter. The final report for the policy components will be completed by October 1, 1997. The cost and fee analysis will be completed by January 1, 1998.



Non-Appropriated and Non-Budgeted Funds

ISSUE

- Some state programs operate without legislative fiscal oversight such that they can raise and spend discretionary funds without legislative involvement.

PROJECT TEAM

- Steve Jones, Senate Ways and Means
- Mike Wills, Senate Ways and Means

OTHER CONTACTS

- Dewey Harris, OFM Accounting
- Pam Davidson, OFM Budget

BACKGROUND

- During the 1997 legislative session, the Legislature became aware of several instances in which state agencies were able to generate funds on a discretionary basis and expend the funds, outside of the appropriation process, to expand agency programs or staffing levels. In these instances, the agencies have characterized the funds as regulatory assessments (or fines), unanticipated receipts, recoveries or expenses, or court-approved settlements and damage awards. These expenditures have raised concerns over the adequacy of executive controls and legislative oversight. Where regulatory fines are used to fund agency programs, the lack of external controls may give rise to conflicts between agency fiscal needs and the regulatory process.

OBJECTIVES

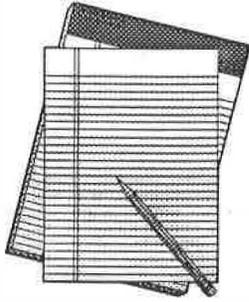
1. Identify all programs where significant fines, fees, recovered expenses, and/or damages are collected and are not deposited into appropriated accounts.
2. Describe how the collections are spend and what controls exist on the expenditures.
3. Provide a report to members of the findings
4. Draft legislation, if required to provide legislative control when appropriate.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Available internally.

TIMELINES

- Work began June 1. Report will be completed September 1, 1997.



Performance and Budget Assessment

ISSUE

- Performance and budget assessment of selected agencies

PROJECT TEAM

- Susan Lucas, Senate Ways and Means
- Cathy Baker, Senate Ways and Means

OTHER CONTACTS

- Staff of selected agencies.

BACKGROUND

- In recent years, legislators have become increasingly interested in reviewing the performance of state agencies. However, the functions performed by the agencies cannot be readily examined through information available to members during the legislative session. An analysis of funding levels, funding sources, program goals, program accomplishments and service delivery mechanisms will assist legislative members in assessing the extent to which the activities performed by an agency meet legislative intent.

OBJECTIVES

- Two state agencies will be selected for a performance and budget assessment that will identify discrete functions and activities performed by each agency. Each separate activity will be described, the funding sources and levels specified, resources dedicated to the activity identified and the goals and objectives of the activity will be specified. If performance measures are used to assess the success of the activity, those will be collected and analyzed. An effort will be made to examine: 1) whether the purpose for which the agency or program was created is still valid; 2) the relative priority of the programs among the agency's functions; 3) costs and implications of not performing certain functions; 4) whether or not the mission of the agency or program is attainable considering the effect of factors and circumstances beyond the control of the agency; and 5) if a program is not performing, consideration of a workable, affordable plan to improve performance. Other information about activities will be collected where

appropriate, including stakeholders, number and characteristics of clients served, issues in providing the service or activity and authorization for the activity.

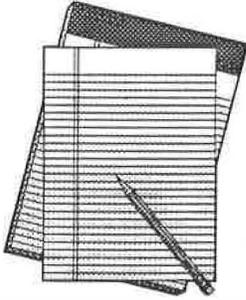
Additionally, the agencies' process for producing fiscal notes and budgetary information will be reviewed and documented. Emphasis will be placed on how the agencies analyze fiscal information for reasonableness, duplication between divisions and adherence to fiscal note procedures.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Available internally.

TIMELINES

- Plan for study completed by June 30, 1997. Final report completed by November 15, 1997.



Economic Return From State Trust Lands

ISSUE

- The return on investment from state trust lands.

PROJECT TEAM

- Vic Moon, Senate Natural Resources & Parks
- Cathy Baker, Senate Ways and Means
- David Schumacher, Senate Ways and Means
- Michael Groesch, Senate Ways and Means
- Catherine Mele, Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance and Housing

OTHER CONTACTS

- Department of Natural Resources staff
- Academic and private sector experts
- WA Association of Counties
- WA Forest Protection Association

BACKGROUND

- The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) acts as trust manager for approximately 5 million acres of state trust lands. These lands are managed for the benefit of trust beneficiaries, which include the common schools and higher education institutions. The economic rate of return realized from these lands has been reported differently by the DNR and by some trust beneficiaries. An analysis that was recently prepared by DNR indicates that the state realized an 8.5% rate of return from its timber land assets during 1995. Other reports indicate that the true rate of return is closer to 2%. There are some private timber landowners that report an annual return on investment of nearly 20%.

With so many conflicting reports, the legislature needs an accurate, independent evaluation of the methods that should be used to determine the return on investment from state trust lands. Since return on investment is directly a function of income and asset value, it is important for the legislature to understand the different methods that

can be used to determine the value of state trust land assets. Once these methods are established, the legislature may wish to direct the DNR to report the rate of return using a different methodology.

OBJECTIVES

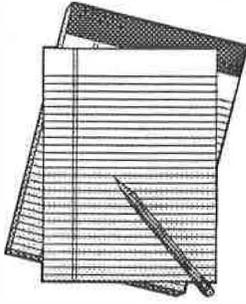
1. Review the methodology used by DNR to establish the trust land asset value.
2. Compare land valuation methodology used by DNR to methodology used by other state trust land managers and private landowners.
3. Determine whether an alternative methodology is warranted in order to calculate the true return on investment. If so, describe the desirable methodology.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Potential contract with an accounting firm or economic consultant to review the valuation methodology.

TIMELINES

- Plan for study completed by June 30, 1997. Final report completed by December 1, 1997.



Guide to the Budget

ISSUE

- Develop a guide to Washington State Budgets that can be used to inform new members, legislative assistants and the general public.

PROJECT TEAM

- Jeff Guykema, Senate Ways and Means
- Mike Wills, Senate Ways and Means
- Randy Hodgins, Senate Ways and Means
- Mike Groesch, Senate Ways and Means

OTHER CONTACTS

- LEAP staff
- LTC staff

BACKGROUND

- There is a continuing need for a guide to the Washington state budgets among new members, new legislative assistants and the general public.

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop a guide to the Washington State Budgets that is accessible to wide audience.
2. Establish the a guide as regular publication that is routinely updated and maintained.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Staff time and minimal printing costs.

TIMELINES

- Circulate draft guide to the legislative assistants, house, and OFM September 8, 1997.
Circulate final copy October 14, 1997

**1997 INTERIM PROJECTS
FOR
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Members

Senator Harold Hochstatter, Chair

Senator Bill Finkbeiner, Vice Chair

Senator Calvin Goings

Senator Stephen L. Johnson

Senator Rosemary McAuliffe, Ranking Minority

Senator Marilyn J. Rasmussen

Senator Joseph Zarelli

Susan Mielke (360) 786-7422

Counsel

Karen Carter (360) 786-7424

Analyst

Gail Brower (360) 786-7420

Legislative Assistant

1997 Interim Work Plan — Senate Committee on Education

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Issue: Transitional Bilingual Program. Is this basic education program sufficiently defined in statute? Is it defined so narrowly that school districts do not have the flexibility to meet the needs of the students? Should the funds be targeted so diminishing state resources can be used more effectively?

Background:

The duty to provide educational opportunities to non-English, or limited-English speaking students originates in the due process and equal protection clauses of the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution. Additionally, the Washington State Legislature's definition of basic education includes the transitional bilingual instruction program. Under the Washington State Constitution, the paramount duty of the state is to define and fully fund basic education programs.

Current statutes delineate an instructional program, entry requirements (but no exit requirements), length of stay in the program, and training for staff. The office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) proposed rules, which were to be adopted in January 1997, expanding the instructional program, the entry requirements, the exit requirements, and training for staff. At the request of members of the Legislature, the OSPI has delayed implementation of the proposed rules to address concerns raised regarding the rules.

It is assumed that the resources necessary to educate a bilingual student in the Transitional Bilingual Program vary depending upon the student's age and time in the program. The 1997-99 budget proposes a weighted student formula to recognize those differences by providing funding at a higher rate for those in the initial stages of the program at the higher grade levels. Additionally, the budget clarifies the definition of a bilingual student so that only a student who is enrolled in grades K-12 is eligible for funding. (In the 1996-97 school year there were approximately 600 students submitted for funding who did not meet this definition.)

Objectives:

1. Research and describe effective programs, entry and exit requirements, length of stay in the program, pre-school intervention (if any) and training of staff used by other states to educate non-English, or limited-English students.
2. Develop policy options allowing greater flexibility for the schools to effectively meet the needs of non-English, or limited-English students, but retaining the necessary accountability for funding purposes.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

1997 Interim Work Plan — Senate Committee on Education

Issue: **Prohibition on sectarianism in publicly funded schools.** Discuss the origins and implications of state and federal constitutional prohibitions against sectarianism in publicly funded schools. What is the historical definition of "sectarian" and how has that definition evolved? How have the courts interpreted federal First Amendment rights in matters pertaining to schools and religion? A subcommittee will study these issues and examine in greater depth Washington's constitutional, paramount duty to "*make ample provision for the education of all children*" in relation to sectarian prohibitions.

Members of Subcommittee: To be announced.

Meeting Schedule: To be announced.

Lead Staff: Karen Carter (7424)

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Issue: **Effective reading programs.**

Background: Reading is a fundamental basic academic skill. The Legislature has passed a reading bill in each of the last three sessions. Last session, the chair of the Senate Education Committee proposed legislation to establish a state-wide goal: that 90% of third grade students read on grade level by the year 2002. Senate Bill 5508 proposed a process to achieve the state-wide goal, seven levels of accountability and rewards/incentives and sanctions for schools, which did not pass.

Tasks: Staff visits to five school districts to observe effective programs of teaching beginning reading skills. Additional preparation and follow-up research.

Product: Staff report and options for possible legislation presented to the committee at the December Legislative Assembly.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

Issue: **Inclusion and special education.**

Background: Federal special education law requires states to educate disabled K-12 students with students who are not disabled to the maximum extent appropriate. There is not a standard used by all states for what constitutes "maximum extent appropriate." How are Washington schools attempting to meet both the legal guidelines and the spirit of inclusive special education in practice?

Tasks: Interview locals for experience and perspective on inclusion to help answer such questions as: what strategies are being tried; what is working, what is not and why? Consult with specialists at the OSPI as well as schools of education and independently, conduct a national search for "best practices." Attend House Education interim hearings on special needs students. Monitor OSPI projects, funded by the Legislature through the 1997 biennial budget, related to the use of "inclusion strategies" by school districts.

Product: Staff report

Lead Staff: Karen Carter (7424)

1997 Interim Work Plan — Senate Committee on Education

Issue: **School levies.**

Tasks: Study emerging issues involving public school funding from local levies. Track the results of fall levy elections. Follow and support the work of Senate and House budget staff in their examination of the local effort assistance program. Attend related meetings or policy discussions during the interim.

Product: Keep policy committee members informed about new developments.

Lead Staff: Karen Carter (7424)

Issue: **Recommendations on the Certificate of Mastery.**

Tasks: Monitor the development of the recommendations by the Commission on Student Learning and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, due by September 30, 1997. Additional preparation and follow-up research.

Product: Presentation to the committee at the September Legislative Assembly.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

Issue: **Medicaid and schools.**

Background: In recent years, public schools have increasingly been able to tap the Medicaid program for the benefit of qualifying children. Some states encourage local districts to apply for federal reimbursement to help offset special education costs. This session, a few senators received reports that lawmakers in Pennsylvania had investigated the use of Medicaid by public schools and found its promotion for select services to be inappropriate. A majority report issued last fall suggests that executive agencies cooperated to expand school-based health services without legislative approval. A minority report was requested and will be released this summer.

Tasks: Examine the purposes for and use of federal Medicaid dollars by Washington public schools. Compare and contrast Washington program policies with that of Pennsylvania. What practical lessons can be drawn from the events which transpired in Pennsylvania that Washington can benefit from knowing?

Product: Staff briefing/memo.

Lead Staff: Karen Carter (7424)

Issue: **Washington student data bank**

Background: The 1997-99 budget included \$250,000 to enhance the OSPI computer systems, including making a database of aggregate school information available electronically to schools, state government, and the general public. OSPI is explicitly prohibited from including individually identifiable student data.

Tasks: Report on the steps taken by OSPI to ensure student privacy of personally identifiable information.

Product: Staff report and possible legislation.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

1997 Interim Work Plan — Senate Committee on Education

Issue: **Ad Hoc Educational Policy and Program Work Group to the K-20 Educational Telecommunications Oversight and Policy Committee (TOPC)**

Background: In 1996, the Legislature passed legislation creating the K-20 Educational Telecommunications Network and the TOPC. On June 17, 1997, TOPC created the ad hoc work group which is to include staff representation of appropriate legislative fiscal and policy committees.

Tasks: The ad hoc work group is responsible for establishing a process for the Superintendent of Public Instruction and HECB to develop an educational blueprint for the K-20 network, addressing such issues as educational programs and policies and related technology needs; development of strategic goals and objectives; measurements for evaluating economic efficiencies and improved learning through technology ; and other matters relating to educational programs using the network.

Product: Staff report.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

Issue: **Federal Goals 2000**

Background: In 1997, the Legislature prohibited OSPI from accepting, allocating to school districts or spending federal Goals 2000 dollars. The governor subsequently vetoed those restriction, provided for in the omnibus appropriations act.

Tasks: Survey all Washington school districts to determine the following:

- The amount of federal Goals 2000 funds received by each school district;
- How each district spent federal Goals 2000 funds last biennium and how those resources will be spent, if so allocated this biennium.

Product: Staff report and possible legislation.

Lead Staff: Karen Carter (7424)

Issue: **Recommendations on the K-4 Reading Accountability System.**

Tasks: Staff participation and monitoring of the development of recommendations by the Commission on Student Learning and the Superintendent of Public Instruction; due by November 1, 1997.

Product: Presentation to the committee at the December Legislative Assembly.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

Issue: **Implementation of the Principal's Waiver Bill (E2SHB 1303)**

Tasks: Compile and report on the number of waivers sought by school districts.

Product: Staff report and possible presentation at the December Legislative Assembly.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

1997 Interim Work Plan — Senate Committee on Education

MONITOR THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Commission on Student Learning
- Certificate of Mastery Workgroup
- K-20 Educational Telecommunications Oversight and Policy Committee
- State Board of Education
- Professional Educator Advisory Committee (PEAC)
- Work Force Training and Education Coordinating Board
- Family Policy Council
- Special Education Advisory Council
- Higher Education Coordinating Board
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

1997 Interim Work Plan —Joint Select Committee on Education Restructuring

Issue: The annual report to the Legislature by the Joint Select Committee on Education Restructuring.

Background:

In 1993, the Legislature created the Joint Select Committee on Education Restructuring (ESHB 1209, Chapter 336, sec. 1001, Laws of 1993). The primary purpose of the Committee is to "*monitor, review and annually report to the Legislature on the implementation of education restructuring at the state and local level.*" The annual report is due each September 1.

Objectives:

The following are the statutorily required:

- Measure the progress of the Commission on Student Learning (CSL) in the completion of its tasks and other statutory assignments;
- Evaluate the success of the Center for the Improvement of Student Learning;
- Calculate the number of school districts seeking waivers from Basic Education Act requirements under current law or any subsequent legislation;
- Evaluate the success of alternative programs districts pursue;
- Evaluate the progress and success of the CSL, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board of Education, Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges in aligning college and university entrance requirements with the state's essential academic learning requirements, the certificate of mastery or other legislative directives to restructure the K-12 education system;
- Seek advice from educators, business and labor leaders, parents, and others during its deliberations.

Product: Annual report.

Lead Staff: Susan Mielke (7422)

Issue: School to Work Initiatives

Tasks: A comprehensive look at school to work initiatives, including the different perspectives at the national, community college, business, and school district levels through presentations and tours of programs.

Product: Report included in the annual report of the JSCER, and possible draft legislation. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet on school-to-work with a target audience of members not serving on the Education committees as well as the general public.

Lead Staff: Karen Carter (7424)

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE
AND SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE -
INTERIM 1997**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE OF MEETING
June 27	10:00-3:00	Vancouver	JSCER	Education Reform	Work Session
July 14	1:30-3:30	SeaTac	Joint meeting of the Senate and House Education Committees	Presentation and discussion of the ad hoc work group's recommendations for the Certificate of Mastery	Work Session
August 28	9:00-9:00	Spokane	JSCER	Education reform; review of barcode project for school to work initiatives; overview of new teacher certification standards pilot project; and tour of school to work programs	Tour/Work Session/Public Hearing
September 17	TBA	Olympia	JSCER	National perspectives on school-to-work	Work Session
September 18 & 19 Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Senate Education Committee	Roundtable discussion on school to work accountability.	Work Session
October 27	TBA	Seattle; Stanwood	JSCER	Community college perspective on school-to-work; school-to-work programs	Work Session/Public Hearing
October 28	TBA	Seattle	JSCER	Lake Washington consortium/certificate of proficiency; school to work business tours	Work Session/Public Hearing/Tour
November 7	TBA	Olympia	JSCER	School-to-work funding; SPI report on 4 th grade reading accountability system, alternative education grants, and student learning improvement grants.	Work Session
December 3	TBA	Olympia	JSCER	Committee wrap-up	Work Session

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE OF MEETING
December 4 & 5 Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Joint meeting of Senate and House Education Committees	Successful Reading Programs	Work Session/Public Hearing

M E M O

TO: Stan Pynch

RE: Interim projects

FROM: Dave Cheal

DATE: 4/18/97

At this point I anticipate one study that will possibly involve more than one committee, and would be of interest to most members. Following is a description.

Topic: Earthquake insurance.

Question: Should the state assume a risk management role with respect to the hazards presented by a major earthquake?

Sub-questions: What is the availability and affordability of earthquake insurance?

What is the extent of coverage of Washington homes and business?

What is the exposure of Washington insurers?

What is the exposure of Washington mortgage lenders as a result of this peril to the collateral securing mortgage loans?

What is the proper role of the state?

Committees potentially involved: Financial Institutions; Government Operations
Agencies potentially involved: Department of Financial Institutions, Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Pollution Liability Insurance Agency..

General comment, background: This issue has been raised by the Washington Savings League and the Department of Financial Institutions. Lenders are very concerned.

California has just established the California Earthquake Authority, a privately financed and publicly administered earth quake insurance and reinsurance program. It was established in response to limited availability of earthquake insurance, the considerable exposure of lenders and insurers, and to offer reasonable protection to households and businesses.

There is a considerable amount of written material on this, as well as the activity of other states to examine.