



Summaries

| 2015-17 Study Mandates & Other Scheduled Committee Projects | |
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| <p>Tax Preference Performance Reviews <i>Report: July 2015 and July 2016</i> Directive: EHB 1069 (2006)</p> | <p>Based on a ten-year schedule developed by the Citizen Commission for Performance Measurement of Tax Preferences, JLARC staff review approximately 20 tax preferences each year.</p> <p>Click here for the completed 2015 report</p> <p>Click here for a link to the 2016 scope and objectives.</p> <p>Staff: John.Woolley@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Legislative Implementation of SAO Recommendations <i>Report: July 2015 and July 2016</i> Directive: I-900 (2005)</p> | <p>JLARC annually reports on the Legislature's implementation of the State Auditor's performance audit recommendations.</p> <p>Click here for the completed 2015 report.</p> <p>Staff: Keenan.Konopaski@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Lodging Tax Expenditures Reported by Municipalities: Annual Non-Audit Report <i>Report: July 2015 and July 2016</i> Directive: ESHB 1253 (2013)</p> | <p>Municipalities must report their use of lodging tax revenues for tourism promotion. The on-line reporting system was developed and is maintained by JLARC.</p> <p>Click here for the most recent lodging tax information reported by municipalities.</p> <p>Staff: Suzanna.Pratt@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Medicaid Fraud False Claims Act – Sunset Review <i>Completed</i> Directive: ESSB 5978 (2012)</p> | <p>Completed. The Legislative Auditor concluded that the Legislature should reauthorize the Medicaid False Claims Act because it allows the state to pursue additional fraud cases, and recoveries have increased.</p> <p>Click here for a link to the report.</p> |
| <p>K-12 Health Benefits <i>Completed</i> Directive: ESSB 5940 (2012)</p> | <p>Completed. The Legislative Auditor concluded that consolidation and other options are available to the Legislature to improve equity and affordability of full-family health care coverage for K-12 employees.</p> <p>Click here for a link to the report.</p> |
| <p>Unemployment Insurance Training Benefits Program <i>Completed</i> Directive: EHB 1091 (2011)</p> | <p>Completed. The Legislative Auditor concluded that most Training Benefits Program participants complete training for new occupations, but the Program has not always improved participants' employment or earnings.</p> <p>Click here for a link to the report.</p> |
| <p>Washington Health Care Exchange: Understanding Options for K-12/Higher Ed Part-time Employees <i>Completed</i> Directive: JLARC sponsored</p> | <p>Completed. The Legislative Auditor concluded that many part-time K-12 and higher education employees would likely pay more if insured through the Health Benefits Exchange.</p> <p>Click here for a link to the report.</p> |

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| <p>Unaccompanied Homeless Youth: Performance Measures and Population Estimates <i>Report: September 2016</i> Directive: 2SSB 5404 (2015)</p> | <p>JLARC will review state-funded programs that serve unaccompanied homeless youth under the age of 18. The review will determine what performance measures exist, what statutory reporting requirements exist, and whether there is reliable data on ages of youth served, length of stay, and effectiveness of program exit and reentry. Click here for a link to the scope and objectives. Staff: Rebecca.Connolly@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Alternative Process for University of Washington Medical Facility Construction Projects – Sunset Review <i>Report: Sep 2016</i> Directive: Capital Budget (2015)</p> | <p>JLARC will conduct a sunset review of the alternative process for the University of Washington to award contracts for the building of university buildings and facilities for critical patient care or specialized medical research. Click here for a link to the scope and objectives. Staff: Stephanie.Hoffman@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities <i>Report: Sept 2016</i> Directive: SB 6197 (2006)</p> | <p>The review will determine if the Council’s activities are consistent with legislative intent. Health disparities are differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of disease that exists among specific population groups. The Council is to create an action plan and statewide policy to address any such disparities. Click here for a link to the scope and objectives. Staff: John.Bowden@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>K-12 Youth Mental Health Services Inventory <i>Report: Oct 2016</i> Directive: 2SHB 2439 (2016)</p> | <p>JLARC will review and describe the models schools and school districts use to provide mental health services to students. As directed, these services are those outside of basic education funding. Additionally, and as directed, JLARC will not be using student level personal data as it conducts the analysis. Staff: John.Bowden@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Puget Sound Partnership <i>Report: Jan 2017</i> Directive: ESSB 5372 (2007)</p> | <p>The Legislature created the Puget Sound Partnership to coordinate and lead the effort to restore the Puget Sound by 2020. The Legislature directed JLARC to conduct two performance audits of the Partnership, the first in 2011 and this second audit in 2016. Click here for a link to the scope and objectives. Staff: Melanie.Stidham@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Fees Assessed for Forest Fire Protection <i>Report: July 2017</i> Directive: Operating Budget (2015)</p> | <p>JLARC is to review the process DNR uses to determine forest fire assessments, the efficiency of the administrative process, assessment rates, the relationship between rates and protection and suppression expenditures, how other states assess for protection and suppression, and parcels assessed as forest lands that are developed and not covered by a fire protection district. Click here for a link to the scope and objectives. Staff: Ryan.McCord@leg.wa.gov</p> |

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| <p>Habitat and Recreational Lands and Regulations <i>Report: Dec 2017</i> Directive: Capital Budget (2015)</p> | <p>JLARC is to determine what existing or potential objective outcome measures can be used to evaluate the success of major regulatory programs or state expenditures that are intended to protect and conserve habitat and expand outdoor recreation. In addition, the study is to compare the amount of habitat lands protected through acquisitions and easements with the amount of lands protected through major regulatory programs within three counties west of the Cascades and three counties east of the Cascades.</p> <p>Staff: Eric.Thomas@leg.wa.gov</p> |
| <p>Wildfire Suppression Costs and Funding <i>Report: December 2017</i> Directive: Operating Budget (2016)</p> | <p>JLARC is to analyze DNR's and the State Fire Marshall's fire suppression funding and costs related to state lands, private lands, and federal lands. Dividing suppression costs between developed and undeveloped lands, JLARC is to determine the source of funding for suppression, reimbursement processes, and the extent suppression on private properties is covered by fire insurance.</p> <p>Staff: John.Bowden@leg.wa.gov</p> |