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# AGENDA

January 5, 2010  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
John A. Cherberg Building  
Senate Hearing Room 4  
Olympia, Washington

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

- 10:00 – 10:05 \*1. Approval of December 1, 2009, JLARC Meeting Minutes
- 10:05 – 10:35 2. [Analysis of the Costs and Benefits of Accepting Bankcards at WSDOT – Preliminary Report](#)
- 10:35 – 10:55 \*3. [K-12 Pilot Facility Inventory, Condition & Use System – Proposed Final Report](#)
- 10:55 – 11:15 \*4. [Washington State Department of Transportation's Scoping and Cost Estimating for Highway Construction Projects – Proposed Final Report](#)
- 11:15 – 11:35 \*5. [Review of Child Support Guidelines – Proposed Final Report](#)
- 11:35 – 12:15 \*6. [2009 Annual Reports on Tax Preference Reviews – Proposed Final Reports](#)
- 12:15 – 12:30 7. Proposed Scope and Objectives
- A. [Information-Sharing and Medicaid Reinstatement for Individuals Released from Confinement](#)
- B. [Study of State Recreational Boating Programs](#)

\* Action Item

Please note: All listed times are estimates only and the Committee reserves the right to move agenda items as needed.

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Approval of minutes from the December 1, 2009, JLARC meeting.
2. **Analysis of the Costs and Benefits of Accepting Bankcards at WSDOT – Preliminary Report:** The 2009-11 Transportation Budget directed this study. The study compared the costs of accepting customer payments via bankcards with other methods of payment at the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). The analysis found the least costly method of accepting customer payments varied in three key WSDOT programs. Automation and reduction of labor costs, not payment method, was found to be the key to cost savings. The report identified two opportunities to lower or defray bankcard costs. The report includes recommendations to WSDOT to identify alternatives for reducing bankcard fees, and to OFM and the State Treasurer to provide guidance to other state agencies for situations where options to bankcards may be suitable.
3. **K-12 Pilot Facility Inventory, Condition & Use System – Proposed Final Report:** The 2008 Supplemental Capital Budget directed JLARC to define and develop a pilot facility condition and inventory system for K-12 public school facilities. This report describes the information collected during the pilot, and compares data reported by school districts to data reported by consultants. It also includes a discussion of the feasibility of collecting certain types of facilities data, and proposes methods for collecting and maintaining the data and connecting it to other relevant sources. The report concludes with cost options for expanding the pilot statewide.
4. **Washington State Department of Transportation’s Scoping and Cost Estimating for Highway Construction Projects – Proposed Final Report:** The 2009-11 Transportation Budget directed this study. JLARC concluded that the Washington State Department of Transportation’s (WSDOT) policies and procedures for scoping and estimating the cost of highway construction projects currently align with industry guidelines. In the course of synthesizing research literature, reviewing WSDOT policies and procedures, and observing practices on the ground, JLARC identified three issues to bring to the attention of policymakers as they consider the accuracy of highway project cost estimates. Time: when a transportation agency is given more time to fully understand a project’s needs and risks, there is greater chance for more accuracy in a project’s cost estimate. Resources: investing more money into the scoping process may result in more accurate initial project cost estimates. Communication: clear communication about project cost estimate uncertainty and the reasons why an estimate has changed is critical to maintaining stakeholder trust and building confidence in an estimate. The report also recommends that WSDOT project records include an easy-to-follow trail between cost estimates and budget requests.
5. **Review of Child Support Guideline – Proposed Final Report:** In 2007, the Legislature directed JLARC to conduct a review of Washington’s Child Support Guidelines. Courts and the Department of Social and Health Services use these guidelines to establish child support obligations for non-custodial parents. Federal law requires states to review their guidelines every four years. As part of this process, the Legislature directed that beginning in 2011, the workgroups convened to review Washington’s guidelines must consider this JLARC report. JLARC reviewed the efforts of a 2007 workgroup, summarized research on the cost of raising children; and analyzed data collected by DSHS to review child support orders that deviate from the state’s guidelines. JLARC determined that the 2007 workgroup recommended statutory changes on a number of issues which the Legislature implemented in 2009. The workgroup did not resolve three main issues. JLARC’s review of research showed that these same three issues are of concern to many states, and a summary of the research on these issues is included in the report. Finally, JLARC found that the data currently collected by DSHS is inadequate to perform the reviews required by federal law. The report includes recommendations to both DSHS and the Legislature regarding direction to use an existing reliable data source for reviewing deviations from support guidelines.
6. **2009 Annual Reports on Tax Preference Reviews – Proposed Final Reports:** In 2006, the Legislature enacted EHB 1069 which mandated audit reviews of Washington’s tax preferences. There are two reports detailing the review of 25 statutory references to tax preferences for 2009. The reviews are divided into expedited and full, depending on the size of the tax preference. Full tax preference performance reviews answer ten primary questions outlined in law, and the expedited tax preference performance reviews answer four questions. All tax preference performance reviews place an emphasis on whether the preference has met its public policy objectives. The proposed final report includes comments on the reviews that were adopted in October 2009 by the Citizens Commission for Performance Measurement of Tax Preferences.
7. **Proposed Scope and Objectives:**
  - A. **Information-Sharing and Medicaid Reinstatement for Individuals Released from Confinement:** The 2009-11 Operating Budget directed JLARC to evaluate implementation of legislation designed to improve communication, collaboration, and Medicaid reinstatement for persons released from confinement in a prison, jail, or institution for mental disease who have mental health or chemical dependency disorders. Specifically, the review is to include the implementation of: E2SSB 6358 (2004), and specific sections of E2SSB 5763 (2005), E2SHB 1290 (2005), and 2SHB 1088 (2007). JLARC staff will analyze the extent to which state agencies can demonstrate implementation of these provisions of state law.
  - B. **Study of State Recreational Boating Programs:** The 2009-11 Operating Budget directed JLARC to conduct a study of state support for recreational boating activities in Washington, with a focus on funding and organization. The mandate also requires JLARC to examine approaches other states have taken to funding and organizing their recreational boating activities. The review will focus on funding and approaches in the 2007-09 Biennium and the corresponding federal fiscal years.