

House of Representatives
Office of Program Research

Interim Plans

2014



July 15, 2014

**Office of Program Research
Washington House of Representatives**

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Office of Program Research
Washington House of Representatives
Jill Reinmuth, Director

July 15, 2014

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**House of Representatives
Agriculture & Natural Resources
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Federal Food Safety Rules Food Security Programs Crop and Agriculture Research 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Resources Wolf Management Update 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee (Joint with ENVI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture and Water Quality 	Work Session

Project Title: Water Resources

Project Goal:

Keep abreast of recent water law developments with an eye towards 2015 legislation.

Project Description:

The management of the state's finite water resources will again play a substantial role in the discussions of the Committee in 2015. The Committee will dedicate time this interim to track any ongoing judicial or administrative changes in water resource management policies, develop a deeper comprehension of the issues inherent in water resource management, and seek to foster solutions to known water resource management issues. Specifically, the Committee will focus on solutions for rural counties faced with reduced access to groundwater and the development, management, use, and potential proliferation of water banks as a solution to water scarcity.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Jason Callahan; Jacob Lipson

Project Title: New Federal Food Safety Rules

Project Goal:

Further education on the contents and effects of the Federal Food Safety Modernization Act.

Project Description:

The Federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) was enacted in 2011 as an update to the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The FSMA gives the Food and Drug Administration, in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services, rulemaking authority in order to implement the FSMA. The first round of rulemaking is drawing to a close. Two aspects of the rulemaking are standards for the growing, harvesting, packing, and holding of produce for human consumption and good manufacturing practices and controls for food. These rules may have an effect on the food production and food processing industries in Washington.

The Committee will receive updates on the details of the FMSA rules, including how the rules may affect Washington food producers and processors. The Committee will also explore legislative options for helping Washington food producers and processors comply with the new rules.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jason Callahan; Jacob Lipson

Project Title: Food Security Programs

Project Goal:

Review the transition of the state's food security programs into the Department of Agriculture.

Project Description:

The Department of Agriculture's (Department) food assistance programs assist local organizations and tribes in providing emergency food to low-income people throughout Washington. The Department provides support to approximately 500 food banks, food pantries, and meal programs through programs such as the Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP and TEFAP), the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and farm-to-school programs. The role of state lead for food assistance is relatively new for the Department, having just received the charge in recent biennia.

The Committee will learn more about the food assistance programs at the Department, including how the programs fit into the broader mission of the Department and what changes were made to the programs by the 2014 U.S. Farm Bill. The Committee will also explore potential efficiencies in the administration of food assistance and ways to connect state agriculture producers with assistance programs.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jason Callahan; Jacob Lipson

Project Title: Crop and Agriculture Research

Project Goal:

Investigate existing model for incentivizing research and innovation in agriculture.

Project Description:

The state of Washington is a national leader in various agriculture value chains, led in part by the research done at the Washington State University and other institutes of higher education in the state. Investments in research and development relating to agriculture lead to innovations, efficiencies, and discoveries that can have a profound effect on the global competitiveness and local sustainability of the state's agriculture industry.

To that end, the Committee will explore methods to incentivize investment in research and development in agricultural, crop, and livestock sciences in Washington, including studying the Life Sciences Discovery Fund as a model for supporting and promoting innovative research in animal and plant sciences and reviewing state policies that support and facilitate research in agricultural, crop, and livestock sciences at the state's research universities and other institutions. This will also include an exploration of how Washington can utilize and improve the state's capacity for increasing agricultural production in smart, innovative, and sustainable ways, the roles that could be played by commodity commissions in a model with increased research investment, and the ways other states and education institutions incentivize research funding.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jason Callahan; Jacob Lipson

Project Title: Wolf Management Update

Project Goal:

Review the results of legislative investments in wolf management.

Project Description:

This current biennium, the Legislature appropriated \$300,000 to the Washington State University Agricultural Research Center to conduct public outreach and education related to nonlethal methods of mitigating conflicts between livestock and large wild carnivores. The University of Washington is also studying ways to increase the social tolerance of increasing wolf populations. In addition, funding was provided to the Department of Fish and Wildlife to continue their wolf management activities and assist landowners with wolf conflict management.

The Committee will receive updates from Washington State University and the University of Washington on their work and from the Department of Fish and Wildlife on the status of wolf recovery efforts and landowner conflict.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Jason Callahan; Jacob Lipson

Project Title: Agriculture and Water Quality

Project Goal:

Continue legislative discussions involving the nexus between the state's agricultural industry and water quality regulations.

Project Description:

The intersection of agriculture and water quality regulations has, of late, been in the forefront of many policy discussions, court proceedings, and legislative debates. Just in this past year, the Supreme Court issued a final ruling in Lemire v. Department of Ecology, a settlement was reached in a federal case arising out of Yakima County, the U.S. Congress passed a Farm Bill with relevant provisions, and both the Environment and the Agriculture & Natural Resources committees heard bills on the topic. In addition, the Department of Ecology has announced the creation of an agriculture and water quality working group to meet over the course of 2014.

The two committees will meet to hear updates on the processes and results of the Department of Ecology's work group and other developing issues and debates involving the nexus between the state's agricultural industry and water quality regulations.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session (joint with ENVI)

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Jason Callahan; Jacob Lipson

**House of Representatives
Appropriations
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
June TBA	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office of Financial Management Study on Medicaid and Other Public Assistance Eligibility Determination Processes Affordable Care Act Update 	Work Session
September TBA	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health Program Enhancements and Other Issues Early Achievers Funding 	Work Session
November TBA	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing McCleary 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue and Caseload Updates and 2015 Session Budget Preview 	Work Session

Project Title: Office of Financial Management Study on Medicaid and Other Public Assistance Eligibility Determination Processes

Project Goal:

Receive a presentation on the Office of Financial Management study regarding eligibility determinations for Medicaid and other public assistance programs.

Project Description:

There are a variety of programs that provide services to clients who are determined by the state to be eligible for these services. Eligibility determinations are done by the Department of Social and Health Services (mental health and substance abuse services, long term care and developmental disability services, childrens' services, and economic services), the Health Care Authority (Medicaid and other health care services), the Health Benefit Exchange, the Department of Early Learning, and other agencies. The 2013-15 biennial budget required the Office of Financial Management (OFM) to conduct a study on eligibility determination processes and infrastructure with the goal to provide recommendations on simplifying procedures, improving customer service, and reducing expenditures. The Committee will be briefed on OFM's findings and recommendations.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: June 2014

Staff Assigned: Erik Cornellier; Catrina Lucero; Andy Toulon; Melissa Palmer; Mary Mulholland; James Kettel

Project Title: Affordable Care Act Update

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act in Washington.

Project Description:

In the 2013 session, Washington opted in to Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Washington also implemented a health care exchange under the ACA. The Committee will receive another update on implementation of the expansion and the health care exchange, particularly the number of additional persons receiving health care benefits through the expansion or health exchange.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: June 2014

Staff Assigned: Erik Cornellier

Project Title: Mental Health Program Enhancements and Other Issues

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on mental health enhancements provided in the 2013-15 biennial budget and the 2014 supplemental budget.

Project Description:

Washington's mental health program is administered through the Department of Social and Health Services. The state provides services through state hospitals and provides community services through contracts with 11 Regional Support Networks (RSNs). The Committee will be briefed on utilization of increased funding to provide program enhancements, particularly to increase community capacity. The Committee will also be briefed on planning efforts to integrate mental health services with substance abuse services for those who need both.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Andy Toulon

Project Title: Early Achievers Funding

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on braided funding for certain contracted slots in the Department of Early Learning.

Project Description:

The 2014 supplemental operating budget included language that allows the Department of Early Learning (DEL) to serve up to 20 percent of Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) households through braiding WCCC and Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) funding to support a full day preschool experience, and through contracted slots. The Committee will receive an update from the DEL on braided funding and contracted slots under this budget proviso.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Catrina Lucero; Melissa Palmer

Project Title: Implementing McCleary

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on McCleary-related interim activities and discuss possible next steps to be considered in the 2015 session to comply with the McCleary decision.

Project Description:

In its January 2012 McCleary ruling, the state Supreme Court (Court) held that the state was not adequately funding its definition of basic education, and required the Legislature to fully fund basic education by 2018. To respond to the decision and provide a means for the Legislature to better participate in an inter-branch dialogue, a Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation (Joint Select Committee) was created (HCR 4410). In a July 2012 order, the Court exercised its continuing jurisdiction by requiring the Joint Select Committee to report to the Court at least annually on legislative progress toward implementing ESHB 2261(2009), with judicial review focusing on whether the state has demonstrated "steady progress." The Committee made its initial report to the Court on September 17, 2012, and its second report on August 29, 2013. On January 9, 2014, the Court issued an order in response to the Legislature's August 2013 report and plaintiff's response. The Court ordered the Legislature to file a complete plan by April 30, 2014, regarding fully implementing its program of basic education. The Committee will review McCleary-related interim activities, including the Joint Select Committee report to the Court, and will preview possible next steps to be considered in the 2015 session to comply with the McCleary decision.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: November 2014

Staff Assigned: Jessica Harrell; Kristen Fraser

Project Title: Revenue and Caseload Updates and 2015 Session Budget Preview

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on the November revenue and caseload forecasts, and provide a preview of the budget situation for the 2015 session.

Project Description:

The Committee will be briefed on interim events impacting the 2013-15 budget and preview the budget outlook for the 2015-17 biennium. This will include reviewing the impacts of revenue and caseload forecast changes as well as identifying potential significant policy level items that may be considered by the 2015 Legislature.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Charlie Gavigan; Dave Johnson; Melissa Palmer

**House of Representatives
 Appropriations Subcommittee on Education
 Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
September 17	Morning	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program Expansion Early Achievers Opportunity Grants and Tiered Reimbursement Readiness to Learn Funding 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Bound Scholarship Work Group Teacher Professional Development Federal Impact Aid 	Work Session

Project Title: Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program Expansion

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on the implementation of the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) expansion.

Project Description:

The Legislature appropriated an additional \$22 million in the 2013-15 biennial budget to enhance and expand ECEAP. This included adding an additional 350 ECEAP slots in fiscal year 2014 and 1,350 in fiscal year 2015. The Department of Early Learning (DEL), in coordination with the Office of Financial Management, estimates that an additional 2,398 slots per year will be needed during the 2015-17 biennium to expand the current ECEAP program to serve all eligible children by the 2018-19 academic year. During the interim, the DEL and others will update the Committee on the planned ECEAP expansion, identifying any challenges and other areas of legislative interest. The Committee will receive an update on the implementation of the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) expansion.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Catrina Lucero

Project Title: Early Achievers Opportunity Grants and Tiered Reimbursement

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on the Early Achievers Opportunity Grants and the implementation of tiered reimbursement.

Project Description:

The Legislature appropriated approximately \$4.3 million (\$2 million for family homes as part of a collective bargaining agreement and \$2.3 million for centers) to the Department of Early Learning (DEL) to implement a tiered reimbursement pilot for providers taking state subsidized children. The DEL will provide the Committee with an update on rate setting, including the specific subsidy rates identified, and the process and criteria used to determine rates. The DEL will also update the Committee on the Early Achievers Opportunity Grant including specific information on the number of providers participating, the number of providers who have been rated and at what level, any challenges or recommendations for strengthening the program, and the DEL's plans for continuing the program once the Race to the Top grant ends. The committee will receive an update on the Early Achivers Opportunity Grants and the implementation of tiered reimbursement

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Catrina Lucero

Project Title: Readiness to Learn Funding

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on school district use of Learning Assistance Program funding for the Readiness to Learn program.

Project Description:

Readiness to Learn is an early intervention dropout reduction program that provides support to students and their families who are significantly at-risk, combining school and community-based resources to reduce barriers to learning, bolster student engagement, and ensure that all children are able to attend school, ready to learn. In 2013, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5946 permitted school districts to use up to 5 percent of their Learning Assistance Program (LAP) funding for Readiness to Learn. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction has indicated that 33 districts plan to use a portion of their LAP funding for the Readiness to Learn program in school year 2014-15. The Committee will receive an update on school district use of LAP funding for the Readiness to Learn program.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jessica Harrell

Project Title: College Bound Scholarship Work Group

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on the work of the College Bound Scholarship Work Group.

Project Description:

The Legislature passed Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6436 during the 2014 session, which created a legislative work group to examine the College Bound Scholarship program and make recommendations to ensure that the program is viable, productive, and effective. A final report is due to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2014. During the interim, staff will update the Committee as to the progress of the work group and any preliminary recommendations. The Committee will receive an update on the work of the College Bound Scholarship Work Group.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Catrina Lucero

Project Title: Teacher Professional Development

Project Goal:

Provide the Committee with an overview of the teacher professional development services provided by the Educational Service Districts to the school districts, including an overview of the Educational Service District funding for professional development.

Project Description:

Educational service districts deliver cooperative services to school districts and other learning communities throughout the state. Broadly, these services include: administrative and management services; learning and teaching services; and technology services. There are currently nine educational service districts serving 295 school districts in Washington. The Committee will receive an overview of the teacher professional development services provided by the educational service districts.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Jessica Harrell

Project Title: Federal Impact Aid

Project Goal:

Update the Committee on the status of federal Impact Aid provided to school districts, including an overview of the impact of sequestration on school districts' federal Impact Aid.

Project Description:

The federal government provides financial assistance to local school districts through the Impact Aid Program. The program was designed to assist local school districts that have lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt federal property, or that have experienced increased expenditures due to enrollment of federally-connected children, including children living on Indian lands. The Committee will receive an update on the status of federal Impact Aid provided to school districts.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Jessica Harrell

**House of Representatives
College Bound Scholarship Work Group
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
TBD	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	College Bound Scholarship Work Group	Work Session
TBD	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	College Bound Scholarship Work Group	Work Session
TBD	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	College Bound Scholarship Work Group	Work Session

Project Title: College Bound Scholarship Work Group

Project Goal:

Make recommendations regarding the continued viability, productivity, and effectiveness of the College Bound Scholarship Program.

Project Description:

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6436 created the College Bound Scholarship (CBS) Program work group during the 2014 legislative session to make recommendations to keep the program viable, productive, and effective. The work group is to meet at least once, and no more than five times, during the interim. A final report is due to the Legislature by December 31, 2014 with recommendations for making the CBS program viable.

Number & Type of Meetings: Three work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Catrina Lucero

House of Representatives
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government & Information Technology
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee (Joint with ENVI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Financing of State Parks 	Work Session
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Technology Update Fire Season Update 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Department of Corrections Capacity Update on "Swift and Certain" Impacts on Community Supervision 	Work Session

Project Title: Sustainable Financing of State Parks

Project Goal:

Continue discussing strategies to sustainably fund state park operations.

Project Description:

In the past several years, the Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) has explored various options for sustainably funding state park operations. In 2014 the Legislature established a statutory framework for partnerships between the Commission and non-agency partners, and set certain limitations on commercial advertising associated with state park activities.

The recent discussions of state park funding options have been accompanied by recognition of the economic importance to the state of its parks and outdoor recreation opportunities. In February 2014 Governor Inslee issued an executive order creating the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Parks and Outdoor Recreation, which is charged with developing an action plan and issuing recommendations for managing outdoor recreation assets and state programs, and promoting outdoor recreation jobs and businesses. In addition, the 2014 Supplemental Operating Budget funded a study to quantify the economic contributions of state public lands and outdoor recreation.

The Committee will hold a joint work session with the Environment Committee to review the action plan and recommendations developed by the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session (joint with ENVI)

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jacob Lipson and Jason Callahan (ENVI); Dan Jones (APPG)

Project Title: Information Technology Update

Project Goal:

Update the Subcommittee on the status of major information technology projects.

Project Description:

The Office of the Chief Information Officer will provide an overview of the major projects that have received funding in the operating budget, and will discuss its process for reviewing funding requests for the 2015-17 Operating Budget. The Subcommittee will be briefed by agencies on the status of a number of individual projects including the Department of Enterprise Services' Time Leave and Attendance project, the State Patrol's Narrowband Radio project, and the Administrative Office of the Courts' Superior Court Case Management System project and the Enterprise Content Management System project for the Court of Appeals.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Derek Rutter and Alex MacBain

Project Title: Fire Season Update**Project Goal:**

Update the Subcommittee on the 2014 fire season.

Project Description:

Appropriations to the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Fish and Wildlife for fire suppression costs have totaled \$25.1 million so far in the 2013-15 biennium. The Subcommittee will be briefed on the status of Department of Natural Resources fire suppression activities for the 2014 fire season.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Dan Jones

Project Title: Update on Department of Corrections Capacity**Project Goal:**

Update the Subcommittee on the Department of Corrections capacity and the status on the use of female jail beds.

Project Description:

In the 2014 Supplemental Operating Budget, the Legislature provided the Department of Corrections (DOC) \$4 million to open a 256-bed medium security unit and \$1.2 million to contract for female jail beds starting May 1, 2014. The Subcommittee will receive an update on the current DOC inmate population, population projections from the November inmate population caseload forecast, a status on the use of jail beds in lieu of prison beds for females, and a report on the potential uses for additional jail beds.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Alex MacBain

Project Title: Update on "Swift and Certain" Impacts on Community Supervision

Project Goal:

Update the Subcommittee on the impacts of "Swift and Certain" policies on the Department of Corrections' Community Supervision Division.

Project Description:

Chapter 6, Laws of 2012 (2E2SSB 6204) enacted policy changes related to implementation of a "Swift and Certain" model for community supervision of offenders. In December 2013 the Department of Corrections adopted new policies for offenders who fail to report, making failure to report a high level violation in certain circumstances. The Subcommittee will receive updates on the impacts of the "Swift and Certain" policies, the delivery of programming for offenders on community supervision, the status of the community supervision violator population, and the impacts of the December 2013 policy changes.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Alex MacBain

**House of Representatives
 Appropriations Subcommittee on Health & Human Services
 Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
October	All Day	TBA	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Economic Services Administration's WorkFirst and Working Connections Programs ▫ Prescription Drug Initiatives 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Individual and Family Services ▫ Community First Choice Option 	Work Session

Project Title: Economic Services Administration's WorkFirst and Working Connections Programs

Project Goal:

Receive an update on WorkFirst and Working Connections programs, outcomes, and policy implementation.

Project Description:

The Department of Social & Health Services Economic Services Administration (ESA) was directed to develop a plan to address the following outcomes: increased employment, completion of education and training, child care and education stability for children, housing stability, reduction in the return rate after exiting the program, and work participation requirements. The Committee will hold a work session at which the ESA will provide an overview of the plan and an update on the outcomes. Additionally, updates regarding work participation targets and maintenance-of-effort requirements will be provided to the Committee. Lastly, the Committee will receive an update on the implementation of the policy changes included in the 2014 Supplemental Budget.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: October 2014

Staff Assigned: Melissa Palmer

Project Title: Prescription Drug Initiatives

Project Goal:

Review the results of initiatives to reduce the cost of prescription drugs in state-purchased health programs.

Project Description:

The Health Care Authority (HCA) administers programs to control the costs of prescription drugs in state-purchased health care programs. The Committee will be briefed on the effectiveness of those programs at promoting utilization of lower cost generic drugs and ensuring that patients can access the appropriate medications for their conditions. For a majority of clients, the state purchases health care through contracts with managed care plans. The Committee will also be briefed on the policies that the managed care plans use to control costs and how the HCA ensures that individuals receiving medications through the plans have appropriate access to prescription drugs. The briefing will include information and comparisons to private health insurance programs and policies to control costs of prescription drugs.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: October 2014

Staff Assigned: Melissa Palmer

Project Title: Individual and Family Services

Project Goal:

Examine recent modifications to the Individual and Family Services (IFS) program and the anticipated impact of converting IFS to a Medicaid waiver.

Project Description:

The Individual and Family Services program (IFS) is a state-funded program that supports families with a Developmental Disabilities-eligible family member living in the family home. The IFS offers a choice of services and allows families more control over the resources allocated to them. Common services include respite, transportation, co-pays for medical services, equipment/supplies, and recreational opportunities.

In the 2013-15 Operating Budget, the Legislature added \$1.5 million General Fund-State to the IFS program, and also directed the Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS) to modify IFS award levels. In the 2014 legislative session, SSB 6387 directed DSHS to pursue a Medicaid waiver for IFS in fiscal year 2015, to begin phasing additional clients into the new IFS program (starting June 2015), and to expand the new IFS program by 4,000 clients by June 2017.

The Committee will review: (1) the redesigned IFS program, including new eligibility requirements and service offerings; (2) clients added to IFS during fiscal year 2014, and the impact on the no-paid services caseload; and (3) progress toward converting IFS to a Medicaid waiver.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: James Kettel

Project Title: Community First Choice Option

Project Goal:

Review implementation of the Community First Choice Option (CFCO) including potential uses for CFCO savings.

Project Description:

The Community First Choice Option (CFCO) is an optional state plan service offered under the Affordable Care Act. To be eligible, clients must be assessed as needing nursing facility level of care, must have income that falls below 150 percent of the federal poverty level, or must receive medical assistance under a qualified eligibility group. Certain services must be offered under the CFCO, including services commonly referred to as personal care, including assistance with: (1) Activities-of-Daily Living (like eating, bathing, and toileting); (2) Instrumental Activities-of-Daily Living (like shopping, laundry, and housekeeping); and (3) various health-related tasks. Other home and community-based services may be added to the CFCO at the discretion of states.

Services under the CFCO must be offered statewide, there can be no cap on enrollment, and there can be no targeting of clients. Federal matching funds cover 56 percent of the cost of services under the CFCO, which is 6 percent higher than the current match rate for these services. In the 2014 legislative session, ESHB 2746 directed the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to refinance personal care services through the CFCO, to be implemented no later than August 30, 2015.

The Committee will review: (1) the CFCO proposal that the DSHS submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; (2) an updated implementation timeline; and (3) recommendations from the Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability for potential additional investment in home and community-based services.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: James Kettel

**House of Representatives
Business & Financial Services
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
October 2014	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee (Joint with OVER)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Banking Regulations and the Development of the Legal Marijuana Market 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examining Interest Rates and Fees Charged by Washington Pawnbrokers Automobile Manufacturers and Dealership Licenses Insurance Holding Company Act 	Work Session

Project Title: Federal Banking Regulations and the Development of the Legal Marijuana Market

Project Goal:

Examine the status and impacts of federal banking regulations on the development of the legal marijuana market.

Project Description:

Although Initiative 502 legalized marijuana in the State of Washington and authorized the creation of a recreational marijuana marketing system, the production, processing, sale, and possession of marijuana remains illegal under federal law. In turn, the illegality of marijuana-related commerce under federal law has profound implications with respect to the ability of state-licensed marijuana producers, processors, and retailers to obtain services from, or do business with, banks or other financial institutions. Specifically, there are myriad federal statutes prohibiting banks and other financial institutions from engaging in transactions involving funds generated by unlawful activity. A financial institution that knowingly engages in a transaction involving proceeds derived from marijuana-related activity can be subject to federal prosecution under one of several federal statutes, including: (1) money laundering statutes; (2) unlicensed money transmitter statutes; and (3) the Bank Secrecy Act. Accordingly, until recently the effect of these federal statutes made it impossible for marijuana-related businesses to open bank accounts, obtain loans, engage in credit card transactions, or obtain any other type of financial service from a financial institution.

In February 2014 the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of the Treasury (FinCEN) issued a memorandum establishing guidelines for financial institutions seeking to provide financial services to marijuana-related businesses. The memorandum authorizes financial institutions to provide financial services to such businesses provided stringent requirements are met. In simplest terms, the memorandum establishes that financial institutions can provide financial services to marijuana-related businesses only if such businesses are operated in strict compliance with the requirements of Initiative 502 and other state laws. In addition, in order to avoid federal sanctions, a financial institution is required to bear the burden of exercising stringent "due diligence" in monitoring the legality of the commercial practices of any marijuana-related business to which it provides services.

The Committee will hold one joint work session with the House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee to examine the status and impacts of these federal banking regulations on the development of the legal marijuana market.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session (joint with OVER)

Completion Date: October 2014

Staff Assigned: Linda Merelle and David Rubenstein

Project Title: Examining Interest Rates and Fees Charged by Washington Pawnbrokers

Project Goal:

Provide an overview of interest rates and fees charged by pawnbrokers in Washington and throughout the United States.

Project Description:

Under Washington law, a pawnbroker is a person engaged, in whole or in part, in the business of loaning money on the security of pledges, deposits or conditional sales of personal property, or the purchase and sale of personal property. The loans are nonrecourse and collateral-based. A nonrecourse loan prohibits the pawnbroker from pursuing the individual upon a default. In the case of a default, the pawnbroker may take possession of the collateral. Banks and other financial institutions do not offer loans of this type. According to a national survey of pawnbroker businesses in 2013, the most common transaction by a pawnbroker is a loan, and the typical loan is for \$150 for 30 days.

In Washington, interest rates and fees charged for loans made by pawnbrokers are charged per month. The allowable interest rates are set out in statute in discrete increments. The smaller the loan, the greater interest rate allowed. For a loan in the amount of \$5, the statutory maximum allowable interest rate is 20 percent for each 30-day period. For a loan of \$50, the statutory maximum rate is 5 percent over the same period. For amounts of \$100 or more, the maximum interest rate is 3 percent for the same period. The Legislature last modified the interest rates for loans made by pawnbrokers in 1991. The statute regarding allowable fees to be charged by pawnbrokers was last amended in 2007. At that time, the amount of the maximum allowable fee was increased by one dollar for each increment described in statute.

The Committee will hold a work session during Committee Assembly to examine interest rates and fees charged by pawnbrokers in Washington compared to those charged in other states, and to present any proposals or recommendations for legislative changes. Committee staff will provide background research regarding the standards in other states and other necessary research or support to assist in the development and drafting of any proposed legislation.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Linda Merelle

Project Title: Automobile Manufacturers and Dealership Licenses

Project Goal:

Examine issues regarding the manufacturer-franchise model in Washington for the sale of new motor vehicles and address issues posed by manufacturers who seek to directly sell new motor vehicles cars to consumers.

Project Description:

In 2014, the Legislature enacted ESSB 6272, which modified terms and conditions of franchise agreements between manufacturers and new motor vehicle dealers. The legislation also provided a narrow exemption that allowed a manufacturer to sell its make of vehicle directly to consumers, where the manufacturer held a new motor vehicle dealer license as of January 1, 2014.

The Committee will hold a work session during Committee Assembly to examine issues raised by ESSB 6272. Committee staff will keep abreast of and document court decisions, proposed legislation, and rulemaking actions in jurisdictions throughout the United States regarding the ability of a manufacturer to sell a make of new motor vehicle directly to consumers. Committee staff will also provide support regarding research, analysis, and drafting of any proposed legislation.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Linda Merelle

Project Title: Insurance Holding Company Act

Project Goal:

Examine issues regarding confidentiality in the provisions of the proposed insurance holding company act and make recommendations for legislation to be introduced during the 2015 legislative session.

Project Description:

During the 2014 legislative session, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner introduced HB 2461, which addressed issues regarding the solvency of insurance companies. The bill incorporated revised provisions of two model acts developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC): (1) the Own Risk and Solvency Assessment Model Act (ORSA) and (2) the Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act (Holding Company Act).

During the course of the legislative session, stakeholders raised issues regarding provisions in the Holding Company Act that governed confidentiality of information and documents provided to the Insurance Commissioner. The Committee will hold a work session during Committee Assembly to address the issues that were raised and any proposed recommendations in response. Committee staff will provide research, analysis, and drafting support for any proposed legislation.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Linda Merelle

STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Project Title: Theatrical Wrestling Licensing Requirements

Project Goal:

Monitor the review conducted by the Department of Licensing regarding the regulation of professional and theatrical wrestling performances.

Project Description:

Professional and theatrical wrestling, including lucha libre events, are regulated under chapter 67.08 RCW and chapter 36-13 WAC, which also govern boxing and martial arts events. Those provisions require licensure of participants, security provided by promoters, an on-site ambulance, and various fees. In addition to licensing fees, promoters must pay to the Department of Licensing (DOL) 6 percent of the gross receipts for admission to each event and must pay for the attendance of an inspector to monitor the event.

During the 2014 legislative session, the Legislature considered HB 2573, which required the DOL to review the licensing requirements for non-combative theatrical wrestling. The bill passed the House of Representatives, but not the Senate. Committee staff will monitor the DOL's review of the current level of licensing requirements and possible exemptions from certain regulations.

Number & Type of Meetings: N/A

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: David Rubenstein

Project Title: Short-Term Consumer Lending Literature Review

Project Goal:

Review, analyze, and summarize new studies and policy models on short-term consumer lending.

Project Description:

In 2011, 2012, and 2013, the Legislature has considered legislation addressing short-term consumer loans. More recently, the topic has received increased national attention. A series of reports in late 2013 by the Pew Charitable Trusts studied the status of such lending, while the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has released a report of its own. Each report makes policy recommendations to both state and federal governments. Finally, the U.S. Senate has held recent hearings to examine short-term consumer lending in anticipation of possible federal legislation.

Committee staff will review the recent reports and studies on short-term consumer lending, analyze policy recommendations that may be applicable to Washington, and summarize findings in a report.

Number & Type of Meetings: N/A

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: David Rubenstein

Project Title: Electronic Notice and Document Delivery by Insurers

Project Goal:

Examine issues regarding electronic notice and the electronic delivery of documents by Washington insurers.

Project Description:

In 1996, the Legislature enacted the Washington Electronic Authentication Act (WEAA) which governs the use of digital signatures in electronic transactions. The WEAA took effect in January 1998.

The Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA) contains standards regarding electronic notice and delivery of documents. To date, all states except three have adopted the UETA. Washington is one of the states that has not adopted the UETA.

House Bill 2662 (HB 2662) was introduced during the 2014 legislative session. Under this bill, insurers would be permitted to provide electronic notifications and documents to applicants, policy holders, and other recipients. Insurers would also be allowed to post standard property and casualty insurance policies electronically, instead of providing hard copies. The provisions of HB 2662 that would allow insurers to provide electronic notice and delivery of documents would require that the insurers meet the standards of the UETA.

The Committee will hold a work session at the beginning of the 2015 session regarding electronic notice and delivery of documents by insurers. During the interim, Committee Staff will provide research and analysis regarding issues raised by stakeholders and will provide drafting support for any proposed legislation.

Number & Type of Meetings: N/A

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: David Rubenstein

**House of Representatives
Capital Budget
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
May 13	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financing Options for the State's Storm Water, Flood Risk Reduction, and Water Supply Priorities Review of Facilities Planning 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> K-12 School Facility Inventory and Condition of Schools K-12 Skill Center Scoring Process and Long Range Facilities Plan Financing Options for the State's Storm Water, Flood Risk Reduction, and Water Supply Priorities Review of Facilities Planning 	Work Session

Project Title: Financing Options for the State's Storm Water, Flood Risk Reduction, and Water Supply Priorities

Project Goal:

Prepare legislation for the 2015 session that proposes state and local financing options to address equally the state's storm water, flood, and water supply priorities through fiscal year 2025.

Project Description:

Future capital costs related to storm water, flood risk reduction, and water supply projects are estimated in the billions of dollars. Capital budget writers consider each of these three categories as important to furthering the state's public health and safety, environmental, and economic goals.

This interim project builds on policy and fiscal initiatives introduced during the 2014 session in HB 2356, HB 2357, and SB 6516. The project will identify state financing options to address equally the state's priorities through fiscal year 2025 for: storm water; flood risk reduction and floodplain restoration; and water supply and integrated water management. In addition, the project will identify local financing options using new or existing local governance structures that generate revenues from municipal and agricultural beneficiaries.

There will be two work sessions. The May 2014 work session will be agency and stakeholder presentations on: (1) existing studies or plans that quantify levels of funding needed in each of the three categories; and (2) concepts for consideration related to state or local financing options. The December 2014 work session will be staff presentations and committee discussion on state and local financing options.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Meg Van Schoorl and Susan Howson (Capital Budget); Jeff Mitchell and Richelle Geiger (Finance)

Project Title: Review of Facilities Planning

Project Goal:

Review state agency facilities plans to determine best operating and construction options.

Project Description:

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) develops and reports six-year facilities plans every two years. The plans describe agency needs for space planning based on program and FTE changes. The Capital Budget Committee will work with the OFM to develop space use policies and assist in determining lease or own strategies.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Steve Masse

Project Title: K-12 School Facility Inventory and Condition of Schools

Project Goal:

To monitor progress on the compilation of data into the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) Inventory and Condition of Schools (ICOS) system.

Project Description:

The Legislature has a need for accurate school facility inventory and building condition data to support statewide programs such as the School Construction Assistance Program and for school facility information requests to support policy development. The ICOS is a web-based system where inventory and condition details about facilities and sites operated by school districts are documented and stored. The OSPI will provide a progress update on data collection efforts to the Committee at the December Committee Assembly meeting.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Susan Howson

Project Title: K-12 Skill Center Scoring Process and Long Range Facilities Plan

Project Goal:

To review the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) skill center scoring process and priority ranking results for major projects, including integration into OSPI's 10-year capital plan.

Project Description:

The OSPI conducts a biennial review of skill center long range plans and a prioritization process for major skill center capital projects in collaboration with skill center directors and school facility experts. The resulting prioritized list informs the development of the OSPI's 10-year capital plan. An update on the skill center scoring process and results will be provided to the Committee at the December Committee Assembly meeting.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Susan Howson

**House of Representatives
Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
September	TBA	Seattle	Full Committee	▮ The Impact of Economic Development on Community Preservation	Work session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	▮ Basic Tenets of Federal Indian Law	Work Session

Project Title: The Impact of Economic Development on Community Preservation

Project Goal:

To examine the effect of large-scale economic development projects on the heritage, culture and preservation of local communities and to learn how those issues are being addressed through a public development authority.

Project Description:

The Committee will visit the Pioneer Square-International District in downtown Seattle and explore how communities in that area have been affected by and responded to the construction of major public facilities, public works, and capital projects adjacent to the District. The tour will include visiting particular areas that have been impacted by the construction of public stadiums and learn how congestion, traffic, and other factors have affected those areas. Members will meet with community leaders and organizations, including the Historic South Downtown, a public development authority created under state law, to learn about resources that are being used to preserve and enhance the culturally distinct neighborhoods within the District.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Sean Flynn

Project Title: Basic Tenets of Federal Indian Law

Project Goal:

To gain a better understanding of the legal relationship between tribes and the state that will help members address issues regarding government-to-government relations.

Project Description:

The work session will include a presentation from a leading legal scholar in the field of federal Indian law. The presentation will cover the basic legal framework of federal law and policy regarding Native Americans, including the historical context of the relationship among the tribes, states, and federal government. The presentation will include recent developments in Indian Country that relate to specific issues with tribes and emerging legal issues affecting tribal-state relations.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Sean Flynn

**House of Representatives
Early Learning & Human Services
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
May	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Safe Sleep Practices	Work Session
TBA	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Dependency Court Processes	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Focusing on Respite The Use of Psychotropic Medication for Children in Foster Care 	Work Session

Project Title: Safe Sleep Practices

Project Goal:

Identify the recommendations for safe sleeping practices for infants and toddlers that are supported by research and determine what form of outreach would be appropriate to better educate the public on these recommendations.

Project Description:

The Committee will hold a work session involving diverse stakeholders to examine safe sleep practices. The Committee will explore avenues to strengthen the alignment of child care policy with the safe sleep practice recommendations established by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Additionally, the Committee will examine any barriers to following safe sleep practice policy experienced by child care providers. The Committee will further discuss ways to contribute to prevention efforts to reduce sudden unexpected infant deaths (including sudden infant death syndrome) in Washington.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: May 2014

Staff Assigned: Lindsay Lanham

Project Title: Dependency Court Processes

Project Goal:

Identify innovative family and juvenile court practices that improve outcomes in dependency cases.

Project Description:

The Committee will review the impact that the Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Grant Program has had in different jurisdictions around the state and the parameters of that grant program.

The Committee will hold a work session to review the specific changes that have been implemented in family and juvenile courts around the state, including the length of judicial assignments to juvenile court, mediation, calendaring, and use of veteran parents, among others.

The Committee will then determine whether changes should be made to the grant program or statute to allow for improved court processes.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Luke Wickham

Project Title: Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Focusing on Respite

Project Goal:

Identify areas that need improvement for individuals with developmental disabilities with a focus on respite care.

Project Description:

This project will explore services that need improvement for individuals with developmental disabilities. The focus will be on barriers for family members caring for an individual with a developmental disability accessing respite services.

The Committee will hold a work session to review the degree of relation that is required for a caregiver to receive respite services, the amount of respite time available to families, and whether the training required for respite providers provides enough information to providers about the unique needs of individuals with developmental disabilities, among other issues related to respite care.

The Individual and Family Services Program (IFS) provides services to individuals living with a family member. These services include therapies, training, counseling, and respite, among others. Substitute Senate Bill 6387 directed the Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS) to pursue a Medicaid waiver for IFS in fiscal year 2015, to begin phasing additional clients into the new IFS program (starting June 2015), and to expand the new IFS program by 4,000 clients by June 2017. The Committee will review the plan designed by the DSHS for the new IFS program, with a focus on the respite services that will be provided by the new program.

The Committee will consider what future steps, including legislation, could be taken to remove barriers for families seeking respite services.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Luke Wickham

Project Title: The Use of Psychotropic Medication for Children in Foster Care

Project Goal:

Identify considerations for setting parameters and oversight of psychotropic medication for children in foster care.

Project Description:

The Committee will hold a work session to receive a panel presentation on current child welfare policy and practice relating to the use of psychotropic medication(s) for children in foster care. In addition to reviewing the number of children prescribed psychotropic medications, the panel will also discuss what interventions are currently offered to children prior to administering psychotropic medication. Particular attention will be given to children five years of age and younger.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Lindsay Lanham

**House of Representatives
Education
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Student Data: Collection, Use, and Privacy	Work Session

Project Title: Student Data: Collection, Use, and Privacy

Project Goal:

Conduct a comprehensive examination of current issues associated with student data, including collection, use, and laws and policies related to privacy.

Project Description:

Interest in the collection, aggregation, and disaggregation of data about student characteristics and performance has steadily increased in recent years. The Education Research and Data Center in the Office of Financial Management was established in 2007, and the K-12 Data Governance Group in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction was established in 2009. Each year policymakers consider new requests or assignments for these groups. Washington has received two federal grants to establish statewide longitudinal student data systems. Legislation is introduced each year to expand data collection from school districts, including: data on student discipline; data on students who are in foster care, are homeless, or are in special education; and data better disaggregated by racial and ethnic subgroups.

Use of data to identify struggling students and craft targeted interventions is a key strategy for school improvement. However, there are also increasing questions about student data. It is not clear whether classroom teachers and principals have access to the types of data needed to inform and improve instruction, or whether they have opportunities to develop the skills to use data for this purpose. It is not clear whether there is adequate capacity or sufficient direction at the state level to synthesize data in ways that are useful for policymakers. A number of states are reconsidering their laws and policies regarding protection of the privacy of student data.

During the 2014 interim, the Education Committee will conduct a comprehensive examination of issues associated with student data, including through a series of white papers produced by Committee staff on various topics and a work session with multiple presentations during Committee Assembly. The Committee will also include the use of data to inform instruction and as a school improvement strategy as a point of inquiry during its school site visits and in discussions with the Colleges of Education.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Megan Wargacki

**House of Representatives
Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
April 24	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities	Work Session
May, Mid-Late	Afternoon	TBA	Full Committee	Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities	Work Session
June, Mid	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities	Work Session

Project Title: Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities

Project Goal:

Identify strategies for how education that supports career readiness, including but not limited to career and technical education, may be better integrated into secondary education opportunities for all students.

Project Description:

The Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities (Task Force) was established through a budget proviso in the 2013-15 Omnibus Appropriations Act. The Task Force is expected to examine a range of topics pertaining to career readiness and career and technical education (CTE). During the 2013 interim, the Task Force focused on CTE course equivalencies, high school graduation requirements, results from the 2012 CTE Strategic Plan, and discussions with high school and skill center CTE directors, high school counselors, and representatives from institutions of higher education. During the 2014 interim, the Task Force will direct its attention to work-integrated learning initiatives, career and college planning and guidance, the High School and Beyond Plan, and discussions with students. A final report from the Task Force is due September 1, 2014.

Number & Type of Meetings: Three work sessions

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Barbara McLain (OPR) and Katherine Taylor (SCS)

**House of Representatives
Environment
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Quality Regulation Updates Vessel Discharges of Sewage in Puget Sound 	Work Session
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee (Joint with APPG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Value and Sustainable Financing of State Parks 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Policy Development Oil Transportation 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee (Joint with AGNR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture and Water Quality 	Work Session

Project Title: The Value and Sustainable Financing of State Parks

Project Goal:

Continue discussing strategies to sustainably fund state park operations.

Project Description:

In the past several years, the Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) has explored various options for sustainably funding state park operations. In 2014 the Legislature established a statutory framework for partnerships between the Commission and non-agency partners, and set certain limitations on commercial advertising associated with state park activities.

The recent discussions of state park funding options have been accompanied by recognition of the economic importance to the state of its parks and outdoor recreation opportunities. In February 2014 Governor Inslee issued an executive order creating the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Parks and Outdoor Recreation, which is charged with developing an action plan and issuing recommendations for managing outdoor recreation assets and state programs, and promoting outdoor recreation jobs and businesses. In addition, the 2014 supplemental operating budget funded a study to quantify the economic contributions of state public lands and outdoor recreation.

The Committee will hold a joint work session with the Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government & Information Technology to review the action plan and recommendations developed by the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: June 2014 and September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jacob Lipson; Jason Callahan

Project Title: Water Quality Regulation Updates

Project Goal:

Monitor the progress of the Department of Ecology's water quality standards rulemaking, which will include the establishment of new human health criteria.

Project Description:

Since 2011 the Department of Ecology (Department) has been in the process of updating its rules setting surface water quality standards. These rule updates include a revision of the fish consumption rate of Washington residents, which is a component of the human health criteria calculation used to determine water quality standards for toxics. The Department has convened multiple stakeholder forums to provide science and policy input on their rule development process.

The Committee will receive an update from the Department concerning the status of the water quality rule-making process, and the policy options which are under consideration.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jacob Lipson; Jason Callahan

Project Title: Vessel Discharges of Sewage in Puget Sound

Project Goal:

Monitor the development of rules to restrict sewage discharges from vessels in Puget Sound.

Project Description:

Sewage discharges may contribute to water quality degradation by increasing bacterial levels or decreasing levels of dissolved oxygen. Federal law provides for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer vessel discharge regulations. Upon the receipt of a petition from a state, the EPA may prohibit sewage discharges from vessels in specific threatened waters. Since 2012 the Department of Ecology (Ecology) has been studying the merits of establishing a no sewage discharge zone for vessels in Puget Sound and adjacent waters. In February 2014, Ecology, in conjunction with the Puget Sound Partnership and the Department of Health, proposed a draft petition to the EPA to establish a no discharge zone in Puget Sound for all commercial and recreational vessels.

The Committee will receive an update on the status of the no discharge zone petition to the EPA, and will engage stakeholders on the proposed regulatory developments.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jacob Lipson; Jason Callahan

Project Title: Climate Change Policy Development

Project Goal:

Continue to explore carbon pricing mechanisms and other policy options to help the State achieve its greenhouse gas emission limits.

Project Description:

In 2008 the Legislature established the following greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction limits for Washington: (1) by 2020, reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels; (2) by 2035, reduce GHG emissions to 25 percent below 1990 levels; and (3) by 2050, the state will do its part to reach global climate stabilization levels by reducing overall GHG emissions to 50 percent below 1990 levels, or 70 percent below the state's expected emissions that year.

In 2013 the Legislature established the Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup (CLEW), which is comprised of the Governor and two members each from the House and the Senate. The CLEW commissioned an independent consultant to study the state's greenhouse gas emissions profile and to analyze climate change policies that would help the state achieve its greenhouse gas emission limits. In January 2014 the CLEW submitted a report to the Legislature that included two different sets of climate change policy recommendations.

During the 2014 interim, the Committee will continue to consider climate change policies and engage with stakeholders to identify the most efficient and effective mechanisms for reducing the state's greenhouse gas emissions to levels below the limits established by state law.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Jacob Lipson; Jason Callahan

Project Title: Oil Transportation

Project Goal:

Review the initial results of the Department of Ecology's oil transportation study.

Project Description:

The development of fossil fuel resources in new North American locations has led to recent changes in the modes of transporting oil through the state to refineries and terminals. According to Department of Ecology estimates, the volume of oil arriving by rail in the state rose from zero in 2011 to almost 17 million barrels in 2013. The transportation of oil by rail is expected to continue to grow over the next few years, as several new facilities have been proposed and several existing facilities have announced expansion plans. In the 2014 supplemental operating budget, the Legislature appropriated \$300,000 to the Department of Ecology to study the environmental, public health, and safety effects of the transport of oil through the state.

The Committee will receive an update from the Department of Ecology on its initial results of their oil transportation study and on the changing patterns of oil transportation in the state. The Committee will also track the status of oil facility siting and expansion proposals, and will continue to review the risks associated with the different maritime and terrestrial methods of transporting oil.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Jacob Lipson; Jason Callahan

Project Title: Agriculture and Water Quality

Project Goal:

Continue legislative discussions involving the nexus between the state's agricultural industry and water quality regulations.

Project Description:

The intersection of agriculture and water quality regulations has, of late, been in the forefront of many policy discussions, court proceedings, and legislative debates. Just in this past year, the Supreme Court issued a final ruling in Lemire v. Department of Ecology, a settlement was reached in a federal case arising out of Yakima County, the U.S. Congress passed a Farm Bill with relevant provisions, and both the Environment and the Agriculture & Natural Resources committees heard bills on the topic. In addition, the Department of Ecology has announced the creation of an agriculture and water quality working group to meet over the course of 2014.

The two committees will meet to hear updates on the processes and results of the Department of Ecology's work group and other developing issues and debates involving the nexus between the state's agricultural industry and water quality regulations.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session (joint with AGNR)

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Jason Callahan; Jacob Lipson

**House of Representatives
Finance
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
June	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	City and County Fiscal Sustainability	Work Session
September (2 days)	TBA	Eastern Washington	Full Committee	State Tax Issues for Rural Washington Communities	Work Session/ Tour
October	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	City and County Fiscal Sustainability	Work Session
December	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▮ The Taxation of Electronic Cigarettes ▮ Updates on Interim Activities by DOR, LCB, JLARC, ERFC, and Other Workgroups with Tax-Related Duties ▮ High Technology Research and Development (R&D) Tax Incentive Programs ▮ Analysis of Senior Citizen Property Tax Relief Programs ▮ City and County Fiscal Sustainability 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	K-12 Funding Reform Options and Alternative State Tax Structure Models to Address the McCleary Court Decision	Work Session

Project Title: City and County Fiscal Sustainability

Project Goal:

Make recommendations to improve the revenue structure of cities and counties to improve their fiscal sustainability.

Project Description:

Cities and counties face a number of fiscal challenges regarding the provision of services within their existing revenue structures due to statewide tax initiatives, such as the one percent limit on property tax revenue growth, statewide changes to growth management, and the economy. The Committee will look at detailed data regarding city and county revenues, including state-shared revenues, and how these revenues conform to current service delivery models, population changes, and state and federal requirements regarding growth management, environmental policy, and other areas impacting local government. This analysis will also distinguish between the needs of cities and counties, small jurisdictions and large jurisdictions, and jurisdictions with and without a large economic base. The process will culminate with the Committee making recommendations on modifications to the revenue structure of cities and counties to improve their fiscal sustainability.

Number & Type of Meetings: Three work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Jeff Mitchell, Dominique Meyers, and Richelle Geiger

Project Title: State Tax Issues for Rural Washington Communities

Project Goal:

Explore state tax issues specifically relevant for Washington's rural communities.

Project Description:

Economic growth and diversification is a consistent objective for most Washington communities; however, the form, nature, and challenges of economic growth and diversification in Washington's rural communities is very different than it is for the heavily populated and urbanized areas along the Puget Sound corridor. At a work session, the Committee will look at state tax issues that are of central import to economic diversification and growth in Washington's rural areas, including tax preferences for data centers, facilities used for manufacturing or research and development, and the agricultural industry. The Committee will also tour several business locations for industries specific to Washington's rural areas that benefit from state tax preferences.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session and one tour

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Jeff Mitchell; Richelle Geiger

Project Title: The Taxation of Electronic Cigarettes

Project Goal:

Receive an in-depth overview of the latest data regarding electronic cigarettes and their use as a smoking cessation tool, use by minors, and health concerns. Receive an overview of the taxation of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Project Description:

An electronic cigarette (e-cig or e-cigarette) is a battery-powered device that simulates tobacco smoking. E-cigarettes have become increasingly popular as a smoking cessation product; however, concerns have been raised about nicotine toxicity and the inappropriate use of e-cigarettes by minors. To address the appropriate level of state taxation of e-cigarettes, the Committee will look at the latest data regarding e-cigarette health concerns, e-cigarette use by minors, and e-cigarettes used as a smoking cessation tool, as well as receive an overview of the taxation of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Richelle Geiger

Project Title: Updates on Interim Activities by DOR, LCB, JLARC, ERFC, and Other Workgroups with Tax-Related Duties

Project Goal:

Receive briefings from the Department of Revenue, Liquor Control Board, Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee, and the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council on tax-related activities occurring over the 2014 interim.

Project Description:

During the 2014 interim, various state agencies will be involved with programs, litigation, studies, and other endeavors directly involving state and local taxes. Examples include the Liquor Control Board's implementation of initiatives related to marijuana and liquor; tax-related litigation involving the Department of Revenue; Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee's performance audits of tax preferences; and the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council's quarterly analysis and forecasts of economic activity and state revenue. The Committee will receive an update on these and other similar tax-related activities.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Jeff Mitchell

Project Title: High Technology Research and Development (R&D) Tax Incentive Programs

Project Goal:

Review the high-technology research and development (R&D) tax incentives, including the Department of Revenue's 2013 study of these programs, and receive stakeholder input.

Project Description:

The high technology R&D tax incentives consist of two programs: a B&O tax credit and a sales tax deferral for R&D facilities and equipment. These programs were adopted in 1994 and are set to expire on January 1, 2015. The Committee will receive a briefing on an extensive study conducted by the Department of Revenue in 2013 with respect to these programs and receive stakeholder input.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Dominique Meyers, Jeff Mitchell

Project Title: Analysis of Senior Citizen Property Tax Relief Programs

Project Goal:

Analyze changes in disposable income, property values, and life expectancy as it relates to the senior citizen property tax relief programs.

Project Description:

Property taxes can impose a substantial financial burden on those with fixed incomes. Washington's property tax relief programs have considerable value in addressing this burden. However, these property tax relief programs use income, age, and valuation thresholds that have not been amended in many years and do not reflect differences across the state with respect to these thresholds. Therefore, an in-depth analysis will be undertaken to assess changes both in time and geographically with respect to property valuations, disposable income, and age. The Committee will receive a briefing on the analysis.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Richelle Geiger

Project Title: K-12 Funding Reform Options and Alternative State Tax Structure Models to Address the McCleary Court Decision

Project Goal:

Explore a variety of K-12 funding reform options and alternative state tax structure models to address the McCleary court decision.

Project Description:

In 2012, in its ruling in McCleary v. Washington, the state Supreme Court held that the state has not complied with its Article IX, section 1 constitutional duty to make ample provision for the basic education of all children in Washington by providing regular, dependable, and adequate state funding. The Committee will explore a variety of funding reform options and alternative state tax models that could be implemented to satisfy the state's constitutional mandate to fully fund basic education.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: November 2014

Staff Assigned: Jeff Mitchell; Richelle Geiger

**House of Representatives
Government Accountability & Oversight
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
June 11	TBA	Woodinville / King County	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues Relating to Liquor Regulation and Taxation Following the Passage of Initiative 1183 	Work Session
July 9	TBA	Seattle	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status and Development of the Legal Recreational Marijuana Market Following Passage of Initiative 502 Status Report by the Liquor Control Board Regarding the Development and Functioning of the Recreational Marijuana Market 	Work Session
September 10	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status and Development of the Legal Recreational Marijuana Market Following Passage of Initiative 502 Lean Management and Efficiency in State Government Status Report by the Liquor Control Board Regarding the Development and Functioning of the Recreational Marijuana Market 	Public Hearing / Work Session
October 8	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Legalization of Marijuana In Colorado Status Report by the Liquor Control Board Regarding the Development and Functioning of the Recreational Marijuana Market 	Work Session
October 8	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee (Joint with BFS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Banking Regulations and the Development of the Legal Marijuana Market 	Joint Hearing / Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues Relating to Liquor Regulation and Taxation Following the Passage of Initiative 1183 Theft Prevention Efforts by Liquor Retailers and Underage Access to Liquor Status Report by the Liquor Control Board Regarding the Development and Functioning of the Recreational Marijuana Market 	Work Session

Project Title: Issues Relating to Liquor Regulation and Taxation Following the Passage of Initiative 1183

Project Goal:

Examine and assess issues arising since the privatization of the liquor industry in 2011, including: (1) the need for regulatory changes stemming from structural changes in the industry; and (2) taxation, distribution, and sales issues.

Project Description:

In 2011 the voters passed Initiative 1183 (I-1183) which privatized the distribution and sale of liquor. Following I-1183's passage, state-owned liquor stores sold to private parties and certain large retailers, primarily grocery stores, were licensed to conduct retail sales of spirits. In addition, several large distributors were licensed to conduct wholesale sales of spirits to retailers, bars, and restaurants. This privatization has led to changes in the structure of the industry which, in turn, has given rise to friction between the various sectors with respect to taxation, spirits distribution, and spirits retail sales. During the 2013 and 2014 legislative sessions, many bills were introduced in order to address the various taxation, distribution, and sales issues.

The Committee will hold two work sessions to examine and assess the regulatory changes needed to improve the industry's structure, and to address taxation, liquor distribution, and liquor sales issues.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Thamas Osborn; David Rubenstein

Project Title: Status and Development of the Legal Recreational Marijuana Market Following Passage of Initiative 502

Project Goal:

Study the general development and status of the legal recreational marijuana market and its impact on the trafficking of illegal marijuana.

Project Description:

In November 2012, Washington voters approved Initiative 502, which legalized the production, processing, sale, and possession of recreational marijuana. Beginning in 2013, the Washington State Liquor Control Board began the rule-making process for the regulation and licensing of marijuana producers, processors, and retailers, and also began accepting licensing applications for such marijuana-related businesses. The actual issuance of licenses began in early 2014 and is ongoing. Although it is still in its formative stage, the legal recreational marijuana market is expected to be functioning on a limited basis by July 2014.

The Committee will hold two work sessions to examine and assess the following: (1) the overall functioning of the legal recreational marijuana market; (2) the development and status of licensed marijuana producers, processors, and retailers; and (3) the impact of the legal recreational marijuana market on the illegal black market.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Thamas Osborn; David Rubenstein

Project Title: Status Report by the Liquor Control Board Regarding the Development and Functioning of the Recreational Marijuana Market

Project Goal:

Obtain updates from the Liquor Control Board regarding the development and functioning of the system for the production, processing, and sale of recreational marijuana pursuant to Initiative 502.

Project Description:

Under Initiative 502 and its implementing legislation, the Liquor Control Board (LCB) is tasked with overseeing the creation of the recreational marijuana market, which includes the regulation of production, processing, and retail sales facilities. The responsibilities of the LCB include rule-making, licensing, and enforcement activities with respect to recreational marijuana.

The Committee will hold four work sessions for the LCB to provide periodic updates regarding the development and functioning of the recreational marijuana market during its first year of existence.

Number & Type of Meetings: Four work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Thamas Osborn

Project Title: Lean Management and Efficiency in State Government

Project Goal:

Educate the Committee about "Lean" management principles and examine how they can be used to make government agencies more efficient and effective.

Project Description:

"Lean" refers to a management approach used by a wide range of public and private entities to improve productivity, eliminate waste, increase customer satisfaction and employee morale, and improve the quality of products and services delivered. This management system was initially developed by the Toyota Corporation and has since been widely adopted by government agencies and corporations around the world. In 2011 Governor Gregoire issued Executive Order 11-04, entitled "Lean Transformation," requiring all executive cabinet agencies to learn about Lean principles, concepts, and tools, and to generally implement the Lean management approach. In 2013 Governor Inslee issued Executive Order 13-04, creating the "Results Washington" office, which is tasked, in part, with creating effective, efficient, and accountable government. In the preamble, the Governor characterizes his executive order as a performance management initiative intended to "drive the operations of state government through Lean thinking." Lean management concepts have been utilized by many Washington agencies.

The Committee will hold one work session involving presentations by state agency managerial staff regarding how the Lean management approach works in theory and in practice.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Thamas Osborn; David Rubenstein

Project Title: Federal Banking Regulations and the Development of the Legal Marijuana Market

Project Goal:

Examine the the status and impacts of federal banking regulations on the development of the legal marijuana market.

Project Description:

Although Initiative 502 legalized marijuana in Washington and authorized the creation of a recreational marijuana marketing system, the production, processing, sale, and possession of marijuana remains illegal under federal law. In turn, the illegality of marijuana-related commerce under federal law has implications with respect to the ability of state-licensed marijuana producers, processors, and retailers to obtain services from, or do business with, banks or other financial institutions. Specifically, there are myriad federal statutes prohibiting banks and other financial institutions from engaging in transactions involving funds generated by unlawful activity. A financial institution that knowingly engages in a transaction involving proceeds derived from marijuana-related activity can be subject to federal prosecution under one of several federal statutes, including: (1) money laundering statutes; (2) unlicensed money transmitter statutes; and (3) the Bank Secrecy Act. Accordingly, until recently the effect of these federal statutes was to make it impossible for marijuana-related businesses to open bank accounts, obtain loans, engage in credit card transactions, or obtain any other type of financial service from a financial institution.

However, in February 2014 the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of the Treasury (FinCEN) issued a memorandum establishing guidelines for financial institutions seeking to provide financial services to marijuana-related businesses. The memorandum authorizes financial institutions to provide financial services to such businesses provided stringent requirements are met. In simplest terms, the memorandum establishes that financial institutions can provide financial services to marijuana-related businesses only if such businesses are operated in strict compliance with the requirements of Initiative 502 and other state laws. In addition, in order to avoid federal sanctions a financial institution is required to bear the burden of exercising stringent "due diligence" in monitoring the legality of the commercial practices of any marijuana-related business to which it provides services.

The Committee will hold one joint work session with the House Business and Financial Services Committee to examine the status and impacts of these federal banking regulations on the development of the legal marijuana market.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session (joint with BFS)

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Thamas Osborn; David Rubenstein

Project Title: The Legalization of Marijuana In Colorado

Project Goal:

Study Colorado's regulatory scheme for the marketing of marijuana and evaluate the status of the recreational marijuana marketplace since legalization.

Project Description:

Other than Washington, Colorado is the only state to have legalized marijuana for recreational use. This occurred in November of 2012 when Colorado voters passed "Amendment 64." This ballot measure—like Initiative 502 in Washington—legalized recreational marijuana and established a regulatory framework for its production, processing, and retail sale. Although Colorado's regulatory framework is similar in many ways Washington's, there are several key differences. Most notably, Colorado law allows its citizens to grow limited quantities of marijuana for personal use, explicitly authorizes local jurisdictions to regulate or ban marijuana-related businesses, and uses its long-established medical marijuana businesses for the production and marketing of recreational marijuana. Colorado's retail marijuana businesses began opening on January 1, 2014.

The Committee will hold one work session to study Colorado's regulatory scheme for the marketing of recreational marijuana and to evaluate the status and functioning of its recreational marijuana market since legalization.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: David Rubenstein

Project Title: Theft Prevention Efforts by Liquor Retailers and Underage Access to Liquor

Project Goal:

Examine and assess issues relating to theft prevention efforts by liquor retailers following the passage of ESHB 2155.

Project Description:

Following the passage of Initiative 1183 and the privatization of the liquor industry in 2011, the number of retail outlets selling spirits has grown and thus increased the availability of spirits to the public. This increased availability has made it much easier for underage persons to obtain access to liquor and such access is often the result of theft from liquor retailers. The problem of underage persons stealing liquor has led to concerns about the security measures adopted by retail outlets in order prevent such theft. The Legislature passed ESHB 2155 in 2014, which established a regulatory process authorizing law enforcement to work in tandem with the Liquor Control Board to identify retailers with liquor theft problems and take remedial measures.

The Committee will hold one work session to assess the status of the liquor theft issue as it relates to underage drinking.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Thamas Osborn; David Rubenstein

**House of Representatives
Government Operations & Elections
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Disclosure Commission: Information Technology and Reporting Needs County Auditors: Voting Equipment Needs Voting Rights and Minority Representation in Local Jurisdictions Impacts of Voter Pre-Registration and Election Day Registration 	Work Session

Project Title: Public Disclosure Commission: Information Technology and Reporting Needs

Project Goal:

Review Public Disclosure Commission information technology and reporting needs.

Project Description:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) is required by law to operate an electronic report filing system and a website to allow timely public access to reports filed with the PDC--allowing voters to "follow the money" in Washington politics. The Committee will receive a presentation from PDC staff about technology infrastructure investments necessary in order to maintain the agency's IT services and support, meet online disclosure requirements, and assist electronic filers in complying with the law.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Marsha Reilly and Jasmine Vasavada

Project Title: County Auditors: Voting Equipment Needs

Project Goal:

Receive a report from county auditors on voting equipment needs.

Project Description:

In response to problems identified during the 2000 election, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). HAVA provided funding to the states to: 1) improve elections administration; 2) replace outdated voting systems; and 3) provide accessible voting options. It also created the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to test and certify all voting systems at the national level.

State law requires that all voting systems purchased by counties be inspected, evaluated, and publicly tested by the Secretary of State (Secretary). In addition, no voting system may be approved by the Secretary that has not been tested and certified by an independent testing authority designated by the EAC. However, the EAC has not approved any voting systems since 2008, due to ongoing issues related to appointments to the EAC.

The state received approximately \$65 million in HAVA funding, 40 percent of which was dedicated to replacing the counties' outdated voting equipment. The hardware purchased with HAVA funds is now wearing out and in need of replacement and the system software used is based on software that is now obsolete. Technology has continued to evolve--voting equipment now can process votes much faster, and software has been developed that can recognize signatures.

The Committee will receive an update from county auditors about voting equipment needs and will discuss issues regarding testing and approval of voting systems.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Marsha Reilly and Jasmine Vasavada

Project Title: Voting Rights and Minority Representation in Local Jurisdictions

Project Goal:

Research voting rights and political representation on school boards of directors and city councils in jurisdictions with significant minority populations.

Project Description:

The Washington Voting Rights Act (HB 1413) was introduced in 2013 to promote equal voting opportunity for members of a race, color or language minority group. Although the bill passed the House in both 2013 and 2014 and was recommended with amendments this year by the Senate Government Operations Committee, it did not receive a Senate floor vote. SHB 1413 would apply to a range of political subdivisions, including certain cities and towns, school districts, counties, ports, public utility districts, and fire protection districts. Many more elected positions exist on city councils and local school boards than in Congress and the Legislature, but relatively little is known about the extent to which racial or ethnic minorities are represented by local elected leaders in proportion to their population. The Committee will receive a briefing from staff about jurisdictions in Washington with significant minority populations and data on the number of city and school board elected officials in each jurisdiction who self-identify as a member of a minority group.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Marsha Reilly and Jasmine Vasavada

Project Title: Impacts of Voter Pre-Registration and Election Day Registration

Project Goal:

Receive a staff briefing on impacts on voter turnout of election day voter registration and pre-registration of 16- and 17-year-olds.

Project Description:

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, at least 20 states allow some form of voter pre-registration, an election procedure that allows individuals younger than 18 years of age to register to vote. Approximately 10 states offer same-day voter registration, allowing eligible voters to register to vote and cast their ballots on the same day. Staff will compile and present research documenting the impact on voter turnout in the states that have enacted these policies of voter pre-registration and same day voter registration.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Marsha Reilly and Jasmine Vasavada

**House of Representatives
Health Care & Wellness
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Health Care Workforce	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Care Innovation Plan Health Care Price Transparency Federal Basic Health Program Option and Premium Assistance Exchange and Medicaid Expansion Update Hypertension and Renal Failure 	Work Session

Project Title: Health Care Workforce

Project Goal:

Receive an update on shortages in the health care workforce and graduate medical education.

Project Description:

Several entities in Washington study current and projected health care workforce shortages and policy options for ensuring an adequate supply of health care personnel. The Committee will invite the Higher Education Committee to attend a work session on current trends in the health care workforce and the adequacy of graduate medical education in Washington. The Committee will request briefings from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, the Center for Health Workforce Studies, the Washington Center for Nursing, and other stakeholders.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Alexa Silver

Project Title: State Health Care Innovation Plan

Project Goal:

Monitor implementation of the State Health Care Innovation Plan.

Project Description:

As part of the State Innovation Models Initiative, Washington received funding from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to continue work on the State Health Care Innovation Plan. The Legislature passed E2SHB 2572 during the 2014 legislative session to implement several provisions of the Innovation Plan. The Committee will receive an update from the Health Care Authority, the Office of Financial Management, and the Department of Social and Health Services regarding implementation of the Innovation Plan.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Alexa Silver

Project Title: Health Care Price Transparency

Project Goal:

Examine efforts to improve health care price transparency for consumers.

Project Description:

Significant variance exists with respect to health care pricing; the price a provider or facility bills a payer for a given health care procedure or service can vary widely, even within a narrow geographic region. According to the Catalyst for Payment Reform and the Health Care Incentives Improvement Institute, most states fail to provide publicly accessible price information for health procedures. Several states have established all-payer claims databases to collect and make available claims information from public and private payers. In Washington, the Washington Health Alliance maintains a voluntary claims database, and legislation passed in the 2014 session establishes a database for Medicaid and Public Employees Benefits Board claims data.

The Committee will invite the Catalyst for Payment Reform to provide a briefing on efforts to improve health care price transparency and consumer need for price and quality information.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Alexa Silver

Project Title: Federal Basic Health Program Option and Premium Assistance

Project Goal:

Understand policy options related to alternative programs for providing health care to low-income individuals.

Project Description:

The Affordable Care Act allows states the option to adopt a Basic Health Program to provide health insurance coverage to individuals below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level if they do not qualify for Medicaid. In certain circumstances, states may receive approval from the federal government to use Medicaid funds to purchase employer-sponsored insurance or coverage in the individual market. The 2013-15 biennial operating budget provided funding to the Health Care Authority to contract with a consultant to develop options for the possible implementation of the Basic Health Program and possible implementation of a targeted premium assistance program. The Committee will review the options developed by the consultant.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Chris Blake

Project Title: Exchange and Medicaid Expansion Update

Project Goal:

Monitor the progress of enrollment of individuals in new health programs established under the Affordable Care Act.

Project Description:

On January 1, 2014, coverage began for individuals who are enrolled in a health plan through the Health Benefit Exchange or individuals who are newly-eligible for Medicaid. Enrollment in the Exchange began in October 2013 and continued until March 2014. Enrollment levels and characteristics of the enrolled population may affect prices in the Exchange's marketplace and program costs for Medicaid. The Committee will review the status of enrollment activity overall and enrollment for certain populations in the Exchange as well as Medicaid.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Chris Blake, Alexa Silver

Project Title: Hypertension and Renal Failure

Project Goal:

Understand the connection between hypertension and renal failure and programs that address these health concerns.

Project Description:

Hypertension can reduce the ability of kidneys to function properly and is a major risk factor for chronic kidney disease. Hypertension is one of the leading causes of kidney failure which generally requires either a kidney transplant or regular dialysis services. The Committee will examine the linkages between hypertension and renal failure and the availability of and funding for programs that help patients with renal failure to maintain a safe blood pressure level.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Chris Blake

STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Project Title: Dental Access and Practice Models

Project Goal:

Explore policy options to improve access to dental care by reforming dental practice models.

Project Description:

Other states have made reforms to dental practice models to address challenges with access to dental care. For example, Minnesota and Alaska have authorized mid-level dental professionals to provide many dental services without the on-site supervision of a dentist. Oregon and Alaska have amended laws related to ownership of dental offices and business support services. In this project, committee staff will work with stakeholders to explore policy options for improving access to dental care, specifically options related to mid-level practitioners and the Dental Practice Act.

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Alexa Silver

Project Title: Sunrise Reviews

Project Goal:

Monitor the sunrise review proceedings for expanding naturopaths' prescriptive authority and licensing applied behavior analysts.

Project Description:

The Chair of the Health Care and Wellness Committee will request that the Department of Health conduct a sunrise review according to criteria established in statute for two proposals. The first proposal would permit naturopaths to prescribe and administer legend drugs and controlled substances contained in Schedules II through V of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act. The second proposal would require applied behavior analysts to be licensed. In this project, staff will monitor the sunrise review proceedings and the resulting recommendations.

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Alexa Silver

Project Title: Rural Health Systems

Project Goal:

Monitor the Department of Health's Rural Health Workgroup's activities related to establishing a new rural community health model.

Project Description:

In the fall of 2013, the Department of Health convened a group of stakeholders to develop recommendations for a new rural community health system model to meet the needs of individual communities. Committee staff will monitor the meetings of the workgroup during the 2014 interim as it develops recommendations.

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Chris Blake

**House of Representatives
 Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues
 Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
May 2014	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues	Work Session
June 2014	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues	Work Session
July 2014	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues	Work Session
September 2014	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues	Work Session
November 2014	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues	Work Session

Project Title: Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues

Project Goal:

Develop a strategy by December 2014 to build capacity in the long-term care system to meet the demands of the future demographic trends in elderly and disabled populations.

Project Description:

The 2013-15 operating budget created the Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues. By December 2014, the Committee must develop a strategy to build capacity to meet the demands of Washington's elderly and disabled populations in such areas as improving the efficiency of long-term services and supports, making caregiver supports available, promoting financial security, developing specialized resources, and providing housing and transportation options. The Committee's interim report was submitted in December 2013 and identified topics to study during the 2014 interim with a final report in December.

Number & Type of Meetings: Five work sessions

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Chris Blake

**House of Representatives
Adult Behavioral Health Systems Task Force
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
April 22	All Day	SeaTac	Full Committee	Adult Behavioral Health System Task Force	Public Hearing/ Work Session
June	All Day	SeaTac	Full Committee	Adult Behavioral Health System Task Force	Public Hearing/ Work Session
July	All Day	SeaTac	Full Committee	Adult Behavioral Health System Task Force	Public Hearing/ Work Session
September	All Day	SeaTac	Full Committee	Adult Behavioral Health System Task Force	Public Hearing/ Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Adult Behavioral Health System Task Force	Public Hearing/ Work Session

Project Title: Adult Behavioral Health System Task Force

Project Goal:

Conduct a review of the adult behavioral health system and make recommendations for reform.

Project Description:

Second Substitute Senate Bill 6312 established a Task Force to conduct a system wide review of adult behavioral health, engage stakeholders and make recommendations to ensure the successful integration of health care, mental health and chemical dependency into a managed health care system.

Between April 1, 2014 and December 15, 2015, the Task Force is charged with making recommendations on the following topics related to behavioral health purchasing and service delivery:

1. Provide guidance for creation of common regional services areas for medical and behavioral health purchasing (By September 1, 2014);
2. Oversee integration of chemical dependency purchasing with managed care contracts;
3. Provide recommendations for full integration of behavioral health and medical services by 2020 or by 2016 for 'early adopter' regions;
4. Review performance measures for client outcomes developed by DSHS/HCA steering committee pursuant to 2SSB 5732 (2014) and ESHB 1519 (2013) (by August 1, 2014);
5. Review of public safety practices concerning persons with behavioral health disorders and forensic involvement;
6. Recommend whether a statewide behavioral health ombudsman should be created; and
7. Review crisis mental health system.

Specific deliverables include a preliminary report on December 15, 2014 and a final report on December 15, 2015. The Task Force consists of eleven voting members including four legislative members, three executive branch members, three county members, and one tribal member.

Number & Type of Meetings: Five work sessions

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Chris Blake, Andy Toulon

**House of Representatives
 Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight
 Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
July	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington	Work Session
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington	Work Session
November	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington	Work Session

Project Title: Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington

Project Goal:

Oversee and monitor executive agencies and the Washington Health Benefit Exchange as they implement the state's health care policy.

Project Description:

Several agencies and entities have a role in implementing health care policy in Washington, including the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, the Department of Health, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Health Care Authority, and the Health Benefit Exchange. The Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight will provide oversight between these agencies and organizations. This oversight will include monitoring of each entity's activities to ensure they are not duplicating their efforts and are working towards a goal of increased quality of service.

Number & Type of Meetings: Three work sessions

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Alexa Silver and Jim Morishima

**House of Representatives
Higher Education
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
June 10	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty Recruitment and Retention Liberal Arts in Higher Education 	Work Session
Late November (Date TBA)	All Day	Seattle	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing Regional Needs for Higher Education Transitions in Higher Education Innovative Higher Education Delivery 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing Regional Needs for Higher Education Transitions in Higher Education Innovative Higher Education Delivery 	Work Session

Project Title: Faculty Recruitment and Retention

Project Goal:

Examine the challenges related to faculty recruitment and retention in higher education with the purpose of developing legislation to address these challenges if appropriate.

Project Description:

The Committee will examine the challenges related to faculty recruitment and retention in public higher education and how these challenges impact the delivery of higher education and the success of students. During a work session at The Evergreen State College, the Committee will examine data related to faculty in higher education, including the number of faculty employed, faculty demographics, hiring practices, and turnover. The Committee will review challenges and opportunities for recruiting and retaining faculty including consideration of different issues for the various institutions and geographic regions. The Committee will consider legislative options to address challenges.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Madeleine Thompson

Project Title: Liberal Arts in Higher Education

Project Goal:

Review liberal arts in higher education and consider legislative options as appropriate.

Project Description:

In recent years, the Committee has heard testimony related to the need to increase the number of students enrolled in programs related to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and high employer demand programs of study to meet the state's economic needs, and the need to increase participation in higher education overall. Testimony has also been provided related to the value of liberal arts degrees.

The Committee will hear about the value of liberal arts degrees and outcomes for students who major in liberal arts from the Liberal Arts Consortium comprising faculty and administrators from public and private higher institutions in Washington at a work session at The Evergreen State College.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Madeleine Thompson

Project Title: Assessing Regional Needs for Higher Education

Project Goal:

Review industry needs for higher education in Washington and monitor the work of the Washington Student Achievement Council in assessing regional needs in higher education.

Project Description:

State higher education goals developed by the Washington Student Achievement Council (Council) and approved by the Washington Legislature during the 2014 session include a goal to increase the numbers of higher education degrees and certificates earned so that at least 70 percent of Washington adults, ages 25 - 44, will have a postsecondary credential. At the same time, the capacity of higher education institutions and the level of individual need for higher education credentials varies in different parts of the state.

In order to assess industry needs for higher education in Washington, the Committee will hear from industry representatives and higher education institutions about the Air Washington Consortium and other efforts that are addressing the higher education needs of the aerospace industry. The Committee will also hear from faculty and administrators and other industry representatives on the ability of higher education to respond to industry and statewide needs.

Statute directs the Council to assess regional needs and the capacity of Washington's higher education system to meet those needs, as well as conduct strategic planning that will implement the long-term goals of the Ten-Year Roadmap over a two-year period. The Committee will hold two work sessions to monitor the progress of the Council in conducting this work.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: Meetings in Late November and December 2014

Staff Assigned: Madeleine Thompson

Project Title: Transitions in Higher Education

Project Goal:

Examine strategies that are designed to improve student transitions from high school to college and between higher education sectors, and consider legislative options as appropriate.

Project Description:

The Committee will consider student transitions from high school to college by reviewing longitudinal analyses by the Office of Financial Management that track academic progress from secondary through postsecondary education, and reviewing dual credit programs. The Committee will also hear a report on articulation and transfer between the community and technical colleges and the public baccalaureate institutions. The Committee will consider legislative options for improvement as appropriate.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: Meetings in November and December 2014

Staff Assigned: Madeleine Thompson and Megan Wargacki

Project Title: Innovative Higher Education Delivery

Project Goal:

Examine recent innovations in higher education delivery and their potential for increasing higher education attainment. Consider legislative options as appropriate.

Project Description:

Washington's public institutions of higher education compare favorably on average to higher education institutions in other states when examining graduation and completion rates. However, there is room for improvement. For public baccalaureate institutions, the six-year graduation rate ranges from 45 percent at Eastern Washington University to 80 percent at the University of Washington. Washington's community and technical college system ranks 13th for completion rates according to one study with a completion rate range of 18 to 57 percent. One of the major factors that presents a barrier to college completion is readiness for college-level math. State and national data show that the majority of students who take remedial math in college do not progress to college-level math, and therefore do not obtain a higher education credential. A number of recent higher education delivery innovations in Washington aim to overcome these barriers.

As part of two meetings, the Committee will examine recent innovations that integrate remedial and college-level programs, and basic skills and workforce programs. Legislative options to accelerate or improve successful strategies will be considered.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: Meetings in late November and December 2014

Staff Assigned: Madeleine Thompson

**House of Representatives
Judiciary
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
June 12	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee (Joint with PS)	Legal Financial Obligations	Work Session
June 12	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Recreational Use Immunity Statute	Work Session
September	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Civil Commitment and Forensic Mental Health Services Health Care Provider Liability in Emergencies	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Misdemeanor Indigent Defense Services	Work Session

Project Title: Legal Financial Obligations

Project Goal:

Review issues and possible legislation regarding the imposition and collection of legal financial obligations from criminal offenders.

Project Description:

Legal financial obligations (LFOs) may be imposed as part of an offender's judgment and sentence and consist of restitution, crime victims' compensation fees, court and defense costs, fines, and other costs. A number of recent bills have addressed the process for imposing and collecting LFOs, the types and amounts of LFOs, the applicable interest rate, and penalties that are imposed when an offender fails to pay LFOs.

Numerous experts from around the state will be invited to join the Public Safety and Judiciary Committees to jointly discuss and make recommendations relating to improving the system of legal financial obligations as it relates to criminal cases. Such invited experts will include, but not be limited to, representatives from the Statewide Poverty Action Network, the University of Washington, the Washington Association of County Officials, the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy, and county clerks.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session (joint with PS)

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Edie Adams (JUDI); Yvonne Walker (PS)

Project Title: Recreational Use Immunity Statute

Project Goal:

Review the origins and history of the recreational use immunity statute and the need for revisions to the statute.

Project Description:

The recreational use immunity statute generally provides limited immunity to property owners who open their lands for free to private recreational use under certain conditions. There have been numerous bills over the years amending this statute on a piecemeal basis, often in response to court interpretations of the statute. During the 2014 session, the Committee heard two bills amending the statute, but neither bill was enacted. House Bill 2150 would have established additional conditions under which a land owner could charge or receive a small fee or government payment without losing the immunity provided by the statute. Senate Bill 6207 would have allowed certain fees to be charged for the moorage and launching of boats while still retaining the immunity provided in the statute.

The Committee will have a work session to understand the origins and history of the recreational use immunity statute, the various legislative changes that have been made over the years, and recent legislation to amend the statute. The Committee will consider whether the statute should be updated in a more comprehensive manner, rather than the piecemeal approach that has been occurring.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: June 2014

Staff Assigned: Cece Clynych

Project Title: Civil Commitment and Forensic Mental Health Services

Project Goal:

Gain a better understanding of the current system for civil commitment and forensic mental health services and reform proposals.

Project Description:

During the past several legislative sessions, the Committee has dealt with multiple pieces of legislation addressing the civil commitment of persons under the Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) and the evaluation and treatment of criminal defendants who are incompetent to stand trial. A number of pieces of legislation have been enacted changing the standards and processes for civil commitment under the ITA and for competency evaluations and restoration treatment for criminal defendants. In addition, other legislation has been introduced proposing additional changes to the civil and forensic mental health systems.

The Committee will hold a work session to gain a better understanding of the current standards and processes that apply to the evaluation and commitment of persons under the ITA and the evaluation and restoration treatment system for incompetent criminal defendants. The Committee will receive an update on implementation of recently enacted legislation and funding in this area, and discuss other legislative proposals and improvements that can be made to the civil commitment and forensic mental health systems. The work session will involve interested stakeholders, including the Department of Social and Health Services, regional support networks, community mental health providers, local governments, and criminal justice system representatives.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Omeara Harrington

Project Title: Health Care Provider Liability in Emergencies

Project Goal:

Obtain a better understanding of the legal landscape relating to liability of health care professionals when responding to emergencies or disasters.

Project Description:

Legislation introduced in the 2014 session (HB 2492) included provisions establishing limited immunity from liability for health care providers when responding to an emergency declared by the Governor for acts or omissions in providing or withholding health care. The public hearing on this legislation highlighted a need for a more comprehensive look at the issue.

The Committee will have a work session to discuss the need for liability protections for health care providers responding to emergencies. The Committee will examine relevant federal and state laws relating to emergency response and health care provider liability, recommendations from national experts and organizations regarding the adoption of legislation in this area, and work and analyses completed to date by state and local health organizations surrounding planning for and responding to emergencies. The Committee will also look at what has happened in recent natural disasters relating to the provision of emergency health care services. The work session will involve interested stakeholders, including representatives of health care providers, health care facilities, public health agencies, and trial lawyers.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: September 2014

Staff Assigned: Cece Clynch

Project Title: Misdemeanor Indigent Defense Services

Project Goal:

Obtain a report from the Office of Public Defense on misdemeanor indigent defense in the courts of limited jurisdiction.

Project Description:

The Office of Public Defense, at the request of the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee, will convene an interim work group to conduct a comprehensive statewide analysis of misdemeanor indigent defense in the courts of limited jurisdiction. The work group will consist of representatives of county and city associations, misdemeanor judges, public defenders, and prosecutors. The work group will examine the costs of providing misdemeanor indigent services and the potential impacts associated with implementing the Supreme Court's Standards for Indigent Defense, including additional costs associated with the new misdemeanor attorney caseload standards. In addition, the work group will examine best practices for alternative case resolution that may help mitigate public defense costs. The Committee will hold a work session to receive a report from the work group. The report will include, to the extent practicable, an individualized analysis of these issues for each misdemeanor court in the state.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Edie Adams

**House of Representatives
Labor & Workforce Development
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
June 16, 2014	10 a.m.	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grandfathering of Persons or Activities in the Trades Crowd Work Drayage Truck Drivers in Washington 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment Security Department Procedures Implementing the H-2A Program Reports on Employment and Training-related Outcomes and Funding of Training Programs Agricultural and Agricultural Labor Workgroup Department of Labor and Industries Reports 	Work Session

Project Title: Grandfathering of Persons or Activities in the Trades

Project Goal:

Explore granting authority to the Department of Labor and Industries to grandfather work or persons in the trades.

Project Description:

The state, through the Department of Labor and Industries (Department), regulates electricians, plumbers, and other trades. In recent years, work scope changes have led to legislation to address workers who have been engaged in the work but do not have the appropriate credential. These bills include HB 1855, related to generator load-bank testing, and HB 2253, which dealt with telecommunications work.

The Committee will explore granting the Department grandfathering authority to allow persons who have been performing work to continue to do so or to modify work scopes to allow the work to continue. The Committee will also consider the criteria under which grandfathering authority might be allowed.

The Committee will hear from the Department and stakeholders.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Joan Elgee

Project Title: Crowd Work

Project Goal:

Examine crowd work and determine whether legislation is needed.

Project Description:

In recent years, marketplaces for the buying and selling of on-line labor, known as crowd work, have been developed. Some crowd work occurs on micro-labor platforms in which anonymous workers are paid by the task and reportedly make as little as \$2.00 per hour on average with no worker protections.

The Committee will learn how crowd work platforms operate, explore laws that do and do not apply to crowd work, and consider whether legislation is needed.

The Committee will hear from persons familiar with crowd work as well as other stakeholders.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Joan Elgee

Project Title: Drayage Truck Drivers in Washington

Project Goal:

Explore issues related to drayage truck drivers.

Project Description:

In recent sessions, the Committee has heard and passed bills addressing drayage truck drivers. SHB 1719 from 2013 would have required certain port districts to employ drayage truck operators to transport containerized cargo, other than agricultural products, through the port. SHB 2395 from 2012 would have made drayage truck drivers statutory employees for purposes of specified employment laws.

In February 2014, a collaboration of organizations, including the National Employment Law Project, released a report, "The Big Rig Overhaul: Restoring Middle-class Jobs at America's Ports Through Labor Law Enforcement." The report discusses the cost of misclassifying drayage truck drivers and mentions cases in Washington and California where drivers have been found to be employees rather than independent contractors.

The Committee will hear a summary of the report and invite stakeholders to discuss issues of misclassification, compensation, and work conditions such as access to restrooms, faced by drayage truck drivers working at Washington ports.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Trudes Tango

Project Title: Employment Security Department Procedures Implementing the H-2A Program

Project Goal:

Receive an overview of the operational procedures contained in the Employment Security Department's H-2A handbook.

Project Description:

In February 2014, after inviting and reviewing stakeholder comments, the Employment Security Department (ESD) issued its H-2A handbook. The handbook outlines the ESD's responsibilities and provides operational guidance to achieve statewide consistency in the provision of services supporting the agricultural industry.

The Committee will hear an overview of the responsibilities and processes developed by the ESD in its H-2A handbook.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Trudes Tango

Project Title: Reports on Employment and Training-related Outcomes and Funding of Training Programs

Project Goal:

Hear the Workforce Training Board's 2014 Training Results report and obtain a report from the Employment Security Department on short-term and long-term employment and training related outcomes and funding of training programs.

Project Description:

The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTB) recently issued its 2014 Workforce Training Results report, which includes information on employment, wages, and completion rates among workforce participants. In addition, a 2014 budget proviso (Sec. 222(7) of ESSB 6002) requires the Employment Security Department (ESD) to collaborate with the WTB, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Economic Services Administration, and the local workforce development councils to coordinate a consolidated report on short-term and long-term employment and training related outcomes and funding of WorkFirst and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) training programs. The ESD also must map the flow of federal WIA funds from initial receipt by the ESD to final expenditure. The report must be submitted to the Governor and Legislature by December 1, 2014.

The Committee will hear reports from the WTB and the ESD.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Trudes Tango

Project Title: Agricultural and Agricultural Labor Workgroup

Project Goal:

Obtain a report from the agricultural and agricultural labor workgroup.

Project Description:

A 2014 budget proviso (Sec. 222(9) of ESSB 6002) directs the Employment Security Department to convene and support a workgroup to address agricultural and agricultural labor-related issues, including housing, workplace standards, and labor supply. The workgroup must consist of representatives from growers, agricultural industries, farmworker advocates, and labor. The workgroup will also include representatives from various state agencies.

The workgroup is required to report to the Legislature, by December 1, 2014, on the membership of the workgroup, the list of issues identified by the workgroup, and any work plan, recommendations, or actions taken that the workgroup has agreed upon so far.

The Committee will hear the report from the workgroup.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Trudes Tango

Project Title: Department of Labor and Industries Reports

Project Goal:

Obtain updates from the Department of Labor and Industries on workers' compensation legislation and initiatives.

Project Description:

The Department of Labor and Industries (Department) has been engaged in several workers' compensation initiatives.

EHB 2123, enacted in 2011, authorized certain workers to settle their workers' compensation claims with a structured settlement. The final report of the Department on the implementation of structured settlements is due to the Legislature on December 1, 2014.

Legislation enacted in 2013, ESSB 5744, recognized the creation of a Logging Safety Initiative and Task Force to reduce the frequency and severity of injuries in manual logging. Under the Logging Safety Initiative, employers who participate in a safety program are eligible for a premium discount. A 2013 budget proviso (Sec. 217(6) of 3ESSB 5034) requires the Department to report to the Legislature by December 31, 2014 on using a third party safety certification vendor, accomplishments of the Task Force and future plans, options for future funding, and recommendations for permanent funding.

The Committee has heard several bills in recent years, most recently SB 5112, which would have granted authority to retrospective rating (retro) employers and groups with respect to certain claims matters. In 2014 the Department is conducting an Independent Medical Examination (IME) pilot to test a collaborative approach with members of the retro community with respect to IMEs.

The Committee will hear an update from the Department on structured settlements, the Logging Safety Initiative, and the retro pilot project.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Joan Elgee and Trudes Tango

**House of Representatives
Local Government
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
September 29	Afternoon	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vesting in Washington Local Government Public Records Requests 	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Permitting The Code Adoption Process of the Building Code Council 	Work Session

Project Title: Vesting in Washington

Project Goal:

Examine vesting requirements in Washington and associated local government practices.

Project Description:

Requirements governing how and for what duration approved land use and development applications vest in Washington have been identified as a topic of interest by legislators and legislative stakeholders. An example of this interest is the Committee's approval and subsequent enactment of vesting-related legislation in 2010, 2012, and 2013 that modified requirements governing, and associated with, plat approvals. This project will include an examination of statutory and other legal requirements pertinent to vesting in Washington, and an examination of the often-differing local government practices by which vesting provisions are implemented.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Ethan Moreno and Michaela Murdock

Project Title: Local Government Public Records Requests

Project Goal:

Examine approaches to balancing open government principles and the practical implications to local governments of satisfying public records requests.

Project Description:

Legislation adopted in the 2013 Operating Budget (*i.e.*, Section 607(3) of 3ESSB 5034) directed the William D. Ruckelshaus Center to facilitate discussions and develop recommendations related to public records requests made to local governments. While a legislative proposal to continue the public records request work of the Ruckelshaus Center was not adopted in the 2014 Supplemental Operating Budget, local governments continue to identify the topic as one of significant interest and concern. During the 2014 legislative interim, the Committee will review legal requirements governing public records requests of local governments, seek input from persons and organizations with relevant expertise, and conduct a work session to formulate and consider legislative policy options.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Ethan Moreno and Michaela Murdock

Project Title: Local Government Permitting

Project Goal:

Examine requirements and actions pertaining to land use and development-related permits issued by local governments.

Project Description:

As in previous biennia, legislation concerning land use and development-related permits continues to be frequently considered by the Committee. This project will include an examination of statutory-based permitting requirements applicable to local governments, and related county and city actions and timelines for permit decisions. In completing this project, and in pursuit of exploring legislative policy options, the Committee will conduct a work session and will seek input from persons and entities with relevant expertise.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Ethan Moreno and Michaela Murdock

Project Title: The Code Adoption Process of the Building Code Council

Project Goal:

Examine the Building Code Council's code adoption and amendment process.

Project Description:

Legislation related to the Building Code Council and the State Building Code has been frequently considered by the Committee. Additionally, the Building Code Council code adoption process has been identified as a recent topic of interest by legislators and legislative stakeholders. This project will include an examination of the efficiency and transparency of the code adoption process, with particular emphasis on the public's participation in the process and knowledge of the code. The Committee will conduct a work session and will seek input from persons and entities with relevant expertise for the purpose of considering and formulating legislative policy options.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Ethan Moreno and Michaela Murdock

**House of Representatives
Public Safety
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
June 12	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	▫ Legal Financial Obligations	Work Session
June 23	TBA	Burien	Full Committee	▫ Retention of Biological Material for Evidence ▫ Returning Released Offenders to County of Origin ▫ Electronic Monitoring	Work Session
November	TBA	Seattle	Full Committee	▫ Retention of Biological Material for Evidence ▫ Electronic Monitoring	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	▫ Sex Trafficking ▫ Juvenile Sentencing	Work Session

Project Title: Legal Financial Obligations

Project Goal:

Review issues and possible legislation regarding the imposition and collection of legal financial obligations from criminal offenders.

Project Description:

Legal financial obligations (LFOs) may be imposed as part of an offender's judgment and sentence and consist of restitution, crime victims' compensation fees, court and defense costs, fines, and other costs. A number of recent bills have addressed the process for imposing and collecting LFOs, the types and amounts of LFOs, the applicable interest rate, and penalties that are imposed when an offender fails to pay LFOs.

Numerous experts from around the state will be invited to join the Public Safety and Judiciary Committees to jointly discuss and make recommendations relating to improving the system of legal financial obligations as it relates to criminal cases. Such invited experts will include, but not be limited to, representatives from the Statewide Poverty Action Network, the University of Washington, the Washington Association of County Officials, the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy, and county clerks.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Yvonne Walker (PS); Edie Adams (JUDI)

Project Title: Retention of Biological Material for Evidence

Project Goal:

Clarify the retention and preservation of biological material collected during criminal investigations.

Project Description:

House Bill 2468 (2014) would have established a temporary moratorium on the destruction of all biological material in criminal investigation cases. It also would have created a work group to study and make recommendations relating to establishing statewide standards for preserving biological material in felony cases. The bill was not enacted.

There is currently no state law specifically addressing the retention and preservation of biological material for DNA testing in connection with criminal investigation cases. Some local law enforcement agencies maintain and preserve evidence relating to a criminal case indefinitely while other local agencies preserve evidence up to the statute of limitations for the crime.

Members from the Innocence Network in Washington and local and state law enforcement agencies, along with other criminal justice experts from the following entities, will be invited to discuss and make recommendations relating to preserving items of biological matter in felony cases: the Washington State Patrol, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, the Superior Court Judges' Association, the District and Municipal Court Judges' Association, the Washington Association of Counties, the Attorney General's Office, the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the Washington Defender's Association or the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Washington Association of Cities, the Washington Association of County Officials, Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, evidence room technicians from state and local law enforcement agencies, and persons representing victims of crimes.

The goal is to develop a consistent statewide policy for the handling of biological material evidence.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Yvonne Walker

Project Title: Returning Released Offenders to County of Origin

Project Goal:

Review the statutory policy mandating the return of released offenders to their county of origin.

Project Description:

Approximately 8,500 offenders return to the community from Washington prisons each year after completing their sentences, and over 15,500 offenders are currently on active supervision in the community.

The Department of Corrections (Department) is required to develop an individual reentry plan for every offender committed to the jurisdiction of the department. An individual reentry plan is the result of a comprehensive assessment of the offender. The plan should address both the risks and needs of the offender, describe actions needed to prepare an individual for release, define terms and conditions of release, and address the supervision and services needed in the community.

In determining the county of discharge for an offender on community supervision, the offender must be returned to his or her county of origin unless it is determined that returning the offender to that county would be inappropriate considering any court-ordered condition of the offender's sentence, victim safety concerns, negative influences on the offender in the community, or the location of family or other sponsoring persons or organizations that will support the offender. County of origin is defined as the county of the offender's first felony conviction in Washington. If the Department returns the offender to a location other than the county of origin, the Department must notify the Local Law and Justice Council in writing.

The Committee will work in conjunction with the Department to review the current system used for returning offenders to their county of origin upon release since the implementation of ESSB 6157 in 2007. The Committee will review the progress and contributions the system has made for offenders' successful reentry back to the community thus far.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Yvonne Walker

Project Title: Electronic Monitoring

Project Goal:

Consider how to improve accountability, transparency, and public safety with regard to electronic home monitoring of defendants and convicted offenders.

Project Description:

Electronic home monitoring (EHM) is utilized as an alternative to pre-trial detention or post-conviction incarceration, or as an element of community custody. The practice is popular because it allows for supervision of offenders at a lower cost and with greater flexibility than incarceration. However, concerns have been raised about the lack of uniformity in the practice across the state; EHM can refer to a range of technologies, as well as various levels of supervision and restriction.

Proposed legislation from the 2014 regular session, Engrossed House Bill 2543, would have created a work group to study and make recommendations for establishing statewide standards for EHM, if it had passed the Legislature.

The Committee will study utilization of EHM across the state and consider:

- minimum standards for agencies, public and private, administering EHM contracts, with regard to staffing, monitoring, reports to law enforcement, and other operational requirements;
- improving accountability for offenders on supervision and consistency among EHM requirements across the state; and
- how to institute oversight and achieve compliance with imposed standards.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Kelly Leonard

Project Title: Sex Trafficking

Project Goal:

Receive an update on the work of the Coordinating Committee on Sex Trafficking and the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Coordinating Committee.

Project Description:

In the 2013 legislative session, two committees on sex trafficking were created: the Coordinating Committee on Sex Trafficking, created by ESHB 1291, and the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Statewide Coordinating Committee, created by SSB 5308.

The Coordinating Committee on Sex Trafficking was directed to: (1) gather and assess service practices from diverse sources regarding service demand and delivery; (2) analyze data regarding the implementation of sex trafficking legislation passed in recent years by the Legislature, including reports submitted to the Department of Commerce under the act, and assess the efficacy of such legislation in addressing sex trafficking, as well as any obstacles to the impact of legislation on the commercial sex trade; (3) receive and review reports, recommendations, and statewide protocols as implemented in the pilot sites selected by the Center for Children and Youth Justice; and (4) gather and review existing data, research, and literature to help shape a plan of action to address human trafficking in Washington. The plan will include strategies for the State of Washington to undertake to end sex trafficking and necessary data collection improvements. The Coordinating Committee on Sex Trafficking must provide a report to the Legislature by December 2014.

The CSEC Statewide Coordinating Committee was directed to: (1) review the implementation of the Washington State Model Protocol at pilot sites; (2) receive reports and data from local and regional entities regarding the incidence of commercially sexually exploited children in their areas; (3) review recommendations from local and regional entities regarding policy changes that would improve the effectiveness of local response practices; and (4) make recommendations regarding data collection and strategic local investments to address the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The CSEC Statewide Coordinating Committee must meet annually and submit a report to the appropriate committees of the Legislature by June 30 of each year.

The Public Safety Committee will request both committees to provide a progress report and, to the extent relevant, their recommendations.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Kelly Leonard

Project Title: Juvenile Sentencing

Project Goal:

Receive a report from the Juvenile Sentencing Reform Task Force with recommendations for reform.

Project Description:

Second Substitute Senate Bill 5064 (2014) created a new sentencing scheme for those convicted of certain serious offenses committed before their 18th birthdays. This scheme allows for review and the possibility of release after 20 or 25 years of incarceration.

The bill also created a task force to examine juvenile sentencing reform. The task force is directed to undertake a thorough review of juvenile sentencing as it relates to the intersection of the adult and juvenile justice systems and make recommendations for reform that promote improved outcomes for youth, public safety, and taxpayer resources. The review shall include, but is not limited to:

- the process and circumstances for transferring a juvenile to adult jurisdiction, including discretionary and mandatory decline hearings and automatic transfer to adult jurisdiction;
- sentencing standards, term lengths, sentencing enhancements, and stacking provisions that apply once a juvenile is transferred to adult jurisdiction; and
- the appropriate custody, treatment, and resources for declined youth who will complete their term of confinement prior to reaching age 21.

The task force must report its findings and recommendation to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2014.

The Committee will receive the task force's report and recommendations for legislative reform for juveniles connected to the adult justice system.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Kelly Leonard

**House of Representatives
Juvenile Sentencing Reform Task Force
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Juvenile Sentencing	Work Session
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Juvenile Sentencing	Work Session
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Juvenile Sentencing	Work Session
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Juvenile Sentencing	Work Session

Project Title: Juvenile Sentencing

Project Goal:

Receiving a report from the Juvenile Sentencing Reform Task Force with recommendations for reform.

Project Description:

Second Substitute Senate Bill 5064 (2014) created a new sentencing scheme for those convicted of certain serious offenses committed before their 18th birthdays, which allows for review and the possibility of release after 20 or 25 years of incarceration.

Second Substitute Senate Bill 5064 also created a task force to examine juvenile sentencing reform. The task force is directed to undertake a thorough review of juvenile sentencing as it relates to the intersection of the adult and juvenile justice systems and make recommendations for reform that promote improved outcomes for youth, public safety, and taxpayer resources. The review shall include, but is not limited to:

- the process and circumstances for transferring a juvenile to adult jurisdiction, including discretionary and mandatory decline hearings and automatic transfer to adult jurisdiction;
- sentencing standards, term lengths, sentencing enhancements, and stacking provisions that apply once a juvenile is transferred to adult jurisdiction; and
- the appropriate custody, treatment, and resources for declined youth who will complete their term of confinement prior to reaching age 21.

The task force shall report its findings and recommendation to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2014.

Number & Type of Meetings: Four work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Sarah Koster

**House of Representatives
Technology & Economic Development
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
November	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Consumer Privacy and Emerging Technologies	Public Hearing/ Work Session
November	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Distributed Energy	Work Session
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Reports from State Agencies and Other Entities	Work Session

Project Title: Consumer Privacy and Emerging Technologies

Project Goal:

Investigate legislative approaches to ensuring that state consumer privacy laws are keeping up with emerging technologies.

Project Description:

A broad array of statutes enacted over the past two decades are directed at protecting state residents and consumers from uses of technology that are considered to be unreasonably intrusive. These include, but are not limited to, laws addressing spyware, remote frequency identification devices (RFID), and spam texts and faxes. The Committee will revisit these laws to ensure that outdated definitions are updated and the laws remain relevant. In addition, as mobile applications play a more dominant role in economic and social interaction, consumers are increasingly invited to enter into contractual agreements, such as end-user licensing agreements, without real notice and consent to the contract terms. The Committee will investigate ways that state contract law and other state policies can help protect consumer rights. Finally, an array of emerging technologies--from facial recognition software to parabolic listening devices-- are capable of monitoring conduct without people's knowledge that their behavior is under surveillance. The Committee will work to continue to identify such "extraordinary sensing devices" and develop policies to provide greater protections for consumer privacy.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: November 2014

Staff Assigned: Jasmine Vasavada

Project Title: Distributed Energy

Project Goal:

Examine issues relating to distributed energy and consider possible legislation for 2015.

Project Description:

Distributed energy refers to a range of small-scale power generation technologies that are placed at or near the point of energy consumption. Distributed energy technologies may include renewable energy systems powered by wind, the sun, and water and may also include combined heat and power systems and fuel cells using fossil fuels, biomass, biogas, and other types of fuels and gases.

The Committee will develop a set of policy actions to encourage distributed energy in Washington, and consider legislation that may be needed to advance these policies. In developing policy actions, the Committee will review and consider revisions to existing policies such as the Renewable Energy Cost Recovery Incentive Program and the Net Metering Program and consider the development of legislation that addresses third-party ownership of distributed energy systems and how these systems are financed through leases, power purchase agreements and other financial mechanisms.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: November 2014

Staff Assigned: Scott Richards

Project Title: Reports from State Agencies and Other Entities

Project Goal:

Review required reports from state agencies and other entities.

Project Description:

Various state agencies and other entities are required by the 2013-2015 operating budget or other legislation to report to the Committee with findings or recommendations prior to the 2015 regular legislative session. For example, the following reports to the economic development committees of the Legislature are required by the 2013-2015 operating budget:

- Final report from the Department of Commerce on the outcomes of contracted services provided by the Washington Tourism Alliance;
- Findings from the Department of Commerce on its evaluation of the Department's international trade services; and
- Final report from the Life Sciences Discovery Fund on grants provided to promote global health technologies and products.

In addition, the Joint Committee on Energy Supply and Conservation will be meeting this interim to develop recommendations to further renewable energy and energy efficiency goals for electric utilities. The Committee will hold a work session to receive briefings on the findings and recommendations of these agencies and entities.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014 Committee Assembly

Staff Assigned: Jasmine Vasavada

**House of Representatives
 Joint Legislative Task Force on the Economic Resilience of Maritime and
 Manufacturing in Washington
 Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Joint Legislative Task Force on the Economic Resilience of Maritime and Manufacturing in Washington	TBA
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Joint Legislative Task Force on the Economic Resilience of Maritime and Manufacturing in Washington	TBA

Project Title: Joint Legislative Task Force on the Economic Resilience of Maritime and Manufacturing in Washington

Project Goal:

Development of a legislative work plan to support the maritime and manufacturing sectors of economic significance to the state.

Project Description:

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2580 (2014) created the Joint Legislative Task Force on the Economic Resilience of Maritime and Manufacturing in Washington. The Task Force is required to pursue several objectives pertaining to the maritime and manufacturing sectors of economic significance to the state. For example, the Task Force must identify and assess the critical public infrastructure that supports and sustains the maritime and manufacturing sectors and any barriers to maintaining and expanding those sectors. By December 2014 the Task Force must submit a work plan to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature. Final recommendations must be submitted by November 2015.

Number & Type of Meetings: Two meetings

Completion Date: Work plan in December 2014; Final report in November 2015

Staff Assigned: Jasmine Vasavada

**House of Representatives
 Joint Committee on Energy Supply and Energy Conservation
 Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
July	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Goals for Electric Utilities	Work Session
October	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Goals for Electric Utilities	Work Session
November	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Goals for Electric Utilities	Work Session

Project Title: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Goals for Electric Utilities

Project Goal:

Develop recommendations that improve the effectiveness and implementation of existing laws and policies that would further the renewable energy and energy efficiency goals for electric utilities and ensure sufficient electric generation is built to meet demand after 2020.

Project Description:

Approved by voters in 2006, the Energy Independence Act (EIA), also known as Initiative 937 or I-937, requires electric utilities with 25,000 or more customers to meet targets for eligible renewable resources and energy conservation. Beginning in 2012 and each year thereafter, qualifying electric utilities must use increasing amounts of eligible renewable resources or renewable energy credits to meet annual targets, eventually equaling 15 percent of a utility's load in 2020.

In a 2012 Department of Commerce (Department) report on electric utility resource planning, the Department noted that utilities are less certain of the specific resources they will use for future power acquisition and some utilities are reporting deficits in committed generation resources across the 10-year planning horizon.

The Joint Committee on Energy Supply and Energy Conservation (Joint Committee) will hold three meetings, including one public input meeting, to develop recommendations that will build on the current EIA goals for renewable energy and energy conservation and ensure sufficient electric generation is built to meet demand after 2020. The Joint Committee may also identify and recommend policies that eliminate barriers to achieving goals identified in their recommendations, including, but not limited to, permitting timelines, financing, and technology availability.

Additionally, the Joint Committee will review the status of high efficiency cogeneration in the state and consider establishing a thermal heating efficiency standard.

Number & Type of Meetings: 3 work sessions

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Scott Richards

**House of Representatives
 Joint Select Task Force on Nuclear Energy
 Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Joint Select Task Force on Nuclear Energy	TBA
TBA	TBA	TBA	Full Committee	Joint Select Task Force on Nuclear Energy	TBA
TBA	TBA	Richland	Full Committee	Joint Select Task Force on Nuclear Energy	TBA
TBA	TBA	Richland	Full Committee	Joint Select Task Force on Nuclear Energy	TBA

Project Title: Joint Select Task Force on Nuclear Energy

Project Goal:

Study the generation of energy in the region through the use of nuclear power.

Project Description:

The Legislature created the Joint Select Task Force on Nuclear Energy in the 2014 supplemental operating budget. The Task Force must study the generation of energy in the region through the use of nuclear power. In its deliberations, the Task Force must consider the greatest amount of environmental benefit for each dollar spent based on the life-cycle cost of any nuclear power technology. Life-cycle costs must include the storage and disposal of any nuclear wastes. The Task Force must report any findings and recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2014.

Number & Type of Meetings: 4 meetings

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Scott Richards

**House of Representatives
Transportation
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2014**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	PROJECT TITLE	TYPE
December Committee Assembly	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impaired Driving and Target Zero Fuel Policy Issues in a Changing Marketplace Road User Charge Practical Design Update 	Work Session

Project Title: Impaired Driving and Target Zero

Project Goal:

Obtain knowledge of recent issues affecting the Target Zero campaign as it relates to driving while impaired.

Project Description:

The Washington Traffic Safety Commission (Commission) administers the "Target Zero" program, which seeks to eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injuries. The Traffic Safety Commission relies on state and federal funding to accomplish its missions, and has identified numerous priorities to focus its efforts. Reducing the number of incidents that involve impaired driving is one of the Commission's top priorities. In Washington, a driver is guilty of driving under the influence if he or she operates a vehicle with a blood-alcohol concentration greater than 0.08% or a THC concentration of greater than 5ng per milliliter of blood.

After Initiative 502 legalized the recreational use of marijuana and Initiative 1183 privatized the sale of liquor, the Legislature is concerned how these changes will impact the incidence of driving under the influence. At the same time, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has proposed that state legislatures reduce the blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) threshold, establishing when a person is driving under the influence, to 0.05%.

The Commission will provide an informational presentation to the Committee. This presentation will focus on the marijuana and alcohol DUI detection and enforcement efforts as they relate to the Commission's Target Zero campaign. In particular, it will focus on the challenges faced by the Commission and law enforcement as a result of expanded markets for marijuana and alcohol. Additionally, the Commission may compare Washington's efforts to those of Colorado, which also faces an expanding market for recreational marijuana, and other states. Finally, the presentation will also address the NTSB recommendation for a lower BAC threshold.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Jerry Long and Andrew Russell

Project Title: Fuel Policy Issues in a Changing Marketplace

Project Goal:

Achieve a better understanding of the current market for alternative fuels and of current and potential state alternative fuel policies.

Project Description:

Passenger vehicles that operate on gasoline make up the overwhelming majority of the vehicles operated in Washington. Nevertheless, both electric vehicles and alternative fuel vehicles—those powered by natural gas or propane—are growing in popularity. There are over 8,000 electric vehicles and over 1,500 alternative fuel vehicles registered in the state. These emerging technologies may cause the state to be involved in infrastructure development and may affect the state's fuel tax revenues.

Washington and Oregon have developed a West Coast Electric highway, providing electric vehicle (EV) charging stations along major roadways in each state. In the Governor's proposed budget, he requested \$3 million to expand this network of charging stations.

The 2014 Supplemental Transportation Budget (ESSB 6001, Section 204(6)) directs the Joint Transportation Committee, in collaboration with the Economic Partnerships Office of the Washington State Department of Transportation, to study the market for EV charging stations. The study is designed to identify ways in which the state may incentivize private sector EV infrastructure development, such as through grant programs, tax preferences, investment matching, or subsidizing certain costs. The House Transportation Committee will receive an interim report on this study by December 1, 2014, and a final report by March 1, 2015.

Washington imposes a 37.5 cent tax on each gallon of fuel and every 100 cubic feet of compressed natural gas sold in the state. Alternatively, vehicles powered by natural gas or propane are charged an annual license fee in lieu of paying any fuel tax that would otherwise apply. This annual fee is based on vehicle weight and ranges from \$145 to \$786.

An alternative fuel taxation bill, ESSB 6440, Section 209, directs the Department of Licensing to study the annual license fee with the goal of determining a fee amount that more closely matches average consumption of vehicles by weight. The House Transportation Committee will receive a report on this work by December 1, 2014. Additionally, the Department of Licensing must develop a transition plan to move vehicles powered by liquefied and compressed natural gas from this annual license fee to paying a fuel tax on each diesel energy equivalent amount of natural gas sold. This transition plan will be provided to the House Transportation Committee by December 1, 2015.

At the Committee Assembly in December, the House Transportation Committee will examine the equitable treatment of alternative fuel choices and receive updates on the related studies. This work will involve a panel discussion involving alternative fuel industry stakeholders, including interests representing liquefied petroleum gas. The Committee will also receive an update regarding the budget-directed study of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and a presentation from the Department of Licensing of the report on potential modifications to the fee in lieu of fuel tax, as required by ESSB 6440.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Andrew Russell and Jerry Long

Project Title: Road User Charge

Project Goal:

Develop a concept of operations for a Road Usage Charge; study associated policy issues.

Project Description:

State forecasts indicate increasing average fuel efficiency of vehicles in the state and a simultaneous decrease in fuel consumption. The combined effect of these changes shows a possible 10 percent to 35 percent decline in fuel-tax revenues by 2040. This decline is projected despite a flat to slight increase in vehicle miles traveled over the same period. To address this projected decline in fuel tax revenue, the state has begun considering a transition to a road usage charge.

During the 2013 Interim, the Transportation Commission worked with a consulting group, the Department of Transportation, and the Road Usage Charge Steering Committee to develop a Business Case for a road usage charge. This report relied upon several simplifying assumptions, but indicated that, on a net present value basis, a road usage charge would provide expected revenues that would exceed expected fuel tax revenues between 2015 and 2040. Nevertheless, many policy issues remain outstanding regarding a transition from a fuel tax to a road usage charge.

Road Usage Charge 2014 Interim Work:

- Concept of operations development - The 2014 Supplemental Transportation Budget (ESSB 6001, Sec. 205(6)) directs the Transportation Commission to develop a concept of operations for a road usage charge system, considering refined policy inputs and including a financial analysis. Report due January 15, 2015.
- Urban/rural equity issue - The 2014 Supplemental Transportation Budget (ESSB 6001, Sec. 205(7)) also directs the Transportation Commission to study urban and rural financial and equity implications of a transition from a fuel tax to a road usage charge. This study is expected to proceed using state and federal census data regarding household characteristics, vehicle ownership, and travel statistics. Report due January 15, 2015.
- Cross-border travel - The 2014 Supplemental Transportation Budget (ESSB 6001, Sec. 214(4)) directs the Department of Transportation to work with neighboring western states on the matter of accounting for cross-border travel. Report due January 15, 2015.
- Bonding questions - Finally, the 2014 Supplemental Transportation Budget (ESSB 6001, Sec. 703) directs the Office of the State Treasurer to examine the implications of a transition from a fuel tax to a road usage charge. Draft report due September 1, 2014; final report due December 31, 2014.

Several representatives from the House Transportation Committee serve on the Road Usage Charge Steering Committee and will help direct the Transportation Commission's work. Committee staff will attend Road Usage Charge meetings and monitor each area of study identified above. Finally, the Committee will receive several reports covering each of the areas of study identified above.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: January 2015

Staff Assigned: Andrew Russell

Project Title: Practical Design Update

Project Goal:

Provide an update on the Washington State Department of Transportation's current and future plans for implementation of practical design.

Project Description:

In 2013 ESSB 5024, Sec. 204(1) directed the Joint Transportation Committee to study transportation cost drivers and potential efficiencies to contain project costs. The study concluded that one way for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to gain efficiencies was to implement the use of practical design. Practical design is an overarching theory about project approach wherein the purpose is to meet a state's transportation needs at a reasonable cost by building good projects that together achieve the goal of building a great transportation system and by building projects to only those standards needed to meet state goals. The study notes that the WSDOT has begun to implement practical design into their project planning in three ways: changing frameworks for design and delivery; combining similar projects; and designing incremental improvements with long-term benefits. Additionally, ESSB 6001, Sec. 306(23) acknowledges that practical design offers targeted benefits to the state transportation system within the available fiscal resources and directs the WSDOT to implement a practical design strategy and report to the Legislature by June 30, 2015.

The Committee will monitor the on-going development of the required practical design strategy. At the December Committee Assembly meeting, the WSDOT will provide an update on the implementation to date of practical design and any associated cost savings. The agency will report on the development of the practical design strategy.

Number & Type of Meetings: One work session

Completion Date: December 2014

Staff Assigned: Alyssa Ball

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