



Washington State Senate 2021 Interim Committee Meeting Schedules and Work Plans

Compiled by Senate Committee Services on behalf of Committee Chairs, at the
request of the Facilities & Operations Committee

June 2021

2021 Senate Interim Plans

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To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

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Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June 29	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent peer review of the estuary study portion of the 1999 Duke Engineering Report Draft Skagit Basin supply and demand synthesis Task force discussion Public comment
week of September 20	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Skagit Basin supply and demand synthesis Task force discussion Additional items to be determined
October/ November	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
September	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of pilot projects Water transfers and water banking in Washington Task Force discussion Additional items to be determined
November	Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Mental Health Impacts on the Agricultural Community	
Completion Date: December 2021	Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424; Jeff Olsen (360) 786-7427
References: HB 1434 (2021); E2SHB 1477 (2021)	
<p>Description: A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed that farmers are more likely to die by suicide than in many other occupations. Suicide rates have increased 40 percent in the last two decades. Several factors related to the agricultural industry may affect the behavioral health of workers in the agricultural industry, including job-related isolation and demands, stressful work environments, the heightened potential for financial losses, lack of access to behavioral health services, and barriers or unwillingness to seek mental health services.</p> <p>There has been an increased strain on agricultural workers mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Legislation passed in 2021 requires the Department of Health and Health Care Authority to collaborate to establish state crisis call center hubs and an enhanced crisis response system with advanced technology that enables cross-system collaboration to prepare for implementation of the 988 crisis hotline. The bill established the Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee to plan for implementation of the 988 crisis hotline and crisis response system enhancements. As part of their work, the Committee will develop a work plan to ensure the availability of resources to meet the needs of people in the agricultural community. Committee staff will research the issue of mental health impacts on the agricultural community and draft legislation as directed.</p>	

Task Forces on Water Issues	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424
References: ESSB 6168 (2020); SSB 6329 (2020); 2SSB 6382 (2020); SHB 2696 (2020); SHB 1080 (2021)	
<p>Description: <u>Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation</u>. Legislation passed in 2018 established the Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation (Mitigation Task Force). The Mitigation Task Force must review the treatment of surface water and groundwater appropriations as they relate to instream flows and fish habitat. The Mitigation Task Force is required to develop and recommend a mitigation sequencing process and scoring system to address such appropriations.</p> <p>The Mitigation Task Force submitted a November 15, 2019 report to the Legislature and must submit an additional report by November 15, 2022.</p> <p><u>Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply</u>. In 2018, the Legislature passed ESSB 6095, establishing the Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply (Water Supply Task Force). The Water Supply Task Force must review surface and groundwater needs and uses as they relate to agricultural uses, domestic potable water uses, and instream flows, and develop and recommend studies. The Water Supply Task Force must focus on water resource inventory areas (WRIAs) 3 and 4. WRIA 3 is in the western portion of Skagit County and WRIA 4 is in the eastern portions of Whatcom, Skagit, and Snohomish counties. The Water Supply Task Force approved two studies, Skagit Basin Supply and Demand Analysis and a</p>	

Review of the Duke Engineering Estuary Study Report in December 2019. The Estuary Study Report was completed in January 2021 and the Supply and Demand Analysis will be completed summer 2021.

Committee staff will provide support to the task forces, assist as directed by members of the task forces, and draft legislation as requested.

Water Courts

Completion Date: December 2021

Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424

References: ESHB 1248 (2015); ESHB 1571 (2009); HB 2066 (2005); SB 6674 (2004); HB 2130 (2004); SB 6734 (2004); HB 2393 (2004); HB 2396 (2004)

Description: A water right adjudication is the legal process to resolve conflict and competition on a water source. Adjudication legally determines whether each water right on a source is legal, how much water can be used, and its priority during shortages. A watershed-wide adjudication prioritizes each individual water right, including federal, tribal, and instream flow rights, under Washington water law's prior appropriation framework. More than 80 drainage systems in the state have been adjudicated since 1918. Completed in May 2019, the Yakima adjudication is the only general stream adjudication completed for an entire watershed in Washington.

During the 2019 legislative session, the Legislature provided the Department of Ecology with funding to assess the needs and benefits of future adjudications. Recommendations resulting from the 2020 assessment include beginning adjudication proceedings in the highest priority watersheds, Nooksack Watershed (WRIA 1), and Lake Roosevelt and middle tributaries (WRIA 58). Funding was provided in the 2021-23 operating budget for preparing and filing adjudications in these two WRIAs, with the stipulation that an adjudication in WRIA 1 will not be filed prior to June 1, 2023.

Three Western states employ water courts. Colorado's water courts conduct all water right processes, including adjudication, permitting, and changes. Montana's and Idaho's water courts were created more recently and are primarily used for adjudicating historical water rights, although Idaho's water court does hear appeals of permit and change decisions.

Committee staff will research water courts in other states and draft legislation as directed.

Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June 14	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
September 28	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Crisis Response Improvement Committee/Steering Committee	
Completion Date: June 30, 2024	Staff: Kevin Black (360) 786-7747
References: E2SHB 1477 (2021)	
<p>Description: The Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee and its Steering Committee are established by legislation with appointed legislative members to meet for three years to develop an integrated behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention system and to monitor and make recommendations related to funding crisis services.</p> <p>Primary staff support is to be provided by the Behavioral Health Institute at Harborview Medical Center and legislative staff have a specified role to provide assistance to the Steering Committee. Staff will attend meetings and assist as requested.</p>	

Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group	
Completion Date: December 26, 2026	Staff: Kevin Black (360) 786-7747
References: 2SHB 2737 (2020) ; 2SHB 1325 (2021) ; Official website	
<p>Description: The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group, established in 2016, has been renewed in law until 2026. The work group is staffed by the Health Care Authority. The work group maintains five advisory subcommittees. Staff will monitor meetings of the work group and select subcommittees, and provide support to the legislative membership of the work group.</p>	

Business, Financial Services & Trade

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

Fintech in Washington	
Completion Date: December 2021	Staff: Clint McCarthy (360) 915-2750
<p>Description: The committee will review the state's role in regulating emerging Fintech companies that seek to improve and automate the delivery and use of financial services.</p> <p>Committee staff will provide comparative research to provide information on the regulatory frameworks that other states are using to support companies creating innovative financial services. Committee staff will also compile relevant studies and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Early Learning & K-12 Education

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mastery-based learning • Graduation pathways • Early learning and childcare/ school age children

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Early Learning and K-12 Education Legislatively Created Groups with Legislative Members	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434; Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416; Ben Omdal (360) 786-7442
References: ESB 6620, Sec. 3 (2016); 2SHB 1344, Sec. 4 (2019) & ESSB 5092, Sec. 129 and 229 (2021); 2SHB 2737, Sec. 1 (2020); E2SSB 5828, Sec. 3 (2007); 2SSB 5973, Sec. 2 (2009); SHB 2455, Sec. 2 (2004); SSB 5248 (2009); E2SHB 1295, Sec. 14 (2021); ESSB 5092, Sec. 951 (2021); E2SHB 1599, Sec. 301 (2019) & SSB 5249, Sec. 1 (2021); 2E2SHB 1661, Sec. 1010 (2017); E2SHB 1139, Sec. 402 (2019); SSB 6428, Sec. 15 and 17 (1992); E2SHB 1600, Sec. 3 (2018); SHB 2711, Sec. 2 (2020)	
<p>Description: The Legislature has created several councils, committees, task forces, work groups, and advisory groups with legislators as members. Committee staff will provide research and support to the individual legislators serving on the following legislatively created groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual School Safety Summit • Child Care Collaborative Task Force • Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group • Early Learning Advisory Council • Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee • Financial Education Public-Private Partnership • Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children • Institutional Education Structure and Accountability Advisory Group (no legislative members) • K-12 Basic Education Compensation Advisory Committee (no legislative members) • Mastery-Based Learning Work Group • Oversight Board for Children, Youth, and Families • Professional Educator Collaborative • State Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families • Work-Integrated Learning Advisory Committee and Subcommittee 	

- Work Group to Address the Needs of Students in Foster Care, Experiencing Homelessness, or Both

Status of Academic and Student Well-Being Recovery and School District Finances following the COVID-19 Pandemic

Completion Date: December 2021

Staff: Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434; Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416; Ben Omdal (360) 786-7442

References: ESHB 1368 (2021); ESSB 5092 (2021); [Academic and Student Well-Being Recovery Plan: Planning Guide 2021](#)

Description: During the 2021 legislative session, federal and state funding was appropriated to support schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. By June 1, 2021, school districts, charter schools, and state-tribal education compact schools must submit to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) academic and student well-being recovery plans that address:

- learning loss for different student groups;
- identification of specific diagnostic assessment tools and student learning and well-being gaps;
- provision of additional instruction, student well-being support, and extracurricular opportunities for general education and special education students; and
- additional elements identified by OSPI.

Staff will review information provided by these plans. Staff will coordinate meetings with committee members and educational groups to facilitate additional data collection regarding student well-being and academic recovery and school district finances following COVID-19.

Staff will compile any additional information collected by educational groups. As requested by senators, legislation may be developed based on this information.

Pupil Transportation Funding

Completion Date: December 2021

Staff: Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416

References: ESSB 6168, Sec. 129 (2020); [Pupil Transportation Allocation Study \(2020\)](#)

Description: In 2020, the Legislature passed ESSB 6168 (Sec. 129), which directed the Office of Financial Management (OFM), in collaboration with OSPI, to review the state's pupil transportation funding model for K-12 education. OFM released its findings and recommendations in a report to the Legislature in December 2020.

Committee staff will provide a summary of the report and recommendations to committee members, conduct research on transportation funding models used in other states, and draft legislation as requested.

Environment, Energy & Technology

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decarbonization strategies using leading technologies
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
October	Joint Committee on Energy Supply and Energy Conservation/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reliability and resiliency of the Washington and Pacific Northwest energy system

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Updates on Implementation of State Climate & Environmental Policies	
Completion Date: December 2021	Staff: Kim Cushing (360) 786-7421; Greg Vogel (360) 786-7413
References: E2SSB 5126 (2021); E3SHB 1091 (2021); E2SSB 5141 (2021)	
<p>Description: In 2021, the Legislature passed several large policy bills that require implementation by multiple agencies, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E2SSB 5126, the Climate Commitment Act, establishes a cap and invest program for greenhouse gas emissions to be implemented by the Department of Ecology. It also directs the governor to establish a governance structure to implement the state's climate commitment and to develop policy and budget recommendations to the Legislature by December 31, 2021. E3SHB 1091 directs the Department of Ecology to adopt rules establishing a Clean Fuels Program to limit the aggregate, overall greenhouse gas emissions per unit of transportation fuel energy to 20 percent below 2017 levels by 2038. The Department of Commerce must develop a periodic fuel supply forecast to project the availability of fuels to Washington necessary for compliance with the clean fuels program requirements. E2SSHB 5141 establishes environmental justice plan implementation, equitable community engagement and public participation, tribal consultation, assessment, and budget and funding obligation requirements for the departments of Health, Ecology, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Commerce, and Transportation, and the Puget Sound Partnership. It also establishes the Environmental Justice Council to adopt guidelines in coordination with an interagency workgroup to be considered by agencies, evaluate the 	

progress of agencies implementing environmental justice requirements, recommend the identification and prioritization of actions for assessments, and provide a forum for the public to testify on environmental justice concerns.

Committee staff will monitor multiple agency rulemaking processes, provide relevant updates, and draft legislation as requested.

Plastic Packaging Advisory Committee

Completion Date: December 2021

Staff: Greg Vogel (360) 786-7413

References: E2SSB 5022 (2021)

Description: In 2021, the Legislature passed E2SSB 5022, establishing minimum recycled content requirements for plastic beverage containers, plastic household cleaning and personal care product containers, and plastic trash bags; prohibiting the sale and distribution of certain expanded polystyrene products; and establishing optional single-use food service requirements for food service businesses. The bill also establishes a stakeholder advisory committee to make recommendations on the development of postconsumer recycled content requirements for plastic packaging other than covered products in the legislation. A report of the recommendations must be submitted to the Legislature by December 1, 2021.

Committee staff will track the recommendations of the advisory committee, provide relevant updates, and draft legislation as requested.

Statutory Work Groups and Committees Related to Energy and Technology

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Kim Cushing (360) 786-7421; Angela Kleis (360) 786-7469

References: Chapter 44.39 RCW; ESSB 5092, Sec. 607(18); RCW 43.105.285 and .287; ESSB 5092, Sec. 129 (70)

Description: Committee staff will monitor and provide updates on the various environment, energy, and technology work groups and committees with legislative members, which include the following:

- The Joint Committee on Energy Supply and Energy Conservation. The committee reviews plans proposed by the Governor for programs, controls, standards, and priorities for the production, allocation, and consumption of energy during any current or anticipated conditions of energy supply alert or energy emergency and makes recommendations back to the Governor. The committee may meet at specified times, including at least once per year or at any time upon the call of the chair to receive information related to the state or regional energy supply situation.
- The Sustainable Aviation Biofuels Work Group. The Washington State University Office of Clean Technology must convene a work group to further the development of sustainable aviation fuel as a productive industry in Washington, and provide recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by December 1, 2022.
- Technology Services Board. The Technology Services Board is created within the Consolidated Technology Services Agency with the focus on IT strategic planning;

enterprise architecture; standards and policies; and major project oversight.

- Washington Digital Equity Forum. The Statewide Broadband Office must co-facilitate the Washington Digital Equity Forum with the Washington State Office of Equity. The purpose of the forum is to develop recommendations to advance digital connectivity in Washington State. Recommendations must be submitted to the Legislature by January 1, 2023.

Health & Long Term Care

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
October	Tour	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public health emergency response system
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
TBD	Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
July	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disabilities/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
November	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disabilities/ Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight	
Completion Date: Ongoing	Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410
References: E2SHB 2572 - Sec. 3 (2014)	
<p>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 a review of Washington’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Committee staff and the House Health Care and Wellness Committee staff will jointly staff the Joint Select Committee.</p>	

Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disabilities	
Completion Date: June 30, 2021	Staff: LeighBeth Merrick (360) 786-7445
References: ESSB 5092, Sec 201 (8)	
<p>Description: The Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability was established in 2013 and will continue through June 2023. The committee is charged with making recommendations and identifying key strategic actions to prepare for Washington’s aging population. The committee may focus on issues relating to the health care needs of aging people and people with disabilities; financing mechanisms for long-term services and supports; advance care planning and advance care directives; needs of the aging demographic impacted by reduced federal support; protecting the rights of vulnerable adults; promoting client safety through residential care services and protecting aging people and people with disabilities from physical abuse and financial exploitation; and housing, land use, and transportation planning for communities to adapt to the aging demographic.</p>	

Public Health Emergency Response System Virtual Tour	
Completion Date: TBD	Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410
<p>Description: The Health & Long Term Care Committee will virtually tour components of the state's emergency response system to learn more about the state's capability to respond to a public health emergency. As requested by senators, legislation may be developed based on lessons learned from the tour.</p>	

Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Commission	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: LeighBeth Merrick (360) 786-7445
References: 2SHB 1087 (2019)	
<p>Description: The Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Act was enacted in 2019 and created a long-term care insurance benefit for all eligible Washington employees that will</p>	

cover some of the costs of long-term services and supports. The Trust Act also created the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Commission, which consists of legislators, administering agencies, and stakeholder representatives. The commission makes recommendations regarding criteria for determining who is a qualified individual, minimum provider qualifications, service payment maximums, actions needed to maintain Trust solvency, and monitoring agency expenses. The Department of Social and Health Services staffs the commission. Committee staff will monitor the commission on behalf of the Health and Long Term Care Committee.

The commission must begin submitting their recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2021. Beginning November 15, 2020, the commission must submit annual reports detailing the program's administrative expenses.

Telemedicine Collaborative

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410

References: SB 6163 (2018); ESHB 1196 (2021)

Description: The Collaborative for the Advancement of Telemedicine was created to enhance the understanding of health services through telemedicine. The collaborative is convened by the University of Washington Telehealth Services and participants include four legislators, representatives of the academic community, hospitals, clinics, health care providers, insurance carriers, and other interested parties. The collaborative is also tasked with studying the need for an existing patient/provider relationship before providing audio-only telemedicine, and submitting a report to the Legislature by December 1, 2021.

Committee staff will monitor the collaborative on behalf of the members of the Health & Long Term Care Committee. The collaborative must submit a report by December 1, 2021, including recommendations on improving reimbursement and access to services. The collaborative terminates December 31, 2023.

Universal Health Care Commission

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410

References: SB 5399 (2021)

Description: The Universal Health Care Commission was established to create immediate changes in Washington's health care access and delivery system and to prepare the state for the creation of a universal health care system for all Washington residents through a unified financing system once the necessary federal authority is available. The Health Care Authority staffs the commission. Committee staff will monitor the commission on behalf of the Health & Long Term Care Committee.

The commission must submit a baseline report to the Governor and the Legislature by November 1, 2022, with recommendations for changes to the health care system to increase access and an evaluation of the state's readiness to implement a universal health care system. The commission must submit annual reports thereafter detailing its progress.

Higher Education & Workforce Development

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Residency Statute Cleanup	
Completion Date: November 2021	Staff: Alicia Kinne-Clawson (360) 786-7407
<p>Description: E2SSB 5194 modified the residency statute to allow all adults, regardless of citizenship, to establish residency for tuition and financial aid after maintaining a Washington domicile for one year prior to enrollment in a postsecondary institution. There are currently over 30 pathways to establish residency in statute creating confusion for students, policymakers, and financial aid officers.</p> <p>SCS staff will work with experts to understand current residency pathways, identify opportunities for additional clarity, and correct inconsistencies in statute.</p>	

Medical Student Residency, Financial Aid, and Debt	
Completion Date: December 2021	Staff: Kellee Gunn (360) 786-7429
<p>Description: Washington State continues to face a shortage of medical doctors. Current barriers to addressing the physician shortage and diversifying the workforce include the availability of residency placements, the costs of medical education, and the debt most new physicians face upon completion of their education.</p> <p>Staff will research innovative practices in other states to reduce medical student debt, increase opportunities for medical residencies, and make medical education more affordable.</p>	

COVID-19 Learning Loss/Developmental Education	
Completion Date: December 2021	Staff: Alicia Kinne-Clawson (360) 786-7407
<p>Description: In April 2021, the Washington Student Achievement Council released a report about learning loss during the COVID-19 pandemic. The report found that one out of four public high school students in Washington received a grade that does not earn them credit during the 2020-2021 academic year as of March 2021, an increase of about 42 percent from the prior academic year. As a result, Washington colleges and universities may experience increased numbers of students enrolling who are unprepared to succeed in college-level work.</p>	

Staff will work with institutions of higher education currently delivering developmental education to understand current student success rates, recent reform efforts, and opportunities to invest in strategies to increase student success.

Housing & Local Government

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMA impact on local housing, transportation, and economic development • LAMIRDS • Homebuilder project permit fees and delays/costs
October	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness overview • Impact of COVID-19 on congregate shelters • Local government data on sales/use tax revenue (HB 1070) • Office of Homeless Youth update
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Local Sales and Use Tax Funding for Affordable Housing	
Completion Date: December 2021	Staff: Jeff Olsen (360) 786-7428
References: ESHB 1070 (2021)	
<p>Description: A city or county legislative authority may impose a 0.1 percent sales and use tax to fund housing and related services. A minimum of 60 percent of revenues collected must be used for constructing affordable housing, affordable housing units, facilities providing housing-related services, or mental and behavioral health-related services; or to fund the operations and maintenance costs of newly constructed affordable housing, facilities providing housing-related services, or evaluation and treatment centers. With the enactment of ESHB 1070 in 2021, the acquisition of affordable housing, facilities providing housing-related services, behavioral health-related facilities, or land for these purposes is added to the allowable use of at least 60 percent of the funds raised from the local sales and use tax for housing and related services.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor implementation of ESHB 1070 and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.</p>	

Growth Policy Framework Reforms	
Completion Date: December 2021, ongoing	Staff: Bonnie Kim (360) 786-7316
References: SSB 5092 (2021)	
<p>Description: SSB 5092 includes a budget proviso for the Department of Commerce to convene a task force to make recommendations regarding needed reforms to the state's growth policy framework, including the growth management act, state environmental policy act, and other statutes related to growth, change, economic development, housing, social equity, and environmental conservation. The task force must involve diverse perspectives including, but not limited to, representatives of counties; cities; special districts; the real estate, building, and agricultural industries; planning and environmental organizations; tribal governments; and state agencies. The work group must report on its activities and make recommendations prior to the 2022 and 2023 legislative sessions.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the task force and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.</p>	

Residential Landlord-Tenant Laws	
Completion Date: December 2021	Staff: Brandon Popovac (360) 786-7465
References: ESHB 1236 (2021) ; E2SSB 5160 (2021) ; Governor's Proclamation 20-19.6 (eviction moratorium)	
<p>Description: ESHB 1236 modifies the residential landlord-tenant law (RLTA) by specifying 16 enumerated causes to evict or refuse to renew or end a tenancy, providing when and under which types of leases of a certain duration a landlord can evict or refuse to renew or end a tenancy without cause; requiring a landlord to serve a notice to any remaining occupants who co-resided with a tenant at least six months before the tenant permanently vacated to either apply for tenancy or vacate within 30 days; and clarifying penalties for the landlord including unlawful provisions in a lease.</p> <p>E2SSB 5160 addresses policies in the Governor's eviction moratorium and modifies the RLTA by prohibiting landlords from reporting a tenant's nonpayment of rent accrued between March 1, 2020, and the end of 2021, requiring landlords to offer tenants a reasonable schedule for repayment of any unpaid rent accrued between March 1, 2020, and the later of the end of 2021 or the public health emergency, expanding eligibility of the Landlord Mitigation Program to include landlord claims for reimbursement for unpaid rent accrued between March 1, 2020, and the end of 2021 if the tenant voluntarily vacated or abandoned the tenancy or if there is remaining rent owed after the tenant defaults on a repayment plan, requiring courts to appoint counsel for indigent tenants in all eviction proceedings, subject to amounts appropriated, and requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts to contract with dispute resolution centers to establish a two-year statewide eviction resolution pilot program to help resolve nonpayment of rent cases.</p> <p>Staff will query tenant and landlord stakeholders to discover the impact from both pieces of legislation and monitor implementation of the legal representation services program and eviction resolution pilot program, while providing information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.</p>	

Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Sex Offender Policy Board	
Completion Date: December 1, 2021	Staff: Kelsey-anne Fung (360) 786-7479, Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: project request letter ; E2SSB 5163 (2021)	
<p>Description: On March 1, 2021, the Sex Offender Policy Board received an assignment from the Senate Human Services, Reentry and Rehabilitation Committee to convene, research, and make recommendations regarding the policies and practices for youth who have committed sex offenses. In addition, E2SSB 5163 made several changes related to less restrictive alternative (LRA) placements for civilly committed sexually violent predators (SVP), and directed the board to continue its review of SVP and LRA policies and best practices, and monitor implementation of E2SSB 5163. The board advises the Governor and Legislature on issues related to sex offender management and sex offender policy.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Kelsey-anne Fung (360) 786-7479
References: ESSB 5092 (2021)	
<p>Description: A proviso in the 2021 operating budget established the Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards. The task force must review, among other issues, adequacy of jail standards, current data on jails, and how local jails compare to jail standards and practices in other states. The task force is staffed by the Office of the Attorney General. The task force must report findings and recommendations to the Governor and appropriate committees of the Legislature by June 30, 2023.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: Executive Order 15-03 ; Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice	
<p>Description: The Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice, established in 2010, is the primary planning agency for juvenile justice-related matters in Washington. The council is staffed by the Office of Juvenile Justice within the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Members of the council include an appointed member from the Senate and House of Representatives.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings and provide support to the legislative membership of the council.</p>	

Department of Children, Youth, and Families Oversight Board	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488, Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: 2E2SHB 1661 ; 2SSB 5331 (2021) ; Oversight Board	
<p>Description: In 2017, the Legislature created the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) and the Oversight Board for DCYF. The purpose of the board is to monitor and ensure DCYF achieves the stated outcomes of chapter 6, Laws of 2017 3rd sp. sess., and complies with administrative acts, relevant statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to early learning, juvenile rehabilitation, juvenile justice, and children and family services. Members of the board include two senators and two representatives from the Legislature.</p> <p>2SSB 5331 (2021) directs early childhood court programs to collect and review its data, including data related to race and ethnicity of program participants, to assess its effectiveness and share this data with the board. The board is to share this data and hold or offer to assist in holding statewide meetings to support alignment to the core components and statewide consistency.</p> <p>Staff will monitor meetings and provide support to the legislative membership of the board.</p>	

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Statewide Coordinating Committee	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488
References: SB 5308 (2013) ; Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Statewide Coordinating Committee	
<p>Description: Created by the Legislature in 2013, the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Statewide Coordinating Committee addresses increasing protections for exploited youth by examining local and regional practices and incidence data and making recommendations on statewide laws and practices. Committee members include representatives from the Attorney General’s Office, the Legislature, state and local agencies, criminal justice entities and advocacy organizations.</p>	

Staff will monitor meetings and provide support to the legislative membership of the committee.

Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight Task Force

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488

References: [E3SHB 1482 \(2018\)](#); [Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Task Force](#)

Description: This task force oversees the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and WorkFirst programs and works collaboratively to develop and monitor strategies to prevent and address adverse childhood experiences and reduce intergenerational poverty. Eight legislative members are appointed to the task force along with eight members from state agencies.

Staff will monitor meetings and provide support to the legislative membership of the task force.

Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June 15	Work Session/ Full Committee - Joint with Labor & Workplace Standards	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Security Department update on claims, status, and resolution; changes in workforce and unemployment insurance claimants' demographics; and return to work efforts • State Auditor's Office report on data breach response and resources offered to affected individuals
July 12	Work Session/ Full Committee	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AWB Manufacturing and technology study
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session/ Full Committee	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Security Department reports regarding implementing ESSB 5193, adjudicators, and other issues • Update on ESSB 5478 UI employer tax relief • To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Cannabis Producer, Processor Social Equity Research	
Completion Date: December 31, 2021	Staff: Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627
References: E2SHB 2870 (2020); ESHB 1443 (2021)	
<p>Description: In 2020, E2SHB 2870 created a cannabis social equity program relative to retail licenses issued by the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB). Under the program, LCB may issue certain retail licenses to social equity applicants meeting the requirements for a marijuana retailer license. In 2021, ESHB 1443 expanded the program to include non-retailer cannabis licenses.</p> <p>Committee staff will research the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • size and demographic characteristics of cannabis producer farms and cannabis processors in Washington State; • a comparison of Washington State cannabis producer, processor size, and demographic information to other states; and • a review of license types used in other states. 	

Creating a Sustainable Apprenticeship System	
Completion Date: December 31, 2021	Staff: Jarrett Sacks (360) 786-7448
References: ESSB 5092 (2021)	
<p>Description: ESSB 5092 provided funding and created grants for agencies and nonprofits to establish and expand various apprenticeship programs.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the development of apprenticeship programs in new industries and research emerging trends in the application of apprenticeship programs to new industries in other states. Committee staff will provide updates and draft legislation as directed.</p>	

Domestic Violence and Workplace Resources Task Force	
Completion Date: December 31, 2021	Staff: Jarrett Sacks (360) 786-7448
References: HB 1315 (2021)	
<p>Description: HB 1315 established a task force on domestic violence and workplace resources to identify the role of the workplace in helping to curb domestic violence. The task force is required to review the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the role of the workplace in the lives of individuals experiencing domestic violence; • the appropriate role of employers and employees in helping reduce the incidence of domestic violence; and • whether legislation is needed to address the issues outlined in the bill. <p>The task force must provide a preliminary report on its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2021, and must provide a final report to the Legislature by December 1, 2022.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor the task force, provide updates, and draft legislation as directed.</p>	

Monitor the Health Emergency Labor Standards Act and Other Presumptive Benefits	
Completion Date: December 31, 2021	Staff: Susan Jones (360) 786-7404, Jarrett Sacks (360) 786-7448
References: ESSB 5115 (2021); ESSB 5190 (2021)	
<p>Description: ESSB 5115 created an occupational disease presumption for frontline employees during a public health emergency for the purposes of workers' compensation; required certain employers to notify the Department of Labor and Industries when 10 or more employees test positive for the infectious disease during a public health emergency; prohibited discrimination against high-risk employees who seek accommodations or use leave options; and required employers to provide written notice to employees of potential exposure to the infectious or contagious disease during a public health emergency.</p>	

ESSB 5190 made health care employees who left work to quarantine during a public health emergency eligible for unemployment insurance benefits; excluded from the definition of misconduct for unemployment insurance purposes entering quarantine or contracting the disease that is the subject of a public health emergency; and provided presumptive workers' compensation coverage for health care employees who are in quarantine or contract the disease that is the subject of a public health emergency.

Committee staff will monitor implementation of the bills and provide updates.

Legislative Task Force on Social Equity in Cannabis

Completion Date: December 31, 2021	Staff: Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627
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References: ESHB 1443 (2021)

Description: ESHB 1443, among other issues, expanded the purpose and reporting requirements of the Task Force on Social Equity in Cannabis.

The task force must submit one or more reports to the Governor, the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB), and the Legislature. The task force must submit its final recommendations by December 9, 2022, but is encouraged to submit individual recommendations as soon as possible. The recommendations must include:

- factors LCB must consider in distributing the licenses currently available from cannabis retailer licenses that have been subject to forfeiture, revocation, or cancellation by LCB, or cannabis retailer licenses not previously issued but could have been without exceeding the statewide limit;
- whether any additional cannabis producer, processor, or retailer licenses should be issued beyond the statewide limit; and
- numerous social equity impacts relating to regulatory authority, removing cannabis-related felonies from license qualification and renewal, creating new cannabis license types, and recommendations for the cannabis social equity technical assistance grant program.

Committee staff will monitor the task force, provide updates, and draft legislation as directed, and will monitor and report on federal developments relating to cannabis. The task force expires June 30, 2023.

Paid Family and Medical Leave

Completion Date: December 31, 2021	Staff: Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627
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References: SSB 5975 (2017); ESHB 5097 (2021)

Description: In 2017, SSB 5975 created a Family and Medical Leave Advisory Committee in conjunction with the Paid Family and Medical Leave program. The advisory committee consists of eight voting members, four representing employees and four representing employers. There are two ex officio members, one Employment Security Department (ESD) representative and an Ombuds. The advisory committee may comment on rules, policies, and other specified matters, and study issues as the committee determines.

ESSB 5097 expanded the definition of family member to include any individual who regularly resides in the employee's home or where the relationship creates an expectation that the employee care for the person, and that individual depends on the employee for care. Family member does not include an individual who simply resides in the same house with no expectation that the employee care for the individual. ESD must submit multiple reports to the Legislature at different intervals with information relating to program utilization and related effects of the expanded definition of family member. ESD must provide members of the advisory committee the opportunity to comment on the reports.

Committee staff will monitor the advisory committee, ESD reporting, and draft legislation as directed. Additionally, staff will monitor and report on federal developments in paid family and medical leave.

Unemployment Insurance Issues

Completion Date: December 31, 2021

Staff: Susan Jones (360) 786-7404

References: ESHB 5193 (2021); ESSB 5478 (2021)

Description: In 2021, ESSB 5193, among other issues, required certain reporting by the Employment Security Department (ESD) to the Legislature regarding:

- adjudicator certifications, the number of ESD employees, and the training and hiring costs;
- ESD's progress implementing the bill;
- any new federal programs or funds received by ESD and the use of such funds;
- any software or technology issues related to claims processing; and
- updates on protocols and process for protecting sensitive data.

ESSB 5478 created the unemployment insurance relief account. The operating budget appropriated \$500 million to the relief account to implement the bill. By December 20, 2021, ESD must determine the forgiven benefits for approved category 1, 2, 3, and 4 employers to be reimbursed by the relief account instead of being charged to the employer's experience rating account. ESD must transfer from the relief account to the unemployment compensation fund an amount equal to the forgiven benefits.

The Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs Committee will hold oversight work sessions for ESD to present the reports and updates to the committee on implementation of the bills and other matters. Committee staff will organize and facilitate the work sessions. Committee staff will monitor the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee meetings and other new and emerging state and federal issues regarding unemployment insurance.

Law & Justice

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June 16	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of firearm laws enacted since I-594 • Gun violence prevention strategies, gaps, and challenges • Update on the Centralized Firearms Background Check Program • Public Records Act exemptions regarding concealed pistol licenses
September	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pretrial release and detention/bail • Update on trial court backlog
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of wrongful death actions/tort liability after ESSB 5263 • Review of implementation of protection orders after E2SHB 1320

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June 11	Sentencing Guidelines Commission	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Substance Use Recovery Services Plan	
Completion Date: December 30, 2021	Staff: Shani Bauer (360) 786-7468
References: ESB 5476	
<p>Description: ESB 5476 requires the Health Care Authority to establish the Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee to develop and implement the substance use recovery services plan. Advisory committee members include one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Among other tasks, the advisory committee is directed to formulate recommendations regarding the appropriate legal system response, if any, to the possession of controlled substances. A preliminary report is due to the</p>	

Legislature no later than December 1, 2021, with a final report due no later than December 1, 2022.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of the advisory committee.

Oversight and Accountability of Peace Officers

Completion Date: December 30, 2021

Staff: Shani Bauer (360) 786-7468

References: [E2SSB 5051](#), [SSB 5066](#), [E2SSB 5259](#), [ESHB 1054](#), [SHB 1088](#), [E2SHB 1310](#)

Description: During the 2021 legislative session, the Legislature passed several bills requiring law enforcement and other related agencies to update integral policies, evaluate key systems, and report back to the Legislature.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of the following tasks and their related due dates:

- A report from the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) is due by December 1, 2021, to include information and data on the demand and need for Basic Law Enforcement Academy training recommendations for amendments to update and align definitions and categories of officers (E2SSB 5051, Sec. 28).
- The CJTC must develop a model policy on the duty to intervene no later than December 1, 2021. By June 1, 2022, individual law enforcement agencies must adopt policies consistent with the model policy (SSB 5066, Sec. 2).
- The Attorney General's Office (AGO) is required to establish an advisory group and make recommendations for the implementation of a program for statewide data collection of use of force data no later than April 1, 2022 (E2SSB 5259, Sec. 3).
- Law enforcement agencies are required to submit an inventory of military equipment to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs no later than November 1, 2021 (ESHB 1054, Sec. 5).
- Individual prosecuting attorney offices are required to adopt written protocols addressing potential impeachment disclosures no later than July 1, 2022 (SHB 1088, Sec. 1).
- The AGO is required to develop model policies on law enforcement's use of force and de-escalation tactics no later than July 1, 2022, and individual law enforcement agencies must adopt policies consistent with those model policies no later than December 1, 2022 (E2SHB 1310, Sec. 4).

Pretrial Release and Detention Act

Completion Date: December 30, 2021

Staff: Tim Ford (360) 786-7423

References: [SB 5307](#)

Description: SB 5307 if enacted will reform court processes for pretrial detention and release. Stakeholder meetings for a new draft of the bill may include the sentencing guidelines commission, courts, defenders, prosecutors, and community groups.

Committee staff will assist with acquiring input from stakeholders and drafting the bill.

Civil Protection Orders

Completion Date: December 30, 2021

Staff: Tim Ford (360) 786-7423

References: [E2SHB 1320](#)

Description: E2SHB 1320 repealed several chapters of law and created a new chapter to harmonize civil protection orders. House sponsored meetings will be ongoing to receive stakeholder feedback on the implementation and effectiveness of HB 1320.

Committee staff will participate in meetings and coordinate with the House staff on any necessary changes.

State Government & Elections

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from the Redistricting Commission
TBD	Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the efficiency and equity of economic development through state coordination • Future of state work • Use of state resources by public employees during mandated telework periods
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on national election law developments • Citizens' initiative reviews • Legislative oversight of emergency orders

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
TBD	Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined
TBD	Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined
TBD	Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined
TBD	Legislative Oral History Committee/ Work Session	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

State of Emergency Declarations	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Melissa Van Gorkom (360) 786-7491
References: RCW 43.06.010, 210 and 220; SCR 8402 (2021); SB 5260 (2019); Governor's proclamations ; other 2021 legislation introduced—SB 5039; SB 5100; SB 5114/HB 1321; SB 5186; SB 5469/HB 1547; SB 5473/HB 1553; SB 5484/HB 1580; HB 1013; HB 1020; HB 1029; HB 1060; HB 1158; HB 1381; and HB 1557	
<p>Description: On February 29, 2020, the Governor declared a state of emergency to address COVID-19 in all counties of Washington State and subsequently issued a number of proclamations with orders to address the emergency which, beginning in March 2020, included waiving or suspending certain regulatory obligations or limitations that hinder or delay necessary action in coping with COVID-19. An order of the Governor that waives or suspends statutory or regulatory provisions is limited to 30 days unless the order is extended by the Legislature. The Senate majority and minority leaders, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the House of Representatives minority leader subsequently extended or denied extension of the Governor's emergency orders waiving or suspending certain statutory or regulatory provisions by letter until January 2021.</p> <p>In January 2021 the Legislature passed SCR 8402 to extend the following proclamations until the termination of the COVID-19 state of emergency or until rescinded by gubernatorial or legislative action: 20-15, 20-20, 20-23, 20-28, 20-30, 20-31, 20-32, 20-36, 20-41, 20-43, 20-44, 20-45, 20-48, 20-49, 20-51, 20-52, 20-56, 20-59, 20-64, 20-65, 20-66, 20-69, 20-74, 20-79, 20-82, and 20-84.</p> <p>Committee staff will follow the COVID-19 emergency, and conduct research, schedule work sessions and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

State Workforce Modernization	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Sam Brown (360) 786-7470, Melissa Van Gorkom (360) 786-7491
References: ESSB 5395 (2021); SCR 8412 (2020); SSCR 8402 (2015); Chapters 41.04 and 44.04 RCW	
<p>Description: A large percentage of the state workforce has been telecommuting and using other technological resources to perform their duties since the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" emergency order was issued on March 23, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Legislation introduced in recent sessions raised questions regarding the use of tools by the state to provide efficient and effective operations. Office space and equipment; use of technology; staff recruitment and retention; and policies, procedures, and rules to promote a more efficient operation were all discussed.</p> <p>Committee staff will assess practices, policies, and procedures in these areas; conduct research; draft legislation; and schedule work sessions as directed.</p>	

Congressional and Legislative Redistricting

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Sam Brown (360) 786-7470

References: ESHB 2575 (2020); SSB 5502 (2019); 2SSB 5287 (2019); SJR 8210 (2016); Chapter 29A.76B RCW (HCR 4409 (2012)); Chapter 44.05 RCW

Description: The five-member bipartisan Redistricting Commission must establish state legislative and congressional districts every ten years based on results from the federal decennial census. Legislative leaders must appoint voting members to the next commission by January 15, 2021.

Redistricting law has been the subject of legislation recently. In 2016, Washington voters approved a constitutional amendment moving up the deadline for the commission to complete its work. In 2019, the Legislature required that persons incarcerated in Washington state prisons be counted as residents of their last known address for redistricting purposes. Nationally, redistricting is the subject of frequent litigation over plans' conformance with the United States Constitution and federal laws.

Committee staff will monitor developments relating to the conduct of the 2020 Census, redistricting litigation nationwide, the administration of the commission, and conduct research and draft legislation, including legislation implementing the plan as approved by the commission, as directed.

Transportation

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Rail Planning and Safety Issues	
Completion Date: status update in December 2021	Staff: Danny Masterson (360) 786-7454
References: SSB 5165, Sec 102, Sec 204(6), Sec 222(2) (2021)	
<p>Description: The Legislature directed agencies to conduct several studies related to rail planning and safety with reports due between January 1, 2022, and September 1, 2022.</p> <p>Committee staff will monitor progress on the following studies and other rail issues and have updates available by the 2022 legislative session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Joint Transportation Committee will facilitate a short line rail stakeholder process and update the 2015 Washington State Short Line Rail Inventory and Needs Assessment. The report is due January 1, 2022. The Washington State Department of Transportation will conduct an analysis of current and future market conditions in the Cascades rail corridor and develop service options and goals based on anticipated demand and the results of the 2019 state rail plan. A status report is due June 30, 2022. The Utilities and Transportation Commission will prepare an inventory of rail safety oversight conducted by selected other states compared to the role of state agencies in Washington. The report is due September 1, 2022. 	

WSDOT Role in Broadband Service Expansion Study	
Completion Date: January 1, 2022	Staff: Erica Bramlet (360) 786-7321
References: SSB 5165, Sec. 204(3) (2021); ESHB 1457 (2021)	
<p>Description: SSB 5165, Sec. 204(3) and ESHB 1457 direct the Joint Transportation Committee to conduct a study to provide recommendations related to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) role in broadband service expansion efforts. The study will include tasks such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying best practices from other states; recommending a WSDOT strategy and specific highway corridors to address missing broadband connections; examining state and federal laws and regulations that could be modified to this end; and 	

- identifying planning and financing tools or mutually beneficial partnerships between WSDOT and broadband service providers to help expand broadband access, including access for transportation purposes such as intelligent transportation systems, cooperative automated transportation/autonomous vehicles, transportation demand management, and highway maintenance activities.

The study is due by January 1, 2022. Committee staff will monitor progress of the study, provide relevant updates, and draft legislation as requested.

Autonomous Vehicle Work Group

Completion Date: December 31, 2021

Staff: Kelly Simpson (360) 786-7403, Kim Johnson (360) 786-7472

References: SHB 2970 (2018)

Description: SHB 2970, enacted in 2018, directs the Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) to convene a work group to develop policy recommendations to address the operation of Autonomous Vehicles (AVs) on public roadways in the state. The AV work group is comprised of members of both the legislative and executive branches of government, as well as relevant stakeholders from the public and private sectors. The WSTC must annually submit recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor based on the input provided by the AV work group, whose recommendations may include proposed modifications to state law and rules to address the emergence and deployment of AV technology in the state.

Committee staff will monitor progress of the AV work group, provide relevant updates, and draft legislation as requested.

Facility and Information Technology Needs Study

Completion Date: October 1, 2022

Staff: Bryon Moore (360) 786-7726, Danny Masterson (360) 786-7454

References: SSB 5165, Sec. 103

Description: The Legislature directed the Office of Financial Management (OFM) to conduct a study regarding short-term and long-term facility and information technology needs by the Washington State Department of Transportation. OFM is directed to evaluate scenarios based on different levels of teleworking. For each scenario, the evaluation must include current and projected facility and workforce needs by location and function, opportunities for colocation with other public entities, needed technology infrastructure and other related costs to support teleworking, and cost-benefit analysis detailing the net impact of teleworking on facilities and total costs. OFM must submit a final report by October 1, 2022.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of the study and draft any relevant legislation as requested.

Vehicle Registration Payment Work Group	
Completion Date: September 30, 2022	Staff: Danny Masterson (360) 786-7454, Bryon Moore (360) 786-7726
References: SSB 5165, Sec. 204 (1)	
<p>Description: The Legislature directed the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) to convene a vehicle registration payment work group to study and recommend new options for payment of vehicle fees or taxes due at the time of application for vehicle registration. JTC is directed to include participation from representatives from specific groups and to allow for public input through a variety of communication channels. The work group recommendations must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • options to provide or encourage rebates to vehicle owners; • an agreed upon service fee structure for vehicle registration payment plans; • an agreed upon service fee revenue allocation method; • a process to allow agents and subagents to determine if a vehicle owner has paid all taxes and fees due prior to renewal of a vehicle registration; • options for reducing revenue loss due to missed payments, transfer of the certificate of title, or registration of a vehicle out of state; and • options to reduce impacts to communities of color, low-income households, vulnerable populations, and displaced communities. <p>The work group must submit their findings and recommendations by September 30, 2022. Committee staff will monitor the progress of the study and draft any relevant legislation as requested.</p>	

Cost Recovery Options for the Collection of Locally Imposed Vehicle Taxes and Fees	
Completion Date: not specified	Staff: Bryon Moore (360) 786-7726
References: SSB 5165, Sec. 208 (3)	
<p>Description: The Legislature directed the Department of Licensing to work with Sound Transit, transportation benefit districts, and other relevant parties, to determine cost recovery options for the administration and collection of locally imposed vehicle taxes and fees. The options must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a full cost recovery method; • a marginal cost recovery method; and • a method based on the local government contracting out the entire collection and administrative activity with a nongovernmental entity. <p>Committee staff will monitor the option development and draft any relevant legislation as requested.</p>	

Hood River Bridge Legal Analysis

Completion Date: September 30, 2021

Staff: Kim Johnson (360) 786-7472, Erica Bramlet (360) 786- 7321

References: SSB 5165, Sec. 204 (2)

Description: The Legislature directed the Joint Transportation Committee to work with a legal consultant to analyze and recommend options for the formation of a bistate bridge authority for constructing, financing, operating and maintaining a new replacement bridge over the Columbia River near Hood River connecting Klickitat County in Washington to Hood River County in Oregon. The analysis must identify and recommend alternative and additional statutory authority or both, that would be necessary for the formation of a local government bistate bridge authority or governance structure. Necessary elements of the analysis include bond issuance, toll collection and the ability of the governance body to secure and administer state or federal grants and loans. The legal analysis must be presented to the transportation committees of the Legislature by September 30, 2021.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of the analysis and draft any relevant legislation as requested.

Ways & Means

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
November 15 and 16 - Senate Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June 23	Joint Committee on Employment Relations	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
July 21	Joint Committee on Employment Relations	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
September 22	Joint Committee on Employment Relations	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
November 17	Joint Committee on Employment Relations	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined
December 15	Joint Committee on Employment Relations	Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

2021-23 Legislative Budget Notes	
Completion Date: Summer 2021	Staff: Ways & Means Committee (360) 786-7715
<p>Description: Legislative fiscal staff in the Senate and House will work together with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee staff to publish the <i>Legislative Budget Notes</i> in the summer of 2020. This publication represents the official record of legislative action on the omnibus operating, transportation, and capital budgets. It is used by legislators, legislative staff, state agencies, and the public to determine the legislative intent behind the hundreds of policy changes embedded in the three major documents.</p>	

Economic COVID-19 Updates	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Michael Bezanson (360) 786-7749
Description: The economic, revenue, and budget situation due to the COVID-19 virus and federal stimulus legislation continues to unfold. Staff will provide periodic briefings to interested Ways & Means committee members on how the situation evolves. The briefing will be in September after the revenue forecast, and as needed.	

2022 Citizen’s Guide to K-12 Finance	
Completion Date: January 2022	Staff: Jeff Naas (360) 786-7708
Description: Committee staff will update the annually published <i>Citizen's Guide to K-12 Finance</i> . The guide serves as a resource for members, legislative staff, and the public to answer frequently asked questions regarding K-12 finance. The guide will be published at the start of the 2022 legislative session and will be available from committee staff, as well as online.	

2022 Citizen’s Guides to the State Operating and Capital Budgets	
Completion Date: January 2022	Staff: James Kettel (360) 786-7459, Michael Bezanson (360) 786-7449
Description: The Senate Ways & Means Committee staff and the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee staff will publish updated versions of the <i>Citizen's Guide to the Budget</i> (operating and capital) for the 2022 legislative session. The guides are published annually for use by members, legislative staff, and the public to answer basic questions about the Washington State operating and capital biennial budgets. The guides will be published at the start of the 2022 legislative session and will be available from committee staff, as well as online.	

2022 Legislative Guide to Washington State and Local Taxes	
Completion Date: January 2022	Staff: Alia Kennedy (360) 786-7405
Description: Committee staff will create a <i>Legislative Guide to Washington State and Local Taxes</i> . The guide will serve as an overview of Washington’s full tax structure for members, legislative staff, and the public. The guide will reflect the changes made in the 2021 legislative session. The guide will be published at the start of the 2022 legislative session and will be available from committee staff, as well as online.	

Four-Year Balanced Budget and Outlook	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Sarian Scott (360) 786-7729
References: SSB 6636, Ch. 8, laws of 2012	
<p>Description: Beginning with the 2013-2015 biennium, budgets at the time of passage are required to be projected to be balanced for current and following biennia based on a maintenance level projection. The Economic and Revenue Forecast Council must prepare a budget outlook document for the Governor's proposed budget and for the budget enacted by the Legislature. To assist the council in preparing the state budget outlooks, a State Budget Outlook Work Group is created, consisting of one staff person from the Office of Financial Management, the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee, the Office of the State Treasurer, the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, the Caseload Forecast Council, the Senate Ways & Means Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee.</p> <p>Staff will participate in the work group and provide technical assistance.</p>	

Caseload Forecast Council Technical (Staff) Work Groups	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Ways & Means Committee (360) 786-7715
<p>Description: Staff will monitor changes and trends and provide input regarding caseload forecasts for entitlement programs for public schools, medical assistance, long-term care, developmental disabilities, foster care, adoption support, general assistance, corrections, and juvenile rehabilitation. The caseload forecasts are used to develop the majority of the budgets for these programs. The work groups meet periodically and include staff from the Senate Ways & Means Committee, House Appropriations Committee, Caseload Forecast Council, Office of Financial Management, the Department of Social and Health Services, and other caseload-driven agencies.</p>	

Joint Committee on Employment Relations	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Amanda Cecil (360) 786-7460
<p>Description: The Joint Committee on Employment Relations, created in 2002 as part of the Personnel System Reform Act, was modified in Senate Bill 5969 (2017) and directed to meet at least six times per year to consider matters related to collective bargaining with state employees. During the 2021 calendar year, the joint committee is expected to meet five times, including one meeting following the Governor's budget submittal to advise the Ways & Means Committee on appropriations and legislation necessary to implement the agreements.</p> <p>Committee staff will provide support to the joint committee and monitor activity.</p>	

Joint Legislative Taskforce on Water Supply	
Completion Date: June 2023	Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424, Jed Herman (360) 786-7346
References: SHB 1080 (2021); ESHB 1102 (2019); ESSB 6095 (2018)	
<p>Description: In 2018, the Legislature passed ESSB 6095, establishing the Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply (Water Supply Task Force). The Water Supply Task Force must review surface and groundwater needs and uses as they relate to agricultural uses, domestic potable water uses, and instream flows, and develop and recommend studies. The Water Supply Task Force must focus on water resource inventory areas (WRIAs) 3 and 4. WRIA 3 is in the western portion of Skagit County and WRIA 4 is in the eastern portions of Whatcom, Skagit, and Snohomish counties. The Water Supply Task Force approved two studies, Skagit Basin Supply and Demand Analysis and a Review of the Duke Engineering Estuary Study Report in December 2019. The Estuary Study Report was completed in January 2021 and the Supply and Demand Analysis will be completed summer 2021.</p> <p>Committee staff will provide support, assist as directed by members, and draft legislation as requested.</p>	

Local Government Finance and Distributions	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438, Alia Kennedy (360) 786-7405
<p>Description: In the 2014 interim, staff developed a reference guide to the over \$750 million dollars in state distributions to local governments, primarily cities and counties. This information is available at the fiscal.wa.gov website. The reference guide is intended for use by members, legislative staff, local governments, and the public, of state shared revenues, distributions, grants, and loan programs that benefit local governments.</p> <p>Staff will continue working with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program to develop more complete information on the variety of different forms of assistance to local governments, better search capabilities, and mapping tools.</p>	

Tax Structure Work Group	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438
<p>Description: The 2001-03 operating budget bill created a Washington State Tax Structure Study Committee to study the elasticity, equity, and adequacy of the state's tax system and develop multiple alternatives to the existing tax system. The committee submitted a final report in November 2002 that laid out a framework of tax principles used in the analysis of Washington's tax structure, evaluated Washington's tax structure at the time against the backdrop of these principles, and recommended numerous alternatives to improve Washington's tax structure.</p> <p>The 2021-23 operating budget bill (section 137 of Ch. 232, laws of 2021 (ESSB 5092)) reauthorizes and expands the membership and scope of the work group. Over the course of several biennia, the work group will engage in the following tasks:</p>	

- update the data and research that informed the recommendations of the 2001-03 Tax Structure Study Committee;
 - make preliminary recommendations to improve Washington's current tax structure;
 - engage in a series of public meetings to solicit stakeholder and taxpayer feedback; and
 - prepare a final report to submit to the legislature.
- Staff will monitor and provide support to the work group.