Senate Committee Services Staff Issue Area Document

(Committee Links for Committee Staff Issues and Staff)

- Agriculture, Water, Trade & Economic Development
- Commerce, Labor & Sports
- Early Learning & K-12 Education
- Energy, Environment & Telecommunications
- Financial Institution & Insurance
- Health Care
- Higher Education
- Human Services, Mental Health & Housing
- Law & Justice
- Local Government
- Natural Resources & Parks
- State Government
- Transportation
- Ways & Means
**Agriculture, Water, Trade & Economic Development** (786-7411)

*Karen Epps, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7424*

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Agriculture
- Agricultural Pests, Diseases and Chemical Treatment
- Agricultural Products – Production, Sale and Marketing
- Commodity Commissions
- Dairy Nutrient Management
- Economic Development
- Food Labeling, Processing and Safety
- Water Resources

*Greg Vogel, Staff Counsel - 786-7413*

- Economic Development
- Incentives
- Regional and Sector Based Development
- Regulatory Assistance
- Technical Assistance to Businesses
- Trade
- International Trade and Export Assistance
- Agriculture
- Tourism

*Alison Riffer, Committee Assistant - 786-7411*

*(Committee Contact)*

**Commerce, Labor & Sports** (786-7426)

*Susan Jones, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7404*

*(Lead Committee Contact)*

- Consumer Protection
- Industrial Insurance
- Unemployment Insurance
- Worker Retraining
- Lottery
- Sports

*Richard Rodger, Sr. Staff Counsel - 786-7461*

- Liquor
- Marijuana
- Gambling
- Horse Racing
- Worker Privacy and Personnel Practices
- Employment Standards

*Jarrett Sacks, Staff Counsel - 786-7448*

- Apprenticeship
- Prevailing Wage
- Professional Licensing
- Construction Trades Licensing and Regulation
- Labor Trafficking
- Collective Bargaining

*Dana King, Committee Assistant – 786-7784*

*(Committee Contact)*
Early Learning & K-12 Education (786-7420)

Susan Mielke, Sr. Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7422
(Lead Committee Contact)
  • Basic Education
  • High School Graduation Requirements, including Statewide Assessments
  • Special Education
  • Charter Schools
  • Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education
Ailey Kato, Staff Counsel - 786-7434
  • Early Learning
  • Student Health
  • Student and Educator Safety
  • Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee
  • Student Discipline
Alia Kennedy, Staff Counsel - 786-7405
  • Collective bargaining for school employees
  • Paraeducators
  • Teacher preparation and certification
  • Teacher and principal evaluations
  • Professional Educators Standards Board
Samina Mays, Committee Assistant - 786-7463
(Committee Contact)

Energy, Environment & Telecommunications (786-7406)

Jan Odano, Staff Coordinator/Research Analyst - 786-7486
(Lead Committee Contact)
  • Air Quality
  • Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction
  • Nuclear and Radioactive Waste
  • Product Stewardship
  • Solid Waste Management
  • Telecommunications
  • Water Quality
Kim Cushing, Sr. Staff Counsel - 786-7421
  • Energy Generation and Transmission
  • Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Standards
  • Carbon Policy
Dana King, Committee Assistant – 786-7784
(Committee Contact)

Financial Institutions & Insurance (786-7409)

Jeff Olsen, Staff Coordinator/Research Analyst - 786-7428
(Lead Committee Contact)
  • Payday Lending
  • Foreclosures
  • Mortgage Brokers
  • Mobile Home Parks
  • Landlord-Tenant
• Loan Originators
• Uniform Commercial Code
• Banking-shared
• Banking-primary contact
• Credit Ratings and Scoring
• Credit Unions
• Insurance Claims and Fraud
• Public Depositaries
• Securities Regulation
• Construction Defects
• Home Owners’ and Condo Associations
• Life insurance and Life Settlements
• Homeowners’ Insurance, Rates and Forms
• Re-insurance
• Financial Solvency of Insurers
• Market Conduct of Insurers

Carly Johnson, Committee Assistant - 786-7441
(Committee Contact)

Health Care (786-7456)

Kathy Buchli, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7488
(Lead Committee Contact)
• Long-Term Care
• Developmental Disabilities
• Drugs and Drug Policy
• Public Health

Evan Klein, Staff Counsel - 786-7483
[Also staff of the Higher Education Committee]
• Health Care Professions
• Facility Regulation
• Public Health

Mich'l Needham, Sr. Research Analyst - 786-7442
• ACA–Federal Health Care Reform
  ▪ Medicaid Expansion
  ▪ Exchange
  ▪ Health Care Financing/Insurance–Public and Private

Sandy Jaime, Committee Assistant - 786-7417
(Committee Contact)

Higher Education (786-7415)

Clint McCarthy, Staff Coordinator/Analyst - 786-7319
(Lead Committee Contact)
• Public and Independent Baccalaureate Colleges and Universities
• Public Community and Technical Colleges
• Financial Aid
• Tuition
• Governance

Evan Klein, Staff Counsel - 786-7483
[Also staff of the Health Care Committee]
• Campus Safety
• For-Profit Colleges
• Workforce Training
• Private Career Schools
• Faculty
• Veterans Issues

Dana King, Committee Assistant – 786-7784
(Committee Contact)

Human Services, Mental Health & Housing (786-7414)

Kevin Black, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7747
• Housing (affordable housing & homelessness)
• Child Welfare/Child Protection
  ▪ Family Assessment Response (FAR)
  ▪ Extended foster care services
  ▪ Legal representation in dependencies
  ▪ Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)
• Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
  ▪ Workfirst
  ▪ SNAP (Food Stamps)
• Disability Lifeline Program (formerly General Assistance)
• Mental Health/Substance Abuse
  ▪ Competency to Stand Trial/Criminal Insanity
  ▪ Involuntary Treatment Act Civil Commitments
  ▪ Regional Support Networks
  ▪ Crisis Diversion
• Offender Reentry Community Safety Program (fka Dangerous Mentally Ill Offender Program)
• Domestic Violence Issues
• Crime victims
• Sex Offenders: Civil commitment
• Truancy

Melissa Burke-Cain, Sr. Staff Counsel - 786-7755
• Juvenile Justice

Samina Mays, Committee Assistant - 786-7463
(Committee Contact)

Law & Justice (786-7455)

Tim Ford, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7423
(Lead Committee Contact)
• Tort Law
• Firearms
• General Criminal and Civil
• Guardianship and Probate Issues
• Business Law
• Eminent Domain
• Unpiloted Aerial Vehicles
• Body Worn Camera Task Force
• School-Related Criminal Issues
• Uniform Laws
Shani Bauer, Sr. Staff Counsel - 786-7468
- Body Worn Camera Task Force
- Corrections
- Sex Offenders
- DUI
- New Crimes and Sentencing Changes
- General Criminal Issues
- Motor Vehicle Related Issues
- School-Related Criminal Issues
- Uniform Laws
- Use of Deadly Force Task Force

Melissa Burke-Cain, Sr. Staff Counsel - 786-7755
- Human Trafficking
- Trusts
- General Civil and Court Related Subject Matter
- Collection and Garnishment
- Court Administration Issues
- Domestic Violence
- General Criminal
- Laws Relating to Animal Cruelty
- Family Law
- Public Health-Related Court and Criminal Matters
- Uniform Laws

Melissa Van Gorkom, Analyst – 786-7491
[Also staff of the State Government Committee]
- DUI
- Motor Vehicle Related Issues

Carly Johnson, Committee Assistant - 786-7441
(Committee Contact)

Local Government (786-7467)

Bonnie Kim, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7316
(Lead Committee Contact)
- City and County Governance
- Special Purpose Districts
- Property Taxes
- Public Contracting Procedures
- Public Works
- Administrative Procedures Act

Alex Fairfortune, Staff Counsel - 786-7416
- Land Use and Development
- Growth Management Act
- Government Incorporation
- Annexation
- Vesting
- Special Purpose Districts
- Fire Protection
- Emergency Management

Nelson Falkenburg, Committee Assistant - 786-7389
(Committee Contact)
Natural Resources & Parks (786-7419)

Curt Gavigan, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7437
(Lead Committee Contact)
  • Fish and Wildlife Governance
  • Wildlife
  • State Lands Management
  • Recreation and State Parks
  • Fisheries
  • Forest Health and Fire
  • Geology and Surface Mining
  • Forestry & Timber

Angela Kleis, Analyst - 786-7469
Jasmin Adams, Committee Assistant - 786-7419
(Committee Contact)

State Government (786-7473)

Sam Brown, Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7470
(Lead Committee Contact)
  • Tribal Relations
  • Veterans Affairs
  • Military Affairs
  • Ethics and Conflict of Interest
  • Public Records and Disclosure
  • Open Public Meetings
  • Elections
  • Campaign Finance
  • Initiatives and Referendums
  • Signature Gathering
  • Performance Management of State Government Programs and Agencies
  • Audits of State Government Programs and Agencies

Melissa Van Gorkom, Analyst – 786-7491
  • Fire Protection
  • Emergency Management
  • Information Technology at State Agencies
  • Public Contracting Procedures
  • Public Works
  • Administrative Procedure Act
  • Civil Service
  • Regulatory Reform
  • Historic Preservation
  • Archives

Sandy Jaime, Committee Assistant - 786-7417
(Committee Contact)
Transportation (786-7300)

Kelly Simpson, Sr. Staff Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7403
(Lead Committee Contact)

Budget Assignments
- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Transportation Commission

Policy Assignments
- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- State and Regional Transportation Governance
- State and Regional Transportation Planning
- Transportation Element of Growth Management Act
- Special Purpose Districts

David Ward, Fiscal Coordinator - 786-7341

Budget Assignments
- Treasurer (Bond Retirement and Interest)
- Joint Transportation Committee
- Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program
- Office of Financial Management

Policy Assignments
- Revenue Forecasts
- Financial Plans/Fund Balances
- Bonds and Other Indebtedness

Erica Bramlet, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7321

Budget Assignments
- Highway Construction Projects
- DOT–Toll Operations
- DOT–Highway Improvements
- DOT–Highway Maintenance
- DOT–Highway Preservation
- DOT–Traffic Operations
- DOT–Information Technology
- DOT–Management
- DOT–Program Management and Support
- DOT – Charges From Other Agencies

Policy Assignments
- Tolls
- Highways
- Environmental Issues

Hayley Gamble, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7452

Budget Assignments
- Washington State Ferries
  - Operating
  - Capital
- DOT–Rail
  - Operating
  - Capital
- DOT–Facilities
  - Operating
  - Capital
- DOT–Aviation
- DOT–Planning, Data, and Research
• DOT–Public Transportation
• Local Programs/Resources
  ▪ DOT–Local Programs
  ▪ Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB)
  ▪ Transportation Improvement Board (TIB)
  ▪ County Road Administration Board (CRAB)

Policy Assignments
• Washington State Ferries
• Rail
• Local Transit Agencies, including Sound Transit
• Board of Pilotage Commissioners

Kim Johnson, Sr. Staff Counsel - 786-7472

Budget Assignments
• Budget Bill Coordination
• DOT–Public/Private Partnerships
• State Parks and Recreation
• Archaeology & Historic Preservation
• Department of Agriculture

Policy Assignments
• Tolls
• Traffic Safety/Rules of the Road
• Tribal Issues
• Bicycles
• Motorcycles/Motor Scooters
• Transportation Security Issues (e.g., valid identification and legal presence)
• Initiative/Referendum Issues

Kellee Keegan, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7429

Budget Assignments
• Department of Licensing – Drivers and Vehicles
• WSP – Operating, Capitol
• Traffic Safety Commission

Policy Assignments
• DOL
  ▪ Drivers
  ▪ Vehicles
• Revenue Forecasts
• Taxes/Fees
• Washington State Patrol

Alison Riffer, Committee Assistant - 786-7430
(Committee Contact)

Ways & Means (786-7715)

Bryon Moore, Sr. Staff Coordinator - 786-7726
(Lead Committee Contact)
• House of Representatives
• Office of Financial Management
• Office of the Governor
• Senate

Michael Bezanson, Operating Budget Coordinator - 786-7449
• Operating Budget Issues

9/7/2017
Richard Ramsey, Capital Budget Coordinator - 786-7412
• Bond Retirement and Interest
• K-12 Capital Issues
• Local Government Assistance
• Municipal Research Council

Dean Carlson, Revenue Coordinator - 786-7305
• Revenue Policy Issues
• Board of Tax Appeals
• Caseload Forecast Council
• Department of Revenue
• Economic and Revenue Forecast Council
• Liquor Control Board

Michele Alishahi, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7433
• Central Washington University
• Community and Technical Colleges
• Eastern Washington University
• The Evergreen State College
• Student Achievement Council
• University of Washington
• Washington State University
• Western Washington University
• Workforce Training and Education Board

Amanda Cecil, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7460
• Board for Volunteer Firefighters
• Collective Bargaining
• Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials
• Department of Retirement Systems
• Employee Compensation
• Pensions
• Public Employment Relations Commission
• State Actuary
• State Investment Board

Maria Hovde, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7474
• Department of Early Learning
• DSHS–Child Support Services
• DSHS–Children and Family Services
• DSHS–Economic Services
• TANF Issues

James Kettel, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7459
• DSHS–Administration and Support Services
• DSHS–Developmental Disabilities
• DSHS–Information System Services
• DSHS–Long Term Care
• DSHS–Payments to Other Agencies
• DSHS–Vocational Rehabilitation
• Department of Services for the Blind
• Department of Veterans Affairs
• Department of Health (DOH)
• Life Science Discovery Fund
• School for the Blind
• Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss
Daniel Masterson, Fiscal Analyst 786-7454
- Arts Commission
- Attorney General
- Board of Accountancy
- Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals
- Commission on African-American Affairs
- Commission on Asian-American Affairs
- Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- Consolidated Technology Services
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Employment Security
- Department of Enterprise Services
- Department of Financial Institutions
- Department of Labor and Industries
- Department of Licensing (non-transportation portion)
- Eastern Washington Historical Society
- Gambling Commission
- Horse Racing Commission
- Human Rights Commission
- Military Department
- Minority and Women's Business Enterprises
- Office of Administrative Hearings
- Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
- Office of Chief Information Officer
- Office on Indian Affairs
- Secretary of State
- State Auditor
- State Lottery Commission
- State Treasurer
- Washington State Historical Society

Jeff Mitchell, Revenue Counsel - 786-7438
- Public Schools (K-12 Education)
- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Washington State Charter School Commission
- K-12 Local Levies

Jed Herman, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7346
- Columbia River Gorge Commission
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Ecology
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Natural Resources
- Environmental and Land Use Hearing Office
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Pollution Liability Insurance Agency
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Recreation and Conservation Office
- State Conservation Commission
- Utilities and Transportation Commission

Julie Murray, Sr. Fiscal Counsel - 786-7711
- Courts
  - Commission on Judicial Conduct
• Court of Appeals
• Law Library
• Office of the Administrator for the Courts
• Office of Civil Legal Aid
• Office of Public Defense
• Supreme Court
• Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee
• Joint Legislative Systems Committee
• LEAP Committee
• Office of the Lieutenant Governor
• Public Disclosure Commission
• Special Appropriations to the Governor
• Statute Law Committee
• Sundry Claims

Jeff Olsen, Research Analyst - 786-7428
• Revenue Policy Issues

Sandy Stith, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7710
• Employee Compensation/Health Benefits
• Health Benefits Exchange
• Health Care Authority (including administration)
• Insurance Commissioner
• Low Income Health Care (Medicaid)
• PEBB Benefits

Travis Sugarman, Sr. Fiscal Analyst - 786-7446
• Criminal Justice Training Commission
• Department of Corrections
• DSHS–Alcohol and Substance Abuse
• DSHS–Juvenile Rehabilitation
• DSHS–Mental Health
• DSHS–Special Commitment Center
• Forensics Investigation Council
• Justice Assistance Grant (formerly Byrne Grant)
• State Patrol (non-transportation portion)

Jasmin Adams, Committee Assistant - 786-7716
(Committee Contact)

Nelson Falkenburg, Committee Assistant - 786-7389