



Senate Committee Services – Staff Issues List

Committee name links to committee issue areas and staff contacts.

- [Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks](#)
- [Business, Financial Services, Gaming & Trade](#)
- [Early Learning & K-12 Education](#)
- [Environment, Energy & Technology](#)
- [Health & Long Term Care](#)
- [Higher Education & Workforce Development](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Human Services](#)
- [Labor & Commerce](#)
- [Law & Justice](#)
- [Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs](#)
- [State Government & Elections](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Ways & Means](#)

Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

[Jeff Olsen, Senior Committee Coordinator - 786-7428](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Agriculture
- Fish and Wildlife Issues
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Forestry Issues
- Geology and Surface Mining
- Recreation and State Parks
- Salmon Recovery
- State Natural Resource Lands Management

[Karen Epps, Senior Staff Counsel – 786-7424](#)

- Agriculture
- Agricultural Pests and Diseases
- Commodity Commissions
- Conservation Districts
- Drought
- Food Labeling, Processing and Safety
- Livestock
- Water Quality
- Water Resources

[Alina Cole, Committee Assistant - 786-7705](#)

(Committee Contact)

Business, Financial Services, Gaming & Trade

[Clint McCarthy, Coordinator/Analyst - 786-7319](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Credit Ratings and Scoring
- Payday Lending
- Foreclosures
- Mortgage Brokers
- Economic Development
- Regional and Sector Based Development
- Tourism
- Gaming

[Kellee Gunn, Analyst – 786-7429](#)

- Economic Development and Incentives - Grants
- Banking
- Public Depositories
- Securities Regulation
- Credit Unions
- Insurance Property and Casualty
- Life Insurance
- International Trade and Export Assistance
- Regulatory Assistance
- Technical Assistance to Businesses
- Small Business Assistance

[Aidan Hopwood, Committee Assistant – 786-7708](#)

(Committee Contact)

Early Learning & K-12 Education

[Ailey Kato, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7434 and 360-464-2520](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Early Learning and Child Care
- Student Health
- Student and Educator Safety
- Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee
- Student Discipline

[Alex Fairfortune, Counsel – 786-7416](#)

- Basic Education
- Special Education
- Institutional Education
- Charter Schools
- Education Funding, including Levy and Bond Authority
- Student Transportation
- Education Governance and Elections
- School Construction

[Benjamin Omdal, Counsel – 786-7442](#)

- High School Graduation Requirements, including Statewide Assessments
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education
- Dual Language and Bilingual Education
- Dual Credits, College in the High School, Running Start
- Collective Bargaining for School Employees
- Educator Preparation, Certification, and Evaluation
- Native Education Issues

[Truman Hopper, Committee Assistant - 786-7381](#)

(Committee Contact)

Environment, Energy & Technology

[Angela Kleis, Coordinator – 786-7469](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Technology
- Telecommunications
- Alternative fuels

[Kim Cushing, Counsel - 786-7421](#)

- Energy Generation and Transmission
- Climate Policy
- Electric Vehicles

[Greg Vogel, Counsel – 786-7413](#)

- Air Quality
- Toxic Substances
- Solid Waste and Recycling
- Oil Spills and Prevention
- Siting
- Climate Resilience
- Product Stewardship

[Aidan Hopwood, Committee Assistant - 786-7708](#)

(Committee Contact)

Health & Long Term Care

[Greg Attanasio, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7410](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Health Care Professions
- Private Health Insurance
- Prescription Drugs
- Public Health
- Telemedicine

[Kevin Black, Counsel – 786-7747](#)

- Behavioral Health including Substance Use, State Hospitals and Mental Health

[Julie Tran, Associate Research Analyst - 786-7283](#)

- Opioids
- Long-Term Care
- Medicaid
- Hospital Regulation

[Sierra Daley, Senior Committee Assistant – 786-7463](#)

(Committee Contact)

Higher Education & Workforce Development

[Alicia Kinne-Clawson, Coordinator/Analyst - 786-7407](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Colleges and Universities
- Financial Aid
- Governance
- Tuition
- Academic Affairs
- Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC)
- Veterans Issues
- Student Affairs
- Workforce Education

[Benjamin Omdal, Counsel – 786-7442](#)

- Student data and privacy
- Legal issues
- Dual and concurrent enrollment programs

[Megan Tudor, Committee Assistant - 786-7478](#)

(Committee Contact)

Housing

[Melissa Van Gorkom, Coordinator - 786-7491](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Housing Trust Fund
- Homeless Housing Surcharge
- Homelessness Prevention
- Housing Authorities
- Youth Homelessness

[Riley Bengel, Counsel – 786-7316](#)

- Manufactured/Mobile Home Landlord-Tenant Act
- Residential Landlord-Tenant Act
- Housing Affordability
- Housing Stability
- Housing Finance Commission

[Christopher McCallister, Committee Assistant - 786-7430](#)

(Committee Contact)

Human Services

[Alison Mendiola, Coordinator/Counsel – 786-7488](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Economic Services
- Child Welfare/Child Protection
- Foster Care
- Dependency
- Indian Child Welfare Act
- Vulnerable Adults/Abuse and Neglect
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (non-Medicaid)
- Domestic Violence Issues

[Kelsey-anne Fung, Counsel - 786-7479](#)

- Corrections/Offender Reentry
- Sex Offenders: Civil commitment
- Crime Victims
- Criminal Justice Treatment Account
- Children's mental health
- Juvenile Rehabilitation

[Megan Tudor, Committee Assistant - 786-7478](#)

(Committee Contact)

Labor & Commerce

[Susan Jones, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7404](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Industrial Insurance (Workers' Compensation)
- Unemployment Insurance
- Worker Retraining
- Workplace Safety, except Construction
- WA Cares Act
- Occupational Licensing, except Construction

[Jarrett Sacks, Counsel - 786-7448](#)

- Consumer Protection
- Apprenticeships
- Construction Trades Licensing and Standards
- Prevailing Wage
- Workplace Safety, Construction
- Collective Bargaining
- Employment Standards and Personnel Practices
- Employment leave, except Paid Family and Medical Leave

[Matt Shepard-Koningsor, Counsel - 786-7627](#)

- Liquor
- Cannabis
- Employment Standards and Personnel Practices
- Employment Leave, including Paid Family and Medical Leave

[Sierra Daley, Senior Committee Assistant – 786-7463](#)

(Committee Contact)

Law & Justice

[Tim Ford, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7423](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Business Law
- DUI
- Family Law
- Firearms
- General Criminal and Civil
- Guardianship and Probate Issues
- Homeowner's Associations
- Tort Law
- Uniform Laws

[Kevin Black, Senior Counsel – 786-7747](#)

- Involuntary Treatment Act
- Forensic Mental Health (Competency to Stand Trial/Criminal Insanity)
- General Criminal and Sentencing
- Guardianships

[Ryan Giannini, Counsel – 786-7285](#)

- Firearms
- General Criminal and Civil Issues
- New Crimes and Sentencing Changes
- Human Trafficking/Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Sexual Assault
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People
- Common Interest Communities
- Uniform Laws
- Name, Image, and Likeness
- DUI
- Postconviction

[Joe McKittrick, Counsel – 786-7287](#)

- Firearms
- General Criminal and Civil Issues
- New Crimes and Sentencing Changes
- DUI
- Cyber Harassment
- Law Enforcement Use of Force
- Issues related to State v. Blake

[Christopher McCallister, Committee Assistant - 786-7430](#)

(Committee Contact)

Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

[Karen Epps, Senior Staff Coordinator, Counsel – 786-7424](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- City and County Governance
- Fire Protection
- Growth Management Act
- Municipal Utilities
- Public Contracting Procedures
- Property taxes
- SEPA
- Shoreline Management Act
- Special Purpose Districts
- Tribal Affairs

[Maggie Douglas, Research Analyst - 786-7279](#)

- Annexation
- City and County Governance
- Government Incorporation
- Growth Management Act
- Land Use and Development
- Local Permitting
- Municipal Utilities
- Public Works
- SEPA
- Vesting
- Zoning

[Alina Cole, Committee Assistant - 786-7705](#)

(Committee Contact)

State Government & Elections

[Sam Brown, Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7470](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

- Veterans Affairs
- Military Affairs
- Ethics and Conflict of Interest
- Public Records and Disclosure
- Open Public Meetings
- Elections
- Campaign Finance
- Initiatives and Referendums
- Signature Gathering

[Danielle Creech, Research Analyst – 786-7412](#)

- Audits of State Government Programs and Agencies
- Emergency Management
- Public Contracting Procedures
- Public Works
- Administrative Procedure Act
- Civil Service
- Regulatory Reform
- Historic Preservation
- Building Code Council

[Truman Hopper, Committee Assistant – 786-7381](#)

(Committee Contact)

Transportation

[Kelly Simpson, Senior Coordinator/Counsel - 786-7403](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

Budget Assignments

- Washington State Transportation Commission

Policy Assignments

- State and Regional Transportation Governance
- State and Regional Transportation Planning
- Transportation Element of Growth Management Act
- Special Purpose Districts
- Utilities and Transportation Commission (passenger/property transportation)

[Jenna Forty, Fiscal Analyst – 786-7755](#)

Budget Assignments

- Board of Pilotage
- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Washington State Ferries
- DOT – Information Technology
- DOT – Rail
- DOT – Local Programs
- DOT – Aviation
- DOT – Public Transportation

Policy Assignments

- Washington State Ferries
- Rail
- Local Transit Agencies, including Sound Transit
- Utilities and Transportation Commission (marine pilotage and rail)

[Hayley Gamble, Fiscal Coordinator -786-7452](#)

Budget Assignments

- Joint Transportation Committee (JTC)
- Office of State Treasurer (OST) (Bond Retirement and Interest)
- Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP)
- Office of Financial Management (OFM)
- Budget Bill Development and Coordination

Policy Assignments

- Financial Plans/Fund Balances
- Bonds Issuance and Retirement

[Hayley Gamble, Fiscal Coordinator – 786-7452 or
Kelly Simpson, Senior Coordinator/Counsel – 786-7403](#)

Budget Assignments

- DOT – Toll Operations
- DOT – Highway Improvements
- DOT – Management
- DOT – Highway Maintenance
- DOT – Highway Preservation
- DOT – Traffic Operations
- DOT – Planning, Data, and Research
- DOT – Program Management and Support
- Archeology and Historic Preservation
- State Parks and Recreation

Policy Assignments

- Tolls
- Highways
- Environmental Issues

[Bryon Moore, Senior Fiscal Analyst - 786-7726](#)

Budget Assignments

- Department of Licensing
 - Drivers
 - Vehicles
- Department of Agriculture
- Washington State Patrol
- DOT – Equipment Fund
- DOT – Charges from Other Agencies
- DOT – Facilities
- Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB)
- Transportation Improvement Board (TIB)
- County Road Administration Board (CRAB)

Policy Assignments

- Department of Licensing
 - Drivers
 - Vehicles
- State Transportation Revenue Forecast
- State and Local Transportation Taxes and Fees
- Washington State Patrol

Brandon Popovac, Senior Counsel- 786-7465

Budget Assignments

- Budget Bill Development and Drafting
- DOT – Public/Private Partnerships
- Traffic Safety Commission

Policy Assignments

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

Yukimi Fujisawa, Committee Assistant - 786-7441

(Committee Contact)

Ways & Means

[Susan Howson, Senior Staff Coordinator - 786-7273](#)

(Lead Committee Contact)

[James Kettel, Operating Budget Coordinator - 786-7459](#)

- Operating Budget Issues

[Jeff Mitchell, Revenue Coordinator - 786-7438](#)

- Revenue Policy Issues

[Michael Bezanson, Capital Budget Coordinator - 786-7449](#)

- Bonds and Bond Model
- Public Works Assistance Account
- Commerce (Broadband, Energy)
- Commerce (CERB, Public Works, Economic Development)
- Commerce (LCP, Non-established local grant projects)
- Department of Enterprise Services
- Office of Financial Management
- Central Washington University
- Community and Technical Colleges
- Eastern Washington University
- The Evergreen State College
- University of Washington
- Washington State University
- Western Washington University
- Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
- Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth
- Public Schools
- School for the Blind
- Washington State Arts Commission
- Eastern Washington Historical Society
- Washington State Historical Society

[Susan Howson, Staff Coordinator - 786-7273](#)

- Attorney General
- House of Representatives
- JLARC
- Joint Legislative Systems
- LEAP Committee
- Legislative Support Services
- Senate
- Statute Law Committee
- Sundry Claims
- Commission on Judicial Conduct
- Court of Appeals
- Law Library
- Office of Administration for the Courts
- Office of Civil Legal Aid
- Office of Public Defense
- Supreme Court

Michele Alishahi, Senior 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

Shani Bauer, Senior Fiscal Counsel, Capital Budget – 786-7468

- Administrative Office of the Courts
- Court of Appeals
- Criminal Justice Training Commission
- Department of Labor and Industries
- Employment Security Department
- House of Representatives
- Military Department
- Legislative Support Services
- Secretary of State
- Senate
- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Washington State Patrol
- Children, Youth, and Families
- Department of Health
- Department of Corrections
- DSHS - Administrative and Support Services
- DSHS - Developmental Disabilities
- DSHS - Long-Term Care
- DSHS - Mental Health
- DSHS - Special Commitment
- Veterans' Affairs

Wendy Brown, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Capital Budget – 786-7359

- Climate Commitment Act Account
- Model Toxics Control Account
- Commerce (Behavioral Health, Dental)
- Commerce (Early Learning)
- Commerce (Established Local Projects Grant Programs)
- Commerce (Housing)
- Department of Enterprise Services (Capitol Lake)
- Department of Transportation
- Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee
- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Pollution Liability Insurance Program
- Puget Sound Partnership

- Recreation and Conservation Office
- State Conservation Commission
- Archaeology and Historic Preservation

[Amanda Cecil, Senior Fiscal Analyst - 786-7460](#)

- Board for Volunteer Firefighters
- Collective Bargaining
- Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials
- Department of Retirement Systems
- Employee Compensation and Health Benefits
- PEBB Benefits
- Pensions
- Public Employment Relations Commission
- SEBB Benefits
- State Actuary
- State Investment Board
- Department of Licensing
- Washington State Patrol
- Secretary of State

[Monica Fontaine, Fiscal Analyst – 786-7341](#)

- DSHS - Special Commitment Center
- DSHS - State Hospitals
- DSHS – Administration and Support Services
- DSHS - Information System Services
- DSHS - Payments to Other Agencies
- DSHS - Vocational Rehab
- Department of Health

[Kayla Hammer, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7305](#)

- K-12 Education
- K-12 - Local Levies
- K-12 - Institutional Education
- Charter Schools
- Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth
- School for the Blind

[Jed Herman, Senior 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
- Recreation and Conservation Office
- State Conservation Commission
- Utilities and Transportation Commission
- Commerce - Energy

[Josh Hinman, Fiscal Analyst – 786-7281](#)

- DCYF - Early Learning
- DCYF - Program Support
- DCYF - Child Welfare

- DSHS - Child Support Services
- DSHS - Economic Services
- TANF
- Employment Security Department

[Maria Hovde, Senior Fiscal Analyst - 786-7474](#)

- DSHS - Developmental Disabilities
- DSHS - Long Term Care
- Department of Services for the Blind
- Department of Veterans Affairs

[Alia Kennedy, Revenue Counsel - 786-7405](#)

- Revenue Policy Issues

[Tianyi Lan, Fiscal Analyst - 786-7432](#)

- Revenue Policy Issues
- Eastern Washington Historical Society
- Washington State Historical Society
- Board of Professional Engineers and Surveyors
- Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals
- Board of Accountancy
- Board of Tax Appeals
- Commission on African-American Affairs
- Commission on Asian-American Affairs
- Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- Gambling Commission
- Horse Racing Commission
- Human Rights Commission
- Arts Commission
- Public Disclosure Commission
- State Lottery Commission
- Financial Institutions
- Forensics Investigation Council
- Minority and Women's Business Enterprises
- Archaeology and Historic Preservation
- Office of Indian Affairs
- Labor and Industries
- Military Department
- Caseload Forecast Council
- Economic and Revenue Forecast Council
- Washington State Leadership Board
- Office of Administrative Hearings
- State Auditor
- Office of the Governor
- Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- State Treasurer

[Corban Nemeth, Outlook Coordinator - 786-7736](#)

- Four-Year Budget Outlook
- Behavioral Health (HCA)
- Department of Revenue
- Liquor and Cannabis Board
- Special Appropriations to the Governor

Trevor Press, Fiscal Analyst – 786-7446

- Commerce - Community Services and Housing
- Commerce - Economic Development
- K-12 - OSPI and Statewide Programs
- K-12 - Education Reform
- Department of Enterprise Services
- Interagency Billing Model (Central Services)
- Commerce - Local Government
- Commerce - Program Support

Sarian Scott, Outlook Coordinator - 786-7729

- IT - Statewide
- Consolidated Tech Services
- Office of the Chief Information Officer
- Office of Financial Management
- Department of Corrections
- DCYF - Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration
- Criminal Justice Training Commission
- Office of Independent Investigations
- Legislative Campus Modernization
- Lease Facilities - Statewide

Sandy Stith, Senior Fiscal Analyst - 786-7710

- HCA - Low Income Health Care
- Health Benefit Exchange
- Insurance Commissioner

Dana Tietjen, Senior Committee Assistant – 786-7784

(Committee Contact)