



Senate Committee Services

2003 INTERIM WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE

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Agriculture Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
June 17-18, 2003	Full Committee	Washington Association of Wheat Growers 2003 Wheat Industry Tour	Grant and Douglas County
All Day	Tour		
July 10, 2003 - AM Tour Afternoon Work Session	Joint with Legislative Committee on Economic Development	Morning Tour Afternoon Presentations: 1. Overview of the aquaculture industry and the potential and obstacles of exporting 2. Shellfish farming and export 3. Fish-farming and export 4. Potential aquaculture species (exportable products) and impediments to their development as viable industries	National Marine Fisheries Services, Manchester, WA
All Day	Morning Tour/PM Work Session		
August Tour - Late August	Full Committee	Urban Agricultural and Landscape Horticultural Issues	Seattle
All Day	Tour Only		
September 2nd Week	Full Committee	Horticultural Tour	Yakima or Wenatchee
	Tour Only		
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	1. Update on commodity commission legislation implementation (HB 1361) 2. Update on cholinesterase issue (2SSB 5890) 3. Topic to be announced	Olympia
	Work Session		
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	1. Draft livestock nutrient legislation and report (SSB 5889) 2. Commission merchants - seed study report (SHB 1100) 3. Livestock disease and food safety traceback, and country of origin labeling of meat products (SSB 5891 & SB 5905)	Olympia
	Work Session		
December Legislative Assembly	Joint with Commerce & Trade	Update on cholinesterase issue (2SSB 5890)	Olympia
	Work Session		

Children & Family Services & Corrections
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	Correctional Industries	Olympia
	Work Session		
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	To Be Announced	Olympia
	Work Session		

Commerce & Trade
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
August 21, 2003	Full Committee Work Session	The committee will conduct a work session on apprenticeship programs.	Yakima
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	To Be Announced	Olympia
December Legislative Assembly	Joint with Agriculture Work Session	Update on cholinesterase issue.	Olympia

Economic Development Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
June 23-25, 2003	Joint with Land Use & Planning; Natural Resources, Energy & Water	Ferry County: 1. The correlation of economic development to GMA planning. (SB 5680, SB 5160) 2. Options for addressing service delivery problems in rural areas. 3. Tour of Echo Bay Mine and Vaagen Bros. saw mill.	Ferry County; Okanogan County
	Public Hearing-Work Session-Tour	Okanogan County: Tour of Methow River area, Twin Lakes, Lake Conconully, and Salmon Creek, as well as other nearby areas with water resource issues of interest.	
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	TBA	Olympia
	TBA		
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	Report on Economic Development Commission.	Olympia
	Work Session		

Education
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
September Legislative Assembly 1:30 PM	Full Committee Work Session	To be announced.	SHR #1
October 2003 Half Day	Full Committee Public Hearing	Deregulation	Yakima
December Legislative Assembly 1:30 PM	Full Committee Work Session	To be announced.	SHR #1

**Financial Services, Insurance & Housing
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003**

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
July 21, 2003	Full Committee Public Hearings	Study of Low-Income Housing.	Vancouver
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	21st Century Database Use or Report on Study of Low- Income Housing.	Olympia

Government Operations & Elections Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
TBA	Full Committee Public Hearing	Local Emergency Preparedness - Possibly in conjunction with Fort Lewis	TBA
TBA	Full Committee Public Hearing	Local Government Funding	Enumclaw Plateau
July 30,2003 Afternoon	Joint Select Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs Public Hearing	Hearing at Military Base regarding closures (EHB 2064)	Fort Lewis, McChord AFB
August 2003	Joint Select Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs Public Hearing	Hearing at Military Base regarding closures (EHB 2064)	Bremerton, Bangor
August 2003	Joint Select Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs Public Hearing	Hearing at Military Base regarding closures (EHB 2064)	Whidbey, Everett
TBA	Full Committee Public Hearing/Work Session	Initiative 134, Campaign Finance Reform	TBA
TBA	Full Committee Public Hearing	Local Government Funding	Snohomish
September Tour	Full Committee Work Session/Public Hearing	Emphasis on Port security, 3rd runway and Port operations	Seattle
September 2003	Joint Select Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs Public Hearing	Hearing at military base regarding closures (EHB 2064)	Fairchild
September Legislative Assembly	Joint Select Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs Public Hearing		Olympia
September Legislative Assembly Afternoon	Full Committee Public Hearing		Olympia
December Legislative Assembly	Joint Select Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs Public Hearing		Olympia
December Legislative Assembly Afternoon	Full Committee Public Hearing		Olympia

**Health & Long-Term Care
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003**

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
September Legislative Assembly Morning	Full Committee TBA	To Be Announced	Olympia
December Legislative Assembly Morning	Full Committee TBA	To Be Announced	Olympia

Higher Education Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
9:00 AM	The Higher Education Strategic Master Plan Work Group Work Session	Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education (ESHB 2076)	Olympia
1:30 PM	Performance Contracts Work Group Work Session	Performance Contracts Work Group (SHB 2111)	Olympia
September Legislative Assembly (Tuesday) Half Day	The Higher Education Performance Contracts Work Group Work Session	Model Performance Contracts (SHB 2111)	Olympia
September Legislative Assembly (Tuesday) Half Day	The Higher Education Strategic Master Plan Work Group Work Session	Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education (ESHB 2076)	Olympia
September Legislative Assembly 10:00 am	Full Committee Work Session	To be announced.	SHR #3
December Legislative Assembly (Tuesday) Half Day	The Higher Education Master Plan for Higher Education Work Group Work Session	Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education (ESHB 2076)	Olympia
December Legislative Assembly (Tuesday) Half Day	The Higher Education Performance Contracts Work Group Work Session	Model Performance Contracts (SHB 2111)	Olympia
December Legislative Assembly 10:00 AM	Full Committee Work Session	To be announced.	SHR #3

Highways & Transportation Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
8/11-12/03 Two Full Days	Full Committee Work Session/Tour	Two day tour of ferries and ferry terminals with an evening work session in Everett.	Puget Sound Ferry Tour
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	1) Progress Report from Transportation Audit Board and 2) Work Session on Nickel Account Projects, Monitoring and Progress.	Olympia
TBA Half Day	Full Committee Work Session	Meet with Washington Transportation Commission.	Olympia
Two Full Days	Full Committee Work Session/Tour	Two day tour of transportation projects in either Spokane or Vancouver with work sessions. The purpose of this meeting is to review projects funded by new transportation funding and discuss project oversight and accountability. The committee will also meet with the Regional Transportation Planning Organization and Metropolitan Planning Organization to discuss the integration of regional efforts with state planning.	Vancouver or Spokane
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Reports required from ESHB 1163 (2003-05 Transportation Budget).	Olympia

Judiciary
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	To Be Announced	Olympia
	Public Hearing		
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	To Be Announced	Olympia
	Public Hearing		

Land Use & Planning Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
June 23-25, 2003	Joint with Economic Development; Natural Resources, Energy & Water Public Hearing, Work Session & Tour	Ferry County: 1. The correlation of economic development to GMA planning. (SB 5680, SB 5160) 2. Options for addressing service delivery problems in rural areas. 3. Tour of Echo Bay Mine and Vaagen Bros. saw mill. Okanogan County: Tour of Methow River area, Twin Lakes, Lake Conconully, and Salmon Creek, as well as other nearby areas with water resource issues of interest.	Ferry County; Okanogan County
August 21, 2003 Evening	Full Committee Public Hearing/Work Session	Annexation and Outside Utility Agreements (HB 1801)	Yakima
TBA	Full Committee Work Session/Tour	Relationship of land use policy and GMA planning on growth patterns: how best to achieve both the city's and the county's goals (SB 5680 & SB 5160); Tour to examine growth patterns in Port Townsend	Port Townsend
TBA	Full Committee Work Session	GMA planning in suburban areas (SSB 5661)	East King County (Bellevue)
September Legislative Assembly Afternoon	Full Committee Public Hearing	1. Integration of SMA, GMA, and SEPA & the role of DOE 2. SEPA & Advanced Environmental Planning	Olympia
December Legislative Assembly Afternoon	Full Committee Public Hearing	1. Update on SMA guidelines 2. Best Available Science & Critical Areas under the GMA (SSB 5658)	Olympia

Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
June 23-25, 2003	Joint with Economic Development; Land Use & Planning Public Hearing, Work Session & Tour	Ferry County: 1. The correlation of economic development to GMA planning. (SB 5680, SB 5160) 2. Options for addressing service delivery problems in rural areas. 3. Tour of Echo Bay Mine and Vaagen Bros. saw mill. Okanogan County: Tour of Methow River area, Twin Lakes, Lake Conconully, and Salmon Creek, as well as other nearby areas with water resource issues of interest.	Ferry County; Okanogan County
September Legislative Assembly Morning	Full Committee Work Session	Geoduck Resource and Harvest Management (SB 5076, HB 1247, SB 5266, SHB 1239, SB 5267, HB 1238, ESSB 5400)	Olympia
Sept. 23-24, 2003 Two Days	Full Committee Work Session and Tour	Forest Health, Forest Fire, Mining Reclamation, Forest Roads (SB 5144, ESHB 2091, 2SHB 2311, 2SHB 1095)	Republic, Kettle Falls
October 29, 2003	Full Committee Work Session	Geoduck Resource and Harvest Management (SB 5076, HB 1247, SB 5266, SHB 1239, SB 5267, HB 1238, ESSB 5400)	Olympia
December Legislative Assembly Morning	Full Committee Work Session	1. Geoduck Resource and Harvest Management (SB 5076, HB 1247, SB 5266, SHB 1239, SB 5267, HB 1238, ESSB 5400) 2. Phase II municipal separate storm sewer system permits (ESHB 1689)	Olympia

**Parks, Fish & Wildlife
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003**

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
August 27, 2003 10:00-3:00	Full Committee Work Session	Wildlife area management.	Skagit Wildlife Area
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	1. Implementation of hydraulic project approval task force recommendations. 2. Hatchery reform. 3. Update on U.S. Canada Salmon Treaty.	Olympia
September 11-12, 2003 10:00 to 5:00	Full Committee Work Session/Tour	Day 1: State Parks work session and tour. Day 2: Private lands habitat incentives work session and tour.	Southeast Washington
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	1. Report of the biodiversity conservation committee. 2. JLARC review of the Fish Management Division of WDFW. 3. Wildlife damage claims.	Olympia

Technology & Communications Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
To Be Announced	Full Committee	Examine the deployment of wholesale telecommunications services by public utility districts. SSB 5899 (2003 session)	Wenatchee and Ephrata
Two Full Days	Tour		
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	To be announced.	SHR #1
1:30 PM	Work Session		
Fall 2003	Full Committee	The committee will tour the South Lake Union Biotechnology and Biomedical Research and Development Center's facilities and hear presentations from entities such as the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. ESB 5529, SSB 5530, E2SSB 5531 (2003 session)	Seattle
Half Day	Tour		
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	To be announced.	SHR #1
1:30 PM	Work Session		

Ways & Means
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003

DATE	MEETING TYPE	SUBJECT	LOCATION
September Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	To Be Announced	Olympia
	Work Session		
December Legislative Assembly	Full Committee	To Be Announced	Olympia
	Work Session		

Agriculture

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Development of a Livestock Nutrient Management Program that Achieves Compliance with new Federal Clean Water Act Rules and State Water Quality Laws

Completion Date: December 1, 2003

Staff: Bob Lee

Reference: SSB 5889 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Federal rules were adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency on February 12, 2003, which expanded the requirements that concentrated livestock feeding operations must meet to protect surface waters under the federal Clean Water Act. In addition to protecting surface waters, the State of Washington's water quality laws also require the protection of ground waters. Currently, large beef feedlots operations, and all dairy farms under the 1998 Dairy Nutrient Management Act, have specific regulatory requirements that assure compliance with water quality laws. Specific requirements of the new federal rules are established for large, medium and small concentrated animal feeding operations. Legislation was enacted in 2003 establishing a broad-based work group to develop specific legislation for a state administered program, including funding, for all segments of the livestock industry including beef cattle and poultry that meet the requirements of federal rules and state laws. This recommended legislation and funding is to be submitted to the 2004 session.

Project: Examining Protections Available to Seed Producers to Reduce the Risk of Non-payment to Producers Who Sell or Consign Crops to Seed Processing Companies

Completion Date: November 15, 2003

Staff: Evan Sheffels

Reference: SHB 1100 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Currently, seed processing companies are required to be licensed and bonded by the state. This program is intended to provide a degree of assurance that the seed processing company has sufficient financial assets to reduce the likelihood and seriousness of losses to farmers should the company fail financially. A recent bankruptcy of a large seed processing company has resulted in significant losses to seed producers. There are various mechanisms which provide an increased possibility that producers who convey title when delivering seed to processors will be paid in the event that the processor goes bankrupt. An overall examination of processor lien law, seed bailment contract law, secured transaction law under the recent changes to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code, and the federal requirements of direct notice to buyers of agricultural products will be comprehensively analyzed and integrated in terms of filing requirements and protections available. Suggestions have been made that creating an indemnity fund may provide a mechanism to cushion the losses to farmers that result when non-payment occurs due to a seed processor bankruptcy. In addition to an examination of indemnity fund establishment, alternative protections afforded in other states and for other types of agricultural products that address nonpayment to agricultural seed producers and assess seed company fiscal stability will be identified and evaluated.

Agriculture

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Livestock Disease, Food Safety Traceback and Country of Origin Labeling of Meat Products

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Bob Lee, Evan Sheffels

Reference: SSB 5891, SB 5905 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Recently, the Secretary of the federal Homeland Security Department responded to concerns about food safety and bioterrorism by endorsing a nationwide identification plan for commercial livestock. In addition, the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the USDA recently issued a notice that any poultry or livestock exhibiting central nervous system disorders associated with West Nile Virus at slaughter must be condemned. The recent discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE or Mad Cow Disease) in Alberta, Canada has added to questions related to trace-ability of diseases that affect both livestock and humans.

The country of origin labeling requirements contained in the 2002 federal farm bill are being phased in. Guidelines were promulgated in 2002 and regulations are to be adopted by USDA by September 30, 2004. These labeling requirements are to apply to retail sales beginning September 30, 2004, and also apply to livestock meat products.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture regulates the movement, testing and safety of animals and animal products coming into or being sold within the state and administers a livestock identification program to track changes in ownership. Committee staff will evaluate legislative policy issues relating to the effectiveness of current mechanisms to identify, trace and respond to food safety, security, and animal disease concerns. The network of organizations and entities that provide animal disease surveillance and early identification of food safety concerns will be explored. The Department's inspection and search warrant authorities will be assessed. Mechanisms and technologies, such as radio frequency tags and microchips, that enable prompt trace-back to food and animal sources will be identified and evaluated. Meetings required by SSB 5891 will be monitored, agency contingency plans will be reviewed and reports will be provided to the committee.

Project: Tracking the Rule-Making Process for Medical Monitoring of Farm Workers Who Handle Certain Pesticides

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Evan Sheffels, Jennifer Ziegler

Reference: 2SSB 5890 (2003)

Other Resources: Joint with Commerce & Trade

Description: In response to the recent Washington State Supreme Court decision of Rios, the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) has initiated rule-making on medical monitoring of agricultural workers who mix, load or apply cholinesterase-inhibiting organophosphate and carbamate pesticides. 2SSB 5890, which originated in the Senate Agriculture Committee and was enacted during the 2003 Session (C 255 L 03), requires the L&I and stakeholders representing agricultural employees and employers to provide rule-making progress reports to the appropriate legislative committees by September 1, 2003, and December 1, 2003. Pursuant to the bill's express statement of legislative interest in tracking rule development and implementation, staff from the Senate Agriculture and the Senate Commerce and Trade Committees will jointly monitor the process. The committees will have a joint work session to receive an update on this process.

Children & Family Services & Corrections Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Children's Administration - Social Worker Responsibilities**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Edith Rice

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Committee members who are familiar with child fatality reviews will evaluate the level of responsibility placed upon social workers addressing serious child welfare issues. Work requirements, training, and reporting responsibilities for the Social Worker job series will be reviewed along with access to clerical assistance in a variety of settings.

Project: **Correctional Industries**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Tony Rugel

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will examine the impact that Department of Corrections work programs have on local businesses. Statewide DOC work programs and recent court decisions affecting how they are operated will be reviewed. The committee will meet with business partners and agency administrators. Legislation will be prepared as needed.

Project: **Implementation of ESSB 5990 and ESSB 5903**

Completion Date: January 2004

Staff: Fara Daun, Tony Rugel

Reference: ESSB 5990, ESSB 5903 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: ESSB 5990 changes times and supervision standards for release of adult offenders. ESSB 5903 provides for additional sentencing alternatives for juvenile offenders. The committee will monitor implementation of both bills for significant budget and policy impact and will meet with those interested in the public safety aspects of both bills. If changes are needed, the committee will prepare legislation.

Project: **Sex Offenders**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Fara Daun

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will review the sex offender civil commitment process, treatment, housing, facility siting, as well as examining the legislative and court decisions which have impacted treatment of sex offenders over the last decade.

Children & Family Services & Corrections Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families - WorkFirst**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Edith Rice

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will review agency data on WorkFirst recipients who have moved on to being fully self supporting, as well as those who have reached their 5-year time limit and are still under or unemployed. The committee will access OFM caseload forecast data and consider options for legislative proposals while taking into account current economic trends.

Commerce & Trade

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Apprenticeships

Completion Date: August 2003

Staff: Jennifer Ziegler

Reference: 2SHB 1065, SB 5155, SHB 2202, SHB 1061 (2003) Other Resources:

Description: Several bills regarding apprenticeship programs were introduced during the 2003 legislative session. The committee will hold a work session in Yakima to discuss apprenticeship programs.

Project: Contractor Liens

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: John Dziedzic

Reference: SB 5504, HB 1547 (2003) Other Resources:

Description: The committee will meet with interested parties to explore the issues associated with contractor liens. Legislation will be prepared for the 2004 session as needed.

Project: Joint Committee on Trade

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: John Dziedzic

Reference: SHB 1059, SSB 5549 (2003) Other Resources:

Description: SHB 1059 created a joint legislative committee on trade. The committee is required to take public testimony on, and otherwise assess, the impacts of international trade agreements on Washington, and report its findings annually to the Legislature. The committee consists of legislative members and will be staffed by Senate Committee Services and the Office of Program Research.

Project: Tracking the rule-making process for medical monitoring of farm workers who handle certain pesticides.

Completion Date: December 1, 2003

Staff: Jennifer Ziegler, Evan Sheffels

Reference: 2SSB 5890 (2003) Other Resources: Joint with Agriculture

Description: In response to the recent Washington State Supreme Court decision of Rios, the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) has initiated rule-making on medical monitoring of agricultural workers who mix, load or apply cholinesterase-inhibiting organophosphate and carbamate pesticides. 2SSB 5890, which originated in the Senate Agriculture Committee and was enacted during the 2003 session (C 255 L 03), requires L&I and stakeholders representing agricultural employees and employers to provide rule-making progress reports to the appropriate legislative committees by September 1, 2003 and December 1, 2003. Pursuant to the bill's express statement of legislative interest in tracking rule development and implementation, staff from the Senate Agriculture and the Senate Commerce and Trade Committees will jointly monitor the rule-making process. The committees will have a joint work session to receive an update on this process.

Commerce & Trade

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Wage and Hour Laws

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Jennifer Ziegler

Reference: SSB 5462 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee considered legislation regarding the consistency of state and federal laws related to wage and hour issues. Staff will work with interested parties to determine where differences exist and provide a report to the committee.

Project: Workers' Compensation

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Jennifer Ziegler

Reference: SB 5271, SB 5323, ESSB 5378
(2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Several bills regarding the workers' compensation system were introduced during the 2003 legislative session. The Department of Labor and Industries may undertake rule-making on some aspects of the workers' compensation system. The committee will monitor the department's rule-making activities. The committee will also work with interested parties to develop legislation for the 2004 session and may hold a work session to discuss workers' compensation rates.

Project: Zoning of Gambling

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: John Dziedzic

Reference: HB 1667 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will meet with interested parties to explore the issues associated with gambling and the zoning authority of local governments. Legislation will be prepared for the 2004 session as needed.

Economic Development Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Business Start-ups

Completion Date: November 2003

Staff: Jack Brummel

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Washington's high business start-up rate is matched by a high failure rate not found in all states with a high number of start-ups. Policies and programs in Washington and other states will be reviewed to examine options for improving the survival of Washington start-ups. Legislation will be prepared as needed.

Project: CTED Statutes

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Jack Brummel, Kirstan Arestad

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The statute creating the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) was enacted 10 years ago. Since then the Department has undergone a number of internal reorganizations and evaluations. The current structure, programs and activities will be reviewed in relation to current statutes and the Department's strategic plan. A report will be prepared to include both narrative and technical spreadsheet formats.

Project: Customized Employment Training

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Jack Brummel, Karen Barrett

Reference: SSB 5984 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Washington has the smallest customized training program in the country. During the 2003 session, an approach that would use special obligation bonds to fund employment training was explored. Committee staff will work with the Department of Revenue, bond counsel, and others to address some of the issues raised, evaluate the feasibility of different financing options, review experiences in other states, and prepare new legislative language as requested.

Project: Economic Development Commission

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Jack Brummel

Reference: HB 1509 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The 2003 Legislature authorized the creation of a state Economic Development commission to oversee the economic development strategies and policies of the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. The committee will monitor the activities of the commission and receive a report on its progress.

Education

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Deregulation**

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Susan Mielke

Reference: SB 5906 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Public schools are governed by an expansive network of laws, rules, regulations, and policies imposed from the federal, state, and local levels. Some of these may inhibit rather than enhance effective schooling and innovative approaches. The committee will conduct a committee hearing to obtain parents, students, educators, administrators and community members suggestions regarding which state laws stifle school success or are no longer necessary, with a focus on the impact of state laws on small school districts. Prior to the hearing, a letter will be sent to each school district superintendent requesting a list of the most onerous statutes for the district to implement and other related questions. This information will be compiled, organized and analyzed by staff and shared with the committee members. Staff will identify issues, develop policy options and draft legislation as needed.

Project: **Special Education Voucher Programs**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Heather Lewis-Lechner

Reference: n/a

Other Resources:

Description: Committee staff will research the special education voucher legislation in the nation with special emphasis on Florida's 1999 McKay voucher law. Research will include a comparison of the legislation as well as consideration of reports on the impact and efficiency of special education voucher programs from opponents and supporters of the programs. Federal and Washington state law regarding the constitutionality of voucher laws will be explored and the Congressional reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will be monitored in relation to the proposals specifically dealing with federal financing of special education vouchers. Committee staff will prepare a report of findings and prepare legislation as needed for the 2004 session.

Financial Services, Insurance & Housing Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **"Flex Rating" of Insurance Premiums**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Joanne Conrad

Reference: SB 5792 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Research approaches to increasing the availability of flex rating of insurance premiums, including enhancing the response time of the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) in rate reviews, and examination of other jurisdiction's success in various systems of flexible, market-responsive rating.

Project: **21st Century Database Use**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Joanne Conrad

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: "Datamining" and the USA Patriot Act implementation, as well as financial fraud prevention, have generated considerable public policy interest in balancing appropriate business and government use of database information with individual privacy rights. 1) Financial Fraud Alert systems - Research and meet with policy makers and stakeholders to develop legislation enabling financial services and retail businesses to share relevant fraud prevention information in a legally-protected environment. 2) Consumer List Protection - Draft possible legislation to protect consumers, especially vulnerable classes of individuals, from predatory marketing practices based upon access to prescreened databases of personal information. 3) Databases and Right to Travel - Research and draft legislation increasing state statutory protection from use of financial, credit, and business databases to profile travelers.

Project: **Study of Low Income Housing**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Fara Daun

Reference: SB 5759 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: With special focus on evaluating the Washington State Housing Trust Fund, the Committee will research and analyze housing subsidy programs in Washington State, including housing development and low-income housing programs involving public and private entities. Special focus will be on how to assist first-time homebuyers.

Government Operations & Elections Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Government Accountability

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Diane Smith, Mac Nicholson

Reference: HB 1121, SB 5311, SB 5417

Other Resources:

Description: Staff will inquire into the quality management techniques being applied in other states and what outcomes have ensued. The Office of the State Auditor and the Governor's Office will be consulted along with other state and local entities that are using or contemplating the use of quality management techniques at this time. The current statutory programs that reward efficiency and excellence will be surveyed.

Project: Joint Select Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs -- Military Bases: Seven Public Hearings and Report; Possible Legislation

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Diane Smith, Mac Nicholson

Reference: EHB 2064 (2003)

Other Resources: Joint with Joint Select Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs

Description: In light of the next round of military base closures being formulated at the federal level, the Government Operations and Elections Committee may be heavily involved in fulfilling the mandate of EHB 2064. This will entail hearings at each of the seven major military bases in the state in coordination with the Joint Select Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs. At issue will be all matters affecting the operational viability of these military facilities to ensure their premier status with respect to their national defense missions. Findings will be reported to our congressional delegations.

Project: Review of Initiative 134

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Diane Smith, Mac Nicholson

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: It has been a decade since the passage of the campaign finance reform initiative. The committee will investigate the need for possible amendments.

Project: Special Purpose Districts: Glossary of Common Terms

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Diane Smith, Mac Nicholson

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: There are approximately 1500 special purpose districts in the state, exclusive of school districts. Staff will compile a glossary of terms used in the statutes creating, empowering and providing for the administration of special purpose districts. Characteristics such as taxing authority; fee assessment authority; governance structure; public works authorities and limitations; methods of creation, annexation and dissolution; and other common characteristics to be determined, will be noted as to their similarities and differences.

Government Operations & Elections Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Tour and Potential Work Session at the Port of Seattle**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Diane Smith, Mac Nicholson

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Invitations will be issued to all members of the Senate and House and appropriate staff by July for a tour of the Port of Seattle in September. The day will emphasize port security with an update on the progress made toward heightened homeland security measures.

Health & Long-Term Care Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Health Carrier Regulatory Reform

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Jonathan Seib

Reference: SB 5753 (2003 Session)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will identify and evaluate methods to reduce the burden of state regulations on health carriers, while maintaining appropriate consumer protections. This could include the elimination of conflicting or duplicative requirements, streamlining and clarifying regulatory language, and adopting more efficient and cost-effective enforcement procedures. Legislation will be prepared as appropriate.

Project: HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act)

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Tanya Karwaki

Reference: Federal Law

Other Resources:

Description: A new federal medical privacy rule addresses the confidentiality of protected health information and guides when and how such information can be disclosed. The committee will evaluate agency compliance, provider education efforts, and issues of state law precedence.

Project: Long-Term Care Financing

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Rhoda Donkin

Reference: SB 5730 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will evaluate current state standards for eligibility to publicly fund long-term care services and assess options for change. Property and asset exemptions for eligibility will be studied.

Project: Medical Malpractice

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Tanya Karwaki

Reference: SB 5209, SJR 8207, SB 5728
(2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will identify and evaluate other states that have adopted legislation or taken other action to address the issue of medical malpractice. Options for legislation will be prepared for the 2004 session as needed.

Health & Long-Term Care Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Obesity as a Public Health Threat

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Rhoda Donkin

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Studies increasingly show obesity linked to chronic, life-threatening illness. Obesity in children has doubled in the last two decades. The committee will look at juvenile obesity trends and possible interventions, including curbing the provision of non-nutritional foods in schools.

Project: Specialty Hospitals

Completion Date: August 2003

Staff: Jonathan Seib

Reference: SB 5949 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will study the impact that specialty hospitals have on the delivery of health care, including the availability and delivery of health care services, patient safety, the provision of emergency services, health care staffing, and services to the low income and other medically underserved populations. Legislation will be prepared, as appropriate, to address any concerns identified.

Project: The Small Group Insurance Market

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Jonathan Seib

Reference: SB 5521 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: SB 5521 proposed substantial changes to the laws governing small group insurance plans. The bill died in the House, and concern remains that absent legislative action, health insurance will become increasingly unaffordable to small businesses. The committee will monitor the status of the small group market, collect additional information regarding the impact of SB 5521 and evaluate other means to maintain the viability of this market.

Higher Education Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Model Performance Contracts**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Jean Six, Karen Barrett

Reference: SHB 2111 (2003)

Other Resources: Joint with House Higher Education

Description: A Work Group with membership from the Higher Education Committees and fiscal committees of the Senate and House as well as other stakeholders will explore opportunities to create performance contracts between the state and the public institutions of higher education. No chair is specified.

SCOPE OF WORK: 1) Examine the experience of other states in developing and implementing performance contracts with institutions of higher education. 2) Consider the feasibility of implementing performance contracts in Washington. 3) Identify whether amendments to current laws may be needed. 4) Develop guidelines and possible models for performance contracts.

Project: **Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Jean Six, Karen Barrett

Reference: ESHB 2076 (2003)

Other Resources: Joint with House Higher Education

Description: A Work Group with membership from the Higher Education Committees (HECB) and fiscal committees of the Senate and House will provide guidance to the HECB as the Board updates the Strategic Master Plan. The Work Group will also review options pertaining to other roles and responsibilities of the HECB. Work group is co-chaired by the chairs of the policy committees.

SCOPE OF WORK: 1) Define legislative expectations and provide policy direction for the statewide strategic master plan for higher education currently being developed by the HECB. 2) Make recommendations for ensuring the coordination of higher education capital and operating budgets with the goals and priorities of the master plan. 3) Examine opportunities to update the roles and responsibilities of the HECB, including alternatives for: administration of financial aid and other programs, review of institution budget requests, approval of off-campus programs, centers, and consortia, and collection/analysis of data.

Highways & Transportation Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Alternative Transportation Financing**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Mike Groesch

Reference: ESHB 2451 (2002), ESHB 1163 (2003) Other Resources:

Description: The Transportation Infrastructure Financing Alternatives (TIFA) committee was established by the 2002 Transportation Budget and is continued in the 2003-05 Transportation Budget through an appropriation of \$230,000. The committee is charged with developing new financing mechanisms for transportation projects which may include: tolling, public-private partnerships, new fee and tax structures and other alternatives not currently in use in the state. Committee staff will assist the Senate members on the committee.

Project: **Aviation System Study**

Completion Date:

Staff: Dean Carlson, Kelly Simpson

Reference: Other Resources:

Description: Staff will participate in an evaluation of Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation Division's role and mission in the state's aviation system, including its role in providing search and rescue operations, pilot education, and enforcement of taxes and fees associated with aviation activities. Additionally, the evaluation includes examining the capital funding of the state's aviation system including an analysis of appropriate funding levels and methods of financing. Members of the Legislative Transportation Committee will monitor the study.

Project: **Commerce Corridor Study**

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff: Janice Baumgardt

Reference: ESHB 1163 (2003) Other Resources:

Description: The study is to provide the Legislature with information regarding the feasibility of pursuing a Washington Commerce Corridor. Washington State Department of Transportation is to retain outside experts to conduct the study. Staff will provide support to committee members who serve on the study.

Project: **Establishing the Transportation Performance Audit Board**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Greg Doss, Mike Groesch

Reference: SSB 5748 (2003) Other Resources:

Description: Senate Highways & Transportation Committee (SHTC) staff will assist Legislative Transportation Committee staff in the creation of the new Transportation Performance Audit Board's bylaws and operating policies.

Highways & Transportation Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Evaluation of Transportation Tax and Fee Exemptions**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Dean Carlson

Reference: ESHB 2451 (2002)

Other Resources:

Description: In the 2002 Transportation Budget, the Legislature directed the Legislative Transportation Committee (LTC) to conduct a study of transportation taxes and fees. The study is to be completed in December 2003. The LTC is directed to address the following:

- 1) What are the current exemptions allowed for transportation taxes and fees?
- 2) Are those exemptions achieving their original policy intent?
- 3) Are those priorities still relevant in the current environment? A workgroup organized by the LTC will establish a work plan and agenda for the study. The workgroup will be staffed by Senate Committee Services and Office of Program Research.

Project: **Ferry System Capital and Operating Program Review**

Completion Date:

Staff: Tami Neilson

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Complete review of operating and capital investment plans, programs and major projects for both passenger and auto ferry service. Particular attention will be given to terminal preservation and development, ferry system financial plans, and passenger-only ferry service. A workgroup will consist of members of the Legislative Transportation Committee and will be staffed by Senate Committee Services and Office of Program Research.

Project: **Highways of Statewide Significance**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Janice Baumgardt

Reference: SSB 5987 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Review the process for designation of Highways of Statewide Significance under RCW 47.06.140. The work group shall consider the minimum criteria for designation of Highways of Statewide Significance as provided under RCW 47.05.021(3). A workgroup will consist of members of the Legislative Transportation Committee and will be staffed by Senate Committee Services and Office of Program Research.

Highways & Transportation Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Review Statewide Transportation Planning Process**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Mike Groesch, Greg Doss, Janice Baumgardt

Reference: SSB 5987, SHB 1163 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Recommend possible revisions to the statewide transportation planning process under RCW 47.01.071. Possible recommendations arising from review:

- a) Propose changes to 47.06 RCW, on statewide transportation planning;
- b) Propose changes to 47.05 RCW, on priority programming for highway development;
- c) Improve the needs analysis process in RCW 47.05.030;
- d) Integrate the needs analysis process in RCW 47.05.030 and the benchmark measures of RCW 47.01.012 (section 101, chapter 5, Laws of 2002); and
- e) Develop guidelines for regional transportation planning organizations to incorporate state policies into long-range transportation plans.

A workgroup will consist of members of the Legislative Transportation Committee and will be staffed by Senate Committee Services and Office of Program Research.

Project: **Reviewing the Implementation of the "Personnel System Reform Act of 2002" As It Relates to State Transportation Agencies**

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff: Kelly Simpson, Kim Johnson

Reference: SHB 1268 (2002)

Other Resources:

Description: During the 2002 session, the Legislature enacted the "Personnel System Reform Act of 2002" (Chapter 354, Laws of 2002) that generally revised three areas of public employment law, including the rights and responsibilities of public employees and employers. The three general areas addressed in the Act include: 1) civil service reform; 2) contracting out of state work; and 3) collective bargaining. Staff will review the implementation of the Act as it relates to state transportation agencies. The review will include monitoring and information gathering concerning transportation agencies' preparation for the expected implementation dates of 2004-2005.

Project: **Revise Transportation Budget Process**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Janice Baumgardt

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Develop a revised budgeting format for the Omnibus Transportation Budgets adopted by the Legislature. The revised format should help improve understanding and communication of legislative policies and priorities, as reflected in the budget document. A workgroup will consist of members of the Legislative Transportation Committee and will be staffed by Senate Committee Services and Office of Program Research.

Highways & Transportation Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Transportation Permit Efficiency and Accountability Committee**

Completion Date: June 2003

Staff: Janice Baumgardt

Reference: ESHB 1163, ESB 5279 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Staff will support Senate members on the committee which is created to achieve transportation permit reform that expedites the delivery of transportation projects through a streamlined approach to environmental permit decision making. Committee operation costs are provided through an appropriation to Washington State Department of Transportation in ESHB 1163 (2003).

Project: **WSDOT Financial System Study**

Completion Date: June 2004

Staff: Janice Baumgardt

Reference: ESHB 1163 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Staff will participate in a study to assess Washington State Department of Transportation's current information technology systems and planning for system and application modernization. \$715,000 is provided to the Department in ESHB 1163 (2003). Members of the Legislative Transportation Committee will monitor the study.

Judiciary

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Audio Taping on School Buses

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Lidia Mori

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Staff will research current law regarding whether it is legally permissible to audio tape students on school buses. A memorandum will be produced outlining the research and the conclusion reached. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

Project: Commission on Judicial Conduct

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Jinnah Rose-McFadden

Reference: SJR 8217 and SCR 8404 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will review the procedures followed by the Commission on Judicial Conduct when investigating a complaint against a judge and the conduct of subsequent hearings. The possible benefits of creating a committee to oversee the commission will be examined. Staff will draft legislation as directed.

Project: Implied Consent and Fatal Vehicle Accidents

Completion Date: November 2003

Staff: Lidia Mori

Reference: ESSB 5819 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The proposal to allow law enforcement to collect evidence of blood alcohol content from operators in fatal vehicle accidents will be examined as to its constitutionality. Staff will research how other states address this issue and collect any statutes and articles relevant to the subject.

Project: Jury Selection

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Jinnah Rose-McFadden

Reference: SB 5084 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will research alternative methods of creating jury source lists, including the reasons for and against using a jury source list comprised of registered voters in a county. In addition, staff will investigate the methods used to select a person for jury duty and examine why some people are called multiple times and others are never called.

Judiciary

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Liability of a Spouse for the Acts of the Other Spouse

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Aldo Melchiori

Reference: SB 6032 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will examine and create a written summary of the policy considerations behind the existing presumption that a debt incurred during a marriage is a community obligation. In particular, the committee will focus on situations in which debt is incurred by one spouse without the knowledge or consent of the other spouse and no community benefit is realized. Staff will solicit input from financial institutions, the Bar Association, and other interested groups and include their comments in the summary.

Project: Municipal Court Services

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Jinnah Rose-McFadden

Reference: SSB 5500 and ESHB 2179 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will study the Board of Judicial Administration's review of statewide municipal court services. Staff will contact parties affected by proposed changes to the administration of municipal court services and obtain input pertinent to future legislation. Staff will prepare a report summarizing the BJA's review of municipal court services and set forth the perspectives of the interested parties.

Project: Paternity and Child Support

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Lidia Mori

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Staff will research the subject of using DNA to determine child support responsibility including compiling legislation that has been passed in other states on this issue. The committee will examine the current two year statute of limitations on commencing an action to adjudicate parentage. Staff will prepare a memorandum detailing the results of the research and will draft legislation as requested.

Project: Separation of Powers

Completion Date: November 2003

Staff: Aldo Melchiori

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The Revised Code of Washington contains a chapter on statutory construction that is relatively undeveloped. Staff will produce a memorandum which will explore ways this chapter could be modified to give courts further guidance regarding what the legislature means when it enacts legislation and the rules the legislature intends courts to apply when statutory language is interpreted. The memorandum will also address the role and scope of the separation of powers in Washington and how has it been applied.

Judiciary

Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Zero Tolerance**

Completion Date: October 2003

Staff: Aldo Melchiori

Reference: SB 5523 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will examine the laws and policies followed in other states with regard to the issue of driving with drugs, metabolites, or analogs in the body, including examining the idea of zero tolerance. Staff will produce a memorandum detailing how other states approach this issue and draft legislation as requested.

Land Use & Planning Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Annexation and Outside Utility Agreements

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: HB 1801 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will determine the need for an alternative method of annexation based upon outside utility agreements. Alternative solutions to the concerns raised by the use of outside utility agreements in the annexation process and extension of services to unincorporated territory within urban growth areas will be evaluated.

Project: Best Available Science

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: SSB 5658 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Concerns relating to the current requirements for best available science under the Growth Management Act (GMA) will be evaluated. The committee will determine the need for modifications to those requirements in order to address existing concerns, promote local flexibility, and to best achieve GMA goals in regards to critical areas.

Project: Consolidation and Creation of Counties

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: EHJR 4203 (1990), SJR 8203
(1993), SB 6016 (1999)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will evaluate the need for a process to consolidate or create counties and determine whether consolidation would assist economically depressed counties. The constitutional requirements for a procedure that consolidates or creates counties will be studied and legislation will be drafted as needed.

Project: Growth Management Act (GMA) Planning in Relationship to Economic Development and Growth Patterns

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: SB 5680 & SB 5160 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The relationship of economic development to GMA planning and land use policy will be analyzed. Growth patterns will be studied to determine the need for GMA flexibility for counties and cities with slow growth. Counties that have significantly different growth rates than the cities located therein will also be studied in order to determine how best to achieve the GMA goals of both the county and the city. The committee will consider potential alternatives to the current GMA scheme for local governments in order to account for certain economic development concerns and growth patterns. Legislation will be drafted as needed.

Land Use & Planning Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Growth Management Act (GMA) Planning in Rural Areas

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will develop legislation to clarify legislative intent in regards to GMA planning in rural areas located in both rural and urban counties. Concerns specific to rural areas in GMA planning will be reviewed in order to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the GMA as it applies to rural areas and to determine the extent to which GMA goals currently are being achieved. Case studies of the tri-county area of Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties will be conducted.

Project: Growth Management Planning in Urban Growth Areas

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: SSB 5661 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will study whether urban growth areas are successful in achieving GMA planning goals in comprehensive plans. Suburban areas in Eastern King county will be studied to evaluate and address GMA concerns unique to those areas. Legislation will be drafted as needed.

Project: Manufactured and Site-Built Housing Impact Fees

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: SB 5371 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The interrelation of land use policy and impact fees will be studied. The committee will analyze the relationship between fees charged and the actual impact of such housing on the local community. A case study of housing impact fees in the city of Spokane will be conducted.

Project: Shoreline Guidelines

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: SSB 6012, SHB 1933, SB 5880
(2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will identify and evaluate legislative policy issues relating to shoreline management. The development of new shoreline guidelines by the Department of Ecology will be monitored and concerns relating to the guidelines will be evaluated. Legislation will be drafted as needed.

Land Use & Planning Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Shoreline Management and Restoration of Ecological Functions

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will review the Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board decision in Everett Shorelines Coalition v. City of Everett in regards to the restoration of ecological functions. Legislation will be drafted to clarify whether capital facility plans are required to include ecological restoration provisions.

Project: Special Purpose Districts and Growth Management Act (GMA) Planning & Compliance

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will study the role of special districts in GMA planning to evaluate whether legislation is needed to ensure GMA compliance. The relationship between special district and local government planning will be reviewed to determine whether GMA requirements to fund public facilities should apply equally to special districts and local governments.

Project: State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) & Advanced Environmental Planning

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The use of area-wide environmental impact statements in the SEPA planning process will be evaluated. The committee will consult with the Office of Community, Trade, and Economic Development to assess the benefits to jurisdictions that have used area-wide planning. Legislation will be drafted as needed.

Project: Tax Incentives for Multi-Unit Dwellings in Urban Centers

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: SB 5644, SHB 1695 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of a tax incentive program for housing in urban areas. The local government demand for a tax incentive program will be considered, as well as the fiscal impacts of the program.

Land Use & Planning Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **The Integration of the Shoreline Management Act (SMA), Growth Management Act (GMA), State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) & the Role of the Department of Ecology**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will review the need for complete integration of the Shoreline Management Act, the Growth Management Act, and the State Environmental Policy Act, for the purpose of eliminating duplicative provisions and improving efficiency while balancing environmental concerns and not imposing unfunded mandates. The committee will evaluate the possible advantages of requiring the Department of Ecology to be responsible for the full integration of all land use laws. Legislation will be drafted as needed.

Project: **Water-Sewer District Assumptions**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Land Use & Planning

Reference: SB 5069, SB 5581, SB 5934
(2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will evaluate the existing procedures for assumptions to determine the need to develop new or modified procedures that address concerns relating to the equitable assessment of costs, the division of assets and liabilities, assumptions by associations, and non-contiguous assumptions.

Natural Resources, Energy & Water Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Area-Wide Soil Contamination**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Richard Rodger

Reference: SSB 6153 Sec. 302(10) (2001)

Other Resources:

Description: Area-wide soil contamination involves historical activities that disbursed low-to-moderate levels of arsenic and lead over large areas of the state. The primary source of these pollutants was from leaded gasoline, lead-based paints, mining and smelting, and the use of certain agricultural chemicals. The committee will examine the findings and recommendations of the Area-Wide Soil Contamination Task Force to determine if legislative action is necessary to assist in the implementation of the proposed statewide strategy.

Project: **Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Richard Rodger

Reference: HJM 4021 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will continue its review of potential rate increases by the BPA, the upcoming 2006 customer agreements, and operation and maintenance schedules for hydrogeneration facilities located in the state.

Project: **Forest Health and Forest Fire**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Vic Moon

Reference: SB 5144 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will work with the public, the Department of Natural Resources, and timber land owners to develop forest disease and insect control legislation for the 2004 session. The funding and implementation of the forest fire program will be studied.

Project: **Forest Road Plans**

Completion Date: January 2004

Staff: Vic Moon

Reference: ESHB 2091 (1999), 2SHB 2311 (2001), 2SHB 1095 (2003)

Other Resources: Joint study with the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Description: The committee will follow the development of the "forest road checklist" process required by 2SHB 1095 (2003 session). In addition, the definition of terms used in the forest law will be studied.

Natural Resources, Energy & Water Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Geoduck Resource and Harvest Management**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Genevieve Pisarski

Reference: SB 5076, HB 1247, SB 5266, SHB 1239, SB 5267, HB 1238, ESSB 5400 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: The committee will study enhancement of state geoduck beds, geoduck aquaculture on state lands, location of geoduck harvest, and regulation of commercial geoduck harvesting and will consider alternatives for resource management and harvest management. The committee will work with state agencies, stakeholders, and the appropriate House Committees.

Project: **Irrigation and Drainage District Water Conveyance Systems and Fish**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Evan Sheffels

Reference: Other Resources:

Description: Legislative policy issues relating to fish life within the conveyance systems and drains used by irrigation districts and drainage districts will be identified and evaluated. Legislation will be drafted as needed for the 2004 Legislative session.

Project: **Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Evan Sheffels

Reference: ESHB 1689 (2003) Other Resources:

Description: The Department of Ecology (DOE) is in the process of working with stakeholders to develop permits for phase II MS4 systems as required by the federal Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations. Staff will monitor and provide interim reports to the committee on this permit development process.

During the December Legislative Assembly period, the committee will hold a work session with DOE and stakeholders in order to discuss phase II permit status and to consider potential legislation for the 2004 session.

Natural Resources, Energy & Water Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Water Resource Issues**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Evan Sheffels

Reference: SSB 5028, 2SSB 5027, E2SHB
1336, E2SHB 1338, SSB 5023,
ESHB 1317, ESB 5106, SSB
5077, SSB 5025, SSB 5287 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Throughout the interim, staff will continue to investigate and monitor issues relating to water resource legislation that was not enacted during the 2003 legislative session. Staff will attend various water resource task force and advisory group meetings. Legislative policy issues relating to water resources will be identified and evaluated, and legislation will be drafted as needed.

In June 2003, the committee will hold a two-day tour in central Okanogan County. Tour sites will include the Methow River area, Twin Lakes, and Lake Conconully, as well as other nearby areas with water resource issues of interest.

Parks, Fish & Wildlife Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: Incentives for Habitat Conservation on Private Lands

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Kari Guy

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Many programs offer incentives to private landowners to preserve or enhance habitat. The purposes behind the programs vary, and include providing access for hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing, enhancing habitat for game species, or preserving existing habitat types. The committee will review existing local, state and federal habitat incentive programs and evaluate coordination of programs and service delivery to landowners. Legislation will be drafted as needed.

Project: Recreational Hunting and Fishing Enforcement

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: Kari Guy

Reference: SB 5029, SB 5030 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: In the public hearing for SB 5029 and 5030, the committee identified a number of issues related to prosecution of violations of the fish and wildlife code. The committee will evaluate the need for legislative changes to achieve the goals of relieving court congestion, providing an effective deterrent to future violations, and ensuring consistent application of the code.

Project: State Parks Funding

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Kari Guy

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Funding for State Parks was the subject of a number of bills before the Parks, Fish and Wildlife Committee in the 2003 session. The committee will continue to review State Parks operations and funding, including the following: implementation of the day use fee; revenue-generating developments at State Parks; agreements with private parties and sponsors; and joint fee proposals with other governmental land owners.

Project: Wildlife Area Management

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Kari Guy

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife manages almost 500,000 acres of land as state wildlife areas, to provide diverse wildlife habitats and public recreational uses. The committee will review current issues affecting management of state wildlife areas, including ongoing operation and maintenance needs, competing goals for habitat restoration, and provision of public access.

Parks, Fish & Wildlife Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Wildlife Damage Claims**

Completion Date: December 2003

Staff: Vic Moon

Reference: SHB 1512 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: There have been proposals in the last three sessions to expand or change the wildlife damage claim program, and damage claims are growing in number and amount. The committee will review the claims history of the existing program and the use of alternative methods to control problem wildlife.

Technology & Communications Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **Federal, State, and Local Taxes on Telephone and Wireless Calls in Washington**

Completion Date: September 2003

Staff: William Bridges

Reference: None

Other Resources:

Description: Committee staff will prepare a report describing the federal, state, and local taxes on telephone and wireless calls in Washington. The report will contain the following information: the name of each tax, a description of each tax, and the legal citations for each tax. Staff will present findings to the committee at the 2003 September Legislative Assembly work session.

Project: **Recovering the Costs of Relocating Utility Facilities in Public Rights of Way**

Completion Date: Fall 2003 or 2004 session

Staff: William Bridges

Reference: SB 5632 (2003)

Other Resources:

Description: Committee staff will review the legal issues surrounding the reimbursement of utility relocation expenses when facilities are displaced by improvements to public rights of way. Committee staff may plan a work session on this topic.

Project: **The Provision of Broadband Telecommunications Services Over Power Lines**

Completion Date: Fall 2003 or 2004 session

Staff: William Bridges

Reference: None

Other Resources:

Description: Several power companies are conducting pilot projects to test the economic viability of providing broadband services over power lines. These projects have prompted the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to issue a Notice of Inquiry on Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. Committee staff will plan a work session on this topic.

Ways & Means Workplan Summary - Interim 2003

Project: **2003 Citizen's Guide to the Budget**

Completion Date: 12/1/03

Staff: Ways and Means staff

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: For the last several years, the Senate Ways and Means Committee and Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP) staff have published a Citizen's Guide to the Budget. Members, legislative staff, and the general public use the guide to answer basic questions about the Washington State biennial budget. Beginning last year, staff began publishing the Guide on an annual basis because of significant changes in supplemental budget sessions. With the passage of the 2003-05 biennial budget, the Guide will be updated before the 2004 legislative session.

Project: **2004 Fiscal Preview Document**

Completion Date: 9/15/03

Staff: Ways and Means staff

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: In preparation for the 2004 supplemental operating and capital budgets, Ways and Means staff will prepare a 2004 Fiscal Preview for legislators and the public in the fall of 2003.

Project: **Analyze 2004 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budget Requests and Develop Recommendations for the 2004 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budgets**

Completion Date: 12/1/03

Staff: Ways and Means staff

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: In the fall of each odd-numbered year, state agencies submit to the Office of Financial Management a supplemental budget request for the current biennium. State law provides that a copy of each agency budget be provided concurrently to the legislative fiscal committees. These requests provide valuable information in developing the Senate's version of the supplemental operating and capital budgets.

Project: **Legislative Budget Notes**

Completion Date: 9/1/03

Staff: Ways and Means staff

Reference:

Other Resources:

Description: Legislative fiscal staff in the Senate and House will work with LEAP staff to prepare the "Legislative Budget Notes" - a publication which represents the official record of legislative action on the omnibus operating, transportation and capital budgets. The Legislative Budget Notes are used by legislators, legislative staff, state agencies and the general public to determine legislative intent behind the hundreds of policy changes embedded in the three major budget documents.