

Senate Committee Services

2013 Interim Work Plan and Meeting Schedule



August 2013

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Senate Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: Providing Water for Rural and Domestic Uses.

COMPLETION DATE: On-going **STAFF:** Bob Lee/Diane Smith
786-7407/786-7410

REFERENCES: [CHAPTER 90.54 RCW](#), [2SSB 5367 \(2013\)](#), [ESSB 5035 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Ecology is charged with overall management of the state's water resources for a multitude of instream and out-of-stream uses. Included in the agency's responsibilities is to provide adequate and safe supplies of potable water to satisfy human domestic needs. There are a number of basin rules that have been adopted by the agency and additional rules are pending. Further, there are a number of basins with programs that have been authorized or funded in the budget with the objective of providing adequate water for rural areas.

Committee staff will monitor the implementation of these programs, proposed basin rules, and associated hearing board and court rulings. Staff will report to committee members on these activities and draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: Database for Animal Disease Traceability

COMPLETION DATE: On-going **STAFF:** Diane Smith/Bob Lee
786-7410/786-7407

REFERENCES: [RCW 43.135.150](#), [3ESSB 5034 - SEC. 309\(3\)\(2013\)](#), [ESSB 5035 - SEC. 3247\(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Livestock are shipped within the state, between states and also internationally. State and national efforts have been ongoing to develop a system that allows for traceability of cattle that have contracted diseases. Some of the diseases can be communicated between animal species or humans. In addition to concern about the health impact of the disease, incidents also can cause major disruptions in markets and the livelihoods of people engaged in this major sector of the economy.

In cooperation with the cattle industry, legislation has been enacted that provides authority for the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules to establish the framework and fees for ongoing operation of an animal disease traceability data base for cattle. Additionally, funds were included in the capital budget to assist in the acquisition of equipment necessary to establish the data base.

Staff will monitor and provide updates to the committee on the development of the animal disease traceability system including the purchase of equipment and adoption of necessary rules to implement the system.

PROJECT: Monitor Agricultural Fee Work Group

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Bob Lee/Diane Smith
786-7407/786-7410

REFERENCES: [3ESSB 5034 - SEC. 309 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: A proviso included in the operating budget requires the Department of Agriculture to convene and facilitate a work group with stakeholders to review fees for programs operated by the department supported by the state general fund. In developing strategies to make the programs more self-supporting, the work group is directed to consider a number of factors. The work group's report, including recommendations, is to be submitted to the Office of Financial Management and the legislative fiscal committees by December 1, 2013.

Committee staff will provide an update to committee members on any recommendations from the work group and draft legislation if requested by members.

PROJECT: Monitor Honey Bee Work Group

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Diane Smith/Bob Lee
786-7410/786-7407

REFERENCES: [ESSB 5882 - SEC. 305 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: In 2008, the Legislature provided temporary tax relief to the honey bee industry due to higher than normal losses of hives from what is referred to as colony collapse disorder. These pollinating insects are essential for the production of a number of major and minor crops produced in the state. The tax relief was granted on a temporary basis to provide time for the causes of the high hive losses to be diagnosed and addressed. This tax relief was set to expire on July 1, 2013.

Due to continuing high bee losses, the honey bee industry requested and was granted extension of the tax relief through July 1, 2017. During this period, the Department of Agriculture (Department) was instructed to convene a honey bee work group to address challenges facing the honey bee industry. A report is required to be submitted by the Department by December 31, 2014 to address a number of issues specified in the legislation.

Committee staff will provide updates to committee members and conduct research and respond to legislators requests.

PROJECT: Legislative Council on River Governance

COMPLETION DATE:

STAFF: Bob Lee
786-7407

REFERENCES: [HTTP://WWW.SCGWEST.ORG/INDEX.PHP?OPTION=COM_CONTENT
&VIEW=ARTICLE&ID=86<EMID=142](http://www.scgwest.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=86<emid=142)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislative Council on River Governance (LCRG) consists of legislators appointed from each of the four northwest states including Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana. At the annual summer meeting, this group receives an update on and discusses a number of water issues that are related to the Columbia River watershed or are otherwise of common interest to the northwest states. Meeting preparations, including arranging speakers to address topics of interest to members, are coordinated by the Council of State Governments. The location of the annual meeting rotates and this year it is tentatively planned at Port of Morrow near Boardman, Oregon.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7411

September TIME TBA	Legislative Council on River Governance Public Hearing	Port of Morrow Boardman, Oregon	Agenda items to be announced.
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November Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Public Hearing	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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Senate Commerce & Labor Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

No Formal Interim Plans at This Point.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7426

November	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Public Hearing		

Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: Collective Bargaining Agreements

COMPLETION DATE: Fall

STAFF: Susan Mielke, Katherine Taylor,
Eric Wolf
786-7420

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: School district certificated employees may bargain their wages and working conditions under the state Education Employment Relations Act (EERA), which was enacted in 1975. Senate Committee staff will collect school district agreements and create a data base of the various provisions. A summary of the information will be provided to the Committee members.

PROJECT: Early Learning Funding Workgroup

COMPLETION DATE: Fall

STAFF: Katherine Taylor
786-7434

REFERENCES: [2SHB 1723 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Washington State funds programs for early learning and child care that are housed in different agencies with different missions (early learning programs like ECEAP in the Department of Early Learning and child care programs in the Department of Social and Health Services.) This project will create a small work group of legislators from the House and Senate to work with the state agencies, child care and early learning providers, and others to analyze Washington's current approach, review other approaches, and make recommendations to integrate funding for early learning and childcare.

PROJECT: Common Core State Standards and Assessments and Next Generation Science Standards

COMPLETION DATE: Fall

STAFF: Susan Mielke
786-7422

REFERENCES: [EHB 1450 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: In 2011 the Superintendent of Public Instruction adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) as the state learning standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. In 2013, legislation was passed to transition from the current state-required student assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics assessments to student assessments developed with a multistate consortium in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics beginning in the 2014-15 school year. There are two consortiums developing such assessments: The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium in which Washington and 24 other states are participating and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, in which 19 states are participating. Washington is also participating in a multistate consortium to develop new science learning standards: The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The Legislature has authorized the Superintendent of Public Instruction to participate in the development of the science standards and assessments and to modify the essential academic learning requirements, and the statewide student assessments in science

accordingly, as long as the legislative education committees have an opportunity to review any proposed modifications before they are adopted.

Superintendent Dorn has made tentative plans to formally adopt the NGSS as Washington's K-12 science learning standards in August 2013.

Committee staff will research how other states are transitioning to the CCSS and NGSS and compare and contrast those efforts with the actions taken by Washington State. The information will be compiled by staff and distributed to the Committee members.

PROJECT: Charter Schools

COMPLETION DATE: To Be Determined

STAFF: Susan Mielke
786-7422

REFERENCES: [INITIATIVE 1240 \(2012\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Initiative 1240, passed by the voters in November 2012, established the authority and process for creating and operating a limited number of publically funded charter schools that operate independently of an elected school district board of directors and most state laws and school district policies.

The Committee will invite the Charter School Commission, the State Board, and approved charter school applicants, if any, to present information on the process and an update on the status of charter schools at a public meeting of the Committee.

PROJECT: Site Visit

COMPLETION DATE: To Be Determined

STAFF: Susan Mielke
786-7422

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 5329 \(2012\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Under legislation adopted in the 2013 legislative session, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction must design a system of support, assistance, and intervention for schools in need of improvement, which includes persistently lowest-achieving schools. The system must use the Washington Achievement Index to identify the schools, if federally approved; apply equally to federal Title I and non-Title I eligible schools; and use state funds for implementation.

The Committee members and staff will visit one or more schools that are identified as persistently lowest achieving.

PROJECT: Teacher/Principal Evaluation

COMPLETION DATE: Fall

STAFF: Eric Wolf
786-7405

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 6696 \(2010\)](#), [ESSB 5895 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Legislation passed in 2010 required the development, piloting, and implementation of four-level rating evaluation systems for Washington's classroom teachers and principals. The evaluation systems must describe performance on a continuum that indicates the extent to which the criteria have been met or exceeded by the classroom teacher or principal. When student growth data showing a change in student achievement between two points in time is available for consideration in addition to

PROJECT: Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities

COMPLETION DATE: September 2014

STAFF: Katherine Taylor/Eric Wolf
786-7434/786-7405

REFERENCES: [2ESSB 5034 \(2013\) - SEC. 719](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislative Task Force on Career Education Opportunities (Task Force) was established in the 2013 legislative session to identify strategies for how education that supports career readiness may be better integrated into secondary education opportunities for all students. The Task Force is composed of two members of the Senate, two members of the House of Representatives, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, one member appointed by the Governor, and one representative each from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, State Board of Education, Student Achievement Council, and Washington Association of Career and Technical Education. A preliminary report is due by December 15, 2013, and a final report is due by September 1, 2014. Staff will provide support to the Task Force, including at meetings and assisting in drafting the report.

Staff will draft legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7420

October TIME TBA	Full Committee Tour/Briefing	Location to be announced	Site visit to one or more schools.
November Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Update on Charter Schools.
Other Meetings:			
July 31, 2013 2:00 p.m.	Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation Work Session	Olympia, WA	Overview.
August 21, 2013 2:00 p.m.	Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation Work Session	Highline School District Office Burien, WA	2013 report to the Supreme Court.
August 27, 2013 9:30 a.m.	Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation Work Session	Hse Hearing Rm C J.L. O'Brien Bldg Olympia, WA	2013 report to the Supreme Court.

DATE TBA TIME TBA	Early Learning Funding Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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DATE TBA TIME TBA	Early Learning Funding Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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September TIME TBA	Early Learning Funding Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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November TIME TBA	Early Learning Funding Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: 1-937

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: William Bridges
786-7416

REFERENCES: [SSB 6414 \(2012\)](#), [ESSB 5575 \(2012\)](#), [SB 5297 \(2013\)](#), [SSB 5400 \(2013\)](#),
[HB 1154 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Approved by voters in 2006, the Energy Independence Act, also known as Initiative 937, requires electric utilities with 25,000 or more customers to meet targets for energy conservation and for using eligible renewable resources. There have been numerous legislative attempts to amend I-937. The first two amendments were passed in 2012:

- authorizing the Department of Commerce to issue advisory opinions on whether a proposed electric generation project or conservation resource qualifies under I-937 (SSB 6414);
- authorizing the limited use of qualified biomass energy to meet eligible renewable energy targets (ESSB 5575);

During the 2013 regular session, the Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee heard ten bills amending I-937, three of which were signed by the Governor:

- allowing certain slow-growing utilities to purchase I-937 compliant electricity from the Centralia coal plant (SB 5297);
- authorizing qualifying multi-state utilities to count as an eligible renewable resource any renewable resource it owns, other than freshwater, if the resource is in a state where it serves retail customers (SSB 5400); and
- allowing facilities that capture and use methane to generate electricity to collect both renewable energy credits and carbon reduction credits (HB 1154).

Because of continuing interest in making additional changes to I-937, the committee will hold at least one public meeting during the interim to hear proposals for additional amendments. Senate committee staff will plan the meetings and assist in the preparation of any draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: Telecommunications

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: William Bridges
786-7416

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: During the 2013 regular session, the Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee held four work sessions on telecommunications issues:

- Regulation of Telecommunications (January 21);
- Taxation of Telecommunication Services (January 29);
- Current Status of the Wireless Industry and Wireless Technology (April 24); and
- Incentives for Broadband Deployment (April 24).

The committee will continue working on telecommunications issues. During the interim, the committee will hold at least one public meeting to hear proposals for promoting the deployment of advanced

telecommunications services in Washington. Senate committee staff will plan the meetings and assist in the preparation of any draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **Storm Water**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Jan Odano
786-7486

REFERENCES: [SB 5441 \(2013\)](#), [SB 5435 \(2013\)](#), [SB 5326 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: During the 2013 regular session, the Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee heard several bills regarding storm water municipal permits, permit requirements, and funding storm water activities. These bills were:

- Prioritizing state investments in storm water control (SB 5441);
- Delaying new storm water requirements (SB 5326); and
- Regarding the creation of a storm water compliance project (SB 5435).

The committee will continue working on storm water issues to gain a better understanding of the permit requirements and impacts to regions within the state. Senate committee staff will draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **Climate Legislative Executive Workgroup**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: William Bridges/Jan Odano
786-7416/786-7486

REFERENCES: [E2SB 5802 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Created by E2SB 5802, the Climate Legislative Executive Workgroup (CLEW) must recommend a state program to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG), which if implemented would achieve the state's GHG emission limits. CLEW recommendations are to be based on a comprehensive evaluation of GHG emission reduction strategies provided by an independent contractor. CLEW may meet up to twice a month and must provide a report to the Legislature by December 31, 2013. Committee staff will review the contractor's evaluation, monitor the meetings, and draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **Fish Consumption Standards**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Jan Odano
786-7486

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: There has been significant interest in the science and public policy issues around human health-based water quality standards. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) has been developing rules for human health based water quality standards that will be based in part on fish consumption. The committee will monitor Ecology's work on adopting new human health criteria and updating the Water Quality Standards. During the interim, the committee will have a work session on fish consumption rates. Senate committee staff will plan the meeting and draft legislation as directed.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7406

September 16-17, 2013 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Full Committee Tour/Briefing/Public Hearing	Richland, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
September Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Location to be announced	Agenda items to be announced.
October Time TBA	Full Committee Public Hearing	Seattle, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
November Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Other Meetings:

September 11, 2013 3:30 p.m.	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Discuss results of Task 1: Analyses of WA Emissions & Related Energy Consumption.
September 27, 2013 1:00 p.m.	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Discuss results of Task 2: Evaluation of Comprehensive GHG Emissions Reduction Programs Outside WA, and Task 3: Evaluation of Federal Policies.
October 14, 2013 4:00 p.m.	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Begin to identify and discuss proposed policies and actions.
October 16, 2013 Time TBA	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Public Hearing	Spokane, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
October 21, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Public Hearing	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
November 6, 2013 2:00 p.m.	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Discuss analyses of actions and policies and outline of Workgroup report.
November 21, 2013 Legislative Assembly 2:00 p.m.	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Work Session	Olympia, WA	Prioritize potential policies and actions and review draft report.
December 6, 2013 Time TBA	Climate Legislative and Executive Workgroup Public Hearing	Olympia, WA	Discuss draft report.

December 13, 2013
2:00 p.m.

Climate Legislative and
Executive Workgroup
Work Session

Olympia, WA

Discuss final proposed policies and
actions. Discuss timeline and funding
for actions.

Senate Financial Institutions, Housing & Insurance Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: Uninsured Motorists

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Edward Redmond
786-7471

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: With few exceptions, no person may operate a motor vehicle subject to registration under Chapter 46.16A RCW in this state unless the person is insured under a motor vehicle liability policy. Some are concerned about drivers who operate motor vehicles without the requisite insurance coverage. Staff will meet with industry stakeholders to identify methods for increasing access to insurance coverage as well as policies to ensure proper monitoring and enforcement of such coverage. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: Housing

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Alison Mendiola
786-7483

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Staff will monitor a wide array of housing policy issues, including, but not limited to: affordable housing, community associations, housing development, and residential foreclosure, on the local, state and federal levels. This will include attending relevant stakeholder meetings and trainings as appropriate. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7408

November	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be determined.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Senate Governmental Operations Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: **Annexations**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Karen Epps
786-7424

REFERENCES: [5013 \(2013\)](#), [HB 1854 \(2013\)](#), [EHB 2068 \(2013\)](#), [5417 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Current law authorizes multiple methods for municipal annexations. While code cities, noncode cities, and towns have separate statutory provisions for governance and operation, the annexation methods they may employ are largely similar. Cities, towns, and code cities located in counties that plan under the Growth Management Act may only annex property that is located within their urban growth areas (UGA). Each annexation method must follow specified processes set forth in statute and methods vary somewhat by city classification. Committee staff will research the various methods for municipal annexations, review the requirements that must be met under each method and determine how often each method is used. Committee staff will draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **A Review of the Growth Management Act (GMA)**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Karen Epps/Sam Thompson
786-7424/786-7413

REFERENCES: [ESB 6094 \(1997\)](#), [SSB 5399 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The GMA is the comprehensive land use planning framework for counties and cities in Washington. Originally enacted in 1990 and 1991, the GMA establishes land use designation and environmental protection requirements for all Washington counties and cities, and a significantly wider array of planning duties for the 29 counties, and the cities within those counties, that are obligated to satisfy all requirements of the GMA. Committee staff will review developments in the GMA since its enactment in 1990. Committee staff will contact various stakeholders and solicit their input regarding what possible changes may be needed in the GMA. Committee staff will draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **Recall Campaigns and Recall Elections**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Sam Thompson
786-7413

REFERENCES: N/A

DESCRIPTION: Washington law provides that all elected public officers except judges are subject to recall by voters. A recall is commenced when a voter files a charge alleging malfeasance, misfeasance, or violation of the oath of office. If the charge is determined to be sufficient by a superior court judge and a sufficient number of signatures are then collected on recall petitions, voters are given the opportunity to vote on whether to recall the official from office. If a majority of voters approve the recall, the official is discharged from office and a vacancy is created. Committee staff will research proposals seeking to clarify grounds for recall and addressing other aspects of the recall process. Committee staff will draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **Cyber Security**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Sam Brown
786-7470

REFERENCES: N/A

DESCRIPTION: Cyber intrusions and attacks have increased dramatically over the last decade, exposing sensitive personal and business information, disrupting critical operations, and imposing high costs on the economy. In April 2013, hackers stole more than \$1 million from an electronic bank account held by Leavenworth's Chelan County Public Hospital District No. 1, less than half which had been recovered as of June. A data breach in the state Administrative Office of the Courts earlier this year may have compromised as many as 160,000 Social Security numbers and one million driver's license numbers. Committee staff will review the IT Security Policy adopted by the Chief Information Officer, review policies and statutes adopted in other states, and work with interested members and stakeholders to address concerns around the issue of cyber security. Additionally, committee staff will draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs**

COMPLETION DATE: NA

STAFF: Karen Epps/Sam Brown
786-7424/786-7470

REFERENCES: [RCW 73.04.150](#)
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/jointcommittees/JCVMA>

DESCRIPTION: The Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs is a 16 member committee empowered to study and make recommendations to the Legislature on veterans' issues, active military forces issues, and National Guard and Reserve component issues. House and Senate committee staff will schedule public hearings, work sessions, and tours for the Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

PROJECT: **Public Records Exemptions Accountability Committee (Sunshine Committee)**

COMPLETION DATE: NA

STAFF: Sam Brown
786-7470

REFERENCES: [RCW 42.56.140](#)
<http://www.atg.wa.gov/opengovernment/sunshine.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: The 13 member committee was created in 2007 to review all public records exemptions and make annual recommendations to the Legislature on whether to maintain, modify, or terminate each exemption. The Sunshine Committee will hold meetings in June, September, and November of 2013. Committee staff will continue to attend and monitor meetings held by the Sunshine Committee and draft any resulting legislation as directed by members.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7432

November Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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Other Meetings:

September Time TBA	Joint Committee on Veterans' & Military Affairs Work Session	Location to be announced	Agenda items to be announced.
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October Time TBA	Joint Committee on Veterans' & Military Affairs Work Session	Location to be announced	Agenda items to be announced.
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November Time TBA	Joint Committee on Veterans' & Military Affairs Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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December Time TBA	Joint Committee on Veterans' & Military Affairs Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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September Time TBA	Public Records Exemptions Accountability Committee (Sunshine Committee) Public Hearing	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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November Time TBA	Public Records Exemptions Accountability Committee (Sunshine Committee) Public Hearing	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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Senate Health Care Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

Other Projects:

PROJECT: Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight

COMPLETION DATE: On-going **STAFF:** Kathy Buchli/Mich'I Needham
786-7488/786-7442

REFERENCES: [ESSCR 8401 \(2013\)](#), [ESHB 1947 \(2013\)](#), [3ESSB 5034 \(2013\)](#)

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

Additionally, staff will monitor the planning and implementation of the Health Benefit Exchange, Office of Insurance Commissioner insurance plan approvals, Medicaid Expansion, Medicaid program conversions, and waiver research projects assigned in the budget.

PROJECT: Prior Authorization Work Group

COMPLETION DATE: January 1, 2014 **STAFF:** Mich'I Needham
786-7442

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 5267 - Sec. 206 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Prior authorization is the requirement that a health care provider seek approval of a drug, procedure, or test before seeking reimbursement from an insurer. Pursuant to legislation passed in 2009, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner has designated a lead agency (OneHealthPort) to develop processes, guidelines, and standards to streamline health care administration, including the prior authorization process.

The Prior Authorization Work Group will streamline the prior authorization process for prescription drugs, medical procedures, and medical tests, with the goal of simplification and uniformity. The work group must: establish timelines for urgent requests and timelines for non-urgent requests, work on a receipt of missing information time frame, determine time limits for a response of acknowledgement of receipts of request of missing information, establish when an authorization request will be deemed as granted when there is no response, and submit recommendations to the Legislature by November 15, 2013.

PROJECT: Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues

COMPLETION DATE: Dec. 2013 (Report) **STAFF:** Kathy Buchli
Dec. 2014 (Final Recommendation) 786-7488

REFERENCES: [3ESSB 5034 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The 2013-15 operating budget creates the Joint Legislative and Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues. By December 2014, the Committee must develop a strategy to build

capacity to meet the demands of Washington's elderly and disabled populations in such areas as improving the efficiency of long-term care services and supports, making caregiver supports available, promoting the use of technology and chronic care management, developing specialized resources, and providing housing and transportation options. The Committee will hold work sessions during the 2013 interim to understand the current long-term care services and supports system and to frame the issues facing its future.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7456

August 2-4 Time TBA	Aspen Institute's Excellence in State Public Health Law Program Tour/Briefing	Glen Cove, New York	A team of members, including a legislator from both the House of Representatives and from the Senate, and a member from SCS or OPR, will participate in the Institute's meetings over the year and explore public health issues with an emphasis on obesity and supporting hospitals to become baby friendly.
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November Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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Interim 2 Meetings Time TBA	Aspen Institute's Excellence in State Public Health Law Program Tour/Briefing	Location to be announced	See above.
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Other Meetings:

October 15, 2013 10:00 a.m.	Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight Work Session	Hse Hearing Rm B J.L. O'Brien Bldg Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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September 11, 2013 1:00 p.m.	Prior Authorization Work Group Work Session	Sen. Hearing Rm 4 J. A. Cherberg Bldg Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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September 9, 2013 10:00 a.m.	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues Work Session	Hse Hearing Rm B J.L. O'Brien Bldg Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
October 15, 2013 2:00 p.m.	Prior Authorization Work Group Work Session	Hse Hearing Rm B J.L. O'Brien Bldg Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
November 20, 2013 9:00 a.m.	Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight Work Session	Sen. Hearing Rm 1 J. A. Cherberg Bldg Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
November 4, 2013 11:00 a.m.	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues Work Session	Hse Hearing Rm B J.L. O'Brien Bldg Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Higher Education Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: Higher Education Councils, Boards, and Working Groups

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Kim Cushing/Eric Wolf/Maria Hovde
786-7421/786-7405/786-7710

REFERENCES: [E2SHB 1795 \(2011\)](#), [RCW 28B.95.030](#), [ESHB 2088 \(2011\)](#), [RCW 28B.50.050](#),
[3ESSB 5034 \(2013\)](#), [E2SHB 2483 \(2012\)](#), [RCW 28C.18.020](#)

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will monitor and provide updates on the various higher education councils, boards, and working groups, which include the following:

Academic Credit for Prior Learning Work Group. Coordinates and implements specific legislative goals related to awarding academic credit for prior learning.

Opportunity Scholarship Board. Provides oversight and guidance for the opportunity expansion and opportunity scholarship programs in light of legislative priorities and meet required duties and responsibilities.

State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. Provides leadership and coordination for Washington's public system of 34 community and technical colleges.

Technical Incentive Funding Model Task Force. Proposes an incentive funding model for the four-year institutions of higher education, by December 31, 2013.

Washington Student Achievement Council. Provides focus and goals for the state's higher education system.

Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. Advises the Governor and Legislature on workforce development policy, ensures that the state's workforce services and programs work together, and evaluates performance.

Committee on Advanced Tuition Payment. Administers Washington's advanced college tuition payment program (aka Guaranteed Education Tuition - GET).

PROJECT: Internships

COMPLETION DATE: September 1, 2013

STAFF: Kim Cushing
786-7421

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will review federal and state law that impacts student internships, research current internship opportunities and resources at Washington State colleges and universities, provide possible legislative options for fostering additional internship opportunities, and draft legislation as requested.

Other Projects:

PROJECT: Joint Higher Education Committee

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Kim Cushing/Maria Hovde
786-7421/786-7710

REFERENCES: [E2SHB 2483 \(2012\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: In 2012 the Legislature established the Joint Higher Education Committee (Committee) to review the work of the Student Achievement Council (Council) and provide legislative feedback; engage with the Council and the higher education community to create greater communication, coordination, and alignment between the higher education system and expectations of the Legislature; and provide recommendations for the higher education policy, including proposed legislation, to the higher education and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The Committee consists of four senators, two from each caucus, and four representatives, two from each caucus.

The Committee must meet twice annually and is staffed by Senate Committee Services (SCS) and the House of Representatives Office of Program Research. SCS staff will provide research and support to the senators and draft legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7415

October	Full Committee	Everett, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Time TBA	Tour/Briefing		

November	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Other Meetings:

September 16, 2013 11:30 a.m.	Joint Higher Education Committee Public Hearing	Sen. Hearing Rm 4 J.A. Cherberg Bldg Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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November 19, 2013 1:30 p.m.	Joint Higher Education Committee Public Hearing	Location to be announced	Agenda items to be announced.
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Senate Human Services & Corrections Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Statewide Coordinating Committee

COMPLETION DATE: June 30, 2015

STAFF: Joan Miller
786-7784

REFERENCES: [SSB 5308 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Committee will address the issue of children who are commercially sexually exploited. Prescribed membership includes legislators, representatives from state and local agencies, and relevant criminal justice entities. The duties of the Committee include overseeing and reviewing the implementation of the Washington State Model Protocol at pilot sites; receiving reports and data from local and regional entities regarding the incidence of commercially sexually exploited children in their areas; reviewing recommendations from local and regional entities regarding policy changes that would improve the effectiveness of local response practices; and making recommendations regarding data collection and strategic local investments to address the commercial sexual exploitation of children. A report is due to the appropriate legislative committees by June 30th of each year until the 2015 expiration date. SCS staff will provide research and support to the Senators and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Monitor Implementation of Child Welfare Measurements and Performance-Based Contracting

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Joan Miller
786-7784

REFERENCES: [ESHB 1774 \(2013\)](#), [E2SHB 2264 \(2012\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: E2SHB 2264 required Children's Administration (CA) to purchase family support and related services through performance-based contracts with network providers. ESHB 1774 extended the implementation of performance-based contracting to July 1, 2014, with the Request for Proposals to be issued by December 31, 2013. ESHB 1774 also required DSHS and a university-based child welfare research entity to develop measurements in the outcome areas of safety, permanency, and well-being by December 1, 2013. SCS staff will closely monitor the development of child welfare measurements and the implementation of performance-based contracting, and report on its activities to members of the Senate.

PROJECT: Background Check Work Group

COMPLETION DATE: December 31, 2013

STAFF: Kevin Black
786-7747

REFERENCES: [SSB 5565 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: SSB 5565 requires a nonprofit with expertise in veteran parent programs to convene a work group to explore options, including a certificate of rehabilitation, to address the impact of founded complaints of abuse or neglect on the ability of rehabilitated individuals to gain employment of care for children. Staff will observe the work group proceedings and report on its activities to members of the Senate.

PROJECT: Behavioral Health Redesign Steering Committee

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Kevin Black
786-7747

REFERENCES: [2SSB 5732 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: 2SSB 5732 requires the Department of Social and Health Services to convene a steering committee to guide the development of a behavioral health improvement strategy which improves outcomes for consumers of behavioral health services through development of outcome measures and increased use of evidence-based, research-based, and promising practices. The first report of the redesign project is due in August 2014. Staff will monitor the steering committee and report its activities to members of the Senate.

PROJECT: Work Group to Consolidate Statewide Involuntary Commitment Information

COMPLETION DATE: December 1, 2013

STAFF: Kevin Black
786-7747

REFERENCES: [SSB 5282 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: SSB 5282 requires the Department of Licensing, Washington State Patrol, Department of Social and Health Services, and representatives of courts and regional support networks to participate in a work group for the purpose of formulating a proposal for consolidation of statewide involuntary commitment information. This proposal must facilitate accurate and efficient verification of eligibility to possess a firearm. Staff will observe the work group proceedings and report on its activities to members of the Senate.

PROJECT: Special Sex Offender Sentencing Alternative - Policy Review

COMPLETION DATE: December 31, 2013

STAFF: Shani Bauer
786-7468

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: In October of 2012, the ranking members of the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee sent a letter to the Sex Offender Policy Board (SOPB) asking them to review processes in the state for imposing a Special Sex Offender Sentencing Alternative (SSOSA). Specifically, the members asked the SOPB to review: how often a SSOSA is imposed over the victim's objections and the court's reasons for doing so; consistencies or inconsistencies between jurisdictions in determining whether an offender is amenable to treatment and how this finding factors into the SSOSA determination; and once imposed, the rate of compliance with the terms of SSOSA sentences and the consequences for failing to comply.

The SOPB has established a subcommittee for the review with an expected completion date in November, 2013. Committee staff will monitor this discussion and update committee members as appropriate.

Other Projects:

PROJECT: Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Oversight Task Force

COMPLETION DATE: On-going **STAFF:** Joan Miller
786-7784

REFERENCES: [ESSB 5921 \(2011\)](#)
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/jointcommittees/LEWOTF/Pages/default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: ESSB 5921 created the Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Oversight Task Force to oversee the partner agencies' implementation of the redesign of the WorkFirst program and operation of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program to assure that the programs are achieving desired outcomes for their clients. The Task Force also has responsibility for determining evidence-based outcome measures and developing accountability measures for WorkFirst recipients. The Task Force must make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature in a variety of areas as well. SCS staff, along with House OPR staff and executive agency staff will provide support to the Task Force.

PROJECT: Child Care Improvement Task Force

COMPLETION DATE: December 31, 2013 **STAFF:** Shani Bauer
786-7468

REFERENCES: [2SSB 5595](#)

DESCRIPTION: In the 2013 legislative session, the legislature established a Task Force on child care improvement. The Task Force must provide a report and recommendations to the legislature no later than December 31, 2013. The Task Force must address the creation of a tiered reimbursement model, expansion of the early childhood education and assistance program, recommendations for market rate reimbursement, and options for graduating the copay scale to eliminate the cliff that occurs at subsidy cut off.

The Task Force consists of four Senators, two from each caucus, and four Representatives, two from each caucus. The Task Force is staffed by SCS and OPR. SCS staff will provide research and support to the Senators and draft legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7414

November	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	To be determined.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Senate Law Justice Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: Guardianships

COMPLETION DATE: To Be Determined

STAFF: Sharon Swanson
786-7447

REFERENCES: [SB 5694 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Guardianship is a legal arrangement where someone can handle the affairs of another. The "guardian" is entrusted with the care and custody of the "ward," and this usually includes control of all the assets of the ward as well as business and health care decision-making and substantial control over the affairs of daily living. A guardianship is established by a legal proceeding overseen by a judge or court commissioner who must make a finding that the "alleged incapacitated person" is unable to manage their own affairs and that there are not "lesser restrictive alternatives" which could be used to avoid the imposition of a guardianship. In 2013, SB 5694 was introduced, but was not enacted. The bill would have modified provisions relating to the appointment, qualification, removal, and duties of guardians in order to improve protections for incapacitated adults and would have required the administrator for the courts and a long-term care ombudsman to publish information regarding professional and lay guardians. Staff will prepare a summary of the protections provided to guardianship wards by Washington law and will consult with the administrator for the courts, the long-term care ombudsman, and other interested parties regarding possible changes to the guardianship provisions. Legislation may be drafted as directed.

PROJECT: Eminent Domain

COMPLETION DATE: To Be Determined

STAFF: Aldo Melchiori
786-7439

REFERENCES: [SB 5014 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Eminent domain is the government's power to acquire private property for public use by paying the property owner just compensation. A United States Supreme Court case, *Kelo v. City of New London*, held that economic development constitutes a valid public purpose for eminent domain. The Washington State Constitution forbids the government from using eminent domain to take private property for private use except for a few expressly stated exceptions. These exceptions include private ways of necessity, and drains, flumes, or ditches on or across the lands of others for agricultural, domestic, or sanitary purposes. In 2013, SB 5014 was introduced, but was not enacted. The bill defined permissible purposes for eminent domain to include streets, roads, highways, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, transportation corridors and rights of way, utility corridors and rights of ways, water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, sewage treatment facilities, landfills, park and recreational facilities, and schools. Staff will summarize the current state and use of eminent domain in Washington and survey the states to discern the permissible uses of eminent domain in each. Legislation may be drafted as directed.

PROJECT: Statewide Coordinating Committee on Sex Trafficking

COMPLETION DATE: December 2014

STAFF: Sharon Swanson
786-7447

REFERENCES: [ESHB 1291 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The statewide coordinating committee on sex trafficking is established to address the issues of sex trafficking, to examine the practices of local and regional entities involved in addressing sex trafficking, and to develop a statewide plan to address sex trafficking. The committee is administered by the Department of Commerce. Tasks of the committee include (a) gathering and assessing service practices from diverse sources regarding service demand and delivery; (b) analyzing data regarding the implementation and efficacy of sex trafficking legislation passed in recent; (c) receiving and reviewing reports, recommendations, and statewide protocols as implemented in the pilot sites selected by the center for children and youth justice regarding commercially sexually exploited youth; and (d) gathering and reviewing existing data, research, and literature to help shape a plan of action to address human trafficking in Washington. The committee will meet twice and, by December 2014, produce a report on its activities, together with a statewide plan to address sex trafficking in Washington. Staff will provide support for the Senators appointed to the committee and draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: Washington Impaired Driving Work Group

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Aldo Melchiori
786-7439

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 5912 \(2013\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Washington impaired driving work group was established to study effective strategies to reduce vehicle-related deaths and serious injuries that are a result of impaired driving incidents in Washington. Fifteen possible strategies are specifically identified for discussion. The work group is composed of 29 members representing a broad variety of interested parties as well as four legislators. The Washington Traffic Safety Commission convenes the work group. The work group's findings and recommendations are to be provided in a report to the legislature and governor by December 1, 2013. Staff will provide support for the Senators appointed to the committee and draft legislation as directed.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7455

September 11, 2013 1:30 p.m.	Full Committee Work Session/Public Hearing	Market Pl. Tower Penthouse A 2025 First Ave. Seattle, WA	1. Conscience Clauses. 2. Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (HB 1000) 3. Electronic Signatures. Public Hearing on Gubernatorial Appointments.
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October 8, 2013 1:30 p.m.	Full Committee Work Session/Public Hearing	Steilacoom City Hall Steilacoom, WA	1. Guardianships (SB 5694). 2. Wrongful Death. Public Hearing on Gubernatorial Appointment.
November 12, 2013 1:30 p.m.	Full Committee Work Session/Public Hearing	Gonzaga University Spokane, WA	1. Human Trafficking. 2. Supreme Court Review of Divergent Court of Appeals Decisions. 3. Emerging issues in patent law. Public Hearing on Gubernatorial Appointment.
November Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session/Public Hearing	Olympia, WA	1. Eminent Domain. 2. Traffic Safety Prosecutors (see SB 5024 partial veto) 3. DUI workgroup. 4. Human Trafficking Update. Public Hearing on Gubernatorial Appointment.

Senate Natural Resources & Parks Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: State Parks Funding and Operation

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Curt Gavigan
786-7437

REFERENCES: [ESSB 5897](#)

DESCRIPTION: Between 2001 and 2012, the Legislature took a number of policy and fiscal actions related to the funding of State Parks. These include, at various times, the use of funding mechanisms including parking fees, voluntary donations, various fund transfers, and Discover Pass sales for the support of State Parks. In 2013, the Legislature passed ESSB 5897 which, among other provisions, provided \$5 million per fiscal year in litter tax revenue for the operations and maintenance of State Parks through the 2015-2017 biennium. The 2013 operating budget provides an additional \$8.35 million in GF-S support for State Parks for the biennium. Additionally, an operating budget proviso directs State Parks to report in October 2013 on its fiscal health and efforts to increase revenue from all sources, including the Discover Pass. Senate committee staff will monitor the implementation of ESSB 5897 as well as continuing developments relating to State Parks operations, and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

PROJECT: Wildlife Interactions & Management

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Curt Gavigan
786-7437

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 5193](#), [SB 6760](#)

DESCRIPTION: A number of bills relating to wildlife interaction and management were before the legislature in the 2013 session. For example, the Legislature considered a number of wolf-related bills including E2SSB 5193, which passed the Legislature. The bill specifically authorized up to \$50,000 per year in payments for livestock damaged caused by wolves and increased the cost of a Personalized License Plate by \$10 with the additional funding used for non-game species management. Additionally, the Legislature considered but did not pass SB 6760, which would have opened up the current livestock damage compensation program to damage caused by bighorn sheep. The 2013 operating budget included a number of related provisions, including directing the Department of Fish and Wildlife to use additional wildlife conflict specialists in certain parts of the state. Senate committee staff will monitor the implementation of relevant policy and budget provisions as well as continuing developments, and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

PROJECT: Derelict Vessels Bill Implementation & Stakeholder Process

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Curt Gavigan
786-7437

REFERENCES: [ESHB 1245](#)

DESCRIPTION: In 2002 the Legislature established what has become known as the Derelict Vessel Removal Program (DVRP), which is administrated by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Under the program certain state agencies and local governments, including DNR, have the authority to take custody and dispose of abandoned or derelict vessels on aquatic lands within their jurisdiction.

In 2013, the Legislature passed ESHB 1245 which made a number of changes to the DVRP including: Making permanent a temporary \$1 surcharge on vessel registrations set to expire on January 1, 2014; authorizing a voluntary vessel turn-in program to accept high risk vessels; and requiring an owner obtain a vessel inspection prior to selling a vessel that is over 65 feet long and 40 years old. The bill also directed DNR to oversee a stakeholder process to evaluate and recommend additional options relating to: Vessel owner responsibility; and enhancing opportunities for deconstructing derelict vessels and transforming them into a viable scrap metal product. Senate committee staff will monitor the implementation of ESHB 1245, monitor the stakeholder process, and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7419

Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Hunter education & safety.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session or Tour	Location to be announced	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session or Tour	Location to be announced	Agenda items to be announced.
November Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Trade & Economic Development Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: International Trade

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Edward L. Redmond
786-7471

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Washington's economy relies heavily on international trade. To promote international trade, the Washington State Department of Commerce operates an International Trade Program. In addition to the programs operated by the State of Washington, a number of international trade organizations and associations provide international trade services to Washington business. During the 2013 session, the committee organized work sessions to identify the role of government and the private sector on the delivery of trade promotion support and technical assistance to state-based small and medium-sized businesses. Staff will continue to review the services performed by the state and international trade organizations to determine what opportunities exist for further public/private collaboration in order to efficiently leverage resources to promote international trade. The committee will also review current policies on freight and infrastructure that supports international trade. Legislation will be drafted as requested

PROJECT: Tourism

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Edward L. Redmond
786-7471

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Tourism is a significant sector in Washington's economy, bringing in economic activity from both national and international visitors. Recently, the State of Washington closed the Tourism Office in the Department of Commerce. During the 2013 session, stakeholders briefed the committee on the current state of the tourism industry and provided short and long-term funding recommendations. The 2013-15 budget includes \$1 million for the Washington Tourism Alliance to continue tourism activities. Staff will continue to work with stakeholders to evaluate options for long-term funding of tourism promotion in Washington. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: Gross Margin Tax

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Jeff Olsen
786-7428

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: The Business and Occupation tax is levied on businesses based on their gross business income. During the 2013 session, alternatives to the Business and Occupation tax were discussed, including the gross margin tax. Staff will continue to work with stakeholders to evaluate alternatives to the Business and Occupation tax, including the gross margin tax, to determine the impact of the alternatives on Washington's economy. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: **Apprenticeship Program**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013

STAFF: Jeff Olsen
786-7428

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Washington's apprenticeship program provides training opportunities for individuals to acquire skills in a trade or craft. Many apprenticeship program opportunities are concentrated in the building trades. During the 2013 legislative session, stakeholders discussed the apprenticeship program. South Carolina has been successful in expanding apprenticeship training opportunities to a number of different areas of employment. Staff will continue to work with stakeholders to evaluate opportunities to provide apprenticeship training opportunities in a variety of other fields. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7409

November	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	1. International Trade.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		2. Tourism.
			3. Gross Margins Tax.
			4. Apprenticeship Program.

Senate Transportation Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: NTSB Report of the I-5 Skagit River Bridge Collapse

COMPLETION DATE: 2014 Regular Session **STAFF:** Kelly Simpson/Kim Johnson
786-7403/786-7472

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will monitor the work of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) as it completes its report concerning the May 23 collapse of the I-5 Skagit River Bridge. The NTSB is charged with not only determining the cause of the bridge collapse but with making recommendations intended to prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future. Committee staff will review the recommendations identified in the NTSB's final report, conduct further research as appropriate, and assist with draft legislation as directed. Staff will also report to legislators as necessary regarding any updates regarding the work of the NTSB.

PROJECT: Tacoma Narrows Bridge Internal Refinance Study

COMPLETION DATE: December 31, 2013 **STAFF:** Clint McCarthy
786-7319

REFERENCES: [ESSB 5024 - SEC. 204 \(4\) \(2013\)](http://www.leg.wa.gov/JTC/Pages/default.aspx)
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/JTC/Pages/default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will participate in a workgroup with staff from the Joint Transportation Committee, the House Transportation Committee, the Department of Transportation, the Washington State Transportation Commission, and the State Treasurer's Office to identify and evaluate internal refinance opportunities for the Tacoma Narrows Bridge.

PROJECT: Road Usage Charge Assessment Steering Committee

COMPLETION DATE: December 15, 2013 **STAFF:** David Ward/Amanda Cecil
786-7341/786-7429

REFERENCES: [ESSB 5024 - SEC. 205 \(3\) \(2013\)](http://waroadusagecharge.wordpress.com/)
<http://waroadusagecharge.wordpress.com/>

DESCRIPTION: During the 2013 interim, staff will continue to support and monitor the activities and progress of a Transportation Commission and Department of Transportation convened steering committee charged with developing a business case and preliminary policies to transition the state fuel excise taxes to a road user assessment system of paying for transportation. The steering committee will include a member from each of the two largest caucuses of both the Senate and the House, as well as members representing various transportation interest groups. The Commission will update the Governor and the Legislature on this work by December 15, 2013, and include a plan and budget request for related work to be completed during the 2015 fiscal year.

PROJECT: New Transportation Capital Projects Budget Development System

COMPLETION DATE: November 2013

STAFF: Amanda Cecil/Hayley Gamble
Clint McCarthy/David Ward
786-7300

REFERENCES: <http://leap.leg.wa.gov/leap/default.asp>

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will participate with staff from the House Transportation Committee and the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP) to design and test a new computer system for transportation capital projects budget development. The new system and interface will replace the old CapProjects system and will increase functionality of budget development and reporting in time for the 2014 Supplemental budget development cycle.

PROJECT: Surplus Property Proceeds Review

COMPLETION DATE: To Be Determined

STAFF: Hayley Gamble
786-7452

REFERENCES: [ESSB 5024 - SEC. 204 \(5\) \(2013\)](http://www.leg.wa.gov/JTC/Pages/default.aspx)
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/JTC/Pages/default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will participate in a workgroup with staff from the Joint Transportation Committee, the House Transportation Committee, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to review and provide recommendations to the Legislature if requested on possible options for the use of DOT surplus property proceeds to fund other facility investments. Committee staff will work with interested Legislators to further refine the scope and deliverables of this study.

PROJECT: Special Parking Placard Abuse Prevention Work Group

COMPLETION DATE: December 1, 2013

STAFF: Kim Johnson
786-7472

REFERENCES: [SESSB 5024 - SEC. 208 \(9\) \(2013\)](http://www.leg.wa.gov/JTC/Pages/default.aspx)

DESCRIPTION: The 2013 Legislature directed the Department of Licensing to convene a work group to examine the use of parking placards and special license plates for persons with disabilities and develop a strategic plan for ending any abuse. Stakeholder groups that must be represented in the work group include the Department of Health, disabled citizen advocacy groups, and representatives from local government. The strategic plan developed by the work group must include appropriate oversight measures to ensure that special parking placards are being properly issued. The work group must provide the strategic plan to the Legislature by December 1, 2013. Committee staff will monitor the work group and analyze any legislation that the work group recommends in preparation for the 2014 Legislative session.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7300

November	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Senate Ways & Means Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2013 Interim

PROJECT: 2014 Citizen's Guide to the Budget

COMPLETION DATE: January 2014

STAFF: Kellee Keegan
786-7716

REFERENCES: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/WM/Pages/default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: The Senate Ways & Means Committee and Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee (LEAP) will publish 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. The guide is published on an annual basis because of significant changes in supplemental budget sessions. The guide will be updated before the 2014 Legislative Session.

PROJECT: 2013-15 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budget Requests

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Senate Ways and Means
Committee Staff
786-7715

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Senate Ways & Means staff will prepare for development of the 2013-15 supplemental operating and capital Senate budget proposals by: (1) working with the Office of Financial Management and House Ways & Means staff in creating an agreed-upon carry forward level of previous budgets; (2) reviewing 2013-15 agency budget requests; (3) evaluating the Governor's budget proposal submitted in December 2012; and (4) creating various budget policy options related to member interests.

PROJECT: Legislative Budget Notes

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Senate Ways and Means, House
Ways and Means, and LEAP
Committee Staff
786-7715/786-7100

REFERENCES: NA

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 budget. The Legislative Budget Notes are used by Legislators, legislative staff, state agencies, and the general public to determine the legislative intent behind the hundreds of policy changes embedded in the three major budget documents.

PROJECT: Caseload Forecast Council Technical (Staff) Workgroups

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Michael Bezanson/Carma Matti-Jackson/Lorrell Noahr
786-7715

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Staff will monitor changes and trends and provide input regarding caseload forecasts for entitlement programs for the public schools, medical assistance, long-term care, developmental disabilities, foster care, adoption support, general assistance, corrections and juvenile rehabilitation. The caseload forecasts are used to develop the majority of the budgets for these programs. The workgroups meet periodically and include staff from the Senate Ways & Means Committee, House Ways & Means Committee, Caseload Forecast Council, Office of Financial Management, and the Department of Social and Health Services.

PROJECT: 4 Year Balanced Budget & Outlook

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Richard Ramsey/Dean Carlson/
Steve Jones
786-7715

REFERENCES: [E3SSB 5034](#)

DESCRIPTION: Beginning with the 2013-2015 biennium, E3SSB 5034 requires that budgets at time of passage be projected to be balanced for current and following biennia based on a maintenance level projection. Each November, the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council (ERFC) must submit a budget outlook document for state revenues and expenditures for the General Fund and related funds for the current biennium and the next ensuing biennium. The ERFC must also prepare a budget outlook document for the Governor's proposed budget and for the budget enacted by the Legislature. To assist the council in the preparation of the state budget outlooks, a State Budget Outlook Workgroup is created, consisting of one staff person from the Office of Financial Management, the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee, the Office of the State Treasurer, the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, the Caseload Forecast Council, the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee. Staff will participate in the workgroup and provide other kinds of technical assistance.

PROJECT: 2014 Legislative Guide to Washington State Property Taxes

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Juliana Roe/Dean Carlson
786-7438/786-7305

REFERENCES: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/WM/>

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will create a Legislative Guide to Washington's Tax Structure to provide a simple resource for members, legislative staff, and the general public that describes how, and from where, Washington obtains its tax revenue.

PROJECT: **Legislative-Executive Workfirst Oversight Task Force**

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Michael Bezanson
786-7439

REFERENCES: [ESSB 5921 \(2011\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: ESSB 5921 (2011) created the Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Oversight Task Force to oversee the partner agencies' implementation of the redesign of the WorkFirst program and operation of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program to assure that the programs are achieving desired outcomes for their clients. The Task Force also has responsibility for determining evidence-based outcome measures and developing accountability measures for WorkFirst recipients. The task force must make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature in a variety of areas as well. Human Services & Corrections, Ways and Means, House OPR staff and executive agency staff will provide support to the Task Force.

PROJECT: **Child Care Improvements for the Future**

COMPLETION DATE: December 31, 2013

STAFF: Michael Bezanson
786-7439

REFERENCES: [2SSB 5595](#)

DESCRIPTION: 2SSB 5595 created a legislative task force on child care improvement. The task force must provide a report and recommendations to the legislature no later than December 31, 2013 addressing the following: creation of a tiered reimbursement model; development of recommendations and an implementation plan for expansion of the early childhood education and assistance program; development of recommendations for market rate reimbursement; and development of recommendations for a further graduation of the copay scale to eliminate the cliff that occurs at subsidy cut off. Human Services & Corrections, Ways and Means and House OPR staff will provide support to the Task Force.

PROJECT: **Health Care Oversight, Joint Select Committee**

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Michael Bezanson/Carma Matti-
Jackson
786-7439/786-7454

REFERENCES: [ESSCR 8401](#)

DESCRIPTION: ESSCR 8401 established a Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight. The committee must provide oversight of health care agencies to ensure that the agencies are not duplicating their efforts. The Committee must coordinate with DSHS to monitor health care cost trends. The Committee must also, as necessary, propose legislation and budget recommendations to the Legislature. Health Care, Ways and Means and House OPR staff will provide staff support to the Joint Select Committee.

PROJECT: Legislative Advisory Committee to the Guaranteed Education (GET) Committee

COMPLETION DATE: On-going **STAFF:** Maria Hovde
786-7710

REFERENCES: [3ESHB 2127 \(2012\)](#), [RCW 28B.95.170](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislative Advisory Committee is required by law to meet at least once annually to provide advice to the GET Committee and the State Actuary regarding administration of the GET program including, but not limited to, pricing guidelines, the tuition unit price, and the unit payout value. Legislative staff will coordinate any meetings of the advisory committee and will provide assistance to the advisory committee as necessary.

PROJECT: Aging and Disability, Joint Legislative Executive Committee

COMPLETION DATE: December 1, 2014 **STAFF:** Carma Matti-Jackson
786-7454

REFERENCES: [E3SSB 5034](#)

DESCRIPTION: E3SSB 5034 creates the Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues. By December 2014, the committee must develop a strategy to build capacity to meet the demands of Washington's elderly and disabled populations in such areas as improving the efficiency of long-term care services and supports, making caregiver supports available, promoting the use of technology and chronic care management, developing specialized resources, and providing housing and transportation options. An interim report is due to the legislature by December 10, 2013. Health Care, Ways and Means, House OPR staff, the Office of Financial Management, and the Department of Social and Health Services will provide staff support to the committee.

PROJECT: Options to Improve Capital Budget Support of K-12 Policy Objectives

COMPLETION DATE: December 2013 **STAFF:** Brian Sims/Lorrell Noahr
786-7431/786-7708

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will review available literature on the relationship between quality and design of school facilities and student performance. The project will also develop options for capital budget support of specialized facilities such as skills centers and lab space for science and engineering instruction.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2013 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7715

November	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Additional Electronic Resources

[Senate Website](#)

[Senate Committee Services Website](#)

[Bills Passed During the 2013 Regular and Second Special and
Third Special Legislative Sessions](#)

[TVW Archives](#)