

House of Representatives Office of Program Research

2020 Interim Plans

Office of Program Research
Washington House of Representatives
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June 2020

**Office of Program Research
Washington House of Representatives**

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APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impacts of COVID-19 on the Operating Budget and the Budget Outlook - Update on Wildfire Related Activities and Costs - Report on the K-12 Pupil Transportation System - Report on Integrating Early Learning Programs Administered by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction 	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impacts of COVID-19 on the Operating Budget and the Budget Outlook - Update on Housing and Homelessness Appropriations in the 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget - Self-Insurance Liability Account Temporary Deficiency - 2021 Session Preview 	Full Committee

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APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Impacts of COVID-19 on the Operating Budget and the Budget Outlook

The Committee will receive information related to emergency and ongoing efforts to address the many repercussions of COVID-19 and the costs associated with those efforts. This includes a summary of federal assistance received by the state and state assistance provided to local governments. The Committee will also receive information related to the impacts of COVID-19 on the budget outlook. (Two work sessions)

Update on Wildfire Related Activities and Costs

The Committee will receive an update on efforts to prevent and respond to wildfires in the summer and early fall and the costs associated with those activities. The Committee will also receive an update on a zero-based budget and performance review of the Resource Protection Program. (One work session)

Report on the K-12 Pupil Transportation System

The Committee will be presented with a report on the K-12 pupil transportation funding system that is required by section 128(13) of the 2020 Supplemental Operation Budget (ESSB 6168). The Office of Financial Management, in consultation with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), must review and report on the pupil transportation funding system, including: (1) the formula components and modeling approach currently used; (2) data and timing requirements; and (3) the capacity and resources of OSPI to produce a pupil transportation funding analysis. The report is due August 1, 2020. (One work session)

Report on Integrating Early Learning Programs Administered by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

The Committee will be presented with a report on integrating early learning programs in the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) that is required by section 128(14) of the 2020 Supplemental Operation Budget (ESSB 6168). The Office of Financial Management, in collaboration with the DCYF and OSPI, must report on options and recommendations for administrative efficiencies and long-term strategies to integrate early learning programs administered by the DCYF and OSPI. The report is due September 1, 2020. (One work session)

Update on Housing and Homelessness Appropriations in the 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget

The Committee will receive an update on the implementation of various housing and homelessness appropriations made in the 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget (ESSB 6168). These General Fund-State appropriations include \$60 million for shelter capacity grants, \$55 million to the Housing Trust Fund for projects addressing affordable housing and homelessness, \$15 million for permanent supportive housing, and \$15 million for housing and essential needs. (One work session)

Self-Insurance Liability Account Temporary Deficiency

The Committee will be presented with a report on the recent increase in tort claims/payouts and recommendations to reduce future claims/payouts that is required by section 147(11) of the 2020 Supplemental Operation Budget (ESSB 6168). Several large tort payouts resulted in the Director of the Office of Financial Management authorizing a temporary cash deficiency for the Self-Insurance Liability Account. The Department of Enterprise Services must work with the Department of Children, Youth, and Families and the Office of the Attorney General to study the increase in tort claims and payouts, determine the root causes for the increases, and develop recommendations to reduce claims and payouts. The report is due November 1, 2020. (One work session)

2021 Session Preview

The Committee will receive a preview of major budget issues in addition to the impacts of COVID-19 that are likely to be considered in the 2021 session. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

1. Behavioral Health Recovery System Transformation Task Force
2. Joint Select Committee on Employment Relations
3. Pension Funding Council

CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Affordable Housing and Homelessness	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- K-12 School Capital Needs	Full Committee

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CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Affordable Housing and Homelessness

The Committee will receive information on the recent affordable housing and homelessness capital investments and any additional capital investments needed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (One work session)

K-12 School Capital Needs

The Committee will receive information on the School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP), distressed schools, seismic safety, lead water testing, skill centers, Career and Technical Education (CTE), and 21st Century learning space, and other topics. (One work session)

CIVIL RIGHTS & JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Landlord-Tenant and Foreclosure Issues - Civil Legal Aid Needs - COVID-19 Impacts on Washington Courts 	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep Washington Working Act Update - Implementation of Open Courts Legislation - Implementation of the Uniform Guardianship Act - Involuntary Treatment Act - Single Point of Contact Firearms Background Check System 	Full Committee

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CIVIL RIGHTS & JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Landlord-Tenant and Foreclosure Issues

Over the last several years, the Committee has considered a variety of legislation related to: (1) tenancies and unlawful detainer actions under both the Residential Landlord Tenant Act and the Manufactured/Mobile Home Landlord Tenant Act; and (2) the Foreclosure Fairness Act. The Committee will receive a briefing and updates regarding these laws and the legal processes established by these laws, as well as an overview of COVID-19 impacts upon landlords, tenants, and homeowners. (One work session)

Civil Legal Aid Needs

The Office of Civil Legal Aid (OCLA) is an independent judicial branch agency responsible for the administration and oversight of state funds appropriated to provide civil legal aid services to low-income persons. The OCLA is overseen by an 11-member bipartisan oversight committee. The Committee will receive an update from the OCLA regarding: civil legal needs in the state, including the impact of COVID-19 on these needs; professional staffing and pro bono capacity; and the technology-based tools that have been developed to assist low-income persons. (One work session)

COVID-19 Impacts on Washington Courts

The Committee will receive a briefing and updates from the Judicial Branch on COVID-19 and its impact upon Washington's court system. (One work session)

Keep Washington Working Act Update

In 2019 the Keep Washington Working Act (Act) was enacted. (E2SSB 5497) Among other things, the Act tasked the Office of the Attorney General with developing model policies limiting immigration enforcement in public schools, health facilities operated by the state or its political subdivisions, courthouses, and shelters to ensure safe access for Washington residents regardless of immigration or citizenship status. The Committee will receive a briefing on progress to date on the model policies. (One work session)

Implementation of Open Courts Legislation

In 2020 the Courts Open to All Act (Act) was enacted. (SBH 2567) The Act in part establishes court processes in the event of state or federal law enforcement civil action at court facilities and requires courts to report quarterly to the Administrative Office of the Courts on those actions. The Committee will receive an update on preliminary steps taken by courts to implement the Act. (One work session)

Implementation of the Uniform Guardianship Act

In 2019 the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Other Protective Arrangements Act (Act) was enacted, as adapted for Washington. (2SSB 5604) The Act repealed existing state guardianship laws and laws on nonparental actions for child custody effective January 1, 2021, and replaces them with new provisions related to guardianships, conservatorships, and protective arrangements for both minors and adults. In 2020 Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6287 delayed the repeal of the statutes related to adult guardianships of the person and the estate until January 1, 2022. The Committee will receive an update from stakeholders to discuss the steps being taken to implement the Act, training needs, and related recommendations.

(One work session)

Involuntary Treatment Act

In 2020 Second Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5720 was enacted. The legislation makes numerous changes to both the adult and minor Involuntary Treatment Acts, including the expansion of the initial involuntary detention period from 72 hours to 120 hours. The legislation also establishes the Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) Work Group which is tasked with evaluating the effect of the changes to the ITA and other vulnerabilities in the involuntary treatment system. The Committee will receive an update from the ITA Workgroup on its progress toward implementation of the 120-hour initial detention period. The Committee will also receive an update on the impact of COVID-19 on the behavioral health system.

(One work session)

Single Point of Contact Firearms Background Check System

The Committee will receive a report from the Washington State Patrol on its progress in establishing a single point of contact firearms background check system as required in Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2467.

(One work session)

COLLEGE & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Update on the Workforce Education Investment Act	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Data on Administrative Positions at Institutions of Higher Education	Full Committee

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COLLEGE & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Update on the Workforce Education Investment Act

In 2019 the Legislature passed Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2158, the Workforce Education Investment Act (WEIA). The WEIA renamed the State Need Grant to the Washington College Grant (WCG) and made multiple changes to the program, including expanding eligibility and establishing the program as an entitlement. As the WCG enters the first year of full implementation as an entitlement program, the Committee intends to receive a program update from the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC). The Committee will receive data on the WCG, including whether there has been increased demand and how many students are eligible for the program, and receive feedback from the WSAC on any implementation issues or concerns.

In addition, the Committee may receive updates from other programs or initiatives that were funded under the WEIA. (One work session)

Data on Administrative Positions at Institutions of Higher Education

Last year, the Committee had a work session on administrative costs in higher education, which included an overview from the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program on employee data at the public institutions of higher education. The employee data was categorized by faculty, classified staff, and exempt staff. While there is a larger increase in the exempt staff category over the other categories, the Committee was left uncertain about how many exempt staff are administrators. Therefore, the Committee intends to expand on this topic by gathering further information and data from the institutions on the exempt staff category, such as identifying the increase in administrators, such as deans, assistant deans, provosts, vice presidents, and directors. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

1. Joint Higher Education Committee

COMMERCE & GAMING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Marijuana Potency Policy Considerations - Marijuana-Related Scientific Research	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Reports by State Agencies on the Implementation of Previously Enacted Legislation, Significant Regulatory Issues, and Legislative Priorities for 2021	Full Committee

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COMMERCE & GAMING COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Marijuana Potency Policy Considerations

The Committee will examine policy considerations related to the potency of marijuana products in the regulated marijuana market. This will include examining the available types of marijuana products and their relative potencies and characteristics, relevant scientific research about possible health impacts associated with the potency of marijuana, and whether and how other jurisdictions regulate marijuana products with respect to product potency. (One work session)

Marijuana-Related Scientific Research

The Committee will study the status of marijuana-related scientific research, particularly in Washington, including an examination of current research projects, completed research projects and outcomes, future research projects and follow-up studies, and legal and financial barriers to research. (One work session)

Reports by State Agencies on the Implementation of Previously Enacted Legislation, Significant Regulatory Issues, and Legislative Priorities for 2021

The Committee will meet and confer with several agencies including the Liquor and Cannabis Board, the Gambling Commission, and the Horse Racing Commission, regarding ongoing policy and regulatory issues, implementation of recently enacted legislation, and proposals for new legislation. (One work session)

CONSUMER PROTECTION & BUSINESS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Reports from the Department of Financial Institutions and the Department of Licensing	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Report from the Office of Insurance Commissioner	Full Committee

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CONSUMER PROTECTION & BUSINESS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Reports from the Department of Financial Institutions and the Department of Licensing

The Committee will receive reports by the Department of Financial Institutions and the Department of Licensing on the implementation of previously enacted legislation, significant regulatory issues, legislative priorities for 2021, and COVID-19-related updates. (One work session)

Report from the Office of Insurance Commissioner

The Committee will receive a report by the Office of Insurance Commissioner on the implementation of previously enacted legislation, significant regulatory issues, legislative priorities for 2021, and COVID-19-related updates. (One work session)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Teaching and Learning Impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Teaching and Learning Impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020: K-12 Policy Lessons	Full Committee

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Teaching and Learning Impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020

The Committee will examine how teaching and learning have been impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020 and how ongoing impacts will affect students, teachers, families, and the administration of the 2020-21 school year. (One work session)

Teaching and Learning Impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020: K-12 Policy Lessons

The Committee will examine the efficacy of K-12 education policies and requirements that were disrupted, modified, or otherwise impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020. The examination will include responses to improve teaching and learning for all groups of public school students, particularly those addressing disparities and inequities revealed by the outbreak. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

1. Task Force on Improving Institutional Education Programs and Outcomes

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Preventing and Responding to Spills of Oil and Hazardous Substances - Growth Management Act	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Air Quality and Coronavirus	Full Committee

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ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Preventing and Responding to Spills of Oil and Hazardous Substances

The Committee will receive an update on the implementation of new measures to reduce spills risks in Washington, including new tug escort requirements for certain vessels in portions of Puget Sound. (One work session)

Growth Management Act

The Committee will monitor ongoing assessments and conversations regarding the state's Growth Management Act and related laws. (One work session)

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Committee will monitor and receive updates on the implementation of laws enacted in 2019 and 2020 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including the Clean Energy Transformation Act, restrictions on hydrofluorocarbon pollutants, efforts to reduce food waste, and efforts to reduce emissions from the built environment. The update will include content related to several reports due to the Legislature during the fall and winter of 2020. The Committee will also continue to pursue the development of carbon pricing legislation, including the development of greenhouse gas emission reduction policies that rely on market-based compliance mechanisms. (One work session)

Air Quality and Coronavirus

The Committee will receive an update on how air quality in Washington changed over the course of 2020 as a result of changes to economic and transportation patterns caused by the COVID-19 virus and associated measures to mitigate the virus's effects. The Committee will also explore expert analyses of the relationship between air quality metrics and negative health outcomes associated with illness from COVID-19. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

1. Joint Committee on Energy Supply and Energy Conservation

FINANCE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Tax Structure Work Group - Economic and Revenue Issues	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Economic and Revenue Issues	Full Committee

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FINANCE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Tax Structure Work Group

Section 137(2)(c) of Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1109 (2019) expanded the Tax Structure Work Group from 2017-18 to include additional members from the House of Representatives and the Senate plus a representative of the Governor, the Department of Revenue, the Washington Association of Cities, and the Washington Association of Counties. The duties of the Work Group over the next few years are enumerated in the proviso, and there are several milestones to be met. The Committee will receive a briefing on the status of the Work Group's efforts. (One work session)

Economic and Revenue Issues

The Committee will monitor the changes in the national and state economy with specific focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and recent changes to revenue policy. In addition, the Committee will monitor revenue and economic responses by the federal government as well as other states. This will include a timely staff presentation during the November meeting. The Committee will also receive a briefing on the November economic and revenue forecast as adopted by the Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council. (Two work sessions)

HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- COVID-19 Outbreak and Response	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- COVID-19 Outbreak and Response - Rural Health Care System	Full Committee

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HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

COVID-19 Outbreak and Response

The Committee will monitor, receive updates, and review recommendations from state agencies, facilities, health care providers, and others involved in the state's response to the COVID-19 outbreak. (Two work sessions)

Rural Health Care System

The Committee will hold a work session to examine the rural health care system, including rural health system financing and payment models, the state's critical access hospitals, the availability of specialty services, the provision of telemedicine services, and the shortage of health care providers. The Committee will review access to care challenges, including updates from relevant state agencies, and will explore policy options to increase access and improve the rural health care system. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

1. Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Planning for Aging and Disability Issues
2. Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight
3. Behavioral Health Recovery System Transformation Task Force

HOUSING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & VETERANS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water Safety and Boater Education - Housing Trust Fund Overview - Public Housing Authorities - Housing Finance Commission Updates 	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interbay Public Development Authority - Disaster Resiliency Work Group - Emergency Preparedness - Outdoor Advisory Group 	Full Committee

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HOUSING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & VETERANS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Water Safety and Boater Education

During the 2020 session, the Committee considered proposed legislation related to water safety and boater education. The Committee will review the current laws and policies related to these topics and consider potential new legislation for the 2021 session. (One work session)

Housing Trust Fund Overview

The Washington Housing Trust Fund Program (Housing Trust Fund) provides grants or loans to help communities develop and preserve affordable housing to meet the needs of low-income and special needs populations. Since 1986 the Housing Trust Fund has awarded over \$1 billion in funding and helped build or preserve over 50,000 units of affordable housing statewide. The Committee will receive an overview of the Housing Trust Fund and updates since the 2020 session. (One work session)

Public Housing Authorities

Washington's 34 public housing authorities provide housing to low-income persons through various federal, state, and local housing programs. The Committee will conduct one work session on the role of public housing authorities, including funding sources, population and areas served, and current housing and voucher inventories. (One work session)

Housing Finance Commission Updates

The Committee will receive a briefing from the Housing Finance Commission on the impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on its housing programs and any policy changes or updates that are needed to mitigate the impacts. (One work session)

Interbay Public Development Authority

During the 2020 session, the Committee considered proposed legislation related to the development of state-owned property located within the Ballard-Interbay Northend Manufacturing Industrial Center (Interbay Property). The Committee will consider issues related to the development of the Interbay Property and possible organizational and governance models for entities managing the development. (One work session)

Disaster Resiliency Work Group

In 2019 Substitute Senate Bill 5106 was enacted. This legislation established a work group to study and make recommendations on natural disaster and resiliency activities. The Committee will receive a briefing from the work group on its findings and recommendations. (One work session)

Emergency Preparedness

The Committee will review the state's response to the pandemic of respiratory disease caused by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). (One work session)

Outdoor Advisory Group

The Committee considers issues related to parks and outdoor recreation. The Committee will hear recommendations from stakeholders and agencies about the best way for the state to invest in, promote, and support outdoor recreation in Washington. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

1. Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs

HUMAN SERVICES & EARLY LEARNING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- COVID-19 Response from the Department of Social and Health Services.	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- COVID-19 Response from the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.	Full Committee

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**HUMAN SERVICES & EARLY LEARNING
COMMITTEE WORKPLAN**

COVID-19 Response from the Department of Social and Health Services.

The Committee will review the steps taken by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to respond to COVID-19 and consider the ongoing needs of families served by the DSHS. (One work session)

COVID-19 Response from the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

The Committee will review the steps taken by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to respond to COVID-19 and consider the ongoing needs of families served by the DCYF. (One work session)

INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Technology and Innovation as Part of a Pandemic Response - Broadband Accessibility and Digital Inclusion	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Post-Pandemic Economic Development - 2021 Legislative Agenda	Full Committee

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INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Technology and Innovation as Part of a Pandemic Response

Technology has a history of helping prevent, mitigate, and contain outbreaks of infectious diseases. Among recent examples are flu tracking and the use of wearable devices to inform more accurate models of influenza trends. The Committee will hold a work session to obtain a better understanding of how contact-tracing and other technologies, as well as innovation and the use of existing resources in the life sciences sector, can help respond to the current COVID-19 crisis and create a more robust future response to public health emergencies. (One work session)

Broadband Accessibility and Digital Inclusion

The spread of COVID-19 and the ensuing closure of schools and workplaces, as well as the increased need for telemedicine, have amplified existing broadband internet accessibility and digital inclusion issues. The Committee will receive an overview of the problem and possible solutions to closing the digital divide. (One work session)

Post-Pandemic Economic Development

The Committee will receive an assessment of the COVID-19 impacts on the state economy and learn about policies that other states and the federal government are pursuing to create post-pandemic economic growth. The Committee will also hear from stakeholders on how legislative policies can assist in economic development as the state emerges from the current public health crisis. (One work session)

2021 Legislative Agenda

In preparation for the 2021 session, the Committee will briefly review topics previously heard in the Committee and discuss the Committee's legislative agenda for the upcoming session. (One work session)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Local Government Resources - Annexation	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Affordable Housing - Special Purpose Districts Reporting Update	Full Committee

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Local Government Resources

The Committee will review local government resources, including: (1) the resources devoted to planning or handling appeals; (2) local government's existing resources, including the ability to bond; (3) the resources that the state may be able to provide or assist with, e.g., when plans require best available science or other technical resources; and (4) the possibility of sharing or otherwise leveraging resources between local governments. (One work session)

Annexation

The Committee will review annexation options available to local governments, the potential impact of annexation on residents within an annexed area, and local government best practices during annexations. (One work session)

Affordable Housing

The Committee will review possible barriers to local government's ability to incentivize affordable housing, including planning requirements, resource limitations, and the effect of regulations imposed on local governments by the Legislature. (One work session)

Special Purpose Districts Reporting Update

The Committee will review the effects of the passage of Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2588 on special purpose district financial reporting, as well as the possible need for additional legislation to require special purpose districts to disclose meetings, agendas, and other information in order to facilitate public participation. (One work session)

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Update from the Office of Corrections Ombuds - Nonprofit Organizations Operating within the Department of Corrections	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Responses to Domestic Violence - Victim-Centered, Trauma-Informed Criminal Justice	Full Committee

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

To sign up for e-mail notifications, including updates to meeting dates and times, please visit:
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WALEG/subscriber/new?>

For additional information, please contact Office of Program Research staff at 360-786-7147

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Update from the Office of Corrections Ombuds

The Office of Corrections Ombuds (Ombuds) within the Office of the Governor promotes awareness and understanding of the rights and responsibilities of incarcerated persons within the Department of Corrections (DOC), ensures compliance with relevant statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to DOC facilities, services, and treatment of incarcerated persons, and identifies system issues and responses for possible intervention by the Governor and the Legislature. The Ombuds has specific duties outlined in statute and reports annually to the Governor and the Legislature on its activities. The Committee will receive an update on the Ombuds' most recent report and a briefing on any identified issues for potential legislative response. (One work session)

Nonprofit Organizations Operating within the Department of Corrections

Several nonprofit community-based organizations provide services and programs inside state correctional facilities. Many of these programs are critical to supporting reentry and improving public safety. The Committee will receive briefings from select organizations and will further explore how the state should support their efforts. (One work session)

Responses to Domestic Violence

The Committee will receive an update from the Domestic Violence Work Groups of the Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission. Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1517 (2019) requires the Work Groups to report to the Legislature with recommendations on domestic violence risk assessments and perpetrator treatment. This includes, among other items, recommendations on legislative changes to mandatory arrest requirements in order to incorporate newly developed risk assessment strategies. (One work session)

Victim-Centered, Trauma-Informed Criminal Justice

The Committee will receive briefings from state agencies and non-profit organizations offering services to crime victims and their families, including the Crime Victim Compensation Program, the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy, and others. The Committee will assess potential gaps in services and evaluate policy changes and resources needed to support a victim-centered, trauma-informed criminal justice system. (One work session)

RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE, & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Voluntary Stewardship Program Overview - COVID-19-Related Impacts to Agricultural and Natural Resource Industries	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Water Policy Update - COVID-19-Related Impacts to Agricultural and Natural Resource Industries	Full Committee

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For additional information, please contact Office of Program Research staff at 360-786-7339

RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE, & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Voluntary Stewardship Program Overview

The Committee will invite the State Conservation Commission and Voluntary Stewardship Program (Program) partners to provide an overview of the Program, as well as an update on Program projects in the state. (One work session)

COVID-19-Related Impacts to Agricultural and Natural Resource Industries

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an effect on various agricultural and natural resources industries. During September Committee Assembly, the Committee will invite various state and industry players for a briefing on state and industry responses to the challenges posed by the pandemic. The Committee will hold a follow-up work session during the second committee assembly session for an update. (Two work sessions)

Water Policy Update

There are currently several active workgroups and task forces working on different aspects of water policy. The Committee will receive progress reports on several of these efforts including water transfers, water supply, and water resource mitigation. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

1. Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resource Mitigation
2. Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Supply

STATE GOVERNMENT & TRIBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Effects of COVID-19 on Elections and the 2020 Census	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Effects of COVID-19 on State Agencies and State Employees - Update on the Washington State Office of Equity	Full Committee

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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For additional information, please contact Office of Program Research staff at 360-786-7105

STATE GOVERNMENT & TRIBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Effects of COVID-19 on Elections and the 2020 Census

The Committee will receive information about how the COVID-19 pandemic affected special elections in April and primary elections in August. The Committee will receive information about what steps, if any, are being taken to prepare for the November general election in light of COVID-19. The Committee will also invite county auditors and the Office of the Secretary of State to speak about the extent to which pandemics or similar public health emergencies are included in their continuity of operations plans for elections, and whether any legislative action is necessary.

The Committee will also receive information about how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the 2020 Census, including changes to the census timelines and possible delays in census results that may affect the state. The Committee will consider whether any legislative action is necessary. (One work session)

Effects of COVID-19 on State Agencies and State Employees

The Committee will receive information from state agencies on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of state agencies and what recommendations, if any, state agencies have around government operations during a pandemic. The Committee will also examine and receive feedback on the impact of a pandemic on state employees, including the impact to state employees on child care.
(One work session)

Update on the Washington State Office of Equity

The Committee will monitor and receive feedback on the progress of the work being done related to the Washington State Office of Equity, established under Chapter 332, Laws of 2020. (One work session)

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	SUBJECTS	COMMITTEE
September Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- COVID-19 Impacts to Transportation - Capital Project Delivery and Underspending Patterns	Full Committee
Nov/Dec Committee Assembly	Olympia	Work Session	- Local and State Ferry Systems: An Update - Fish Passage Barrier Correction: An Update	Full Committee

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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For additional information, please contact Office of Program Research staff at 360-786-7145

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

COVID-19 Impacts to Transportation

The Committee will monitor and evaluate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to the state and local transportation systems. The Committee will consider the effects of the pandemic on revenues and resources, as well as on the provision of agency services and the delivery of projects. (One work session)

Capital Project Delivery and Underspensing Patterns

The Committee will evaluate underspensing patterns in the capital programs of state transportation agencies. The Department of Transportation and other agencies will provide an overview of the process by which capital programs are managed across bienniums, with a focus on project delivery within legislatively approved capital plans. The Committee will seek to determine the barriers to the efficient utilization of appropriated funds and to identify mechanisms to improve project delivery efficiency. (One work session)

Local and State Ferry Systems: An Update

The Committee will monitor developments in local and state ferry procurement and service. The focus will be on two topics:

1. The Puget Sound Regional Council's study of new passenger ferry service to assess potential new routes, identify future terminal locations, and make recommendations to accelerate the electrification of the ferry fleet.
2. Washington State Ferries' efforts concerning hybrid-electric vessels, including: the plan for and cost-benefit analysis of the deployment of hybrid-electric vessels throughout the ferry system; the status of the new hybrid-electric vessel construction; and the conversion of an existing Jumbo Mark II ferry to hybrid-electric propulsion. (One work session)

Fish Passage Barrier Correction: An Update

The Committee will monitor progress toward complying with the court injunction concerning fish passage barrier removal. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Fish and Wildlife Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board will provide an update on the correction of fish passage barriers, including lessons learned and ways in which efficiencies have been realized. (One work session)

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

Joint Legislative Action Committee