



Washington State Senate

2023 Interim

Committee Meeting Schedules and Work Plans

Compiled by Senate Committee Services on behalf of Committee Chairs, at the
request of the Facilities & Operations Committee

May 2023

2023 Senate Interim Plans

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To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:

[https://app.leg.wa.gov/committeeschedules/
Home#/0/01-01-2023/12-31-2023/Schedule///Bill/](https://app.leg.wa.gov/committeeschedules/Home#/0/01-01-2023/12-31-2023/Schedule///Bill/)

To sign up for e-mail notifications, including updates to meeting dates and times, please visit:

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Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
October 4-6	Tour	Spokane/ NE WA	Water storage and adjudication, cattle producers, wolf predation, and ungulate populations
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Forest Practices	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Jeff Olsen (360) 786-7428 Karen Epps (360) 786-7424
References: SB 5636 (2023)	
Forested lands are economically and ecologically valuable and forest practices conducted in urban areas may have significant impacts on neighboring landowners, residents, and urban ecology. Staff will research policy options for local governments to manage certain forest practices within urban areas and draft legislation as requested.	

Legislative Council on River Governance	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Jeff Olsen (360) 786-7428 Karen Epps (360) 786-7424
References: CSG-West - Legislative Council on River Governance	
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 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 the meeting will be held in Whitefish, Montana this year.	

Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424
References: Chapter 90.86 RCW ; 2SSB 5746 (2022) ; SHB 1138 (2023)	
The Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought may convene from time to time at the call of the chair when a drought advisory or drought emergency order is in effect or when the chair determines, in consultation with Ecology, it is likely such an order will be issued within the next year. When a drought conditions order is in effect, Ecology must provide the Drought Committee with at least monthly reports describing drought response activities of Ecology and other state and federal agencies. The Drought Committee is	

authorized to make recommendations to the Legislature on budgetary and legislative actions to improve the state's drought response programs and planning.

If a drought advisory or drought emergency order is declared, committee staff will provide support to the committee, assist as directed by members of the committee, and draft legislation as requested.

Business, Financial Services, Gaming & Trade

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September/ October	Work Session	To be determined	• Status of U.S. trade agreements with certain countries • Understanding barriers to expanding exports of Washington products • Identifying emerging markets in Asia for Washington products
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	• To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Washington's Trade Relationship with Asia	
Completion Date: October 31, 2023	Staff: Clint McCarthy (360) 786-7319
References: Governor's Office; Department of Commerce	
The Business, Financial Services, Gaming and Trade Committee will have a work session to develop a keen understanding of the trade relationships that Washington has with various Asian countries. Countries of particular interest include China, Japan, Taiwan, and India. As of 2022, eight of the ten largest two-way trading partners of Washington state were in Asia.	

Early Learning & K-12 Education

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
To be determined	Joint Select Committee on Governance and Funding for Institutional Education	To be determined	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Early Learning and K-12 Education Legislatively Created Groups with Legislative Members	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434 Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416 Ben Omdal (360) 786-7442
References: ESB 6620, Sec. 3 (2016) ; 2SHB 2737, Sec. 1 (2020) ; E2SSB 5828, Sec. 3 (2007) ; 2SSB 5973, Sec. 2 (2009) ; SHB 2455, Sec. 2 (2004) ; HB 2402 (2020) ; SSB 5248 (2009) ; SHB 1701 (2023) ; 2E2SHB 1661, Sec. 1010 (2017) ; SSB 6428, Sec. 15 and 17 (1992) ; 2SHB 1013, Sec.4 (2023) ; HB 1679, Sec. 1 (2023)	
The Legislature has created a number of councils, committees, task forces, work groups, and advisory groups with legislators as members. Committee staff will provide research and support to the individual legislators serving on the following legislatively created groups: • Annual School Safety Summit • Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group • Early Learning Advisory Council • Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee • Financial Education Public-Private Partnership • Graduation: A Team Effort Partnership Advisory Committee • Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children • Joint Select Committee on Governance and Funding for Institutional Education • Oversight Board for Children, Youth, and Families • State Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families • Work-Integrated Learning Advisory Committee and Subcommittee • Work Group to Address the Needs of Students in Foster Care, Experiencing Homelessness, or In or Exiting Juvenile Rehabilitation Facilities	

Joint Select Committee on Governance and Funding for Institutional Education	
Completion Date: December 2024	Staff: Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416 Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434 Kayla Hammer (360) 786-7305
References: SHB 1701 (2023)	
In 2023, the Legislature passed SHB 1701, establishing the Joint Select Committee on Governance and Funding for Institutional Education. The Committee must examine and evaluate revisions to statutes, funding formulae, funding sources, and operating and capital budget appropriation structure as necessary to assign the Superintendent of Public Instruction with the responsibility for the delivery and oversight of basic education services to youth in institutional education programs in facilities that are not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Social and Health Services or the Department of Corrections. The Committee must report its findings and recommendations, which may be in the form of draft legislation, by December 1, 2024. Committee staff will provide support to the Committee and assist with the report or draft legislation as directed.	

Parental Rights in K-12 Education Update	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434
References: Title 28A RCW ; Chapter 43.06B ; Title 392 WAC	
During the 2022 interim, staff identified and categorized state law, rules, and model policies that refer to and require certain actions involving parents, guardians, and families. These references were formatted into a table and organized into certain categories. Staff will review recently passed legislation for actions involving parents, guardians, and families and add any references to the table.	

Restraint and Isolation	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Ailey Kato (360) 786-7434
References: RCW 28A.600.485	
In 2013, the Legislature set out certain requirements when restraint or isolation was used on a student who has an individualized education program (IEP) or a plan developed under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These requirements included certain follow-up procedures and notifying parents or guardians. In 2015, these requirements were modified and expanded to all students. Current law permits restraint or isolation only when reasonably necessary to control spontaneous behavior that poses an imminent likelihood of serious harm. During the 2023 legislative session, HB 1479/SB 5559 concerning restraint and isolation of students in public education was considered but not enacted. Staff will review and summarize recent legislation regarding restraint and isolation in other states and draft legislation if directed.	

Teacher Preparation Programs	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Ben Omdal (360) 786-7442
References: Chapter 28A.410 RCW	
The Professional Educator Standards Board approves educator and teacher preparation programs in Washington State. During the 2022 interim, staff provided an overview of the program-approval procedure and program review process, recent legislative changes to content requirements in teacher preparation programs, and planned next steps in the review process. Staff will provide an overview of the teacher preparation programs available in the state. Staff will contact some of the larger programs and discuss how they are implementing changing requirements in the following areas: • mastery-based learning; • special education and inclusionary practices; and • technology and online learning. Staff will summarize these conversations and draft legislation if directed.	

Zero-Emission School Buses	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416
References: Chapter 28A.160 RCW , Chapter 392-142 and 392-143 WAC	
School districts are responsible for selecting, paying for, and maintaining student transportation vehicles. School districts that purchase buses through established competitive processes are eligible for state reimbursement funds that are based on the category of vehicle, the anticipated vehicle lifespan, and a state reimbursement rate. These state funds must be deposited in a school district's transportation vehicle fund and may be expended for purchases and repairs of pupil transportation vehicles. In 2022, the Legislature passed SHB 1644, which expanded the allowable uses of money from a transportation vehicle fund to include: • the purchase, installation, and repair of electric pupil transportation vehicle charging stations and other zero-emission fueling stations, and other costs necessary for their installation; • completing feasibility plans to transition from gas or diesel pupil transportation vehicles to electric or zero-emission pupil transportation vehicles; and • converting or repowering existing gas or diesel pupil transportation vehicles to electric or zero-emission pupil transportation vehicles. During the 2023 session, the Legislature considered SB 5431, to create a Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program, but it was not enacted. Staff will research and summarize the current depreciation schedule timelines for school districts in Washington. Staff will work with regional transportation coordinators and student transportation staff at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to identify any challenges that school districts may face when transitioning to zero-emission pupil transportation vehicles. In addition, staff will develop a list of zero-emission funding programs that are currently available to school districts.	

Pupil Transportation Funding Formula	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Alex Fairfortune (360) 786-7416
References: Chapter 28A.160 RCW , Chapter 392-141 WAC	
During the 2023 legislative session SB 5174, addressing the pupil transportation funding formula, was considered but not enacted. The bill considered expanding the definition of “to and from school” to include students participating in career-connected learning, creating a direct reimbursement or safety net system for distinct passenger categories, and modifying formula factors to address transportation challenges faced by rural and high-density districts. Staff will work with regional transportation coordinators and student transportation staff at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to determine which district and ridership characteristics could be considered when developing a new transportation formula. Staff will summarize these findings and draft legislation as directed.	

Environment, Energy & Technology

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June	Tour	Tri-Cities	Eastern Washington Energy Tour, includes visiting Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and the Columbia Generating Station along with other potential locations
Fall	Work Session	To be determined (outside of Olympia)	Implementation of the HEAL Act, Environmental Justice Council update, and discussion on defining overburdened communities
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	Updates from select statutory reports and Climate Commitment Act auctions and discussion on artificial intelligence

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Joint Committee on Energy Supply, Energy Conservation, and Energy Resilience/ Work Session	Virtual	Update from the Department of Commerce on its process for consulting with stakeholders and creating a report on rural clean energy and resilience due to the committee December 1, 2024.

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Producer Responsibility for Consumer Packaging	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: Greg Vogel (360) 786-7413
References: HB 1131 (2023)/SB 5154 (2023); SB 5697 (2022)	
In recent years, the Legislature has considered policies related to establishing product stewardship requirements for producers of consumer packaging and paper products. As part of the 2023-25 operating budget, the Department of Ecology must carry out activities to inform the development of legislative proposals to increase recycling and reuse rates, including consideration of how to design and implement a producer responsibility model for consumer packaging, which must include a performance rate targets study and community input process. A report about the activities must be submitted to the Legislature by December 2023. Committee staff will track the results of the study and community input process and draft legislation as requested.	

Statutory Work Groups and Committees Related to Energy	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Kim Cushing (360) 786-7421
References: Chapter 44.39 RCW	
Committee staff will monitor and provide updates on the various energy work groups and committees, which include the following: • The Joint Committee on Energy Supply, Energy Conservation, and Energy Resilience reviews plans proposed by the Governor for programs, controls, standards, and priorities for the production, allocation, and consumption of energy during any current or anticipated conditions of energy supply alert, or energy emergency, and make recommendations to the Governor for review. The Committee either approves or disapproves any request from the Governor regarding a declaration of a condition of energy emergency. Meetings are chaired by the Senate in odd-numbered years. • In ESSB 5200, Sec 1017(1) (Capital Budget) the Commerce Tier 1 Buildings Work Group is tasked to analyze financial investments required for owners of Tier 1 buildings to comply with the State Energy Performance Standard by December 15, 2023, and make recommendations to the Legislature to assist with compliance by September 1, 2024.	

Statutory Work Groups and Committees Related to Alternative Fuels and Technology	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Angela Kleis (360) 786-7469
References: ESSB 5447 (2023); 2SSB 5518 (2023); RCW 43.330.5395; RCW 43.105.285 and .287; ESSB 5544 (2022)	
Committee staff will monitor and provide updates on the various technology and alternative fuels work groups and committees, which include the following: • Washington State University must convene the Alternative Jet Fuels Work Group to further development of alternative jet fuel as a productive industry in Washington and provide recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by December 1, 2024, and each December 1st of every even-numbered year until December 1, 2028. • The Cybersecurity Advisory Committee, a subcommittee of the Emergency Management Council, is created to provide advice and recommendations that strengthen cybersecurity in both industry and public sectors across all critical infrastructure sectors. • The Digital Equity Forum, which is cofacilitated by the Statewide Broadband Office and the Office of Equity, is established to develop recommendations to advance digital connectivity in the state and to advise on the Digital Equity Opportunity Program and the Digital Equity Planning Grant Program. Recommendations must be transmitted to the Legislature by October 28, 2025, and every odd-numbered year thereafter. • The Technology Services Board is created within the Consolidated Technology Services Agency with a focus on information technology strategic planning, enterprise architecture, standards and policies, and major project oversight. • The Technology Services Board Security Subcommittee is created within the Technology Services Board to review emergent threats to critical infrastructure to identify gaps in state agency cybersecurity policies, assess emerging risks, recommend a reporting system to notify state agencies of new risks, recommend tabletop cybersecurity exercises, assist the	

Office of Cybersecurity in developing best practices recommendations, and review proposed policies.

- The Washington State Blockchain Work Group is established to examine various potential applications for blockchain technology. A report on potential uses and impacts of blockchain and recommended policies must be submitted to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2023.

Health & Long Term Care

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
July	Work Session	Olympia	- Medicaid PHE wind down - Blood donations - Certificate of Need
October	Tour	King County	Behavioral health continuum of care
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Joint Select Committee on Health Care and Behavioral Health Oversight/ Work Session	Olympia	To be determined
Assembly Days	Joint Select Committee on Health Care and Behavioral Health Oversight/ Work Session	Olympia	To be determined
To be determined	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Planning for Aging & Disability Issues/ Work Session	Olympia	To be determined
To be determined	Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Planning for Aging & Disability Issues/ Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Tour	
Completion Date: October	Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410 Kevin Black (360) 786-7747
The Health & Long Term Care Committee will tour facilities engaged in delivering the continuum of behavioral health services. The tour will include visits to Harborview Medical Center, the UW Behavioral Health Teaching Facility, and Compass Health. As requested by senators, legislation may be developed based on lessons learned from the tour.	

Joint Select Committee on Health Care and Behavioral Health Oversight	
Completion Date: December 2026	Staff: Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410
References: SSB 5121 (2023)	
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 and Behavioral Health Oversight will provide oversight between these agencies and organizations. Committee staff and House Health Care and Wellness Committee Staff will jointly staff the Joint Select Committee.	

Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Planning for Aging & Disability Issues	
Completion Date: June 30, 2025	Staff: Julie Tran (360) 786-7283
References: ESSB 5187, Sec 204 (2023)	
The Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability (Committee) was established in 2013 and will continue through June 2025. The Committee is charged with making recommendations and identifying key strategic actions to prepare for the aging of Washington's population. The Committee may focus on issues relating to the health care needs of aging people and people with disabilities; financing mechanisms for long-term services and supports; advance care planning and advance care directives; needs of the aging demographic impacted by reduced federal support; protecting the rights of vulnerable adults; promoting client safety through residential care services and protecting aging people and people with disabilities from physical abuse and financial exploitation; and housing, land use and transportation planning for communities to adapt to the aging demographic.	

Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee	
Completion Date: June 30, 2025	Staff: Kevin Black (360) 786-7747
References: E2SHB 1477 (2021), Sec. 103 ; E2SHB 1134 Sec. 6 (2023)	
The Crisis Response Improvement Strategy Committee was established in 2021 and will continue through June 2025. The Committee is charged with providing advice in developing an integrated behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention system with many elements and interlocking responsibilities. The Committee has a steering committee with appointed legislative members and six statutory subcommittees on diverse topics such as tribal needs, credentialing and training, technology, cross-system collaboration, confidential	

information compliance and coordination, and geolocation. It is required to submit two upcoming reports to the Governor and Legislature on January 1, 2024, and January 1, 2025, which are expected to drive further legislative policy change.

Telemedicine Collaborative

Completion Date: ongoing **Staff:** Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410

References: [SB 6163 \(2018\)](#) & [ESHB 1196 \(2021\)](#)

The Collaborative for the Advancement of Telemedicine was created to enhance the understanding of health services through telemedicine. The Collaborative is convened by the University of Washington Telehealth Services and participants include four legislators, representatives of the academic community, hospitals, clinics, health care providers, insurance carriers, and other interested parties.

Committee staff will monitor the Collaborative on behalf of the members of the Health & Long Term Care Committee. The Collaborative terminates June 30, 2025.

The Universal Health Care Commission

Completion Date: ongoing **Staff:** Greg Attanasio (360) 786-7410

References: [SB 5399 \(2021\)](#)

The Universal Health Care Commission was established to create immediate changes in Washington's health care access and delivery system and to prepare the state for the creation of a universal health care system for all Washington residents through a unified financing system once the necessary federal authority has become available. The Health Care Authority must staff the Commission. Committee staff will monitor the Commission on behalf of the Health and Long Term Care Committee.

The Commission must submit annual reports to the Governor and the Legislature beginning November 1, 2023, detailing its progress and identifying opportunities to advance the goal of universal coverage.

Home Care Safety Net Assessment Work Group

Completion Date: December 2024 **Staff:** Julie Tran (360) 786-7283

References: [SHB 1435 \(2023\)](#)

The Home Care Safety Net Assessment Work Group is established to develop a home care safety net assessment proposal to secure federal matching funds under the state's Medicaid plan or appropriate waivers. The Health Care Authority must staff the Work Group.

The Work Group must report its findings to the Governor and the Legislature by December 1, 2024. The report must include recommendations related to the elements necessary to adopt and implement a home care safety net assessment proposal that meets the requirements needed for federal approval.

Committee staff will monitor the Work Group on behalf of the Health & Long Term Care Committee.

Higher Education & Workforce Development COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
Late September	Work Session/Tour	Spokane	To be determined.
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined.

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Running Start/Dual Credit Articulation Policy Review	
Completion Date: November 2023	Staff: Alicia Kinne-Clawson/786-7407
Staff will collect data about Running Start courses taken by students over the last five years including: - average number of credits per student; - student enrollments by course; and - course delivery method-online or in-person. Staff will inventory dual enrollment/dual credit articulation policies in other states and provide a summary of those policies and practices.	

FAFSA Completion	
Completion Date: November 2023	Staff: Ben Omdal/786-7442
References: 2SHB 1835, 2SSB 5789	
Staff will provide an update on Washington Student Achievement Council challenge grants with a specific focus on any efforts related to FAFSA completion. In addition, staff will follow-up on implementation of 2SHB 1835 and related projects to increase FAFSA completion. Staff will also examine FAFSA completion policies and initiatives in other states.	

Health Care on College Campuses	
Completion Date: November 2023	Staff: Alicia Kinne-Clawson/786-7407
The public baccalaureate institutions offer a range of health care services on each of their college campuses. Staff will inventory what services are available at each location, how those services are funded, and what additional options for health care services enrolled students can participate in.	

Housing

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
July 26-27	Tour/Work Session	Southwest Washington	- Southwest Washington housing tour - Work Session: expanding housing accessibility and stability
October	Work Session	Pierce County	- Multi-family tax exemption program - Housing affordability
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	Expanding homeownership opportunities

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
To be determined	Covenant Homeownership Program Oversight Committee	To be determined	To be determined
To be determined	Covenant Homeownership Program Oversight Committee	To be determined	To be determined
To be determined	Covenant Homeownership Program Oversight Committee	To be determined	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Multi-Family Tax Exemption (MFTE) Program	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Riley Bengtson (360) 786-7491
References: ESSB 5092, Sec. 129(111) (2021) ; SB 5118 (2023)	
In the 2021 operating budget, the Legislature directed the Department of Commerce to conduct a study and report to the Legislature on city and county implementation of the MFTE tax exemption. The report must review whether the cities have practices in the following: - evaluating the financial feasibility and total cost of proposed developments under the exemptions; - monitoring rent, occupancy, and demographics of tenants of exempt housing; - identifying direct or indirect displacement risks, and changes in income and rent	

distributions associated with new housing development and plans and approaches; - identifying practices that encourage and permanent affordable rental opportunities; and - monitoring whether the exemption assists cities in meeting the goals under the Growth Management Act. Commerce must identify and provide an analysis for at least five case studies on a range of cities and estimate other state and local tax revenue generated by new housing developments and how it compares to the property tax exemption. Staff will continue to monitor the MFTE Program and provide any information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Homeless and Permanent Supportive Housing	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Melissa Van Gorkom (360) 786-7491
References: E2SHB 1277 (2021) ; SHB 1724 (2022) ; SSB 5386 (2023) ; ESB 5301 (2023)	
The Department of Commerce oversees several programs to provide housing support in the state of Washington. The Homeless Housing Program is implemented through a 5-year strategic plan developed, in consultation with the Affordable Housing Advisory Board, Interagency Council on Homelessness, and State Advisory Council on Homelessness. Any local government receiving state funds for homeless assistance or local homelessness document recording fees must provide an annual report on the current condition of homelessness in its jurisdiction, meeting the goals in its homeless housing strategic plan, and any significant changes to their homeless housing plan. The Legislature directed Commerce to contract with the William D. Ruckelshaus Center to conduct an examination of the trends affecting, and the policies guiding, the housing and services provided to individuals and families who are, or are at risk of homelessness. The center must facilitate discussions between the stakeholders to identify options and recommendations to develop and implement a long-term strategy to improve the outcomes and service for persons at risk or experiencing homelessness, and develop pathways to permanent housing solutions, including the manner and amount in which the state funds homelessness housing and services and performance measures that must be achieved to receive state funding. The final report is due to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2023. Staff will monitor work group, board, and advisory committee meetings and provide any information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.	

Covenant Homeownership Program	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Riley Bengtson (360) 786-7428
References: E2SHB 1474 (2023) ; ESSB 5187 (2023)	
The Legislature established a Covenant Homeownership Program to provide down payment and closing cost assistance to economically disadvantaged classes of persons. The Housing Finance Commission must complete an initial study by March 1, 2024 to: - document past and ongoing discrimination against Black, indigenous, and people of color and other historically marginalized communities and the impacts of this discrimination on homeownership; - analyze whether and to what extent existing programs and race-neutral approaches have been insufficient to remedy this discrimination and its impacts;	

- recommend and evaluate potential programmatic and policy changes to remedy this discrimination and its impacts, including the creation of one or more special purpose credit programs (SPCPs); and
- identify methodology to evaluate the efficacy of any recommended programmatic and policy changes over time.

The Department of Financial Institutions will establish an oversight committee to review the Commission's activities and performance related to the program, including the Commission's creation and administration of SPCPs.

Staff will monitor committee meetings and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Human Services

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
July 26-28	Tour	- Washington State Penitentiary (Walla Walla) - Tri-Cities Reentry Center (Kennewick) - Twin Rivers Community Facility (Richland)	Reentry services and supports in correctional and juvenile facilities.
September/October	Work Session	To be determined	To be determined
November/December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards	
Completion Date: December 1, 2023	Staff: Kelsey-anne Fung (360) 786-7479
References: ESSB 5092 (2021) , ESSB 5187 (2023)	
The Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards was established in 2021 through a budget proviso and was extended in the 2023-2025 operating budget. The task force must review, among other issues, adequacy of jail standards, current data on jails, and how local jails compare to jail standards and practices in other states. The task force is staffed by the Office of the Attorney General. The task force must report findings and recommendations to the Governor and appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2023. Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.	

Department of Children, Youth, and Families Oversight Board	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488
References: 2E2SHB 1661 (2017) ; Oversight Board	
In 2017, the Legislature created the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) and the Oversight Board for DCYF. The purpose of the board is to monitor and ensure DCYF achieves the stated outcomes of chapter 6, Laws of 2017 3rd sp. sess., and complies with	

administrative acts, relevant statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to early learning, juvenile rehabilitation, juvenile justice, and children and family services. Members of the board include two senators and two representatives from the Legislature.

Second Substitute Senate Bill 5331 (2021) directs early childhood court programs to collect and review its data, including data related to race and ethnicity of program participants, to assess its effectiveness and share this data with the board. The board is to share this data and hold or offer to assist in holding statewide meetings to support alignment to the core components and statewide consistency.

Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.

Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight Task Force

Completion Date: ongoing

Staff: Alison Mendiola (360) 786-7488

References: [E3SHB 1482 \(2018\)](#); [Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Task Force](#)

This task force oversees the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and WorkFirst programs and works collaboratively to develop and monitor strategies to prevent and address adverse childhood experiences and reduce intergenerational poverty. Eight legislative members are appointed to the task force along with eight voting members from state agencies.

Staff will monitor meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.

Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group

Completion Date: December 26, 2026

Staff: Kelsey-anne Fung (360) 786-7479

References: [2SHB 2737 \(2020\)](#); [2SHB 1325 \(2021\)](#); [2SHB 1890 \(2022\)](#)

The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group was established in 2016 and expires in 2026. The work group is staffed by the Health Care Authority. The work group maintains six advisory subcommittees, including a new subcommittee added in legislation adopted in 2022.

Staff will monitor work group meetings, update members on progress, and draft legislation as requested.

Labor & Commerce

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
July 13	Work Session	Olympia	- Department of Labor and Industries updates on: - Prevailing wage - Apprenticeship utilization - Workers' compensation return to work
October	Work Session	Hybrid	Liquor & Cannabis Board updates on liquor and cannabis developing issues
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Apprenticeships	
Completion Date: December 31, 2023	Staff: Susan Jones (360) 786-7404 Jarrett Sacks (360) 786-7448
References: E2SSB 5600 (2022) , E2SSB 5764 (2022) , SHB 1458 (2023)	
Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5600 requires the following: - the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council to establish sector-based platforms to promote industry collaboration and review classroom and on-the-job training standards for apprenticeship programs, review and recommend applications for new apprenticeship programs to the Council, and collaborate with any relevant Centers of Excellence; - the Governor to establish a committee to develop apprenticeship programs for state agencies; - apprenticeship programs seeking approval to provide an assessment for future sustainability; - the Council, when evaluating applications for new apprenticeship programs, to consider whether graduating apprentices will move toward a living wage, the availability of a career ladder to graduating apprentices, or the existence of non-wage benefits as factors in the approval process; - the Department of Labor and Industries to perform an apprenticeship retention study and provide the Legislature a report on incentivizing apprenticeships and an assessment on the lack of local apprenticeship programs in rural communities and the logistical burdens apprentices in those areas encounter and to develop policy options for alleviating these issues. The legislation also establishes grants for technology and remote learning infrastructure modernization, wrap-around support services for apprentices, and updating necessary equipment in apprenticeship programs.	

Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5764, along with addressing other issues, requires the Washington Student Achievement Council to contract with the William D. Ruckelshaus Center to study, consult stakeholders, and report on further developing and improving opportunities for apprentices to receive credit towards degrees. The first report is due December 1, 2023.

The committee will conduct a series of work sessions on issues related to apprenticeships. The committee anticipates hearing presentations on apprenticeship utilization, updates on state funded apprenticeship grants and programs, reports required under E2SSB 5600 (2022) and E2SSB 5764 (2022), civic apprenticeships, and apprenticeships for certain industry sectors. Committee staff will provide support and assistance in planning the work sessions and conduct research as requested.

Substitute House Bill 1458 (2023) requires the Employment Security Department to convene a work group for the purpose of identifying and addressing legal and procedural barriers faced by eligible claimants participating in apprenticeship programs when those claimants seek timely access to unemployment insurance benefits. The Department must submit a report to the Legislature with findings and recommendations by December 1, 2023. Committee staff will monitor the work group and its meetings.

Paid Family and Medical Leave Program Solvency	
Completion Date: December 31, 2023	Staff: Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627
References: 2SSB 5649 (2022) ; SSB 5286 (2023)	
Second Substitute Senate Bill 5649 made various changes to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program (PFML), including creating a Legislative Task Force on PFML premiums to address temporary insolvency in the Family and Medical Leave Account. In December 2022, the Task Force submitted its final report, which recommended modifying the PFML premium rate calculation. Additionally, 2SSB 5649 requires the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) to complete a performance audit by October 2024, with a progress report by October 1, 2023. The audit must include a financial evaluation of PFML and a broader analysis of its implementation. In 2023, SSB 5286 enacted the Task Force's recommendations and modified the statutory formula for calculating premium rates. On or around October 20th of each year, the Employment Security Department must calculate the PFML premium rate using the new formula. Committee staff will monitor the JLARC performance audit progress report, the Department's calculation of the new premium rate, and draft legislation as directed.	

Psilocybin	
Completion Date: December 31, 2023	Staff: Matt Shepard-Koningsor (360) 786-7627
References: 2SSB 5263 (2023)	
Second Substitute Senate Bill 5263, along with addressing other issues, requires the Health Care Authority to establish a Psilocybin Task Force, which must submit a final report by December 1, 2023. Some of the Task Force duties include: • reviewing clinical information regarding psilocybin use, including what co-occurring diagnoses or family and medical histories may exclude a person from psilocybin use; and	

- reviewing and discussing regulatory structures for clinical psilocybin use in Washington and other jurisdictions, including how various regulatory structures do or do not address public health and safety concerns.

Committee staff will monitor the Task Force, its final report, and draft legislation as directed.

Prevailing Wage

Completion Date: December 31, 2023

Staff: Jarrett Sacks (360) 786-7448

References: [Chapter 39.12 RCW \(Prevailing wages on public works\)](#)

State law requires prevailing wages be paid to laborers, workers, and mechanics employed upon all public works and under all public building service maintenance contracts. Public works means all work, construction, alteration, repair, or improvement other than ordinary maintenance that is executed at the cost of the state or any municipality. State law requires the industrial statistician of the Department of Labor and Industries to establish the prevailing wage by adopting the hourly wage, usual benefits, and overtime established in collective bargaining agreements for those trades and occupations that have collective bargaining agreements. A recent court decision impacted this statute and the process for determining the prevailing wage.

The Committee will conduct a work session on issues related to prevailing wage. The Committee anticipates hearing presentations on the history of prevailing wage, current events and the number of projects impacted, and how to improve the advisory committee. Committee staff will provide support and assistance in planning the work session and conduct research as requested.

Law & Justice

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June	Work Session	Tacoma	- Elder abuse - Guardianship/Informed consent - Unauthorized practice of the law
October	Work Session	Spokane	- Office of Independent Investigation - Office of Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention - Domestic violence - mandatory arrest/no bail prior to first appearance/lethality assessment/co-responder program
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	- Firearms background check system update - Tribal extradition

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Tribal Extradition	
Completion Date: December 31, 2023	Staff: Joe McKittrick (360) 786-7287
Reference: ESHB 1555	
Indian tribes are recognized as unique aggregations possessing attributes of sovereignty over both their members and their territory. The interplay between tribal governments and federal, state, and local governments is a complex system of treaties, statutes, and government-to-government agreements. ESHB 1555 sought to provide a process for federally recognized Indian tribes within the state of Washington to request extradition of an individual from within the jurisdiction of Washington State or any political subdivision thereof to the jurisdiction of the tribe. Committee staff will work with relevant stakeholder groups to identify barriers to implementation and potential follow-up legislation, and with legislators and caucus staff to draft requested legislation related to this topic.	

Catalytic Converter Theft	
Completion Date: November 30, 2023	Staff: Joe McKittrick (360) 786-7287
Reference: SSB 5740	
Over the past few years, Washington has seen a rapid increase in the number of catalytic convert thefts, as well as a rise in related trafficking of stolen catalytic converters and valuable component parts. In 2023, the Legislature attempted to address these issues by prohibiting scrap metal businesses from engaging in transactions involving catalytic converters that have been removed from vehicles without first obtaining proper licensing. New crimes for	

trafficking in catalytic converters and for selling catalytic converters that have been removed from vehicles without proper identifying markings were also created.

Committee staff will work with legislators and stakeholders within the scrap metal industry and criminal legal system to draft legislation aimed at reducing the total number of catalytic converter thefts and preventing those who steal catalytic converters from accessing any markets for those stolen goods.

Common Interest Communities

Completion Date: October 2, 2023

Staff: Ryan Giannini (360) 786-7285

References: Chapters 64.32, 64.34, 64.38, and 64.90 RCW; [Uniform Law Commission 2021 Amendments to the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act](#)

The Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (UCIOA) governs the formation, management, and termination of common interest communities, including condominiums, homeowner associations, and real estate cooperatives. Washington enacted the UCIOA in 2018, which applies to all common interest communities created on or after July 1, 2018. Common interest communities that existed before July 1, 2018, can elect to be governed by UCIOA or choose to remain governed by older common interest community statutes. In 2021, the Uniform Law Commission approved amendments to the UCIOA. The 2021 amendments to the UCIOA make updates to address recent legal and technological developments. These changes include options to retroactively apply the UCIOA to all common interest communities.

Committee staff will work with relevant stakeholder groups to identify barriers or concerns to implementation of the 2021 UCIOA amendments and the repeal of older common interest community statutes. Committee staff will also work with senators to develop requested legislation to implement some or all of the 2021 UCIOA amendments.

Child Sex Trafficking

Completion Date: December 31, 2023

Staff: Ryan Giannini (360) 786-7285

References: RCW 9A.40.100; RCW 9.68A.100; RCW 9.68A.101; RCW 9.68A.102; RCW 9.68A.103; RCW 9.68A.105; RCW 9.68A.106; RCW 7.68.801; Chapter 19.320 RCW; [Shared Hope Analysis](#)

In 2013, the Legislature established the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Statewide Coordinating Committee to address increasing protections for exploited youth by examining local and regional practices and incidence data and make recommendations on statewide laws and practices. In 2022, Shared Hope, a non-profit organization that exists to prevent sex trafficking, published an analysis of Washington's child sex trafficking laws.

Committee staff will work with stakeholders and members of the Coordinating Committee to review and develop draft legislation based on Shared Hope's analysis and recommendations.

Office of Independent Investigation

Completion Date: December 30, 2023

Staff: Tim Ford (360) 786-7423

References: HB 1267 (2021) and HB 1579 (2023)

The Office of Independent Investigation (OII) was established in 2021 within the Office of the Governor to conduct fair, thorough, transparent and competent investigations of police use of force. The OII is a law enforcement agency, but has no prosecutorial authority. House

Bill 1579 if enacted will establish an Office of Independent Prosecutions (OIP) as a separate division of the Office of Attorney General. In part, HB 1579 will direct the OII to send its completed investigations to the county prosecutor and the OIP.

Committee staff will research and draft requested legislation related to the OII or OIP.

Domestic Violence/Electronic Monitoring	
Completion Date: December 30, 2022	Staff: Tim Ford (360) 786-7423
References: HB 1715 (2023)	
House Bill 1715 relates to domestic violence, electronic monitoring with victim notification, civil protection orders, weapons surrender process, and training for judicial officers.	
Committee staff will monitor and research progress on training requirements, and provide support for members as requested, including drafting requested legislation.	

Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Tour	Yakima	• Tribal issues • Limited areas of more intense rural development (LAMIRDs)
October	Tour	Whatcom County	• LAMIRDs • Accessory dwelling units • Short-term rentals • Mixed use development • Tribal issues
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	• To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Land Use and Permitting	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Maggie Douglas (360) 786-7279
References: E2SHB 1181 , EHB 1337 , 2SSB 5290 , SSB 5491	
In 2023, the Legislature passed several bills related to local government land use and permitting processes. This included updates to the state's comprehensive planning framework, use of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), and consolidating local permit review processes. Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 adds a goal of climate change and resiliency to the listed goals of the Growth Management Act (GMA) and adds a climate change and resiliency element to the list of elements that must be included in comprehensive plans of certain counties and cities. Engrossed House Bill 1337 requires a city or county planning under the GMA to adopt ordinances, develop regulations, or other measures that allow for construction of ADUs within six months after the jurisdiction's next comprehensive plan update. Second Substitute Senate Bill 5290 amends the process for local project permit applications. Committee staff will monitor implementation of these new policies and draft legislation as requested.	

Indian Law and Tribal Affairs	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Karen Epps (360) 786-7424
References: 2SHB 1322 , SHB 1352 , ESHB 1369 , SSB 5753	
Committee staff will study aspects of evolving federal and state law regarding tribes in Washington. This session, the Legislature considered a few bills to allow state and local governments to work together with tribal governments. Second Substitute House Bill 1322 requires the Department of Ecology to use the Walla Walla 2050 Plan as an integrated water resource strategy through a coordinated effort between	

Washington, Oregon, affected federally recognized tribes, affected federal, state, and local agencies, and other stakeholders.

The Legislature passed SHB 1352 authorizing county investment pools, subject to the approval of the county treasurer and the tribe's entry into an intergovernmental agreement, to accept investments by federally recognized tribes on the same terms and conditions as investments by local governments.

Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1369 allows Department of Fish and Wildlife officers to accept off-duty employment on reservation, trust, or allotted lands of a federally recognized tribe, after completing additional training.

Committee staff will plan and coordinate committee tours and meetings on tribal affairs and Indian law as requested.

State Government & Elections

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
June/July	Work Session	Olympia/ Hybrid	• Future of state agency work after COVID-19
September	Work Session/Tour	Spokane County	• Voting process from registration to final ballot tabulation • Voting system accuracy • Universal voting
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	• Alternative ballot verification methods • Ballot curing

RELATED INTERIM COMMITTEES

DATE	COMMITTEE/ TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
October 5	Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs/Work Session	Steilacoom Town Hall	• To be determined
December 14	Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs/Work Session	Olympia/ Hybrid	• To be determined
December	Legislative Oral History Committee/ Work Session	Olympia/ Hybrid	• To be determined.

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Gubernatorial Confirmations	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Danielle Creech (360) 786-7412 Sam Brown (360) 786-7470
References: RCW 43.06.092, SB 5793 (2022)	
The Governor is responsible for appointing citizens to over 230 boards and commissions in the state of Washington. This is an increase of approximately 80 appointments to boards and commissions since 2013. Appointments to many entities must be confirmed by the state Senate. Terms vary, but are commonly four years. Members of boards, commissions, and councils are commonly compensated for travel and other expenses but most commonly do not receive salaries. Committee staff will compile and analyze all gubernatorial appointments to boards and commissions and draft legislation as requested.	

Capitol Campus	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Danielle Creech (360) 786-7412
References: Chapters 43.34 and 79.24 RCW; Chapter 200-230 WAC; RCW 43.17.070 and 43.82.020; SHB 1700 (2023); 2SHB 1639 (2023)	
In 2022, legislation was introduced relating to capital campus responsibilities of the State Capitol Committee, the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee, and the Department of Enterprise Services. The State Capitol Committee approved creation of a Statute Update Work Group facilitated by Enterprise Services to review the statutes and administrative code relating to the State Capitol Committee and Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee, and provide recommendations to the State Capitol Committee and the Legislature to address any changes that may be necessary to the statute. In 2023, the Legislature passed SHB 1700, which establishes standards for an Eastern Washington Cultural Landscape Feature on the Capitol Campus to be implemented by the State Capitol Committee in consultation with the Department of Enterprise Services and Department of Natural Resources. Additionally, in 2023 the Legislature passed 2SHB 1639, which modifies the membership of the Billy Frank Jr. National Statuary Hall Selection Committee and permits the use of state general fund dollars for the creation and installation of the replacement statue to be placed on the capitol campus. Committee staff will monitor work group meetings, conduct research, schedule work sessions and draft legislation as directed.	

Campaign Finance Statute Updates	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Sam Brown (360) 786-7470
References: Chapter 42.17A RCW, ESSB 6152 (2020), ESSB 5284 (2023), HB 1330 (2023), RCW 42.17A.430, RCW 42.17A.490	
Campaign finance regulation, overseen in Washington by the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC), is a dynamic field with many diverse stakeholders and emerging issues. In 2020, the Legislature passed ESSB 6152, creating a requirement that candidates and political committees receive certifications from all contributors that the contributors are not foreign nationals. The 2023 session saw two competing proposals modifying this requirement—one which raised the level of contribution at which the disclosure is required, and one shifting the reporting requirement to corporations. Additionally, the PDC is considering updating previous guidance for how candidates may use surplus funds raised in a campaign for public office when the candidate subsequently seeks election to a different office. Committee staff will monitor PDC meetings, rulemaking, and public comment periods for both issues, conduct research into state, out-of-state, and federal frameworks, and draft any legislation as directed.	

Transportation

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September/October	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Transportation Revenue Forecasting	
Completion Date: September 2024 - first transportation revenue forecast under new system	Staff: Bryon Moore (360) 786-7726. Hayley Gamble (360) 786-7452
References: ESHB 1838 (2023) ; ESHB 1125, Sec. 113 (2023)	
Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1838 created the Transportation Economic and Revenue Forecast Council to prepare six-year transportation revenue forecasts beginning in September 2024. The Council consists of the following members: the directors of Office of Financial Management and the Department of Licensing; the State Treasurer; and the chair and ranking member of the House and Senate Transportation committees. The transportation revenue forecasting function is currently performed by a staff work group comprised primarily of agencies involved in the collection of transportation revenues. Staff will monitor the transition of the transportation forecasting responsibilities to the Council and will consult with relevant members to ensure legislative intent and expectations are met.	

Climate Commitment Act-Revenue and Expenditure Tracking	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Jed Herman (360) 786-7346. Wendy Brown (360) 786-7359. Bryon Moore (360) 786-7726. Jenna Forty (360) 786-7755
References: Chapter 70A.65 RCW	
Senate Ways & Means and Transportation staff will collaborate to scope and report on the following: - Track revenue generation quarterly from Climate Commitment Act allowance auctions and report the results in comparison to fiscal year forecast estimates. - Coordinate with Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program staff to scope and develop monitoring reports for expenditures at the account and project level across the operating, capital, and transportation budgets. This work will also be coordinated with the Office of Financial Management and the Department of Ecology as they have a specific task funded through proviso.	

- Once developed, provide quarterly expenditure reports for Senate members and various committee staff.
- Each quarterly report will include summarized contextual information for both revenue and expenditures.

Public-Private Partnership Work Group

Completion Date: December 2023, July 2024 | Staff: Brandon Popovac (360) 786-7465

References: [ESHB 1125, Sec. 204\(2\) \(2023\)](#)

The 2023 transportation budget directs the Joint Transportation Committee, in collaboration with the Department of Transportation (WSDOT), to convene a work group to study and recommend a new statutory framework for WSDOT's Public-Private Partnership Program. The Committee may contract with a third-party consultant for support and drafting the new statutory framework.

The work group must include a number of stakeholders, including the secretary of WSDOT and Committee executive committee members or their designees. The work group must submit a preliminary report with any recommendations and draft legislation by December 15, 2023, and a final report with draft legislation by July 1, 2024.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of the work group, provide periodic updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.

Traffic Safety Research

Completion Date: December 2023 | Staff: Brandon Popovac (360) 786-7465

References: [ESHB 1125, Secs. 201\(1\) and \(4\) \(2023\)](#)

The 2023 transportation budget directs the Washington Traffic Safety Commission to examine national safety reports and recommendations on alcohol and drug impaired driving and to review strategies and technologies used nationally to prevent and respond to wrong-way driving crashes. The Commission must submit a report on any recommendations resulting from its alcohol and drug impaired driving report examination and a report on strategies and technologies regarding wrong-way driving by December 15, 2023.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of this research, provide periodic updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.

Electric Vehicle and Charging Infrastructure Initiatives

Completion Date: December 2023 | Staff: Brandon Popovac (360) 786-7465

References: [ESHB 1125, Secs. 104\(3\), 114, 115, 215 \(2023\)](#)

The 2023 transportation budget funds a variety of initiatives addressing electric vehicle (EV) and zero emission equipment infrastructure, including funding:

- to replace State Parks & Recreation Commission vehicles and equipment with electric alternatives;
- for the Department of Natural Resources to assess fleet charging infrastructure expansion, develop a charger installation plan with cost estimates, and deploy electric pickup trucks for information gathering and planning efforts for future EV adoption;

- for zero emission EV supply equipment infrastructure at Department of Enterprise Services facilities, with interim and final reports on equipment installation locations, station usage data, and benefitting state agencies and facilities;
- for existing Department of Transportation zero emission vehicle infrastructure partnerships (ZEVIP) and zero emission access (ZAP) programs; and
- for zero emission commercial vehicle infrastructure and incentive program implementation, including an early action grant program, replacement of fossil fuel school buses with zero emission school buses, hydrogen refueling infrastructure investments, zero emission cargo handling equipment incentives, and clean off-road equipment incentives.

Committee staff will monitor the progress of these initiatives, provide periodic updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.

2023 Transportation Project Tours

Completion Date: through 2023	Staff: Kelly Simpson (360) 786-7403
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At the Chair's direction, staff will tour various transportation projects and activities around the state. The main priorities are to learn more about Connecting Washington and Move Ahead Washington implementation; hear from frontline staff at the Department of Transportation and the Washington State Patrol regarding their duties and legislative requests; and hear about various local transportation needs. It is expected that tours will occur periodically throughout the interim.

Washington State Patrol-Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Bryon Moore (360) 786-7726
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References: [Chapter 146, Laws of 2022 \(SHB 2057\)](#); [ESHB 1125, Sec.110, Sec.207 \(3\) & Sec. 207 \(6\)](#)

Substitute House Bill 2057 (2022) directed the Governor's Office of Equity to provide oversight of the Washington State Patrol's development and ongoing implementation of its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Recruitment and Retention plan. On-going funding is provided related to the legislation. The legislation and budget provisos also direct the establishment of benchmark goals for the demographic composition of the Patrol workforce and requires various reports related to these goals and efforts.

Staff will monitor the progress of these initiatives and requirements, provide periodic updates, organize potential formal committee updates, and draft any relevant legislation as requested.

Washington State Ferries-Vessel Procurement

Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Jenna Forty (360) 786-7755
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References: [ESHB 1125, Sec. 204 \(3\) & Sec. 308 \(3\) \(2023\)](#); [EHB 1846 \(2023\)](#)

Engrossed House Bill 1846 authorized procurement of five new hybrid-electric Olympic class vessels through a nationwide solicitation, with up to two contracts awarded. Additionally, the 2023-2025 transportation budget provided funding for the acquisition of a 144-car hybrid-electric vessel, and for the Joint Transportation Committee to provide oversight on the procurement of the hybrid-electric Olympic class vessels.

Staff will monitor progress of the implementation of the legislation, in coordination with the Joint Transportation Committee, and provide regular progress updates to members.

Ways & Means COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBJECTS
September	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined
November/ December Assembly Days	Work Session	Olympia	To be determined

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

2023 Legislative Budget Notes	
Completion Date: Fall 2023	Staff: Ways & Means Committee
Legislative fiscal staff in the Senate and House will work together with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program staff to publish <i>Legislative Budget Notes</i> by fall 2023. <i>Legislative Budget Notes</i> is a publication that represents the official record of legislative action on the omnibus operating, transportation, and capital budgets. It is used by legislators, legislative staff, state agencies, and the public to determine the legislative intent behind the hundreds of policy changes embedded in the three major documents.	

2024 Citizen's Guide to K-12 Finance	
Completion Date: January 2024	Staff: Kayla Hammer (360) 786-7305 Trevor Press (360) 786-7446
The Ways & Means Committee will update the <i>Citizen's Guide to K-12 Finance</i>. The guide is published annually and serves as a resource for members, legislative staff, and the public to answer frequently asked questions regarding K-12 finance. The guide will be published at the start of the 2024 legislative session and will be available with the committee, as well as online.	

2024 Legislative Guide to Washington State & Local Taxes	
Completion Date: January 2024	Staff: Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438 Alia Kennedy (360) 786-7405
Committee staff will update the <i>Legislative Guide to Washington State and Local Taxes</i>. The guide serves as an overview of Washington's full tax structure for members, legislative staff, and the public. The updated guide will reflect the changes made in the 2023 legislative session. The guide will be published at the start of the 2024 legislative session and will be available from committee staff, as well as online.	

Four-Year Balanced Budget and Outlook	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Corban Nemeth (360) 786-7736
Beginning with the 2013-2015 biennium, state law requires budgets at the time of passage be projected to be balanced for current and following biennia based on a maintenance level projection. The Economic and Revenue Forecast Council must prepare a budget outlook document for the Governor's proposed budget and for the budget enacted by the Legislature. To assist the council in preparing the state budget outlooks, a State Budget Outlook Work Group was 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 & Means Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee. Legislative staff will participate in the work group and provide technical assistance.	

Caseload Forecast Council Technical (Staff) Work Groups	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Ways & Means Committee
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, juvenile rehabilitation, and the working families tax credit program. The caseload forecasts are used to develop the majority of the budgets for these programs. The work groups meet periodically and include staff from the Senate Ways & Means Committee, House Appropriations Committee, Caseload Forecast Council, Office of Financial Management, the Department of Social and Health Services, and other caseload-driven agencies.	

Joint Committee on Employment Relations	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Amanda Cecil (360) 786-7460
References: RCW 41.80.007	
The Joint Committee on Employment Relations meets annually to consider matters related to collective bargaining with state employees. During the 2023 calendar year, the Committee is expected to meet up to six times, including one meeting following the Governor's budget submittal so the Governor can advise the Committee on appropriations and legislation necessary to implement the agreements. Staff will provide support to the Committee and monitor activity.	

Local Government Finance and Distributions	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Alia Kennedy (360) 786-7405 Jeff Mitchell (360) 786-7438
Staff maintain a reference guide to the over \$200 million dollars in state distributions to local governments, primarily cities and counties. This information is available at the fiscal.wa.gov website. The reference guide is intended for use by members, legislative staff, local governments, and the public, of state shared revenues, distributions, grants, and loan programs that benefit local governments. Staff will continue working with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program to develop more complete information on the variety of different forms of assistance to local governments, better search capabilities, and mapping tools.	

Budget Universe Poster	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: James Kettel (360) 786-7459 Tianyi Lan (360) 786-7432
Every two years, after the passage of a biennial operating budget, staff prepare an updated budget universe poster. The poster offers key details about each functional area of government, including state expenditures, total expenditures, and staffing. Utilizing the visual of planets within a universe quickly offers viewers a sense of scale. The poster includes larger planets—for areas like public schools, and smaller planets—for areas like judicial agencies. The poster is primarily intended for use by members and their staff. It is not uncommon, however, to also find the poster in conference rooms or other shared spaces.	

Pension Funding Council	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Amanda Cecil (360) 786-7460
References: RCW 41.45.030	
The Pension Funding Council is directed to meet annually. During odd-numbered years the Council must adopt certain long-term economic assumptions that are used to establish pension rates in the subsequent year. During even-numbered years the Council must adopt pension funding rates for the subsequent fiscal biennia. During the 2023 calendar year, the Council is expected to meet up to two times during July to adopt long-term economic assumptions for the 2025-27 fiscal biennium. Committee staff will provide support to the Council.	

Competitive Capital Budget Grant and Loan Programs	
Completion Date: July 2023	Staff: Michael Bezanson (786-7449)
The Senate Ways & Means Committee capital budget staff and the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP) will publish the updated version of the <i>Competitive Capital Budget Grant and Loan Program</i> website. The LEAP webpage is a public website that contains information about capital budget grant and loan programs for which individuals and organizations may apply. The page includes links to the grant and loan programs, amounts, approximate due dates, and other information. The site can be found here: https://fiscal.wa.gov/statebudgets/CapitalGrantLoanPrograms.	

Washington State Tax Alternatives Model	
Completion Date: January 2024	Staff: Jeff Mitchell (786-7438); Tianyi Lan (786-7432)
In the past, the Department of Revenue, in collaboration with legislative staff, has created a tax alternatives model that allows users to change the tax rates for existing major state and local taxes in Washington State, add certain business and household taxes, and view the resulting impact on state revenues and the tax burden change for households and businesses. The last major update to the Department-housed model was in 2014. Senate Ways & Means revenue staff will create a Senate version of the tax alternatives model.	

Vendor Rates–Review and Analysis	
Completion Date: December 2023	Staff: James Kettel (786-7459)
By May 31, 2023, the Office of Financial Management must submit a report describing vendor rates within the Department of Social and Health Services, Department of Children, Youth and Families, and Department of Corrections. Senate Ways & Means staff will use this report as the launching point for a broader analysis of other agencies. The analysis will describe services provided, recent rate changes, rate methodology, base budget, and other key variables. The goal is to provide a reasonably comprehensive picture of contracted services in advance of the 2024 session.	

Climate Commitment Act-Revenue & Expenditure Tracking	
Completion Date: ongoing	Staff: Jed Herman (786-7346) Wendy Brown (786-7359) Bryon Moore (786-7726) Jenna Forty (786-7755)
References: Chapter 70A.65 RCW	
Senate Ways & Means and Transportation staff will collaborate to scope and report on the following: • Track revenue generation quarterly from Climate Commitment Act allowance auctions and report the results in comparison to fiscal year forecast estimates. • Coordinate with Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program staff to scope and develop monitoring reports for expenditures at the account and project level across the operating, capital, and transportation budgets. This work will also be coordinated with the Office of Financial Management and the Department of Ecology as they have a specific task funded through proviso. • Once developed, provide quarterly expenditure reports for Senate members and various committee staff. Each quarterly report will include summarized contextual information for both revenue and expenditures.	