

# JLARC 101:

## We Answer the Legislature's Questions About Performance

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Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee

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# Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC)

Since 1973 - The  
Legislature's  
performance auditor

## 16 Member Committee

- Established in statute Chapter 44.28 RCW
- Equal number of House and Senate members, Democrats and Republicans.



*Independent, non-partisan staff*

# The Bottom Line



Legislature sets policy

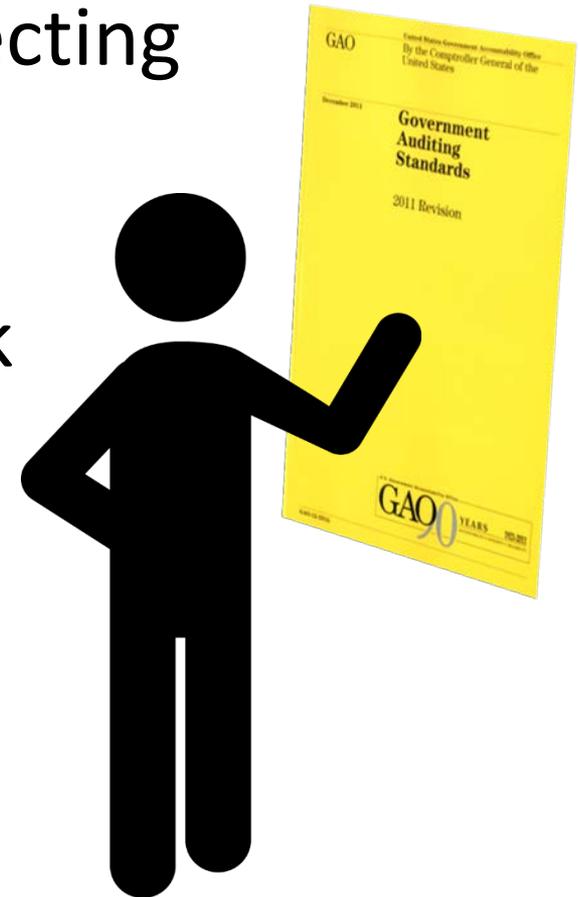


JLARC looks at performance

- Performance audits
- Special studies
- Tax preference reviews EHB 1069, 2006

# JLARC staff provide independent, evidence-based answers to Legislature's questions

- Statute very deliberate in protecting independence
- Audit standards guide our work
- Conclusions based on strong evidence
- Insufficient evidence?  
May not have definitive conclusions.



# We get asked all kinds of questions

- Did UI training benefits participants have better employment results?
- Can WSDOT provide reliable highway and bridge cost estimates?
- What are the economic impacts of the purchase of public lands?
- Did aerospace tax incentives impact business location?
- Is DSHS meeting timelines to determine competency to stand trial?

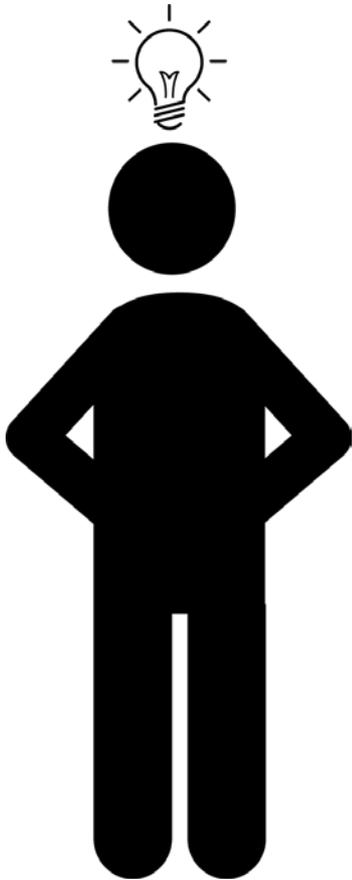


# We are rigorous and work in partnership with agencies to provide sound analysis

- Gathering evidence can take time (typically 12 to 14 months for most studies)
- This ensures we have the time to look under all the rocks
- Answers are compared to what the Legislature wanted to achieve



# Most studies come from bills and budget provisos



## Things considered for a study proposal:

- ◆ Is it an area of significant fiscal or program impact?
- ◆ Will there likely be substantive findings?
- ◆ Is there enough time to do it?
- ◆ Is JLARC the most appropriate agency to perform the work?
  - ▶ Would WSIPP fit better?

# What are we working on in 2015-2017?

The best way to find out:



check out our website  
[www.jlarc.leg.wa.gov](http://www.jlarc.leg.wa.gov)



State of Washington  
Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC)

## 2015-17 JLARC Work Plan: Updated April 2016

Study Mandates	Study Origin	Planned Report Date
Tax Preference Performance Reviews: Annual Report	EBH 1069 (2006)	Jul 2015 Completed—click <a href="#">here</a> for report
Legislative Implementation of SAO Recommendations: Annual Report	Initiative 900 (2005)	Jul 2015 Completed—click <a href="#">here</a> for report
Lodging Tax Expenditures Reported by Municipalities: Annual Non-Audit Report	ESSB 1253 (2013)	Yearly—click <a href="#">here</a> for 2014 report
Medicaid Fraud False Claims Act – Sunset Review	ESSB 5978 (2012)	Completed—click <a href="#">here</a> for report
K-12 Health Benefits	ESSB 5940 (2012)	Completed—click <a href="#">here</a> for report
Unemployment Insurance Training Benefits Program	EBH 1091 (2011)	Completed—click <a href="#">here</a> for report
Washington Health Care Exchange—Understanding Options for K-12/Higher Ed Part-time Employees	Committee sponsored	Completed—click <a href="#">here</a> for report
Unaccompanied Homeless Youth: Performance Measures and Population Estimates	2SSB 5404 (2015)	Sep 2016 click <a href="#">here</a> for S&O
Alternative Process for UW Medical Facility Construction Projects – Sunset Review	Capital Budget (2015)	Sep 2016 click <a href="#">here</a> for S&O
Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities	SB 6197 (2006)	Sep 2016 click <a href="#">here</a> for S&O
K-12 Youth Mental Health Services Inventory	2SHB 2439 (2016)	Oct 2016
Puget Sound Partnership	ESSB 5372 (2007)	Jan 2017 click <a href="#">here</a> for S&O
Fees Assessed for Forest Fire Protection	Operating Budget (2015 & 2016)	July 2017 click <a href="#">here</a> for S&O
Habitat and Recreational Lands and Regulations	Capital Budget (2016)	Dec 2017
Wildfire Suppression Costs and Funding	Operating Budget (2015)	Dec 2017
Planned Work in 2015-17 on Future Biennia Studies	Study Origin	Planned Report Date
Child and Family Reinvestment Account Sunset	SHB 2263 (2012)	Sep 2017
Department of Enterprise Services: Service Delivery Options	ESSB 5931 (2011)	Dec 2017
Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Local Infrastructure Financing Tool	E2SHB 2673 (2006)	Sep 2018 and every five years
Underground Storage Tank Program Sunset	SSB 5475 (2007)	Sep 2018
Higher Education Tuition-Setting Authority and Opportunity Scholarship & Expansion Programs	E2SHB 1795/ ESSB 2088 (2011)	Dec 2018 click <a href="#">here</a> for S&O
Aerospace Technology Innovation Sunset	SHB 1866 (2013)	Sep 2019
Alternative Public Works Contracting Procedures Sunset	SHB 1466 (2013)	Sep 2020
Hispanic Affairs Commission Sunset	SHB 1948 (1993)	Sep 2020
Analysis of the Unemployment Insurance Training Benefits Program	EBH 1091 (2011)	Dec 2020

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# If you have a question about JLARC's work, please call

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Find upcoming and prior studies on JLARC's web site:

[www.jlarc.leg.wa.gov](http://www.jlarc.leg.wa.gov)