RCW 43.88C.050 is amended to read:

Research staff:

1) The Caseload Forecast Council shall appoint a research staff of sufficient size and with sufficient resources to accomplish its duties.

2) The Caseload Forecast Council may request from the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Health Care Authority, the Department of Corrections, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and other agencies managing caseloads forecasted by the Caseload Forecast Council, such data, information, and data processing assistance as it may need to accomplish its duties, and such services shall be provided without charge to the Caseload Forecast Council.

3) The Caseload Forecast Council may request from the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Department of Social Health Services, the Department of Corrections, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and other agencies maintaining data on sentenced adult or juvenile offenders, such data, information, and data processing assistance as it may need to accomplish its duties, and such services shall be provided without charge to the Caseload Forecast Council.

4) The Caseload Forecast Council is considered a criminal justice agency within the meaning of RCW 10.97.030(5).
New Section. RCW 43.88A.____Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements:

1) The Legislature hereby recognizes the necessity of developing a uniform and coordinated procedure for determining the expected impact of bills and resolutions on the racial and ethnic composition of the criminal and juvenile justice systems. For the purposes of this section, the juvenile justice system includes all matters based in juvenile court as defined in RCW 13.04.030 and all juvenile court matters related to compulsory school attendance as described in Chapter 28A.225 RCW.

2) The Caseload Forecast Council, in cooperation with appropriate legislative committees and legislative staff, the Office of Financial Management, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Minority and Justice Commission, the Institute for Public Policy, and the Sentencing Guidelines Commission shall establish a procedure for the provision of racial and ethnic impact statements on the effect that legislative bills and resolutions will have on the racial and ethnic composition of the criminal and juvenile justice systems. The Caseload Forecast Council and the Office of Financial Management shall coordinate the development of racial and ethnic impact statements with the development of fiscal impact statements under Chapters 43.88A and 43.132 RCW.

3) The Caseload Forecast Council shall provide a racial and ethnic impact statement on any legislative proposal at the request of any legislator. The impact statement shall be provided to the requesting legislator and distributed with the fiscal impact statement when the proposed legislation is introduced in either house.

4) When a racial and ethnic impact statement is prepared and approved by the Caseload Forecast Council copies of the racial and ethnic impact statement shall be distributed with the fiscal impact statement.

5) This section shall not prevent either house of the legislature from acting on any bill before it as otherwise provided by the state Constitution, by law, and by the rules and joint rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, nor shall the lack of any judicial impact note as provided in this section or any error in the accuracy thereof affect the validity of any measure otherwise duly passed by the Legislature.