

City of Redmond

2024 Legislative Report

April 1, 2024

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Section 1: Overview of the 2024 Legislative Session

The Washington State Legislature convened the 2024 Legislative Session for 60 days, starting January 8th and concluding March 7th. Democrats held strong majorities in both the House of Representatives, 58 to 40, and the State Senate, 29 to 20. Leading up to beginning of the Session, Democrats in the [House of Representatives](#) and [Senate](#) outlined their priorities for the 2024 session – investing in behavioral health, responding to climate change, increasing gun control, continuing housing efforts from 2023, and improving special education. As the Session progressed, the realities of session lasting a mere 60 days and being immediately followed by a challenging November 2024 election cycle quelled ambitions.

Democrats have had control over the Governor's Office and both chambers of the Legislature for several years and have adopted many policies that Republicans have objected to. In response, in 2023, conservative Republicans mobilized to collect the necessary signatures to file a historic number of initiatives to the Legislature - six. Each of the six initiatives push back on policies advanced by the Democrats in recent years including repealing the Climate Commitment Act, repealing the Capital Gains Tax, allowing taxpayers to opt-in to the payroll tax that funds the Long Term Care Act, increasing parental rights and access to K-12 curriculum and student records, prohibiting the state or local governments from enacting an income tax, and allowing police officers to engage in vehicular pursuits on more occasions. For each initiative, the Legislature could choose whether to 1) adopt the initiative; 2) adopt an alternative

to appear on the November ballot alongside the initiative; or 3) take no action and allow the initiative to advance to the November ballot for voter consideration.

The Legislature chose to adopt three of the initiatives as part of an overarching strategy to increase the odds that voters will reject the remaining three initiatives. The Legislature adopted the following three initiatives:

- [I-2111](#) (prohibiting income tax)
- [I-2081](#) (parental rights)
- [I-2113](#) (vehicular pursuits)

The Legislature did not take action the following three initiatives and they will appear on the November ballot:

- [I-2117](#) (repealing the Climate Commitment Act)
- [I-2109](#) (repealing the capital gains tax)
- [I-2124](#) (opt out of Washington's long-term care retirement program)

As the second year of the two-year legislative biennium, 1,105 bills introduced during the 2023 session that were not passed into law were carried over for consideration during the 2024 session. In addition to those bills that carried over, an additional 1,560 bills were introduced. Of these, the Legislature passed 376 bills into law. A session can sometimes be defined by what did not pass; this year, several significant policies did not get across the finish line including capping rent rates, lowering the blood-alcohol-content for drunk driving, increasing the real estate excise tax to fund housing, increasing the 1% cap on property tax levies to 3%, and more.

In addition to considering the Initiatives to the legislature and proposed legislation, the Legislature adopted supplemental budgets, making changes to the 2023-25 biennial budgets adopted during the 2023 legislative session. Below are brief summaries of the budgets adopted:

Operating Budget: The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget (click [here](#), labeled "As Passed Legislature") spends \$1.1 billion to maintain existing programs, and an additional \$1 billion to fund new policy expenditures. The existing programs with the largest increase in cost include Medicaid medical assistance, the Food Assistance Program, K-12 enrollment, and compliance with the *Trueblood* case judgment. The largest new policy expenditures occurred in education and behavioral health.

Capital Budget: The 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget (click [here](#), labeled "As Passed Legislature") allocates \$1.3 billion in total funds, with \$130.6 million from debt limit bonds and \$1.2 billion from other resources including \$688.4 million in Climate Commitment Act accounts and \$307.5 million from the Common School Construction Fund. Several of the appropriations are contingent on voters rejecting I-2117. The budget also does not appropriate revenue generated from the capital gains tax beyond November 2024.

Transportation Budget: The 2024 Supplemental Transportation Budget (click [here](#), labeled "As Passed Legislature") spends a total of \$14.6 billion, including \$340 million from Climate Commitment Accounts, which are contingent on voters rejecting I-2117. Funds were predominantly spent on projects already scheduled to receive funding during the 2023-25 biennium. This spending reflects a 0.8 percent decrease in traditional transportation revenues from what was originally forecasted for 2023-25.

One of the major challenges facing the Legislature was the Climate Commitment Act, or Washington State cap-and-trade system for carbon emissions. The Legislature approved the Act in 2022, and the first auctions under the program started in 2023 generating significantly more revenue than was forecasted. This excess in revenue was countered with Initiative-2117, proposing to repeal the Act. Legislators balanced this by allocating Climate Commitment Act funds to several projects and programs but making those appropriations contingent on voters rejecting Initiative-2117.

Following the conclusion of the 2024 legislative session, legislators will transition to focusing on the November 2024 elections. All members of the House of Representatives and roughly half the members of the State Senate will face re-election. The end of the 2024 session brought about several announcements of legislators that do not plan to seek re-election:

- Senator Sam Hunt (D-Olympia) has served in the Legislature since 2000; Rep. Jessica Bateman has announced that she will run for the Senate seat, creating an open House seat.
- Senator Andy Billig (D-Spokane) has served in the Legislature since 2010; Rep. Marcus Riccelli has announced that he will run for the Senate seat, creating an open House seat.
- Senator Karen Keiser (D-SeaTac) has served in the Legislature since 1995.
- Senator Lynda Wilson (R-Vancouver) has served in the Legislature since 2015; Rep. Paul Harris has announced that he will run for the Senate seat, creating an open House seat.
- Representative JT Wilcox (R-Yelm) has served in the Legislature since 2011.
- Representative Joel Kretz (R-Wauconda) has served in the Legislature since 2005.
- Representative Spencer Hutchins (R-Gig Harbor) has served in the Legislature since 2023.
- Representative Frank Chopp (D-Seattle) has served in the Legislature since 1995 and is former Speaker of the House.

There are also several legislators who have announced they plan to run for higher office, and as a result will not be seeking re-election to their positions:

- Senator Mark Mullet (D-Issaquah) is running for Governor. Rep. Bill Ramos plans to run for the position, leaving an open House seat.
- Senator Kevin Van De Wege (D-Sequim) is running for Commissioner for Public Lands. Rep. Mike Chapman (D-Port Angeles) plans to run for the position, leaving an open House seat.
- Representative Jacquelin Maycumber (R-Republic) is running for the 5th Congressional Seat.
- Representative Kelly Chambers (R-Puyallup) is running for Pierce County Executive.

Still yet, there are legislators who are running for a statewide position but if they are unsuccessful in winning those races will be able to return to the Senate to continue out the remainder of their term (two more years). If they are successful, an appointment process will occur after the November 2024 elections to fill their seats prior to the January 2025 Legislative Session.

- Senator Manka Dhingra (D-Redmond) is running for Attorney General.

- Senator Patty Kuderer (D-Bellevue) is running for the Office of Insurance Commissioner.
- Senator Emily Randall (D-Bremerton) is running for the 6th Congressional Seat.
- Senator Drew MacEwen (R-Shelton) is running for the 6th Congressional Seat.
- Senator Rebecca Saldana (D-Seattle) is running for Commissioner for Public Lands.

Look toward filing week, May 6-10 for more news about who is choosing to file for state legislative offices. Filing week will be followed by the August 6th primary election, and the November 5th general election.

Between legislative retirements and re-election efforts, the Legislature will see yet another re-arranging of the deck chairs prior to the 2025 session. Following the November 5th general election, the Legislature will make new chair and committee assignments for the 2025-27 biennium.

Section 2: Top Legislative Priorities

Idylwood Park: The City of Redmond was allocated \$215,000 in the 2024 Final Supplemental Capital Budget for improvements at Idylwood Park. The City requested \$500,000, but recognized that limited funding would be available in a supplemental budget year, and indicated to legislators that any amount would be helpful to the project. Representative Amy Walen and Senator Manka Dhingra took the lead on submitting this funding request.

Electric Fire Engine: The Cities of Redmond and Bellevue jointly requested \$800,000 to support the purchase of Washington State's first two electric fire engine. This funding is allocated to the cities of Redmond and Bellevue in the 2024 Final Supplemental Transportation Budget. This appropriation is contingent on voters rejecting I-2117 and is not available until January 1, 2025. Senator Patty Kuderer and Representative Vandana Slatter submitted the request forms making this request, but each member of the Bellevue and Redmond delegation advocated for and assisted in securing this funding.

Plymouth Housing Project: Mid-way through the 2024 Legislative Session, the City of Redmond had an opportunity to support the transition of a permanent supportive housing project from Kenmore to Redmond. As part of that transition, funding allocated to the Kenmore location had to be re-appropriated to Redmond, and additional funds were needed to address a funding gap that emerged after federal funds appropriated to the project could not be used for the new location. The Legislature responded with enthusiasm, appropriating a total of \$7.4 million (through two different accounts) in the 2024 Final Supplemental Capital Budget to the Plymouth Housing project being re-located to the City of Redmond. Many legislators and legislative staff deserve thanks for making this happen!

148th Bike/Pedestrian Crossing Over State Route 520: The 2022 Move Ahead Washington Package appropriated \$8 million to the 148th Bike/Ped Crossing over State Route 520. In 2023, the Legislature scheduled this funding to be appropriated post-2029. This session, the Legislature advanced \$8 million to much earlier. This advancement in funds is contingent on voters rejecting I-2117 and is not available until January 1, 2025. Here the new phasing of the project: 2023-25: \$750,000; 2025-27: \$4.25 million; 2027-29: \$3 million.

Section 3: Support/Oppose/Monitor

Effective Dates

Unless otherwise noted, bills approved by the Legislature are effective 90 days from the adjournment of the legislative session. For 2024, that would make most bills effective June 6, 2024.

Housing

The Legislature considered several bold policies, such as [House Bill 2114/Senate Bill 5961](#), capping rent increases, and [House Bill 2276/Senate Bill 6191](#), generating increased revenue through changes to the state real estate excise tax. However, opposition from landlord/tenant organizations, realtors, and feedback from Republicans and constituents prevented the bills from passing during the short 60-day session.

Instead, the Legislature built on the historic housing investments of the 2023 session. \$127 million is provided in the Supplemental Capital Budget for affordable housing projects through the Housing Trust Fund. This is in addition to the \$400 million provided in the biennial budget. The \$127 million is allocated as follows:

- \$44 million for housing for those with developmental disabilities
- \$41 million for specific projects
- \$20 million for rapid conversion or acquisition of housing to address extremely low-income and unhoused populations
- \$17 million for housing to benefit low-income and special needs populations, including permanent supportive housing
- \$15 million for the acquisition and preservation of mobile homes
- \$5 million for affordable housing urgent repairs grants

The Legislature also made the following investments in shelters:

- \$20 million is appropriated to acquire, renovate, and prepare property for rapid conversion into enhanced emergency shelters, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, permanent housing, youth housing, tiny homes or other shelter. \$40 million was provided last session. (page 16 of the 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget).
- \$2 million is allocated for grants to cities, counties, or nonprofit organizations to support individuals in need of emergency housing assistance. Funds distributed in coordination with the Governor's Office. (page 94 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).
- \$34 million is allocated to local governments for homeless housing programs and services. (page 99 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).
- \$23.6 million is allocated for housing assistance, including long-term rental subsidies, permanent supportive housing, and low and no barrier housing beds for unhoused individuals. Priority must be given to individuals with a mental health disorder, substance use disorder, or other complex conditions; individuals with a criminal history; and individuals transitioning from behavioral health treatment facilities or local jails (page 62 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

The 2024 Legislature introduced many bills to continue the trend of prioritizing housing density over local control, but many of them failed to get across the finish line, including [House Bill 1245](#) requiring lot splitting and [House Bill 2474/House Bill 2113](#) requiring Commerce approval of local housing development regulations. Below are some of the actions that the Legislature did approve around affordable housing policy:

Siting of Permanent Supportive Housing and Emergency Shelter: The Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 2474/House Bill 2113](#) requiring Commerce approval of local housing development regulations. Instead, \$600,000 is allocated for the Department of Commerce to provide technical assistance in planning for and siting permanent supportive housing and emergency housing facilities, including providing dispute resolution services. The Department is tasked with providing a report by March 1, 2025 on which local governments received funding and resolution status for disputes resolved. (page 117 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Residential Parking: [Senate Bill 6015](#), sponsored by Senator Sharon Shewmake (D-42nd LD), requires cities and counties to allow certain parking configurations to satisfy parking requirements for residential development. For example, the bill states that a city cannot require parking to be enclosed or require a garage or carport, and that parking spaces that count towards minimum parking requirements can be enclosed or unenclosed. Tandem parking must be allowed to count toward parking minimums, and a city may not require parking spaces to be greater than 8 feet by 20 feet, except for parking for individuals with disabilities. It also specifies that the existence of non-conforming gravel surfacing in existing designated parking areas may be used to meet local parking standards for buildings with six parking spaces or less. Additionally, cities may not require off-street parking as a condition of permitting a residential project if compliance with tree retention would otherwise make a proposed residential development or redevelopment infeasible. To implement this bill, the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$57,000 to the Department of Commerce for fiscal year 2025 (page 119).

Co-Living Housing Bill: [House Bill 1998](#), sponsored by Representative Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD), requires cities and counties to adopt regulations or controls to allow co-living housing. The bill requires cities and counties to allow co-living housing on any lot within an Urban Growth Area that allows at least six multifamily residential units. Additionally, a city or county may not treat a sleeping unit in co-living housing as more than one-half of a dwelling unit for purposes of calculating fees for sewer connections unless the city or county makes a finding, based on facts, that the connection fees should exceed the one-half threshold.

Middle Housing: [House Bill 2321](#), sponsored by Representative Jessica Bateman (D-22nd LD), modifies certain provisions of the 2023 middle housing policies. The bill requires that cities with a population of at least 25,000 must allow six of the nine types of middle housing. Cities with less than 25,000 people can choose the number of middle housing types that meet minimum density requirements. The bill also allows middle housing to be built on lots where a portion of the lot is a critical area. Finally, middle housing densities only apply around bus rapid transit stops once construction of those stops has begun. Areas designated as sole-source aquifers by the United States Environmental Protection Agency on islands in the Puget Sound from the density requirements. To implement this bill the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$213,000 for fiscal year 2025 (page 118).

Residential Housing Regulations: [House Bill 2071](#), sponsored by Representative Davina Duerr (D-1st LD), concerns residential housing regulations. The bill directs the State Building Code Council to convene two technical advisory groups: one to recommend changes to apply the Washington State Residential Code to multiplex housing, and another to recommend changes needed to the International Building Code (IBC) to allow dwelling units with less than 190 square feet. Additionally, the Office of Regulatory and Innovation Assistance is directed to develop an optional standard energy code plan set that meets or exceeds all energy code

regulations for residential housing, subject to the international residential code. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$225,000 (page 31) and \$180,000 (page 215) for the implementation of this bill.

Transit-Oriented Development: The Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 2160](#) regarding transit-oriented development; it stalled in the Senate Ways & Means Committee. The bill evolved throughout the legislative process, but broadly would have mandated that the city adopt transit-oriented densities around light rail and bus rapid transit stops at the 5-year comprehensive plan periodic update in 2029. While the bill did not pass, \$250,000 is provided to the Joint Transportation Committee to contract out to complete a review of transit-oriented development conditions in cities in King, Pierce, Spokane, Clark, and Snohomish Counties that have over 12,500 in population and have at least one major transit stop. The review must look at comprehensive plans, housing-focused tax and fee programs, and development regulations required to be adopted on or before December 31, 2024. It must include examples of local or national best practices for transit-oriented affordable and workforce housing development. The report must include recommendations for state policies to expand transit-oriented development, minimizing displacement of existing communities, and ensuring affordability. The review is due to the Legislature by June 30, 2025. (page 24 of the 2024 Supplemental Transportation Budget).

Extreme Weather Response: [House Bill 1012](#), sponsored by Representative Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), to provide resources for local governments to provide services during extreme weather events. The bill was introduced in the 2023 session and was approved during the 2024 session. Under the final version of the bill, the Military Department can also purchase temporary shelters to loan out to political subdivisions when assisting with extreme weather events. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$1.5 million for the implementation of this bill (page 207).

Multiunit Residential Buildings Definition: [Senate Bill 5792](#), sponsored by Senator Mike Padden (R-4th LD), excludes buildings with 12 or fewer units that are no more than three stories from the definition of multiunit residential building if one story is utilized for above or below ground parking, or retail space. The bill is intended to address the condominium construction deficit.

Commercial Conversion Tax Incentives: [Senate Bill 6175](#), sponsored by Senator Yasmin Trudeau (D-27th LD), establishes a local option sales and use tax deferral for projects that convert commercial buildings to residential purposes and dedicate 10% of the units to households making 80% of the area median income or less. The bill also clarifies that commercial/non-residential buildings being converted to residential under the Multifamily Property Tax Exemption program. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$54,000 for fiscal year 2025 to implement this bill (page 103).

Affordable Homeownership Unit Development: [Senate Bill 6173](#), sponsored by Senator T'wina Nobles (D-28th LD), allows local jurisdictions to use revenue from the affordable and supportive housing sales and use tax for housing and services for people whose income is at or below 80% of the median income of the local jurisdiction that imposes the tax. This is applicable only if the affordable housing development is for owner occupied properties.

Workforce Housing Accelerator: [House Bill 1892](#), sponsored by Representative Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), creates the Workforce Housing Accelerator Revolving Loan Fund Program within the Department of Commerce. The Department of Commerce will administer loans to eligible organizations to assist with the development of housing for low-income households.

Property Tax Exemptions for Nonprofits: [House Bill 2012](#), sponsored by Representative Chipalo Street (D-37th LD), allows voter-approved levy lid lifts, and certain city and county funds as qualifying funding sources for a project to receive the nonprofit housing property tax exemption.

Calculating Average Median Household Income: \$250,000 is allocated to the Department of Commerce to evaluate alternative methods for calculating average median household income. A report is due June 30, 2025. (page 108 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Department of Housing: \$250,000 is allocated to the Office of Financial Management to provide recommendations on the method and format for studying the transition to a Department of Housing. Report is due December 1, 2024 (page 180 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget). [House Bill 2270](#), proposing to create a Department of Housing separate from the current Department of Commerce did not advance through the legislative process; however, this budget proviso advances the content contained within that bill.

Audit of Housing Finance Commission: The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$500,000 (page 44) for the State Auditor's Office to conduct a performance audit of the Housing Finance Commission's oversight of housing developer that offer a rent-to-own option for projects funded by the Commission.

Model for Supportive Housing Demand: Within existing resources, the Department of Commerce is directed to develop a model to estimate demand for operating, maintenance, and services costs for permanent supportive housing units that qualify for the Housing Trust Fund. (page 63 of the 2024 Operating Budget).

Downpayment Assistance Account: \$250,000 is provided into the downpayment assistance account. (page 865 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Environment Sustainability

Much of the climate and environment policy discussion this session was overshadowed by the looming possibility of the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) being repealed if [Initiative 2117](#) is approved by voters in November. Revenues generated by the CCA in the first half of the biennium are invested in a variety of programs and projects that reduce carbon emissions. Most notably, \$150 million is allocated to provide public and private electric utilities with funding to provide bill credits for low-income and moderate-income residential electricity customers to help with the clean energy transition in the amount of \$200 per household by September 15, 2024 (page 148 of the Supplemental Operating Budget). The budget also includes investments that are made with projected CCA revenue that are contingent on Initiative-2117 failing. The Legislature did take action to begin linking the Climate Commitment Act with other regions by approving [Senate Bill 6058](#), sponsored by Senator Joe Nguyen (D-34th LD), directs the Department of Ecology to facilitate linkage of Washington's carbon market with the California and Quebec carbon market. The intent of linkage is to create a bigger market and theoretically bring down the carbon emission auction prices, leading to lower fuel costs. The earliest linkage could be facilitated is 2025.

A number of notable bills relating to environmental or climate policy were debated but did not survive to final passage, including: [House Bill 2051](#) reducing emissions from small engines, [House Bill 1433](#) concerning energy labeling on residential buildings, and [House Bill 2049](#) which would have placed new requirements on packaging producers to participate and fund the

collection and management of products through producer responsibility organizations. Below are some of the additional environmental policies approved this session:

Organic Material Management Systems: [House Bill 2301](#), sponsored by Representative Beth Doglio (D-22nd LD), makes various changes related to organic material management. The bill creates and modifies existing grant programs for projects and programs that reduce food waste, policy implementation, and compost products. Organic material collection requirements in certain jurisdictions and certain businesses are modified. The bill also makes technical changes and changes to product labeling. To implement this bill the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$106,000 (page 58), \$1.645 million (page 592), \$1.335 million (page 592), and \$3.176 million (page 644). These investments are contingent upon voters rejecting I-2117.

Electric Vehicles

Zero Emission School Buses: [House Bill 1368](#), sponsored by Representative Tana Senn (D-41st LD), requires the Department of Ecology (DOE) to administer the zero-emission school bus grant program, and prioritize grants to overburdened communities and school districts with buses manufactured prior to 2007. The DOE is required to provide notice of a grant award decision to the utility providing electrical service to the grant recipient. The OSPI, in consultation with the DOE, must develop guidance regarding formula factors to calculate the cost of ownership of zero emission buses, and to adopt rules to establish such formulas. It also provides that, once the total cost of ownership of zero emission school buses is at or below the total cost of ownership of diesel school buses, school districts may only receive reimbursement for the purchase of zero emission school buses and may only contract with pupil transportation service providers that use zero emission school buses. There are also exemptions to the reimbursement limitations for school districts meeting certain criteria. Finally, grant prioritization is based on the school district and not the bus route. \$15.715 million of Model Toxics Control revenues, plus \$4 million of CCA revenues, are provided for the Department of Ecology to provide grants to facilitate the transition from diesel school buses to zero-emissions vehicles. School districts serving tribes and vulnerable populations in overburdened communities are prioritized. The \$4 million from the CCA is contingent upon voters rejecting I-2117. (page 7 of the 2024 Supplemental Transportation Budget).

Zero-Emissions Electric Vehicle Infrastructure: An additional \$12 million of CCA revenues is provided for zero-emission electric vehicle supply equipment infrastructure at facilities to accommodate charging station installations. WSDOT must provide a report to the Transportation Committees of the Legislature estimating current biennial and future carbon reduction impacts resulting from zero-emission electric vehicles and supply equipment infrastructure by June 30, 2025. (page 5 of the 2024 Supplemental Transportation Budget).

Community Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure: \$105 million is appropriated for the development of community electric vehicle charging infrastructure, including local governments. This funding is void if the CCA is repealed. (page 59 of the 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget).

Voucher Incentive Program for Zero Emission Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicles: \$110 million is designated for program administration and staffing for a point of sale voucher incentive program to encourage faster adoption of zero-emission medium and heavy-duty vehicles. The program must be administered by a third party and be designed

based on the relevant Joint Transportation Committee report. (page 63 of the 2024 Supplemental Transportation Budget).

Decarbonization

Clean Buildings: [House Bill 1976](#), sponsored by Representative Mary Fosse (D-38th LD), relates to changing the incentive structure for tier 1 and tier 2 buildings. The Department of Commerce may provide incentives greater than the base incentive payment for upgrading tier 1 and tier 2 buildings under the Early Adoption Incentive Program to owners of buildings that comply with the State Energy Performance Standard.

Heat Pumps: [Senate Bill 5973](#), sponsored by Senator Marko Liias (D-21st LD), prohibits Homeowner Associations (HOAs) from adopting restrictions or prohibiting the installation of heat pumps. An HOA must pay a civil penalty up to \$1,000 if they violate this prohibition.

Natural Gas Transition: [House Bill 1589](#), sponsored by Representative Beth Doglio (D-22nd LD), was one of the most controversial bills to pass the Legislature. Requested by Puget Sound Energy, the bill allows the investor-owned utility to apply to the Utilities and Transportation Commission to combine the rate bases of their electric and natural gas utilities. The purpose of this would be to transition natural gas customers to electric service.

Facility Decarbonization Grants: \$14.5 million is allocated to provide grants to local governments, public higher education institutions, school districts, tribal governments, and state agencies to cause energy and operational costs.

Securing Grant Opportunities: \$3.5 million is allocated to the Department of Commerce to develop a web portal for grant opportunities related to energy, climate, and clean technology. An additional \$5 million is allocated to assist entities in access federal tax incentives and grants. \$4.5 million is provided to assist entities in authoring grant applications, and to provide support for federal grant reporting for entities that receive federal grants. An additional \$2 million is allocated to the Office of Financial Management to build a grant writing, tracking, and management database for the state acquisition of federal funds, and to support development of state strategies for successfully bringing specific types of federal funding to Washington. This funding is contingent on voters rejecting I-2117. (pages 144-146 and page 179 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Compliance with Tier 1 and Tier 2 Buildings: \$4 million is provided to the Association of Washington Cities and \$4 million to the Washington State Association of Counties to assess current energy performance for tier 1 and tier 2 covered buildings and provide cost estimates for upgrades. (page 4 of the 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget).

Planning and Infrastructure

Planning:

Wildland Urban Interface Fix: [Senate Bill 6120](#), sponsored by Senator Kevin Van De Wege (D-24th LD), is a “fix” to address concerns with past legislation. The bill changes the Wildland Urban Interface Code to make necessary fire safety updates in the state building code standards. The bill requires a revised map of areas at greatest risk of wildland fire, instead of the wildland urban

interface which applies much more broadly. Further, it also allows counties, cities, and towns to complete their own map of areas at greatest risk of wildfire when applying these fire safety codes, so long as substantially similar criteria is applied. Counties, cities, and towns issuing commercial and residential building permits in areas identified as high risk or very high risk on the map must only apply the fire safety code considerations in these areas. The State Building Code Council may not adopt more restrictive fire safety requirements than what is included in statute. Finally, the Department of Natural Resources is required to develop a method by which local governments may update the wildfire hazard map and the wildfire risk map. The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$307,000 for fiscal year 2025 to implement this bill (page 636).

Environmental and Land Use Appeals: [House Bill 2039](#), sponsored by Representative Joe Fitzgibbon (D-34th LD), modifies the process for direct review by the court of appeals for decisions issued by environmental boards that relate to clean energy projects. The bill extends, without expiration, the current process for direct review by the court of appeals for decisions issued by the environmental boards that do not relate to clean energy projects. Finally, it authorizes the consolidation of appeals arising out of the same projects when certain criteria are met, and it modifies the jurisdiction of the pollution control hearings board to hear appeals arising from specified environmental laws.

Integration of Special Purpose Districts into the Growth Management Act: \$250,000 is allocated to convene a task force to make recommendations to integrate water, sewer, school, and port districts into the Growth Management Act (GMA). Preliminary report due June 30, 2025; final report due December 1, 2025. (page 117 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Permitting Workforce: \$25,000 is allocated to the state board for community and technical colleges to collaborate with a nonprofit, professional association of state, county, city, and town officials engaged in development, enforcement, and administration of building construction codes and ordinances to design and implement training programs to accelerate the hiring of city and county permit technicians. (page 770 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Study on Electric Security Alarms: \$50,000 allocated for the Department of Labor and industries to work with the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and associated stakeholders having an interest in the installation and maintenance of electric security alarm systems to identify appropriate pathways to streamline the permitting process and any other recommendations in order to facilitate the installation of these systems in the state. Report is due December 15, 2024 (page 450 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Transportation:

The 2024 Legislature was particularly challenged in the transportation arena as project costs have increased to be as much as 50% higher than anticipated, and revenues have declined. Furthermore, the 2022 Move Ahead Washington Transportation Package relies heavily on revenues generated from the Climate Commitment Act. If I-2117 is approved by voters and the Climate Commitment Act is repealed, balancing the state's transportation budget will become even more challenging.

Following another year of record-breaking traffic fatalities, the Legislature continued to prioritize traffic safety policies and investments. One of the major policies in this arena, lowering the allowable blood alcohol concentration from .08 to .05 ([Senate Bill 5002](#)) did not receive further

consideration in the second year of the biennium. Below are other transportation-related bills and investments:

Automated Traffic Safety Cameras: [House Bill 2384](#), sponsored by Representative Brandy Donaghy (D-44th LD), allows cities and counties expanded authority to use automated traffic safety cameras (school zone cameras, red-light cameras, speed cameras, and bus lane enforcement cameras). The bill authorizes automated traffic safety cameras to be used on state routes within the city that are classified as city streets, and in work zones on city streets and county roads. All revenue generated remains with the local government, rather than the current law which requires cities to share speed camera revenue with the state. Additionally, revenue generated must be used for traffic safety purposes, and a proportionate share of the revenue must be spent in census tracts with household incomes in the lowest quartile and in areas that experience above average rates of injury crashes. The bill authorizes civilian employee who works for the law enforcement agency, public works, or transportation department, and who is sufficiently trained and certified by peace officers or traffic engineers, to review camera footage and issue citations. Individuals on public assistance must be provided with a 50% reduction in fines stemming from traffic safety cameras. Several other specific provisions are added exempting existing programs from the new requirements of the bill.

Study of Public Works Contracts: \$175,000 is allocated to the municipal research and services center (MRSC) to conduct a public works study. The study shall evaluate the application of public works requirements, including prevailing wage and apprentice utilization, on publicly funded construction, including those supported in part or in whole with state funds, the granting or loaning of public dollars, and tax deferrals or reimbursements. A report is due June 30, 2025. (page 449 the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Study of Registered Apprenticeship Programs: \$75,000 is allocated to the Department of Labor and Industries to survey registered apprenticeship programs and assimilate data that documents the fee structure and contractual elements of partnerships between the various registered apprenticeship programs and community and technical college system. A report is due November 15, 2024. (page 449 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Work and Change Orders: [Senate Bill 6192](#), sponsored by Senator Curtis King (R-14th LD), requires private construction projects, including subcontractors and suppliers, to issue a change order no later than 30 days after satisfactory completion of any additional work projects. The latest version of the bill does not grant any rights to a contractor, subcontractor, or supplier that is not in a written contract with, excluding residential projects of 12 units or less. It also requires contractors and subcontractors to issue change orders within 10 days of receipt of a change order.

Prompt Payment: [Senate Bill 6040](#), sponsored by Senator Javier Valdez (D-46th LD), requires the Capital Projects Advisory Review Board (CPARB) to review the extent to which prompt pay statutes meet the needs of small businesses, particularly women and minority-owned businesses. The review must also consider a requirement that within ten days of payment, the prime contractor and each higher tier subcontractor must make payment to its subcontractor until the small business or women, or minority-owned business has received payment. CPARB must present findings and recommendations to the Legislature on or before November 1, 2024. The bill takes effect on July 1, 2024.

General Government

The Legislature considered several proposals that would have broadly changed how local governments do business. Many of those proposals, including [House Bill 1932](#), allowing local agencies to transition to even-year elections; [House Bill 1990](#), and [House Bill 2307](#), attempting to assist agencies in managing public records; and [Senate Bill 5924](#) mandating access to personnel records, and more were considered but did not get across the finish line. However, several proposals did get across the finish line:

Lunar New Year: [House Bill 2209](#), sponsored by Representative My-Linh Thai (D-41st LD), designates the Lunar New Year as a legislatively recognized day.

Public Comment Notice: [House Bill 1105](#), sponsored by Representative Shelley Kloba (D-1st LD), was introduced during the 2023 session, and was approved during the 2024 session. The final version of the bill requires that whenever a public agency is mandated by law to provide notice that it is soliciting written public comment, the notice must specify the first and last date by which such public comment must be submitted. A public agency that violates the public comment notice requirements is subject to a civil penalty of \$500 for the first violation and \$1,000 for any subsequent violation, but no member of the agency is personally liable for a violation.

Property Tax Levies: [House Bill 2044](#), sponsored by Representative Davina Duerr (D-1st LD), eliminates a non-supplant restriction applicable to local government taxing districts located in a county with a population of 1.5 million or more.

Worker Meeting Rights: [Senate Bill 5778](#), sponsored by Senator Karen Keiser (D-33rd LD), prohibits an employer from taking any adverse employment action against an employee who does not attend or participate in an employer-sponsored meeting or speech, which is to communicate the employer's opinion concerning religious or political matters.

Technical Changes to Allowable Exemptions for Tourism Promotion Area Assessments: [House Bill 2137](#), sponsored by April Berg (D-44th LD), allows local governments to exempt lodging businesses, units, or guests from lodging charges imposed within a tourism promotion area. The bill is largely technical and stems from recent Department of Revenue feedback to cities on their interpretation of current allowable exemptions.

Adult Entertainment: [Senate Bill 6105](#), sponsored by Senator Rebecca Saldana (D-37th LD), requires adult entertainment establishments to provide training to employees about sexual harassment prevention, conflict de-escalation, and first aid. Additional requirements for establishments include panic buttons, customer behavior, security personnel, notice of termination and limits to certain charges to entertainers. An establishment must have written policies addressed in this bill. The Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) is required to modify or adopt rules to allow adult entertainment establishments to hold liquor licenses. If an establishment receives a citation for a violation of laws related to adult entertainers and establishments and has not abated the violation, then the LCB can suspend the establishment's liquor license. The LCB is also to notify Labor & Industries regarding violations related to workplace health and safety standards. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$40,000 (page 59), \$99,000 (page 202), and \$561,000 (page 450) to implement this bill.

Match Act: [House Bill 1870](#), sponsored by Representative Stephanie Barnard (R-8th LD) promotes economic development for local communities by requiring the Department of Commerce to assist local communities with federal grant applications and creating a resource

guide for federal grant applicants. The bill is null and void unless funded in the budget. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$500,000 to implement this bill (page 131).

State Building Code Council: [Senate Bill 6291](#), sponsored by Senator Lynda Wilson (R-17th LD), is bi-partisan legislation establishing criteria and altering the process for adopting statewide amendments to the state building code. The bill requires that the State Building Code Council (Council) adopt amendments on a 3-year cycle, in line with their existing 3-year model code adoption cycle. Substantive amendments may only be made once during the update cycle and must meet one of the following criteria: necessary to preserve public health, safety, or welfare; clarifies the intent or application of the state building code; necessary for consistency with federal laws or regulations; directed by the Legislature; corrects errors or omissions; eliminates an obsolete or conflicting regulation. The Council may not adopt amendments that differ substantially from the version of an amendment that is publicly heard. An interim code cycle may only be initiated to consider amendments that correct errors and omissions or eliminate obsolete, conflicting, or redundant regulations. Emergency amendments may be made when necessary to preserve public health, safety, or welfare, or for consistency with state or federal laws or regulations. The Council cannot act on emergency amendments at the meeting in which it is introduced. Additionally, the bill makes several changes to Council membership and organization, including clarifying that ex officio members do not count towards quorum, for purposes of calling special meetings, or voting thresholds. The bill also allows the Council to appoint technical advisory groups to review petitions for statewide amendments.

Ranked Choice Voting Study: \$125,000 was allocated to the Evans school of public policy and governance to study ranked choice voting and provide guidance for implementation by local jurisdictions and generate a report by June 1, 2025. The study was vetoed by the Governor on the basis that it was inadequate funding and did not provide enough time for local elections staff, who may be tasked as subject matter experts, to be able to properly dedicate the time that the comprehensive study would require, especially in a presidential election year.

Community Vitality

Behavioral Health: Leading up to the 2024 Legislative Session, a federal court fined Washington State \$100 million for its failure to comply with a settlement agreement associated with the *Trueblood* court decision. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget reflects paying that fine and continuing to invest in behavioral health by a total of \$660 million.

Crisis Relief Center Model: [Senate Bill 5853](#), sponsored by Senator Manka Dhingra (D-45th LD), allows 23-hour Crisis Relief Centers (CRCs) to serve children. This model of care was approved for adults in the 2023 session with the passage of [Senate Bill 5120](#). The bill requires 23-hour CRCs that treat child and adult clients to have separate entrances, internal entrances, spaces, and treatment areas with no contact between the children and adult clients. The Department of Health is directed to create licensure and certification rules for CRCs that provide services to children. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$134,000 for the implementation of Senate Bill 5853 (page 493). An additional \$1 million is allocated to establish grants to crisis services providers to establish and expand 23-hour crisis relief center capacity. (page 414 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

Extending Liability Protections: [House Bill 2088](#), sponsored by Representative Tina Orwall (D-33rd LD), is agency-request legislation by the Health Care Authority. This bill extends liability protections for responders dispatched from mobile rapid response crisis

teams and community-based crisis teams and applies to responders transporting patients to behavioral health services. Individuals will have immunity when acting in good faith within the scope of the individual's employment responsibilities.

Siting of Behavioral Health Facilities: Funding is allocated to retain a behavioral health facility siting administrator to coordinate the development of effective behavioral health housing options and provide technical assistance in siting facilities. (page 115 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget). Additionally, \$48 million additional is provided for specific facilities in communities across the state. (page 23 of the 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget).

Olympic Heritage Behavioral Health Campus: The Capital Budget provides \$30 million for the purchase of the Olympic Heritage Behavioral Health Facility, and \$25 million is provided for modernization. (page 87 of the 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget). In the Operating Budget, \$134 million is allocated to operate 72 beds and three wards in the facility. \$1.25 million is allocated to conduct a study on the future long-term uses of the Olympic heritage behavioral health campus. (page 175 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

State Behavioral Health Facilities: \$20 million is allocated to operate an additional 30 beds at Western State Hospital. \$9.3 million is allocated to operate an additional 8 beds at Eastern State Hospital. (page 244 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget). An additional \$800,000 in capital funding is provided for rapid bed capacity at the Maple Lane facility. (page 88 of the 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget).

Childcare: Two competing childcare proposals were introduced this session. [House Bill 1716](#), sponsored by Rep. Alicia Rule (D-Blaine) would have established a business and occupation tax rebate for employers who provide childcare assistance to employees. [House Bill 2232](#), sponsored by Rep. Tana Senn (D-Mercer Island) would have required employers who already receive a tax preference to provide childcare on-site or pay at least 25% of childcare costs for an employee. However, the Legislature did not approve either proposal. Below are those actions that were approved related to improving childcare access:

Access to Childcare Subsidies: [House Bill 1945](#) and [House Bill 2124](#) both make it easier for families to access Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) subsidies if they already qualify for certain food assistance or early education programs. [House Bill 2111](#) streamlines the process for families to apply for WCCC.

Childcare Business and Occupation Tax Preference: [Senate Bill 6038](#), sponsored by Senator Claire Wilson (D-Federal Way), eliminates the state business and occupation tax for child care providers of children up to age 12 and children up to age 17 who have a verified special need. The exemption expires in 2035 and in accordance with state law, any tax exemption is subject to evaluation by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC).

Early Learning Grant and Loan Program: [House Bill 2195](#), sponsored by Representative Lisa Callan (D-5th LD), eliminates the grant and loan award limits in the Early Learning Facilities program (ELF) by July 1, 2025. The bill prioritizes grants and loans for applications for construction and renovation projects that are ready for construction. The bill also adds translation services as an eligible administrative cost.

Public Safety

The Legislature continues to grapple with how best to balance police accountability with public safety. Within the Democrat majorities, some legislators want to advance more police accountability and reform measures while others would prefer to modify previously enacted reforms and invest in hiring more law enforcement personnel. This divide was pronounced during the 2023 session but became more entrenched during the 2024 session with the emergence of a bi-partisan, bi-cameral public safety caucus led by moderate Democrats.

The most notable and unexpected action on public safety was the Legislature's choice to enact Initiative-2113. In 2021, the Legislature approved [House Bill 1054](#), establishing a statewide standard for when police officers can engage in vehicular pursuits. [Senate Bill 5352](#) from the 2023 session made further changes to the statute, expanding the list of eligible reasons to engage in a pursuit under the reasonable suspicion evidentiary threshold, providing direction on when to end a pursuit, and adding a requirement that the pursuing officer must have completed emergency vehicle operators' course. [Initiative-2113](#) allows an officer to engage in a vehicular pursuit if they have reasonable suspicion to believe the driver has violated the law. The Legislature chose to enact Initiative-2113 into law with bipartisan support. Several of Tacoma's legislators voted against the Initiative, including Representatives Mena and Morgan, and Senator Trudeau.

Along with approving Initiative-2113, \$400,000 has been allocated to the Office of Financial Management to contract with a consultant to collect, review, and analyze data related to vehicular pursuits and to compile a report. The report must include recommendations to the Legislature on what data should be collected by law enforcement agencies throughout the state so that the Legislature and other policymakers have consistent and uniform information necessary to evaluate policies on pursuits. The report is due June 30, 2025. (page 178 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs and other law enforcement advocates requested increased funding to hire law enforcement officers. [House Bill 2231](#) proposed providing cities and counties with a credit against the state sales tax to fund officers, while [House Bill 2211/Senate Bill 6076](#) would have authorized cities and counties to councilmanically increase the sales tax to fund public safety. While introduced, none of these proposals advanced through the legislative process. Even more modest proposals, such as [Senate Bill 6242](#) which would have permanently eliminated the 25% city cost share for sending officers to the Basic Law Enforcement Academy did not advance. While the bill did not advance, this change was temporarily funded in the budget; thereby allowing cities to not have to pay the 25% cost share for officers trained July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Other legislature supporting the recruitment and retention of officers included:

Basic Law Enforcement Academy Donations: [Senate Bill 6301](#), sponsored by Senator John Lovick (D-44th LD), allows the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) to accept donated money or properties for the purpose of carrying out CJTC's statutory purposes.

Flexibility for Hiring Law Enforcement Officers: The Legislature approved three proposals allowing increased flexibility for local law enforcement agencies hiring law enforcement officers:

- [Senate Bill 6157](#), sponsored by Senator John Lovick (D-44th LD), allows Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) residents to apply for civil service and law enforcement

positions. Agencies who hire DACA recipients are protected from liability for breach of contract if there is a change in federal law related to DACA recipients.

- [House Bill 1530](#), sponsored by Representative Julio Cortes (D-38th LD), allows law enforcement agencies to hire lawful permanent residents.
- [Senate Bill 5424](#), sponsored by Senator John Lovick (D-44th LD), allows law enforcement officers to work part-time hours.

Police Accountability Efforts: Police accountability advocates continued to push for measures to hold police accountable for their actions. Several bills from the 2023 session carried over for consideration in the 2024 session but did not pass into law, including [House Bill 1579](#), establishing independent prosecutions to align with the new Office of Independent Investigations that was established in 2021. Also, [House Bill 1445](#), authorizing the Attorney General's Office to bring actions against local law enforcement agencies for violations of the law and [House Bill 1025](#), establishing a civil cause of action for officer misconduct. The Legislature did approve two noteworthy accountability bills:

Hog-tying Prohibition: [Senate Bill 6009](#), sponsored by Senator Yasmin Trudeau (D-27th LD), prohibits law enforcement officers from hog-tying an individual and makes hog-tying a form of excessive force. It also defines the term hog-tying to mean fastening together bound or restrained ankles to bound or restrained wrists. The use of a product or device that does not require fastening together bound or restrained ankles to bound or restrained wrists is not a hog-tie or hog-tying.

Independent Investigations: [House Bill 2086](#), sponsored by Representative Debra Entenman (D-47th LD), changes the Office of Independent Investigations' (OII) authority to obtain and share specific information with a member of an involved agency. The OII may share information that is essential to protect the safety of a community or the integrity of an ongoing or urgent investigation.

Catalytic Converters: [House Bill 2153](#), sponsored by Representative Cindy Ryu (D-32nd LD), deters the theft of catalytic converters by establishing new felony and gross misdemeanor crimes for trafficking, processing, selling, or offering to sell stolen catalytic converters. To determine if selling a catalytic converter is stolen or not, VIN numbers can be written on catalytic converters before a legal sale if the buyer requests it. Only licensed scrap processors are allowed to disassemble or de-can a catalytic converter. The Washington State Patrol is required to conduct periodic inspections of licensed purchases of catalytic converters that have been removed from vehicles. The 2024 Transportation Budget allocates \$46,000 (page 37) to the Washington State Patrol for the implementation of the bill.

Organized Retail Crime: The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$1,000,000 for a pilot program to respond to organized retail crime. A report is due June 15, 2025. (page 103 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget). The Legislature considered but did not advance [Senate Bill 5160](#), regarding retail theft.

Firearm Sensitive Places: [Senate Bill 5444](#), sponsored by Senator Javier Valdez (D-46th LD), makes it a gross misdemeanor for a person to knowingly possess a firearm in public libraries, zoos or aquariums accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums or the Zoological Association of America, and transit station or transit facilities, including all passenger facilities, structures, stops, shelters, bus zones, properties, and rights-of-way owned, leased held, or used

by a transit authority for the purpose of providing public transportation services. The definition of transit stations and facilities does not include transit vehicles.

Responding to Opioid Crisis Through Public Outreach and in Schools: The Legislature enacted several policies to respond increase education, including [Senate Bill 5906](#), which requires the Department of Health (DOH) to develop an ongoing drug overdose campaign, and to conduct a feasibility study for an opioid overdose prevention hotline. Additionally, \$2 million is allocated to the Department of Health to administer grants to local health jurisdictions for opioid and fentanyl awareness, prevention, and education campaigns.

Specific proposals that the Legislature approved to address to the opioid crisis through the education system include:

- [Senate Bill 5804](#) requires all schools to carry one set of opioid overdose reversal medication and adopt related policies. Reversal medication must be added to each school's first aid kit, and it instructs schools to include at least one location of the medication on the school's emergency map.
- [House Bill 2112](#) requires public and private institutes of higher education to provide opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information to students. Higher education institutions must also provide naloxone and fentanyl strips, along with training for staff and residence halls on usage.
- [House Bill 1956](#) directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to develop, update, and distribute substance use prevention and awareness materials to schools.

Naloxone for First Responders: \$1.25 million is allocated to the Department of Health to purchase a dedicated supply of naloxone for first responders across the state. (page 462 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget). An additional \$400,000 is allocated to provide increased support for EMS and fire departments in their opioid prevention efforts, including naloxone, leave-behind programs, overdose response communication, and staffing costs for community-based paramedics serving as navigators for education, resource, and follow-up supports. (page 487 of the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget).

First Responder Wellness: [House Bill 2311](#), sponsored by Representative Lauren Davis (D-32nd LD), requires the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) to create a task force on first responder wellness and develop a 40-hour training program and peer support network. The CJTC will establish and administer a grant program for funding the implementation of peer support counseling programs within the state. The bill also amends statutory provisions to allow testimonial privilege during peer support group meetings.

Electric Vehicle Fires: [Senate Bill 5812](#), sponsored by Senator Jeff Wilson (R-19th LD), directs the Washington State Patrol to work with the Department of Ecology to conduct a study on electric vehicle fires.

Courts/Public Defenders/Prosecutors: Leading up to session, counties – especially those in Eastern Washington – indicated a challenge in recruiting public defenders and prosecutors. In response, legislators introduced a variety of ideas including incrementally increasing the state's contribution to public defense costs over time ([Senate Bill 5773](#)) and creating a state program to assist local governments with public defense costs ([House Bill 2202](#)). The Legislature did approve [Senate Bill 5780](#), sponsored by Senator Nikki Torres (R-15th LD), expands training opportunities for public defense. The bill directs the Office of Public Defense to administer a law student rural public defense program, expand capacity for its defense training academy

program, and directs the Criminal Justice Training Commission to provide a similar program for prosecutors and the administration of a law student rural public prosecution program. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$611,000 (page 23) and \$694,000 (page 433) to implement this bill. The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget allocates \$442,000 (page 22) for the Office of Public Defense to administer a public defense recruitment program. The program should engage with students at colleges and law schools; provide technical assistance and training to public defense and offer recruitment strategies.