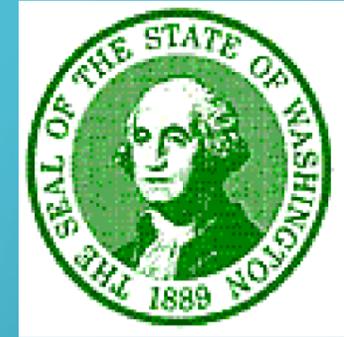


# PREPARING FOR THE WASHINGTON 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION:



## Washington State Council on Aging Legislative Priorities

and

## Joint Legislative Executive Committee Report

Presented by Gail Haskett, Chair of the Washington State Council on Aging  
Founder and President of Northwest healthcare, Inc. and Aging Resources, Inc.



**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL ON AGING**

**2015 Legislative Priorities**

## 2015 Council Focus:

Nothing will better serve the needs of our rapidly growing Senior population than investing in the fundamental services provided to those most in need – the Senior Citizen’s Services Act needs to be expanded, and we need to plan for the future of our state – a future where older people live more productive lives with a modest amount of help.

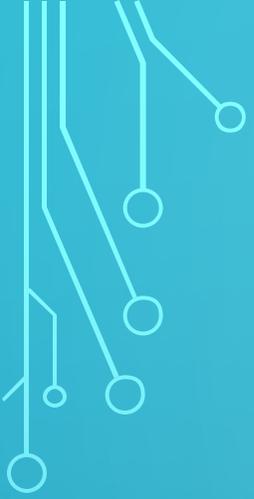
The aging demographic is rapidly growing and modest investment today can preserve programs that have immense value. For those receiving care, the family members providing services to those in need, and for Washington's economy, our system of focusing on caring for older adults in their home makes this State a model of how to best treat older adults while conserving precious State resources.

## Legislative Priorities:

- ☑ **Expand** Senior Citizens Services Act (SCSA) which best enables elders to stay in their homes:
  - Enhance Family Caregiver Support Program and Options Counseling through Community Living Connections.
  - Ensure funding for Nutrition programs, Dental and Vision Services
  - Support transportation options, in particular for those who don't have large urban transportation systems nearby

## Legislative Priorities:

- ☑ Ensure Community First Choice Option (CFCO) savings are reinvested in Community Based Programs
- ☑ Restore in-home care funded hours targeted to individuals at risk for out-of-home placement
- ☑ Study public and private long-term care financing options
- ☑ Ensure that the long-term support system is strong enough to support and protect vulnerable adults
- ☑ Support development of a comprehensive Transportation Package
- ☑ Continue the work of the JLEC.
  - Formulate a plan to extend the work of the JLEC either as a standing committee in each chamber, or as an ad hoc committee of the Legislature.



# STATE OF WASHINGTON

## Joint Legislative Executive Committee

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The Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues was established in the 2013-15 operating budget. It is the result of the recommendations made at the Governor's Aging Summit



## Members:

- Senate:
  - Sen. Barbara Bailey
  - Sen. Bruce Dammeier
  - Sen. Jeannie Darneille
  - Sen. Karen Keiser
- House of Representatives:
  - Rep. Paul Harris
  - Rep. Laurie Jinkins
  - Rep. Norm Johnson
  - Rep. Steve Tharinger
- Executive Branch:
  - Marcie Frost, Director of the Department of Retirement Systems
  - Jason McGill, Representing the Office of the Governor
  - Kevin Quigley, Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services
  - Dorothy Teeter, Director of the Health Care Authority

## Scope of Work:

Identify strategic actions to prepare for the aging of Washington's population by:

1. Establishing a profile of Washington's older population and population with disabilities and a projection of those populations through 2030
2. Establishing an inventory of services and supports from health care and long-term services and supports
3. Identifying budget and policy options to effectively use public resources to reduce the growth rate in state expenditures compared to current policies.

# Scope of Work:

4. Identifying strategies to better serve the health care needs of the aging population and people with disabilities and promote healthy living.
5. Identifying options for financing mechanisms for long-term care services and supports to promote additional private responsibility to meet needs for services.
6. Identifying options to promote financial security in retirement, support people staying in the workforce, and expand the availability of workplace retirement savings plans.
7. Identifying options to help communities adapt to the aging demographic in planning for housing, land use, and transportation.

11/04/2013

The November 4 meeting was more of an “orientation”; members received background information on aging issues, participated in a roundtable discussion on those issues, and planned the meetings for 2014.

Topics discussed included:

- A review of the Governor's Aging Summit recommendations
- Adult Protective Services, including information from the Department of Social and Health Services, the King County Prosecutor's Office, and Disability Rights Washington
- Options for promoting financial security, including information from the Department of Retirement Services and a presentation on life settlements (converting life insurance to income to pay for long-term care needs)
- Long-term services and supports, including information from the Olympia Area Agency on Aging, the Department of Social and Health Services, and the Office of the Insurance Commissioner

## JLEC TOPICS BY MEETING

- 05/19/2014 : Healthy Aging
- 06/18/2014: Workforce Quality and Protection From Elder Abuse and Exploitation
- 07/14/2014: Financial Security
- 09/15/2014: Updates and Initial Recommendations
- 11/2014: Begin Final Report
- 12/10/2014: Final Report for Legislature

For further information and to watch actual sessions:

[http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com\\_tvwplayer&eventID=2014091002](http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvwplayer&eventID=2014091002)

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/jointcommittees/ADJLEC/Pages/default.aspx>.