

JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

January 11, 2024
11:30 AM

Hearing Room H-170

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Michael Dembrow, Co-Chair
Sen. Dick Anderson
Sen. Lew Frederick

Rep. Khanh Pham, Co-Chair
Rep. Paul Holvey
Rep. Bobby Levy
Rep. Emerson Levy
Rep. Mark Owens

STAFF PRESENT:

Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office
Haylee Morse-Miller, Legislative Fiscal Office
Vivian Stair, Committee Assistant

EXHIBITS:

Exhibits from this meeting are available [here](#)

00:00:40 [Meeting Called to Order](#)
00:00:41 Senator Dembrow, Presiding Co-Chair
00:01:35 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office

00:02:16 [41. Department of State Lands – Land Administration System Replacement](#)
00:02:30 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
00:03:42 Jean Straight, Deputy Director of Administration, Department of State Lands
00:05:49 Michelle Lisper, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
00:06:21 Ms. Gibson
00:07:11 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
00:07:26 VOTE: 7-0-1
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, E. Levy, Pham
Exc: Rep. B. Levy
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Rep. Holvey

00:07:48 [42. Parks and Recreation Department – Park Acquisitions](#)
00:08:17 April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office

00:09:41 Lisa Sumption, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
00:10:57 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
00:11:10 Ms. McDonald
00:11:28 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
00:11:38 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:11:53 Ms. McDonald
00:12:14 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Dembrow

00:12:30 **44. Department of Forestry – 2023 Fire Season**

00:12:40 April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office
00:13:37 James Short, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Forestry
00:16:28 Mike Shaw, Deputy State Forester, Department of Forestry
00:16:47 Rep. Holvey
00:16:59 Mr. Short
00:17:28 Co-Chair Pham
00:17:43 Mr. Shaw
00:19:13 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:19:28 Mr. Shaw
00:20:07 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:20:22 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
00:20:34 Ms. McDonald
00:21:27 Sen. Anderson
00:21:52 Ms. McDonald
00:23:10 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
00:23:25 Rep. Holvey
00:23:54 VOTE: 7-1-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
Nays: Rep. Holvey
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Anderson

00:24:30 **45. Department of Forestry – Urban Forestry and Forest Legacy Programs**

00:24:40 April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office
00:25:52 Josh Barnard, Forest Resources Division Chief, Department of Forestry
00:29:40 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:29:53 Scott Altenoff, Urban and Community Assistance Program Manager, Department of Forestry

00:30:22 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
00:30:36 Ms. McDonald
00:31:14 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
00:31:26 Sen. Anderson
00:31:59 Ms. McDonald
00:32:35 Sen. Anderson
00:32:49 Co-Chair Pham
00:33:28 Mr. Altenoff
00:33:48 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Rep. Holvey
00:34:03 Rep. Holvey

00:34:22 **46. Department of Energy – Financial Oversight**
00:34:31 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
00:35:49 Janine Benner, Director, Department of Energy
00:40:19 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
00:40:31 Ms. Gibson
00:41:30 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
00:41:48 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Dembrow

00:42:13 **47. Department of Energy – Grid Resilience**
00:42:19 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
00:43:45 Michael Williams, Assistant Director, Department of Energy
00:47:10 Rep. B. Levy
00:47:24 Mr. Williams
00:47:43 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:47:50 Mr. Williams
00:48:13 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
00:48:25 Ms. Gibson
00:48:58 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
00:49:13 Sen. Anderson
00:49:36 Ms. Gibson
00:50:01 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:50:12 Ms. Gibson

- 00:50:36** VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Frederick
- 00:51:00** **48. Department of Energy – Climate Action Plan**
00:51:03 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
00:52:01 Janine Benner, Director, Department of Energy
00:54:29 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:54:51 Ms. Benner
00:55:39 Co-Chair Dembrow
00:56:02 Rep. B. Levy
00:56:14 Ms. Benner
00:56:31 Rep. E. Levy
00:56:57 Ms. Benner
00:58:02 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
00:58:15 Ms. Gibson
00:58:46 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
00:59:03 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Dembrow
- 00:59:16** **51. Department of Environmental Quality – Information Technology Services**
00:59:38 April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:00:08 Matt Davis, Policy and External Affairs Manager, Department of Environmental Quality
01:02:23 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
01:02:34 Ms. McDonald
01:03:07 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
01:03:21 Sen. Anderson
01:03:46 Mr. Davis
01:04:35 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Rep. Pham
- 01:04:49** **52. Department of Agriculture – Resilient Food Systems**
01:05:11 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office

01:06:25 Jonathan Sandau, Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture
01:08:29 Co-Chair Dembrow
01:08:48 Mr. Sandau
01:10:42 Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
01:10:55 Ms. Gibson
01:11:26 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
01:11:44 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Dembrow

01:12:01 **53. Department of Land Conservation and Development – Agency Level Change**
01:12:11 Haylee Morse-Miller, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:13:02 Brenda Bateman, Director, Department of Land Conservation and Development
01:16:53 Rep. B. Levy
01:17:51 Co-Chair Dembrow
01:18:44 Rep. B. Levy
01:19:14 Sen. Anderson
01:19:42 Adam Crawford, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
01:20:10 Ms. Morse-Miller
01:20:40 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
01:20:59 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Anderson

01:21:19 **55. Water Resources Department – Dam Rehabilitation**
01:21:30 April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:22:15 Bryn Hudson, Water Policy Analyst and Legislative Coordinator, Water Resources Department
01:24:10 Rep. B. Levy
01:24:34 Ms. Hudson
01:24:38 Tony Janicek, State Engineer and Dam Safety Manager, Water Resources Department
01:25:16 Sen. Anderson
01:25:59 Adam Crawford, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
01:26:11 Ms. McDonald
01:26:41 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee

- 01:26:54** VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Anderson
- 01:27:09** **56. Water Resources Department – Strengthening Dam Safety**
01:27:13 April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:27:46 Bryn Hudson, Water Policy Analyst and Legislative Coordinator, Water Resources Department
01:29:11 Adam Crawford, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
01:29:23 Ms. McDonald
01:29:49 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
01:30:02 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Anderson
- 01:30:23** **57. Water Resources Department – Walla Walla Groundwater Study**
01:30:30 April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:31:12 Bryn Hudson, Water Policy Analyst and Legislative Coordinator, Water Resources Department
01:33:10 Rep. B. Levy
01:33:52 Co-Chair Dembrow
01:34:29 Adam Crawford, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
01:34:39 Ms. McDonald
01:35:38 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
01:35:49 Rep. Breese-Iverson
01:36:10 Ms. McDonald
01:37:13 Rep. Breese-Iverson
01:37:38 Ms. McDonald
01:38:31 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Dembrow
- 01:38:48** **58. Land Use Board of Appeals – Strategic Plan**
01:39:05 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:40:05 H. M. Zamudio, Board Member, Land Use Board of Appeals
01:41:20 Kendra Beck, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services

01:41:43 Ms. Gibson
01:42:05 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
01:42:19 VOTE: 8-0-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Breese-Iverson, Holvey, B. Levy, E. Levy, Pham
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Rep. Pham

01:42:35 **59. Columbia River Gorge Commission – Climate Action Plan Position**
01:42:59 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:43:56 Lisa Naas Cook, Vital Signs Program Manager, Columbia River Gorge Commission
01:48:28 Rep. B. Levy
01:48:39 Ms. Naas Cook
01:50:00 Rep. B. Levy
01:50:09 Ms. Naas Cook
01:50:19 Connie Acker, Finance and Administration Manager, Columbia River Gorge Commission
01:51:30 Rep. B. Levy
01:51:40 Ms. Acker
01:52:14 Co-Chair Dembrow
01:52:29 Ms. Naas Cook
01:54:07 Kendra Beck, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services
01:54:22 Ms. Gibson
01:54:47 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee
01:54:57 VOTE: 6-2-0
Ayes: Sens. Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Holvey, E. Levy, Pham
Nays: Reps. Breese-Iverson, B. Levy
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Rep. Pham

01:55:44 **60. Columbia River Gorge Commission – DEI Outreach Initiative**
01:56:13 Wendy Gibson, Legislative Fiscal Office
01:56:47 Lisa Naas Cook, Vital Signs Program Manager, Columbia River Gorge Commission
02:00:38 Rep. Breese-Iverson
02:01:24 Ms. Naas Cook
02:02:46 Rep. Breese-Iverson
02:03:29 Ms. Naas Cook
02:05:14 Rep. B. Levy
02:05:59 Ms. Naas Cook
02:07:52 Rep. B. Levy
02:08:00 Ms. Naas Cook

02:08:16 Connie Acker, Finance and Administration Manager, Columbia River Gorge Commission

02:09:20 Rep. B. Levy

02:09:41 Co-Chair Dembrow

02:11:01 Rep. Breese-Iverson

02:12:07 Ms. Naas Cook

02:13:03 Ms. Acker

02:13:43 Ms. Naas Cook

02:13:52 Sen. Anderson

02:14:07 Co-Chair Dembrow

02:14:22 Ms. Acker

02:14:43 Rep. Breese-Iverson

02:14:56 Ms. Gibson

02:15:17 Co-Chair Dembrow

02:16:10 Rep. B. Levy

02:16:13 Co-Chair Dembrow

02:17:02 Sen. Anderson

02:17:16 Ms. Gibson

02:18:15 Kendra Beck, Chief Financial Office, Department of Administrative Services

02:18:29 Ms. Gibson

02:18:51 MOTION: Co-Chair Pham moves the Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation to the Full Committee

02:19:08 VOTE: 5-3-0
Ayes: Sens. Dembrow, Frederick; Reps. Holvey, E. Levy, Pham
Nays: Sen. Anderson; Reps. Breese-Iverson, B. Levy
MOTION CARRIES
Carrier: Sen. Dembrow

02:19:47 Meeting Adjourned