



Washington State Legislature 2025

WA State Senior Citizens Lobby

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January 13, 2025



▶ New Biennium

- Long session: 105 days
(1/13/25 – 4/27/25)
- Biennial Budget will be adopted (& modified in 2026)
- House & Senate turnover is large
- New Gov. Ferguson has different perspectives than former Gov. Inslee
- Fiscal issues will dominate the session
- Fewer than usual pre-filed bills



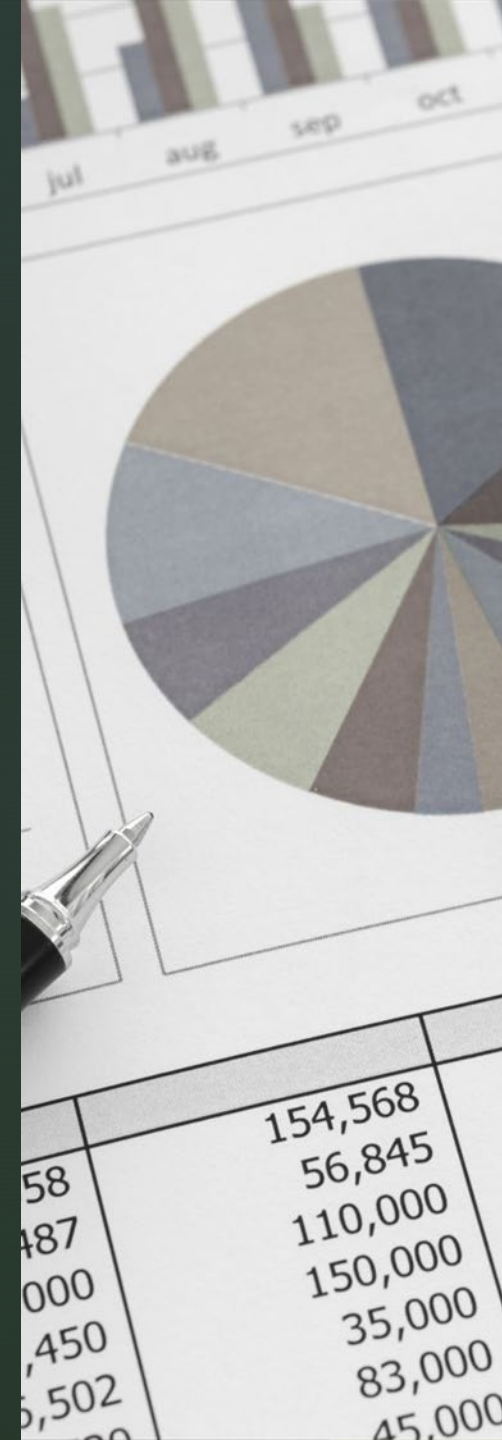
Off to a Hard Start – Budget Challenges

From **Last Year** ... some downward revenue trends but

November economic forecast estimated \$579 million increase in revenue

- Personal incomes were stronger
- Employment & construction were increasing

... **Influencing factors pointed to little net change**



▶ To This Year...

Revenue Forecast of 11/24 indicated several billion dollars **less revenue** than previously estimated;and

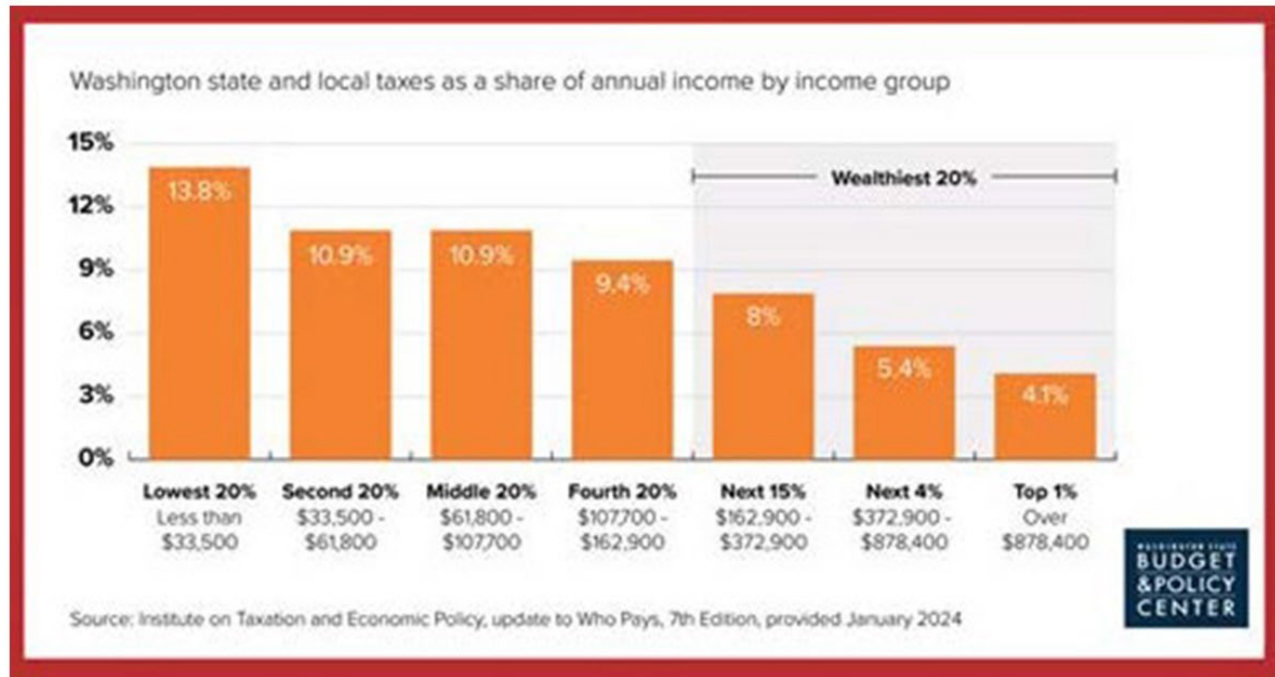
The **budget needs are growing** within existing programs

- Caseloads are up in most services and health care
- Inflationary effects on supplies
- Union contracts create \$1.5 billion in increased salaries
- OSPI requesting \$3 billion more to keep help sustain local districts (\$1 billion for special ed)
- Fair Start for Kids Act requires more funding for affordable childcare and early learning

Plus uncertain federal revenue

And No Easy Way to Raise Needed Funds

Now WA has the 2nd most regressive state tax structure



Legislative Schedule: Cut-Offs

- **Friday 2/21/25** - Cutoff in committee, House of Origin
- **Friday, 2/2/25** – Cutoff for fiscal & transportation bills, House of Origin
- **Wednesday, 3/12/25** – Cutoff for bills to pass House of origin (except fiscal)
- **Wednesday, 4/2/25** – Cutoff in committee, Opposite Chamber
- **Tuesday, 4/8/25**– Cutoff for fiscal & transportation bills, Opposite Chamber
- **Wednesday, 4/16/25** – Cutoff for all but budget, initiatives, NTIB, and conference items
- **Sunday, 4/27/25** – End of Session

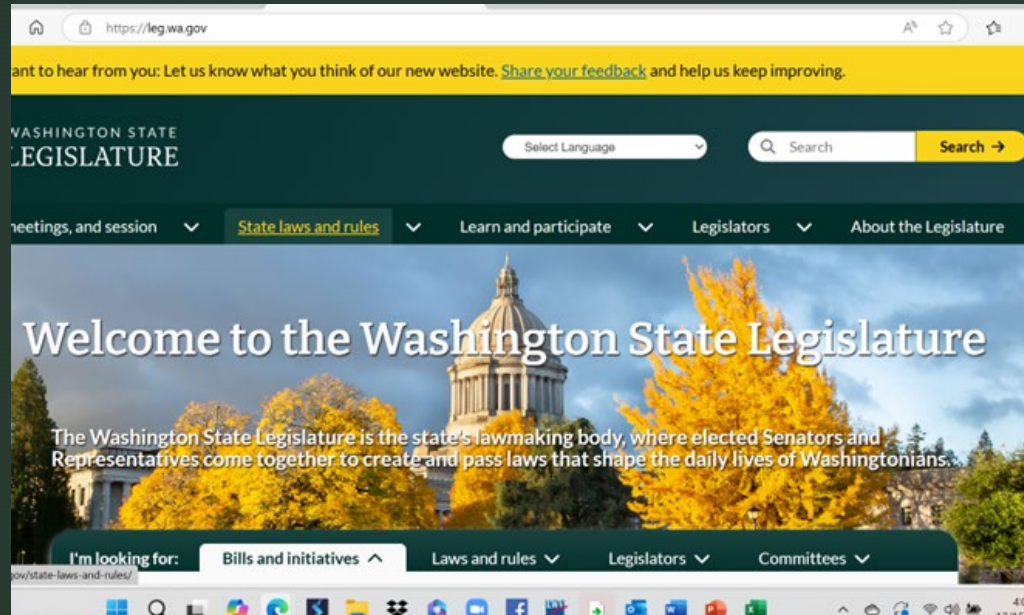
JANUARY 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

FEBRUARY 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	27	28	29	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17
18	19 Presidents Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	1	2

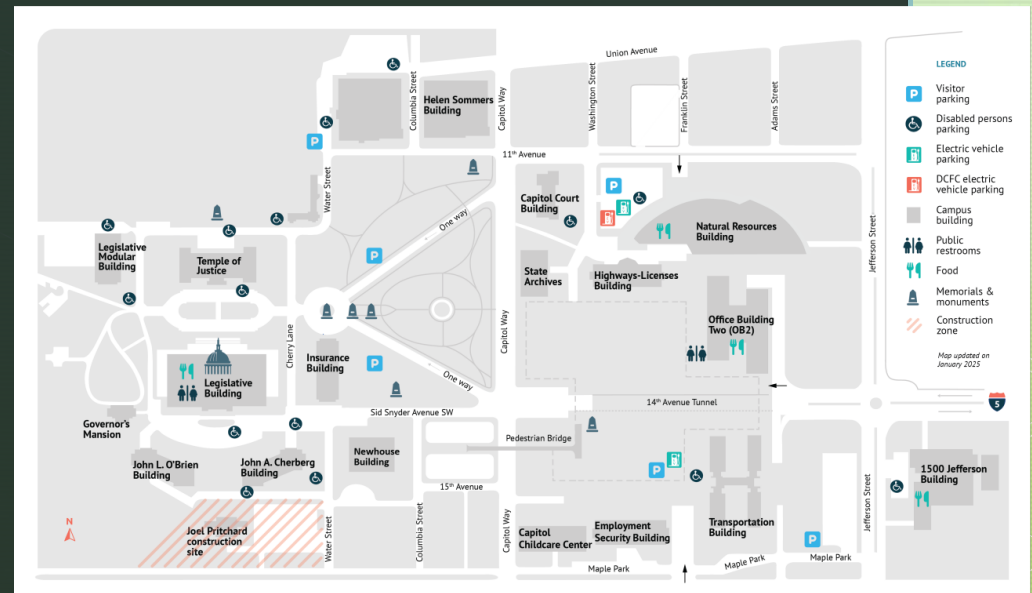
MARCH 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Good Friday	30
31 Easter Sunday	1	2	3	4	5	6

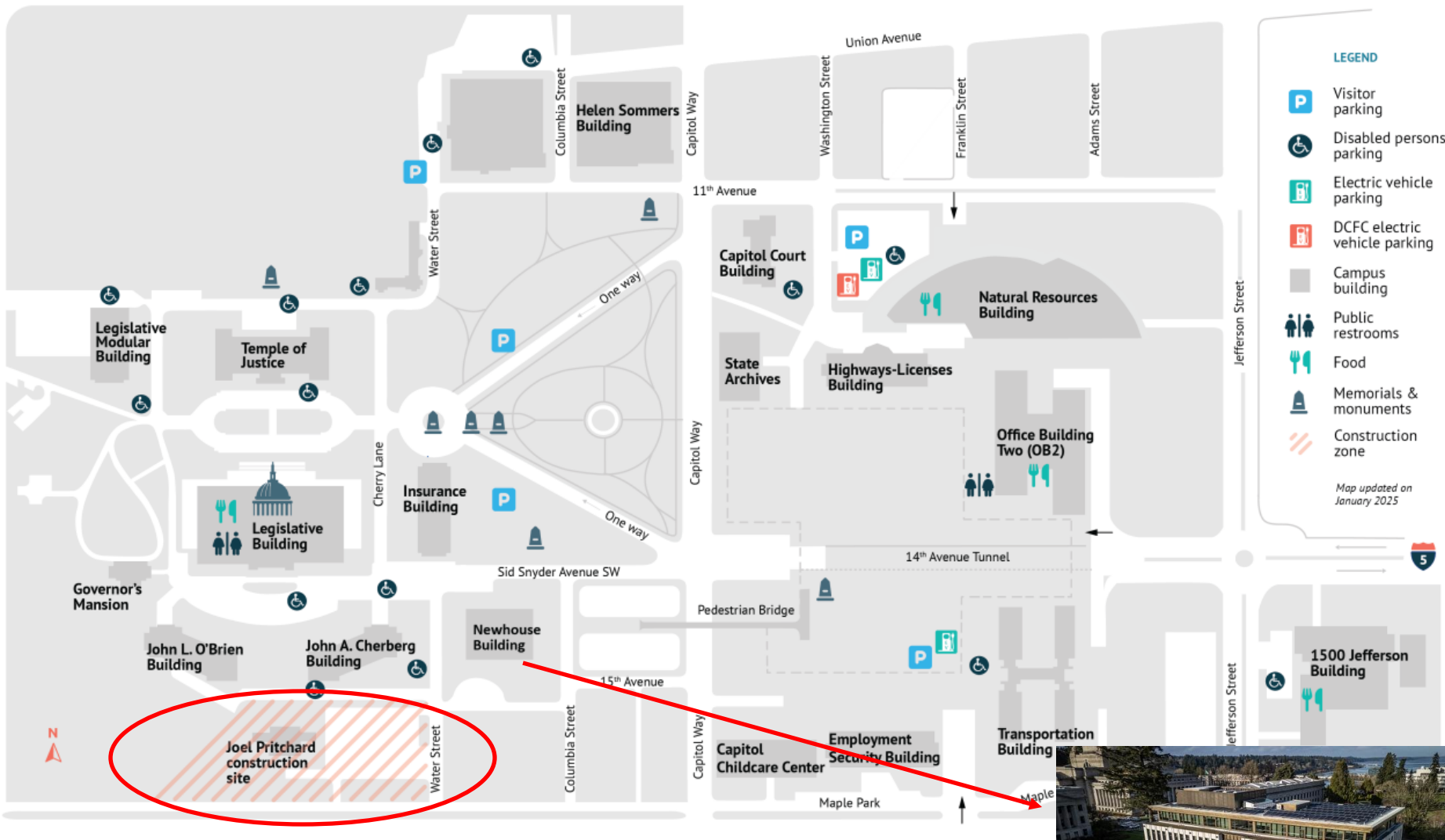
Different This Year

- New Web Site



- Campus Changes





Get parking help and shuttle service info here:
<https://capitol.wa.gov/visit/getting-here-directions-parking>

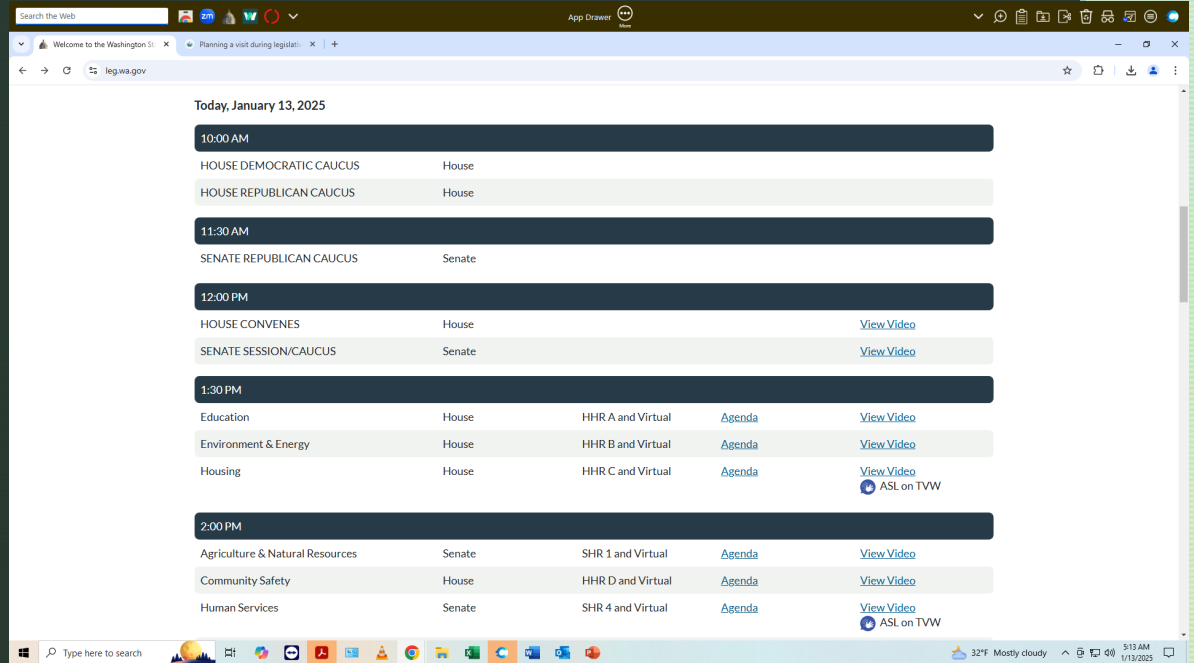
Finding the committee schedule... Hearings and executive sessions are already scheduled for this week

The screenshot shows the Washington State Legislature website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a large banner image of the Washington State Capitol building with the text "Welcome to the Washington State Legislature". Below the banner, there is a search bar with the text "Find a bill or initiative". The search bar has a dropdown menu for "Biennium" set to "2025-26" and radio buttons for "Bill" (selected) and "Initiative". There is also a text input field for "Enter bill number" and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, there is a link that says "Looking for something else? View [more ways to find bills.](#)".

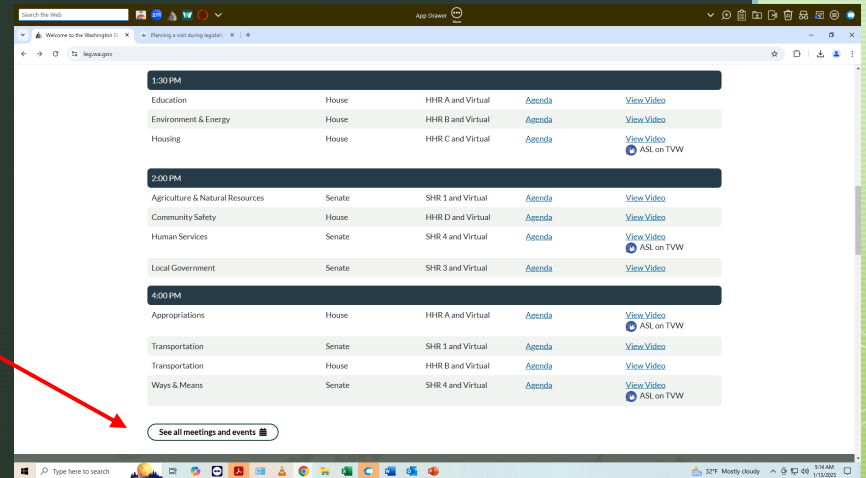
Find out what's happening in the Legislature

Scroll down for current day

Scroll down on home page (leg.wa.gov) for current day



Then click on “see all meetings and events” at the bottom



Then fill in the calendar to get the week or more

The screenshot shows the Washington State Legislature website. The main heading is "Committee Schedules, Agendas, and Documents". Below this is a "Filters" section with the following options:

- Year: 2025
- Date Range: 01/13/2025 to 01/13/2025
- Chamber: Select
- Committee: Select
- Bill or Initiative Number: Bill (selected), Initiative, Number: []
- View By: Schedule (selected), Agenda, Bill

A red arrow points to the date range input field. Below the filters is a "Search" button and a list of "Additional Information" links: House Session Planner, Senate Weekly Schedules, Committee Sign-In, and Daily Schedule.

Meeting videos are provided by [TVW](#). Live video is available at the stated time. Archived video becomes available approximately two hours after the close of the hearing or floor session. Videos are not available for all meetings.

Chamber	Committee	Date/Time	Location	Agenda	View Docs	View Video
House	Education	1/13/2025 1:30 PM	HHR A and Virtual	Agenda	View Docs	View Video
House	Environment & Energy	1/13/2025 1:30 PM	HHR B and Virtual	Agenda	View Docs	View Video
House	Housing	1/13/2025 1:30 PM	HHR C and Virtual	Agenda	View Docs	View Video

ASL on TVW

Still the same....

- Remote testimony allowed again this year
- In-person appointments still constrained by security

Thank You!

