



Prevention Alliance

2023 Session Summary

At 10:05 pm on April 23, the legislature adjourned the 2023 legislative session, Sine Die. The 2023 Washington State legislative session was a long session, which means it lasted for 105 days and included the business of writing the full 2023-25 biennial operating, transportation, and capital budgets.

While the regular session did technically adjourn on time for the sixth year in a row, the legislature failed to reach an agreement before adjournment for the 'Blake Fix', which relates to drug possession. Given there was a pressing deadline regarding that issue, the legislature convened again on March 16th for a one-day special session to pass the Blake bill, [SB 5536](#). For additional background on the legislation and the compromise bill, see this [piece](#) from the Seattle Times.

This was the first time since 2020 that the legislature convened fully in-person. While there were some parts of session that resumed in an 'old normal' fashion, there was also a lot of 'new normal'. The legislature maintained fairly strong COVID protocols, and there was also a continuation of the virtual option for people to sign in and testify before the legislative committees. While there was some trepidation early on about whether a hybrid approach could work, it went very smoothly from the beginning with committees seamlessly switching between in-person and virtual testimony. This hybrid approach for testifying and legislator meetings helps maintain the ability of more people to engage in the legislative process throughout the state without needing to make the journey to Olympia.

A total of [474 bills passed the legislature](#) during the 2023 session. The [average number of bills passed in a long session](#) is about 450. Some of the main issue areas of focus this session included behavioral health, housing and homelessness, special education, climate change, and reproductive health and abortion rights.

Of the bills passed by the legislature, 21 were partially vetoed by Governor Inslee and two were fully vetoed. On the [Governor's bill action page](#) you can read veto messages from the Governor with explanations for why he vetoed or partially vetoed those bills.

Summarized on the following pages are the outcomes of the 2023 Prevention Alliance Strategies. The first section of the report includes strategies that successfully passed and/or were funded including both bills and budget items; the second part includes strategies that did not pass this session. The report provides a description of each strategy that was on the 2023 Prevention Alliance Policy Platform followed by a summary of the budget items and/or bills for that strategy.

Prevention Alliance 2023 Strategies that Passed and/or Were Funded

23-Hour Crisis Facilities: Establish 23-hour crisis relief centers in Washington.

[Senate Bill 5120](#) - Establishing 23-hour crisis relief centers in Washington state

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Dhingra

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Directs the Department of Health to license or certify 23-Hour Crisis Relief Centers, a new type of crisis diversion facility to serve persons regardless of behavioral health acuity.

Department of Health

Crisis Relief Centers: \$198,000 total

Funding is provided to implement Second Substitute Senate Bill 5120 (Crisis relief centers) for the costs associated with rulemaking and licensing crisis relief centers. (General Fund-Local) (Custom)

988 & Crisis Response: Secure funding and pass legislation needed to implement the 988 behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention system.

[House Bill 1134](#) - Implementing the 988 behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention system

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Orwall

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Establishes enhanced case rates and development grants for mobile rapid response crisis teams and community-based crisis teams which earn an endorsement from the Health Care Authority (HCA), or are working towards an endorsement, based on meeting staffing, vehicle, and training standards. Requires behavioral health agencies and the Department of Health to publicize and develop promotional materials related to the 988 crisis hotline. Creates new requirements for designated 988 crisis call centers related to training, 988 promotion, and coordination with 911. Directs HCA and behavioral health administrative services organizations to collaborate with stakeholders to standardize crisis system practices and protocols, develop a needs assessment for behavioral health crisis system trainings, and develop a regional crisis system training collaborative. Provides liability protection to crisis system workers.

Office of Financial Management

988 System Care Coordinator: \$300,000 total

Funding is provided to implement the provisions of Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 1134 (988 system) for a behavioral health crisis system coordinator. (Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Respsns Line-State) (Ongoing)

Health Care Authority - Community Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health Crisis Response: \$5.684 million total

Funding is provided to implement changes to the behavioral health crisis response system pursuant to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1134 (988 system.) This includes funding for the Health Care Authority (HCA) to provide grants to new or existing mobile rapid response teams and to community-based crisis teams to support efforts for meeting the standards and criteria for receiving an endorsement pursuant to provisions of the bill. In addition, funding is provided for staffing and actuarial costs related to implementing provisions of the bill. (General Fund-Medicaid; Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Respsns Line-State) (Custom)

Crisis System Enhancements: \$44.49 million total

Funding is provided for HCA to expand and enhance regional crisis services. These amounts must be used to expand services provided by mobile crisis teams and community-based crisis teams either endorsed or seeking endorsement pursuant to standards adopted by the HCA. Beginning in fiscal year 2025, the legislature intends to direct amounts to be used for performance payments to mobile rapid response teams and community-based crisis teams that receive endorsements pursuant to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 1134 (988 system). (General Fund-Medicaid; Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Respsns Line-State) (Custom)

Health Care Authority

988 Tech Platform Implementation: \$24.552 million total

Funding and additional staff are provided for a technology platform for behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention services. (General Fund-Medicaid; Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Respsns Line-State) (Custom)

Department of Health

Behavioral Health Crisis Response: \$9.157 million total

Funding is provided to implement Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1134 (988 system), which makes changes to the behavioral health crisis response system. (Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Respsns LineState) (Custom)

University of Washington

Behavioral Health Crisis Response: \$280,000 total

One-time funding is provided to implement changes to the behavioral health crisis response system pursuant to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1134 (988 system). (Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Respsns LineState) (One-Time)

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority – Community Behavioral Health

Crisis Stabilization Facilities: \$13.211 million GFS (\$26.719 million total)

Funding is provided for the operating costs of 7 crisis stabilization facilities that were funded in prior Capital budgets. It is assumed that 49 beds will come on line in FY 2024 increasing to 93 beds in FY 2025 and 112 beds are assumed in the ensuing biennium. HCA must coordinate with the Office of the insurance Commissioner and others to assess to what extent the costs of crisis services for clients of private insurance carriers, Medicaid MCOs, and individuals enrolled in Medicaid fee-for-service are being subsidized through state funded BH-ASO contracts. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Custom)

988 Tech Platform Implementation: \$24.552 million total

Funding and additional staff are provided for a technology platform for behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention services. (General Fund-Medicaid; Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Respsns Line-State) (Custom)

Apple Health Benefits Expansion: Reduce disparities in Apple Health benefits for adults by expanding coverage for more services.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority

Adult Cochlear Implants: \$59,000 GFS (\$128,000 total)

Funding is provided for Apple Health to cover cochlear implants for Medicaid-enrolled adults. (General FundState; General Fund-Medicaid) (Custom)

Behavioral Health Rates: Implement an increase for both Medicaid and non-Medicaid rates for community behavioral health providers.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority - Community Behavioral Health

MCO Behavioral Health Rate Increase: \$95.286 million GFS (\$267.711 million total)

Funding is provided to increase non-hospital Medicaid behavioral health provider rates by 15 percent effective January 1, 2024. HCA must employ directed payment or other methodologies allowed under Medicaid managed care regulations to direct the funding increase to non-hospital behavioral health providers. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Ongoing)

Non-Medicaid Behavioral Health Funding: \$55.705 million GFS

Funding is provided to increase BH-ASO and MCO wraparound service contracts. This funding shall be used to implement a 15 percent rate increase for non-Medicaid services. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

FFS Behavioral Health Rate Increase: \$643,000 GFS (\$2.097 million total)

Funding is provided for a 22 percent rate increase for certain substance use disorder and mental health treatment facilities serving tribal members that do not elect enrollment in managed care plans. The costs for these services are reimbursed by HCA on a fee for service methodology rather than being contracted through managed care plans. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Ongoing)

Health Care Authority

Behavioral Health Provider Rate: \$2.119 million GFS (\$6.194 million total)

Funding is provided to maintain and increase access for behavioral health services for Medicaid patients through increased provider rates, effective January 1, 2024. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Ongoing)

MCO Behavioral Health Rate Increase: \$1.127 million GFS (\$3.22 million total)

Funding is provided to increase non-hospital Medicaid behavioral health provider rates by 15 percent effective January 1, 2024. HCA must employ directed payment or other methodologies allowed under Medicaid managed care regulations to direct the funding increase to non-hospital behavioral health providers. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Ongoing)

Cascade Care Subsidies: Secure ongoing funding for Cascade Care health care premium subsidies for people making up to 250% FPL and enrolling in health insurance through Washington Healthplanfinder.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Benefit Exchange

Cascade Care: \$260,000 GFS (\$25.26 million total)

Funding is provided for premium assistance for individuals with income up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level pursuant to RCW 43.71.110. Additional one-time funding is provided to assess waiver opportunities to capture federal pass-through funding for affordability programs. (General Fund-State; State Health Care Affordability Account-State) (Custom)

Child Welfare Housing: Secure funding for community-based supportive housing services for young people exiting foster care, juvenile rehabilitation, and for families involved in child welfare.

[Senate Bill 5256](#) - Making permanent and expanding the child welfare housing assistance program

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Saldana, Rep. Rule

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Directs the Department of Children, Youth and Families to administer the child welfare housing program, which is no longer a pilot program.

Department of Children, Youth & Families

Child Welfare Housing: \$5.255 million GFS

Funding is provided for implementation of Substitute Senate Bill 5256 (Child welfare housing), which makes the Child Welfare Housing Assistance Program pilot permanent and allows for eligibility expansion. (General Fund State) (Ongoing)

CLIP (Children's Long Term Inpatient) Rates: Increase the rate for Children's Long Term In Patient (CLIP) Facilities.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority - Community Behavioral Health

Children's Long-Term Inpatient Prog: \$3.467 million GFS (\$6.934 million total)

The Legislature provided funding in the FY 2022 supplemental operating budget to increase the number of individuals served daily in the Children's Long-Term Inpatient Program (CLIP) to 72 by June 2023. Funding was also provided to increase the CLIP rate from \$857 to \$895 per day effective January 1, 2023. HCA has been delayed in increasing CLIP utilization. Funding is adjusted with the assumption that CLIP slots will phase up to 72 by June 2024. In addition, funding for the CLIP rate is increased to \$1,121 per day effective July 1, 2023. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Ongoing)

Community Health Workers: Secure funding for education & ongoing support for CHWs

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority

Community Health Worker Reimbursement: \$4.109 million GFS (\$6.164 million total)

Funding is provided to establish a two-year grant program for reimbursement for services to patients up to age 18 provided by community health workers in primary care clinics whose patients are significantly comprised of pediatric patients enrolled in medical assistance under chapter 74.09 RCW beginning January 1, 2023.

Department of Health

Community Health Worker Trainings: \$571,000 GFS

Funding is provided for maintenance of the community health worker platform and continued implementation of the community health worker trainings in the pediatric setting for children with behavioral health needs.

Decriminalize Minor in Possession of Tobacco or Vapor Products: Pass legislation to decriminalize commercial tobacco by repealing the “PUP” law, which refers to laws prohibiting the possession, use, and purchase of tobacco products by minors.

[Senate Bill 5365](#) - Preventing use of vapor and tobacco products by minors

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Saldana

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Increases the maximum monetary penalties the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) may impose against cigarette and tobacco products retailer licensees and vapor products retailer licensees for violations of provisions related to selling or giving cigarette, tobacco, or vapor products to minors. Limits the provisions regarding detaining persons under 18 to determine their identity and date of birth and seizing the products to LCB enforcement officers, not peace officers, and when the actions are in proximity to a retailer licensee, which is within 100 feet or less. Modifies the sanctions and fines for purchasing, possessing cigarette, tobacco, or vapor products by persons under 18 to participation in up to four hours of community service and referral to a smoking cessation program at no cost.

Liquor & Cannabis Board

Minors Vapor/Tobacco: \$4,000 GFS

Funding is provided to implement Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5365 (Vapor and tobacco/minors). (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Liquor & Cannabis Board

Minors Tobacco and Vaping Enforcement: \$35,000 GFS

Funding is provided solely for the liquor and cannabis board to conduct an agency analysis of commercial tobacco and vaping enforcement actions from fiscal year 2018 through fiscal year 2022 involving youth under the age of 18. This analysis shall be submitted to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2023,

Document Recording Fee: Support legislation relating to the document recording fee as a funding source for affordable and supportive housing.

[Senate Bill 5386](#) - Reducing administrative complexity by increasing transparency of revenue flows for activities funded by document recording fees.

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Robinson

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Updates the distribution and uses for the homeless housing assistance surcharges. Uniformly exempts certain documents from housing related surcharges. Removes the Transitional Housing Operating and Rent Account. Eliminates the requirement for the Office of Financial Management to secure an independent expenditure review of state surcharge funds received and deposited into the Home Security Fund Account on a biennial basis, and Department of Commerce to include the amount of expenditures for private rental

housing payments in the report on state and local homelessness document recording fee expenditures by county.

Emerging Leaders Program: Expanding Equity in the Outdoors: Secure funding to continue the Emerging Leaders Program: Expanding Equity in the Outdoors. This program invests in BIPOC leaders through paid trainings and opportunities to grow leadership and professional skills in a safe, inclusive environment.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

State Parks and Recreation Commission

Emerging Leaders Program: \$340,000 GFS

One-time funding is provided to contract with a trail maintenance and hiking nonprofit organization for the Emerging Leaders Program, which provides employment training for the outdoor recreation and natural resource management sectors. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Essential Health Benefits Review: Direct the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) to review the essential health benefits and state benchmark plan.

Senate Bill 5338 - Reviewing the state's essential health benefits.

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Cleveland

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Directs the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to review the state's essential health benefits and determine whether to request federal approval to update those benefits.

Office of Insurance Commissioner

Essential Health Benefits: \$260,000 total

Funding is provided for contracting costs necessary to determine the impact of modifying the essential health benefit plan to include hearing aids, fertility treatment, and prophylactic mastectomy as described in Substitute Senate Bill 5338 (Essential health benefits). (Insurance Commissioner's Regulatory Account-State) (One-Time)

Family Resource Centers: Secure funding to build the capacity of Family Resource Centers (FRC) across Washington and assist emerging and evolving FRCs to meet the statutory definition of an FRC.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Department of Commerce

Family Resource Center Grants: \$2 million GFS

Funding is provided for grants to family resource centers (FRCs) and organizations becoming FRCs to increase capacity and enhance service provision. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Fluoridation in Water Systems: Require 90 days' notice to customers before a fluoridating water system can make stop fluoridation.

House Bill 1251 - Concerning water systems' notice to customers of public health considerations

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Stonier, Sen. Robinson

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Requires a public water system considering commencing or discontinuing fluoridation of its water supply to notify its customers and the Department of Health of its intentions at least 90 days prior to a vote or decision on the matter. Provides that a public water system that violates the notification requirements must return the fluoridation of its water to its prior level until the notification requirements have been satisfied.

Growth Management Act & Climate Change: Update the Growth Management Act to include Climate Change in the planning process.

House Bill 1181 - Improving the state's response to climate change by updating the state's planning framework

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Duerr, Sen. Lovelett

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Adds a goal of climate change and resiliency to the listed goals of the Growth Management Act (GMA). Adds a climate change and resiliency element to the list of elements that must be included within the comprehensive plans that certain counties and cities must adopt under the GMA. Requires certain counties and cities to address the adverse impacts of climate change on people, property, and ecological systems, and identify actions the jurisdiction will take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) under the climate change and resiliency element of their comprehensive plan. Specifies the process by which the GHG emissions reduction sub-element of the climate change and resiliency element takes effect. Requires the Department of Commerce to adopt guidance that creates a model climate change and resiliency element, and to publish guidelines that specify a set of actions counties and cities have available to them to take related to GHG emissions reductions and per capita VMT reductions. Requires the Department of Transportation to annually publish a summary of per capita VMT. Requires the Department of Ecology to update its Shoreline Master Program guidelines to address the impact of sea level rise and increased storm severity. Adds consideration of climate change impacts to the list of elements that must be contained in optional comprehensive flood control management plans. Adds requirements for a climate resiliency element for certain water system plans.

Attorney General's Office

Comprehensive Planning – Climate: \$50,000 total

One-time funding is provided for legal services to the Department of Commerce to implement legislation addressing climate change through the state's growth management framework, pursuant to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 (Climate change/planning). (Legal Services Revolving Account-State) (One-Time)

Department of Health

Local Government Climate Planning: \$407,000 total

One-time funding is provided to implement Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 (Climate change/planning), which requires local governments to plan for climate resiliency while reducing contributions to the climate crisis and includes responsibilities for DOH related to drinking water climate resilience. (Climate Commitment Account-State) (One-Time)

Department of Commerce

Local Government Climate Planning: \$40.953 million total

Funding is provided to implement Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 (Climate change/planning), which requires certain local jurisdictions planning under the Growth Management Act to include considerations for climate change in their comprehensive plans. This item includes funding for COM to provide grants to assist cities and counties with implementation of the requirements, including grants for local jurisdictions that opt into planning efforts early. (Climate Commitment Account-State) (Custom)

Department of Ecology

Local Government Climate Planning: \$1.174 million total

Funding is provided to support Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 (Climate change/planning), which requires updates to the Growth Management Act to include considerations for climate change. (Climate Commitment Account-State) (Custom)

Department of Fish & Wildlife

Local Government Climate Planning: \$1.026 million total

Pursuant to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 (Climate change/planning), funding is provided for technical assistance and guidance to local governments for climate-related planning. (Climate Commitment Account-State) (Ongoing)

Department of Natural Resources

Local Government Climate Planning: \$250,000 total

One-time funding is provided for Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 (Climate change/planning), including assisting the Department of Commerce with development of a model climate resilience element for the Growth Management Act. (Climate Commitment Account-State) (One-Time)

University of Washington

Local Government Climate Planning: \$150,000 total

One-time funding is provided for implementation costs of Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1181 (Climate change/planning), which directs University of Washington (UW) climate impacts group to assist the Department of Health in developing technical

assistance tools for community public water systems in incorporating climate resiliency in water system plans. (Climate Commitment Account-State) (One-Time)

Guaranteed Basic Income: Advance a policy around Guaranteed Basic Income/Direct Cash Transfer.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation: While [House Bill 1045](#) (Creating the evergreen basic income pilot program) did not pass this session, the following funding was provide in the final budget.

DSHS - Economic Services Administration

Guaranteed Basic Income: \$1.9 million GFS

One-time funding is provided for a nonprofit organization in Pierce County to continue the operation of the guaranteed basic income program in Tacoma. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Gun Violence Prevention: Support efforts to reduce gun violence.

Senate Bill 5078 - Protecting public safety by establishing duties of firearm industry members

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Pedersen, Rep. Hackney

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Requires firearm industry members to establish, implement and enforce reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, import, use, and marketing of the firearm industry members' firearm and firearm related products. Prohibits firearm industry members from creating or maintaining a public nuisance. Authorizes the attorney general to investigate suspected violations of firearm industry members' duties and to enforce actions against such firearm industry members.

Office of the Attorney General

Firearms Industry Duties: \$2.798 million GFS

Funding is provided for the Attorney General's Office (ATG) to investigate and enforce Substitute Senate Bill 5078 (Firearms industry duties), which imposes duties on firearm industry members to establish, implement and enforce reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, import, use, and marketing of its products and prohibits firearm industry members from creating or maintaining a public nuisance. (General Fund-State) (Custom)

House Bill 1143 - Concerning requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Berry, Sen. Liias

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Provides that a dealer may not transfer any firearm to a purchaser or transferee until: completion of a background check indicating the person is eligible to possess firearms; and 10 business days have elapsed since the dealer requested the background check. Prohibits a dealer from transferring a firearm to a purchaser or transferee

unless the person provides the dealer with proof of completion of a recognized firearms safety training program. Requires a firearms transfer application and recordkeeping requirements for all firearm transfers. Updates firearm transfer and background check processes, including updates to conform to the implementation of a state firearms background check program. Requires certain notices and procedures for revocation of a concealed pistol license when a person is convicted of an offense that makes the person ineligible to possess firearms under federal law.

Department of Licensing

Firearm Background Check-Purch & Trans: \$320,000 GFS

Funding is provided to implement Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1143 (Firearms purchase & transfer). (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

House Bill 1240 - Establishing firearms-related safety measures to increase public safety

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Peterson, Sen. Kuderer

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Prohibits the manufacture, importation, distribution, sale, or offer for sale of any assault weapon, subject to various exceptions for licensed firearm manufacturers and dealers, and for individuals who inherit an assault weapon. Provides a violation of these restrictions constitutes a gross misdemeanor and is actionable under the Consumer Protection Act.

Senate Bill 5006 - Clarifying waiver of firearm rights

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Pedersen

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Creates a new civil infraction for persons who have in their possession or have under their control a firearm after filing a voluntary waiver of firearm rights. Permits voluntary waiver of firearm rights to be submitted or revoked either in writing or electronically and requires the clerk of the court to immediately notify a filer and contact persons when a voluntary waiver of firearm rights has been accepted. Allows a filer to update contact person information by making an electronic or written request to the clerk of the court. Encourages mental health professionals and substance use disorder professionals to discuss with their patients the voluntary waiver of firearm rights.

House Bill 1230 - Requiring school districts and other public education entities to make information from the department of health available.

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Callan

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Requires the Department of Health (DOH) to post and periodically revise on its website information about substance use trends, overdose symptoms and response, and the secure storage of prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, and firearms and ammunition. Requires school districts to post a prominent link on their homepage, and the homepage of each school within the district, to the delineated DOH information and to make the information accessible through various communication means. Makes comparable

posting requirements for the DOH information for educational service districts, charter schools, and state-tribal compact schools.

Help Me Grow: Secure funding to build capacity for Help Me Grow at both the state and community levels. In addition, secure funding for the Plan of Safe Care (POSC) specialized pathway for infants born with non-illicit substance exposure and no other risk factors.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Dept of Children, Youth & Families - Early Learning

Help Me Grow Family Resource and Referral System: \$500,000 GFS

One-time funding is provided for additional support for the statewide family resource and referral linkage system. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Dept of Children, Youth & Families - Children and Families Services

SUD Prevention Families (includes Plan of Safe Care): \$3.014 million GFS

Funding is provided for DCYF to connect pregnant people to voluntary prevention services before birth and at the time of birth, and connect all DCYF-involved families with SUD supports aimed at reducing child placements. Included in this amount in funding for the Plan of Safe Care, which connect children born with exposure to certain substances to Help Me Grow. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

Home Visiting: Ensure the budget includes adequate spending authority for the Home Visiting Services Account.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Dept of Children, Youth & Families - Early Learning

Home Visiting Slot Expansion: \$1 million total

Funding is provided to create 107 to 133 new home visiting slots. (Home Visiting Services Account-State) (Ongoing)

Home Visiting Funding Increase: \$8.56 million total

Funding is provided to increase service rates for current home visiting contracts by an average of 20 percent beginning January 1, 2024. (Home Visiting Services Account-State; Home Visiting Services Account-Federal) (Ongoing)

Housing Trust Fund: Make a significant investment in affordable housing to build and preserve permanently and deeply affordable homes.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Housing Trust Fund: \$400 million (Capital Budget)

Funding is provided for the Housing Trust Fund, which is a competitive grant program that funds the construction and renovation of affordable housing units to serve low-

income and special needs populations, including, but not limited to, people with chronic mental illness, people with developmental disabilities, farmworkers, people who are homeless, and people in need of permanent supportive housing.

Hunger Relief: Provide funding for hunger relief, including smoothing the 'benefit cliff' as federal COVID-relief benefits sunset.

[House Bill 1784](#) - Concerning hunger relief

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Gregerson

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Appropriates a total of \$28 million to the state general fund in fiscal year 2023 to support food assistance programs operated by the departments of Agriculture, Social and Health Services, and Health.

Department of Health

Hunger Relief: \$2 million GFS

Funding is provided for implementation of Substitute House Bill 1784 (hunger relief), and provides the department with additional funding for the fruit and vegetables incentives program. (General Fund-State) (OneTime)

Department of Social & Health Services – Economic Services Administration

Hunger Relief: \$6 million GFS

Pursuant to Substitute House Bill 1784 (Hunger relief), funding is provided for senior nutrition services programs operated by Area Agencies on Aging. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Department of Agriculture

Hunger Relief: \$20 million GFS

One-time funding is provided for hunger relief as specified in Substitute House Bill 1784 (Hunger relief). (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Medicaid Transformation Project: Ensure sufficient spending authority for the 1115 Waiver/Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP). In addition, ensure continued exemption from Business & Occupations tax for 1115 Waiver funds.

[House Bill 1812](#) - Continuing the business and occupation tax deduction for federal funds received from a Medicaid transformation or demonstration project or Medicaid quality improvement program or standard

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Springer

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Updates the business and occupation tax deduction for Medicaid delivery reform incentive payments to capture Medicaid transformation project funding and subsequent project iterations.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority: General authorization is provided for the 1115 Medicaid Transformation waiver.

Medicare Affordability: Address the Medicare Affordability Cliff by expanding eligibility for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) Medicare Savings Program to 138% FPL.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority

Medicare Savings Program: \$3.132 million GFS (\$6.264 million total)

Funding is provided to increase the income eligibility maximum to qualify for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program, beginning April 1, 2024. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Custom)

No Child Left Inside: Increase funding for the No Child Left Inside grant program, which provides underserved youth with quality opportunities to experience the natural world.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

State Parks & Recreation Commission

No Child Left Inside Grants: \$2.5 million GFS

One-time funding is provided to increase grant opportunities in the No Child Left Inside grant program. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Partnership Access Line (PAL) & Washington Mental Health Referral Service for Children and Teens (Referral Service): Increase funding for the Partnership Access Line (PAL) and the Washington Mental Health Referral Service for Children and Teens (Referral Service).

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority

PAL Referral Assist: \$152,000 GFS (\$910,000 total)

Funding is provided for additional staff support for the mental health referral service for children and teens. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid; Telebehavioral Health Access Account-State) (Ongoing)

First Approach Skills Training: \$602,000 GFS (\$725,000 total)

Funding is provided for the First Approach Skills Training program through the Partnership Access Line. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (Ongoing)

Prenatal Substance Exposure: Support efforts relating to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) including expand availability of diagnosis for FASD; expand availability of comprehensive family centered treatment; restart the interagency workgroup on FASD; and address rates and coverage in Medicaid.

[House Bill 1168](#) - Providing prevention services, diagnoses, treatment, and support for prenatal substance exposure

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Simmons

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Expands the scope of the Fetal Alcohol Exposure Interagency Agreement (Interagency Agreement) to include exposure to prenatal substances other than alcohol, adds the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) as a party to the agreement, and directs the DCYF to contract with a provider with expertise in comprehensive prenatal exposure treatment by January 1, 2024, and up to three providers statewide by January 1, 2025. Requires the Health Care Authority (HCA) to consult with specified stakeholders and submit recommendations to the Legislature on ways to increase access to diagnoses, treatment, services, and supports by June 1, 2024.

Health Care Authority - Community Behavioral Health

Prenatal Substance Exposure Services: \$1.115 million GFS (\$2.312 million total)

Funding is provided to implement Second Substitute House Bill 1168 (Prenatal substance exposure), which requires HCA to submit recommendations to the Legislature on ways to increase access to diagnoses, treatment, services, and supports by June 1, 2024. Funding is also provided to contract with providers on behalf of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families for prenatal substance exposure services and to contract with a statewide non-profit entity to offer free support groups for individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Federal; General Fund-Medicaid) (Ongoing)

Prior Authorization Process Modernization: Modernize the prior authorization process for patients and health care professionals.

[House Bill 1357](#) - Modernizing the prior authorization process

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Simmons

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Establishes requirements for the prior authorization process for private health insurance, Public Employee Benefit Board and School Employee Benefit Board health programs, and Medicaid programs related to time frames for decisions, electronic authorization standards, and communication requirements. Expands the reporting requirements of health carriers related to prior authorization information to include prescription drug data.

Office of Insurance Commissioner

Prior Authorization: \$132,000 total

Funding is provided to support regulation and enforcement activities pursuant to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1357 (Prior authorization/health). (Insurance Commissioner's Regulatory Account-State) (Custom)

Health Care Authority

Prior Authorization: \$716,000 GFS (\$1.284 million total)

One-time funding is provided for staff support pursuant to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1357 (Prior authorization/health), effective January 1, 2024. (General Fund-State; General Fund-Medicaid) (One-Time)

Rape Kits: Prohibit the sale of over-the-counter sexual assault kits.

[House Bill 1564](#) - Prohibiting the sale of over-the-counter sexual assault kits

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Mosbrucker

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Prohibits a person from selling, offering for sale, or otherwise making available over-the-counter sexual assault kits that may be used to collect sexual assault evidence other than by law enforcement or a health care provider. Makes violations actionable under the Consumer Protection Act.

Reproductive Health - Access to Abortion Services: Provide funding to stabilize safety net abortion providers to enable us to invest in patient care, workforce development, staffing, security infrastructure, and other costs associated with expanding services.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Department of Health

Reproductive Health Services: \$15.51 million GFS

Ongoing funding is provided to maintain access to abortion care, including grants to providers and funding for patient outreach, workforce retention and recruitment incentives, and security investments. (General FundState) (Ongoing)

Reproductive Health - Cost-sharing elimination for abortion services: Prohibit cost-sharing on abortion services.

[Senate Bill 5242](#) - Prohibiting cost sharing for abortion

Prime Sponsor: Sen. Cleveland, Rep. Bateman

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Prohibits health plans from imposing cost-sharing for abortion services.

Office of Insurance Commissioner

Abortion Cost Sharing: \$52,000 total

Funding is provided for plan review, increased enforcement action, and normal rule making necessary to implement Senate Bill 5242 (Abortion cost sharing). (Insurance Commissioner's Regulatory Account-State) (Custom)

Reproductive Health - Health Data Privacy: Address the collection, sharing, and selling of consumer health data.

[House Bill 1155](#) - Addressing the collection, sharing, and selling of consumer health data

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Slatter, Sen. Dhingra

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Establishes consumer rights with regard to consumer health data and defines obligations of regulated entities and small businesses that collect, process, share, and sell consumer health data. Exempts government agencies, tribal nations, and personal information subject to specified federal and state law. Prohibits selling consumer health data without a valid authorization. Prohibits implementing a geofence around entities that provide in-person health care services if the geofence is used for specified purposes. Makes violations enforceable under the Consumer Protection Act.

Reproductive Health -Liability & Abortion Services ("SHIELD" law): Shield patients and providers from criminal and civil liability pertaining to receiving or performing abortion services in WA

[House Bill 1469](#) - Concerning access to reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment in Washington state

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Hansen, Sen. Trudeau

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Defines protected health care services in Washington to include reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment. Restricts the ability for a court to issue, and law enforcement to enforce, subpoenas, warrants, criminal process, extradition, and other court orders for civil or criminal liability that is based on the provision or receipt of protected health care services. Restricts Washington businesses from complying with records requests or subpoenas for information related to the provision or receipt of protected health care services. Creates a cause of action for interference with protected health care services when certain civil or criminal actions are filed against an aggrieved party or a subpoena is issued to a person in Washington. Allows any protected health care services provider or employee to apply to the Secretary of State's Address Confidentiality Program. Authorizes the Attorney General to bring an action to enjoin any person from violating the act and to recover costs for such action.

Office of the Attorney General

Health Care Services/Access: \$426,000 GFS

Funding is provided to implement Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1469 (Health care services/access), which establishes various protections for individuals receiving gender-affirming treatment and reproductive health care services. (General Fund-State) (Custom)

Reproductive Health - Uniform Discipline Act & Abortion Services: Clarify WA's Uniform Discipline Act, to make clear that performing abortion services that are legal in WA does not by itself constitute unprofessional conduct for the purpose of state licensure and discipline, regardless of whether the patient resides in a state where such services are restricted or banned.

House Bill 1340 - Concerning actions by health professions disciplining authorities against license applicants and license holders

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Riccelli, Sen. Salomon

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Establishes that participation in reproductive health care services or gender affirming treatment by health care providers does not constitute unprofessional conduct under the Uniform Disciplinary Act (UDA) and may not serve as the basis for professional discipline, with some exceptions. Establishes that a conviction or disciplinary action based on a health care provider's violation of another state's laws prohibiting participation in reproductive health care services or gender affirming treatment does not constitute unprofessional conduct under the UDA and may not serve as the basis for professional discipline, with some exceptions.

School-Based Health Centers: Expand funding for the SBHC grant program to support access to integrated healthcare in academic settings.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Department of Health

School-Based Health Centers: \$1.8 million GFS

One-time funding is provided to increase access to health care in academic settings by expanding the school-based health center program. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

SSI & Out of Home Care: Prohibit DCYF from taking SSI and other benefits from young people who are in out of home care that has been used to offset the cost of their care.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation: While [House Bill 1405](#)/[Senate Bill 5397](#) (Preserving public benefit payments to people in the care of the department of children, youth, and families) did not pass this session, the following funding was provide in the final budget.

Department of Children, Youth & Families

Modify SSI Reimbursement Process: \$159,000 GFS

One-time funding is provided to create a cost of care work group within DCYF to consider how other states and jurisdictions are addressing issues related to conservation of funds on behalf of persons in DCYFs care. (General Fund-State) (One-Time)

Tobacco Prevention: Secure funding for tobacco, vapor product, and nicotine control, cessation, treatment, and prevention.

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Department of Health

Tobacco Use Prevention & Cessation: \$5 million GFS

Funding is provided for programs that prevent initiation of tobacco usage and help people quit smoking. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

Traffic Safety Improvements: Ensure drivers who are involved in crashes that result in the serious injury or death are reported to DOL so driving fitness can be re-assessed.

House Bill 1319 - Addressing collision reporting criteria triggering driver's license reexamination.

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Reed

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Modifies certain collision report criteria that triggers a driver's license reexamination. The criteria for when police officers are required to report certain accidents to DOL, which would require the driver involved in the accident to submit to a driver's license reexamination, is modified to when a collision has occurred that results in substantial bodily harm as opposed to serious injury. Substantial bodily harm is defined as bodily injury which involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement, or which causes a temporary but substantial loss or impairment of the function of any bodily part or organ, or which causes a fracture of any bodily part.

Universal Access to Health Care: Expand access to health care coverage affordability and access regardless of citizenship status

Budget Items Not Tied to Legislation:

Health Care Authority

Health Care for Uninsured Adults: \$45.696 million GFS

Funding is provided to expand health coverage for Washington residents with incomes at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, regardless of immigration status, beginning July 1, 2024. (General Fund-State) (Custom)

Health Care Authority – Community Behavioral Health

Health Care for Uninsured Adults: \$3.805 million GFS

Funding is provided to expand health coverage for Washington residents with incomes at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, regardless of immigration status, beginning July 1, 2024. (General Fund-State) (Custom)

Health Benefit Exchange

Health Care for Uninsured Adults: \$433,000 GFS

Funding is provided to expand health coverage for Washington residents with incomes at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, regardless of immigration status, beginning July 1, 2024. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

1332 Waiver: \$3.005 million GFS

Appropriation authority is shifted between FY 2023 and FY 2024 for system updates and community-led engagement activities necessary to implement the 1332 waiver for uninsured individuals regardless of immigration status. Additional funding is provided for community-based outreach and engagement to Washington residents newly eligible for coverage through Washington Healthplanfinder, and to administer the approved 1332 waiver. (General Fund-State) (Ongoing)

Universal Free School Meals: Expand access to free school meals for more students. Make school meals available to all requesting students without charge by having school meals included as part of the state's statutory program of basic education.

House Bill 1238 - Providing free school meals for all

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Riccelli, Sen. Nobles

Status: Passed Legislature

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Requires school districts to provide breakfast and lunch without charge to any requesting students at public schools serving any of the grades of kindergarten through grade 4 with 30 percent or more of their students eligible for free or reduced-price meals (FRPMs). Phases in meal provision requirements over two years, beginning in the 2023-24 school year in schools with 40 percent or more of their students eligible for FRPMs. Establishes reimbursement provisions for the meals provided without charge and directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to reimburse school districts in accordance with those provisions. Requires school districts to implement school breakfast programs in schools subject to the meal provision requirements. Repeals the requirement that public schools with an identified student percentage of less than 40 percent participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) if authorized by federal law. Modifies funding provisions for the Learning Assistance Program and National Board Certification bonuses for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years for school districts and schools subject to the meal provision requirements.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Free School Meals: \$18.523 million GFS (\$25.949 million total)

Funding is provided to reimburse schools serving any grade from kindergarten to grade 4 required to offer free meals under Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1238 (Free school meals) for meals not reimbursed at the free federal meal rate. (General Fund-State; General Fund-CRRSA) (Custom)

Prevention Alliance 2023 Strategies that Did Not Pass and/or Were Not Funded

ARNP Rate Parity for Same Services: Require health carriers to reimburse advanced registered nurse practitioners at the same rate as physicians for the same services.

[House Bill 1495/Senate Bill 5373](#) - Requiring equal reimbursement for advanced registered nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and physicians

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Simmons/Sen. Randall

Status: H Health Care & Wellness (Dead)/S Ways & Means (Dead)

Summary of Latest Version of Bill (5373): Requires health carriers to reimburse advanced registered nurse practitioners and physician assistants at the same rate as physicians for providing the same service in the same service area.

Biomarker Testing: Require coverage for medically necessary biomarker testing by private and public health plans.

[House Bill 1450/Senate Bill 5074](#) - Concerning coverage for biomarker testing

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Stonier/Sen. L. Wilson

Status: H Appropriations (Dead)/S Health & Long Term Care (Dead)

Summary of Latest Version of Bill (1450): Requires health insurance coverage for biomarker testing for the diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, or ongoing monitoring of stage 1, 2, 3, or 4 cancer and brain cancer.

Gun Violence Prevention: Support efforts to reduce gun violence.

[House Bill 1144/Senate Bill 5232](#) - Enhancing requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Berry/Sen. Salomon

Status: H Civil Rights & Judiciary (Dead)/S Ways & Means (Dead)

Summary of Latest Version of Bill (5232): Prohibits a firearms dealer from transferring any firearm to a purchaser or transferee until the results of a background check indicate the person is eligible to possess firearms, and ten days have elapsed since the dealer requested the background check. Prohibits firearm dealers from transferring a firearm to a purchaser or transferee unless the person provides proof of completion of a certified firearms safety training program or proof of exemption. Requires a firearms application and record of transfer for all

firearm transfers. Updates the firearm transfer and background check process to conform with the implementation of a state firearms background check program.

[House Bill 1178/Senate Bill 5446](#) - Concerning local government authority to regulate firearms

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Hackney/Sen. Nguyen

Status: H Civil Rights & Judiciary (Dead)/S Law & Justice (Dead)

Summary of Latest Version of Bill (1178): Repeals the statute that preempts local jurisdictions from adopting laws relating to firearms. Provides that nothing in the chapter of law governing firearms modifies or limits the power of a city, municipality, or county to adopt laws relating to firearms that are in addition to or more restrictive than state law. Removes the provisions that limit local regulation of firearms.

[House Bill 1195](#) - Prohibiting the open carry of certain weapons in public parks and public hospitals

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Senn

Status: H Civil Rights & Judiciary (Dead)

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Prohibits the knowing open carry of firearms and other weapons in public parks and public hospitals at which notice of the restriction has been posted, subject to limited exceptions. Provides that violation of these restrictions is a gross misdemeanor.

Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) & Affordable Housing: Increase the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), with the revenues dedicated for affordable housing.

[House Bill 1628](#) - Increasing the supply of affordable housing by modifying the state and local real estate excise tax

Prime Sponsor: Rep. Chopp

Status: H Rules (Dead)

Summary of Latest Version of Bill: Increases the “ceiling” for the Tier 1 1.1 percent state real estate excise tax (REET) from \$525,000 to \$750,000 beginning January 1, 2025. Increases the state REET rate for Tier 4 (selling price over \$3,025,000) from 3 percent to 3.5 percent except for commercial property, beginning January 1, 2025. Imposes the new 3.5 percent REET rate for Tier 4 for commercial property beginning January 1, 2027. Adds the Washington Housing Trust Fund, the Apple Health and Homes Account, the Affordable Housing for All Account, and the new Developmental Disabilities Housing and Services Account to the Accounts that receive proceeds from REET. Allows a county or city to impose an additional 0.25 percent REET for the construction and support of affordable housing beginning January 1, 2024. Removes the expiration date on the ability to use certain local government REET funds for facilities for those experiencing homelessness or for affordable housing, and removes a \$1,000,000 limit on the annual use of such funds in larger jurisdictions. Removes certain restrictions on the permitted uses of revenue from specified local government real estate excise taxes, and allows for the councilmanic imposition of a 0.25 percent REET by counties, and cities within those counties, that choose to plan under the Growth Management Act instead of requiring voter approval. Creates a REET exemption for certain sales or transfers of properties that qualify for a property tax exemption that will be used for a community purpose.

Prepared for the Prevention Alliance by:
Carrie Glover
Carrie Glover Consulting
carrie@carriegloverconsulting.com

For more information about the Prevention Alliance, contact:
Julie Peterson
Executive Director
Foundation for Healthy Generation
juliep@healthygen.org