

# Legislative Oversight, Effectiveness, and Accountability Workgroup Update

PREPARED FOR: House Committee on Rules

DATE: February 26, 2025

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# Learning about Existing Oversight Tools

Meeting Dates	Agenda Topics
<b>January 10, 2024</b>	Group purpose and goal Draft workplan and timeline Research and resources
<b>March 21, 2024</b> <b>April 2, 2024</b> <b>May 9, 2024</b>	Existing Tools in Oregon <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Rule Review</li><li>• Advice and Consent</li><li>• Audit Reports (JLAC and SOS)</li><li>• Budget Process</li><li>• Committee Hearings</li><li>• Contract Monitoring for Information Technology</li><li>• Sunset Provisions</li></ul>



# Engaging the Experts

## Meeting Dates

**May 9, 2024**

**May 30, 2024**

**July 18, 2024**

## Agenda Topics

NCSL Center for Legislative Strengthening

- Other State Practices on Admin Rules, Sunrise/Sunset, Committees, Advice and Consent, Audits and Performance Evaluation, and Performance Measurement

Ben Eikey, Carl Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy

- Oversight Basics, Oregon Today, Suggested Paths, Oversight Workplan

Presentations and discussion with:

- Executive Branch (DAS)
- Secretary of State Audit Division



# Developing Recommendations

Meeting Dates	Agenda Topics and Presenters
<b>June 18, 2024</b>	Member Roundtable and Oversight Avenue Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What we've learned</li><li>• Potential ideas/recommendations</li><li>• Outstanding problems/challenges/opportunities to address</li></ul>
<b>August 13, 2024</b>	Consideration of themes and recommendation options
<b>September 12, 2024</b> <b>November 18, 2024</b>	Oversight recommendations



# Lessons Learned/Themes

- Develop a culture where the legislative branch understands its responsibilities to perform oversight
- Oversight of grants/moneys that go out to organizations
- Aligning rulemaking with legislation/legislative intent
- Embedding oversight mechanisms into legislation
- Establish a practice of using committees to set standards and practices for oversight
- Put to use/empower Legislative Audit Committee and build branch capacity for audits
- Connect audits to budget process and policy committees



# Member Training and Guidance Recommendations

Chair/Vice-Chair Training session on January 9, 2025

- Culture change for members; understanding what is legislative oversight and that it is part of the legislative process
- Encourage building relationships with agency directors, such as personal connection or a legislative reception
- Oversight agendas and workplans (how to do)
- Administrative rule review authority (chairs receive notice of proposed rules and committee review of negative determination after adoption)
- Incorporating audit reports and recommendations into policy and budget committees

How to do oversight (one-pagers; how to set up and run an oversight hearing)



# Other Internal Recommendations

All audit reports presented to policy committees

Joint Legislative Audit Committee membership – fluid membership option or including/inviting the policy and budget chairs/vice-chairs when JLAC hears relevant audits

Member training for:

- New members on rulemaking authority - does not have to be requested in all bills
- Senators and Senate Chairs/Vice-Chairs

Conversations with Legislative Counsel about:

- Incorporating oversight into legislation
- Having LC limit rulemaking authority unless necessary or requested by sponsor

Allowing JWMs Subcommittees to assign a smaller subcommittee to do budget follow-up with agencies



# Other Recommendations

## Oversight Option Needing More Discussion

- Agreement on the need for more oversight of third-party funds allocated by the Legislative Assembly, but more conversation is needed about what can be done

## LC Request for 2025 (House Bill 2454)

- Creation of new audit office/officer to support the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and do audits and/or investigations for members and JLAC.





# Thank you. Questions?

