

## Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee

#### **Meeting details**

**Date:** Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 **Time:** 10:00 pm –11:00 am **Location:** Zoom

#### Committee members and alternates present

#### **Employee Representatives**

- Cindy Richardson, UNITE HERE Local 8
- John Traynor, Washington State Labor Council
- Brenda Wiest, Teamsters 117

#### **Employer Representatives**

- Katie Beeson, Washington Food Industry Association (alternate)
- Josie Cummings, Avista
- Lindsey Hueer, Association of Washington Businesses

#### **General Public Representatives**

John Glynn, Washington Workforce
 Association

#### ESD staff

- Joshua Dye
- Vaughn Ellis
- Cami Feek
- Stephanie Frazee
- Camille Galeno
- Wendy Goldmark
- Colin Helsley
- Kennidi Hunsicker
- Lawrence Larson
- Marypat Meuli
- Tanya Nijemcevic

#### Committee members and alternates absent

- Julia Gorton, Washington Hospitality Association
- Monica Holland, Northwest Justice Project (alternate public rep)
- Joe Kendo, Washington State Labor Council (alternate employee rep)
- Allyson O'Malley-Jones, Northwest Justice Project (alternate public rep)
- Anne Paxton, Unemployment Law Project

- JR Richards
- Stephanie Sams
- Eve Sheng
- Lora Wood

#### Summary

#### Meeting Recorded

This meeting was <u>recorded</u> and livestreamed by TVW. Please reference this recording for further meeting details and full dialogue using the indicated timestamps.

#### Welcome and Opening Remarks

Committee chair JR Richards welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked committee assistant Colin Helsley to call roll.

#### Agenda

JR reviewed the following agenda items (also see Addendum I)

- Approval of February 19, 2025, meeting minutes
- Welcome and Update
- Rulemaking Update
- Legislation Update
- Report out on EAMs updates for employers
- Public comment
- Adjourn

#### **Meeting Minutes**

JR requested that committee members review the February 19, 2025, draft UIAC meeting minutes and provide their feedback. Lindsey Hueer moved to approve the minutes. Josie Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor said "aye". No members were opposed. The February 19, 2025, meeting minutes were approved.

#### Welcome and Update

Cami Feek, Employment Security Department Commissioner, provided an update that as of February 1, JR Richards has stepped into the role of our first Director of Insurance Services Division. This newly established position reflects a broader vision to unify and strengthen service delivery across UI, Paid Leave, and WaCares.

JR Richards gave the committee members an opportunity to ask questions. No questions were raised.

#### **Rulemaking Update**

Stephanie Frazee, Legislation and Rules Coordinator, ESD provided a rulemaking update using the following slides.

# Rulemaking



- Address Change Requirement We are adding an explicit requirement that employers provide their new address to the Department within 30 days after an address change. We filed the CR 102 to formally propose the rules. Hearing will be on March 27 at 10:00.
- Space Force We are updating the rule on mandatory military transfers to include all members of the U.S. Armed Forces, including Space Force. We held the hearing on March 6 and are working on formally adopting the rule.
- CRO Filing Working on the CR 101 for a rule amendment to clarify filing requirements with the Commissioner's Review Office.

No questions were raised.

#### Legislation Update

Josh Dye, Interim Government Relations Director, ESD to present information from the following slides on Government Relation Updates.

# Legislation update

#### Bills we are tracking

#### ESSB 5041

Concerning unemployment insurance benefits for striking or lockout workers

Public hearing LAWS 3/18 Exec session LAWS 3/21

#### ESSB 5525

Concerning mass layoffs, relocations and terminations Referred to LAWS

#### ESSB 5459

Call center retention Public hearing LAWS 3/19

SSB 5400 Supporting local journalism

Public hearing W&M 3/18

# Legislation update

# **\$**

#### Bills previously reported on that did not make cutoff

SB 5722	HB 1773 and SB 5626	
Grant program to promote workforce development	Creating wage replacement program for certain workers excluded from UI	
HB 1313	– HB 1682	HB 1843 & SB 5540
Concerning mass layoffs, relocations	Part-time workers in UI system	Student Disqualification UI

No questions were raised.

#### Report out on Employer Account Management System updates

Tanya Nijemcevic, Product Manager for UI Employer, ESD provided a report out on employer account management system updates using the following slides.



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No questions were raised.

#### **Public Comments**

JR offered an opportunity for committee members to bring up any topics they would like to discuss before public comments.

Josie Cummings, Avista, congratulated JR on her new role and recommended that a future meeting include an update on JR's current projects and see how the UIAC can better partner with the programs JR is leading to identify opportunities for increased efficiency.

JR thanked Josie and confirmed we will be adding that as a future agenda item.

JR reminded meeting participants that if they would like their comments captured in the meeting minutes to please email them to <u>camille.galeno@esd.wa.gov</u>.

Public Comment	ŧ
If you would like to make public comment, please state your name and spell it so we can capture it correctly for the minutes, as well as the organization you represent if any.	
<b>Reminder</b> : Your comments are being recorded.	
If you would like your comments to be included in the meeting minutes, please submit them in writing via email to Camille Galeno at <u>camille.galeno@esd.wa.gov</u> . (Camille's email will be posted in the chat)	
Please limit your comments to two minutes.	

No public comments were made.

#### Adjourned

JR thanked everyone for joining and adjourned the meeting.

Action Items No action items.

Next meeting April 30th, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

### Addendum I

## Agenda

Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee (UIAC)

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 | 10:00 am- 11:00 am | Via Zoom | 212 Maple Park Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501

Time	Торіс
10:00 am	Welcome from JR Richards, Director, Unemployment Insurance Customer Support, Employment Security Department (ESD) o Agenda overview
10:00 am	Approval of Feb 19, 2025, meeting minutes – JR Richards
10:05 am	Welcome and Update – Cami Feek
10:20 am	Rulemaking – Stephanie Frazee
10:25 am	Legislative updates – Josh Dye
10:35 am	Report out on EAMs updates for employers – Tanya Nijemcevic
10:45 pm	Public Comment
	Adjourn

For more information, please visit the UIAC website at https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/UIAC

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Addendum II

## Employment Security Department WASHINGTON STATE

## Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee

Date	Location	Host	Notes
January 29, 2025 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
February 19, 2025, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
March 19, 2025, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
April 30, 2025, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
June 25, 2025, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
August 20, 2025, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
September 17, 2025, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
October 22, 2025, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting
December 10, 2025, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Zoom	ESD	Recorded meeting

#### January 2025 - December 2025 Meeting Dates

NOTE: Hosts may have the opportunity to present to the committee and bring invited guests as part of our meeting agenda.

Per vote of UI Advisory Committee members, meetings are being recorded as of 08/03/2020 meeting.

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