

A photograph showing the silhouettes of several people standing in a meeting room, illuminated by a bright light source from the left, creating a strong backlight effect. The room has large windows and a reflective floor.

Unemployment Insurance ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Employment Security Department

WASHINGTON STATE

Agenda



- I. Approval of Dec. 11, 2024 meeting minutes
- II. Rulemaking update
- III. Legislative update
- IV. UI updates – Overpayments and peak
- V. Public comment
- VI. Adjourn

Rule Making

Stephanie Frazee, Legislation and Rules Coordinator, ESD



**Employment
Security
Department**
WASHINGTON STATE

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 are working on the CR 102 to formally propose the rules and schedule the hearing.
- **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 have filed the CR 102; hearing will be on March 6 at 9:00 AM.
- **Rescinding Withdrawal of Appeal** – Working on a process and standard of review for situations where a claimant or employer withdraws an appeal and later wishes to request to reinstate the appeal. Hearing was held on December 2, 2024. We are preparing the CR 103 to adopt the rule.

Legislation update

Josh Dye, Interim Government Relations Director, ESD



**Employment
Security
Department**
WASHINGTON STATE



Legislation update



Bills we are tracking

SB 5041

Concerning unemployment insurance benefits for striking or lockout workers

Public hearing in Labor & Commerce on Jan 21.

SB 5540

Student Disqualification UI

Referred to Labor & Commerce

HB 1313 and SB 5525

Concerning mass layoffs, relocations and terminations

HB 1313 – Public hearing in LWS on Jan 28
SB 5525 – Referred to Labor & Commerce

HB 1682

Part-time workers in UI system

Referred to Labor & Workplace Standards

SB 5459

Call center retention

Referred to Labor & Commerce

SB 5400

Supporting local journalism

Public hearing in Labor & Commerce on Jan 28

General Updates Overpayments, Peak



**Employment
Security
Department**
WASHINGTON STATE

JR Richards, Unemployment Insurance Customer Support Director, ESD



Overpayments Update



Year in Review - 2024

- Completed 150,000 applications.
- Waived \$525M.
- Completed 17,000 outreach attempts (outbound calls & emails).
- Identified process improvements for operational efficiency.
- Strategized to maximize and leverage resource capacity.

Peak Season Update



- Performing better Year over year compared to last peak
 - Q4 24 vs Q4 23 first pay timeliness went from 61.8% to 67.6% (5.8% higher)
 - Comparing December 23 vs. 24, we answered 22,025 calls vs. 23,516 (6.7% higher)
 - High call volume messages played 157,087 vs. 103,414 (down 34%)

Public Comment



- 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.
- **Reminder:** 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 camille.galeno@esd.wa.gov. *(Camille's email will be posted in the chat)*
- Please limit your comments to **two minutes**.

A photograph showing the silhouettes of several people standing in a meeting room, illuminated by a bright light source from the left, creating a strong backlight effect. The people appear to be engaged in a discussion or presentation.

Unemployment Insurance ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Employment Security Department

WASHINGTON STATE