

**ACTION WORKSHOP**  
**Saturday, December 2, 9:00 am To 3:00 pm**

**AGENDA**

9:00 am	<p><b>Opening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome</li> <li>• Purpose of workshop</li> </ul>
9:10	<b>What is Unique about the 2024 Session</b>
9:30	<b>Legislative Panel</b> – What Are Legislators’ Hopes for this session
10:00	<b>Introduction to the Lobby Team</b>
10:10	<b>Break</b> and Go to Breakout Rooms
10:20	<p><b>Breakout Sessions I</b> – Participants select from among the following:  <i>Note that some are repeated in later sessions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Redistricting</b>  Join the Redistricting Reform Task Force for the latest on Washington’s new legislative districts and the efforts for comprehensive change to our broken redistricting commission. Find out how the last commission failed and how to join the work for a state constitutional amendment. The people of Washington State deserve district lines that best represent the people of the state and give us the best chance to elect the representatives of our choice, with a People First Redistricting Commission.</li> <li>• <b>Behavioral Health</b>  Anna Nepomuceno, Director of Public Policy for NAMI WA, will lead off the session with an overview of important behavioral health issues before the Legislature in 2024. These issues include school-based behavioral health, increasing the behavioral health workforce, and strengthening the 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Response System. There will be time for questions and a discussion of other important behavioral health issues.</li> <li>• <b>Climate Crisis &amp; Energy</b>  Recent legislative sessions improved the outlook for decarbonizing electricity, fuels, industry, and buildings. In 2024, we expect legislative focus on further decarbonizing housing and transportation while also reducing pollution in historically impacted regions, and to prevent backsliding on the state’s climate goals.</li> <li>• <b>Education and Other Important Children's Issues</b>  Learn from lobby team issue chairs about anticipated 2024 Legislative priorities in public education, children's programs and early learning. Catherine Ahl will discuss public education including the need to adequately fund support staff and special education. Janet Hedgepath will highlight issues that relate to the very vulnerable children in the child welfare</li> </ul>

	<p>system. Finally, Karen Tvedt will talk about next steps in implementing the 2021 Fair Start for Kids Act including the need to improve affordability for families and wages for those working in child care, and early learning programs. Please join us with your questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Revenue</b>  Washington State’s tax structure is still grossly regressive, in spite of measures passed over the last couple of years, such as the capital gains tax and the working families tax exemption. Hear about the wealth tax, guaranteed basic income, and other options for making the state’s system more fair. </li> </ul>
11:40 am	<b>Lunch Break</b> and Go to Breakout Rooms
12:15 pm	<p><b>Breakout Sessions II</b> - Participants select from among the following:  <i>Note that some are repeated in other sessions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Elections &amp; Money in Politics</b>  Hear Democracy lobby team members and guests speak on electoral and campaign finance reform legislation that will need your action during the 2024 legislative session. Topics include voting options, compliance and education, election security, protecting our election administrators, and increasing people-power by banning foreign corporations from influencing our elections and through the use of democracy vouchers. Session will include time for Q&amp;A. </li> <li> <b>Housing/Homelessness</b>  Homelessness remains a crisis in Washington State, even though the Legislature has taken action on a number of fronts to address it. Hear about what has been done and what is being considered for next steps in the 2024 session. </li> <li> <b>Natural Resources and Forests</b>  Consider the span of vast environmental concerns. This session will look at potential legislation that affects our natural resources as well as manufactured resources, in two parts. 1) Protection of forests, the standing carbon work horses; and 2) Dealing with waste – options from reduction to diversion to disposal options. Specifically, the WRAP Act will return for consideration along with other bills dealing with appliances, organics, biosolids, EV batteries, plastics, and the right to repair. </li> <li> <b>Education and Other Important Children's Issues</b>  (repeated; see description above) </li> <li> <b>Criminal Justice</b> </li> </ul>

	<p>The interim between legislative sessions has been very busy for those working on criminal justice. Get the inside scoop on bills related to police accountability, sentencing reform, and humane prison conditions. Legislators are listening and need to hear from you!</p>
1:25	<b>Break and Go to Breakout Rooms</b>
1:35	<p><b>Breakout Sessions III - Participants select from among the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Elections &amp; Money in Politics</b> (repeated; see description above)</li> <li>• <b>Health Care</b> This session will review some of the elements contributing to the complexity of our health care system. There will be three short presentations with brief Q&amp;A sessions for each. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of what the Washington State Universal Health Care Commission (UHCC) is and its role in developing a universal health care system for Washington State with Maureen Brick-Lund, LWVSKC;</li> <li>• Explanation of how a single-payer program can pay for health care and save money for the system, with Warren George, OR LWV; and</li> <li>• Explanation of the Keep our Care Act, and how League can support it, with a representative of Pro-Choice Washington</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Local News and Democracy</b> The Legislature’s 2023 approval of legislation allowing Business &amp; Occupation tax exemptions for publishers and funding for an early-career journalism fellowship are meaningful but only small steps in the effort to stem the continuing local news crisis. More needs to be done.  Join the Local News and Democracy breakout session and hear from Brier Dudley, the Seattle Times’ Free Press editor, about legislation being pursued in other states. Also, Pierce County League member Joanne Lisosky, who is a Pacific Lutheran University professor emerita, will discuss the need for expanded news media literacy training in schools, which passage of two bills LWVWA is following would provide.</li> <li>• <b>Climate Change &amp; Energy</b> (repeated; see description above)</li> </ul>
2:45	<b>Appreciation, Invitations to next events</b>
3:00 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>