

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHARTER

PURPOSE

The Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee (UIAC) shall provide comment on Unemployment Insurance (UI) policy and operations, as well as other issues the Committee determines require its consideration. The Committee will provide a forum for listening to concerns of stakeholders and seeking input to improve the UI program to best serve workers and business.

GOALS

The national and state response to the Coronavirus pandemic is having far-reaching economic ramifications for Washington workers and businesses to include historic use of the UI program, which provides critical financial support for workers while bolstering the broader economy. Effectively identifying lessons learned from the crisis and avenues to improve the UI program so that it better supports workers and businesses, including in times of economic crisis, is a vital endeavor.

The committee will intensively focus on challenges related to the UI program surfacing or made more evident by the Coronavirus pandemic, as well as the appropriate responses. This includes considering and providing recommendations to the Governor, legislature and department regarding:

- Changes to state law that would lead to improvements in the unemployment benefits and tax system, as well as enhance the solvency and stability of the unemployment trust fund.
- Employment Security Department (ESD) UI rulemaking to include review of Coronavirus emergency rules and the Department's broader UI rulemaking agenda in order to facilitate the agency's decision-making and prioritization of UI rules.
- ESD and its system partners' ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from major economic shifts.

This further includes goals to:

- Foster community and stakeholder engagement in considering improvements.
- Commit to timely, robust, and open communication to the public, and to engaged stakeholder communities.

MEMBERSHIP

This committee is made up of ten people. Four members appointed to represent employee interests. Four members appointed to represent employer interests. One representative appointed to represent Workforce Development Councils. One Chair appointed by the Commissioner. At the time of this Charter's creation, the following members have been appointed by the Commissioner:

Department Representative (Chair): Dan Zeitlin, Employment System Policy Director
Employee Representative: Sybill Hyppolite, Washington State Labor Council
Employee Representative: Cindy Richardson, UNITE HERE Local 8
Employee Representative: Josh Swanson, Operating Engineers 302
Employee Representative: Brenda Wiest, Teamsters 117
Employer Representative: Bob Battles, Association of Washington Business
Employer Representative: Julia Gorton, Washington Hospitality Association
Employer Representative: Tammie Hetrick, Washington Food Industry Association
Employer Representative: Jerry Vanderwood, Association of General Contractors
Workforce Development Council Representative: Kevin Perkey, Washington Workforce Association

MEMBER APPOINTMENT

TERMS

Members are appointed by the Commissioner to serve an initial term through the end of calendar year 2020. Following the initial term, the Commissioner will work with current members to determine future terms for the committee.

MEMBER REPLACEMENT

Should a member resign from the committee during their term, the Commissioner will appoint a replacement member.

MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER OUTSIDE OF MEETINGS

Members may communicate outside of the committee meetings. Member communications outside of the committee are not on *behalf* of the advisory committee and individual members are not authorized by the committee to make decisions for the Committee.

MEMBERS COMPENSATION

The members shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. The committee may utilize such personnel and facilities of the department as it needs, without charge. Given the health and safety measures in place, however, it is anticipated that all committee meetings will be virtual.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

MEMBER MEETINGS- CADENCE

Members agree to meet every two weeks unless otherwise needed.

MEMBER MEETINGS- PROXY

Members may, after giving notice via email or telephone of at least 24 hours to the Chair, send a proxy member to the meeting. The proxy member will have full authority to act on behalf of the appointed member. If a proxy member attends and participates in the meeting as a member, the appointed member for whom a proxy was sent may not attend the meeting in his or her capacity as an appointed member.

MEMBER MEETINGS- QUORUM

The members agree that a quorum constitutes a simple majority of the total number of members excluding the Chair.

MEMBER MEETINGS- PROCESS

The members agree to use the *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*. Advisory recommendations to policy makers of the committee shall be made on a consensus basis (consensus allows the majority of members to vote in favor of a recommendation while others abstain).