

Lobbyist Report

Month January



Meetings/Work groups attended

The most important meeting of last month was with the committee working on the 988 behavioral health crisis hotline. Emily did a wonderful job of communicating the information that WMHCA needs and I can't even express how impressive it was! I met with the following legislators:

- Rep JT Wilcox
- Rep Mary Dye
- Sen Karen Keiser
- Lt. Governor Denny Heck
- Rep Alex Ybarra
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Legislative Summary for Mental Health Specifically (To Send to Members)

Hello all, I hope you're doing well and staying safe.

Going into the 2021 session, there are going to be a lot of police reform issues and bills having to do with the mental health of people suffering with the pressure of dealing with covid. We will be keeping an eye on those. Also, Legislators have been asked to limit the amount of bills they introduce so the number of bills will be deducted by about 75% more than normal. There are a lot of pressures regarding security so everyone has been advised to stay off of the Capitol Campus. This is going to be a very interesting year for sure.

Meetings Requested

Both of the entire Health Care committees have been requested.

General Legislative News

Between the high security risk and the lack of general organization from staff, things have already been very tumultuous but I feel like that by the end of the week we will know more. Here is the link to the main legislative page for your reference: <https://leg.wa.gov>

What's on the Horizon?

It is going to be a "hurry up and wait" situation for the next two or three days. I will send another report once things get hashed out.

Other things I've been tracking or paying attention to

Sara Stewart