



JLARC Orientation & 2020 Workplan

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Introduction to JLARC

JLARC workplan for 2020

Four primary goals

- Inform legislative policy making
- Ensure agency compliance with legislative intent
- Identify ways to improve government efficiency and effectiveness
- Identify ways to achieve cost savings

Key functions

- In-depth program and agency evaluations
- Policy studies
- Ongoing oversight
- Fiscal analysis

JLARC conducts 5 or 6 major studies each year

- Studies review policy areas, or specific state programs or agencies
 - Workers' Compensation, Gaming
 - Foster Care, Inmate Health Care
 - Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Study duration typically 9 to 12 months

Ongoing oversight and fiscal analysis

- Perform ongoing oversight and fiscal analysis
 - VITA, VRS, Virginia529, and Cardinal
 - Economic development incentives
 - Health and Human Resources
 - State spending
- Conduct fiscal impact reviews during session

JLARC's value

- JLARC uniquely positioned to conduct in-depth, original research
 - Policy analysts with extensive training and experience
 - Rigorous research process
 - Objective, non-partisan
- Helps legislators identify and address any problems in complex state programs and agencies
- Provides legislators with considerations, implications, and options needed to address major policy issues

JLARC process

- 1) JLARC *members* select study topics but may ask for staff assistance
- 2) JLARC *staff* conduct research independently and present findings and recommendations
- 3) JLARC *members* draft and enact legislation based on staff recommendations

Commission typically meets monthly from May through December*

- Staff present summary findings and recommendations to Commission
- Members ask questions about study findings and recommendations
- Members “receive” rather than approve reports
- Subject agency typically provides a short response after staff presentation

*Except August

Report findings provided at differing levels of detail and in several formats

- Summaries, staff presentations, and written reports provide different levels of detail
- Members will receive reports in hardcopy and electronically
- All reports are available online

Auditor of Public Accounts and JLARC

- Auditor is ex-officio member of JLARC
- Presents workplan annually
- Requests JLARC approval for special projects
- Ongoing collaboration and coordination between staffs

New JLARC membership offers opportunity to continue raising standard of excellence

- Recipient of 2020 National Legislative Program Evaluation Society award for agency excellence
- We value your participation in our continual efforts to improve upon
 - Study selection process
 - Recruiting a more diverse staff
 - Report content and format
 - Communication with members

In this presentation ...

JLARC role and operations

Proposed JLARC workplan for 2020

Major work supervised by Justin Brown, senior associate director

- Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (September)
- Department of Education (October)
- Legalizing marijuana in Virginia (November)

Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (September)

- Study areas
 - Overall agency management
 - SWaM and other certification programs
 - Technical assistance programs
 - Business financing
 - SWaM policy goals and small business definition

Virginia Department of Education (October)

- Study areas
 - Overall agency management
 - Ensuring local school division compliance with laws, regulations, and policy
 - Support and technical assistance to school divisions
 - Coordination with other state agencies
 - Role and relationship with Board of Education

Legalizing Marijuana in Virginia (November)

- Study areas
 - Legal, criminal justice, and public health considerations
 - Commercial licensing
 - State regulatory and administrative structure
 - Taxation and revenue
 - Opportunities to benefit minority populations disproportionately affected by prohibition

Major 2020 work supervised by Tracey Smith, associate director

- Children's Services Act (November)
- K-12 special education (December)

Children's Services Act (November)

- Study areas
 - Spending growth
 - Private day school placements
 - Local services planning and case management
 - Child outcomes
 - State oversight and support

K-12 Special Education (December)

- Study areas
 - Identification of students
 - IEP design and implementation
 - Staffing levels of teachers and support professionals
 - Inclusion
 - Student outcomes
 - VDOE monitoring and oversight

Major 2020 work supervised by Kimberly Sarte, associate director

- VRS (July and December) and VA529 oversight (every other July)
- Regional and infrastructure economic development incentives (September)
- Virginia Information Technologies Agency (October)

Regional and Infrastructure Economic Development Incentives (September)

- Study areas
 - 4 regional/distressed region grants
 - 4 infrastructure development grants
 - 2 tax credits
 - Reviewed for effectiveness and economic impact

Virginia Information Technologies Agency (October)

- Study areas
 - Implementation of new multi-supplier service model
 - Management of multi-supplier model and contracts
 - Quality of IT infrastructure services
 - VITA's organizational management to operate model

Other JLARC reports in 2020

- State spending
- Economic development incentives
- Insurance coverage for behavioral health and medical services
- Medicaid enrollment and spending
- Health insurance coverage of hearing aids
- State spending on the K-12 Standards of Quality
- Virginia Compared with Other States

*Virginia Compared with Other States will be published in January 2021.

Proposed meeting schedule for 2020 (major studies)

SEPTEMBER 14	Regional and infrastructure incentives Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity
OCTOBER 5	VITA DOE Central Office
NOVEMBER 16	Legalizing marijuana Children's Services Act
DECEMBER 14	K-12 Special Education
