



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

"A disaster-ready and resilient Washington State"

2024 Legislative Session

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Emergency Management Related Highlights

- HB2020: State Public Infrastructure Assistance program enacted in law - \$250k study on best practices to help guide implementation and rulemaking
- HB1012: Grants for extreme weather events (heating and cooling shelters, air quality shelters) - \$1.5M
- Proviso in budget, not a bill: \$361k for a study on state building codes and construction standards for earthquake and tsunami resilience
- Proviso in budget, not a bill: \$1m added to the Governor's Emergency Assistance Fund
- Two updates to RCW 38.52 passed
 - a. HB2135 - Including tribes in the emergency worker program
 - b. HB1978 - Adding special purpose districts and junior taxing districts to the intrastate mutual aid system
- HB1974 - Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) administration moves to EMD from WaTech effective June 6



EM Related Continued

- **SB6164** – Ecology. County emergency management plans. Sponsored by Senator Wagoner. The way it sorted out was this: A local organization that produces a local comprehensive emergency management plan must include in its communication plan an expeditious notification of citizens at risk during a Type 1 or Type 2 hazardous materials spill or release. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) must provide for at least one public meeting to inform the public about the hazardous material spill or release.
- **HB1924** – Commerce. Fusion Energy Work Group. The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council and the Department of Health must establish a fusion energy work group (work group) of state agencies to identify and evaluate new and existing permitting, siting, licensing, and registration pathways for producing fusion energy. The state agencies in the work group include, but are not limited to, the Department of Ecology, the Governor's Office, and the Military Department. The work group must involve the regulated community throughout the process and provide an initial report to the Governor and the Legislature by December 1, 2024.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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How to get Involved

- Know who your legislators are. [Washington State Legislature](#)
- Know how a bill becomes a law. [Washington State Legislature How a Bill Becomes a Law](#)
- Communicate with your legislators and participate in hearings on bills that matter to you.

[Washington State Legislature Participating in the Process](#)



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Questions?

Local Government Fiscal Note Program

Presentation to Local Emergency
Management Planning Conference

Tammi Alexander

BOND USERS CLEARINGHOUSE MANAGER / SENIOR FISCAL NOTE ANALYST

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Washington State
Department of
Commerce

We strengthen communities



HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



INFRASTRUCTURE AND BROADBAND



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



ENERGY



PLANNING AND TECH ASSISTANCE



COMMUNITY SERVICES



CRIME VICTIMS AND PUBLIC SAFETY



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

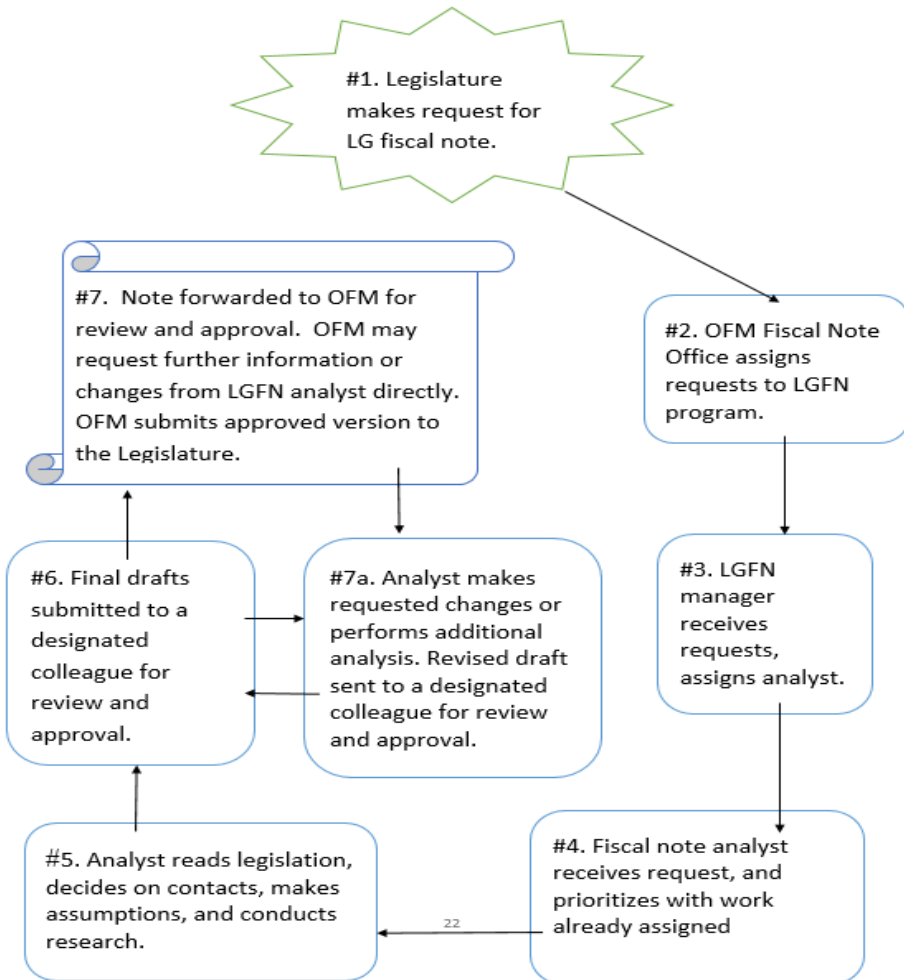
Local Government Fiscal Note Program (LGFN)

- Established 1977
- RCW 43.132
- Typically between six and eight staff working on fiscal notes during session
- In addition, two primary editors who review notes before they are submitted to the Office of Financial Management

What is a local government fiscal note?

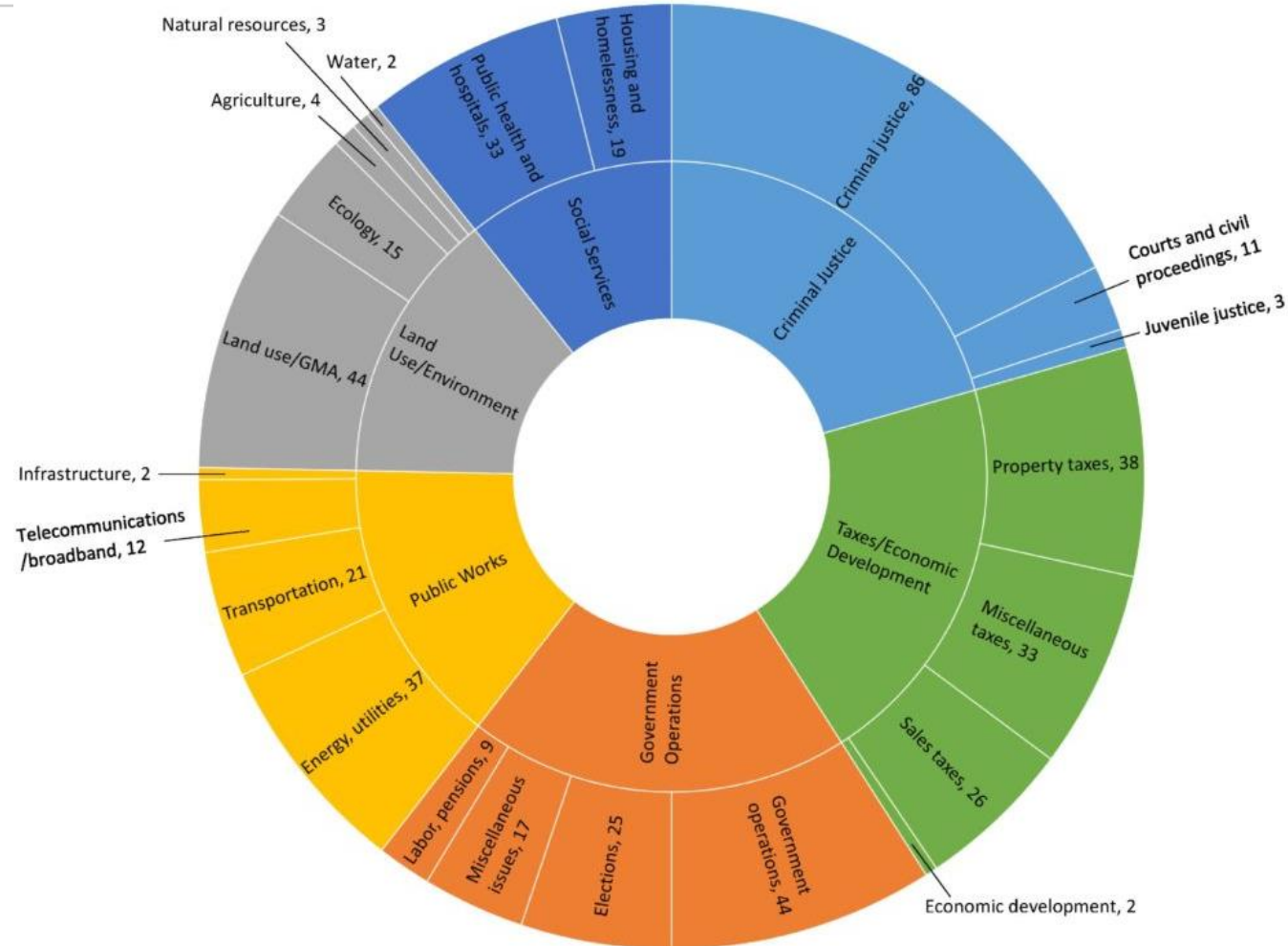
- Impartial analysis of the potential impacts of proposed legislation on the expenditures and revenues of cities, counties and special purpose districts.
- Process is similar to state agency fiscal notes, but with a five-day deadline to submit a note to the Office of Financial Management

Basic Fiscal Note Life Cycle

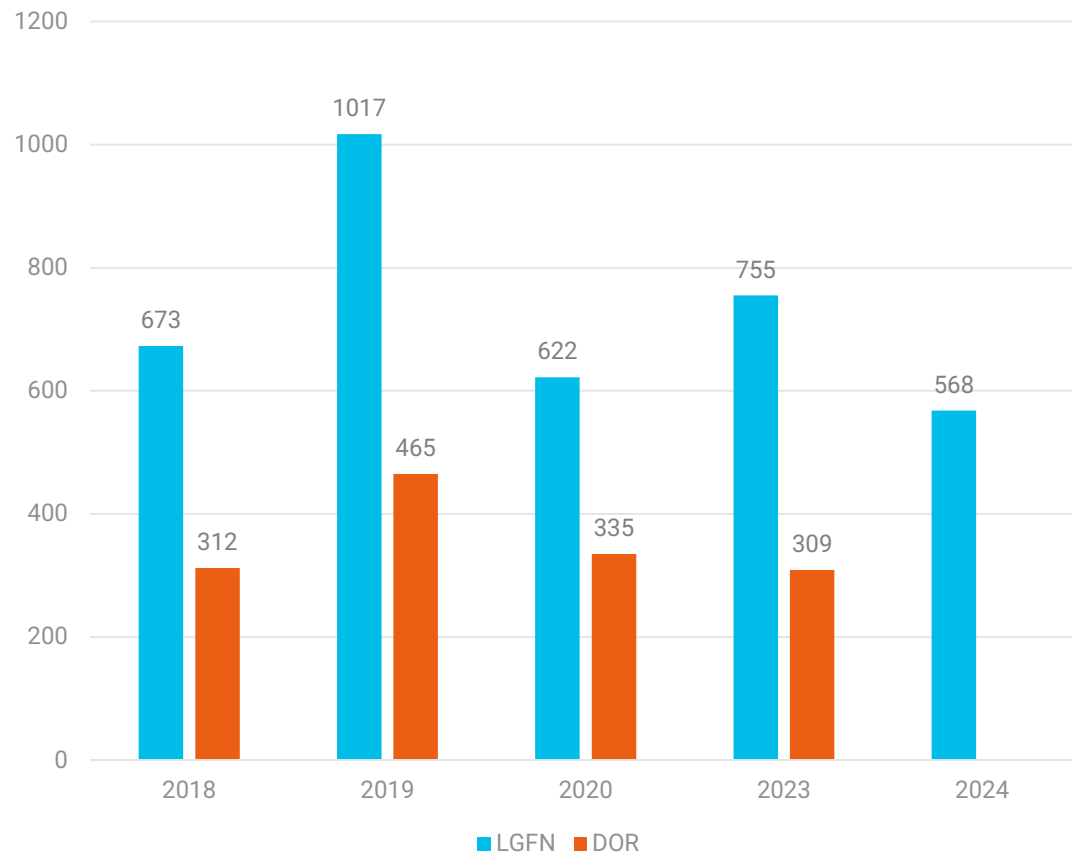


1. Legislature requests fiscal notes for bill
2. OFM assigns requests to agencies, including LGFN
3. LGFN Manager assigns note to analyst
4. Analyst receives request and adds to pile
5. Analyst writes the fiscal note
 - a. Read the bill
 - b. Determine assumptions
 - c. Conduct outreach
 - d. Write note with explanation and/or calculations
6. Analyst submits fiscal note to editor for review and approval
7. Editor forwards note to OFM for review and approval
8. OFM provides note package (including LGFN) to Legislature

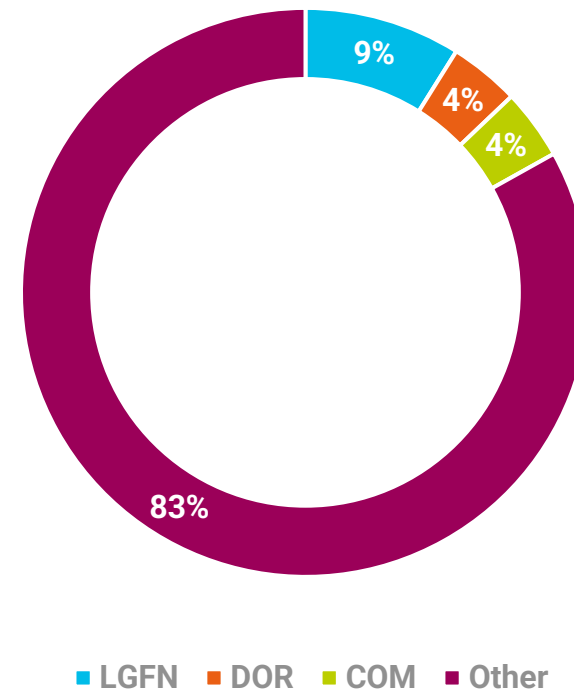
We cover every policy area impacting local governments and special districts



LGFN is the largest producer of fiscal notes

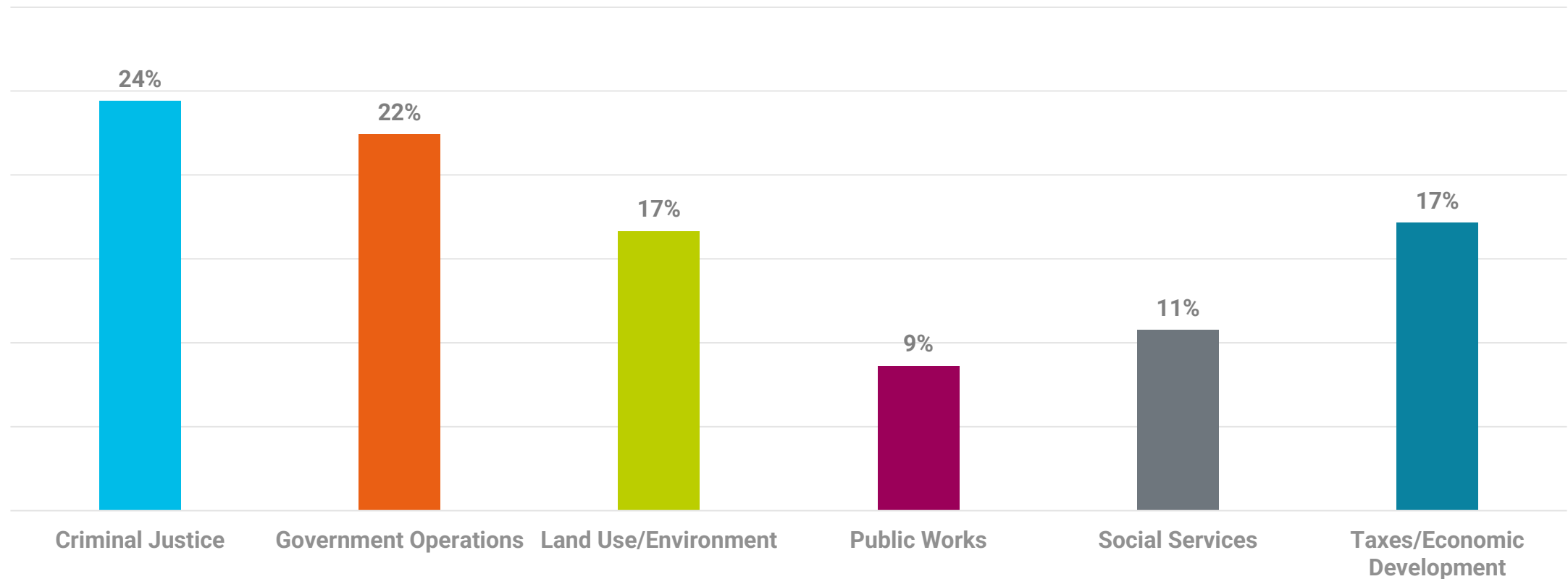


Percentage of Fiscal Notes Submitted by Agency, 2023 Session

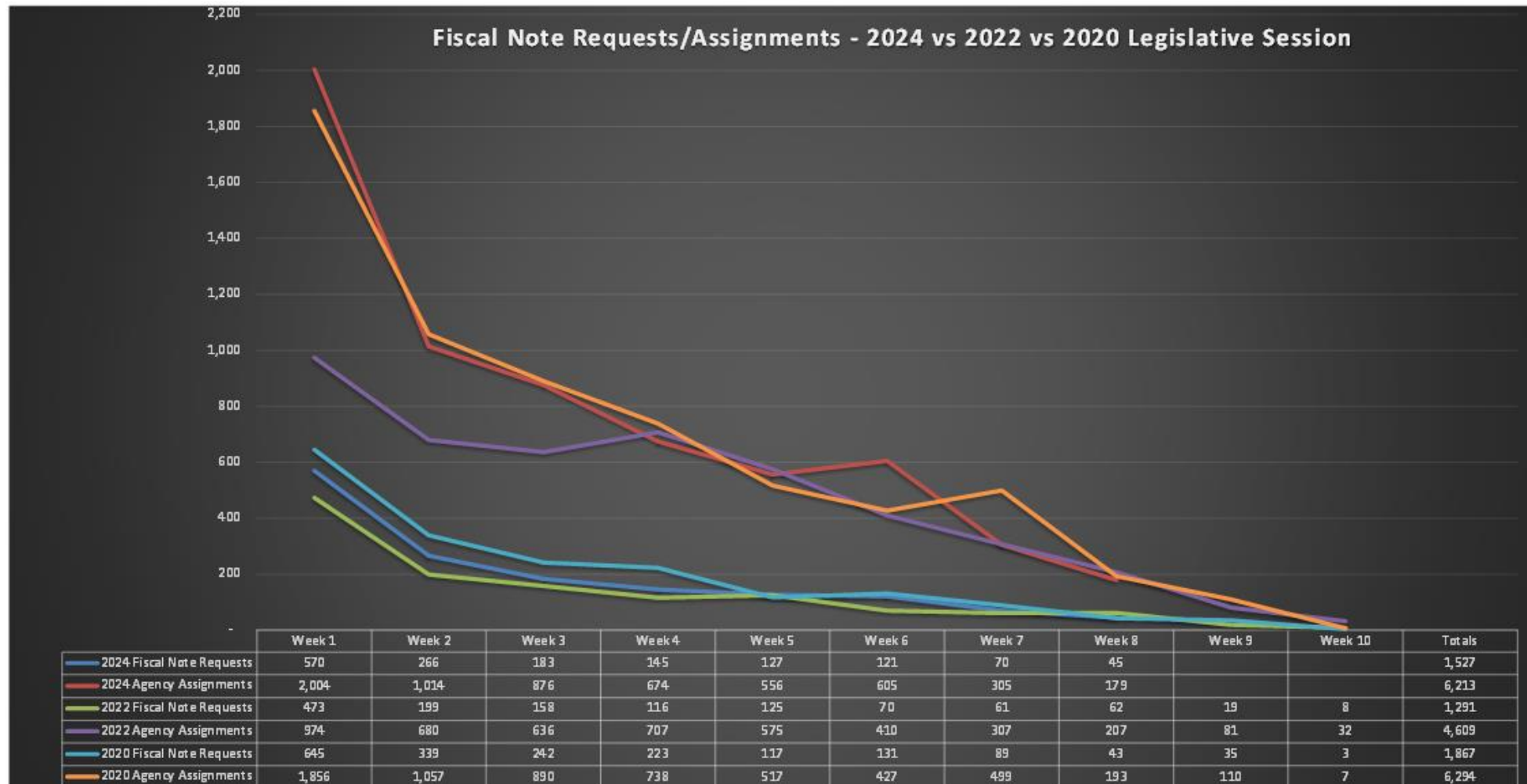


Note volume varies by subject area...

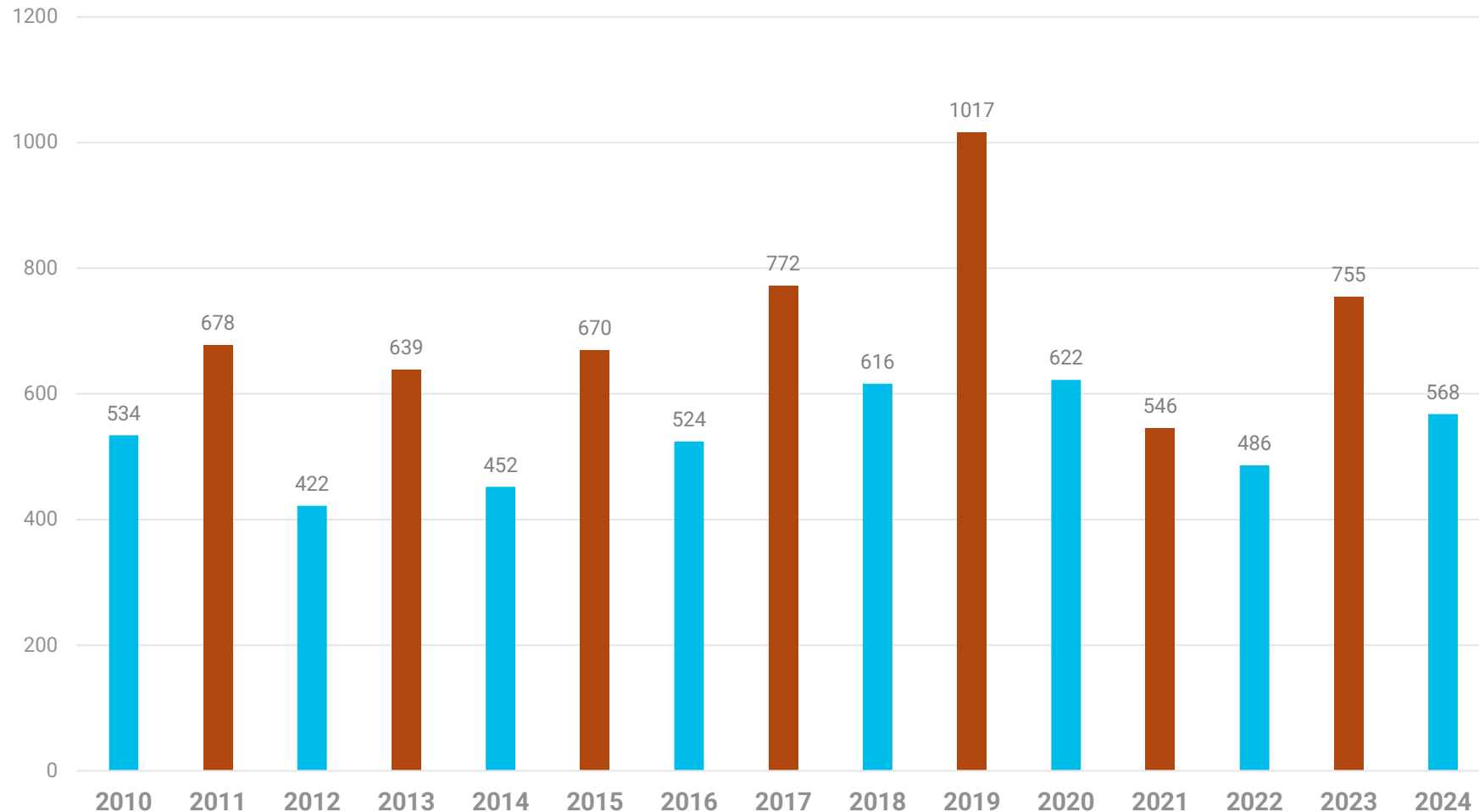
Percentage of Total Notes Submitted by Subject Area, 2023 Session



...and by time of year

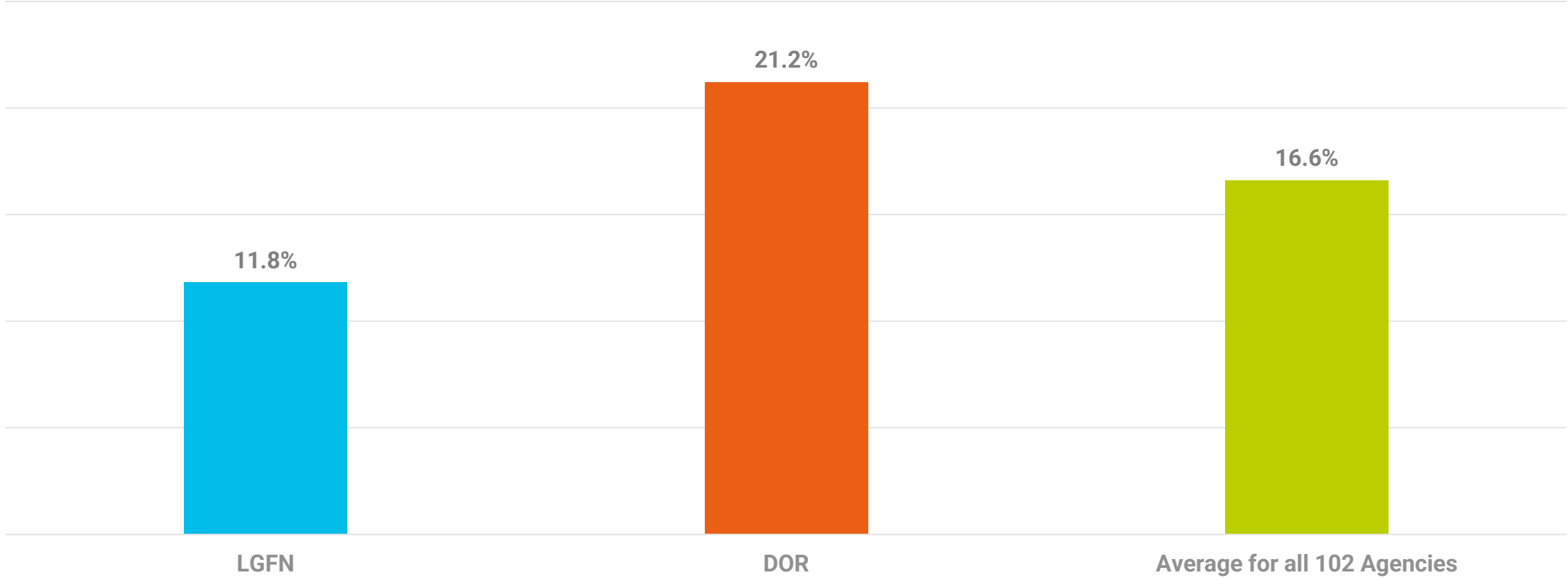


Volume is especially high during long sessions, and appears to have rebounded from pandemic lows



Accuracy is one of LGFN's primary goals

Revision Rate by Agency, 2023 Session



Our job is to quantify the impacts of proposed legislative changes.

Potential Costs/Expenditures:

- How much staff time will this change take to implement?
- Which staff will be involved?
- Will there be additional costs, for instance in materials, contracting, legal support, or translation?
- Will there be both one-time and ongoing costs?
- Or, will there be a reduction in costs as a result of the bill?

Our job is to quantify the impacts of proposed legislative changes (continued).

Potential Revenue:

- Will the bill result in increased revenue?
- What is the source of that revenue – fees or fines, transfers from other units of local government, or a legislative appropriation?
- Or, will there be a reduction in revenue as a result of the bill?
- Will the changes be one-time or ongoing, or both?

How to locate fiscal notes

<https://leg.wa.gov>

Thank you!



Washington State
Department of
Commerce

www.commerce.wa.gov



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Substitute Senate Bill-5812

Study-Electric Vehicles



SSB-5812

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) The Washington state patrol, in consultation with the department of ecology, local fire protection districts, a representative of the towing and recovery industry, and other entities, must study the following elements of electric vehicle fires:

- (a) Impacts to the environment and proximate residential areas, and health impacts to responding firefighters;**
- (b) Best practices for fire response; and**
- (c) Best practices regarding clean-up and disposal efforts.**

(2) By January 1, 2025, the Washington state patrol must report to the appropriate committees of the legislature study findings and any resulting policy or legislative recommendations.

Energy Workgroup

Members from various disciplines;

- **State Fire Marshal's Office**
- **Department of Ecology**
- **Fire Departments**
- **Towing and Recovery**
- **Department of Commerce**
- **Insurance Commission**



Impacts to the environment and proximate residential areas, and health impacts to responding firefighters;

What are some of the impacts to the environment?

May take thousand gallons amounts of water to cool and mitigate the fire.

Produces waste-water to the environment and near-by waterways

Best Practices for Fire Response

Proper training for first responders to mitigate an EV fire

Intervention

Defensive or,

Non-Intervention





Best Practices for Clean-up and Disposal

Currently there is no clear way to clean-up and dispose of damaged Lithium-ion Batteries.

Call Ecology for guidance-however they will not take the batteries for obvious reasons.

Do not take them back to the fire station or leave them within a structure due to possible reignition.

Towing and Recovery

Damaged Vehicle!!

May reignite on flatbed!!

Needs to be accountable as to where it goes.

Guidance for storing with towing yard

Knowing what to look for while in towing yard.



Chemical Hazards





What the study does not include

- **Residential Codes**
- **Energy Storage Systems (ESS)**
- **Solar Panel systems**
- **Commercial applications**
- **Industrial applications**



What we hope to accomplish

- **Outline the need for additional studies.**
- **Outline the need for funding for training for first and second responders.**
- **Work to provide regulations on proper clean-up and disposal.**
- **Proper Fire Code identification for residential and commercial applications.**