Appendix I: Advisory Group

The Department was required by the statutory mandate to create an advisory group to provide advice and assistance to the Tax Study Committee. The mandate required that the group include representatives of business, state and local government, labor, taxpayers, and other advocacy groups.

In forming the Advisory Group, the Department solicited the advice of key legislative leaders on how to make the group most useful and successful for the Tax Study Committee. Due to the broad scope of the study and the far-reaching issues surrounding tax administration, the consensus was to invite participation from a large and inclusive group. Invitations to participate in the Advisory Group were delivered to approximately 70 individuals and associations.

In October 2001, the Department held the first meeting of the Advisory Group. Over 60 individuals attended, representing various interest groups and organizations in the fields mentioned above. At this meeting, Advisory Group members were asked to explain the significant issues they felt the Tax Study Committee should address. From the information contained in those responses, the Committee compiled a comprehensive list of issues to be examined in the economic analysis of Washington's existing tax structure. (See Appendix C-1.)

After the first meeting, the Department formed an electronic mailing list to provide regular updates on the progress of the study and to distribute materials, agendas, and presentations from each study meeting to the group. Over the course of the study, many individuals and organizations asked to join the advisory group; no one was refused. At the close of the study, the mailing list contained over 190 individuals, many of whom represented organizations with larger memberships. In addition to the electronic mailing list, the Department created a website for the Tax Study where all meeting materials and presentations were posted. The website also contained a link where citizens and organizations could e-mail additional comments or questions, which were then forwarded to the Tax Study Committee.

Since that initial meeting of the Advisory Group, its members have participated primarily through written input and comments to the Tax Study Committee. Over the course of the study, the Tax Study Committee has asked the Advisory Group to respond to specific questions regarding the principles addressed in the tax study, as well as general requests for comments on the materials presented in the public meetings.
In addition to the process developed for submitting written comments, the Advisory Group was invited in July 2002 to present their comments to the Tax Study Committee at a public meeting. On July 14, 2002, 20 individuals and organizations provided input to the Committee on issues of importance in relation to the tax alternatives under consideration by the Committee. The Advisory Group was also asked to submit additional comments in writing.

The Department would like to thank the Advisory Group for its participation in the study. Advisory Group members included the original organizations who were contacted for their input, plus additional individuals and organizations who joined the study by way of the electronic mailing list or public meetings.

The Department initially contacted over 60 organizations to participate in the Advisory Group. The original organizations include:

- AARP Washington State Office
- American Association of University Women of Washington
- American Electronics Association
- Associated General Contractors of Washington
- Association of Washington Business
- Association of Washington Cities
- AVISTA Corporation
- Boeing Tax Office, The Boeing Company
- Building Industry Association of Washington
- Catholic Community Services
- City of Seattle, Office of Intergovernmental Relations
- Coalition for a Jewish Voice
- Common Ground - USA
- Department of Ecology
- Department of Labor and Industries
- Economic Development Council of Seattle & King County
- Evergreen Freedom Foundation
- Friends Committee on Washington State Public Policy
- Friends of the Earth
- Governor’s Office
- Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
- Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Independent Business Association
- League of Education Voters
- League of Women Voters
- Microsoft Corporation
- National Federation of Independent Business
- Northwest Environment Watch
- Office of Community Development
- Office of Trade and Economic Development
- Patrick Dunn & Associates
- People for Fair Taxes
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- Senior Citizens' Lobby
- State Coalition for the Homeless
- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Tax Executives Institute
- Verizon Wireless
- Washington Assoc. of Community Action Agencies
- Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- Washington Association of County Officials
- Washington Association of Realtors
- Washington Citizens Action
- Washington Education Association
- Washington Environmental Council
- Washington Food Industry
- Washington Food Processors Council
- Washington Forest Protection Association
- Washington Policy Center
- Washington Property Rights Alliance
- Washington Public Ports Association
- Washington Public Utilities District Association
- Washington Research Council
- Washington Restaurant Association
Washington Retail Association  Washington State Association of Neighborhood Stores
Washington Roundtable  Washington State Bar Association
Washington Society of CPAs  Washington State Coalition for Community Action
Washington Software Alliance  Washington State Parent Teacher Association
Washington State Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention  Washington State School Director's Association
Washington State Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists Advocacy Group  Washington State Transportation Alliance
Washington State Association of Counties  Western States Petroleum Association
Washington State Association of County Assessors  Washington State Association of Neighborhood Stores
Washington State Association of County Treasurers  Washington State Bar Association
Washington State Coalition for Community Action  Washington State Farm Bureau
Washington State Farm Bureau  Washington State Hospital Association
Washington State Labor Council  Washington State Parent Teacher Association
Washington State Parent Teacher Association  Washington State School Director's Association
Washington State School Director's Association  Washington State Transportation Alliance
Western States Petroleum Association  Washington State Association of Neighborhood Stores

Since then the group has grown to include additional individuals and organizations who have asked to be included on the Advisory Group electronic mailing list or who have provided additional written input. This list includes:

Alan Harvey  Caroline Davis  Deborah Diamond
Alan Thein Durning  Carolyn Busch  Deborah Stephens
Amy Brackenbury  Carolyn Logue  Dedi Hitchens
Andrea Alexander  Carson Strege-Flora  Deric Young
Art Scheunemann  Charles Hasse  Diane Baer
Barb Mertens  Charles Mott  Dick Burton
Barbara Cory  Chelsea Buchanan  Doug Levy
Barbara Barron Flye  Chris Rose  Drew Desilver
Beth Wilson  Christina Bridston  Duke Schaub
Betty Spieth  Christina Scheel  Eleanor Hamburger
Bill Alkire  Cliff Webster  Elise McClure
Bill Williams  Collins Sprague  Elizabeth Selleck
Bob Butts  Corky Senecal  Ellie Menzies
Bob Carlton  Dan Coyne  Eric Montague
Bob Craves  Dan Fazio  Everett Billingslea
Bob Longman  Dan Silver  Fred Kiga
Bob Rhule  Dana Warn  Gail Stone
Brad Shannon  Daniel Mead Smith  Garry Fujita
Brian Minnick  Danny Harris  Gary Smith
Bruce Ramsey  Darcy Kooiker  Gene Lux
Bruce Reeves  Dave Wood  Gene Vosberg
Bruce Reid  David Foster  Gerald Reilly
Bryan Wahl  David Retz  Glenn Olson
Caren Adams  David Rolf  Gordy Lindstrom
Carlos Marentes  David Schumacher  Greg Hanon
Carol Taylor Cann  Deb Eddy  Greg Pierce
Guy Hobbs  
Guz Schwarz  
Hamlet Hilpert  
Heather Ballash  
Heather Morgan  
Hunter Goodman  
Irv Lefberg  
Jan Gee  
Jan Leth  
Janet Levenger  
Jason Mercier  
Jean Six  
Jeanne Large  
Jeff Johnson  
Jeremy Aguero  
Jerry Cronk  
Jerry Martin  
Jim Fridley  
Jim Hedrick  
Jim Justin  
Jim Schmidt  
Jo Senters  
John Ehrenreich  
John Mihalyo  
John Penney  
Josh Baldi  
Judy Hedden  
Karl Seeley  
Kate Smith  
Kathy Kimbel  
Kelly Croman  
Kevin Lyon  
Kimberly Craven  
Kris Kennedy  
Kriss Sjoblom  
Kristin Pula  
Kurt Nulph  
LaNita Wacker  
Larry Eyer  
Larry Stout  
Leland Johnson  
Len McComb  
Lew McMurran  
Linda Hill  
Lisa Macfarlane  
Lynn McKinnon  
Maralyn Chase  
Marcia Stedman  
Maria Cain  
Marianne Kirsten  
Mark Brown  
Mark Guidry  
Mark Johnson  
Mark Matteson  
Mary Clogston  
Mary Fairhurst  
Matt Bergeron  
Maureen Morris  
Mel McDonald  
Melville Forde  
Merril Cousin  
Meta Heller  
Michelle Hagen  
Micki Hasen  
Mike Sloan  
Nancy Duncan  
Pat Dunn  
Patrick Higgins  
Patty Van Den Broek  
Paul Benz  
Paul Vronsky  
Perry Keithley  
Peter Roth  
Rachel Le Mieux  
Ralph Amon  
Randy Parr  
Renee Peare  
Renee Radcliff  
Richard Dorsett  
Richard Stuffer  
Rick Bender  
Rick Peterson  
Robert Stern  
Robin Matisse  
Ron Bueing  
Ron Newbry  
Ron Rosenbloom  
Ross Hunter  
Roy Wilkinson  
Russ Hartman  
Sandi Swarthout  
Scott Noble  
Scott Pinigar  
Scott Taylor  
Seth Dawson  
Shawn Cantrell  
Sheila Martin  
Sherry Appleton  
Steve Duncan  
Steve Idemoto  
Steve Miller  
Steve Mullin  
Sung Yang  
Susan Crowley  
Susan Mielke  
Terri Kimball  
Terry Bergeson  
Terry Wilson  
Thomas Fitzsimmons  
Tina Frank  
TK Bentler  
Tom Dooley  
Trent Matson  
Vanessa Spinazola  
William D. Ward  
Yona Makowski  
Yoram Bauman