



What Is Legislative Oversight?

Legislative oversight is the process by which the **General Assembly reviews and evaluates** government **entities** to:

- **Ensure accountability and compliance** with law and policy.
- **Measure efficiency and effectiveness.**
- **Use public resources responsibly.**
- **Identify opportunities for improvement and better service delivery.**

Why Oversight Matters

Legislative oversight supports good government by:

- **Preventing waste** of public resources through identification of risks.
- **Improving government services** by identifying what works and what does not.
- **Strengthening accountability and public trust** through transparency and oversight.

Who Is JLOSC?

- **Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee (JLOSC).**
- **One of four joint committees** of the Delaware General Assembly.
- Comprised of **10 bipartisan members.**
- **Established in 1980** as the Joint Sunset Committee.
- **Renamed in 2017** to emphasize legislative oversight.
- **Supported by Division of Legislative Services staff.**
 - **Objective and confidential reference bureau** for the General Assembly.

How JLOSC Conducts Oversight Reviews

JLOSC reviews public entities to assess performance and public need.

Two statutory review types:

Full Review

- Comprehensive review of an entire entity.
- Scope determined by statute.

Focused Review

- **Targeted review** of a component within an entity.
 - Specific statutes, policy, rules, regulation, or program.
- Scope determined by JLOSC and staff.
- **More efficient and responsive to oversight needs.**
- Similar in approach to peer offices within NLPES.
- **Maximizes resources** by providing JLOSC members with specific, targeted information.

Both review types result in a public staff report with findings and recommendations, which staff present to JLOSC during public meetings.

Oversight Tools & Action

JLOSC provides the legislature the ability to **hold an entity accountable** by bringing its work under closer review.

- **JLOSC oversight tools include:**
 - **Reviews:** research, performance evaluations, and reports.
 - **Public meetings.**
 - **Adopting and monitoring recommendations.**
 - **Legislation.**
 - **Partnering with other oversight agencies** like the Auditor of Accounts and newly formed Inspector General's Office.
- **From review to action:**
 - Following a review, **JLOSC may adopt recommendations.**
 - Adoption requires 7 votes.
 - Recommendations often result in **legislation.**
 - **Staff** work with entity to **draft bills.**
 - JLOSC bills begin in the House in even-numbered years and the Senate in odd-numbered years.

Transparency & Public Access

- **Delaware General Assembly website:**
 - **Meetings** (livestream and replay), **reports, and presentations.**
- **FOIA requests related to JLOSC** should be **directed to committee staff.**
 - Staff coordinate FOIA responses with **Mark Cutrona**, Director of the Division of Legislative Services and the **General Assembly's FOIA coordinator.**
 - The FOIA coordinator is statutorily responsible for maintaining tracking documents and coordinating FOIA responses for the General Assembly.

National Best Practices & Training

JLOSC staff apply national best practices through **participation** and **training** with:

- National Legislative Program Evaluation Society (**NLPES**).
 - Professional staff association affiliated with National Conference of State Legislatures (**NCSL**).
- **Levin Center** for Oversight and Democracy, Wayne State University Law School.
- U.S. Government Accountability Office (**GAO**).
- **American Evaluation Association.**
- National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers (**NASACT**).

Recent Staff Accomplishments & Current Projects

- **Released 12 reports** last session, including the final report, **covering 11 entities.**
- **Delaware Infrastructure Readiness for Electric Vehicles report** selected as a **2025 NCSL Notable Document.**
 - Award recognizes excellence in legislative research and publication quality.
- Amanda completed NCSL's Legislative Staff Management Institute (LSMI).
- Staff attended the annual NLPES conference in Montana.
- Currently working on 4 focused reviews and drafting for 9 entities.