

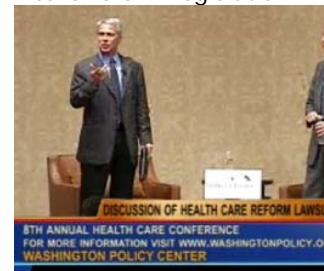


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Check out the videos
WPC's 8th Annual
Health Care
Conference!

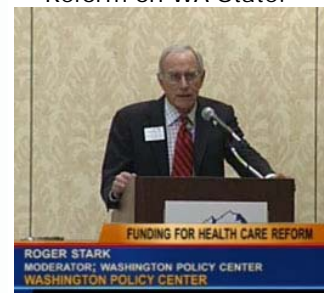
Attorney General Rob
McKenna discussing the
lawsuit challenging certain
provisions of the health
care reform legislation:



WPC's 8th Annual Health Care Conference Draws More than 300 People to Learn, Discuss How National Reform Will Impact Patients, Providers, Taxpayers, Businesses

Last Friday 330 people participated in WPC's 8th Annual Health Care Conference at the SeaTac DoubleTree Hotel.

Panel 1: The Impact of HC
Reform on WA State:





Panel 2: The Impact of HC Reform on WA State:



To kick-off the conference, Attorney General Rob McKenna sat down with KING 5's Allen Schaffler to discuss his joining the lawsuit challenging several provisions in the recent national health care reform legislation. You can watch video of their informative discussion [on TVW's website](#).

Lunch keynote from Harvard Business School Prof. Regina Herzlinger:



The conference continued with panel discussions on how national health care reform will impact businesses and individuals. Experts included Central Washington University Prof. Mathew Manweller, Renee Radcliff Sinclair of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Joseph Antos of the American Enterprise Institute, Vice President/General Manager of Premera Blue Cross Jim Grazko, CEO of Polyclinic Lloyd David, and Director of the WA State Health Care Authority Doug Porter.

Watch [panel 1 here](#), and [panel 2 here](#).



Regina Herzlinger, a Professor of Business Management at Harvard Business School, delivered the lunch keynote address. With insight and wit, she kept conference participants rapt with her analysis of health care reform and how it will unfold in the

years to come. In addition to highlighting a successful reform model in Switzerland, Prof. Herzlinger discussed how the only real way to reduced costs without sacrificing quality in the long-run is patient-driven reforms that focus on the provider-patient relationship and offer cost transparency to consumers of health care. Watch her [lunch keynote address here](#).

Special thanks to conference sponsors and panelists for making this our best health care conference yet! Thanks to TVW for covering the event.

Stay tuned to washingtonpolicy.org and [join our health care email list](#) to receive more information, including a new series of short publications that we will release this month on how national health care reform will impact you.

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After an Opaque Legislative Session, New WPC Study Calls for More Transparency in State Budgeting; Vancouver Columbian Endorses WPC Proposals

Lawmakers faced many critical decisions during the 2010 Legislative Session. None were more important than how to close a \$2.8 billion budget deficit and the majority's decision to raise nearly \$800 million in taxes. Decisions of this magnitude should have been made in the light of day and with full public involvement. Instead the 2010 Legislative Session was plagued with numerous transparency transgressions which hindered citizens' ability to participate. Read more in the new study by WPC's Center for Government Reform Director Jason Mercier: [2010 Session Marked by Secrecy and Closed-door Agreements](#).

To address these challenges, WPC recommends permanent constitutional changes:

- Require 72-hour public notification before any bill could receive a public hearing
- Prohibit title-only bills (no public hearing or vote should occur on a "ghost bill")
- Prohibit votes on final passage until the final version of the bill to be approved has been publicly available for at

least 24 hours.

Vancouver's *Columbian* newspaper weighed in, saying [in a recent editorial](#) "We would like to see legislators routinely observe Mercier's three practical recommendations."

Read [2010 Session Marked by Secrecy and Closed-door Agreements](#).

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Latest WPC Column in Spokane's *Spokesman Review*: Washington Doesn't Need an Income Tax

In WPC's latest *Spokesman Review* [column](#), Vice President for Research Paul Guppy takes a look at the proposed ballot measure to create a state income tax in Washington.

"Voters have rejected a state income tax four times before, and with good reason," Paul points out. "As a high-tax state, not taxing incomes is one of the few comparative advantages Washington retains. An income tax is a sure way to send businesses and investors elsewhere."

[Read the column online here.](#)

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WPC Welcomes Liz Fleming as New Development Director

Last week WPC welcomed Liz Fleming on board as the new Development Director. Her past experience ranges from fundraising and government relations for Gonzaga University to the staff of former U.S. House



of Representative George Nethercutt. During her fundraising career at Gonzaga Liz traveled throughout the U.S. and Canada retaining and increasing donor participation at all levels ranging from annual to major campaign gifts. She was also responsible for managing the University's federal government relations and appropriations process. Liz holds an undergraduate degree from Whitworth University and a Masters from Gonzaga University. She is an active member of the Junior League.

"The passion and commitment of Washington Policy Center supporters and staff is amazing!" Liz said. "I am proud to be joining such a dedicated team. I look forward to meeting and working with our supporters and together bringing market solutions to the people of Washington."

After nine years with WPC, Katie Bering left the Development Director position to work with her growing family business and spend more time volunteering at her church.

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Bellingham Legislative Wrap-up Reception



Welcomes WPC's North Sound Supporters

Last week more than 70 WPC supporters from the North Sound gathered on the lovely Bellingham waterfront to hear about WPC's work during the recent legislative session. Attendees heard from Bellingham-area board member Fred Bovenkamp and WPC president Dann Mead Smith, as well as WPC's

research directors.

After hosting receptions in Tacoma, Yakima, and Vancouver, the Bellingham reception concluded WPC's annual post-session tour around the state. Many thanks to supporters and guests who attended and spent time talking with research staff about the important issues facing our state!

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Upcoming Events

National Federation of Independent Business' Employment Law Workshops. 8:30am - 4:30pm: Seattle - July 13th, Spokane - July 14th, Portland - July 15th. Learn about proper interview questions, contracts, co-employers, independent contractors, non-compete agreements, wage and hour problem areas, overtime, paid time off, background checks, unlawful discrimination, invasion of employees' privacy, wrongful termination, unemployment claims, workers' comp, and more. CE, CPE, and SHRM credits available. For more information or to register contact Stacy Jenkins at 1-866-307-2846 or Stacy.Jenkins@NFIB.com.

WPC's 8th Annual Environmental Policy Conference & Luncheon. Thursday, July 29th, Seattle Westin Hotel. Keynote lunch speaker is Prof. Roger Pielke, Jr. Pielke has been on the faculty of the University of Colorado since 2001 and is a Professor in the Environmental Studies Program and a Fellow of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES). At CIRES, Roger served as the Director of the Center for Science and Technology Policy Research. Roger's research focuses on the intersection of science and technology and decision making. Prior to lunch there will be morning panel discussions on important environmental policy issues. Learn more and register [online](#), or contact Lindsay at 206-937-9691, events@washingtonpolicy.org.

WPC's 2010 Annual Dinner Featuring Charles Krauthammer and Honoring Brian Sonntag. Wednesday, October 6th, 6pm. This is the Northwest's premier policy event! Join us as at the Hyatt Regency in Bellevue as we hear from columnist Charles Krauthammer (our 2010 Columbia

Award recipient) and honor Washington State Auditor Brian Sonntag with the 2010 Stanley O. McNaughton Champion of Freedom Award. Learn more and register at wpcannualdinner.org or call 206-937-9691.

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Upcoming WPC Speaking Engagements

(click the organization links for information on registering or to RSVP for the events listed below)

Visit washingtonpolicy.org/leadtheway for dates and locations of WPC's "Lead the Way" small-business climate tour around the state! Below are the scheduled engagements in the next few weeks where WPC staff will be discussing our ideas to improve the business climate with local citizens:

- Lake Stevens - June 14th - 12:00pm – Lake Stevens School District Education Center
- Sunnyside - June 10th – 12:00pm - Snipes Mt. Brewery - 905 Yakima Valley Highway
- Republic - June 17th – 12:00pm - Tamarak Restaurant - 18 N. Clark Ave.
- Dayton - June 25th - 11:30am -The General Store, Main St.

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak at the [North Central Homebuilders General Membership Dinner](#). Date: June 8th, 6:00pm, at the [Wenatchee Convention Center](#), 201 N. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee

Brandon Houskeeper, Director of WashingtonVotes.org, will be speaking at the 2010 [Washington State Republican Convention](#)'s panel discussion on "Open Government: Holding government accountable through public records requests." Date: June 11th, 2pm at the Vancouver Hilton, 301 W. 6th Street, Vancouver

John Barnes, WPC Communications Director, will be speaking at the 2010 [Washington State Republican Convention](#)'s panel discussion on "How to Be an Effective Advocate at Public Hearings and Meetings." Date: June 11th, 2pm at the Vancouver Hilton, 301 W. 6th Street, Vancouver

Dr. Roger Stark, policy analyst at WPC's Center for Health Care, will speak to [JLR & Associates](#) on federal health care reform. Date: June 15th 11am at [Salty's at Alki](#), 1936 Harbor Ave. SW, Seattle

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the [Wenatchee Kiwanis Club](#) about WPC's six research centers and recommendations from each. Date: June 22nd, 12pm at [Wenatchee Red Lion Hotel](#), 1225 North Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee

Dr. Roger Stark, policy analyst at WPC's Center for Health Care, will speak at the [Women Business Owners Luncheon](#) on federal health care reform. Date: July 22nd, 11:30am-1:30pm at [Washington Athletic Club](#), 1325 Sixth Avenue, Seattle

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the West Spokane Rotary Club about the health care overhaul legislation and WPC's recommendations for lowering cost. Date: July 27th, 12pm at [Ramada Spokane Airport](#), 8909 West Airport Drive Spokane

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the Toppenish Rotary Club about WPC and its six research centers, as well as some WPC recommendations. Date: August 3rd, 12pm at [Yakima Cultural Center](#), [14 Tribes Banquet Room](#), 100 Spiel-yi Loop, Toppenish

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the [Ellensburg Sunrise Rotary](#) about WPC and its six research centers, as well as some WPC recommendations. Date: August 5th, 6:45am at [Palace Café](#), 323 N. Main St., Ellensburg

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the [Spokane Valley Business Association](#) about Washington Policy Center and 24 recommendations on improving the small business climate. Date: August 11th, 7:30am at Spokane Valley Fire Station 8, E. Montgomery

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the [Okanogan-Omak Rotary Club](#) about WPC's new Eastern Washington presence and some recommendations from WPC's six research centers. Date: August 19th, 12pm at Koala St. Grille, 914 Koala Ave, Omak

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the [Wenatchee Downtown Rotary Club](#) about WPC's mission, recommendations and goals in Eastern Washington. Date: September 16th, 12pm at the [Wenatchee Red Lion Hotel](#), 1225 North Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee

Chris Cargill, WPC's Eastern Washington Office Director, will speak to the Spokane College Women Luncheon about WPC's six research centers. Date: January 26th, 2011, 12pm at [Red Lion River Inn](#), 700 N Division, Spokane

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Washington Policy Center in the News

> WPC ideas and research shaping the public debate

[Law Professors All Wet, Says Attorney General – Health Care Suit Makes Sense](#)

Washington State Wire, June 7

[Mandates Under Attack – McKenna Describes Ins and Outs of Lawsuit](#)

Washington State Wire, June 7

[Washington Doesn't Need an Income Tax](#)

National Center for Policy Analysis, June 8

[Washington Doesn't Need an Income Tax](#)

The Snohomish Times, June 7

[Hear what McKenna has to say about the federal healthcare lawsuit](#)

The Capitol Record (TVW), June 7

[How government officials increase home prices](#)

Kitsap Peninsula Business Journal, June 7

[Washington State Sued over Expensive New Building Codes](#)

The Heartland Institute, June 3

[Washington state counts on Medicaid boost](#)

Spokesman Review (Spokane), June 3

[Second special session might be needed, Gregoire says](#)

The Daily News (Longview), June 2

[Gregoire: Second special session may be needed](#)

Spokesman Review (Spokane), June 2

[In Our View: More Transparency](#)

The Columbian (Vancouver), June 2

[Washington's Tax Structure More Stable Without Income Taxes](#)

Washington Alliance for a Competitive Economy, June 2

[This Bud's \(Now\) for the State](#)

Seattle PostGlobe, June 2

[Gordon set on retaining 41st Senate seat](#)

Mercer Island Reporter, June 1

[Income tax initiative wrongheaded](#)

Spokesman Review (Spokane), May 31

[King County Property Taxes \(radio\)](#)

KUOW 94.9 (NPR), May 25

[Water-taxi report on costs disputed](#)

The Seattle Times, May 27

[Lawmakers Passed 14% of Tax or Fee Bills Introduced in 2010](#)

Seattle PostGlobe, May 27

[Government Takeover of West Seattle Ferry Triples Costs \(video\)](#)

KIRO 7, May 26

[Legislature to Board Members: Serve on Your Own Dime](#)

Seattle PostGlobe, May 26

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