HB 2572 — Integration of health care purchasing and the health care delivery system
The bill places parameters around the State Health Care Innovation Plan, establishes a committee to set standard statewide measures of health performance and authorizes a statewide All-Payer Claims Database that includes Medicaid and PEBB.

SB 6312 — Concerning state purchasing of mental health and chemical dependency treatment services
Provides guidance for the Adult Behavioral Health Task Force and creation of common regional service areas for behavioral health and medical care purchasing. Integrates physical, behavioral and chemical dependency in Medicaid. The implementation of performance contracts is also addressed.

SB 6458 — Addressing the Office of the Insurance Commissioner and matters related to health care insurance
The bill would have required the Insurance Commissioner to provide notice of proposed rulemaking on health insurance to the health care committees of the Legislature, the Health Benefit Exchange, the Health Care Authority, and the Governor. If a dispute arose among state officials, the Governor must convene a meeting to resolve the dispute. The Governor may use the Health Leadership Team as a forum for the meeting, and must report the resolution to the Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight and the appropriate committees of the Legislature.

This bill was vetoed in its entirety by Governor Inslee. To honor the spirit of the Bill, Governor Inslee drafted an interagency Memorandum of Understanding to handle disputes related to the OIC.

SB 6016 — Concerning continuity of care for enrollees in the Washington health benefit exchange during grace periods
The bill requires health insurers to notify patients and health care providers when a patient has entered the 90-day “grace period” which is offered to patients who are insured by a qualified health plan through the Exchange but have failed to pay their premium. The patient is eligible to receive care within the grace period, but requires that the patient is notified about alternatives for coverage as the insurance company is only responsible for payment during the first 30 days of the grace period.

Washington HealthPlanFinder
• Washington’s Health Benefit Exchange garnered a fair amount of attention for its relative success during its first year. While enrollments lagged early on, they rebounded toward the end of the open enrollment period. The Exchange continues to battle a number of IT issues including dropped enrollees and failure to process payments.

Medicaid Expansion
• Washington state successfully expanded Medicaid and was able to exceed enrollment targets.

Reducing Number of Uninsured
• A recent Gallup health care poll ranked Washington fourth among states that reduced their uninsured rates as a result of the ACA.

By the Numbers
• Qualified Health Plan Enrollments
  » Roughly 150 thousand people purchased insurance through the Exchange.

• Medicaid Expansion Enrollments
  » The number of people insured through Medicaid, locally called Washington Apple Health, increased by 369,000 people from December 2013 to June 2014 and continues to grow. Most of the growth is from residents who meet the more generous definition of who is eligible for Medicaid (newly eligible).

• Increasing the Number of People Insured
  » Washington population without health insurance dropped from 16.8 percent to 10.7 percent since the introduction of the ACA.

SENATOR RANDI BECKER
Washington state Sen. Randi Becker is the chair of the Senate Health Care committee. Elected to the Legislature in 2008, she represents the 2nd Legislative District which includes rural communities in south Puget Sound. Sen. Becker has been married to her husband, Bob, for more than 40 years. They live outside of Eatonville on acreage with horses, beef cattle, and their dog and cat. They have two grown daughters and are the proud grandparents of two boys and one girl.