WEEK OF JANUARY 24, 2022



for the
Washington State
House of Representatives

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a coalition of over twenty leading environmental groups who lobby in Olympia on a regular basis and organize around a set of priority bills each legislative session. As in the past, we will be sending you this weekly "Hot List" to assist you in your efforts to promote this common agenda.

Please feel free to contact Clifford Traisman (Washington Environmental Council and Washington Conservation Voters) at <u>clifford@ctassociates.org</u> if you have any questions regarding our positions on any bills affecting the environment, not just those found on the Hot List each week. The Hot List can also be found <u>here</u>. Thank you.

House Committee Action



HB 1103: Improving environmental and social outcomes with the production of building materials (Buy Clean, Buy Fair).

- Creates a much-needed reporting system to provide information on the carbon intensity, toxicity, and treatment of workers related to certain categories of structural building materials.
- Part of the environmental community's <u>Partnership Agenda</u>.



HB 1627: Making it possible for more properties to have access to water, storm drains, and sanitary sewage systems.

• Facilitates additional sprawl by allowing urban services to be extended into rural areas.



HB 1661: Conserving and restoring kelp forests and eelgrass meadows in Washington state.

- Directs DNR to develop a kelp forest and eelgrass health and conservation plan, which the agency should do with Tribal Nations and other agencies like WDFW.
- Kelp forests and eelgrass meadows provide important habitat for juvenile salmon and other aquatic species.

SUPPORT House Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session	 HB 1694: Concerning logistical processes for the regulation of priority chemicals in consumer products. Steps up action on toxic PFAS chemicals in products such as apparel and firefighter turnout gear, and makes improvements to the state's landmark law—Safer Products for Washington. Urgent action on PFAS is needed now so that we can reverse the trends of PFAS contamination in drinking water, <u>breast milk</u>, and communities.
SUPPORT House Appropriations: Public Hearing Thursday, 1/27	 HB 1717: Concerning tribal participation in planning under the growth management act Establishes clear GMA protocols and processes to respect and uphold the sovereignty of tribal nations. Adds protection of cultural resources to regional planning processes, in collaboration with those Federally recognized Tribes who are invited and choose to accept the invitation.
SUPPORT House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing Friday, 1/28	 HB 1766: Modifying the regulation of gas companies to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (Clean Heat). Requires gas companies to develop and implement a clean heat transition plan that aligns with Washington's greenhouse gas emissions limits, outlines an equitable transition, and provides adequate energy assistance to low-income customers.
٢	 HB 1782: Creating additional middle housing near transit and in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing. Lifts widespread restrictions on modest infill (or "Missing Middle") housing in

SUPPORT House Local Government: Possible Executive Session

- most cities within Washington's urban growth areas, including duplexes in smaller cities and up to four or six-plexes allowed near major transit stops in the largest cities.
- Missing middle housing is an essential tool for stopping urban sprawl, creating • affordable home choices near jobs and transit, and addressing our housing crisis.



HB 1793: Concerning electric vehicle charging stations in common interest communities.

Prohibits homeowners' associations and similar communities from placing • unreasonable restrictions on the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure for their complexes or neighborhoods.

Possible Executive Session

Access to electric vehicle charging is key to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and allowing choice for vehicle owners.



House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing Tuesday, 1/25

HB 1896: Providing for responsible environmental management of batteries.

- Creates an extended producer responsibility program for batteries, provides for convenient and responsible recycling statewide, and incentivizes manufacturers to make batteries that last longer or are easier to recycle.
- Ensures proper handling, recycling, and end-of-life management of used batteries. Mishandled batteries pose a safety risk to workers and may ignite fires at solid waste handling facilities.

HB 1918: Reducing emissions from outdoor power equipment.

SUPPORT House State Government & Tribal Relations: Possible Executive Session

- Exempts zero-emission outdoor power equipment from the use tax, levies a 6.5% additional air quality improvement tax on fossil fuel-powered outdoor power equipment, and requires state agencies and local governments to lead the way through a zero-emission purchase requirement beginning 2025.
- Fossil-fueled outdoor power equipment causes significant pollution: using a gas-powered leaf blower for one hour creates as much smog-forming and health-harming pollution as driving a Toyota Camry 1,100 miles.

about the coalition

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a network of over twenty leading environmental groups in Washington state that influence policy at the state level. For over a decade, the Coalition has selected joint priority issues to work on during legislative session to help focus environmental community resources and best achieve our shared goals.

