PRIORITIES COALITION



for the

Washington State
House of Representatives

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a coalition of over twenty-five 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 Conservation Action, previously known as Washington Environmental Council & Washington Conservation Voters) at clifford@ctassociates.org 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 here. Thank you.

House Committee Action



House Committee on Housing: Executive Session, Tuesday, 2/7 HB 1110: Increasing middle housing in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing.

- Requires all cities between 25,000-75,000 to allow duplexes on all lots and 4plexes around community amenities
- Requires all cities over 75,000, as well as cities within a contiguous UGA of a city over 200,000, to allow 4-plexes on all lots and 6-plexes with 2 affordable



House Committee on Appropriations: Public Hearing, Monday, 2/6 HB 1170: Improving climate resilience through updates to the state's integrated climate response strategy.

- Updates statewide, inter-agency strategy for addressing climate risks and improving resilience of communities and ecosystems
- Strengthens requirements for agencies to consider climate impacts in funding and activities and improves cross-agency coordination of state response to federal climate resilience funding opportunities.



Planning for a Climate Friendly Future



House Committee on Appropriations: Public Hearing, Monday 2/6

HB 1181: Improving the state's response to climate change by updating the state's planning framework.

- One of four environmental community priorities for 2023
- Requires the largest/fastest growing communities to plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions/vehicle miles traveled according to state goals.
- Requires all GMA planning counties to address resiliency and plan for natural hazards such as wildfires, flooding, sea level rise, and drought.



House Committee on Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session, Thursday, 2/9

HB 1329: Preventing utility shutoffs for nonpayment during extreme heat.

- Climate change is responsible for more frequent extreme heat events, posing a major risk to public health and safety.
- Guarantees that people have access to energy to run fans, air conditioners, and refrigeration to protect their health during extreme heat.



House Committee on Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session, Thursday, 2/9

HB 1391: Concerning energy in buildings

- Establishes an energy navigator program as a resource for residential and small commercial building owners and tenants looking to improve their energy use and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- The energy navigator service would require community outreach and facilitate finding energy audit services, identifying contractors, and assist with securing financing for appropriate programs.



House Committee on Consumer Protection & Business: Executive Session, Friday, 2/10

HB 1392: Promoting the fair servicing and repair of digital electronic equipment

- Would require digital electronic product manufacturers to make repair information, parts and tools available to independent repair businesses and owners.
- Extending the life of computers, tablets and cellphones will decrease the need for more resources, energy and transportation to manufacture new products – therefore also decreasing greenhouse gas and lowering the costs for consumers.



House Committee on Capital Budget: Public Hearing, Thursday, 2/9

HB 1460: Authorizing the department of natural resources to create and manage a trust land transfer program.

- Revitalizes a tool used to identify state trust lands that either do not have productive timber lands or would underperform economically and manage these lands for conservation, wildlife habitat, clean water, or recreational opportunities, all while ensuring the beneficiaries are made whole.
- When combined with funding, communities will have a stronger say in the future of state trust lands and open space, often near under-served or rapidly urbanizing areas.



House Committee on Housing: Public Hearing, Tuesday, 2/7

HB 1517: Promoting transit-oriented development.

- Requires all cities to allow for multifamily development around station areas and set minimum allowances for those station areas that cities may not restrict.
- Remove parking requirements of local jurisdictions around station areas, but does not set a maximum and allows for station areas consistent with the locally adopted comprehensive plan to be exempt from SEPA appeals



House Committee on Environment & Energy: Public Hearing, Tuesday, 2/7

HB 1735: Adding net ecological gain as a voluntary element of comprehensive plans under the growth management act.

 Better integrates salmon recovery and land use planning by ensuring that public projects improve conditions for future generations of salmon and people.



House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources: Public Hearing, Friday, 2/10 HB 1740: Concerning eligibility, enrollment, and compensation of small forestland owners volunteering for participation in the forestry riparian easement program.

 Weakens protections of forest lands in riparian areas by creating a new exemption to forest practice rules and reducing the duration of an easement under the program.

about the coalition

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a network of over twenty-five 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.





















































