

Hold Oil Companies Accountable

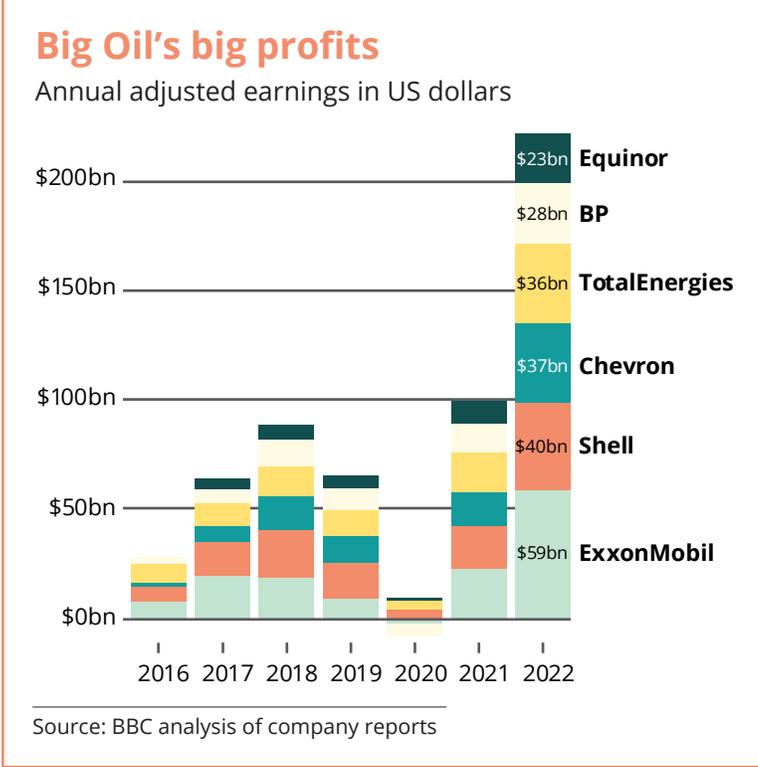
HB 2232 / SB 6052



We all need affordable ways to get around, but for decades oil companies have set fuel prices with no oversight or transparency. The oil industry extracts some of its highest profits in the entire country from Washington. While we struggled through the pandemic and inflation, **oil companies pocketed historic profits of over \$200 billion in 2022 alone.** Currently, the state has no tools to protect the public and consumers from volatile and potentially unfair prices at the pump.

Consumers deserve transparency on what goes into setting fuel prices, and we need proper data collection and visibility to achieve that. For decades, the oil industry has held a near-monopoly on our transportation options, and has been able to set prices at-will with zero oversight. There are reasonable steps the state can take to protect consumers from corporate greed and unfair pricing.

We can protect Washington consumers by requiring oil companies to provide data on their pricing structure and show their pricing math—WA already requires utilities like electricity to do this. The state should create a watchdog agency under the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) with the authority to investigate and take action against unfair pricing and to manage this data collection. In addition to making massive profits, oil companies pollute our air and water, causing harm to our families and our health. These companies have lied for decades about the climate impacts of burning fossil fuels, but have continued to oppose and block climate action. The state should use this collected information along with existing consumer protection law to protect consumers and take legal action against greenwashing and misleading environmental marketing.



It's time to stop the oil industry's campaigns to halt climate progress, and hold them accountable for setting unfair gas prices while polluting our air and water.

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