WEEK OF JANUARY 15, 2024



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. We established three to be our highest priorities for the 2024 Legislative Session, as listed here. 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 <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



Phases out the sales of mercury-containing light bulbs in WA and extends existing producer stewardship program and shifts financial responsibility to House Committee on manufacturers

> Would reduce exposure to fluorescent bulbs and tubes that contain mercury (a potent neurotoxin) and ensure safe recycling of bulbs

HB 1185: Reducing environmental impacts associated with lighting products



HB 1368, 100% Clean School Buses: Requiring and funding the purchase of zero emission school buses.

- One of the 3 environmental community priorities for 2024
- Sets the state on a transition to 100% clean school buses through new bus purchase requirements.
- Research shows that switching to zero emission school buses improves kids' health and performance in school.

Environment & Energy: Public Hearing, Thursday, 1/18



House Committee on Appropriations: Executive Session, Thursday, 1/18



House Committee on Consumer Protection & Business: Executive Session, Wednesday, 1/17 HB 1933: Supporting the servicing and right to repair of certain products with digital electronics in a secure and reliable manner

- 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.



HB 2049, The Re-WRAP Act: Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes

One of the 3 environmental community priorities for 2024

House Committee on Environment & Energy: Executive Session, Thursday, 1/18

- Modernizes Washington's recycling system, including post-consumer recycled content mandates
- Reduces excess packaging, increases recycling, refill and reuse, creates a uniform recycling list, and reduces costs for local governments and makes recycling free for residents across the state



House Committee on

Environment & Energy:

Public Hearing,

Tuesday, 1/16

HB 2070, CURB ACT: Integrating environmental justice considerations into certain project decisions.

- Existing laws lack provisions to consider the historical context of environmental racism, overlooking the cumulative health risks and burdens faced by communities.
 - The bill incorporates consideration of health-affecting pollutants currently overlooked by existing law.



HB 2126: Authorizing accessory dwelling units in rural areas.

- Will increase rural population without a requirement to mitigate impacts or plan for services
- Will harm the environment through unregulated water withdrawals impacts salmon and wildlife

House Committee on Housing: Executive Session, Thursday 1/18

SUPPORT

HB 2253: Concerning fair access to community solar.

House Committee on Environment & Energy: • Establishes a community solar program aimed at increasing access to solar energy projects connected to the electric grid, providing subscribers a community solar credit on their monthly utility bill that represents the value of their subscription's energy generation.

Public Hearing, Tuesday, 1/16

٠

Requires that 50% of the subscribers benefitting from the bill savings be lowincome individuals, families, or agencies serving those in greatest need.

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.

