WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17, 2025



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 four to be our highest priorities for the 2025 Legislative Session, as listed <u>here</u>. 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>.

House Committee Action



House Committee on

Appropriations: Public

Hearing, Saturday, 2/22

HB 1150: The Recycling Reform Act: Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.

- One of the 2025 top 4 environmental priorities.
- Modernizes Washington's recycling system, making recycling accessible for all.
- Reduces excess packaging (including plastic), increases recycling, refill and reuse, creates a uniform recycling list, and reduces costs for local governments and residents across the state.



SHB 1303: Increasing environmental justice by improving government decisions.

• The Cumulative Risk Burden (CURB) Pollution Act reduces pollution by considering cumulative health risks and prioritizes protections to the most impacted communities.

House Committee on Appropriations: Public Hearing, Wednesday, 2/19



House Committee on Appropriations: Public Hearing, Wednesday, 2/19

HB 1462: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with hydrofluorocarbons.

- Limits climate pollution and promotes Washington's economic resilience by • reducing dependence on "virgin" HFCs produced in China and by stimulating reclamation and reuse of HFCs.
- The substitute bill reduces implementation costs and clarifies that the bill only affects bulk HFCs—It does not require anyone to change their HVAC or refrigeration equipment.



HB 1497: Organics management: Improving outcomes associated with waste material management systems.

House Committee on Appropriations: Public Hearing, Wednesday, 2/19

- Addresses composting and other management of organic (yard and food • waste) in order to divert the material from the landfill and avoid methane gas generation.
- Includes enhanced education, standardized color-coded collection bins and lids, a pathway for bringing organics collection to more multi-family buildings, support for food waste reduction efforts in K-12 schools and more



HB 1550: Improving the end-of-life management of electric vehicle batteries

- Modeled after a 2024 New Jersey EV battery bill, this would set up a program so that EV Batteries are responsibly recycled and repurposed.
- House Committee on *Environment & Energy:* Executive Session, Thursday, 2/20
- It is important capture the critical minerals in batteries and ensure that all • batteries are captured and recycled.



Encourages more prescribed fire by certified burn managers and cultural fire practitioners, which can improve forest health and protect communities

House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources: Executive Session, Tuesday, 2/18

- from catastrophic wildfires.
- Part of the environmental community's Partnership Agenda for 2025.

HB 1563: Establishing a prescribed fire claims fund pilot program.



House Committee on Environment & Energy: Executive Session, Tuesday, 2/18



House Committee on Consumer Protection & Business: Executive Session, Friday, 2/21

HB 1673: Improving reliability and capacity of the electric transmission system in Washington state.

• Improves Washington's electric grid by establishing the Washington Electric Transmission Office and adopting various policy improvements that coordinate upgrades, expand capacity, and support clean energy integration.

HB 1721: Concerning manufacturers and vehicle dealers.

- Makes it easier for Washingtonians to access zero-emission vehicles by allowing for direct sales by zero-emission vehicle manufacturers and creates a zero-emission vehicle technician training and infrastructure grants program.
- Eight in ten Washingtonians want the freedom to choose where they buy a zero-emission vehicle.



House Committee on

Consumer Protection &

Business: Public Hearing,

Wednesday, 2/19

HB 1826: Establishing a right to repair for mobility equipment for persons with physical disabilities.

- Requires manufacturers of powered wheelchairs and similar devices to make repair information, parts and tools available to independent repair businesses and owners.
- There is a lack of options for repair across the state and the wait time for repairs can be up to several months.



HB 1847: Prioritizing the development of distributed alternative energy resources in targeted circumstances.

- Accelerates Washington's transition to clean energy by prioritizing distributed solar, wind, and energy storage on already disturbed lands.
- Requires utilities to expand community solar programs.

House Committee on Environment & Energy: Executive Session, Tuesday, 2/18

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.





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