
Enviro SENATE Hot List - Week of January 20, 2026

From Hotlist - Washington Conservation Action <hotlist@waconservationaction.org>

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WEEK 2: JANUARY 20, 2026



The [Environmental Priorities Coalition](#) is made up of 26 statewide environmental organizations working to safeguard Washington's environment and the health of our communities through policy and budget advocacy at the Washington State Legislature. During legislative session, we send you this weekly "Hot List" as a tool to easily identify environmental community priorities that are up for action in the coming week.

If you have any questions regarding our position on these bills or other bills affecting the environment, please reach out to state lobbyist Clifford Traisman at clifford@ctassociates.org.

Senate Committee Action



SUPPORT

Senate Ways & Means:
Possible Executive
Session on Tuesday,
January 20

SB 5203: Ensuring connectivity for Washington wildlife through safe passages.

Building safe passages for wildlife is the number one action we can take to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions, improve road safety statewide, and stem the loss of biodiversity. Through implementation of the collaborative, science-driven Washington Habitat Connectivity Action Plan, it will re-connect fractured landscapes to support wildlife, habitat, and connect critical natural resources.



SUPPORT

Senate Agriculture &
Natural Resources:

SB 5838: Adding a tribal member to the board of natural resources.

Tribal Nations have inherent and sovereign rights to resources impacted by the decisions of the Board of Natural Resources, but they do not currently have a seat on the board.

Scheduled for Public
Hearing on Monday,
January 19

This bill adds a seat for Tribal representation to the BNR, which will improve operation and decision-making and elevate the importance of Tribal sovereignty.



SUPPORT

Senate Environment,
Energy & Technology:
Possible Executive
Session on Friday,
January 23

SB 5965: Reducing environmental impacts associated with bags provided to customers at retail establishments.

We need to act to upgrade the law and reduce plastic, completely banning film plastic bags at checkout and increasing the charge for paper bags to 20 cents.

Plastic bags are not able to be recycled in our current recycling system and are also a large component of litter and plastic pollution in the environment.



SUPPORT

Senate Environment,
Energy & Technology:
Possible Executive
Session on Friday,
January 23

SB 5982: Updating provisions for consumer-owned utilities, including port districts, and affected market customers under the clean energy transformation act.

Closes a loophole to ensure that electricity generators comply with CETA (100% clean electricity), including port district utilities and utilities with one customer. This ensures fair treatment and compliance with our climate laws.



OPPOSE

Senate Environment,
Energy & Technology:
Possible Executive
Session on Friday,
January 23

SB 6004: Authorizing certain public entities to contract for the capability of renewable or nonemitting electric generation projects.

"Construction Work in Progress" provisions shift financial risk to ratepayers and lock in environmentally risky, failure prone projects, as shown by Washington's WPPSS nuclear debacle. Leaves ratepayers on the hook paying long into the future for canceled or unfinished projects.



SUPPORT

Senate Environment,
Energy & Technology:
Possible Executive
Session on Friday,
January 23

SB 6010: Concerning tribal consultation conducted by the energy facility site evaluation council.

Respect for Tribal sovereignty is a fundamental obligation of all Washington State agencies, including the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council.

This bill would support this obligation by ensuring that confidential and sensitive information regarding Tribal resources or Tribal rights potentially affected by a proposed energy facility remains confidential – while continuing to protect the public interest in an open and transparent government process.



SB 6097: Adding federally recognized Indian tribes to the list of entities that may participate in the conservation futures program.

SUPPORT

Senate Agriculture &
Natural Resources:
Scheduled for Public
Hearing on Monday,
January 19

Adding Tribes as eligible recipients allows counties, land trusts, and other partners to partner on conservation acquisitions or transfer such lands where tribes are better suited for or interested in managing long-term. This is a long-needed change to conserve more threatened lands and natural resources, expand partnership opportunities, address past inequities, protect cultural identities, and distribute local grant funding fairly.



SUPPORT

Senate Environment,
Energy & Technology:
Scheduled for Public
Hearing on Tuesday,
January 20

SB 6119: Concerning 6PPD and regrettable 6PPD substitutes in tires.

The bill protects salmon and human health by phasing out 6PPD in tires by 2035 and by establishing a fee on vehicle tires to support a 6PPD mitigation fund. It incentivizes the industry to find and adopt safer solutions and prevents regrettable substitutes to 6PPD that are just as toxic or worse for salmon and people.



SUPPORT

Senate Environment,
Energy & Technology:
Scheduled for Public
Hearing on Wednesday,
January 21

SB 6124: Assessing the feasibility of developing an affordability index for appliances sold into Washington state.

Requires a Commerce study by January 31, 2028, assessing the feasibility of developing an affordability index for appliances sold into Washington state.

The study must, at a minimum, consider what criteria an appliance would be evaluated under in an affordability index, including ease of maintenance and servicing, availability of repair materials including replacement parts, service manuals, and the need for special tools or proprietary software and more.



SUPPORT

Senate Environment,
Energy & Technology:
Scheduled for Public
Hearing on Friday,
January 23

SB 6171: Addressing emerging large energy use facilities.

Protects affordability and the environment by requiring large new facilities to pay their full infrastructure costs, source clean electricity, and avoid shifting costs and risks onto everyday ratepayers.

A **2026 EPC Priority**, this bill improves public benefits by directing revenues to low-income energy assistance and efficiency improvements which lower bills and reduce energy use and pollution.

