

WEEK 7: FEBRUARY 23, 2026



House HOT LIST

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.

House Floor Action

HB 1607: Concerning recycling and waste reduction.



SUPPORT

Possible Floor Vote

Beverage containers, a large component of our state's waste, litter Washington's freeways, our waterways, and our public spaces. Only 30% of beverage containers are currently recycled in the state.

A **2026 EPC Priority**, The Recycling Refund Act will reduce litter and increase recycling rates in Washington by incentivizing recycling and pulling beverage containers into a clean recycling stream separated from other materials. Consumers would pay a 10-cent deposit on most beverage containers and be refunded that 10 cents back when they bring containers to convenient drop-off locations to be recycled or reused.

House Committee Action



SUPPORT

House Transportation:
Executive Session on
Wednesday, Feb. 25

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

House Environment &
Energy:
Public Hearing on
Monday, February 23

SB 5360: Concerning environmental crimes.

Holds the most egregious polluters accountable by creating a tiered system for violations under state water quality, air quality and hazardous materials laws.



SUPPORT

House Consumer
Protection & Business:
Public Hearing on
Tuesday, February 24

SB 5928: Concerning wildfire risk models and score disclosure.

Requires insurers who use wildfire risk scores and/or risk models to disclose information to consumers about a property's score and the model used to determine nonrenewal or cancellation of coverage.



SUPPORT

House Agriculture &
Natural Resources:
Public Hearing on 2/24
Exec. Session on 2/25

SB 5971: Establishing a green fertilizer incentive program to support the production and adoption of low-carbon nitrogen fertilizer in Washington state.

This bill creates incentives for green fertilizer, which reduces emissions 80% compared to conventional production using methane-derived hydrogen. Potential emissions reductions for WA are immense--potentially a million metric tons CO2 per year.



OPPOSE

House Environment &
Energy:
Public Hearing on
Monday, February 23

SB 5975: Providing consumer access to safe cookware and interstate and international trade certainty in the regulation of lead in cookware.

As passed the Senate, this bill fails to prioritize children's health by rolling back lead-in-cookware protections scheduled to take effect in 2028. A protective limit was agreed to last year in a bipartisan agreement. This bill goes too far and is not driven by any new data or evidence that the standard cannot be met.



SUPPORT

House Agriculture &
Natural Resources:
Public Hearing on
Tuesday, February 24

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

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.

