Hot List for the Washington State House of Representatives

Members of the Legislature,

For the past 15 years, environmental groups in Washington State have organized their efforts in Olympia through the “Environmental Priorities Coalition.” Our coalition prepares a weekly Legislative “Hot List,” as a regular communication for legislators which details our positions on up to ten of our highest priority issues for the upcoming week. The purpose of this communication tool is to allow the Washington State Legislature, the Executive Branch, and media organizations to easily track the Environmental Priorities Coalition’s top priorities all session long.

As the lobbyist for Washington Conservation Voters and Washington Environmental Council, I will send this “Hot List” to you on a weekly basis. Please feel free to contact me at clifford@ctassociates.org if you have any questions.

A PDF of the Hot List can be found here – along with an archive of all Hot Lists from 2019 as the Legislative Session progresses.

House Committee Action

**HB 1110: Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation fuels (Clean Fuel Standard).**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session

- Requires the reduction of the carbon intensity of transportation fuels by 10% by 2028 and 20% by 2035.
  - Increases the use of zero emission vehicles, including cars, trucks and buses, and the deployment of sustainable biofuels.
- State and regional analysis has found that a Clean Fuel Standard could create as many as 15,000 jobs in Washington, while cutting down pollutants that harm public health.

**HB 1112: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from hydrofluorocarbons.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session

- Phases out the sale and use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are primarily used as refrigerants, in different applications by 2024.
- HFCs are extremely potent greenhouse gases with existing alternatives for their use. HFCs are already restricted in California and were previously by the EPA.

**HB 1113: Amending state greenhouse gas emission limits for consistency with the most recent assessment of climate change science and with the United States' commitment under the 2015 Paris climate agreement.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session

- Updates state emissions limits to be consistent with recommendations from the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group, as well as United States commitments to the Paris Climate Accords.
- Sets Washington policy to be consistent with West Coast and global goals, though these limits are non-binding.

**HB 1194: Preventing toxic pollution that affects public health or the environment.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing on Thursday, January 24th

- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019.
- Authorizes the Department of Ecology to take actions to reduce the use of harmful chemicals in consumer products that can harm vulnerable populations like kids, and sensitive species, like orcas and salmon.
- Implements part of the Orca Task Force’s recommendations on toxics by turning off the tap of a big source of toxic pollution to the environment and preventing further contamination of orcas and their prey and the need for future cleanups.

**HB 1205: Relating to Reducing Pollution from Plastic Bags.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing on Monday, January 21st

- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019.
- Creates a statewide ban on carryout plastic bags, encouraging use of recycled paper and reusable bags.
- Reduces harm to marine life, cuts down on litter, and prevents problems at recycling and composting facilities.

**HB 1211: Supporting Washington’s clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future (100% Clean Electricity).**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 22nd

- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019.
- Moves Washington away from fossil fuels and toward 100% Clean Electricity, making our state a national leader.
- A 100% Clean Electricity portfolio reduces pollution that causes climate change, expands our clean energy economy, and sets a foundation to reduce pollution from other sectors like transportation.
HB 1226: Encouraging investment in and reducing the costs of transitioning to the clean energy future.

OPPOSE

House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing on Monday, January 21st

- Abolishes the Energy Independence Act (I-937), which is our strongest policy in current law advancing renewable energy and reducing carbon pollution in the electricity sector, if any other carbon pricing mechanism comes into effect.
- Creates new tax breaks for carbon reduction measures without adequate accountability provisions.

about the coalition

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a network of over twenty 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.