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.

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**House Committee Action**

**HB 1257: Concerning energy efficiency (Clean Buildings for Washington Act).**

**SUPPORT**

House Appropriations: Possible Executive Session
- Addresses the built environment, which produces 27% of Washington’s greenhouse gas emissions – our second largest source of emission.
- Addresses natural gas use in homes and buildings with increased conservation programs; spurs retrofits in large existing commercial buildings with performance standards and state incentives; and requires EV-readiness in new buildings with parking.

**SB 5116: Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future (100% Clean Electricity).**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session
House Finance: Public Hearing on Thursday, March 21st
- 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.

**SB 5135: Preventing toxic pollution that affects public health or the environment.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: *Public Hearing on Thursday, March 21st*

- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019, and implements part of the Orca Task Force’s recommendations.
- Authorizes the Department of Ecology to take actions to reduce the use of harmful chemicals in consumer products before the pollution contaminates homes, people, waterways, salmon, and orcas, and before it creates the need for expensive cleanup and treatment.

**SB 5145: Concerning the use of hydraulic fracturing in the exploration for and production of oil and natural gas.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: *Possible Executive Session*

- Bans hydraulic fracking in the state – an environmentally dangerous and devastating technique to extract oil and gas.

**SB 5323: Reducing Pollution from Plastic Bags.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: *Public Hearing on Monday, March 18th*

- 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.

**SB 5397: Concerning the responsible management of plastic packaging.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: *Public Hearing on Monday, March 18th*

- Requires Department of Ecology to study plastic packaging and to make recommendations to the legislature on how to better manage plastic packaging to achieve a goal of one hundred percent recyclable, reusable, or compostable packaging in all goods by 2025.

**SB 5489: Establishing a healthy environment for all (HEAL Act).**

**SUPPORT**

House State Government & Tribal Relations: *Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 19th*

- Establishes a state definition of environmental justice for agencies to use; requires the use of cumulative impacts analysis, such as a mapping tool; and develops strategies for stronger public outreach and engagement on environmental decisions, including translation services.

**SB 5505: Addressing the use of local stormwater charges paid by the department of transportation.**

**OPPOSE**

House Transportation: *Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 20th*
• Limits use of WDOT stormwater fees paid to local governments to reduce the largest source of water pollution in the state.

**SB 5579: Concerning the volatility of crude oil received in the state by rail.**
**SUPPORT**
House Environment & Energy: *Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 19th*
• Provides stronger protections and penalties from highly flammable Bakken crude oil.
• Communities across the state face risks from new types of crude oil, including Bakken oil that is responsible for devastating accidents and fires from train derailments.

**SB 5811: Reducing emissions by making changes to the clean car standards and clean car program.**
**SUPPORT**
House Environment & Energy: *Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 19th*
• Fully adopts California’s zero emission vehicles standards, which require manufacturers to produce a certain number of zero emissions vehicles each year based on their market sales.

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**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.