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 Floor Action

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

*Support*

Possible Floor Action

- Supports the deployment of clean transportation fuel technologies through a carefully designed program that reduces the carbon intensity of fuel used in the state, while cutting down pollutants that harm public health.

**HB 1126: Enabling electric utilities to prepare for the distributed energy future.**

*Support*

Possible Floor Action

- Establishes state policy that any distributed energy resources planning process engaged in by an electric utility should identify potential programs to fairly compensate customers for the value of their Distributed Energy resources.
- Create a 10-year plan for distribution system investments and analyze non-wire alternatives.
HB 1205: Reducing Pollution from Plastic Bags.
SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
• One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019.
• Creates a statewide ban on carryout plastic bags, places a 10-cent fee on recycled paper bags, and encourages the use of reusable bags.
• Reduces harm to marine life, cuts down on litter, and prevents problems at recycling and composting facilities.

HB 1261: Ensuring compliance with the federal clean water act by prohibiting certain discharges into waters of the state.
SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
• Strengthens action to safeguard rivers and streams designated as critical habitat from suction dredge mining.
• Washington lags behind Oregon and other states in regulation of this destructive mining practice.

HB 1332: Concerning updating and streamlining energy facility site evaluation council operations.
SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
• Better supports Washington’s energy goals by adding clean energy as an objective, as well as streamlines application and review process, increasing administrative efficiencies.
• Expands Tribal, city and county membership, enhancing local and Tribal engagement in EFSEC oversight.

HB 1444: Concerning appliance efficiency standards.
SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
• Sets energy and water efficiency standards for common consumer products, saving consumers money on utility bills and helping transition our energy system to a cleaner future.

HB 1512: Concerning the electrification of transportation.
SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
• Allows municipal utilities and public utility districts to create and offer incentive programs to support the electrification of transportation.
• Also allows investor-owned utilities to submit plans to the Utilities and Transportation Commission that would give them the opportunity to provide electric vehicle infrastructure and incentives that support the electrification of transportation.

HB 1544: Addressing the effective date of certain actions taken under the growth management act.
SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
• Closes loophole in the GMA preventing permits from vesting for specific changes to a comprehensive plan prior to an appeal to the Growth Management Hearings Board.
HB 1578: Reducing threats to southern resident killer whales by improving the safety of oil transportation.

SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019, as well as a recommendation from the Orca Task Force.
- The proven oil spill prevention tools in this bill would ensure that vessels carrying crude oil in high risks areas have the same requirements as oil tankers.
- 2019 marks 30 years since the oil spill from the Exxon Valdez in Alaska, which resulted in making one of the two orca pods in Prince William Sound functionally extinct.

HB 1579: Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing chinook abundance.

SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019, as well as a recommendation from the Orca Task Force.
- Provides WDFW with the same tools that other agencies have to enforce critical environmental laws and effectively deter habitat destruction, helping to secure the food web for our Southern Resident orcas.

HB 1580: Concerning the protection of southern resident orca whales from vessels.

SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019, as well as a recommendation from the Orca Task Force.
- Reduces vessel noise and disturbance for our Southern Resident orcas using common sense tools such as a go-slow zone, no-go zone, and permit system.

HB 2047: Concerning carbon sequestration on natural and working lands as part of the state’s climate change response.

SUPPORT
Possible Floor Action
- Develops a collaborative process to assess and analyze carbon reduction possibilities in the forest sector.
- Better positions the state and landowners in evaluating information and shaping opportunities (e.g., carbon markets) appropriate for reducing carbon pollution and to meet the needs of the specific type of landowner.

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.