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 1793**: Establishing additional uses for automated traffic safety cameras for traffic congestion reduction and increased safety.

**SUPPORT**

*Potential Floor Vote*

- Allows traffic safety cameras to enforce bus lane violations and blocking crosswalks increasing pedestrian safety and transit reliability.

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

**SUPPORT**

*Possible Floor Vote*

- 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 5322: Ensuring compliance with the federal clean water act by prohibiting certain discharges into waters of the state.

**SUPPORT**

*Possible Floor Vote*

- Strengthens action to safeguard rivers and habitat from suction dredge mining.
- Washington lags behind Oregon and other states in terms of protecting rivers and streams from harmful mining.

SB 5323: Reducing Pollution from Plastic Bags.

**SUPPORT**

*Possible Floor Vote*

- 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**

*Possible Floor Vote*

- 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.
- Plastic packaging represents a growing environmental problem with impacts on marine environment, litter, and our recycling programs.

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

**SUPPORT**

*Possible Floor Vote*

- 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 5577: Concerning the protection of southern resident orca whales from vessels.

**SUPPORT**

*Possible Floor Vote*

- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2019, and implements part of the Orca Task Force’s recommendations.
- 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.

**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.