WEEK OF JANUARY 20, 2020

Hot List for the Washington State House of Representatives

Members of the Legislature,

For over 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 a 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 2020 as the Legislative Session progresses.

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House Committee Action

**HB 1979: Concerning the establishment of reasonable surface water flow levels.**

**OPPOSE**

Senate Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources: Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 21st

- Directs Department of Ecology to rewrite instream flows in a manner that is not protective of salmon and other fish species.

**HB 2265: Eliminating exemptions from restrictions on the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in firefighting foam.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: Possible Executive Session

- Removes exemptions from existing law that allow PFAS-containing firefighting foams to be sold for use at oil facilities, chemical plants, and airports.
- Protects public health, firefighter health, drinking water supplies, and other bodies of water including Puget Sound from toxic PFAS chemicals.

**HB 2385: Concerning antifouling paints on recreational water vessels.**

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2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION environmentalpriorities.org
The environmental community reluctantly supports a five-year delay on the current statutory phase-out date of copper antifouling paint to gather more information on alternatives and educate boaters. While copper antifouling paint is effective in reducing the growth of organisms on vessel hulls, it is extremely toxic to salmon and other marine creatures.

HB 2405: Concerning commercial property assessed clean energy and resilience financing (C-PACER).

SUPPORT
House Local Government: Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 21st
- Authorizes counties to establish C-PACER programs, which can finance energy efficiency and clean energy renovations, as well as resiliency measures such as seismic retrofits and fire protection.
- Brings a proven financing tool to Washington State used in more than 20 other states to enable deeper clean energy improvements and public safety retrofits that may not happen otherwise in commercial, nonprofit, and multifamily properties.

HB 2518: Concerning the safe and efficient transmission and distribution of natural gas.

SUPPORT
House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 21st
- Requires disclosure and tracking of all leaks from natural gas pipelines. Increases the maintenance of pipelines and will improve operational practices to reduce fugitive emissions.

HB 2549: Integrating salmon recovery efforts with growth management.

SUPPORT
House Environment & Energy: Public Hearing on Thursday, January 23rd
- Ensures that managing land use under the Growth Management Act is consistent with salmon recovery objectives.

HB 2552: Creating a joint legislative salmon committee.

SUPPORT
House Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources: Public Hearing on Wednesday, January 22nd
- Creates a bicameral, bipartisan legislative committee to focus on salmon recovery obligations, legislation, funding, and other relevant matters.

HB 2651: Addressing food waste by standardizing labels communicating the freshness or expiration of food.

SUPPORT
House Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources: Public Hearing on Friday, January 24th
- Requires manufactures use “Best if used by” or “Best if used or frozen by” to indicate food quality and “Use by” or “Use or freeze by” to indicate food safety.
- There is much confusion about what date labels mean on food, leading to significant food waste.
HB 1110: Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation fuels (Clean Fuel Standard).

**SUPPORT**

Possible Floor Action

- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2020.
- 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.

**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.