

# Hot List for the

## Washington State House of Representatives

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a network of over twenty leading environmental groups in Washington that influence policy at the state level. Our coalition prepares a weekly Hot List as a regular communication for legislators detailing our positions on *our highest priority issues* for the upcoming week.

Please feel free to contact me at [clifford@ctassociates.org](mailto:clifford@ctassociates.org) if you have any questions. The Hot List can also be found [here](#) – along with an archive of previous Hot Lists.



**HB 2505**  
**SB 5323**  
**SB 6147**  
**SB 6213**  
**SB 6278**  
**SB 6488**  
**SB 6528**  
**SB 6613**

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### House Committee Action

**HB 2505: Extending the business and occupation tax exemption for amounts received as credits against contracts with or funds provided by the Bonneville power administration and used for low-income ratepayer assistance and weatherization.**

**SUPPORT**

House Finance: *Possible Executive Session*

- Re-establishes a B&O tax exemption for BPA-credited funds to utilities to reimburse for conservation and demand-side management programs, as long as the amount that would otherwise be owed in taxes is used for the purposes of low-income ratepayer assistance and weatherization.

**SB 5323: Reducing pollution from plastic bags.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: *Possible Executive Session*

- One of the four environmental community priorities of 2020.
- Creates a statewide ban on carryout plastic bags, encouraging use of recycled paper and reusable bags.
- Protects marine life, reduces litter, and prevents problems at recycling and composting facilities.

**SB 6147: Concerning the replacement of shoreline armoring.**

**SUPPORT**

House Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources: *Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>*

- Requires consideration of environmentally friendly armoring when replacing an existing bulkhead.
- Shoreline armoring, such as marine bulkheads, causes significant harm to critical nearshore habitat for marine fish including salmon.

**SB 6213: Concerning certain expanded polystyrene products.**

**SUPPORT**

House Environment & Energy: *Public Hearing on Tuesday. February 25<sup>th</sup>*

- Bans expanded polystyrene food service products, coolers, and packing materials.
- Adequate substitutes for these polystyrene products exist that are far less harmful to the environment.

**SB 6278: Concerning water withdrawals for commercial bottled water production.**

**SUPPORT**

House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources: *Public Hearing on Wednesday. February 26<sup>th</sup>*

- Effectively prohibits issuance of water rights permits for water bottling plants.
- Prevents new water bottling plants from proliferating in Washington, effecting small rural community water supplies necessary for both agriculture and threatened salmon species.

**SB 6488: Concerning aerial herbicides in forestlands.**

**SUPPORT**

House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources: *Public Hearing on Tuesday. February 25<sup>th</sup>*

- Evaluates non-chemical alternatives to pesticide use on forestlands.
- Provides clarification on the standards to protect adjacent landowners and communities from aerial pesticide exposure.

**SB 6528: Concerning the prevention of derelict vessels.**

**SUPPORT**

House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources: *Public Hearing on Wednesday. February 26<sup>th</sup>*

- Enhances DNR's derelict vessel program, offering new tools to prevent harm and improve enforcement of existing laws.
- Derelict vessels often capsize releasing oil and other toxic waste into Puget Sound and other bodies of water.

**SB 6613: Concerning the inspection of marine aquatic farming locations.**

**SUPPORT**

House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources: *Public Hearing on Wednesday. February 26<sup>th</sup>*

- Allows DFW to recover fees to support inspections and monitoring of these facilities.
- Net Pens contribute to water pollution and can be incubators for disease that can be fatal to native salmon.

