

WEEK of Monday, January 24, 2011

Environmental Community

Hot List for the STATE SENATE

Below is our first “Hot List” for the 2011 Legislative Session.

As you are aware, the environmental community’s “Environmental Priorities Coalition” prepares a weekly “Hot List” detailing its positions on up to ten of the **highest** priority issues for the upcoming week. Separate Hot Lists are prepared for the House and Senate and distributed each Monday. If the bill is one of the four environmental community priorities for 2011, it is so designated by the priorities “button” on the right. Please feel free to contact me at clifford@ctassociates.org or 206-369-2235 if you have any questions and we hope you find this communication helpful!

Respectfully,

Clifford R. Traisman, State Lobbyist, Washington Conservation Voters & Washington Environmental Council

Clean Water Jobs Act of 2011: *PLEASE CO-SPONSOR*

- This bill, sponsored by Senator Sharon Nelson, will put Washington back to work. A pollution fee imposed upon toxic stormwater contaminants will raise significant new revenue to fund local infrastructure projects, creating thousands of well-paying jobs across the state.
- Toxic runoff from our roads and parking lots is the number one water quality problem in the state. A priority for local governments, labor and environmentalists, this polluter-pays bill will generate millions of dollars to help rebuild local economies and clean up polluted waterways from Puget Sound to the Spokane River.



SENATE COMMITTEE ACTION

SB 5194: Limiting the use of fertilizer containing phosphorus. (a.k.a Clean Fertilizers, Healthier Lakes and Rivers)

Environment, Water and Energy: Public Hearing

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- Phosphorous from residential lawn fertilizers is a major water quality pollutant that, if not managed, could require local governments to spend millions on wastewater treatment plant upgrades.
- This bill manages the sale of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus.



SB 5230: Establishing the Puget Sound corps.

Natural Resources and Marine Waters: Public Hearing

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- Establishes the Puget Sound corps as a program within the Washington conservation corps, and improves the administration of the conservation corps program.
- This bill will increase opportunities for meaningful work experiences, promote public-private partnerships, and promote restoration of natural resources in the Puget Sound region.

SB 5339: Incorporating environmental review into certain proceedings involving gas and electrical companies.

Environment, Water and Energy: Possible Executive Session

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- This bill adds environmental benefits and costs to the factors that the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) must consider in proceedings involving electric and gas utilities, including resource acquisitions. The legislation adds the Counsel for the Environment to the Attorney General's obligation to represent public interests.
- The bill will help ensure that state environmental policies adopted by the Legislature apply to UTC actions.

S-0476.5 (Bill Number not available): Concerning Oil Spills.

Natural Resources and Marine Waters: Public Hearing

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- This bill is designed to ensure that the state is well prepared for a major oil spill. Requires oil companies to invest in state-of-art spill response equipment.
- Provides training and equipment for commercial fishermen so that they can help respond in the event of a spill.

Contributing Organizations

American Rivers ▪ Audubon Washington ▪ Climate Solutions ▪ Conservation Northwest ▪ Earth Ministry ▪ Environment Washington ▪ Fuse ▪ Futurewise ▪ Heart of America Northwest ▪ The Lands Council ▪ League of Women Voters of Washington ▪ Lutheran Public Policy Office ▪ National Wildlife Federation ▪ Nature Conservancy ▪ NW Energy Coalition ▪ People for Puget Sound ▪ Sierra Club Cascade Chapter ▪ Surfrider Foundation ▪ Transportation Choices Coalition ▪ Washington Conservation Voters ▪ Washington Environmental Council ▪ Washington Toxics Coalition ▪ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition ▪ Zero Waste Washington