

WEEK of Monday, April 20, 2009

Environmental Community

Hot List for the STATE HOUSE

For the seventh year in a row, the environmental community will be sending legislators and key stakeholders its weekly Environmental Community "Hot List" detailing positions on no more than ten of the highest priority issues for the upcoming week. Separate Hot Lists will be prepared for the House and Senate and distributed each Monday via email and in hard copy to your office. At the end of the document, you will find a list of environmental community organizations that contributed to the Hot List. We hope you find this communication helpful. Please feel free to contact me at clifford@wcvoters.org or 206-369-2235, if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

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

HOUSE FLOOR ACTION

SHB 1614: Reducing the amount of petroleum pollution in stormwater (a.k.a. Invest in Clean Water).

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- At a time of severe budget cuts and slashed programs, this bill is an immediate, substantive and achievable win for the environment, jobs and local governments. Stormwater is the number one water quality problem across Washington. By imposing a polluter-pays fee on petroleum products that contribute to stormwater pollution, this bill would raise over \$100 million in new funds for cities, counties, ports and DOT, and could create new construction jobs in every district in the state.
- This bill provides a solution for a part of the state budget crisis, and addresses a severe and immediate cash flow need. If this bill does not pass, local governments may be forced to impose additional property taxes or utility fees at a time when the public can least afford them.



ESHB 1571: Regarding the adjudication of water rights.

POSITION: *CONCUR*

- Adjudication is a critical tool for understanding how much water is actually used in a basin and the amount of water available. Unfortunately, only a small fraction of water rights in Washington have been adjudicated, leaving the state unable to adequately manage its rivers and streams.
- This bill modernizes the adjudication process, promotes efficiency, and provides certainty for water users

EHB 1967: Relating to prohibiting urban growth area expansions in one hundred year floodplains.

POSITION: *CONCUR with SENATE AMENDMENT*

- The bill - which passed out of the Senate with only 7 dissenting votes - will prevent future communities from being put in harm's way and reduce unnecessary costs to the state and taxpayers.
- The Senate's amendment was purely technical, adding an "or" between the list of the exceptions to the prohibition.

Contributing Organizations

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