

Thursday, February 11, 2010

Environmental Community

## Special Supplemental Hot List for the STATE SENATE

We hope you find this communication helpful in making your decision on SSB 6656 when it comes to a Floor vote. Please feel free to contact me at [clifford@wcvoters.org](mailto:clifford@wcvoters.org) or 206-369-2235, if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

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

### POSSIBLE SENATE FLOOR ACTION

**SSB 6656: Implementing a pilot program for energy conservation services.**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT***

- This bill, a follow-up to last year's environmental community priority bill, "Efficiency First" (Sen. Kilmer), creates a Western Washington pilot project that allows municipalities to set up revolving loan programs for energy efficiency projects that will create thousands of jobs, and save homeowners and businesses money. The loans are repaid on a utility or property tax bill, using money saved through the upgrades. Up-front financing is the missing link to accomplish widespread energy efficiency upgrades to reduce pollution, create jobs, and save consumers money. That's why over 15 states already have such programs in place.
- Without such programs, Washington is disadvantaged in the competition for federal Department of Energy money to accomplish energy efficiency. The Feds don't want to fund job creation and then have it dry up because a state does not have the infrastructure in place to sustain those jobs going forward. This bill will help Washington better compete for that critical federal funding.
- Please ask for and support Senator Rockefeller's amendment to remove the requirement for a city-wide vote before a loan program can be created. A city-wide vote is expensive and unnecessary since it's an opt-in program. Only those who want to participate will do so.

### Contributing Organizations

American Rivers ▪ Audubon Washington ▪ Cascade Bicycle Club ▪ 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 Citizens for  
Resource Conservation Washington Conservation Voters ▪ Washington Environmental Council ▪ WashPIRG ▪ Washington Toxics  
Coalition ▪ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition