

WEEK of Monday, April 4, 2011

Environmental Community

Hot List for the STATE SENATE

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

POSSIBLE SENATE FLOOR ACTION

ESHB 1071: Creating a complete streets grant program.

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- This legislation would position Washington strongly to compete for future federal funds designated for Complete Streets. More than 100 agencies nationwide have implemented Complete Streets policies, including 16 states and six municipalities in Washington.
- Rather than applying a cookie cutter design to every corridor, planners work with communities to develop project that are appropriate for various functions of the roadway. The result is a streetscape that is safer and more accessible for all users that promotes livable communities.

SHB 1700: Modifying the requirements related to designing various transportation projects.

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- This bill simply allows flexibility for cities, counties and developers to use updated guidelines for designing for bike and pedestrian uses.
- This bill will improve public safety, protect our environment, and promote healthy communities.

EHB 1702: Establishing a process for the payment of impact fees through provisions stipulated in recorded covenants.

POSITION: *OPPOSE*

- Makes the impact fee process more expensive and less certain.
- We are joined in opposition to this bill by the cities, fire chiefs, and schools districts.

ESHB 1721: Preventing storm water pollution from coal tar sealants.

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- This bill is a meaningful step forward to prevent stormwater pollution at no cost to the state. By stopping the use of coal tar sealcoating on our playgrounds and parking lots, we can eliminate a source of toxins in our water and in our homes.
- Because it is so toxic, Lowes and Home Depot have already removed coal tar sealants from their shelves, and WSDOT stopped using the substance. Cost-effective alternatives are available and already widely used in the state, so there is no Washington-based business opposition to this bill.

SENATE COMMITTEE ACTION

SB 5862: Regarding the administration of natural resources programs.

Natural Resources & Marine Waters: Possible Executive Session

POSITION: *OPPOSE*

- This bill raises fees but trades away environmental protection, a significant net loss for streams and fish.
- The bill requires understaffed agencies to take on major new administrative work “integrating” two sets of rules; WDFW loses its authority to ensure fish protection when major work is done in forest streams; and longer logging permits jeopardize timely, science-based improvements to logging practices on-the-ground.

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