

Legislative Update

2.23.2017



Audubon Washington's weekly legislative update highlights issues and policies related to our state [conservation priorities](#).

- Policy committee cutoff was Feb. 17. Fiscal committee cutoff is Feb. 24. Some bills remain alive because they are considered necessary to implement the budget (NTIB).
- The 105 day 2017 regular Legislative Session runs from January 9 to April 23, 2017.
- Audubon Washington legislative updates are posted on [our website](#).
- Find up-to-date legislative information at the Washington State Legislature [site](#).
- Identify and contact your legislators via [this map](#).

Question? Please contact the Chapter Conservation Manager at jsyrowitz@audubon.org, 206-652-2444 x108.

Our state-wide conservation priorities guide our interest in proposed bills. Bills that we are currently monitoring include the following:

CLIMATE/CARBON PRICING

- [SB 5127/HB 1555](#) - Establishing a carbon pollution tax and investment program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, facilitate the transition to a clean energy economy, and invest in K-12 education and other vital public services. **SUPPORT**
- [HB 1646/SB 5509](#) - Promoting an equitable clean energy economy by creating a carbon tax that allows investment in clean energy, clean air, healthy forests, and Washington's communities. **SUPPORT**
- [HB 1144](#) - Amending state greenhouse gas emission limits for consistency with the most recent assessment of climate change science. **SUPPORT**

CLEAN ENERGY

- [HB 1048](#) - Promoting a sustainable, local renewable energy industry through modifying renewable energy system tax incentives and providing guidance for renewable energy system component recycling. **SUPPORT**
- [HB 1334](#) - Concerning the energy independence act. **SUPPORT**
- [HB 1249](#) - Recognizing hydroelectricity as an eligible renewable resource in the energy independence act. **OPPOSE**
- [SB 5232](#) - Allowing incremental electricity produced as a result of efficiency improvements to hydroelectric generation projects whose energy output is marketed by the Bonneville power

administration to qualify as an eligible renewable resource under the energy independence act.

OPPOSE

- [SB 5128](#) - Allowing incremental electricity produced as a result of certain capital investment projects to qualify as an eligible renewable resource under the energy independence act.

OPPOSE

FOREST HEALTH and FIRE RESILIENCY

- [SB 5546](#) - Concerning proactively addressing wildfire risk by creating a forest health treatment assessment. **SUPPORT**
- *NEW* [HB 1711](#) - Prioritizing lands to receive forest health treatments. **SUPPORT**

WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION

- [SB 5239](#) - Ensuring that water is available to support development. **OPPOSE**
- [HB 1885](#) - Clarifying the roles of state and local governments in the regulation and mitigation of water resources. **OPPOSE**

SAFE OIL TRANSPORT

- [HB 1611/SB 5462](#) - Concerning oil transportation safety. **SUPPORT**
- [HB 1210/SB 5425](#) - Strengthening funding for oil spill programs in Washington by increasing revenue to the oil spill prevention account. **SUPPORT**
- [HB 1136](#) - Exempting short-line railroads that haul nonfuel oils from oil spill contingency planning requirements. **OPPOSE**

POLLUTION CLEAN UP

- [HB 1663/ SB 5501](#) - Concerning imposing a surtax on the possession of hazardous substances. **SUPPORT**
- [SB 5170](#) - Concerning independent remedial actions under the model toxics control act. **OPPOSE**

HABITAT CONSERVATION

- [HB 1017](#) - Addressing the siting of schools and school facilities. **OPPOSE**
- [HB 1597](#) - Increasing revenue to the state wildlife account by increasing commercial fishing license fees and streamlining wholesale fish dealing, buying, and selling requirements. **SUPPORT**