

Legislative Update

3.2.2017



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

- Fiscal committee cutoff was Feb. 24. Some bills remain alive because they are considered necessary to implement the budget (NTIB). March 8 will be the last day to consider bills in their chamber of origin.
- 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**
- [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**
- [HB 1711](#) - Prioritizing lands to receive forest health treatments. **SUPPORT**

WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION

- [SB 5239](#) - Ensuring that water is available to support development. **OPPOSE**
 - *Passed Senate and moved to House Ag and Natural Resource Committee.*

SAFE OIL TRANSPORT

- [HB 1611](#) - Concerning oil transportation safety. **SUPPORT**
- [HB 1210](#) - Strengthening funding for oil spill programs in Washington by increasing revenue to the oil spill prevention account. **SUPPORT**

POLLUTION CLEAN UP

- [HB 1663](#) - Concerning imposing a surtax on the possession of hazardous substances. **SUPPORT**
- [SB 5170](#) - Concerning independent remedial actions under the model toxics control act. **OPPOSE**
 - *Passed Senate and moved to House Environment Committee.*

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**