

Weekly Legislative Update: **Solid Waste Management**

Issue Team Chair: Ann Murphy

Contact: amurphy@lwvwa.org

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Bills Needing Action This Week

Please read Bills We Support to see the latest status of other bills.

Sign in “Pro” for the following bills this week:

You may express support for bills in hearings with the online process. **Remember, only authorized members can speak for the League; the Issue Chairs will do that, so please leave the “Organization” box blank.** A more powerful influence is many voices speaking for themselves rather than many voices speaking for the League.

- **[HB 1164](#) Responsible management of appliances containing harmful gases and other materials.** Creates a producer responsibility program for appliances. **STATUS: Introduced;** referred to Environment and Energy. Hearing 2/16 @ 8 a.m.

Sign in [PRO](#) (by 7 a.m. on 2/16/23)

- **[SB 5376](#) Allowing the sale of cannabis waste:** this bill would allow sale of cannabis if the waste would not be designated as dangerous or hazardous waste. Currently, this organic waste is often landfilled. **STATUS: Substitute bill scheduled for hearing in Ways and Means** on 2/13.

Sign in [PRO](#) (by 3 p.m. on 2/13/23)

- **[HB 1131](#) Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes. WRAP Act.** Here is a [factsheet](#). **Substitute/Amended bill** passed out of House Environment and Energy Committee on 2/2/23 with an 8 to 7 vote (and lots of discussion); moves to House Appropriations as it has a large fiscal note. If you have a Representative on [Appropriations](#), please write to urge passage out of committee. Scheduled for Hearing in Appropriations 2/15/23 @ 4 p.m.

Sign in [PRO](#) (by 3 p.m. on 2/15/23)

Sign in “Con” for the following bills this week:

- [SB 5579](#) Allows the Department of Ecology to elect to refrain from or cease administering or enforcing a requirement related to the use of hydrofluorocarbons and other ozone-depleting substance substitutes if it determines that supply chain problems or other similar disruptions threaten to impair businesses or consumers in Washington, and that suspending enforcement of a requirement would mitigate the problem. This bill would be counter action HB 1164 (the appliance stewardship program) that we are supporting in the House. **STATUS:** Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology 2/14/23 at 1:30 PM

Sign In [CON](#) – (by 12:30 p.m. on 2/14/23)

Bills Scheduled for Action on the Floor

[SB 5287](#) Concerning a study on the recycling of wind turbine blades.

Requires the Washington State University extension energy program to conduct a study on the feasibility of recycling wind turbine blades used in Washington. **STATUS:** Placed on second reading by Rules Committee and is on calendar. Contact your Senator to vote for this bill.

Bills Scheduled for Executive Session – If your Legislator serves on the designated Committee, please contact them to support the bill.

[HB 1185](#) Reducing environmental impacts associated with lighting products. Phases out the sale of most mercury-containing lights and extends/expands the product stewardship program for the same lights. Has an extended producer responsibility element in that the producers of lights in the stewardship program will be required to finance the operations of the program (eliminating the handling fee currently applied to retail sales) **STATUS:** Hearing in House Environment and Energy Committee 1/28/23 @ 1:30 pm. Testified PRO; coming up for exec session in policy committee. On 2/16/23 @ 8 a.m. If you have a representative on House [Environment and Energy Committee](#), please contact them to move this bill out of committee.

[HB 1551](#) – Reducing lead in cookware – **STATUS:** PRO at House Environment & Energy Committee – Exec action deferred to 2/13/23 @ 1:30 p.m.; If you have a representative on House [Environment and Energy Committee](#), please contact them to move this bill out of committee. Companion Bill [SB 5605](#) **does not** have a hearing yet.

Bills Passed out of Policy Committee – continued Effort needed:

[SB 5154/HB 1131](#) Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes. WRAP Act.

Here is a [factsheet](#). **STATUS:**

SB 5145 – Substitute/Amended bill passed out of Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Committee on 2/3/23 with a party line vote. Moves to Senate Ways & Means. **If you have a Senator on [Ways & Means](#), please write them to urge passage out of committee.**

HB 1131 -See Action above – Appropriations Hearing

[SB 5144](#) Providing for responsible environmental management of batteries. product stewardship bill for recycling all batteries. The batteries in our cell phones, electric toothbrushes and other rechargeable devices are lithium ion batteries. Ensuring the proper handling, recycling, and end-of-life management of used batteries prevents the release of toxic materials into the environment and removes materials from the waste stream that, if mishandled, may present safety concerns to workers, such as by igniting fires at solid waste handling facilities. See [factsheet](#) **STATUS: passed out of [Senate Environment, Energy & Technology committee](#). 2/7/23. Moves to Senate Ways & Means. If you have a Senator on [Ways & Means](#), please write them to urge passage out of committee.**

[SB 5464/HB 1392](#) Right to Repair - Promoting the fair servicing and repair of digital electronic equipment): This bill requires digital electronic product manufacturers, such as Apple and Microsoft, to make repair information, parts and tools available to independent repair businesses and owners. With a huge amount of e-waste (eg., Washington disposes of 8,700 phones every day)! This bill would make it possible for small businesses to repair computers, tablets and cellphones. Extending the life of computers, tablets and cellphones will decrease the need for more resources, energy and transportation to manufacture new products – therefore also decreasing greenhouse gas. This bill will lower costs for consumers. Used computers, tablets and cell phones will into the hands of people who need them and help overcome digital inequities in Washington. People will keep using devices instead of tossing them or processing in take-back programs! **STATUS:**

SB 5464 – Testified PRO at Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Hearing. Waiting for further action.

HB 1392 – passed out of House committee on Consumer Protection & Business (7-6) on 2/8/23; moves to House Appropriations. If you have a Representative on [Appropriations](#), please write to urge passage out of committee

Email your Legislators to support these bills:

Use the link to email to any/all of your legislators, letting them know these bills are important to their constituents. HB (“House Bill”) to Representatives, SB (“Senate Bill”) to your Senator.

HB 1033 Evaluating compostable product usage. Establishes an advisory committee to standardize composting across Washington. **STATUS: passed out of House Environment and Energy Committee, in House Appropriations**

HB 1047 Concerning the use of toxic chemicals in cosmetic products. Eliminates the sale of cosmetics that contain one of nine toxins as identified in the bill. Allows for a phase-out to keep toxins out of homes and environment. **STATUS: voted out of House Appropriations –2/9/23; moves to Rules**

HB 1085 Reducing plastic pollution. A three-pronged approach to reduce the use of plastics by 1) Requiring **refill stations** in drinking fountains in all new construction; 2) Phasing out **mini toiletries plastic packaging** (including shampoos, conditioners, lotions, and soaps) at hotels and other lodging establishments; 3) Banning **foam-filled dock floats** in our lakes and marine waters. **STATUS: voted out House Appropriations with unanimous vote –2/9/23; moves to Rules**

HB 1422 –Clarifying that certain reusable packing materials are exempt from sales and use tax. **STATUS: PRO** at House Committee on Finance 2/2/23

Bills We Are Watching

- **SB 5245 – Concerning biosolids.** Ecology must establish pollutant limits for PFAS chemicals in biosolids, based on the results of the USEPA’s risk assessment for PFAS chemicals in biosolids. Ecology must ensure that biosolids are tested for PFAS chemicals for which this pollutant limit has been established. And land application of biosolids that do not comply with the PFAS chemical pollutant limit would be prohibited. **STATUS: Substitute bill passed out of Senate Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.**

How You Can Be Involved

- Contact Ann Murphy, Solid Waste Management Issue Chair, amurphy@lwvwa.org or call (509) 385-8910.
- Check the [Solid Waste Management page](#) for updates.
- Read the *Legislative Newsletter* and respond to Action Alerts.