

Weekly Legislative Update: **Climate Crisis & Energy**

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Bills we are following have passed the policy committees and are now scheduled for hearings in the financial committees, Appropriations in the House and Ways & Means in the Senate. These committees consider if the state can fund the cost of implementing a bill. The bills below we support and think they are worth funding. You can make your personal position known before committee hearings through the [committee sign](#) in process. Links in the descriptions below will take you directly to the sign-in page for the bill. Your name will appear in the legislative record.

Priority Bills Needing Action This Week

[SB 5093](#) Integrated Climate Response Strategy updates for climate resilience. The current Climate Response Strategy was completed in 2012, so is due for an update. This bill will increase the focus on climate justice considerations.

Scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Ways & Means Committee of Monday, Feb 13 at 4:00 pm. Please [sign-in](#) Pro by 3:00 pm on Monday with this link:

[HB 1176](#) Creating a Washington Climate Corps. Project to create climate-related service opportunities for young adults and displaced workers, to build low-carbon and climate-resilient communities and ecosystems while providing education, workforce development, and new career pathways. The board would conduct a study of the feasibility of a program to preserve income and benefits for workers close to retirement who face job loss or career transition because of energy technology sector changes.

Scheduled for a hearing in the House Appropriations Committee on Monday, Feb 13 at 4:00 pm. Please [sign-in](#) Pro by 3:00 pm on Monday with this link:

[HB 1433](#) Energy labeling of residential buildings: Home Energy Score. Enables but does not mandate local governments to require an energy assessment and report for the sale of a home. The assessment and report would be based on a format developed by the US Department of Energy.

Scheduled for a hearing in the House Appropriations Committee on Monday, Feb 13 at 4:00 pm. Please [sign-in](#) Pro by 3:00 pm on Monday with this link:

Find additional bill descriptions on the [Climate & Energy](#) web page or detailed information at the bill number links.

You can also comment at [any time](#) to your district's legislators. Select the bill number link to open the bill information page, then select the box "**Comment on this bill**." Fill in your

information and verify your district, then craft your comments. Tell them why the content of the bill, good or bad, is important to you.

In all cases please speak for yourself, not the League. A powerful statement is made when many constituents express their own opinion and tell their own story.

Why we focus attention on these bills

The League believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and planet. ... Individuals, communities, and governments must continue to address this issue, while considering the ramifications of their decisions, at all levels — local, state, regional, national, and global. Approved by the LWVUS Board at the January 2019 meeting.

We cannot fully evaluate or track all the bills, so we will focus on those most related to [League positions](#), positively or negatively. We may also suggest revisions (amendments) to bills that need revision to make a positive influence.

A recent [Rhodium Group study](#) suggests that economic incentives, standards, and regulations will be all necessary, and this must occur at all government levels. It is our privilege to freely participate in our democracy.

How You Can Be Involved

- If you would like to receive periodic news of environmental presentations, projects, and updates, join the LWVWA Environment Affinity Group. Contact Martin Gibbins, Climate Issue Chair, mgibbins@lwvwa.org
- Local Leagues in Washington have Action Chairs who coordinate action teams. Some Local Leagues have Environment or Climate teams to take action locally. Contact your Local League Action Chair to find out and join.