

## Weekly Legislative Update: **Solid Waste Management**

Issue Team Chair: Ann Murphy

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**February 19, 2023**

### **Bills Needing Action This Week**

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

### **Bills in Fiscal Committees --- Need Action this Week**

Please express support for the bills in their respective fiscal committees as described below.

**Remember, only authorized members can speak for the League; the Issue Chairs will do that.**

A more powerful influence is many voices speaking for themselves rather than many voices speaking for the League.

The committees' calendars are not complete for the coming week. Some of the bills still need a hearing, some are ready for Executive Action. You can keep checking the bill status by clicking the [blue bill number](#). You can send your requests to House Appropriations or Senate Ways and Means for the bill to get a hearing and urge that the bill be passed out of committee.

### **House Appropriations:**

#### **Sign-in for Hearings:**

- **[HB 1392/SB 5464](#) 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: SHB 1392 – passed out of House committee on Consumer Protection & Business (7-6) on 2/8/23; Now in House Appropriations. [If you have a Representative on Appropriations, please write to urge passage out of committee](#)**

## Sign in PRO (by 12:30 on 2/20/23)

**SB 5464** –Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Hearing did not take action. The House Bill is the vehicle.

### Write to Members of Appropriations:

- **HB 1131** Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes. WRAP Act. Here is a [factsheet](#). **Priority Bill**  
**STATUS: Substitute/Amended bill** passed Hearing held in Appropriations on 2/15/23. Please write to your Representative on [Appropriations](#), and thank them for hearing the bill and urge them to pass it out of committee by Feb. 24.
- **HB 1033** Evaluating compostable product usage. Establishes an advisory committee to standardize composting across Washington. **STATUS: in House Appropriations**. Please write your representative on the [Appropriations](#) Committee to urge them to have a hearing on the bill and then pass it out of committee by Feb. 24.
- **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: Passed** out of House Environment and Energy Committee On 2/16/23. Please write your representative on the [Appropriations](#) Committee to urge them to have a hearing on the bill and then pass it out of committee by Feb. 24.
- **HB 1422** Clarifying that certain reusable packing materials are exempt from sales and use tax. **STATUS: Hearing** in House Finance Committee on 2/2/23; Watch for an Agenda item that puts this in Executive Session. Write your Representative on the [House Finance](#) Committee to urge passage out of committee.
- **HB 1551** Reducing lead in cookware – **STATUS: Passed** out of House Environment and Energy Committee On 2/13/23. Please write you representative on the [Appropriations](#) Committee to urge them to have a hearing on the bill and then pass it out of committee by Feb. 24.

### Senate Ways & Means

- **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 had hearing** in Ways and Means on 2/13 and the Executive Session is 2/20/23 @ 9 a.m. Please write your representative on the Senate [Ways & Means](#) Committee to urge them to pass it out of committee by Feb. 24.

- **[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:** hearing in Senate Ways & Means on 2/18/23. **If you have a Senator on [Ways & Means](#), please write them to urge passage out of committee**

## Bills in Rules; Need to move to Floor

- **[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; moved to [Rules](#). Write your Representative to urge a vote on HB 1047.
- **[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; moved to [Rules](#). Write your Representative to urge a vote on HB 1085.

## 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.

## Email your Legislators to support these bills

No other bills at this time.

## Bills League Support; Did not Pass

- **[HB 1164](#) Responsible management of appliances containing harmful gases and other materials.** Creates a producer responsibility program for appliances. **STATUS:** Hearing in Environment and Energy Committee on 2/16/23 to primarily start the conversation on work on this bill for the 2024 session. No action taken this session.

## 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:** Passed to Rules for second reading.
- **[SSB 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. **STATUS:** Executive action taken on 2/17/23. Substitute bill passed out of committee. LWVWA is “watching” this bill. No action recommended at this time.

## How You Can Be Involved

- Contact Ann Murphy, Solid Waste Management Issue Chair, [amurphy@lwvwa.org](mailto: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.