

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

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

Needed Action is now more direct. It is time to write directly to your Representatives and Senator. Please check each of the below bills and link to direct comment on the bill to your Representatives or Senator. Bills have moved out of committees and need to be moved out of Rules as well as voted on in Floor action. Please express support for the bills – include your own voice and/or suggested talking points. You can keep checking the bill status by clicking the [blue bill number](#).

**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.

### **Bills in the Final Steps – passed out of fiscal committees – now need to get through Rules and be heard on the Floor of House/Senate by March 8!**

➤ **[2SHB 1131](#) Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes. WRAP Act.**

Here is a [factsheet](#). **Priority Bill**

**STATUS:** referred to Rules on 2/24/23. Request your Representatives to get this bill moved to the floor and then to vote yes to pass HB 1131. Choose from these key points to include in your message:

- Pass the WRAP Act and don't let it be weakened by amendments
- Residents across the state want access to curbside recycling, want to reduce waste and want to know that their items are actually being recycled
- We need to stop throwing away \$104 million worth of materials that could be recycled, and instead collect them and turn them into new items
- WRAP Act will help reduce plastic pollution and litter
- WRAP Act helps address climate impacts by reducing the need to extract oil and gas, using less energy to make new items from recycled content, and building circular economy here in WA

- **SHB 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:** Referred to Rules 2 Review (2/14/23). Request your [Representatives'](#) help in moving this bill to a vote on the floor without amendment and then to vote yes.
- **SHB 1033 Evaluating compostable product usage.** Establishes an advisory committee to standardize composting across Washington.  
**STATUS:** placed on second reading by Rules (2/22/23). Request your [Representatives'](#) help in moving this bill to a vote on the floor without amendment and then to vote yes.
- **SHB 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:** Placed on second reading by Rules Committee (2/22/23) Request your [Representatives'](#) help in moving this bill to a vote on the floor without amendment and then to vote yes. As a note, keep the distinction between the this bill and the WRAP Act (1131) super clear, as it has been confusing to some of the legislators.
  - \* Help reduce plastic pollution
  - \* Washington residents, especially our kids, need easy places to refill our water bottles
  - \* Hotels, motels and other lodging businesses will save money by shifting to bulk dispensers instead of using the unrecyclable mini-toiletries
  - \* We see tiny Styrofoam bits all over our beaches. We know these impact wildlife. It is time to address foam-filled floats!
- **SHB 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:** Referred to Rules 2 for Review. Request your [Representatives'](#) help in moving this bill to a vote on the floor without amendment and then to vote yes.
- **2SHB 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 so that People will keep using devices instead of tossing

them or processing in take-back programs! The Senate Companion Bill did not make it out of committee.

**STATUS: 2SHB 1392** – Needs to move from Rules to the Floor. Request your [Representatives'](#) help to move this to the floor and then to vote yes.

- **HB 1422** Clarifying that certain reusable packing materials are exempt from sales and use tax. **STATUS:** Referred to Rules 2 Review (2/23/23). Request your [Representatives'](#) help in moving this bill to a vote on the floor without amendment and then to vote yes.
  
- **SSB 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 passed to Rules Committee for second reading 2/21. Request your [Senator's](#) help in moving this bill to a vote on the floor without amendment and then to vote yes.
  
- **2SSB 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:** Bill passed to Senate Rules Committee for second reading. Request your [Senator's](#) help in moving this bill to a vote on the floor without amendment and then to vote yes.

## Action Needed 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 League Supported; Did not Move Forward

- **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.**

- **[HB 1551](#) Reducing lead in cookware – **STATUS:** Passed out of House Environment and Energy Committee On 2/13/23. Died in Appropriations**
- **[SB 5154](#) Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes. WRAP Act.** Here is a [factsheet](#). **STATUS: The Senate bill did not move out of committee. The House bill 1131 is the vehicle. See Action needed above.**
- **[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. **STATUS: Bill did not make it out of policy committee. HB 1392 is the vehicle (see Action needed above)**

## 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.