## **Clean Fuels Now – HB 1110** A Healthier Climate and Cleaner Air

### **A Healthier Climate**

Diesel and gasoline are responsible for nearly half of our climate change pollution in Washington State. We've seen climate impacts close to home, like more frequent and fiercer forest fires, but we have a window to accelerate big solutions. Washington is now on a pathway to a 100% clean grid, and now we can electrify most of our transportation sector, reducing our climate impact with emission free vehicles. What we can't electrify, we can transition to cleaner fuels - a clean fuel standard prioritizes creating incentives for those clean, low-carbon choices to power our transportation.

#### **Cleaner Air**

Leading public health organizations view a clean fuel standard as one of the most important ways to improve air quality and public health and to save on healthcare costs. A recent study found that California's Clean Fuel Standard could contribute to \$8.3 billion in avoided public health costs by 2025 because of fewer asthma attacks and hospitalizations, lower rates of lung cancer and heart attacks, and thousands of fewer lost workdays.

Prioritizing cleaner air will also begin to address longstanding inequities in who is most impacted by climate change. Lower income communities and communities of color often live and work closer to major transportation corridors. For example, in King County, diesel particulate pollution contributes to a reduction in life expectancy by 13 years for those living in the Duwamish Valley compared to other parts of the county.

### **Supporting Urban and Rural Economies**

A greater reliance on clean fuels in Washington State will support rural economic development by relying on our local clean fuel resources, such as dairy waste, forest residue, food waste, and wastewater treatment facilities. Washington already supports over 1,700 jobs in the clean fuels industry. There are over 2,000 people working in the electric vehicle industry already in Washington. By implementing a Clean Fuel Standard, our region can become even more competitive.

# People of Faith Support Clean Fuels Now and are Putting Faith Into Action!

People of faith are grounded in religious values of spirituality, stewardship, and justice. Our faith traditions call us to be good neighbors and good stewards of the land, air, and water under our care. Together, we strive to create a safer, cleaner, and healthier world for all.

The climate crisis is a moral emergency. Humancaused climate change is already wreaking havoc on our communities and pushing species to extinction. Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, makes the case clearly that care for the Earth and care for the most vulnerable among us are two sides of the same coin, and now is the time to act.

Faith communities do our part to reduce energy consumption in our houses of worship and to support clean, renewable sources of energy. We are calling on the state legislature to do *their* part by enacting a clean fuel standard that will cut carbon emissions, improve air quality, and invest in cleaner transportation for the future.

We know it will work – our West Coast neighbors in California, Oregon, and British Columbia all already have effective clean fuels standards. It's time for us to do our part. Join Earth Ministry/WAIPL in supporting HB 1110 this legislative session!



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## **A Clean Fuels Standard for Washington**

The transportation sector is responsible for nearly half of our climate and air pollution in Washington. We need our transportation to be clean, affordable, and accessible. A clean fuel standard will require fuel producers and importers to reduce pollution from the fuels that power our transportation system. It is a tested and effective policy that would clean our air, give us more options to fuel our vehicles (such as electricity and local renewable biofuels), create economic development, cut climate pollution, and move us beyond oil.

A clean fuel standard requires oil refiners and importers to reduce the carbon intensity of fuels gradually over time, thereby improving public health, supporting expanded transportation electrification, and creating more homegrown jobs in the production of clean, low-carbon fuels. HB 1110 will require a 10% reduction in carbon intensity by 2028 and 20% reduction by 2035, putting Washington on an effective and affordable path to cleaner air.

California, Oregon, and British Columbia have successful clean fuels programs, making Washington the last West Coast jurisdiction without one. It's time we do our share to protect our communities and promote healthy ecosystems by cutting carbon from this sector.

#### More Freedom to Choose Cleaner Fuels

Every year Washington consumers and businesses purchase approximately \$9 billion of gasoline and diesel from out of state oil companies. By transitioning to clean fuels, we can keep this money in state and end our sole reliance on oil to power our vehicles and transportation systems. We have very little choice but to buy gasoline and diesel since the oil companies have a monopoly on our fuel options. Reducing our dependence on a volatile global oil market can help us save on the total amount of money we spend fueling and powering our transportation system.

#### **Fuel Will Remain Affordable**

The cost of fuel is dominated by the global market which overwhelms any market impact of a clean fuel standard. In Oregon, the cost of the Clean Fuels Program has been less than a third of a penny per gallon of gasoline. An analysis by AAA and the American Petroleum Institute determined that California's Clean Fuel Standard accounted for only 1% of the cost of gasoline. The price per barrel of oil accounts for 42% of the price, while transportation, refining, retailing, and profit accounts for 27% The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's regional transportation fuels analysis found that under and clean fuel standard the cost-per-mile for transportation will be the same as or less than today.

## **Cleaner Transportation Will Grow With Investment**

#### • More electric cars, trucks and buses

By creating value for electricity from low-carbon sources, clean fuels allow utilities, fleet operators, and charging providers to reduce costs for electric vehicles and chargers.

#### More low-carbon biofuels

Low-carbon liquid fuels can come from a variety of locally sourced materials, including biofuels from food, agricultural, and forest waste.

#### Higher efficiency refining

The program credits refineries for cleaning up their operations, improving local air quality, and cutting carbon pollution.

### **A Clean Fuels Standard Works**

In California alone, their clean fuel standard has avoided 33 million tons of carbon, 9.9 billion gallons of petroleum, and has seen \$2 billion of investment in clean fuels productions, with little to no impact on fuel prices in the state. In British Columbia, their program has accounted for 25% of the province's annual emissions reductions between 2007-2012, which is a reduction of 900,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year. Instituting a carbon intensity limit on lifecycle emissions means that emissions will decrease, which will happen here in Washington too.