
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4003

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Street, Doglio, Wylie, Ramel, Kloba, Mena, Duerr, Lekanoff, Thai, Cortes, Peterson, Ryu, Gregerson, Macri, Berg, Pollet, Bergquist, Nance, Goodman, Thomas, Parshley, Berry, Stearns, Donaghy, Obras, Taylor, Hill, Santos, Springer, Scott, Reeves, Reed, Salahuddin, Ortiz-Self, Ormsby, Zahn, and Simmons

Read first time 01/28/25. Referred to Committee on Environment & Energy.

1 TO THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
7 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The scientific consensus is clear that human activities
9 are primarily responsible for accelerating global climate change, and
10 that the climate crisis now represents one of the preeminent threats
11 to global civilization; and

12 WHEREAS, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is clear
13 that we must achieve net zero in greenhouse gas emissions by the
14 middle of this century in order to have a reasonable chance of
15 limiting catastrophic levels of global warming; and

16 WHEREAS, Changes in Washington's climate are already being felt,
17 with examples of heat dome, wildfire, drought, sea level rise,
18 flooding, changes in the hydropower system, and impacts on salmon
19 including treaty rights and obligations; and

20 WHEREAS, Our entire society will be impacted by the health and
21 safety risks of fossil fuel expansion, particularly those who also
22 face socioeconomic and health inequities, including low-income
23 families, those experiencing homelessness, people of color and

1 Indigenous people, youth, seniors, those experiencing mental and
2 physical disabilities, and people with health conditions; and

3 WHEREAS, Our youth and future generations have the most to lose
4 from a lack of immediate action to stop fossil fuel expansion as they
5 face major and lifelong health, ecological, social, and economic
6 impacts from prolonged and cumulative effects of climate change,
7 including food and water shortages, infectious diseases, and natural
8 disasters; and

9 WHEREAS, The Paris Climate Agreement is silent on coal, oil, and
10 gas, an omission with respect to the supply and production of fossil
11 fuels (the most significant source of climate altering pollution)
12 that needs to be collectively addressed by other means; and

13 WHEREAS, Our planet is on track to warm by 3.1 degrees Celsius
14 unless governments undertake more significant efforts to limit
15 climate pollution; and

16 WHEREAS, The construction of new fossil fuel infrastructure and
17 expanded reliance on fossil fuels exposes communities to untenable
18 risks to public health and safety at the local and global levels; and

19 WHEREAS, The economic opportunities presented by a clean energy
20 transition far outweigh the opportunities presented by an economy
21 supported by expanding fossil fuel use and extraction; and

22 WHEREAS, The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty has been
23 formally called for by 16 nation-states, the European Parliament, the
24 Vatican, and more than 125 cities and subnational governments
25 globally, including the Washington city of Yakima, as well as the
26 Hawaii, California, and Maine State Legislatures; and

27 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature is committed to a just
28 energy transition and to ambitious investments in the green
29 infrastructure and industries that will create jobs and rapidly
30 decarbonize our economy; and

31 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature recognizes that it is
32 the urgent responsibility and moral obligation of wealthy fossil fuel
33 producers to lead in putting an end to fossil fuel development and to
34 manage the decline of existing production; and

35 WHEREAS, In 2019, the Washington State Legislature passed Senate
36 Bill No. 5145 which prohibits the use of hydraulic fracturing in oil
37 and gas exploration within Washington; and

38 WHEREAS, In 2020, the Washington State Legislature passed
39 Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 2311, committing to

1 science-based targets for greenhouse gas emissions, requiring
2 incremental progress toward net zero emissions by 2050; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed the
4 Climate Commitment Act which creates a market mechanism to cap
5 emissions of climate pollution, reduce emissions steadily over time
6 to achieve our science-based targets, and invest revenue in
7 solutions; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed the
9 HEAL Act, Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5141, to reduce
10 environmental and health disparities in Washington, including
11 disparities caused by climate change; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2024, the people of Washington State reaffirmed their
13 resolve to continue to pursue ambitious action to mitigate the
14 climate crisis by roundly rejecting Initiative 2117 that would have
15 repealed the Climate Commitment Act; and

16 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature supports the new global
17 initiative calling for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty that
18 would end new fossil fuel exploration and expansion, phase out
19 existing production in line with the global commitment to limit
20 warming as much as possible, and accelerate equitable transition
21 plans; and

22 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature affirms its ongoing
23 commitment to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and the
24 greenhouse gas reduction targets as called for by the
25 intergovernmental panel on climate change, and pledges to meet its
26 proportionate greenhouse gas reductions under the Paris Climate
27 Agreement and Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 2311;

28 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
29 United States government join the global community in formally
30 developing a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty as an international
31 mechanism to manage a global transition away from coal, oil, and gas.

32 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Legislature formally endorses the call
33 for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

34 BE IT RESOLVED, That Washington State agrees with the principle
35 of the nonproliferation of fossil fuels and the need to end the
36 expansion of new coal, oil, and gas production.

37 BE IT RESOLVED, That Washington State affirms the need for a plan
38 to phase out existing fossil fuel production that prioritizes the
39 most impacted workers and local government services with short-term
40 and long-term investments that include enforceable labor standards,

1 such as prevailing wages, apprenticeship opportunities, and project
2 labor agreements, to protect workers and communities.

3 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
4 transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United
5 States, the Vice President of the United States, the Majority and
6 Minority Leaders of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the House of
7 Representatives, the Governor of the State of Washington, the United
8 Nations Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for
9 Human Rights, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
10 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
11 State of Washington.

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