

Puget Sound Car Wash Association

Talking points for meetings with legislators

- Arrange, if possible, to meet at your wash, so you can show them around.
- Inform Elly when and where the meeting will take place, and she'll coordinate with David Ducharme to join you for the meeting, if possible.
- Have copies of our Bill 1856, fiscal note, and White Paper* to hand to the legislator.
- Brief talking points:
 - ✓ Higher clean water standards, as well as increased costs for permitting, labor, utilities and access to treatment facilities make it more and more difficult for me to remain in business and certainly, no one is actively looking to invest in and build new car washes.
 - ✓ Both the EPA and DOE strongly recommend that citizens utilize commercial car wash facilities to reduce the amount of pollutants entering the state's waterways. Unfortunately, many in our society believe it's a God given right to wash their cars at home, either on the street or in the driveway, not realizing the harmful effects to the environment.
 - ✓ Nearly every city in the Puget Sound region is in violation of its storm water permit, most openly acknowledging that home car washing is a significant contributing factor that they can't enforce.
 - ✓ Currently, 29 of 45 states that have a sales tax provide exemptions for commercial car wash facilities.
 - ✓ The Legislature has a long history of granting sales tax exemptions to a variety of services and products so long as those exemptions achieve a meaningful purpose. This bill will help reduce harmful pollutants from entering the State's waterways at very little cost. This is particularly significant when one considers the State spends hundreds of millions of dollars to clean pollutants from the Puget Sound alone.
 - ✓ The Department of Revenue estimated the cost of providing the exemption would be \$1.046 million in 2018 and \$1.335 million in 2019 (Fiscal Note HB 1856).
- Ask for their support.
- Report back to Elly about the results of your meeting.

*Be sure the version of the White Paper you have shows \$ 1.046 million impact on state revenue in 2018 and \$1.335 million in 2019. If not, contact the PSCWA office for an updated version.