Healthy Families, Healthy Communities

Environment



Working to preserve our precious natural resources, protect health and safety, and promote responsible stewardship and conservation

Responsible disposal of harmful substances

Recycling Mercury Lights / HB 2246 — This bill enacts the state's stewardship program for mercury-containing light bulbs. Past legislation established the program but questions about funding mechanisms remained. HB 2246 authorizes a handling charge to fund the program ensuring proper disposal of these toxic bulbs. (*Delivered to Governor*)

Helping State parks achieve sustainability

State Parks Partnerships / HB 2226 / SB 6034 — Parks are an invaluable state resource, providing recreational opportunities for all and protecting some of our most treasured landscapes, scenic vistas, and cultural resources. By providing the State Parks and Recreation Commission additional tools to generate revenue, we can ensure that our parks are preserved and maintained. (Delivered to Governor)

Improving oil transport safety and transparency

Oil Transportation Safety Act / HB 2347 – This bill would have enhanced safety standards for oil transported over water by vessel, given local communities data about the volume and type of oil moving across the state, and assessed the state's ability to respond to potential emergencies involving oil train spills. (Died in Senate)

Keeping our waterways safe and healthy

Concerning derelict and abandoned vessels /HB 2457 – Derelict and abandoned vessels pose a serious threat to our state's waterways. They are unsafe, unsightly and pollute the marine environment. This bill provides additional funding to clean up and remove derelict vessels and creates new restrictions on selling large, older boats that are most likely to become derelict. It also incentivizes deconstruction and registration of vessels, making it easier for us to track down responsible parties when a vessel becomes derelict and to get more vessels out of the water before they do. (Governor signed)



Protecting health and safety

Toxic-Free Kids and Families / HB 1294 - Toxic, cancer-causing chemicals are often in the furniture in our homes and common children's products, such as car seats and changing pads. Chemical companies say the products increase fire safety, but an investigative report last year found this was not true – in fact these chemicals put consumers' and firefighters' health at risk. This reform would get our state off the "toxic treadmill" once and for all by banning two forms of Tris, a known carcinogen, and by prohibiting the substitution of equally toxic chemicals in their place. (Died in Senate)

Conserving precious resources

Water Conservation Standards / HB 2414 – Would have updated and enhanced the conservation standards for new toilets and other household fixtures. (*Died in Senate*)