



Support Legislators Who Support the Environment!

One of the key goals of Republicans for Environmental Protection is to encourage and support Republicans – especially Republican legislators – to take conservation-oriented positions. We hope you will join us in praising legislators who have strong environmental records, and assist in recruiting **Green Republicans** to run for office in 2008!

The Washington Conservation Voters scorecard for 2007-2008 is being prepared now and will be published later this spring. For your information, here are the scores of current Republican legislative leaders from the 2005-2006 biennium (from <http://www.wcvoters.org/scorecard>):

Senate Republicans

Leader - Sen. Mike Hewitt: **25%**
Deputy Leader - Sen. Cheryl Pflug: **36%**
Caucus Chair - Sen. Linda Evans Parlette: **8%**
Floor Leader - Sen. Mark Schoesler: **0%**
Whip - Sen. Dale Brandland: 58%
Caucus Vice Chair - Sen. Dan Swecker: 75%
Deputy Floor Leader - Sen. Mike Carrell: **17%**
Deputy Whip - Sen. Jerome Delvin: **33%**

House Republicans

Leader - Rep. Richard DeBolt: **9%**
Deputy Leader - Rep. Doug Ericksen: **31%**
Caucus Chair - Rep. Dan Kristiansen: **0%**
Whip - Rep. Lynn Schindler: **8%**
Floor Leader - Rep. Dan Newhouse: **31%**
Caucus Vice Chair - Rep. Mary Skinner: **31%**
Assistant Floor Leader - Rep. Maureen Walsh: 54%

Needless to say, we hope the results for 2007-2008 are better! Other Republicans still serving in the legislature who had 2005-2006 ratings above 50% include Rep. Tom Campbell **77%**, Rep. Skip Priest **69%**, Rep. Jay Rodne **62%**, Rep. Glenn Anderson **54%**, and Rep. Joyce McDonald **54%**. Unfortunately, **many of the highest-scoring Republicans were defeated in 2006, something we can't let happen again in 2008**. Please encourage and support legislators and candidates who support the environment, and let all legislators know your positions on environmental issues.

WA REP Get Together at the Mainstream Republicans Cascade Conference

The Mainstream Republicans of Washington annual Cascade Conference is being held May 16-18 at the Inn at Gig Harbor. The **WA REP Executive Committee will be meeting at the Conference on Friday, May 16, at 3:00pm** (to avoid the commute traffic!). **All WA REP members are welcome to attend**. The meeting will also be open to any Cascade Conference attendees who want to learn more about Republicans for Environmental Protection – we're always striving to expand our ranks! If you do come to the Executive Committee meeting, please consider staying for the entire conference – you'll find many of the conference sessions interesting and

enlightening. For example, REP National Policy Director Jim DiPeso will be on a panel on climate change, moderated by WA REP executive committee member Toby Nixon, first thing on Saturday morning. For more information on the conference, see <http://www.washingtonmainstream.org/conference.aspx>. For information on and directions to the Inn at Gig Harbor, see <http://www.innatgigharbor.com>.

WA REP at the Republican State Convention

The **Washington State Republican Convention** is coming up soon – **May 30 and 31 in Spokane**. WA REP will have a table at the convention, and seek to inform convention delegates that there are Republicans who support the environment and invite them to join us. If you are in the Spokane area or able to be there, and can volunteer to help staff the table for a few hours during the convention, please contact Lunell Haught at lunellh@aol.com.

If you will be attending the state convention as a delegate and haven't already informed the state executive committee, please let us know. We will be organizing to promote addition of a plank to the state party platform focusing on Hanford cleanup. The key points to be included in that plank are as follows:

- Washington State Republicans support the defense of Initiative 297 adopted by Washington's voters to require cleanup of Hanford and protection of the Columbia River before more waste can be dumped.
- Washington State Republicans support efforts in Congress to turn back the U.S. Department of Energy proposal to reclassify High-Level Nuclear Waste and abandon it in leaking tanks at Hanford, and the efforts of our Congressional delegation to ensure that Hanford cleanup is fully funded.

The exact language of the amendment will be written based on the draft platform to be published by the state platform committee in May.

More Hanford Action

In addition to promoting our proposed Hanford Plank in the state party platform, WA REP will be sending a letter soon to the Tri-Party Agencies (U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Washington State Department of Ecology) demanding action to prevent long half-life substances from reaching the Columbia River and requesting that accelerated re-tanking of such substances into double-shell tanks should be undertaken as an added protective step in light of cleanup delays.

Thanks for all you're doing! Keep in mind the REP philosophy and share it with others:

We are Republicans. We share a deep concern for the environment. We know that a healthy environment and a sound economy are both essential to our nation's prosperity. We believe that by working together, we can preserve both our environment and our economy for current and future generations of Americans. We support and vote for Republican elected officials and candidates who share these values and concerns.

Best regards,

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