

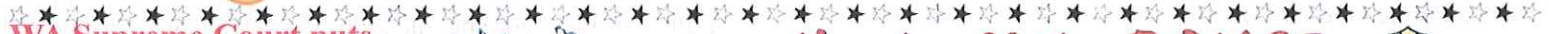


# MUTTERINGS...



## Keeping Benton County Voters Informed

### November Ballot Edition



**WA Supreme Court puts I-1639 back on the ballot EVEN THOUGH THE PETITIONS DON'T COMPLY**



**Suspicious?**

**Initiative 1639-Gun Violence Prevention**, filed by Michael Bloomberg's front group, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility, is an egregious attack on Second Amendment freedoms and comes just months after failing to enact their gun ban agenda in Olympia. Please spread the word to your family, friends, and fellow gun owners about this latest attack on self-defense rights in the Evergreen State!

The proposed initiative, if passed, would do the following:

- **Require a 10 Day Waiting Period for Commonly Owned Rifles.** All semi-automatic rifle purchases and transfers would be subjected to a waiting period of 10 business days.
- **Establish a Government Registry of Firearms.** Current law states the Washington Department of Licensing (DOL) "may" keep copies of pistol purchase applications. The proposed initiative would instead require the DOL to keep copies of these purchase applications, and would expand this government registry to include semi-automatic rifle purchases.
- **Require Completion of a Training Course to Purchase Rifles.** This initiative would also require all purchasers of semi-automatic rifles to show they have completed a firearm safety training course within the last five years in order to proceed with the sale.
- **Impose up to a \$25 Purchase Fee (GUN TAX) for Semi-Automatic Rifles.** The Washington Department of Licensing would be required to charge up to a \$25 fee for each semi-automatic rifle purchase.
- **Require Gun Owners to Lock Up their Firearms or Face Criminal Charges.** Individuals would be required to lock up their firearms or potentially face a criminal charge of "Community Endangerment Due to Unsafe Storage of a Firearm" if the firearm is accessed by a prohibited person or minor. This intrusive proposal invades people's homes and forces them to render their firearms useless in a self-defense situation by locking them up.
- **Restricts Adults Aged 18-20 from Acquiring Modern Rifles.** Adults aged 18-20 would be prohibited from purchasing semi-automatic rifles and would not be allowed to receive them through a transfer or loan. Thereby this segment of law-abiding adults are denied access to the most modern and effective firearms for self-defense, and deprived of their constitutional rights.
- **Require "Warnings" for Firearm Purchases.** Firearm purchases would come with a notification about the "inherent risks" of firearm ownership as an attempt to further stigmatize firearms.

From the NRA

**Initiative 1639, was rejected by a resolution from Benton County Republican Party. The Resolution was aimed at the contents of the initiative while it was still written in the form of bills before the legislature.**

## Handcuff the POLICE

**Washington Initiative 940,** the **Police Training and Criminal Liability in Cases of Deadly Force Measure WILL** appear on the ballot on November 6, 2018.



*Progressives are all for tying the hands of the police and blaming them (usually along with Trump) for the growing violence our culture is witnessing. At the same time Progressives attempt to paint all police white and claim they are involved in a race war. There is little evidence of police brutality in this state, even in the face of increased violence. The measure appears to be no more than a "legal" way to blame police for the craziness of trying to maintain peace and protect citizens from escalating random madness. It threatens the lives and livelihoods of the police by redefining their jobs and refusing to acknowledge the difficulties they face in maintaining law and order.*

**X** It requires all law enforcement officers in the state to receive violence de-escalation and mental health training, as developed by the Criminal Justice Training Commission."

[\(https://fortress.wa.gov/cjtc/www/\)](https://fortress.wa.gov/cjtc/www/)

*(Most businesses and agencies call this "sensivity training".) For the police it would be required every year. This would be unnecessary overkill, wasting money and time. As well as giving one more commission power to enforce new illogical rules.*

**X** It requires police to administer first-aid. *This would be a deadly trap in many situations where the police should be called upon to establish a safe environment before any first-aid could be administered. It is only sensible that police are on the scene for a much bigger picture than administering first-aid to victims.*

**X** It amends the standard for justifiable use of deadly force and requires "independent investigations carried out completely independent of the agency whose officer was involved in the use of deadly force; and, when the deadly force is used on a tribal member, such procedures must include consultation with the member's tribe . . . Where this act requires involvement of community stakeholders, input must be sought from organizations advocating for: Persons with disabilities; members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community; persons of color; immigrants; non-citizens; native Americans; youth; and formerly incarcerated persons." - *italics-Karen B.*

*This won't be an investigation—rather a very expensive lynching.*

**PROVERBS** When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, But when a wicked man rules, people groan (Proverbs 29:2).

...for our troubled times

The Constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself. - Benjamin Franklin

## Initiative 1631 – Clean Air Clean Energy

(commonly referred to as the “Carbon Tax”)

*Wow! So this is how the Paris Treaty redefines life.*

I-1631 creates a tax that will be directly applied to ALL who use fossil fuels and all electricity that is generated, including electricity generated from hydro-power.

I-1631 creates an untouchable bureaucratic morass governing at least 6 state departments:

1) The Public Oversight Board,

“Consults with,” but not be answerable to the approval of, the Governor, other Executive departments, nor the Legislature before acting unilaterally to “implement taxes and allocate expenditures of the funds being collected.”

Consists of 15 un-elected, governor appointees housed in the office of the Governor “chosen by him from labor unions, tribal governments, social justice and environmentalist groups and one from business.”

2) Three advisory Panels

Clean Air and Clean Energy Panel (nine member panel)

Spending 70% of funds

Clean Water and Healthy Forests (nine member panel)

Spending 25 % of funds

Environmental and Economic Justice Panel (11 members)

Spending 5% of funds

The measure would charge \$15 for each metric ton of carbon dioxide emitted in the state starting in 2020 and increase by \$2 plus inflation every year until the state meets its climate goals, which include reducing its carbon footprint 36 percent below 2005 levels by 2035. The State’s investment in technology, sequestration and emission reduction MEANS the state intends to own all of the energy sector of our economy.

## Turn Private Property into State Chattels

– 17 of the goals listed in I – 1631 which either: give the “Carbon Tax Bureau” power to carry out their goals irrespective of personal property rights\* or create an economic deficit for the state or business\*\*

- 1\*\*) “Increase public transportation” pg5
- 2\*\*) “Reduce vehicle miles traveled pg5
- 3\*\*) “High-speed rural broadband to facilitate telecommuting” pg5
- 4\*\*) Put millions more people on bill assistance programs pg9
- 5\*\*) “Provide sustainable jobs in rural communities” pg8
- 6\*\*) “Support mass timber technologies” pg18
- 7\*) “Reduce household energy consumption” pg10
- 8\*\*) “Require collective bargaining to support high quality labor standards and prioritize hiring women, veterans and minority owned businesses” pg20
- 9\*\*) “Fully fund every unemployed fossil-fuel worker” pg10
- 10\*\*) Even after all businesses have left the state, taxpayers will be “obligated to give, at a minimum, two hundred thousand dollars a year to any Indian tribe” (there are 36) who applies with a plan for developing a “community capacity” to participate in the implementation of this chapter.” Plus “fifty million dollars per year compensation to union organizations.” pgs20&10
- 11\*) “Increase the sustainable supply of water” pg17
- 12\*) “Prepare for sea level rise” pg17
- 13\*) “Restore, protect estuaries, fisheries and shoreline” pg17
- 14\*) “Restore natural floodplain ecological function” pg17
- 15\*) “Convert grassland and cropland soils to urban development in hopes of reducing carbon emissions” pg8
- 16\*) “Improve landscape functions” pg8
- 17\*\*) “Allow the program to be funded by Washington State’s purchase of bonds.” pg22

**JOIN THE COMMUNE**

# Estimated Cost of the CARBON TAX

Washington Policy Center’s Blog by TODD MYERS Jan 30, 2017

Businesses will also see a significant tax increase if any of these proposals are adopted. Using the most recent carbon emissions data from the Department of Ecology, here are some estimated costs for selected businesses in Washington <http://tinyurl.com/y99mrmlt>

Company Name	2014 CO2 Emissions	\$25/Ton	\$15/Ton
ConAgra Foods Lamb Weston, Connell	38,810	\$970,250	\$582,150
ConAgra Foods Lamb Weston, Pasco	47,241	\$1,181,025	\$708,615
ConAgra Foods Lamb Weston, Quincy	38,324	\$958,100	\$574,860
ConAgra Foods Lamb Weston, Richland	34,551	\$863,775	\$518,265
JR Simplot, Moses Lake	31,404	\$785,100	\$471,060
JR Simplot, Othello	87,301	\$2,182,525	\$1,309,515
McCain Foods, Othello	95,228	\$2,380,700	\$1,428,420
Basic American Foods, Moses Lake	28,982	\$724,550	\$434,730
Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc., Wallula	77,161	\$1,929,025	\$1,157,415
Agrium Kennewick Fertilizer Operations	132,249	\$3,306,225	\$1,983,735
Alcoa Inc., Wenatchee Works, Malaga	354,692	\$8,867,300	\$5,320,380
Kaiser Aluminum Washington, LLC, Spokane Valley	114,924	\$2,873,100	\$1,723,860

I- 1631 was considered by the Benton County Republican Party and rejected in a resolution agreed upon by the Central Committee.

## Political Humor

A thief stuck a pistol in a man’s ribs and said, “Give me your money.” The gentleman, shocked by the sudden attack, said “You cannot do this, I’m a United States congressman!” The thief said, “In that case, give me my money!”

Previously, we calculated the cost of the Governor’s proposal for average families in Washington – about \$400 per household.

The most ironic of the companies that would be hit by the taxes is REC Silicon in Moses Lake which manufactures parts for solar panels. Their 2014 emissions were 144,678 MT of CO2. That would add \$2.17 million in annual taxes with a \$15/MT tax and \$3.62 million tax under the Governor’s \$25/MT proposal. [Also note, Representative Newhouse’ recent comment on the dire effects of Chinese tariffs on polysilicon materials—China’s unfair trade practices in this long-running dispute have led to job losses in Moses Lake, hitting families and the entire community hard.]

Manufacturing would also be hit. At the left are a few numbers for manufacturers across the state.

Food production is another area that would see a significant cost. The jobs associated with these industries are welcome and having these companies here supports farmers, ranchers and fruit growers by creating an infrastructure to support them.

At a time when there is concern about worldwide competition for manufacturing, this tax would make it more difficult to keep these jobs here.

# Five Good Reasons to **Vote NO** on Initiative 1631

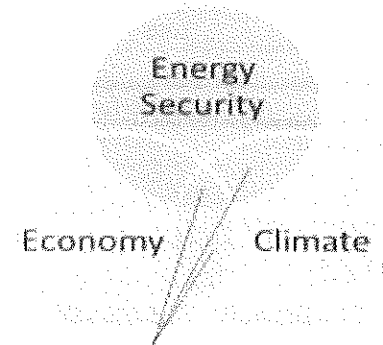
- Initiative 1631 is a special interest attempt to create a multi-billion-dollar tax program against the citizens of Washington State that provides no assurance that revenues collected will reduce carbon pollution.
- The initiative guarantees the transfer of hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayer's hard-earned money to tribal, union, and environmental activist groups rather than investing in carbon reducing technologies
  - Up to \$300 million dollars (~\$43 per Washington resident per year) is earmarked for social programs for tribal residents
  - Up to \$50 million dollars (~\$7 per Washington resident per year) is earmarked for labor union coffers
  - Millions more will be used to support environmental activist groups
- The initiative creates an Environmental and Economic Justice Panel, to determine how to spend collected funds
  - The majority of the Environmental and Economic Justice Panel will be Tribal and Union representatives that will decide how to spend your hard-earned money
  - Tribal residents will be exempted from the taxes being raised by this initiative but will receive hundreds of millions of dollars in social program funding.
- The Initiative exploits citizens' concerns about carbon pollution by misleading them with words and phrases that are not defined until after page 32 of the document. Here are just a few examples:
  - "Fees" are "Taxes"
  - "Large Emitters" include every person in Washington State except for Indian reservation residents
  - "Vulnerable populations in pollution and health action areas" are residents living on or adjacent to tribal reservations

***For a better approach see below.***

**We Believe that... Conservatives, Liberals, Moderates...  
Can Come Together on Matters Related to  
Energy Security, Climate Change and the Economy**

**Did you know that:**

- Washington's electricity – produced mostly from nuclear, hydro, wind and low-carbon natural gas – is amongst the cheapest in the nation and lowest in carbon emissions?
- Our forests and agricultural regions are major carbon sinks?
- There are cost-effective ways to reduce carbon emissions while improving our region's economy?
- Transportation accounts for 56% of the total energy-related carbon emissions from our state?
- The Centralia coal-fired power plant will shut down its 2 units in 2020 and 2025, reducing Washington State carbon emissions by 10%?

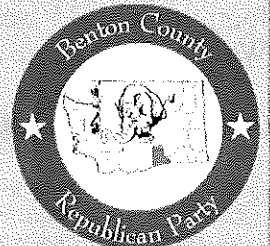


*Areas of common interest... where actions that improve the economy and/or increase energy security also reduce carbon emissions*

**Won't you please join us...**

**For a public discussion on Initiative 1631,  
Energy Security and Climate Change at  
[www.facebook.com/groups/1862999387111558/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1862999387111558/)**

**People of any, or no, political affiliation are invited!**





# Biggest Contributors

Giving \$\$ to Vote "YES" on I-1631

Biggest givers Includes-

4 "philanthropic" foundations & people associated with them

1 government appointed council and their associates

1 Labor Council

The Audubon Society

6 Individual activists-some obtain large income for their activism

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From the *Capital Research Center* - summary of policy expert  
Rupert Darwall's new book,

## Green Tyranny: Exposing the Totalitarian Roots of the Climate Industrial Complex

"Many liberals in California like to boast about their state's conservationist movement and 'environmentally friendly' policies. But pretending that there aren't negative trade offs to California's supposedly 'green' policies does more to hurt Californians than help them.

"The progressives' goal was to create a narrative of the People vs. Polluting corporations. Murray Edelman explained the progressives' logic in 1988. "To define the people one hurts as evil is to define oneself as virtuous."

"Green billionaire philanthropy upends traditional notions of charitable giving [which is] to help those most in need. . . One can be pretty sure that if supporting renewable energy harmed their interests, they would drop it in a nanosecond. The acquisition of green virtue does harm everyone else, especially the least well-off, and represents an existential threat to the energy-intensive economies of the Midwest from the Great Lakes down to Texas. This is a conflict between an economy that makes tangible things and one that deals in the intangible world of media, software, and entertainment—you can add finance—thereby squandering America's unique advantage in being a powerhouse in both the material and non-material worlds. This economic civil war fought by the two coasts against the American heartland is also a civil war within American capitalism, waged as part of environmentalism's war on hydrocarbon energy."

From *Capital Research Center's Green Tyranny* by Darwall

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## Do YOU Know What's Behind the Cover?

This series of articles is a Republican reminder, to know the Platform you stand behind and to encourage your legislators to honor the Republican vote you gave them.

This article is the twentieth in the series of articles focusing on specific planks in the national, state and county GOP platforms. It looks at the **2016 National Republican Platform, America's Natural Resources – A New Era in Energy** (pg 20).

We encourage the cost-effective development of renewable energy sources — wind, solar, biomass, biofuel, geothermal, and tidal energy — by private capital. The United States is overwhelmingly dependent on China and other nations for rare earth and other hardrock minerals. These minerals are critical to advanced technology, renewable energy, and defense manufacturing. We support expediting the permitting process for mineral production on public lands. We support lifting restrictions to allow responsible development of nuclear energy, including research into alternative processes like thorium nuclear energy. We oppose any carbon tax. It would increase energy prices across the board, hitting hardest at the families who are already struggling to pay their bills in the Democrats' no-growth economy. We urge the private sector to focus its resources on the development of carbon capture and sequestration technology still in its early stages here and overseas. . .

Conservation is inherent in conservatism. As the pioneer of environmentalism a century ago, the Republican Party reaffirms the moral obligation to be good stewards of the God-given natural beauty and resources of our country. We believe that people are the most valuable resources and that human health and safety are the proper measurements of a policy's success

>THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	525,000.00
STOLTE CHRIS	250,000.00
"aims to tackle the climate crisis and preserve our natural world"	
MERNER SARAH	250,000.00
MCKIBBEN CRAIG	250,000.00
"the country's most visible climate warrior"	
>THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	140,006.14
MOGA GREGORY	100,000.00
*WA. ST. ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL	100,000.00
WA STATE LABOR COUNCIL	75,000.00
+CORNFIELD LINDA	50,000.00
Board Wa Conservation Voters; co-producer "Chasing Ice" film	
>THACHER NANCY	50,000.00
+CORNFIELD DAVID	50,000.00
co-producer "Chasing Ice" film	
>CHABOT CHRISTIAN	50,000.00
Board of The Nature Conservancy	
>CHABOT ANGELA	50,000.00
*KONGSGAARD MARTHA	50,000.00
President, The Kongsgaard-Goldman Foundation	
+WA CONSERVATION VOTERS	50,000.00
*GOLDMAN PETER	50,000.00
nonprofit environmental-law; a top Democratic donor in WA	
>THACHER DAVID	50,000.00
Board of The Nature Conservancy	
AUDUBON WASHINGTON	39,726.82
+WA CONSERVATION VOTERS	38,476.51
^CLIMATE SOLUTIONS	35,095.98
*WA. ST. ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL	27,380.11
BARDACKE FRANKLIN	25,000.00
WA STATE LABOR COUNCIL	25,000.00
^WASHIENKO KATHLEEN	25,000.00
Board – Climate Solutions	
CROOKS JOAN	25,000.00
CEO – WA Environmental Council	
WESLEY RICHARD	20,000.00
<b>Total Biggest givers for "Yes on 1631"</b>	<b>2,400,679.56</b>
<b>Total giving for "Yes on 1631</b>	<b>2,767,879.52</b>

—from Washington's Public Disclosure Commission

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# ENERGY

## Enough, Already – Vote “NO” on Initiative 1631. Clean Air, Clean Energy

Don't put a regressive state in charge of progressing science  
Keep Inslee's cronies out of the laboratory and off our backs

RICHLAND, Wash. – Energy Northwest paid nearly \$4.8 million in privilege taxes to the state of Washington. The annual tax is levied on public power electricity producers for the privilege of generating electricity in the state. The amount of the annual privilege tax is directly tied to the amount of electricity generated. Columbia Generating Station, the third largest generator of electricity in the state, produced more than 8.1 million megawatt-hours of carbon-free electricity during 2017.

The public power agency owns electricity production at four generating facilities: Columbia Generating Station, Nine Canyon Wind Project, Packwood Lake Hydroelectric Project and White Bluffs Solar Station. Generation at these four facilities totaled more than 8.4 million megawatt-hours of electricity during calendar year 2017.

Columbia produced more than 96 percent of the total power generated by Energy Northwest, which is provided at the cost of production to the Bonneville Power Administration for resale to customers in six Western states.

The privilege tax is levied on organizations that enjoy the privilege of generating, distributing or selling electricity in Washington, and is authorized in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) sections 54.28.020 and 54.28.025.

Privilege taxes collected by the state on Columbia output will be distributed, as authorized by RCW 54.28.050, RCW 54.28.055 and RCW 54.28.040, with 44.9 percent of the payment – \$2.11 million – going to the state school fund and 10.2 percent of the payment – \$484,025 – going to the state general fund. The remaining 44.9 percent of the total taxes – another \$2.11 million – will go to jurisdictions within a 35-mile radius of the Benton County intersection of Stevens Drive and Horn Rapids Road, with distribution based upon the population in each area.

The 35 separate jurisdictions receiving payments within the 35-mile radius of Columbia includes Benton, Franklin, Yakima, Walla Walla and Grant counties; the cities of Kennewick, Richland, Pasco, West Richland, Grandview, Sunnyside, Prosser, Connell, Benton City and Mesa; along with four library and 16 fire districts in the counties receiving payments. Nineteen-point-eight percent of the tax is distributed to counties (\$929,329), 20.6 percent to cities (\$971,572), 2.7 percent to fire districts (\$126,727) and 1.8 percent to library districts (\$84,484).

Energy Northwest has paid approximately \$97 million in privilege taxes on its electricity generation since Columbia Generating Station began operating in 1984, while generating no greenhouse gas emissions.

Other taxes paid by Energy Northwest in 2017 totaled more than \$17.1 million. They were:

- ✓ Sales Tax: \$16,886,299
- ✓ Leasehold Tax: \$212,094 (tax on the use of public property by private party. This tax is in lieu of the property tax.)
- ✓ B&O Tax: \$57,471 (State B&O tax is a gross receipts tax. It is measured on the value of products, gross proceeds of sale, or gross income of the business.)

<http://tinyurl.com/ycgglg6s>

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY – U.S. Dept of Energy - Despite global efforts to transition away from carbon-emitting energy sources like coal, oil, and natural gas, fossil fuels are projected to lead the global energy mix for the foreseeable future. **Until the bridge to renewable energy is crossed, PNNL scientists and engineers are dedicated to reducing the environmental impacts of hydrocarbon production and use, especially emissions—including greenhouse gases produced by fossil fuels—on Earth's atmosphere**

From fundamental process understanding to field-scale design and deployment, our researchers deliver advanced capabilities in subsurface science and simulation to enable safe and effective control of subsurface fluid injection and extraction. We also integrate chemistry, materials, and process engineering to develop technologies that more efficiently convert fossil hydrocarbons into power, fuels, and chemicals—all critical to environmentally and economically viable production and use of fossil energy.

At PNNL, our researchers are finding more efficient ways to use energy resources in transportation, buildings, and industry, and in advancing renewable energy technologies. Enabling the efficient use of energy resources, increasing productivity, and accelerating the use of renewable sources of electricity covers a broad spectrum of research—all backed by a diverse set of capabilities and experience.

We are working to drive down the costs of energy technologies, overcome challenges to large-scale renewable energy deployment, and revolutionize buildings as energy assets. Science, engineering, and supporting analysis at PNNL enables the efficient and sustainable use of energy resources.

➤ Energy Efficiency: We are committed to dramatically improving the energy efficiency of homes and buildings and to reducing their environmental footprint. PNNL's foundation of research and analysis for new lighting designs and performance, energy codes, and appliance standards well complements our work in early-stage technology development and evaluation. Multi-disciplinary teams at PNNL are leading the way in driving energy savings, enhancing whole-building performance, enabling grid-interactive buildings.

➤ Transportation: Researchers at PNNL are developing the scientific and engineering foundations for converting biomass to biofuels that align with the current and future needs of a dynamic transportation energy sector. At the same time, we are making vehicles more efficient and cheaper to produce through lightweight materials while improving the design and energy storage capacity of next-generation batteries and lowering the cost of hydrogen fuel cells.

➤ Renewable Power: The Columbia River is the nation's most important hydropower resource, producing 40 percent of the nation's hydroelectric generation. At the same time, wind now produces enough electricity to power 24 million U.S. homes per year. From water and wind to solar and geothermal energy, we are drawing on our strong base of science, engineering, and computational modeling to advance the potential of these American-made renewable energy sources.

Go to the news Center of PNNL <https://www.pnnl.gov/news/>