## The 2024 Ballot Initiatives



<u>2024 Ballot Initiatives — Quaker Voice (quakervoicewa.org)</u>



#### The initiatives

- Initiatives are a route to getting laws passed, either good ones or bad ones.
- This year, the four are on the Washington ballot all repeal laws that reflect our Quaker values.
  - <u>I-2066 Natural gas</u>
  - <u>I-2109 Capital gains tax</u>
  - <u>I-2117 Climate Commitment Act</u>
  - <u>I-2124 Long term care</u>
- Quaker Voice urges a NO vote on all four.
  - What Quaker Voice is doing --
    - Joining coalitions
    - Posting information on quakervoicewa.org
    - Reaching out to Quakers around the state
  - You can pass the word along to your family, friends, clubs, and networks.
  - Then you can vote NO.

## To protect clean air Vote No on 2066

- Homes using natural gas
  - Have high indoor air pollution
  - Cause illness from breathing harmful toxins.
- Natural gas use
  - Is 95% methane, a major greenhouse gas
  - Will cause energy bills, especially for many low-income households, to rise
- Current legislation gradually phases out new natural gas installations.
  - Public utilities supported it.



# Cleaner Cheaper Renewable

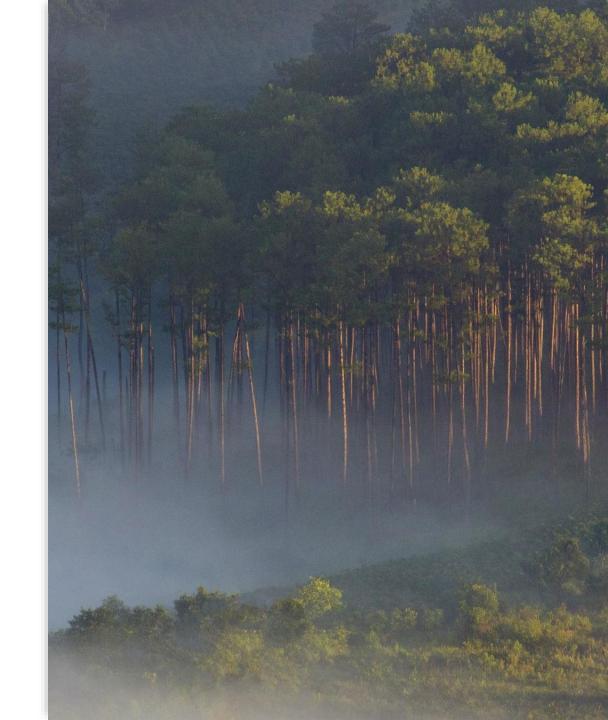
#### Initiative 2066 would roll back that positive step by:

- Blocking improvements slated for buildings and appliances,
- Derailing decarbonization in Washington State. The previous legislation
  - Moved us away from fossil fuel energy
  - Moved us towards cleaner, cheaper, and renewable sources, like wind and solar.
- Eroding efforts to electrify Washington homes and businesses.

#### To save the Climate Commitment Act Vote NO on I-2117

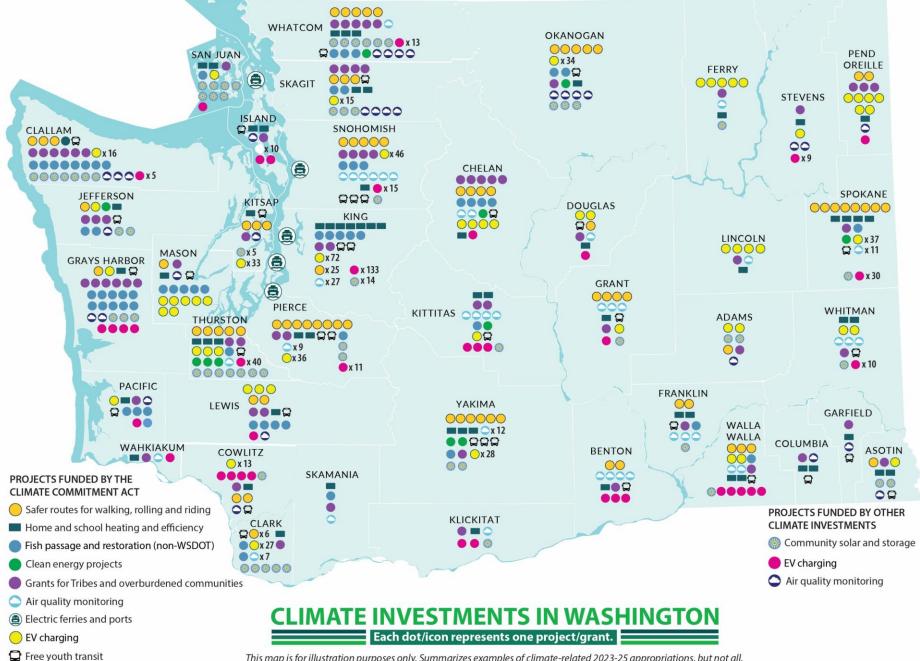
Protect programs that...

- Improve the HEALTH of OUR COMMUNITIES,
- Increase forest SUSTAINABILITY and RESILIENCE to wildfire,
- Help low- and moderate-income households to SAVE MONEY on their monthly energy bills,
- PRESERVE the HEALTH of our children and environment through zero-emissions school buses,
- Develop clean energy projects that CREATE JOBS across our economy.



Riskofrepeal.cleanpros perousinstitute.org

> Projects around the state



This map is for illustration purposes only. Summarizes examples of climate-related 2023-25 appropriations, but not all.



#### Examples of benefits from this tax on major polluters

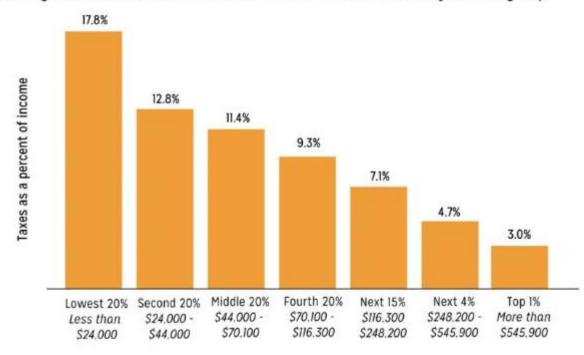
- Community EV charging Yakima County
- Decarbonization planning Ellensburg
- Energy Renewal UW Tacoma
- Hybrid Electric Vessel Construction ferries
- Fish barrier removal projects Mill Creek
- Carbon removal facility Port Angeles
- Yakama Nation Solar Project
- Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program King County
- Food Waste Reduction Grants King County

#### To keep the Capital Gains Tax Vote No on I-2109

- Washington has a very upside-down tax structure – worst in the nation before the capital gains tax was introduced.
- The tax is 7% on the value of capital gains transactions over \$250,000.
- Affects fewer than 4,000 of the wealthiest people in Washington (nearly 90% of them live in King County).
- This tax does NOT apply to
  - · any retirement accounts, including IRAs
  - any real estate
  - small family businesses
  - farms

#### Washington's worst-in-the-nation tax code: Highest rates for those with the least

Washington state and local taxes as a share of annual income by income group



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, update to Who Pays, 6th edition, provided January 2021

# Examples of benefits

- Estimated to provide \$2.2 billion over five years for education, childcare, and early learning
- Capital gains tax revenues can address problems such as...
  - Snohomish County facing massive cuts
     Edmonds, Mukilteo, Marysville, etc.
  - Seattle Public Schools are facing a \$105 million deficit, making big cuts
- If this tax is repealed, there will be more cuts or higher sales and property taxes.





## To keep long term care support Vote No on I-2124

- Makes paying the tax that supports the program optional.
  - Expected to bankrupt it rapidly.
- I-2124 hurts working women the most.
  - They are the most likely to get pulled out of work to be unpaid caregivers for the elderly.
- I-2124 will increase costs and send more people into debt.
  - The current benefit can keep many elderly people in their homes with home modifications, medical equipment, meal delivery, a home care aide, or temporary relief for family caregivers.
- I-2124 will throw us back into the expensive insurance market.
  - Premium jumps, denied coverage for pre-existing conditions, etc.

Thanks for voting NO on the 2024 Ballot Initiatives



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Look under the Take Action tab