

INITIATIVE 732 OPPOSITION STATEMENT

State Deficit

I-732 will make Washington's budget mess worse. A Department of Revenue analysis found I-732 will cut funding available for education, health care, and other vital services by \$797 million over the next six years. Our state faces a \$5 billion deficit and court orders to meet basic education and mental health needs. I-732 makes this situation worse.

Climate and Jobs

Climate policy must be comprehensive, so it doesn't harm people and kill jobs. I-732 fails this test. A clean-energy economy can reduce carbon emissions and reverse climate change while also creating family-wage jobs, rebuilding crumbling infrastructure, investing in areas hardest hit by pollution, and providing a "Just Transition" for workers and communities. I-732 doesn't do any of this. Instead, I-732 imposes an accelerating carbon tax on businesses, with no provisions for compliance flexibility or energy-efficiency incentives. Some businesses will simply move their jobs and pollution across state lines.

Equity

Vulnerable families in communities near pollution hot spots and workers in energy intensive industries are hardest hit by pollution. But I-732's "Working Families Tax Exemption" provides less than half of this population with any relief from increased energy costs. These communities will need investments and jobs to make an equitable transition to a forward-thinking clean-energy economy. I-732 ignores this. At a time when we are struggling to maintain good jobs and fund basic services, I-732 would send Washington in the wrong direction. Vote NO.

READ: I-732 OPPOSITION ARGUMENTS

Rich Stolz, Executive Director, One America

Jill Mangaliman, Executive Director, Got Green

Jeffrey Johnson, President, Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Rosalinda Guillen, Executive Director, Community to Community

De'Sean Quinn, Tukwila City Council member

Rebecca Saldana, Executive Director, Puget Sound SAGE

YES ON INITIATIVE 732 | YESON732.ORG

I-732 taxes polluters and uses that money to lower sales taxes on working families. Our opponents' main argument, based on a disputed analysis, is that tax revenue over 6 years might decline less than 1%. Our main argument is that droughts, fires, and floods from climate change will definitely threaten our environment, our economy, and our kids' futures. I-732 reduces pollution and boosts clean energy with a proven, bipartisan approach. Vote Yes!

Dirty fossil fuels pollute our air and water, threaten our forests, harm our kids, and damage our climate. I-732 makes polluters pay. It accelerates the shift to clean energy like solar, wind, and hydropower. And it returns the money polluters pay to everyone's pocket by lowering other taxes.

Clean Air, Clean Water, Healthy Forests

Washington families and kids deserve a safe environment with clean air and water and healthy forests. I-732 puts a price on carbon pollution from fossil fuels like coal and oil, but not on clean energy like solar and wind. It accelerates clean energy, creating good, local jobs, while driving down the burning of fossil fuels and the pollution, asthma, and smog they cause.

Fights Pollution and Climate Change

I-732 fights climate change by making big polluters pay. It's an effective, bipartisan policy similar to one that's been working successfully in British Columbia since 2008.

Makes Polluters Pay. Protects Working Families

Our current tax system hits lower- and middle-income families hardest. I-732 changes that. It uses the money polluters pay to lower sales taxes, saving the average family hundreds of dollars a year. And it sends tax refunds to hundreds of thousands of working families. It makes Washington's taxes fairer as it makes our state cleaner.

YES ON I-732: Cliff Mass, Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Washington; Howard Behar, Former President, Starbucks; Sharon Nelson, Former Chairman, Washington Utility Commission and Consumer Reports; Bill Finkbeiner, Former Washington State Senate Majority Leader (R); Rogers Weed, Washington State Department of Commerce Director 2009-2012; Ramez Naam, Author, Energy and Environment Co-Chair, Singularity University
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