

Statement In Support of Washington Black Lives Matter Alliance Legislative Priorities

We are organizations with decades of experience working to influence environmental policy at the state level to protect the health of people and the environment. We acknowledge that racism is a public health crisis and that Black, Indigenous, and communities of color are among the most impacted by pollution and environmental harm. When Black, Indigenous, and people of color exercise their Constitutional right to protest environmental harm, they are too often met with unfettered aggression and brutality.

For these reasons, we stand in strong support of the following priorities led by the Washington Black Lives Matter Alliance and activists organizing to make positive change a reality. We urge the legislature to pass these important bills this year.

- Ban Violent Police Tactics - HB 1054
- Empower the Attorney General to File Charges For Excessive Police Force - HB 1507
- Mandate Statewide Independent Police Investigations - HB 1267
- Make Deadly Force Last Resort for Police - HB 1310
- Sue Police for Misconduct - HB 1202
- Require Community Oversight Boards for Police - HB 1203
- Decertify Police Officers for Use of Excessive Force - SB 5051

Both the House and the Senate leadership have said that racial justice is a caucus priority this year, which we strongly support. Passing these bills is important to having a successful session this year. Thank you very much for your work to pass these bills into law!

