

Yes On I-1631!

A Cleaner Future for Washington



Faith Communities Have a Role to Play

Now is the time to create a cleaner future for Washington – and faith leaders have a role to play in making this vision a reality! Earth Ministry has worked for years with a broad coalition of partners to craft Initiative 1631, which will result in cleaner air, cleaner energy, and stronger communities.

People of faith are in favor of I-1631 because it aligns with shared religious values of justice, responsibility, and stewardship. Supporting this initiative is a way to deepen the conversation about care for creation in our houses of worship and answer the call to be advocates for the common good. Together, we will raise the moral voice for investing in clean energy and strong communities.

To qualify I-1631 for the November ballot, the campaign must collect 300,000 signatures by the end of June. Faith leaders across the state are using Earth Ministry's signature gathering guide to engage their congregations in this effort. Please contact leda@earthministry.org if you would like to receive a petition packet - it will have everything you need to help. When I-1631 qualifies for the ballot, Washington State residents will get the chance to vote on it in this November's election. Once passed, the initiative will be enacted in 2020, putting Washington on a path to meet our statewide emission goals by cleaning up our air and creating good paying jobs across the state.

Initiative 1631 will:

- Protect our communities' health and safeguard a better future for our kids
- Invest in clean energy, like wind and solar, as well as healthy forests, clean air, and clean water
- Create thousands of local jobs in our communities across the state while cutting pollution
- Establish a fee on the largest corporate polluters to make sure that we are all doing our fair share to protect our state
- Ensure the poorest places – hurt most by dirty fuels – receive a substantial share of clean energy, forest, and water investments
- Offer support to workers and communities now dependent on destructive industries so they can shift smoothly to a flourishing green energy economy



Clean Air, Clean Energy, Stronger Communities

Right now, dirty industries are dumping pollution into our shared air. We expect regular citizens to pay for garbage disposal, so we should expect that coal, oil, and fracked gas companies pay their fair share for climate pollution. Washington has witnessed first-hand how dirty energy pollution hurts our kid's health and our local economies. We've seen wildfires that make it hard to see and breathe, snowless mountains in winter, rivers so hot they kill our salmon, and waters too acidic for the oysters we've grown for years. Our shared religious values call us to respond with an effective and equitable solution. I-1631 aligns with these values in how it reduces pollution while generating revenue to invest in the future of our region and protect the most vulnerable.

Investing in Solutions

Washington communities thrive when we have clean air to breathe, safe water to drink, and an economy rooted in sustainable local jobs. This is a state where diverse communities and businesses, large and small, take responsibility to care for our health and the environment.

From the air we breathe to worsening fires and floods, we know pollution and climate change affect us every day. Dirty energy has hurt our health and our climate for years and it's time to start cleaning up the mess. By investing in solutions like clean energy infrastructure, healthy forests, and clean water, we can build healthier communities and create good paying jobs for thousands of Washingtonians. I-1631 is our state's chance for all of us to have a share in a cleaner, healthier future and to build a better economy that works for everyone.

We can make all this possible if we hold our biggest polluters accountable for the pollution we know damages our health, communities, air, and water.

We Can Do This, and Do It Right

Affordable, clean energy isn't the distant future, it's already happening every day in our state. But we need to accelerate the transition and make sure we have a better system that works for everyone. I-1631 will invest in projects that protect our air and water, build clean energy infrastructure like wind and solar, and create good-paying local jobs.

An approach with justice at its core means that those hit hardest by pollution must be front and center in any solution. I-1631 intentionally holds central that those who have dealt with the worst pollution can't be left behind in our transition to clean energy. This is a chance for all of us to have a share in a cleaner, healthier future.

Tending God's Creation and Our Home

Here in Washington, we have always been innovators – we're not afraid to lead or create something new. Now is our time to lead on cleaning up what God entrusted to our care. To support I-1631 is to act on our obligation to foster a future that is healthy and productive – for our children, for our neighbors, and for all of God's creation.

It's Up to Us

As voters, we are the decision makers. It's up to us to protect the health of our families and communities. Living into our religious values of caring for the vulnerable means that we create a world in which the neighborhood you live in doesn't determine if your air is healthy and your water is clean.

For decades, our biggest polluters have made vast sums of money while dirtying our air, water, land, and climate. It's time they contribute to cleaning up the mess. Faith leaders have stood up to these polluters time and time again to defend our region from coal and oil projects. Now we're drawing the line on letting out-of-state companies continue to profit while harming our communities. I-1631 is an opportunity to invest in our own backyard and to create better jobs right here in Washington.

Religious leaders support I-1631 because it will hold destructive industries accountable and build an economy that works for all. It honors our commitment to care for God's creation and our human need to leave a better world for future generations.

Help Gather Signatures!

Contact leda@earthministry.org for Earth Ministry's signature gathering guide and a petition packet.