

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of HB 1513

Improving environmental health by reducing carbon emissions through increasing climate resilience and mitigating the effects of climate change by levying a carbon pollution tax, authorizing a climate finance bond program, and investing in clean economic growth (2021 Legislative Session)

Evidence indicates that relevant provisions of [HB 1513](#) would likely decrease consumption of fossil fuels and natural gas, decrease emissions of greenhouse gases and other co-pollutants, and improve health outcomes. The impacts on equity are unclear.

BILL INFORMATION

Sponsors: Lekanoff, Shewmake, Wicks, Valdez, Thai, Ramel, Peterson, Dolan, Goodman, Taylor, Kloba, Slatter, Frame, Hackney, Wylie, Pollet, Harris-Talley

Summary of Bill:

Full details about the provisions of this bill can be found in the bill text linked above. Given the length of the bill and the large number of provisions, the summary highlights provisions most relevant to this review.

- Imposes a carbon pollution tax beginning January 1, 2023, equal to \$25 per metric ton of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on the sale or use of all fossil fuels and natural gas within the State of Washington, except for the sale or use of electricity in Washington generated using fossil fuels.
- Deposits 100% of tax revenue into the climate finance account and stipulates funds from the account must be used to reduce GHG emissions, support natural climate solutions, and invest in overburdened communities, as defined in the bill.

HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence for specified provisions in HB 1513:

- **A fair amount of evidence** that creating a carbon pollution sales and use tax on GHG emissions will decrease consumption of fossil fuels and natural gas in Washington State.
- **A fair amount of evidence** that decreasing consumption of fossil fuels and natural gas in Washington State will decrease emissions of GHGs and other co-pollutants.
- **Very strong** evidence that decreasing emissions of GHGs and other co-pollutants will improve health outcomes.
- **Unclear evidence** of the bill's impact on health inequities, as the effect on highly impacted communities is dependent on the amount and allocation of available funding as well as the exact magnitude and distribution of decreased emissions (GHGs and co-pollutants) and resulting health outcomes in Washington State generally is unknown.

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FULL REVIEW

For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full Health Impact Review at

<https://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/HIR-2021-11-HB1513.pdf>

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