



Health Impact Review Request Form

Date of request: 02 /10 /2021

Requester: Representative Santos

Note: Health impact reviews may only be requested by the Governor or a legislator.

Staff Contact: Name: Amber Ceballos

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What is the subject of the Health Impact Review?

Bill

Number: HB 1513

Title:

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.

Bill Draft

Draft Number: _____

Decision Package

If possible, please attach a copy of the relevant portion/aspect of what you are requesting to be reviewed.

Budget Proposal

Other: _____

Should the Health Impact Review analyze the entire proposal or only a portion?

Entire

Portion

If only a portion, please describe what portion(s) the review should analyze.

Due to the length of the bill and complexity of the provisions, staff will work with Representative Santos to scope the focus of the Health Impact Review.

Requested completion date: 04/09/ 2021

If requesting less than a ten-day turnaround during session or less than a 60-day turnaround during the interim, please explain the reasons for the request (for example, needing a review completed in time for a committee hearing).

Please consider completing the optional section on the back of this form, which will give the Board a sense of why this review has been requested.

Washington State Board of Health

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~ Optional ~

Please consider completing this optional section, which will give the Board a sense of why this review has been requested.

NOTE: When conducting a health impact review, the Washington State Board of Health will consider various ways that a proposal might exacerbate or ameliorate health disparities. Completing this section will give the Board a head start by helping it understand the reasons why a review is being requested.

Briefly describe how you think the proposal might impact health disparities and whether you believe the impact will be in a positive or negative direction.

In general, HB 1513 aims to address climate change by introducing a carbon tax at \$25 per metric ton which escalates annual at a rate of 5% minimum. There are other factors that increase this rate of escalation, but the essential mechanism is a base factor with an annual escalator. The Bill aims to bond against this stream of funding to produce \$5 billion to invest in clean air, clean water, and clean energy projects. The Bill also aims to target approximately one-third of the projected resources to support environmental justice projects that mitigate disproportionate impacts on communities of color, poor communities, and other marginalized peoples.

The Health Impact Review elements I wish to have explored involve the interplay between a carbon tax that disproportionately burdens the poor, often immigrant and often communities of color, and the investments in environmental justice projects? I am additionally concerned that, if the mitigation efforts contribute to hastening gentrification, the regressive carbon tax will effectually drive the poor further from jobs and community services which will require an increased carbon tax burden on them in order to remain employed and in touch with community-based organizations and services.

Are there specific organizations or community groups you would like the Board to contact as part of this review if time allows?

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