

2016 Grape & Wine Issues Caucus

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Crop Protection Products - Legislation

- HB 2392 introduced during 2016 Session with 18 sponsors
- Legislative finding – drift is source of exposure and lack of communications is a major contributing factor
- Establishes new notice & reporting program in Dept. of Health
- Pesticide users (aerial, air-blast & fumigation) provide written notice
- To adjacent property users, 2 hrs prior, no earlier than 48 hrs
- Written notice includes comprehensive info on application
- Person receiving notice must notify others
- All application records must be submitted to DOH on a monthly basis

Crop Protection Product - continued

- Civil penalties for violation of notice requirement - \$7500
- Civil penalties for violation of records submission - \$7500
- Need for better communication – working to develop message
 - Develop understanding of usage and safety training
 - Incidents compared to number of applications
 - Major changes in CP product chemistry – trend to less toxicity
 - Increase in "Danger" signal word usage actually an organic product

Water Issues

- Water is always contentious – population & scarcity
- Supreme Court decisions restrict reservations for new uses
- DOE proposing to confirm Legislative intent on Columbia River main stem instream flow rules

- Hirsh v. Whatcom Co. threatens rural home building – GMA & instream flow rules

- Funding for water infrastructure, storm water & flood control

Initiative No.1433 – Minimum wage & sick leave

- Amends existing law – RCW 49.46
- Increases hourly minimum wage incrementally to \$13.50 by 1/1/2020
- Beginning 1/1/2021 annual adjustment by inflation
- Paid sick leave begins 1/1/2018
- Provides 1 hour of paid sick leave for every 40 hours worked
- Employers can require verification for sick leave over 3 days
- 40 hours of sick leave carried over to following year

Ag Commodity Load Limits

- SSB 6265 passed the Senate
- Allows vehicles carrying ag commodities to exceed weight limits by 2000 pounds per axle
- Limited to harvest season farm to processing location transportation
- Not allowed to exceed posted bridge weight limits
- Special permit not required

DOE Water Quality Guidance for Ag

- DOE delegated to administer Federal Clean Water Act
- Washington adopted Water Pollution Control Act in 1945
- Point source discharges – NPDES permit program
- Non-point sources – not permitted but jurisdictional
- Ag return flows, stormwater, etc
- EPA critical of DOE non-point plan for ag
- Process underway to develop voluntary Ag Best Management Practices