



January 30, 2025

Good morning Chair Doglio, Vice Chair Hunt, Ranking Member Dye, and Members of the Committee:

Renewable Northwest is a regional renewable energy advocacy nonprofit, and our members are a combination of renewable energy businesses and environmental groups. Our mission is to decarbonize the region by accelerating the transition to affordable, renewable electricity.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB1522 today. As everyone in this committee knows, climate change is causing increased wildfires in our region, and creating massive risk for utilities. We signed in as “pro” because this legislation puts forward a reasonable, commonsense mechanism for limiting financial exposure for utilities for wildfire costs, which will ensure future affordability and reliability for customers.

We have one suggestion for improvement, which is to lengthen the review period for the UTC from 60 days to 180 days. An established process at the UTC to approve plans is needed, but we want to ensure there is adequate time for the UTC, staff and interested parties to meaningfully review and analyze these plans as they impact ratepayers, communities, and energy reliability.

We are happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Casey MacLean
Washington Policy Manager
Renewable Northwest