



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

HWTR Budget & Legislative Update

Ellen Hafer, HWTR Budget Manager

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Budget Update

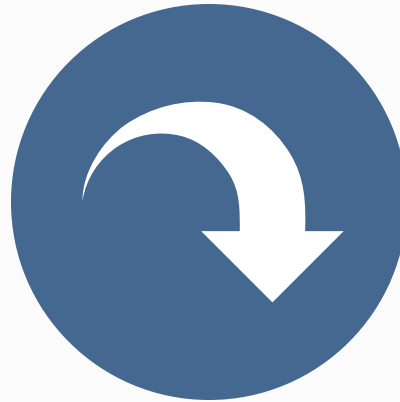
Ellen Hafer, HWTR Budget Manager

WA State Conference Budget



\$77.9B

Operating Budget



\$7B

Reductions



\$9B

New Revenue

HWTR Operating Budget

- All HWTR's decision packages were partially or fully funded:
 - Lead in Cookware
 - Toxic Tire Chemicals
 - PFAS Response
- One-time funding for PFAS in Products is now ongoing.

HWTR Capital Budget

- All HWTR's new capital projects were partially or fully funded:
 - 2025-27 PFAS Response
 - 2025-27 Product Replacement Program (PRP)
- Unspent PRP funds from prior capital projects have been reappropriated.



Lead in Cookware Update

Kimberly Goetz, HWTR Legislative Coordinator

Original legislation

- Clarified focus on food contact surfaces
- Excluded appliances
- Excluded inaccessible components (e.g., internal electronics)
- Clarified utensils covered
- Changed effective date to be based on manufacture date
- Changed to “knowing” sale for all parties

Stakeholder input/testimony

- Manufacturers new to discussions
- Primary concern: inability to meet law's 5 ppm standard
- Strong emphasis on leachability of lead vs. content
- Wanted exemptions for cookware encased in coatings (e.g., Teflon)
- Lots of input regarding problematic substances vs. not
 - Aluminum, brass, and copper most likely to leach lead
 - Stainless steel generally doesn't leach even if it contains high ppm

ESSB 5628 – as passed Legislature

As originally proposed

- Clarified focus on food contact surfaces
- Excluded appliances
- Excluded inaccessible components (e.g., internal electronics)
- Clarified utensils covered
- Changed effective date to be based on manufacture date
- Changed to “knowing” sale for all parties

Final version

- Removed emphasis on food contact surfaces
- Limited to aluminum and brass cookware and components
- Cookware definition no longer covers major appliances
- Removed references to inaccessible components
- Excludes body of items with removable pots
- Changed limit to 90 ppm for 2 years
- Final limit 10 ppm starting 1/1/2028
- Clarifies law does not preempt action under Safer Products for Washington program

Questions?

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