



## Policy Proposals for 2014 State Legislative Agenda

Each summer and fall, the Housing Alliance engages in a process to set our state legislative agenda for the upcoming session. Using any unfinished priorities from the previous agenda as a starting point, we work together with our members to determine our shared priorities. Part of this process includes considering priority or support agenda proposals brought by members.

### **The Housing Alliance Agenda Setting Process**

The Housing Alliance's Public Policy Committee is comprised of members who have committed to being more deeply involved in our state and federal legislative work. They work with Housing Alliance staff to develop our priorities and make a recommendation to the Housing Alliance's Board of Directors.

This year, the Public Policy Committee will meet on Monday, September 9 to discuss and vote on the 2014 Housing Alliance state legislative agenda recommendation. This meeting is open to all members. If you are not a member but would like to attend, please simply contact Michele Thomas at [michele@wliha.org](mailto:michele@wliha.org).

### **We'd like to hear from you**

Because it will be a short session, we anticipate a very scaled back 2014 agenda. However, we would still like to hear from you on the emerging issues you are facing as you work to increase opportunities for people to live in safe, healthy, affordable homes and to end homelessness. Please contact me to share what is happening in your community and to discuss any upcoming policy solutions you are thinking about. If you'd like to propose a specific policy solution for the September 9 meeting, please fill out this questionnaire and return it with a copy of the final or draft bill language to [michele@wliha.org](mailto:michele@wliha.org) no later than Wednesday, September 4 by 5:00pm.

### **The Housing Alliance believes an effective agenda:**

- Is responsive to current economic and political realities.
- Has a statewide impact.
- Has a broad reach and/or addresses racial or social inequity.
- Has widespread and diverse support behind each bill.
- Has a balance of policy and fiscal asks.
- Addresses the spectrum of housing needs.
- Addresses urgent issues.
- Builds relationships, brings in partners, and builds the movement.
- Meets the Housing Alliance's short-term and long-term policy objectives.

**Please answer the following questions as thoroughly as possible. This questionnaire and a copy of your policy proposal must be returned to Michele Thomas at the Housing Alliance no later than Wednesday, September 4 at 5:00pm to be considered for the 2014 priority or support agenda. Contact Michele at [michele@wliha.org](mailto:michele@wliha.org) with any questions.**

1. Describe the legislation. Please explain the problem the bill addresses. What law(s) will it create or amend, and how it will be implemented and enforced? Please attach a copy of the policy proposal or the current language of the proposed bill. If you are attaching language from a previous session, please note if you intend significant changes to the language.

2. Which Housing Alliance agenda is this submission for? Each year, the Housing Alliance has both a “priority” and a “support” agenda. The priority agenda represents bills and fiscal asks that the Housing Alliance will take the lead on. The support agenda represents bills that the Housing Alliance will advocate for, but which are led by another organization.

3. How developed is your proposal? If the language is not yet finalized, when do you expect it to be?

4. Could this policy bring new partners and allies into the affordable housing movement?

5. Who are the stakeholders and organizations interested in this legislation?

6. Are you working with a coalition on this legislation? If so, what decision-making power do you have over the language and strategy? Who else is a decision-maker?”

7. Who might oppose this legislation?

8. Is there already an identified legislative sponsor?

9. Would this policy have a statewide impact? Please explain:

10. Do you know if there will be a fiscal note attached to this legislation? If so, approximately how much?

11. How could this legislation help the Housing Alliance address the whole spectrum of housing needs in Washington State? For example, does it address one of the following issue areas? (Check all that apply.)

- Funding for the building and preservation of affordable housing
- Operation and/or maintenance support for very low-income affordable housing
- Affordable homeownership and homeowner protections
- Manufactured home owners rights
- Polices and services to address homelessness
- Tenants rights
- Policies that aid the development and preservation of affordable housing
- Fair housing
- Elimination of barriers to safe, healthy, affordable housing
- Another issue area. Please explain:

12. Is this a policy that has been proposed before in Washington State, especially in substantially similar form as currently being proposed? If so, what were the barriers to its passage and what obstacles will need to be overcome next year? Is your current proposal changed from versions previously introduced to address these roadblocks? Please explain.

13. Is the problem that your bill deals with also being addressed with any federal or local policy proposals or in any other arena that you are aware of?

14. Could the problem be dealt with local legislation? Why is state legislation the route you've chosen?

15. Do you know if this is a legislative priority of any of the caucuses? If so, please explain.

16. Please explain the impact that this bill will have on social equity if passed. Please specifically comment on how this may impact communities of color and immigrant communities.

17. What actions will your organization take to help pass this legislation?

18. Is there anything else you think the Public Policy Committee should know about this proposal?