



# Healthy Living Collaborative 2017 Washington State Policy Platform



The Healthy Living Collaborative of Southwest Washington (HLC) is a community-driven coalition that works together on upstream initiatives that promote health equity and strengthen communities.

## Capitol Budget Requests

**Invest in the Housing Trust Fund**, a \$200 million biennial investment, that will build 5700 affordable homes for extremely low-income households.

## Operating Budget Requests

**Invest \$60 million in state funding for Foundational Public Health Services.** These funds will support local health jurisdictions and the Washington State Department of Health. All are needed for creating a culture of health.

**Access to care for kids.** Reinstatement of Medicaid pediatric payments to be at equity with Medicare payment, ensuring timely access to health care for kids.

**Eliminate the sunset on document recording fees** and increase fees to support vulnerable communities. Document recording fees for real estate purchases currently fund about \$70 million per year towards services for people experiencing homelessness. These fees are due to end in 2019 which would result in a 62.5 percent reduction in housing and homelessness funds. The net result in Southwest Washington: a \$6,234,000 loss, impacting over 2,000 people.

## Policy Bill Requests

**Prohibit discrimination based on a renter's source of income.** Renters with lower incomes who rely on subsidies (veterans, section 8 voucher holders, people with disabilities) face discrimination by landlords unwilling to rent to them.

**Raise the legal age of purchasing tobacco to 21.** Attorney General Bob Ferguson and Secretary of Health John Wiesman will co-request legislation to raise the minimum legal sale age for tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to 21.

**Modify Sexual Assault Protection Orders (SAPOs) duration and renewal.** Victims of sexual assault bear the burden of proof and have to renew protection orders every two years if they need continued protection. In contrast, victims of domestic violence or stalking face no renewal limits and the respondent bears the burden.

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