



Washington Fire Chiefs

2016 Top 5 Legislative Issues

Washington Fire Chiefs 2016 Top 5 Legislative Issues

- Sustainable Fire/EMS funding (examples)
 - Raise the E.M.S. levy cap to \$.75/\$1000 of A.V.
 - Change fire levy funding to mirror port authorities which are outside the \$10 constitutional limit
 - Simple majority for RFA benefit service charge renewal
 - Restructure the 1% Lid Limit
 - Tax exempt facilities required to enter contract for fire protection
- RFA structural equity with fire districts
- Statewide CBRNE response planning & funding
- Capital improvements for Fire Training Academy
- Support recommendations from volunteer recruitment & retention incentives committee (examples)
 - Volunteer FF's opt into employer medical insurance pool
 - Employer tax credit for volunteer FF response during working hours

Important/Continuing Issues

- E-911 funds/upgrades
- Preventing public records request abuses & funding agency costs for compliance
- City fire authority
- GEMT implementation
- Prohibition of harmful fire retardants in plastics
- 10 year smoke alarms
- Removing barriers to the installation of residential fire sprinklers
- JATC funding and sustainability
- No man's land

These issues were established through member survey in May 2015, as refined by the legislative committee, County Association Presidents meeting, approved by the WFC Board with concurrence of the attendees at the Annual Conference. Additional issues will be identified and prioritized throughout the legislative process.