



Referendum 52

HEALTHY SCHOOLS FOR WASHINGTON

Good for Kids, Good for Jobs, Good for the Environment

Our kids deserve safe, healthy learning environments

Too many schools across our state are riddled with mold, asbestos, lead and other toxins that can harm our kids and make their learning environment unhealthy and unsafe. Others are in need of immediate maintenance and repair—putting students at risk every day.

R-52 is the solution we need

Referendum 52 gets badly needed funds to our state's public schools to fix critical problems — replacing lead pipes, removing asbestos, and installing new heat and ventilation systems — making our schools healthy for kids and more efficient for taxpayers. Under R-52, every public school in the state, K-12 and higher education, is eligible to receive funds through a competitive grant process.

School improvements mean new jobs

Last year, 105,000 jobs were lost in Washington. Passing R-52 would help to reverse that trend, creating 30,000 new construction jobs across the state.

Healthy schools save money

Energy efficient improvements mean that school districts will save significantly in heating, lighting, and water costs by using less energy each year. And they will pay for themselves — only projects where the savings meet or exceed the money spent would be eligible under the bonds created by approving Referendum 52.

Who supports Healthy Schools for Washington?

Healthy Schools for Washington is a broad coalition of education advocates, environmentalists, teachers, parents, and the business community. We believe that creating a safe environment for our kids, better environmental standards, and jobs that put Washington residents back to work is a win for all of us.

R-52 is endorsed by: League of Education Voters, Washington Education Association, American Federation of Teachers, United Faculty of Washington State, Washington Association of School Administrators, Washington State School Directors Association, Board of Directors and many individual parents, teachers and students.

Healthy Schools, a WIN for our Kids

Schools across the state are facing many challenges in these tough economic times — funding shortages, maintenance backlogs, overflowing classrooms, among others. Referendum 52 is an opportunity for our schools to make needed changes and get vital funding NOW, so they can focus on their most important job — educating our kids.

Referendum 52 will:

- ★ Remove dangerous toxins and improve air quality in classrooms — creating better, healthier places for children to learn and teachers to work. Studies show that sustainable school upgrades are strongly associated with improved student and teacher performance.
- ★ Put state funds to work for local priorities and help reduce districts' maintenance back log.
- ★ Reduce school energy costs and put the money saved back to work in the classroom — savings could be used to hire a new teacher, buy new books, or save for a rainy day.
- ★ Extend the life of existing buildings — saving districts and taxpayers money on new construction.