



## Washington State Association of Fire Marshals 2023 Legislative Priorities

- **Fire Code Safety, Housing Availability and Affordability**
  - Support inclusion of fire and life safety measures in new housing options that address the housing crisis and housing shortages.
  - All residents are entitled to the basic life safety standards where they live and sleep.
- **Fire Code Safety in Directly Legislated Proposals**
  - Provide opinions on directly legislated proposals that modify the fire code. Encourage routing through State Building Code Council instead of direct legislation for these highly technical items.
  - Defend existing codes that provide standards of life safety in buildings, including requirements for fire sprinklers, fire department access, and water supplies.
- **Safety, Training and Education Related to New Energy Technologies**
  - The problem: Billions of dollars of investments are changing the energy infrastructure, making it greener, more mobile, and presenting new hazards to fire fighters and the public.
  - Support funding for firefighter training and required safety equipment.
  - Support funding for small and rural agencies to track these systems, update codes and standards, and provide public education about the dangers.
  - Support for expedited code development for Washington, responsive to rapid changes in technology.
  - Fund required studies of environmental impact from lithium-ion explosions and fires (air quality) and drainage/water from fire suppression.
- **Smoke Control Installation, Testing, and Enforcement**
  - Support changes to RCW 19.27.700-740 to align with national codes and standards regarding the installation and ongoing operation of life safety systems known as “smoke control systems” in large buildings.
- **State Fire Marshal’s Office Program Delivery**
  - Support changes to RCW 43.43.934 to enable rules to be developed for the delivery of basic firefighter training through the Regional Direct Delivery Program.
  - Support updates to the Basic Firefighter Reimbursement Program to provide better support for Firefighter Training.

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