



2026 POLICY PRIORITIES

Public health touches every aspect of how we live, work, and play; however, WSPHA and the Public Health Roundtable will focus on these areas for the 2026 legislative session.

- 1 MAINTAIN PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING**
- 2 MAINTAIN ACCESS TO PREVENTATIVE SERVICES**
- 3 PREVENT HARM FROM SUBSTANCE USE**
- 4 EXEMPT SCHOOLS AND NONPROFITS FROM SALES TAX TO PRESERVE FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

RACISM IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

WSPHA recognizes that structural racism has deepened health inequalities in communities marginalized by current systems. We are committed to addressing those inequities through our policy priorities.

WHO IS WSPHA?

The Washington State Public Health Association envisions a healthy Washington for all, including anyone who lives in or passes through the State.

Our members:

Tribal, State,
& Local
Government
Public Health

WA higher
education
focused in
Health
Sciences

Health-
focused
nonprofits &
coalitions

Healthcare
organizations

Everyday
residents

POLICY POSITIONS



Public Health is broad. WSPHA supports policy that address the root causes of health. Fourty to fifty percent of health is impacted by the below basic needs.

We do this by partnering with lead organizations and in coalitions to help where we can.

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

We support an environment resilient to current and future threats, where people can live free of environmental hazards.

HOUSING

We support stable, housing options in healthy neighborhoods.

WORK AND WEALTH

We support people to have meaningful, safe careers, and gain generational wealth.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

We support the amplification of people's voice to make change in their communities.

BASIC HEALTH & SAFETY

We support the right to physical and mental wellbeing, including violence-free lives.

We support preventative services that prevent disease and help all Washingtonians to thrive from the start.

TRANSPORTATION

We support affordable ways for people to get around, especially in forms that increase walking, biking, and transit use.

EDUCATION

We support people of all ages the right to achieve their full educational attainment.

We support universal childcare and early education so families can attain their greatest economic attainment.

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