

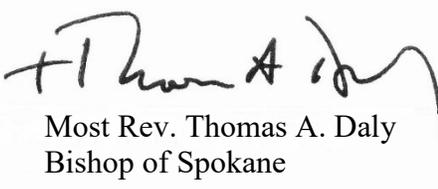
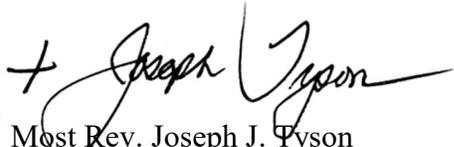
This fall, Washington voters will vote on Initiative 1631, the Clean Air Clean Energy Initiative. While we do not take a position either directly in favor of or in opposition to I-1631, we offer the following points to consider when casting your vote:

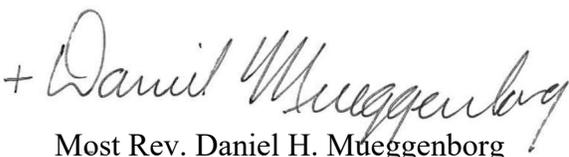
- All efforts to reduce the impact of climate change should respect human life and dignity, especially that of the poorest and most vulnerable among us.
- In accord with their human dignity, local communities - especially low-income residents whose voice is often not heard - should have a voice in shaping the efforts to reduce carbon emissions.
- Workers should be supported in dealing with the negative effects on the workforce resulting from a shift away from fossil fuels by receiving assistance to mitigate impacts on their livelihoods and families.

I-1631 would have significant implications. Applying Catholic teaching to the initiative is not a cut and dried exercise and calls for prayerful consideration. We believe that wise action to address climate change is necessary to protect the common good for present and future generations. Beyond the initiative, we urge every person in Washington State to seek effective ways in our personal lives, and in our businesses and industries, to promote the common good and to care for God's creation.

Thank you for your prayers and action in Jesus' name.

In Christ,

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Most Rev. J. Peter Sartain Most Rev. Thomas A. Daly Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Archbishop of Seattle Bishop of Spokane Bishop of Yakima

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Most Rev. Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S. Most Rev. Daniel H. Muegggenborg
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle

For more information, please visit the Washington State Catholic Conference (WSCC) website (WACatholics.org) for links to Church statements on caring for God's creation. We encourage you to join the WSCC Advocacy Network to receive important information and timely action alerts on this and other state and federal issues.