



419 Third Ave. West  
Seattle, WA 98119  
360.878.2543  
[www.copcwa.org](http://www.copcwa.org)

January 29, 2015

House Local Government Committee Members  
Washington State Legislature  
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Members,

I am writing on behalf of the statewide [Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition](http://www.copcwa.org) where we are always on the lookout for policy solutions that make the healthy choice easier for our children and all WA citizens. We are in *opposition* to **HB 1420, School Siting**.

We need **all** sectors of our society to engage in building healthier communities, and our land use sector is no exception. We now know that “place matters” and how we build our physical infrastructure impacts our individual behaviors, habits and health. In the instance of school siting, the proper placement of school locations can help make students healthier, which contributes to academic achievement.

The Growth Management Act developed clear criteria about the need for urban growth areas (UGA) and what can and cannot be built outside those boundaries. Creating an exception, however narrow, to the general rule that disallows urban services outside the UGA, is simply bad policy. If we are serious about creating the next healthiest generation let’s ensure that our state policies, stretching beyond the usual sector of health, align with that important goal. **HB 1420** takes us backwards and is simply not a smart investment in our future generation -- we therefore urge your *opposition*. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Victor Colman'.

Victor Colman, Director  
Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition

Cc. Ethan Moreno, Research Analyst

---

**COALITION MEMBERS**

ACTION FOR HEALTHY KIDS – WA CHAPTER  
 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS – WA CHAPTER  
 AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY – CANCER ACTION NETWORK  
 AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, INC.  
 AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION  
 AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION  
 AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION -- WA CHAPTER  
 ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION  
 BEECHER’S PURE FOOD KIDS FOUNDATION  
 CAMP FIRE USA CENTRAL PUGET SOUND COUNCIL  
 CASCADE BICYCLE CLUB EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
 CHILDREN’S ALLIANCE  
 COALITION FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH IN EARLY LEARNING  
 FEET FIRST  
 FORTERRA  
 FOUNDATION FOR HEALTHY GENERATIONS  
 GROUP HEALTH COOPERATIVE  
 HOPE HEART INSTITUTE  
 LET’S MOVE CHENEY  
 MULTICARE HEALTH SYSTEMS  
 NUTRITION FIRST  
 ODESSA BROWN CHILDREN’S CLINIC  
 PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON  
 PUBLIC HEALTH ROUNDTABLE  
 SCHOOL’S OUT WASHINGTON

SEA MAR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS  
 SEATTLE CHILDREN’S  
 SEATTLE AND KING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH  
 SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION  
 SKAGIT COUNTY HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROJECT  
 SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT  
 SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT  
 TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
 TRANSPORTATION CHOICES  
 WA ASSOC. OF COMMUNITY & MIGRANT HEALTH CENTERS  
 WASHINGTON BIKES  
 WA COALITION FOR PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY  
 WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE FOUNDATION  
 WASHINGTON RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION  
 WASHINGTON SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION  
 WA ST ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS  
 WA STATE ACADEMY OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS  
 WASHINGTON STATE DAIRY COUNCIL  
 WASHINGTON STATE PTA  
 WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
 WASHINGTON SUSTAINABLE FOOD & FARMING NETWORK  
 WASHINGTON TRAILS ASSOCIATION  
 WITHINREACH  
 YAKIMA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
 YMCA – GREATER SEATTLE