A clean fuel standard is a market-based approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation fuels. By adopting a CFS, Washington would join the rest of the West Coast, including British Columbia, Oregon and California, that are all successfully operating CFS programs.

Transportation contributes the single largest share of Washington's greenhouse gas emissions. A CFS would cover approximately 30 percent of state greenhouse gas emissions, making it one of the most effective tools available for cutting carbon pollution. This simple policy tool would achieve emission reductions of approximately 4 to 6 million metric tons per year.
Summary of legislation

The proposed CFS program would be administered by the Department of Ecology. It would require fuel providers to reduce the total carbon intensity of fuels — a 10 percent reduction by 2028 and 20 percent reduction by 2035.

The program is technology neutral, meaning the requirement can be achieved by any mix of alternative fuels that overall meet the average standard. Alternative fuels could include hydrogen, electricity, renewable natural gas and advanced biofuels. Each fuel is assessed on a life cycle basis, meaning that all emissions related to the fuel, from production to consumption, are included.

Gov. Inslee provides $1.4 million for the Department of Ecology to implement the CFS program.

The greenhouse gas reductions from a clean fuel standard would equal the climate impact of taking approximately 1 in 5 vehicles off the roads.