



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – Oct. 21, 2005

## **Poulsen honored as environmental legislator of the year**

**OLYMPIA** – For his work championing the nation’s first “green building” law and other breakthrough environmental measures this year, **Sen. Erik Poulsen, D-Seattle**, has been named Legislator of the Year by Washington Conservation Voters, the state’s largest environmental organization.

Poulsen, who chairs the Senate Water, Energy & Environment Committee, accepted the award at a Conservation Voters gathering of nearly 1,000 people on Oct. 19.

“During the 2005 legislative session, Sen. Poulsen is credited with doing more for the protection of our environment than any single legislator in memory,” said Clifford Traisman, spokesperson for Washington Conservation Voters and the Washington Environmental Council. “He forged win-win solutions between the environmental and business communities.”

“It’s a new day in Olympia,” said Poulsen. “We had the best session for preserving and improving our state’s air, water and overall environmental health in at least a decade. But there’s a lot more work to do.”

This year, Poulsen successfully sponsored the green building law (Senate Bill 5509), which requires new state-funded buildings to meet high-performance construction standards in building materials, ventilation, and efficient water and energy use.

He also helped push through tougher vehicle emission standards, landmark incentives for the production of wind and solar power, stronger energy efficiency guidelines for appliances, and other environmentally forward-thinking legislation, all of which the governor signed into law.

Poulsen also received the Northwest Energy Coalition’s prestigious “Conservation Eagle” award at an Oct. 21 ceremony in Seattle. The coalition comprises more than 100 environmental, civic and human service organizations from throughout the region, including the Sierra Club, Washington Environmental Council, Audubon Society, Seattle City Light, Puget Sound Energy, Washington Citizen Action and the Washington Public Interest Research Group.

###

For more information: Katy Johansson, (360) 786-7721  
For interviews: Sen. Erik Poulsen, (360) 786-7667