

North Carolina League of Conservation Voters
LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

2012



*Turning environmental values
into North Carolina priorities.*





North Carolina League of Conservation Voters



The North Carolina League of Conservation Voters (NCLCV) has worked for over 40 years for clean air and water, public health, and a beautiful North Carolina. We advocate for sound environmental policies at the state legislature, and work to hold our leaders accountable for their decisions. Through our affiliated political action committee, Conservation PAC, we help elect state legislators who understand that a healthy environment is critical to North Carolina’s communities, economy, and quality of life. This Legislative Scorecard is intended to help you decide how well your legislators are representing you on the issues you care about.

About the Scorecard

This Scorecard records members’ votes on selected bills from throughout the session. While it is not a comprehensive listing of all votes, the ones recorded here have been selected as the most significant votes cast on the bills and amendments with the greatest environmental impact of the session, including our Common Agenda priorities.

However, despite the importance of legislators’ votes, the Scorecard cannot represent the full complexity of what it takes to be an environmental champion. Sponsorship of legislation and leadership in support or opposition to bills can be equally important. Further, no single session perfectly captures the conservation voting record of a legislator. To better evaluate individuals’ voting histories, we have included a column containing their lifetime NCLCV score, which averages their scores from all sessions served between 1999 (our first Scorecard) and the present. For more information and past Scorecards, visit nclcv.org.



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A message from our president...

Dear Conservation Voter,

This has been a year of unprecedented challenges for North Carolina. The 2012 legislative session was one of the worst in history, characterized by reckless decisions with serious and long term implications for public health, our state's natural landscape, and North Carolina's economy.

North Carolina had a history of making balanced decisions that made sense for all our people. Because of that leadership, we have consistently been rated as one of the best places for business AND one of the best places to live, work, and raise families. In the past, both Republican and Democratic lawmakers valued the direct connection between our clean air and water, our unique landscapes, and the health of our people and economy. North Carolina was a leader, charting a course that put us far ahead of neighboring states.

Sadly, that is no more. A new anti-environment majority is trying to take us back to a time when public health took a back seat to the profit margin of polluters. They are often acting behind closed doors, with minimal public input and with unashamed disdain for sound science. North Carolina's wrong turn has brought alarmed criticism from all corners of the globe.

Thankfully, North Carolinians have been responding to these unprecedented changes with remarkable commitment and civic action aimed at holding our leaders accountable for their actions. Public meetings and demonstrations held across the state have been widely attended. Citizens have posted hundreds of articles, editorials, blog entries, and tweets. Thousands of phone calls were made and emails written urging lawmakers to vote to protect public health, air, water, and land. Business owners and community leaders lent their voices to the fight, making it clear that clean air, safe drinking water, unspoiled natural resources, and our fair, even-handed approach to regulation are some of the key reasons they choose to do business in North Carolina.

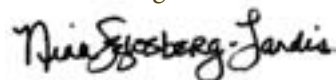
In spite of this, North Carolina has suffered major losses this session, most notably the passage of fracking legislation that has the potential to permanently change the landscape of our state for decades to come.

Despite these setbacks, I am hopeful. Never before have so many of North Carolina's citizens demanded environmental accountability from their legislators. With North Carolinians so energized and organized, and with more focus on environmental voting than ever before, we have the opportunity to return North Carolina to a time of more balance and reason – a time when businesses thrived, but so too did our state's fragile and ever-changing environment.

As I always say, voting is one of the most important things we can do for the environment. So please take a moment to review this Scorecard and find out how your elected officials voted on the issues most important to us. Then ask your local, state, and federal candidates where they stand on these issues, and join us in holding them accountable.

On behalf of all of us at NCLCV, our board and staff, and especially the land, water, and air we work to protect, thank you for your support and involvement. Remember, who we elect matters to all of us. It matters so much.

Warmest Regards,



Nina Szlosberg-Landis



The 2012 Short Session: The Big Picture

This has been the toughest session for the environmental community in North Carolina since the 1970s. The current General Assembly leadership has pursued an unprecedented and aggressive anti-regulatory agenda. This agenda has threatened to undo many of North Carolina's major environmental achievements of the past 40 years.

Legislators have:

- fast-tracked the legalization of untested hydraulic fracturing;
- rolled back rules to clean up key drinking water supplies;
- prohibited the adoption of policies regarding sea-level rise for four years;
- passed a budget which cuts funding for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund by 90% and dismantles and underfunds the Department of Environment and Natural Resources; and
- undermined our health-based air toxics program.

Many of these rollbacks were presented under the false rhetoric that "regulations kill jobs." However, voters and scientists reject this over-simplification, and understand that a strong economy and a clean environment are inseparable.

The Public Debate?

In spite of campaign pledges to improve transparency in Raleigh, a distinctly non-transparent process was the hallmark of this legislature. From midnight sessions with limited public notice of the agenda, to more frequent use of a procedure known as "gut and amend" allowing bills that have passed one chamber to be replaced with entirely new language, our legislative process has proven more opaque than ever.

One of the most egregious examples of bad democratic process this session was the postponement of the Jordan Lake Watershed Management Rules, delaying the cleanup of this critical water supply. The Jordan Lake watershed encompasses over thirty municipalities including Reidsville, Kernersville, Greensboro, Burlington, Elon, Graham, Durham, and Chapel Hill, and supplies water to a number of Triangle communities. When Jordan Lake was found to be nutrient sensitive over 15 years ago, these communities

came together with business, farmers, landowners, and environmental managers to protect their watershed. Over the course of a decade and in a manner that should make any North Carolinian proud, these communities co-created and agreed to enact a water clean-up plan that would go into effect in 2013.

Instead, in a last minute effort this session, representatives from Greensboro and their special-interest allies attempted to ram through multiple bills (HB 382, HB 953, SB 229) that would postpone the enactment of the Jordan Lake watershed plan. Initially, it was heartening to see our more experienced Senate leaders from both parties overcome the overwhelming partisan divide seen this session to attempt to block this effort. Unfortunately, the chorus of "all environmental regulation is bad regulation" overcame the bi-partisan effort of veteran legislators, and a bill was passed which delays the implementation of critical measures to clean this water supply. Power politics and narrow special interests short-circuited years of extensive stakeholder involvement and consensus. This delay will result in all communities in the watershed, including Greensboro, paying significantly more to clean their water in the years to come as pollution continues to build up.

And while past leadership has also run the rules to serve them, this session saw more debate cut off, less interest in listening to constituents, fewer stakeholders at the table, more partisan divide, and less time spent debating some very significant pieces of legislation than many of us can remember.

Animosity Towards Science

Another unfortunate characteristic of the 2012 legislative session was a distinct animosity towards scientific data and scientifically-informed analysis.

The most overt instance of anti-science sentiment came in proposed legislation to ban the use of scientific analysis of projected sea-level rise in coastal planning policies. A state-sponsored commission had previously found that North Carolina should plan for an estimated sea-level rise of 39 inches by 2100 that would affect over 2,000 square miles of coastal land. But HB 819, the Coastal Management Policies Act, imposes a four-year moratorium on any action to establish a state standard for sea-level rise —



essentially a four year moratorium on the use of science in our state’s coastal policy-making. This made North Carolina the target of ridicule from late-night comedy shows to respected scientific journals.

This was a victory for coastal developers who can continue to build upon land that is predicted to be underwater by the end of the century, as they take advantage of artificially low coastal insurance rates. It will pass on significant costs to future North Carolinians who must pay later for our poor planning now.

On another front, SB 851 ultimately didn’t become law, but was another example of this anti-science attitude. Boards and commissions are a critical component of the rulemaking process, and are comprised of qualified individuals in specified fields who provide significant technical expertise. SB 851 would have stripped many of these citizen experts from boards critical to effective environmental protection. For example, the Environmental Management Commission, which writes the key details of air and water pollution control rules, would have lost all of its air quality experts, a public health expert, and a conservation expert. By cutting out scientific and public interest voices, this bill would have left the Commission largely in the hands of representatives of the very interests being regulated.

The Ongoing Hydraulic Fracturing Saga

For the past 18 months hydraulic fracturing, a once-in-a-generation environmental issue that will change our state’s landscape for years to come, has been a primary focus of North Carolina’s environmental community and citizens across the state. The statewide conversation about how to handle newly discovered natural gas resources has ranged from drilling as fast as possible, through taking a slow, science-based approach to regulation, to permanently banning hydraulic fracturing.

NCLCV has consistently supported a slow, science-based approach. While it may be physically possible to safely extract our resources, no political process allowing hydraulic fracturing elsewhere has yet led to acceptable environmental and public health outcomes. This is largely due to a lack of scientific data or strong regulations with proper enforcement, in combination with a rush to drill. A sound approach would be based upon science, thoughtful

Issues Associated with Hydraulic Fracturing

Baseline Water Data Collection – If there is no baseline water data, then water pollution is not legally attributable to drilling.

Long Term Health Data Collection – We do not know the long term health effects arising from fracking.

Siting of Wells – Increased noise and lighting, and transportation infrastructure impacts have led to a loss of property value in other states.

Well Drilling and Casing – Unregulated concrete casing of wells is notoriously leaky, leading to potential water pollution.

Treatment of Produced Waters – Produced waters come from below the aquifer and thus require advanced treatment to avoid pollution.

Treatment of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials – These can be found in produced water and can accrue on drilling equipment.

Ground Water Protection – Fracking fluids, leaked methane, and produced water can all contaminate ground water, and chemicals are not always required to be disclosed.

Stormwater Management – An influx of stormwater can cause pollutants to contaminate drinking water supplies.

Pit Management – Water pits for temporary storage must be properly sited and lined to protect the ground water.

Toxic Air Pollutants – Wells often leak pollutants that are toxic, or can catalyze toxic substances, into the air.

Well Closure – Responsibility for closing wells and paying for future damages is undetermined.

Knowledge of Geology – Some geologic formations are riskier to drill than others; NC’s geology is different than other states that currently allow fracking.

Landowner Protection – The process for sale of leases and protecting a right of landowners to say “no” to drilling under their land is undetermined.

Royalties From Natural Gas – Whenever a well is drilled, a portion of royalties should be set aside to pay for regulation and oversight.

The 2012 Short Session: The Big Picture (continued from page 3)

regulations, extensive public input, and strong enforcement to avoid the health and environmental problems other states such as Pennsylvania are experiencing. Sadly, the 2012 session failed to take such an approach.

The process started well: A bill was introduced in the House to commission further study of our geology and natural gas reserves, and delay drilling until sufficient scientific information was available to make sound judgments about how to approach the risks involved. The process took a turn for the worse when leaders in the Senate introduced SB 820, a bill with very few environmental, consumer, or health safeguards. The scientific approach that was initially introduced in the House lost out to the rush to drill philosophy represented by SB 820.

Leaders of the General Assembly largely chose to ignore strong public sentiment against the rush to drill, which included thousands of phone calls and emails to legislators and several public demonstrations.

In the last chaotic hours of the 2012 legislative session, a gubernatorial veto of SB 820 was overridden by a single vote, and SB 820 became law. While fracking is now legal in North Carolina, it cannot be undertaken without a

permit. Rules to govern permitting are to be written by the newly reconfigured Mining and Energy Commission. The legislature will revisit the issue in 2014 to approve or deny the permitting process developed by that Commission.

Currently, that Commission is shaping up to be dominated by representatives of the regulated community, and conflicts of interest are likely. None of the commissioners currently assigned by law to the “conservation community” slots were actually chosen with approval or input from the conservation community of North Carolina.

The literal work of writing hundreds of pages of regulations within the two-year deadline laid out in SB 820 is the responsibility of just three staff people at the state’s Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Making matters worse, the small, underfunded team at DENR must write regulations before basic and necessary scientific information is available. Major scientific studies currently underway, including a comprehensive EPA study examining hydraulic fracturing and ground water contamination, due out in 2014, will not be incorporated into regulations in our state under the timeline laid out in SB 820.



The NC Common Agenda represents a collaborative effort by multiple environmental groups pooling their collective energies behind strategically selected legislative priorities. The Common Agenda process is designed to strengthen the environmental community as a whole, move sound environmental policies through the General Assembly, and fight efforts to roll back existing protections. The Common Agenda is open to all NC groups ready to work together to protect North Carolina’s precious natural resources and environment.

Endorsers of the 2012 NC Common Agenda included American Rivers, Environment North Carolina, Environmental Defense Fund, NC Coastal Federation, NC Conservation Network, NCLCV, NC WARN, Neuse Riverkeeper Foundation, and Western NC Alliance.

The 2012 Common Agenda Priorities

Science-Based Hydraulic Fracturing Decisions: There is a simple lesson to be learned from controversies surrounding the natural gas boom in other states: A rush to drill is

bad for communities, the environment, and public health. Policymakers should instead support the kinds of studies needed to know whether hydraulic fracturing and natural gas drilling can be done in a way that protects our unique natural places and preserves the special character of our small towns and communities.

Reducing Energy Risks: Our coalition agrees with the 70% of North Carolina voters who do not want to see electric utilities empowered to make environmentally and financially risky investments while forcing ratepayers to foot the bill. More than 80% of North Carolinians support clean, homegrown energy sources, such as solar and offshore wind.

Preserving Natural Heritage by Mitigating Budget Rollbacks: As we begin to emerge from the worst economic recession in several decades, we must continue to value North Carolina’s unique natural heritage. North Carolina has been consistently rated one of the best places to live and do business in no small part due to our state’s coherent effort to maintain and protect our natural environment. We are committed to defending this long-standing heritage from the wave of short-sighted anti-conservation sentiment now threatening to upend our proud tradition of strong environmental stewardship.

To learn more about the NC Common Agenda, visit: www.nccommonagenda.org.

HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

[H1] SB 229 – Amend Environmental Laws 2012 (Motion to Adopt a Conference Report)



Senate Bill 229 was another last-minute effort to postpone the Jordan Lake Watershed Management Plan. The bill also contains a hodge-podge of detrimental changes to environmental rules and special interest exemptions, including: certain exemptions from stormwater requirements, expansion of a loophole in the Neuse and Tar-Pam buffer protections, and weakening changes to NC's basinwide planning process. Unfortunately, this bill passed both chambers with very limited debate or public comment along the way. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[H2] SB 491 – Continue Local Food Advisory Council (2nd Reading)



This bill extends the North Carolina Sustainable Local Food Advisory Council, which has been active in encouraging the marketing and consumption of locally grown food, specifically at farmer's markets. The Council has received bi-partisan support from legislators across our state. This session, however, the Council's extension sparked debate by some House members because of the word "sustainable." According to a handful of legislators, the word "sustainable" is often used in a United Nations Agenda 21 document believed to be a blueprint for a one-world socialist order that threatens the property rights and civil liberties of North Carolinians. This conspiracy-based anti-sustainability rhetoric is not limited to the North Carolina state house, but has also been openly discussed in Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Kansas, New Hampshire, and Arizona with strong John Birch Society support. Fortunately, most of our legislators rejected this conspiracy-based concern by voting to extend the work of the North Carolina Sustainable Local Food Advisory Council, and the bill passed. *Pro-conservation vote: YES.*

[H3] SB 810 – Regulatory Reform Act of 2012 (2nd Reading)



The Regulatory Reform Act of 2012 is a compilation of changes to the Regulatory Reform Act of 2011 (SB 781) and other environmental regulations, some of which make it more difficult for polluters to be held accountable.

Most importantly, it received a last-minute addition that postponed the implementation of a widely supported watershed management plan for Jordan Lake. The original Jordan Lake Watershed Management Plan, the culmination of a 10-year stakeholder process, was set to go into effect in 2013. SB 810 postponed implementation of these soundly debated policies, which will ultimately delay cleaning up this critical water supply, and cost all local governments more money in the long run as more pollution is allowed to flow into the watershed. SB 810 passed. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[H4] HB 819 – Coastal Management Policies (Motion to Adopt a Conference Report)



House Bill 819 stops the Coastal Resources Commission, tasked with helping to craft coastal regulation, from applying the results of a state-commissioned scientific sea-level study in coastal planning until July 2016. The sea-level study predicts that the sea will rise 39 inches by 2100 and put over 2,000 square miles of North Carolina coastland underwater. This bill ultimately limits the ability of coastal planners and developers to manage proactively for sea-level rise. The bill was brought to a vote just two days after the release of a US Geological Survey sea-level study that indicated sea levels have risen by 5 inches over the past 20 years. Incorporating actual peer-reviewed science into coastal planning would raise coastal insurance rates nearer to free-market levels which would discourage building in areas most likely to be underwater by 2100. The bill passed, pitting short-term development benefits against sound science and long-term planning. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[H5] SB 820 – Clean Energy and Economic Security Act (2nd Reading)



Senate Bill 820 is the controversial legislation focused on horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing (or "fracking") that has the potential to change the landscape of our state for decades to come. Instead of taking the time to study and understand the many known and unknown risks associated with hydraulic fracturing before making a decision, General Assembly leaders have chosen to rush to drill in North Carolina as



fast as possible. The bill establishes an industry-heavy Mining and Energy Commission to direct staff members at DENR to write fracking regulations and design a permitting process by 2014, before much of the hydraulic fracturing research currently underway is completed. The bill also fails to adequately address many drilling issues. Key issues regulated in other states not directly addressed by SB 820 now in the hands of the Mining and Energy Commission include:

- pre-drilling water testing,
- setback restrictions for wells from residential and commercial buildings to avoid property devaluation,
- setback restrictions from water sources to avoid water pollution,
- regulation of well-casing cement types,
- venting and flaring regulations,
- wastewater transportation tracking,
- on-site wastewater pit-lining rules to avoid soil and groundwater contamination, and
- accident reporting.

For a list of environmental risks posed by hydraulic fracturing that also must be addressed by underfunded DENR and the industry-dominated Mining and Energy Commission, see page 3.

The bill ultimately passed through both chambers, was vetoed by the Governor on the grounds that it did not contain enough health and environmental safeguards, and then the veto was narrowly overridden by both chambers. Senate Bill 820 passed and is now law. The Mining and Energy Commission will meet soon to discuss how to direct staff members at DENR to craft rules for hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling in the state. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[H6] SB 820 – Clean Energy and Economic Security Act (Amendment 5)

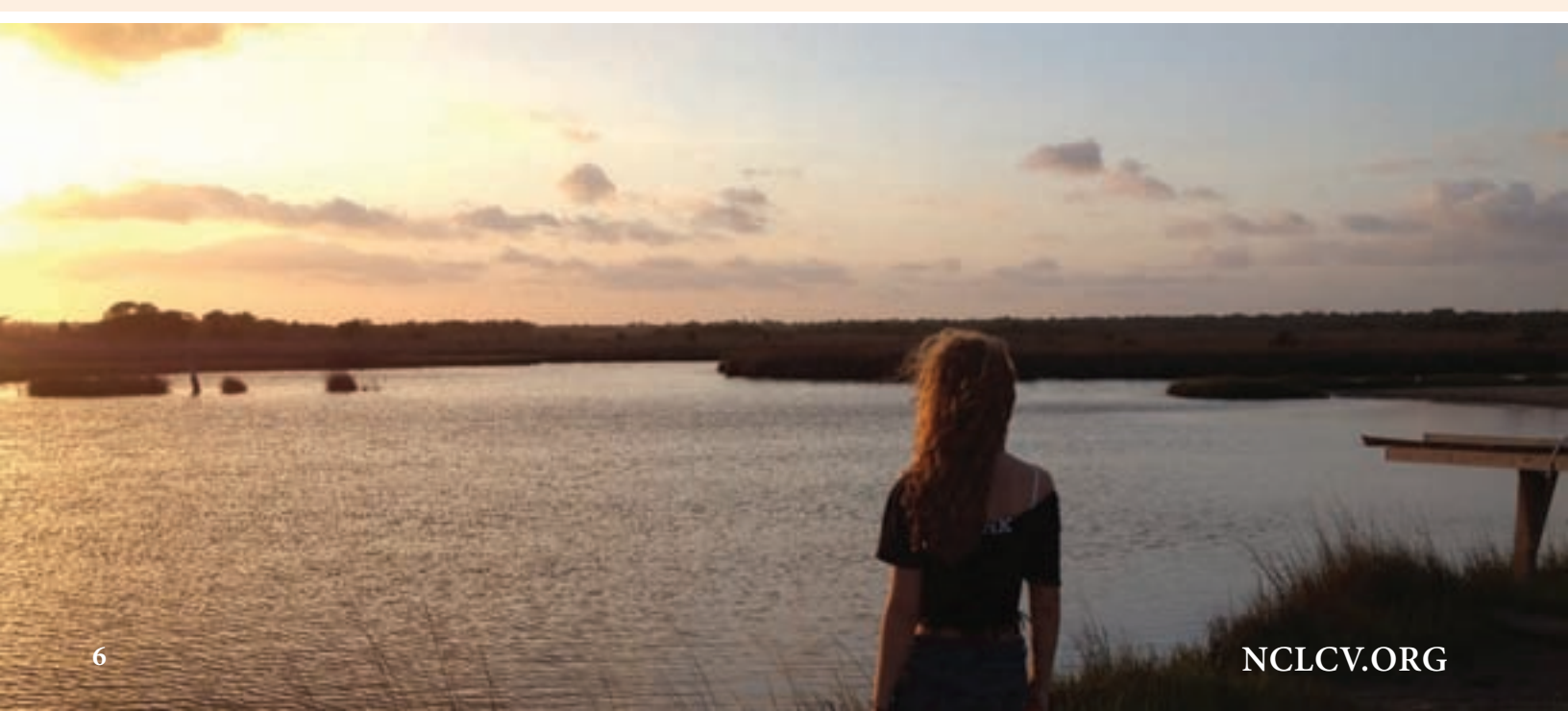


This amendment would have re-written SB 820 to reflect ideas that the House leadership initially indicated as being the best approach to hydraulic fracturing in North Carolina, before the push to rush in spite of risks. Key components of the amendment included extending the study of oil and gas exploration in the state and directing DENR to offer recommendations for horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing to ensure good health and environmental outcomes. This amendment also emphasized strong landowner and consumer protections related to land leasing language as a means of avoiding “forced pooling,” or forcing landowners to sell their land to gas companies. Amendment 5 adhered to the slow, science-based approach advocated by NCLCV and included in the original House bill that was ultimately discarded in favor of SB 820’s rush to drill approach. The amendment failed. *Pro-conservation vote: YES.*

[H7] SB 820 – Clean Energy and Economic Security Act (Amendment 7)



This Amendment would have provided DENR with funding to hire the requested seven staff members to write hydraulic fracturing regulations within the two-year deadline. DENR, which has seen a 40% cut in its budget since 2009, has stated that its current staff of three is not adequate to draft the extensive regulatory framework necessary in the timeline set forth by SB 820, and requested seven staff to oversee this work. DENR officials have also noted that reassigning existing staff, which are already stretched thin, from their core work of environmental quality monitoring to write drilling rules could expose the public to... *continued on page 11*



HOW TO READ THE SCORECARD

Eleven House and ten Senate votes were scored. We included both floor votes and override votes on particularly important bills. It is important to note which version of the bill was scored: Second readings are often more reflective than the third and final reading because members may vote their preference on second reading, but vote with the majority on third, when it is clear what the outcome will be. At the top of the Scorecard tables, you will see a number that correlates with the bill description. Legislators

are listed alphabetically, with their votes during the 2012 session, their 2012 score, previous averages, and "lifetime" scores listed. "Lifetime Scores" start in 1999, when our first Legislative Scorecard was published. A "+" is a pro-conservation vote, a "-" is an anti-conservation vote, NV indicates a missed vote, which is counted as an anti-conservation vote. Excused absences and votes (E) are not scored. INC indicates members did not cast enough votes to score. N/A means no previous voting record.

House	Party	District	County	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2012 Short Session	2011-2012 Average	2009-2010 Average	Lifetime Score
Pro Environmental Vote:				No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No				
Adams	D	58	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	91	79	81
Alexander, M.	D	106	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	97
Alexander, K.	D	107	Mecklenburg	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	64	68	92	84
Avila	R	40	Wake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	31	32
Bell	D	21	Sampson	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	83	84	74
Blackwell	R	86	Burke	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	18	18	36	27
Blust	R	62	Guilford	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	45	45
Boles, Jr.	R	52	Moore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	44	27
Bordsen	D	63	Alamance	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	93
Bradley, Jr.	R	49	Franklin	NV	-	E	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	10	14	NA	14
Brandon, Jr.	D	60	Guilford	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV	+	-	+	+	73	70	NA	70
Brawley, Jr.	R	103	Mecklenburg	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	13
Brisson	D	22	Bladen	-	+	-	-	NV	NV	NV	-	-	-	-	9	17	77	50
Brown, L.	R	73	Forsyth	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	15	53	48
Brown, R.	R	81	Davidson	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	18	NA	18
Brubaker	R	78	Randolph	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	17	58	49
Bryant	D	7	Nash	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	93	89	90
Burr	R	67	Stanly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	47	28
Carney, B.	D	102	Mecklenburg	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	73	78	90	83
Cleveland	R	14	Onslow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	44	39
Collins	R	25	Nash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	14	NA	14
Cook	R	6	Beaufort	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	14	NA	14
Cotham	D	100	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	91	91	95	89
Crawford, Jr.	D	32	Granville	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	55	36	50	62
Current, Sr.	R	109	Gaston	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	55	50
Daughtry	R	26	Johnston	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	69	48
Dixon	R	4	Duplin	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	13
Dockham	R	80	Davidson	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	54	52
Dollar	R	36	Wake	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	64	51
Earle	D	101	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	83	64	78
Faircloth, Jr.	R	61	Guilford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	NA	9
Faison	D	50	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	80	74	74
Farmer-Butterfield	D	24	Wilson	+	+	+	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	73	82	84	85
Fisher	D	114	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	100	94
Floyd	D	43	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	91	87	89	88
Folwell	R	74	Forsyth	-	NV	-	-	-	NV	NV	-	-	NV	-	0	9	42	42
Frye	R	84	Mitchell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	53	40
Gill	D	33	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	100	94

House	Party	District	County	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2012 Short Session	2011-2012 Average	2009-2010 Average	Lifetime Score
Gillespie	R	85	McDowell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	53	38
Glazier	D	45	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	95
Goodman	D	66	Richmond	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	79	NA	79
Graham	D	47	Robeson	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	82	87	NA	87
Hackney	D	54	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	INC	98
Hager	R	112	Rutherford	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	13
Haire	D	119	Jackson	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	91	95	91
Hall	D	29	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	97
Hamilton	D	18	New Hanover	+	+	-	+	E	E	E	-	NV	NV	+	50	67	NA	67
Harrison	D	57	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100
Hastings	R	110	Gaston	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	NA	9
Hill	D	20	Columbus	E	+	-	E	NV	NV	NV	-	-	-	-	11	19	64	64
Hilton	R	96	Catawba	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	39	35
Hollo	R	88	Alexander	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	40
Holloway	R	91	Stokes	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	36	27	36	39
Horn	R	68	Union	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	13
Howard	R	79	Davie	-	+	-	-	-	E	E	-	-	-	-	11	14	50	52
Hurley	R	70	Randolph	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	61	46
Iler	R	17	Brunswick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	53	31
Ingle	R	64	Alamance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	52	32
Insko	D	56	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	97
Jackson	D	39	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	NV	+	82	86	86	86
Jeffus	D	59	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	81	85
Johnson	R	83	Cabarrus	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	64	54
Jones, Jr.	U	65	Rockingham	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	13
Jordan	R	93	Ashe	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	18	18	NA	18
Justice	R	16	Pender	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	84	68
Keever	D	115	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	NA	96
Killian	R	105	Mecklenburg	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	14	36	32
Langdon, Jr.	R	28	Johnston	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	17	44	40
LaRoque	R	10	Lenoir	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	42
Lewis	R	53	Harnett	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	0	9	44	46
Lucas	D	42	Cumberland	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	87	77	76
Luebke	D	30	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	99
Martin	D	34	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	96
McComas	R	19	New Hanover	E	E	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	NV	-	33	26	70	69
McCormick	R	92	Yadkin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	29	19
McElraft	R	13	Carteret	-	-	-	-	E	E	E	-	-	-	-	0	9	53	35
McGee	R	75	Forsyth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	36	49
McGrady	R	117	Henderson	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	91	75	NA	75
McGuirt	D	69	Union	+	+	-	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	64	68	NA	68
McLawhorn	D	9	Pitt	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	82	78	85	88
Michaux, Jr.	D	31	Durham	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	83	72	79
Mills	R	95	Iredell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	44	27
Mobley	D	5	Hertford	+	+	+	+	E	E	E	+	+	+	+	100	92	81	83
Moffitt	R	116	Buncombe	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	13
Moore, R.	D	99	Mecklenburg	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	64	73	NA	73
Moore, T.	R	111	Cleveland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	36	40

House	Party	District	County	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2012 Short Session	2011-2012 Average	2009-2010 Average	Lifetime Score
Murry	R	41	Wake	+	E	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	22	20	NA	20
Owens, Jr.	D	1	Pasquotank	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	55	36	75	62
Parfitt	D	44	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	97
Parmon	D	72	Forsyth	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	61	77
Pierce	D	48	Scotland	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	79	78
Pittman	R	82	Cabarrus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Pridgen	R	46	Robeson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	NA	9
Randleman	R	94	Wilkes	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	50	32
Rapp	D	118	Madison	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	86	91
Ross	D	38	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	88	94
Sager	R	11	Wayne	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	44	29
Saine	R	97	Lincoln	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	0	0	NA	0
Samuelson	R	104	Mecklenburg	-	+	-	-	-	NV	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	75	48
Sanderson	R	3	Pamlico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	NA	9
Setzer	R	89	Catawba	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	36	41
Shepard	R	15	Onslow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	NA	9
Spear	D	2	Washington	E	+	E	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	67	46	64	60
Stam	R	37	Wake	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	42	50
Starnes	R	87	Caldwell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	51	40
Steen, II	R	76	Rowan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	47	41
Stevens	R	90	Surry	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	44	29
Stone	R	51	Lee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	NA	9
Tillis	R	98	Mecklenburg	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	-	-	NV	-	INC	INC	52	50
Tolson	D	23	Edgecombe	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	83	75	80
Torbett	R	108	Gaston	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	13	NA	13
Wainwright	D	12	Craven	E	+	+	E	E	+	+	+	+	+	E	100	87	81	81
Walend	R	113	Transylvania	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	NA	NA	9
Warren, E.	D	8	Pitt	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	79	75	78
Warren, H.	R	77	Rowan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	NA	9
Weiss	D	35	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	96	100	99
West	R	120	Cherokee	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9	44	35
Wilkins, Jr.	D	55	Person	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91	70	70	70
Womble	D	71	Forsyth	E	E	E	+	E	E	E	E	+	E	E	INC	83	81	84
Wray	D	27	Northampton	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	79	81	77

Senate	Party	District	County	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	2012 Short Session	2011 Long Session	2011-2012 Average	2009-2010 Average	Lifetime Score
Pro Environmental Vote:				No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes					
Allran	R	42	Catawba	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	8	9	68	65
Apodaca	R	48	Henderson	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	E	-	-	0	8	4	66	48
Atwater	D	18	Chatham	E	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	58	79	88	84
Berger, D.	D	7	Franklin	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90	58	74	84	84
Berger, P.	R	26	Rockingham	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	45	45

+ pro-conservation vote - anti-conservation vote NV missed vote counted as anti-conservation vote
 E excused absences/votes are not scored INC members did not cast enough votes to score N/A no previous voting record

Senate	Party	District	County	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	2012 Short Session	2011 Long Session	2011-2012 Average	2009-2010 Average	Lifetime Score
Bingham	R	33	Davidson	NV	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	40	25	33	81	67
Blake	R	22	Moore	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	20	8	14	38	44
Blue	D	14	Wake	+	E	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	60	80	81	85
Brock	R	34	Davie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	40	42
Brown	R	6	Onslow	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	8	9	47	38
Brunstetter	R	31	Forsyth	-	+	-	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	10	70	48
Carney, C.	R	41	Gaston	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	NA	NA	NA	10
Clodfelter	D	37	Mecklenburg	E	E	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	75	50	63	83	76
Daniel	R	44	Burke	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	10	8	9	NA	9
Dannelly	D	38	Mecklenburg	E	E	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	50	50	50	76	76
Davis	R	50	Macon	-	+	-	-	E	-	E	-	-	+	25	8	17	NA	17
East	R	30	Surry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	56	44
Garrou	D	32	Forsyth	E	E	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	75	45	60	70	81
Goolsby	R	9	New Hanover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	0	8	4	NA	4
Graham	D	40	Mecklenburg	NV	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	75	67	71	81	78
Gunn	R	24	Alamance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	NA	4
Harrington	R	43	Gaston	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	8	9	NA	9
Hartsell	R	36	Cabarrus	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	30	8	19	76	71
Hise	R	47	Mitchell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	NA	4
Hunt	R	15	Wake	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	50	25	38	68	65
Jackson	R	10	Sampson	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	20	8	14	NA	14
Jenkins	D	3	Edgecombe	E	E	-	-	-	+	+	+	E	E	50	22	36	79	69
Jones	D	4	Halifax	E	E	-	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	83	50	67	76	67
Kinnaird	D	23	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	75	88	94	97
Mansfield	D	21	Cumberland	E	E	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	63	50	56	NA	56
McKissick	D	20	Durham	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	80	50	65	64	74
Meredith	R	19	Cumberland	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	20	25	23	NA	23
Nesbitt	D	49	Buncombe	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	88	50	69	76	77
Newton	R	11	Wilson	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	NA	4
Pate	R	5	Wayne	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	8	9	NA	45
Preston	R	2	Carteret	-	+	-	-	E	E	E	-	-	-	14	8	11	60	48
Purcell	D	25	Scotland	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90	67	78	76	82
Rabon	R	8	Brunswick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	NA	4
Robinson	D	28	Guilford	E	E	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	50	50	50	NA	50
Rouzer	R	12	Johnston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	0	8	4	50	27
Rucho	R	39	Mecklenburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	8	44	43
Soucek	R	45	Watauga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	4	NA	4
Stein	D	16	Wake	+	+	-	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	89	58	74	95	84
Stevens	R	17	Wake	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	50	25	38	75	64
Tillman	R	29	Randolph	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	5	55	47
Tucker	R	35	Union	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	8	9	NA	9
Vaughan	D	27	Guilford	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	60	67	63	76	70
Walters	D	13	Robeson	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	13	25	19	63	34
Westmoreland	R	46	Cleveland	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	13	NA	NA	NA	13
White	D	1	Dare	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	60	50	55	NA	55

+ pro-conservation vote - anti-conservation vote NV missed vote counted as anti-conservation vote
 E excused absences/votes are not scored INC members did not cast enough votes to score N/A no previous voting record

continued from page 6... health and environmental risks. This amendment was proposed to provide DENR with the resources needed to implement SB 820 effectively, but it failed. *Pro-conservation vote: YES.*

[H8] SB 820 – Clean Energy and Economic Security Act (Veto Override)



SB 820 was vetoed by Governor Perdue because it did not meet the standards she had previously laid out in an Executive Order. The bill came before the House for a veto override vote, passing in dramatic fashion by a one-vote margin with significant controversy. Leadership used parliamentary procedure to deny one legislator the chance to correct her mistaken vote in support of the override, in addition to other controversial tactics. The bill ultimately became law amidst late night chaos and parliamentary procedure. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[H9] HB 950 – Modify 2011 Appropriations Act (Veto Override)



This bill sets the state budget for the 2012-2013 cycle. The bill significantly reduces funding for many areas related to environmental quality. The Clean Water Management Trust Fund, which provides grants to address water pollution problems, was cut by 90% in 2011, and turned from a recurring expense into a non-recurring expense this year, meaning that funding will have to be debated each year. New investment into water infrastructure in North Carolina has also been halted with a financial sleight of hand that redirects a limited surplus of funds towards the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund that normally receive recurring support. The DENR budget

was cut by an additional \$2.2 million, following significant cuts in the previous legislative session. The budget did not include adequate funding for all seven of the staff that DENR had requested to implement SB 820. The budget also fails to appropriate funds for renewable energy programs at state universities written into the biennial budget. In addition, the budget transfers an additional DENR section to another agency, limiting DENR's technical capacity to implement several programs.

The budget passed in both chambers, was vetoed by the Governor, the veto was overridden by the General Assembly, and now the bill is law. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[H10] HB 950 – Modify 2011 Appropriations Act (Amendment 14)



For years, North Carolina farmers could get their soil tested for free simply by sending it off to a state lab. This service not only helps farmers achieve higher yields, but also helps to reduce water and soil pollution. Unfortunately, this free soil testing service was removed from the 2012-2013 budget. Amendment 14 would have restored funding for the laboratory testing of soil samples. It was voted down by the House and was not included in the budget. *Pro-conservation vote: YES.*

[H11] HB 953 – Amend Environmental Laws 2 (Motion 11 to Concur)



House Bill 953 was another last-minute attempt to postpone the Jordan Lake Watershed Management Plan. It also makes minor changes to SB 820. Another bill that short-changes the decade of stakeholder input into environmental protections, this bill passed through the General Assembly. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*



SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

[S1] SB 229 – Amend Environmental Laws (Motion 8 to Adopt a Conference Report)



See [H1] SB 229 on page 5. This bill passed the Senate, and is now law. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[S2] SB 382 – Amend Water Supply/Water Quality Laws (Motion 8 to Adopt a Conference Report – 7/2/2012 11:40 pm)



This was yet another attempt to postpone the Jordan Lake rules. It passed through the Senate but failed to pass the House. This bill did not become law, but the Jordan Lake rules were delayed by another bill. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[S3] SB 810 – Regulatory Reform Act of 2012 (2nd Reading)



See [H3] SB 810 on page 5. This bill was passed by the Senate and signed into law. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*


[S4] HB 819 – Coastal Management Policies (2nd Reading)



See [H4] HB 819 on page 5. This bill passed the Senate, was not vetoed by the Governor, and is now law. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*


[S5] SB 820 – Clean Energy and Economic Security Act (2nd Reading)



 See [H5] SB 820 on page 5. This bill passed the Senate, was vetoed by the Governor, and the Senate overrode the veto. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[S6] SB 820 – Clean Energy and Economic Security Act (Amendment 1)




 Throughout the public debate surrounding hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling in North Carolina, many local leaders from areas above natural gas deposits were advocating for a strong and

permanent voice in the rulemaking process. This Senate amendment was an early attempt at giving local leaders a stronger voice in the rulemaking process by adding spots for local leaders on the Mining and Energy Commission. Senate leaders were originally wary of giving more power to local leaders, so this amendment was ultimately voted down in the Senate. Fortunately, however, the final version of SB 820 included spots on the Mining and Energy Commission for local leaders to make sure local concerns are represented. *Pro-conservation vote: YES.*

[S7] SB 820 – Clean Energy and Economic Security Act (Amendment 2)



 This amendment, similar to Amendment 5 proposed in the House, called for more study of natural gas and oil exploration, directed DENR to submit legislative recommendations for horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing research, and required enhanced consumer and landowner protections in leases. This amendment was voted down in the Senate. *Pro-conservation vote: YES.*

[S8] HB 950 – Modify 2011 Appropriation Act (3rd Reading)



 See [H9] HB 950 on page 11. This bill passed the Senate, and is now law. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[S9] HB 953 – Amend Environmental Laws 2 (2nd Reading)



See [H11] HB 953 on page 11. HB 953 passed the Senate, and is now law. *Pro-conservation vote: NO.*

[S10] HB 953 – Amend Environmental Laws 2 (Amendment 2)



This amendment would have stopped the postponement of the Jordan Lake rules. It failed in the Senate. *Pro-conservation vote: YES.*



Growing Polarization by the Numbers

Our scorecard analysis of the 2012 session revealed the most polarized voting on environmental issues of any time in our state's history. Since 1999, we had awarded only four zeros, but this year over 25% of the legislature received a score of zero. This session 51% of the House and 42% of the Senate received a score of 10 or below. The votes were not only much lower than usual, but also much more polarized: Fully 82% of the House and 52% of the Senate received scores at the highest or lowest voting extreme (90 and above or 10 and below).

These voting patterns represent a marked departure from the days when environmental issues were much less polarized. In 2007 and 2008 the difference in party averages hovered around 20% for both chambers of the General Assembly. Since then, the partisan gap in environmental voting has ballooned. This year, the score gap between Republican and Democratic averages in the House has risen to an all-time high of 79%, while the score gap between party averages in the Senate reached 61%.

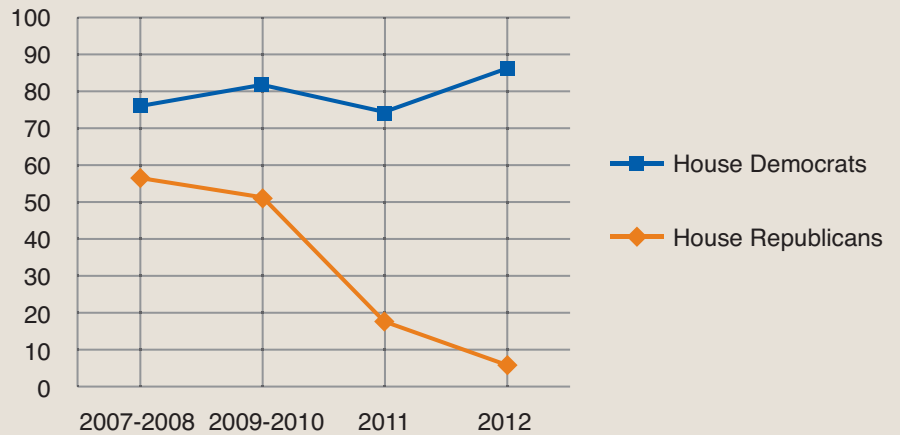
Key Numbers

Number of Representatives: 120
 Number of Senators: 50
 10% and Below: 26%
 90% and Above: 17%
 Total Zeros: 44
 Total Hundreds: 29

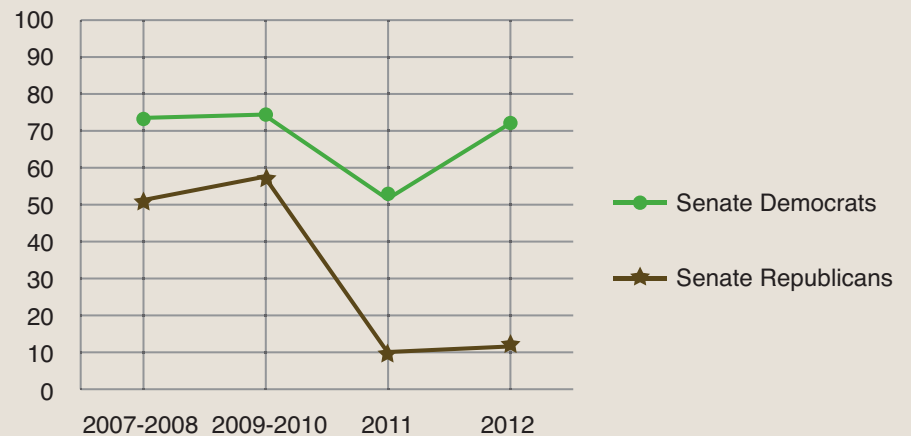
AVERAGE PARTY SCORES

	2007-2008 Average	2009-2010 Average	2011 Long Session	2012 Short Session
House				
Republicans	57%	51%	18%	7%
Democrats	76%	81%	75%	86%
Total House	67%	67%	43%	42%
Senate				
Republicans	51%	58%	11%	12%
Democrats	74%	76%	53%	73%
Total Senate	66%	69%	27%	35%

HOUSE OVER TIME



SENATE OVER TIME





The 2012 Green Tie Award Winners



NCLCV hosts the Green Tie Awards annually to honor legislators who prioritize the environment when making hard decisions. Here are our 2012 winners.

Defender of the Environment: Honoring a Steadfast Environmental Ally

The 2012 Defender of the Environment award was presented to **Representative Pricey Harrison** for her consistent willingness to defend against bad environmental legislation, and her commitment to protecting our state's precious natural heritage. Over her career, Rep. Harrison has led the charge on key policies, including a strong renewable energy portfolio standard, keeping mountaintop-removal coal out of NC, promoting CFL light bulbs, and science-based regulation of fracking. She was the **ONLY** legislator to receive a 100% pro-conservation score in 2011.

Representatives of the Year Award: Honoring this Year's Best

One of the 2012 Representatives of the Year Award was **Representative Martha Alexander**, who has been fighting for the environment for 19 years in the legislature. She has a lifetime pro-conservation score from NCLCV of 97%. Recently, she cosponsored an omnibus energy bill to strengthen support of energy efficiency and renewable energy development. She also co-sponsored the Water Efficiency Act that would help our state reduce its water usage, and legislation to protect our children from toxic chemicals. Rep. Alexander consistently makes environmental protection a top priority.

We also honored **Representative Verla Insko** as our second Representative of the Year. Her long-time readiness to engage with the environmental community, and her willingness to take other legislators to task for actions threatening our state's resources make her a consistent environmental champion. Recently, she championed local energy efficiency and solar incentives. Her lifetime score is 97%, largely because she understands the direct connection between public health and the environment.



Rising Stars: Recognizing Up and Coming Environmental Allies

Representative Chuck McGrady of Henderson County received a Rising Star as a new environmental champion. He has served as the national president of the Sierra Club, the Executive Director of the Environmental & Conservation Organization of Henderson County, and other environmental organizations. In 2011, Rep. McGrady was the only Republican to vote against SB 709, a bill that would have fast-tracked fracking and offshore drilling in North Carolina. In 2012, he steadfastly opposed SB 820, recognizing that this legislation did not adequately protect our environment or communities. The environmental community is fortunate to have Rep. McGrady as an ally.

Representative Patsy Keever, a former school teacher representing Asheville and Buncombe County, also received a Rising Star. After knocking out a member of National LCV's dirty dozen in 2010, she hit the ground running when she co-sponsored the landmark Water Efficiency Act to cut water consumption in half by 2035. Rep. Keever was targeted by hostile legislative leaders in the redistricting process, and has courageously chosen to take on NC Congressman Patrick McHenry instead of running against another pro-conservation state legislator, Rep. Susan Fisher.



The Joe: Honoring Departing Environmental Champions

”The Joe” is a new award honoring retiring Environmental Champion Joe Hackney. This award is designated to thank long-time environmental champions who are leaving the legislature. Fittingly, the first “Joe” was presented this year to its namesake, **Representative Joe Hackney**, an environmental leader and advocate since NCLCV’s founding.

Representative Grier Martin was awarded “The Joe” for his pragmatic environmental advocacy since 2004. An Afghanistan War veteran, Rep. Martin has repeatedly worked to protect North Carolina’s environment and public health while also encouraging smart, clean growth. He’s been a champion on issues ranging from protecting children from environmental hazards in schools, to promoting local energy efficiency and cleaner cars, to engaging veterans on climate change.

Representative Jennifer Weiss was also awarded “The Joe.” Since she was first elected in 1999, Jennifer Weiss has been an environmental champion in the House. She has fought to limit North Carolina’s involvement in mountaintop coal removal. She has encouraged the integration of fuel-efficient vehicles in the state motor fleet, worked on legislation to increase public safety related to toxic coal ash, and proposed legislation to promote renewable energy jobs in North Carolina.

Senator Marc Basnight was awarded “The Joe” for his lifetime defense of North Carolina’s coasts and coastal citizens in the state Senate from 1984 to 2011. Sen. Basnight championed the protection of coastal habitats, fought to keep our waterways clean, was the driving force behind creation and funding of the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, and successfully advocated for the state’s first plastic bag ban on the Outer Banks.

Please join us in 2013 for the Green Tie Awards—learn more at nclcv.org.



A True Environmental Champion: Joe Hackney

No single award can do justice to former House Speaker Joe Hackney’s 32 years of service to our state. Over his career, Hackney has been recognized many times for his extraordinary role in protecting North Carolina’s environment, including the inaugural NCLCV Jane Sharp Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007.

Joe Hackney has been a long time favorite of the North Carolina League of Conservation Voters and was one of the group’s earliest members during the years of meeting and organizing in Jane Sharp’s basement. One of the first major environmental initiatives Hackney championed was North Carolina’s landmark phosphate detergent ban in the mid-1980s. He led the House Environment Committee and the Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change. He promoted key environmental policies ranging from aggressive solid-waste reductions to renewable energy standards. Perhaps even more importantly, the work he did behind the scenes stopped uncountable bad bills.

As House Speaker from 2007-2010, he made environmental quality a state-wide priority, and continued this effort as Minority Leader in 2011-2012.

As Rep. Grier Martin says: “Joe Hackney’s love of the land learned on his family’s cattle farm led him to protect the water we drink and the air we breathe. For over three decades

in the General Assembly he applied his smarts and his expert knowledge of the political process to shape our state’s environmental policy for the better. This will be his legacy, along with the next generation of environmental leaders that he helped mold.”

Representative Joe Hackney defined the term “Environmental Champion.”



Remember... WHO WE ELECT MATTERS!

NC Voter Information

What happens when you don't vote? People who don't share your values are elected to office! Whether it's your schools, the park you walk your dogs in, the roads you drive on, public health issues, the air you breathe and the water you drink, or our economy, our elected officials are making decisions about our daily lives.

Find out where your candidates stand on the issues you care about, and then **Go Vote!** There are three ways to vote in North Carolina:

1. VOTE EARLY AND SAME DAY REGISTRATION

Early voting, also known as One-Stop Absentee Voting, allows any registered voter to cast their ballot in person prior to the Election Day. Same day registration is allowed during early voting if you are a North Carolina resident who is qualified to register to vote. The location and hours of One-Stop sites vary, so be sure and check with your County Board of Elections to find location and hours in the county. Many counties have sites open on evenings and Saturdays, or even a Sunday. At least one site in your county will be open on the Saturday before Election Day. Any voter in the county can use any of the One-Stop sites in the county, and you do not need an excuse to vote early. For locations and times of NC One-Stop voting sites visit: www.app.sboe.state.nc.us/webapps/OS_sites/.

2. MAIL IN ABSENTEE

You must make a handwritten request for an absentee ballot from your County Board of Elections. The request must be received by your county board of elections no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last Tuesday prior to the election. If the voter is qualified, the absentee balloting materials will be mailed to the voter after the receipt of a valid written request. Absentee voters must return their voted ballot to the board of elections by 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election. For instructions on requesting an absentee ballot visit: www.ncsbe.gov/content.aspx?id=133.

3. ELECTION DAY VOTING

On Election Day, you should generally vote at your specific precinct and assigned polling location, not at the County Board of Elections office or any other One-Stop site. Find your polling place at: www.ncsbe.gov/PrecinctFinder.aspx.

REMEMBER

- You **CANNOT** Register **AND** Vote on Election Day!
- You **CAN** Register **AND** Vote on the same day during One-Stop Absentee Voting.
- You **DO** need identification to Register to Vote.
- You **DO NOT** need identification to vote if you've registered and voted at your current address previously. (However, it is a good idea to bring identification if you are a first-time voter who registered to vote by mail without providing proof of residency.)
- If you register to vote at a One-Stop site, you can **ONLY** vote early at a One-Stop site, **NOT** on Election Day.



Now that you know the score... take action!

Help us hold legislators accountable. Thank legislators who stood up for sound environmental policies. If they had a low score, let your elected officials know what you think about their votes. You can find out who represents you at: www.ncga.state.nc.us/representation/WhoRepresentsMe.html.

Find out where your candidates for local, state, and federal office stand on these issues. Use the Scorecard to make informed decisions about which candidates deserve your support in the upcoming election. For information on NCLCV's endorsements, please visit: conservationpac.org.

Become a member of NCLCV today! You can help turn environmental values into North Carolina priorities by becoming a member of NCLCV today at nclcv.org.

Sign up for the *Conservation Insider Bulletin* to stay informed at nclcv.org.

Voting is one of the most important things we can do for the environment.



Who we are...

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North Carolina League of 
CONSERVATION VOTERS

Remember... WHO WE ELECT MATTERS!

North Carolina League of
CONSERVATION VOTERS



2012 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

North Carolina League of Conservation Voters
PO Box 12671 Raleigh, NC 27605

919.839.0006 | nclcv.org

For membership information, please visit... NCLCV.ORG

