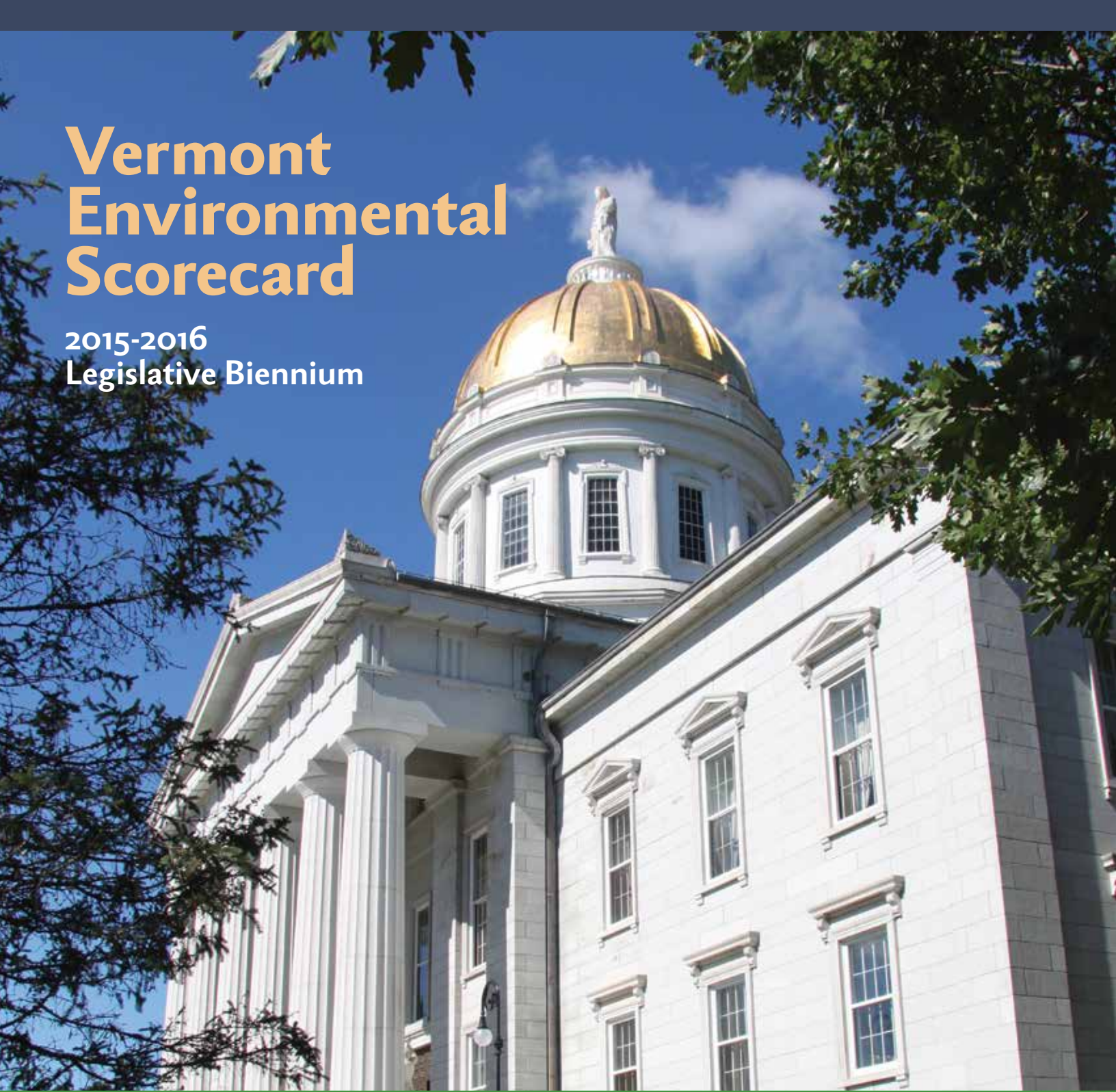


Vermont Environmental Scorecard

2015-2016
Legislative Biennium





Vermont Conservation Voters

(VCV) is the non-partisan political action arm of Vermont’s environmental community. Since 1982, our mission has been to defend and strengthen the laws that safeguard our environment. We work to elect environmentally responsible candidates. We then hold lawmakers accountable for the decisions they make affecting our air, water, communities, land, and wildlife.

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Brian Shupe, *Executive Director*
Lauren Hierl, *Political Director*

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Dear Vermonter,

We have prepared this Environmental Scorecard to let you know how your state legislators voted on top environmental priorities in the 2015-2016 legislative session. The legislative process can be complicated, and our objective with the Scorecard is to distill the results so you, as a voter, can see which lawmakers are representing your environmental values – and which are not.

Each year, Vermont Conservation Voters publishes the *Environmental Common Agenda* of legislative priorities: a list of top-tier goals we develop in collaboration with the state’s other leading environmental groups. The major priorities this biennium included: clean energy – particularly the establishment of a cutting-edge renewable energy standard, thoughtful deployment of clean energy across the state, and creation of a Vermont Energy Independence Fund with resources generated by putting a price on carbon pollution. Other top-tier priorities included cleaning up Lake Champlain and other waters across the state and better policies to maintain healthy forests.

Overall, the 2015-2016 legislative session was a success for Vermont’s environment. In 2015, Governor Peter Shumlin focused his inaugural address on clean water and clean energy, making clear that these were key administrative priorities and vital to the state’s economic strength. The legislature ultimately enacted a significant water quality bill and legislation establishing an innovative renewable energy standard. They also improved the Current Use program, defended Act 250 from attack, and made improvements to our election system by enacting same-day voter registration and campaign finance reform measures.

In 2016, a thoughtful renewable energy siting bill was enacted, along with forest integrity legislation, better protections for threatened and endangered species, and new tools to identify and address toxic chemical contamination in drinking water.

Votes included in this Environmental Scorecard are those related to VCV’s Common Agenda priorities. The specific votes scored are those that were substantive (rather than procedural). They are also the particular votes that had the greatest effect on the outcome of the legislation. We count absences as a negative vote because that’s the effect they have on the outcome of the vote.

Please note that the Scorecard does have limitations. For example, we can only score “roll call” votes where individual lawmakers go on record as voting yes or no on a given bill – which doesn’t happen for every vote. Further, many decisions – both good and bad for the environment – are made in committee before a bill ever reaches the floor.

With this tool we give you your lawmakers’ scores, but the rest is up to you. It’s crucial that your legislators hear from you about your praise or disappointment in their environmental record, so please take a moment to contact your elected officials to share your views. You can find their contact information at: vermontconservationvoters.org.

Thanks for all you do for a thriving Vermont,



Lauren Hierl
Lauren Hierl
Political Director

House Bill Descriptions

H.40 – Renewable Energy Standard Bill (3rd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill established a cutting-edge renewable portfolio standard that sets requirements for generating more of our energy from renewable sources, including community-scale renewables. It also created an innovative program, known as the “transformation tier,” that requires utilities to help customers save energy through efficiency measures, fuel switching, transportation efficiency programs, and more.

Status: Enacted; House vote 121-24.

H.40 – Amendment to Strip “Transformation Tier” from Renewable Energy Standard

Pro-environment vote: NO

This amendment would have removed the section of the renewable energy standard bill that created the innovative and money-saving “transformation tier,” the tier that would require utilities to achieve reductions in energy use through efficiency measures and other programs to help Vermonters reduce fossil fuel use. This amendment was defeated in the House.

Status: Amendment failed; House vote 42-99.

H.4 – Ban on Microbeads (3rd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This legislation banned plastic microbeads from personal care products. These synthetic plastic beads are added to face washes, shampoos, soaps, and more. They also pollute our waterways and accumulate toxic chemicals that are then ingested by fish and introduced into the food chain. These microbeads can be replaced with safe, natural alternatives. H.4 passed the House unanimously but was never taken up in the Senate because related federal legislation was enacted in the interim.

Status: Passed House 140-0; no action in the Senate.

H.35 – Amendment to Strip Funding from Water Quality Bill

Pro-environment vote: NO

This amendment to the Water Quality Bill removed language related to establishing new funding for water cleanup efforts – an increase to the property transfer tax – and instead attempted to dedicate money already allocated to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to water quality efforts. This amendment, had it passed, simply moved around existing revenue and would have created a budget shortfall.

Status: Amendment failed; House vote 40-100.



H.35 – Water Quality Bill (3rd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill established new requirements for major sources of water pollution, including farms, roads, and parking lots. It also authorized new enforcement tools, created a Clean Water Fund, and dedicated nearly \$8 million per year in new revenue to cleanup efforts. Though success of this legislation will be determined by how strongly the new regulations are implemented and enforced, the bill creates an important opportunity to make meaningful progress toward cleaning up Lake Champlain and other waters across the state.

Status: Enacted; House vote 133-11.

H.789 – Forest Integrity Bill (2nd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill encouraged better local and regional planning for intact, healthy forests and wildlife habitat. It added the goals of maintaining forest blocks and habitat connectivity to town and regional planning; took steps to maintain rural working lands; called for a study group to examine ways to help landowners plan for the long-term ownership of their forests; and created a committee to recommend potential revisions to Act 250 and municipal bylaws to protect contiguous areas of forestland from fragmentation and promote habitat connectivity.

Status: Enacted (language added to H.857 in the Senate); House vote 105-29.

H.552 – Critical Habitat for Vermont Endangered Species Bill (2nd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This legislation updated the state’s endangered and threatened species act to allow for better recovery planning and to authorize the designation of critical habitat. Overall, the bill added much-needed tools to better protect the state’s most vulnerable plant and animal species.

Status: Enacted (language added to H.570 in the Senate); House vote 111-26.

H.R.13 – Resolution on Divesting from Fossil Fuels

Pro-environment vote: YES

The House passed a resolution urging the State of Vermont to divest its pension investment portfolio from stocks that contain holdings in coal and stock in Exxon Mobil, in part because Exxon Mobil deliberately misled the public and its investors on the risks of global warming. Further, the resolution was intended to acknowledge the urgency of climate change, and that since we must transition off fossil fuels, investments in these energy sources pose a “stranded asset” risk.

Status: Passed; House vote 76-57.

S.230 – Renewable Energy Siting Bill (2nd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill took important steps forward in expanding the local and regional energy planning process to ensure the state is on track to meet its greenhouse gas reduction goals, while improving the ability of communities to plan for and influence energy siting decisions. S.230 also created incentives for solar projects located on rooftops, parking lots, landfills, and other places Vermonters have identified as areas where they would like to see renewable energy development occur.

Status: Enacted (then vetoed by the Governor; “clarified” bill, S.260, enacted in its place); House vote 142-0.

S.260 – “Clarified” Renewable Energy Siting Bill (rules suspension to take up the bill)

Pro-environment vote: YES

The Governor vetoed S.230 due to concerns identified after its enactment that, as drafted, the temporary sound standard for wind projects in the bill was more stringent than the Legislature intended to adopt, and because \$300,000 in funding for community energy planning was inadvertently left out of the bill. The House voted on whether to take up a revised version of the bill to fix these problematic provisions.

Status: Motion to suspend rules failed; House vote 79-52; bill eventually taken up and enacted on a voice vote.



Vermont House of Representatives Scorecard

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office

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7. H.552 – Critical Habitat for Endangered Species
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9. S.230 – Renewable Energy Siting Bill
10. S.260 – “Clarified” Renewable Energy Siting Bill (Rules Suspension)

Representative	Town	Party	2016 Score	Lifetime Score (2001 to present)	Bill/Resolution									
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
AnceI, Janet	Calais	D	90%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Bancroft, Robert	Westford	R	50%	50%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Bartholomew, John	Hartland	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baser, Fred	Bristol	R	70%	70%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	X
Batchelor, Lynn	Derby Line	R	40%	43%	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	A	X	✓	X
Beck, Scott	St. Johnsbury	R	60%	60%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Berry, Steven	Manchester	D	80%	80%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A
Beyor, Steve	Highgate Springs	R	60%	47%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Bissonnette, Clement	Winooski	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Botzow, William	Pownal	D	80%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓
Branagan, Carolyn Whitney	Georgia	R	80%	46%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Brennan, Patrick	Colchester	R	50%	22%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	A	X	X	✓	X
Briglin, Timothy	Thetford	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Browning, Cynthia	Arlington	D	60%	69%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Burditt, Thomas	West Rutland	R	20%	22%	X	X	✓	A	A	X	X	X	✓	X
Burke, Mollie S.	Brattleboro	P	90%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Buxton, Sarah	Tunbridge	D	80%	93%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Canfield, William	Fair Haven	R	60%	50%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Carr, Stephen	Brandon	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chesnut-Tangerman, Robin	Middletown Springs	P	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Christie, Kevin “Coach”	Hartford	D	60%	87%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	A	✓
Clarkson, Alison H.	Woodstock	D	80%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓
Cole, Joanna	Burlington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Condon, James	Colchester	D	80%	54%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	X	✓	✓
Connor, Daniel	Fairfield	D	90%	79%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conquest, Charles “Chip”	Wells River	D	90%	93%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Copeland-Hanzas, Sarah	Bradford	D	100%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Corcoran, Timothy R.	Bennington	D	90%	80%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Cupoli, Lawrence	Rutland	R	40%	45%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Dakin, Leigh	Chester	D	80%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	X	✓	✓
Dakin, Maureen	Colchester	D	80%	80%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	A
Dame, Paul	Essex Junction	R	20%	20%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Davis, Susan Hatch	West Topsham	P	80%	83%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓

Vermont Environmental Scorecard

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office

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Representative	Town	Party	2016 Score		Lifetime Score (2011 to present)									
			2016 Score	2016 %	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Deen, David L.	Putney	D	100%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Devereux, Dennis J.	Belmont	R	50%	42%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X
Dickinson, Eileen “Lynn”	St. Albans Town	R	30%	22%	X	X	A	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Donahue, Anne B.	Northfield	R	60%	59%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Donovan, Johannah	Burlington	D	90%	96%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eastman, Alyson	Orwell	I	80%	80%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Ellis, Rebecca	Waterbury	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO
Emmons, Alice M.	Springfield	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Evans, Debbie	Essex	D	80%	84%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A
Fagan, Peter J.	Rutland City	R	60%	51%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	A	A	X
Feltus, Martha	Lyndonville	R	80%	82%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Fields, Rachael	Bennington	D	80%	80%	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fiske, Larry	Enosburg Falls	R	40%	40%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	A	X	X	✓	X
Forguites, Robert	Springfield	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Frank, William	Underhill	D	80%	95%	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
French, Patsy	Randolph	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gage, Douglas	Rutland City	R	50%	42%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	A
Gamache, Marianna	Swanton	R	60%	60%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X
Gonzalez, Diana	Winooski	P	90%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Grad, Maxine	Moretown	D	100%	78%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Graham, Rodney	Williamstown	R	30%	30%	X	X	✓	X	✓	A	X	X	✓	X
Greshin, Adam	Warren	I	80%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Haas, Sandy	Rochester	P	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Head, Helen	South Burlington	D	90%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Hebert, Michael	Vernon	R	60%	59%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X
Helm, Robert	Fair Haven	R	50%	28%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X
Higley, Mark A.	Lowell	R	20%	35%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Hooper, Mary S.	Montpelier	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hubert, Ronald E.	Milton	R	20%	16%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Huntley, Mark	Cavendish	D	70%	85%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	X	✓	A
Jerman, Timothy	Essex Junction	D	90%	95%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jewett, Willem	Ripton	D	90%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Johnson, Mitzi	South Hero	D	100%	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Juskiewicz, Bernard	Cambridge	R	80%	74%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Keenan, Kathleen C.	St. Albans City	D	90%	77%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓

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Representative	Town	Party	2016 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Kitzmiller, Warren F.	Montpelier	D	90%	82%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Klein, Anthony	East Montpelier	D	100%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Komline, Patricia	Dorset	R	50%	49%	X	X	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	A
Krebs, Robert	South Hero	D	90%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓
Krowinski, Jill	Burlington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LaClair, Robert	Barre Town	R	40%	40%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X
LaLonde, Martin	South Burlington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lanpher, Diane	Vergennes	D	90%	90%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lawrence, Richard	Lyndonville	R	60%	36%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Lefebvre, Paul	Island Pond	R	60%	60%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X
Lenes, Joan G.	Shelburne	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lewis, Patti	Berlin	R	30%	50%	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Lippert, William J.	Hinesburg	D	90%	85%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Long, Emily	Newfane	D	90%	90%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lucke, Gabrielle	Hartford	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Macaig, Terence	Williston	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Manwaring, Ann	Wilmington	D	100%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Marcotte, Michael	Newport	R	50%	39%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	A	✓	X	✓	X
Martel, Marcia	Waterford	R	30%	30%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X
Martin, Linda J.	Wolcott	D	90%	92%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Masland, James	Thetford Center	D	80%	97%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
McCormack, Curt	Burlington	D	90%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
McCoy, Patricia	Poultney	R	40%	40%	X	X	✓	A	✓	X	✓	A	✓	X
McCullough, James	Williston	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
McFaun, Francis	Barre Town	R	50%	58%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X
Miller, Alice	Shaftsbury	D	90%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Morris, Ruqaiyah	Bennington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Morrissey, Mary A.	Bennington	R	30%	28%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	A	✓	X
Mrowicki, Michael	Putney	D	90%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Murphy, Barbara	Fairfax	I	60%	60%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Myers, Linda K.	Essex	R	50%	44%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Nuovo, Betty A.	Middlebury	D	90%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
O’Brien, Anne Theresa	Richmond	D	50%	75%	A	A	✓	A	A	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
O’Sullivan, Jean	Burlington	D	70%	78%	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Olsen, Oliver	South Londonderry	I	70%	73%	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A

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Representative	Town	Party	2016 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)									
			2016	2016	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Parent, Corey	St. Albans City	R	40%	40%	X	X	✓	X	✓	A	✓	X	✓	X
Partridge, Carolyn W.	Windham	D	100%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Patt, Avram	Worcester	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pearce, Albert	Richford	R	70%	50%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Pearson, Christopher	Burlington	P	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Poirier, Paul N.	Barre City	I	50%	73%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	A	X
Potter, David	North Clarendon	D	90%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Abstain	✓	✓
Pugh, Ann	South Burlington	D	90%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Purvis, Joey	Colchester	R	40%	40%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	A	X	X	✓	X
Quimby, Constance	Concord	R	10%	30%	A	A	✓	X	X	X	X	X	A	X
Rachelson, Barbara	Burlington	D	70%	85%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	X	A	✓
Ram, Keshia K.	Burlington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Russell, Herbert	Rutland City	D	90%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Ryerson, Marjorie	Randolph	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Savage, Brian K.	Swanton	R	60%	33%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Scheuermann, Heidi E.	Stowe	R	60%	47%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	A	X	✓	X
Sharpe, David	Bristol	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shaw, Charles “Butch”	Florence	R	50%	52%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
Shaw, Loren	Derby	R	20%	19%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	A	A	A	X
Sheldon, Amy	East Middlebury	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sibilia, Laura	West Dover	I	90%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Smith, Harvey	New Haven	R	50%	29%	X	X	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Smith, Shapleigh	Morrisville	D	P	79%	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Stevens, Thomas	Waterbury	D	90%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Strong, Vicki	Irasburg	R	20%	26%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	A
Stuart, Valerie	Brattleboro	D	90%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Sullivan, Mary	Burlington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sweeney, Donna	Windsor	D	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tate, Job	Mendon	R	10%	10%	X	X	A	X	X	X	A	X	✓	A
Terenzini, Thomas	Rutland Town	R	20%	27%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	Abstain	✓	X
Till, George	Jericho	D	100%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Toleno, Tristan	Brattleboro	D	100%	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Toll, Catherine “Kitty”	Danville	D	90%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Townsend, Maida	South Burlington	D	100%	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Trieber, Matthew	Bellows Falls	D	90%	87%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A

Vermont Environmental Scorecard

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office

1. H.40 – Renewable Energy Standard
2. H.40 – Amendment to Strip “Transformation Tier”
3. H.4 – Ban on Microbeads
4. H.35 – Amendment to Strip Funding from Water Quality Bill
5. H.35 – Water Quality Bill
6. H.789 – Forest Integrity Bill
7. H.552 – Critical Habitat for Endangered Species
8. H.R.13 – Fossil Fuel Divestment Resolution
9. S.230 – Renewable Energy Siting Bill
10. S.260 – “Clarified” Renewable Energy Siting Bill (Rules Suspension)

Representative	Town	Party	2016 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)										
			2016 Score	2016 Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Troiano, Joseph “Chip”	East Hardwick	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Turner, Donald	Milton	R	20%	17%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Van Wyck, Warren	Ferrisburgh	R	30%	15%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	
Viens, Gary	Newport	R	20%	20%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	
Walz, Tommy	Barre City	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Webb, Kathryn	Shelburne	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Willhoit, Janssen	St. Johnsbury	R	50%	50%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	X	
Wood, Theresa	Waterbury	D	100%	100%	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Woodward, Mark	Johnson	D	90%	77%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	
Wright, Kurt	Burlington	R	80%	51%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	
Yantachka, Michael	Charlotte	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Young, Samuel	Glover	D	100%	81%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Zagar, Teo	Barnard	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	



Senate Bill Descriptions

H.40 – Renewable Energy Standard Bill (3rd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill established a cutting-edge renewable portfolio standard that sets requirements for generating more of our energy from renewable sources, including community-scale renewables. It also created an innovative program, known as the “transformation tier,” that requires utilities to help customers save energy through efficiency measures, fuel switching, transportation efficiency programs, and more.

Status: Enacted; Senate vote 22-6.

H.40 – Amendment on Energy Siting in Renewable Energy Standard

Pro-environment vote: NO

This amendment, related to siting renewable energy projects, would have made it much more difficult to advance well-sited solar and other renewable projects. It was offered in the final days of the legislative session without adequate vetting in the committee process. This amendment failed to pass. However, H.40 as enacted did include the creation of a task force, environmental study, and other provisions to examine potential ways to improve the siting process for solar projects.

Status: Amendment failed; Senate vote 10-19.

S.R. 7 – Global Warming Resolution

Pro-environment vote: YES

This resolution acknowledged the threat posed by human-induced climate change, and affirmed Vermont’s commitment to significantly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, including the need for Vermont to take steps now to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

Status: Resolution passed; Senate vote 25-5.

S.139 – Amendment to Strip Toxic-Free Families Act Improvements

Pro-environment vote: NO

This amendment removed language from a public health bill that sought to make improvements to the process for assessing and regulating toxic chemicals in children’s products, as established in the 2014 Toxic-Free Families Act (Act 188).

Status: Amendment passed; Senate vote 16-15.

H.35 – Water Quality Bill (3rd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill established new requirements for major sources of water pollution, including farms, roads, and parking lots. It also authorized new enforcement tools, created a Clean Water Fund, and dedicated nearly \$8 million per year in new revenue to cleanup efforts. Though success of this legislation will be determined by how strongly the new regulations are implemented and enforced, the bill creates an important opportunity to make meaningful progress toward cleaning up Lake Champlain and other waters across the state.

Status: Enacted; Senate vote 27-2.

S.230 – Renewable Energy Siting Bill (2nd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill took important steps forward in expanding the local and regional energy planning process to ensure the state is on track to meet its greenhouse gas reduction goals, while improving the ability of communities to plan for and influence energy siting decisions. S.230 also created incentives for solar projects located on rooftops, parking lots, landfills, and other places Vermonters have identified as areas where they would like to see renewable energy development occur.

Status: Enacted (then vetoed by the Governor; “clarified” bill S.260 enacted in its place); Senate vote 25-3.

S.230 – Amendment that Stripped Balance from Energy Siting Bill

Pro-environment vote: NO

This amendment would have removed the essential balance of the energy siting bill by giving towns veto authority over energy projects – projects that constitute a public good – rather than giving towns substantial deference through local planning as long as towns and regions are contributing to the state’s meeting its renewable energy and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Status: Amendment failed; Senate vote 6-19.

S.230 – Veto Override of Energy Siting Bill

Pro-environment vote: NO

This vote sought to override the Governor’s veto of the energy siting bill, which was due to concerns identified after its enactment that, as drafted, the temporary sound standard for wind projects in the bill was more stringent than the Legislature intended to adopt, and because \$300,000 in funding for community energy planning was inadvertently left out of the bill. The veto override failed, and ultimately the “clarified” version of the bill was enacted.

Status: Failed; Senate vote 8-20.

S.260 – “Clarified” Renewable Energy Siting Bill (2nd reading)

Pro-environment vote: YES

This bill simply reinstated S.230, but with revised language on several key provisions that more accurately reflected legislative intent. In particular, it clarified language related to wind sound standards and reinstated \$300,000 in funding to support community energy planning.

Status: Enacted; Senate vote 27-2.

Please note: It’s unusual for the Scorecard to contain so many votes on one issue (in this case, renewable energy), but the votes included here were all important in ensuring the state is moving forward with its commitment to meeting its climate and energy goals, and achieving these goals in a balanced, thoughtful way. Further, unlike the House, the Senate did not call for roll call votes on some other priority issues, including forest integrity and endangered species protections, which limited the votes available for inclusion.



Speaker of the House Shap Smith speaking at Clean Water Day, March 2015.

Vermont Senate Scorecard

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office
- S Suspended

1. H.40 – Renewable Energy Standard
2. H.40 – Amendment on Energy Siting in Renewable Energy Standard
3. S.R. 7 – Global Warming Resolution
4. S.139 – Toxic-Free Families Act Improvements
5. H.35 – Water Quality Bill
6. S.230 – Renewable Energy Siting Bill
7. S.230 – Amendment that Stripped Balance from Energy Siting Bill
8. S.230 – Veto Override of Renewable Energy Siting Bill
9. S.260 – “Clarified” Renewable Energy Siting Bill

Senator	District	Party	2016 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)								
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ashe, Timothy	Chittenden	D/P	89%	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ayer, Claire	Addison	D	89%	94%	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Balint, Rebecca	Windham	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baruth, Philip	Chittenden	D	78%	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Benning, Joseph	Caledonia	R	33%	57%	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓
Bray, Christopher	Addison	D	89%	95%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Campbell, John	Windsor	D	89%	92%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Campion, Brian	Bennington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Collamore, Brian	Rutland	R	22%	22%	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓
Cummings, Ann	Washington	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Degree, Dustin	Franklin	R	22%	22%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X
Doyle, William	Washington	R	89%	77%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flory, Margaret “Peg”	Rutland	R	22%	27%	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	A	✓
Kitchel, Jane	Caledonia	D	56%	69%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓
Lyons, Virginia “Ginny”	Chittenden	D	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MacDonald, Mark	Orange	D	89%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mazza, Richard	Grand Isle, VT	D	89%	77%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
McAllister, Norman	Franklin	R	0%	19%	A	A	X	X	A	S	S	S	S
McCormack, Richard	Windsor	D	78%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓
Mullin, Kevin	Rutland	R	78%	52%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Nitka, Alice	Windsor	D	78%	75%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pollina, Anthony	Washington	P/D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Riehle, Helen	Chittenden	R	100%	100%	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rodgers, John	Essex-Orleans	D	33%	43%	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓
Sears, Richard, Jr.	Bennington	D	78%	74%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Sirotkin, Michael	Chittenden	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Snelling, Diane	Chittenden	R	80%	86%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO
Starr, Robert	Essex-Orleans	D	44%	41%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	A	X	✓
Westman, Richard	Lamoille	R	78%	50%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓
White, Jeanette	Windham	D	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Zuckerman, David	Chittenden	P/D	100%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Environmental Leaders and Laggards

House Average Environmental Scores by Party:

- Republicans: 45%
- Independents: 72%
- Democrats: 92%
- Progressives: 93%

Senate Average Environmental Scores by Party:

- Republicans: 52%
- Democrats: 83%
- Progressive/
Democrats: 96%



Environmental Laggards

2015-2016 Environmental Scores of 30% or Less

- Sen. Norm McAllister
- Sen. Brian Collamore
- Sen. Dustin Degree
- Sen. Peg Flory
- Rep. Connie Quimby
- Rep. Job Tate
- Rep. Tom Burditt
- Rep. Paul Dame
- Rep. Mark Higley
- Rep. Ron Hubert
- Rep. Loren Shaw
- Rep. Vicki Strong
- Rep. Tom Terenzini
- Rep. Don Turner
- Rep. Gary Viens
- Rep. Lynn Dickinson
- Rep. Rodney Graham
- Rep. Patti Lewis
- Rep. Marcia Martel
- Rep. Mary Morrissey
- Rep. Warren Van Wyck

Worth noting: Lt. Gov. Phil Scott cast a rare tie-breaking vote to remove language in a health care bill that would have made it easier to restrict the use of toxic chemicals in children's products.

Vermont Conservation Voters thanks those legislators with 100% Environmental Scores in the 2015-2016 Legislative Session

House:

- John Bartholomew
- Clem Bissonnette
- Tim Briglin
- Steve Carr
- Robin Chesnut-Tangerman
- Joanna Cole
- Sarah Copeland-Hanzas
- David Deen
- Rebecca Ellis
- Alice Emmons
- Bob Forguites
- Patsy French
- Maxine Grad
- Sandy Haas
- Mary Hooper
- Mitzi Johnson
- Tony Klein
- Jill Krowinski
- Martin LaLonde
- Joan Lenes
- Gabrielle Lucke
- Terry Macaig
- Ann Manwaring
- Jim McCullough
- Kiah Morris
- Carolyn Partridge
- Avram Patt

- Chris Pearson
- Kesha Ram
- Marjorie Ryerson
- David Sharpe
- Amy Sheldon
- Mary Sullivan
- Donna Sweaney
- George Till
- Tristan Toleno
- Maida Townsend
- Chip Troiano
- Tommy Walz
- Kate Webb
- Theresa Wood
- Mike Yantachka

- Sam Young
- Teo Zagar

Senate:

- Becca Balint
- Brian Campion
- Ann Cummings
- Ginny Lyons
- Anthony Pollina
- Helen Riehle
- Michael Sirotkin
- Jeanette White
- David Zuckerman

Rookies of the Year



Representative Amy Sheldon

Vermont Conservation Voters wants to recognize – and thank – two freshmen that played a critical role in passing environmental legislation this session. **Representative Amy Sheldon** serves on the House Committee on Fish, Wildlife & Water Resources, and was a champion on forest health legislation, endangered species protections, and clean water. **Senator Brian Campion** previously a Representative, served his first term as a Senator on the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy, and played a vital role in advancing strong environmental legislation on issues including renewable energy, forest health, clean water, and reducing exposure to toxic chemicals.



Senator Brian Campion

Notable Retirements

Vermont Conservation Voters would like to acknowledge some environmental champions who are retiring from the legislature this year. We want to express our sincere gratitude for the leadership of **Rep. Tony Klein**, long-time Chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources & Energy. Rep. Klein played a crucial role in advancing numerous innovative environmental initiatives through the years. Of particular note, he was invaluable in crafting legislation that moved the state forward in achieving our essential clean energy and climate goals. Two other members of the House Committee on Natural Resources & Energy are also retiring, including Vice Chair **Rep. Kesha Ram** who led efforts to better protect forest health, improve siting of renewable energy, and more; and **Rep. Marjorie Ryerson** who was a thoughtful advocate for strong environmental protections.



Representative Tony Klein

Will Lindehr

A number of other legislators with pro-environment voting records are retiring at the end of this year, including former House **Majority Leader Willem Jewett**, **Donna Sweaney**, **Joan Lenes**, **Tim Jerman**, **Linda Martin**, **Ann Manwaring**, **Bill Frank**, **Leigh Dakin**, **Debbie Evans**, **Bob Krebs**, and **Betty Nuovo**.



Senator David Zuckerman

Senator David Zuckerman is retiring from the Senate to run for Lieutenant Governor. Sen. Zuckerman served in the House before being elected to the Senate, and in both legislative chambers was a consistent, vocal champion on climate action, clean water, GMO labeling, and more. Finally, it is important to recognize that many important environmental bills were enacted under the leadership of **Speaker of the House Shap Smith** and **Senate President Pro Tempore John Campbell**. We are grateful for the environmental leadership of these retiring legislators, and wish them well in their future endeavors.

Vermont Conservation Voters In Action



Clean Water Day, an event organized by VCV, brought hundreds of Vermonters to the State House calling for strong clean water legislation – March 2015.



Left: Gubernatorial Candidate Debate on Environmental Issues hosted by VCV and the Vermont Natural Resources Council – June 2016. (Left to right: Democratic gubernatorial candidates Matt Dunne and Sue Minter)



Above: Energy Independent Vermont Business Lobby Day, an event co-hosted by VCV that trained employees from some of Vermont's top businesses on how to lobby their legislators to put a price on carbon pollution – April 2016.

Now that you know the score, *take action!*

1. Tell your legislators you know the score.

One of the best ways to influence your elected officials is through regular communication with them. If your legislators scored well, thank them. If they scored poorly, let them know you are disappointed and that you value Vermont's environment. You can find your legislators' contact information on our website: vermontconservationvoters.org.

2. Get out and vote by Election Day – November 8th.

Your vote is your voice, so make sure you head to the polls to vote for the candidates representing your values. In 2016, **General Election Day is November 8th**. You can also vote early at your Town Clerk's office in the weeks leading up to Election Day.

3. Contribute to Vermont Conservation Voters.

Vermont Conservation Voters is working hard to ensure pro-environment candidates are elected, and to bring your environmental values to the tough fights at the State House. Please join other Vermonters by becoming a supporter today. Find out more on our website: vermontconservationvoters.org.



Vermont Conservation Voters
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