

2003

Legislative Scorecard



ELECTING PRO-ENVIRONMENT LAWMAKERS

HOLDING LEGISLATORS ACCOUNTABLE

ENGAGING THE PUBLIC IN STATE POLICY

CTLCV

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**CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS**

Vision

*The board and staff of the
Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV)
envision a future Connecticut with safe, clean, healthy communities
in which to live and raise our children.
Connecticut will have outstanding environmental quality and resources,
protected and enhanced by sound governmental policy.
It is a future where the citizens and elected leaders of our government
are enlightened on environmental issues
and are responsible stewards of our
land, air, water, and wildlife.*



Mission

*As a bipartisan political arm
of Connecticut's environmental community,
CTLCV seeks to protect the environment
by making it a top priority with Connecticut's elected and
appointed officials, political candidates, and voters.
CTLCV effects its mission by helping the environmental community
organize and prioritize a legislative agenda,
and by informing state lawmakers about these issues.
CTLCV helps to elect environmentally responsible candidates
and hold all legislators accountable to the environmental agenda.*



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Know the Score!

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Dear Voter,

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters publishes this Scorecard, which records the more important environmental votes of our state legislature. The Scorecard is distributed to more than 20,000 environmental voters, news media, and other environmental organizations in order to spotlight the environmental policy decisions of our state's elected officials.

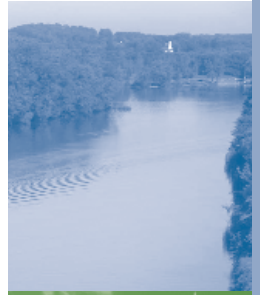
We work hard to keep legislators focused on environmental concerns, but we are much more powerful with you, the voter, at our side. The power of your vote and the strength of your voice can never be underestimated.

We are working hard to make this document clear, user friendly, and fair. We hope you will use it to inform yourself in upcoming elections. By voting on Election Day you are taking the first step in the democratic process to protect our environment and safeguard the health of our children and our communities. By communicating with your elected officials after Election Day and holding them accountable on environmental issues you are helping to preserve the quality of our life in Connecticut.

Experts from Connecticut's environmental community nominated various bills to score and the legislators were advised before voting that these bills could be included in the Scorecard. The final decision on what to score was made by CTLCV's Board of Directors.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome!

Julie Belaga
Russ Brenneman



Photos by John Pickler

2003 Session in Review



Photo by John Pickler

The State budget crisis set the tone from the very beginning. In spite of unusually difficult circumstances, with the help of environmental supporters, we were able to make some significant progress.

The Legislature was off to a great start with 39 pro-environment bills drafted and passed out of Committees. But many of these good bills were later saddled with dubious “fiscal notes” that made poorly substantiated claims about each bill’s cost to the state. As a result, many policy bills were sent to the Bonding or Appropriations committees to be killed, mostly without a traceable vote. Nine of the bills we tracked died in one of those two committees. *In the future, CTLCV will be closely monitoring the use of fiscal notes to derail important environmental legislation.*

As the session wore on, budget concerns caused fractures within both Democratic and Republican caucuses. There was active revolt from the rank and file in the final days of budget talks. The budget that passed and was signed in August continued a downward trend of funding for environmental programs.

So this year was mostly about holding the line: trying to save funding for agencies with environmental responsibilities, including the Department of Environmental Protection, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), and the Department of Agriculture; preventing the wholesale raid of energy conservation funds, open space funds, and clean water funds; fighting rollbacks on policies such as the phase out of MTBE (a gasoline additive), and elimination of the state’s recycling laws. Some positive steps were achieved when several pieces of new legislation were passed, including efforts to address the problems of invasive plants, light pollution, and mercury emissions from coal burning power plants. In addition, the moratorium on construction of cables and pipelines across Long Island Sound was extended. A significantly longer list of bills that failed however, includes ones that would have vastly improved energy efficiency standards for appliances, environmental building standards, auto emission standards, protection of grasslands, protection of watershed lands, land use planning, and sustainable forestry.

In recent years, and most markedly this past session, all decisions about what would come out of the committees, what would be voted on, and how bills would be amended was in the hands of a small number of party leaders. While this has been the case for budget negotiations for some time, it is a relatively new phenomenon to close out even the Committee Chairs from decisions on key issues. This has not only stalled important environmental legislation, it has given many lawmakers an excuse for their lack of individual leadership.



All the public opinion polling conducted by our educational affiliate clearly demonstrates the deep concern the people of our State have for the environment and their quality of life. Legislative leaders have a moral obligation to respect this. We expect legislative leadership to bring serious environmental legislation to the full House and Senate for a vote as part of the legislative process. If leadership does not do this, we have no choice but to hold them accountable for the lack of significant environmental progress for the people of Connecticut.

A number of things happened within the context of the budget—good and bad. The CEQ funding was partially restored and significant funds were dedicated to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. However, there were also three items that were slipped into the budget that make changes to the state's environmental laws without any public notice or debate. Provisions that allow for exemptions from current environmental laws are of particular concern. One exempts water companies from a number of Freedom of Information requirements under the auspices of national security, making it even harder than it already is to monitor and regulate water diversions and water quality. A second temporarily suspends any and all restrictions on the import of animals into Connecticut. And the third allows a municipality that is a water supplier to put active recreation on watershed land.

Our organization puts great store in maintaining the integrity of the legislative process. A key part of this process is following the proper procedures in introducing and passing legislation and providing for public input. To bypass this procedure sets a dangerous precedent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Many good bills were introduced during the session that did not reach either the House or Senate for a vote, even though they may have passed all of the necessary Committees. The Legislative Leaders who control agendas must take responsibility for this state of affairs, as must individual members who can demand open votes on matters they care about. CTLCV will continue to track very closely the decisions of party leaders. In the absence of a full floor vote, we have included the votes of the individual committee members whenever there was a significant action by that Committee. Many of the bills listed below that did not pass this session will be back in 2004.

Watershed Lands Protection

Smart Growth/Land Use Policies

Environmental Building Design Standards

Energy Efficiency Standards for Appliances

Grasslands Protection

Pesticide Storage Safety

Connecticut Environmental Policy Act Improvements

Genetically Modified Food Labeling

Environmental Justice

Light Pollution*

Electric Restructuring (hydropower)**

Bottle Bill Improvements

UConn Lands Protection

Recycling of Electronics

Protection of Trees along State highways

Sustainable Forestry Practices

* One of two light pollution bills passed by the legislature was vetoed by the Governor

** Electric Restructuring legislation was passed, but significant provisions regarding environmentally responsible hydropower remain to be addressed.



Summaries of Bills Scored

A “yes” vote on the items listed below is the pro-environment position and CTLCV indicated support for these bills to all legislators. The only exception to this was HB 1157, where a “no” vote was needed to defeat an amendment that weakened restrictions on All Terrain Vehicles.



Photos by John Picker

796 LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN:

The state would have been required to adopt more stringent energy and environmental building standards for state owned or funded buildings. New state construction projects would need to meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Rating System (LEEDS) — **FAILED**

840 MTBE AS A GASOLINE ADDITIVE:

Links the state’s phase out of the gasoline additive methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) to New York’s planned phase out. Sets the deadline to January 2004 and prevents the indefinite delay of the phase out — **PASSED**

894 MINIMUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR APPLIANCES:

Given the enormous environmental impact of energy generation and transmission, energy issues have become an ever more important part of sound environmental policy. This bill was one of several seeking to increase the energy efficiency of specific household and other appliances by setting state standards. Only the votes cast by members of the Appropriations Committee are scored, as all other votes were unanimous. Despite overwhelming bi-partisan support, the bill was allowed to die in the House without a full vote — **FAILED**

1046 INVASIVE SPECIES OF PLANTS:

This is the first effort in Connecticut to address invasive species of plants that are destroying habitat and threatening wildlife. It creates a nine-member invasive plants council to monitor, devise methods to control, and recommend bans of certain invasive plants, and to educate the public about this serious ecological problem — **PASSED**

1157 MINOR REVISIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROVISIONS —AMENDMENT 7568:

An omnibus reviser’s bill was passed that contained a good provision to require written permission to operate ATV’s on private property other than that of the ATV rider. An amendment was offered in the House, which failed, to remove the ATV language. The Amendment was scored — **BAD AMENDMENT DEFEATED**

1158 MORATORIUM ON PROJECTS IN LONG ISLAND SOUND:

Extends the moratorium on Long Island Sound cables or pipelines for one year to June 2004 — **PASSED**

5165 REDUCING OUTDOOR LIGHT POLLUTION AT STATE BUILDINGS:

Requires state buildings and facilities to maximize energy conservation and minimize light pollution — **PASSED, VETOED**



5686 REDUCTION IN HAZARDOUS ROAD GLARE AND LIGHT POLLUTION:

Prohibits floodlights intended to illuminate private property from being located in a state right of way unless they meet certain light pollution reduction requirements. Existing lights would need to be in compliance by October 2005 — *PASSED*

6048 MERCURY EMISSIONS FROM COAL FIRED ELECTRICITY GENERATORS:

Requires coal-burning electric plants to reduce mercury emissions by July 2008 — *PASSED*

6360 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:

Would have required several state agencies to consider cumulative impact of siting multiple polluting facilities in certain areas of the state — *FAILED*

6640 SMART GROWTH:

Would have required state, regional, and local planning bodies to develop land use plans that target development based on certain smart growth principles, including a town's ability to limit permits and tying open space grants to a town's build out plan — *FAILED*

Important Items that Were Not or Could Not be Scored

6681 PROTECTION OF WATERSHED LANDS:

This bill would have protected reservoirs and surrounding lands. It addressed issues of reservoir abandonment and incentives for water companies to sell land for conservation purposes instead of development. This bill was not scored because it was withdrawn when negotiations faltered between advocates and water companies, but will return in 2004 — *FAILED*

733 REVISIONS TO THE ELECTRIC RESTRUCTURING LEGISLATION:

This large and complex bill overhauls the way Connecticut's energy utilities are regulated. Environmentalists worked closely with lawmakers to ensure that the bill included requirements for clean, renewable energy such as wind and solar power. Unfortunately, the provisions relating to hydropower could also promote environmentally harmful hydro plants while discouraging environmentally benign plants. This will need to be addressed by legislators in 2004. This bill had many complex non-environmental provisions, and there was not a separate vote on the renewable energy component that could be scored — *PASSED*

1006 AUTO EMISSION STANDARDS:

This issue was introduced for the first time this year in Connecticut and made some headway. This is expected to be one of the major initiatives of the 2004 session in order to help clean up Connecticut's air by adopting California's standards for tailpipe emissions. Our neighboring states, Vermont, Massachusetts, and New York have already adopted the cleaner standards and are looking to our state to help solve our region's failing air quality. This legislation died in the Appropriations Committee without a vote to score — *FAILED*

1094 WATER QUALITY AND UCONN:

Legislation was proposed that would have required the University of Connecticut, as a large water supplier, to follow the same rules for source protections that apply to private, municipal and regional water utilities. Several different approaches to this legislative goal were brought forward at different times. This legislation died in the Higher Education Committee without a vote — *FAILED*

Senate Votes

Senator	Party	District	796 LEEDS	840 MTBE	894 Energy Efficiency	1046 Invasive Plants	1158 Long Island Sound	5165 Light Pollution	5686 Light Pollution	6048 Mercury Emissions	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	Points	Votes	2003 Score
Committee			G	S	A	S	S	S	S	E	ET	PH	A	PD	E	T				
Aniskovich	R	12		2	0	2	2	0	2	2				0			0	10	9	56%
Cappiello	R	24		2	0	2	2	0	2	2				0				10	8	63%
Ciotto	D	9		2		2	2	2	2	2						2		14	7	100%
Colapietro	D	31		2		2	1	2	2	2						2		13	7	93%
Coleman	D	2		2		2	2	2	2	2	2		2		2			18	9	100%
Cook	R	18		2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2		0	0	2			16	11	73%
Crisco	D	17		2		2	2	2	2	2								12	6	100%
Daily	D	33		0		2	2	0	2	2								8	6	67%
DeFronzo	D	6	0	2		2	2	2	2	2						2		14	8	88%
DeLuca	R	32		2		2	2	0	2	2								10	6	83%
Fasano	R	34		2		2	2	2	2	2				2				14	7	100%
Finch	D	22		2		2	2	2	2	2				2		2		16	8	100%
Fonfara	D	1		2		2	2	2	2	2				2				14	7	100%
Freedman	R	26		1	2	1	2	2	2	2			1					13	8	81%
Gaffey	D	13		1		2	2	2	2	2								11	6	92%
Genuario	R	25		2	0	2	2	2	2	2				0				12	8	75%
Guglielmo	R	35		2		2	2	0	2	2								10	6	83%
Gunther	R	21		0		2	2	2	2	2		1						11	7	79%
Handley	D	4		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		1		2			19	10	95%
Harp	D	10		2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2					16	8	100%
Hartley	D	15		1	2	2	2	2	2	2			1					14	8	88%
Herlihy	R	8		2		2	2	2	2	2	1							13	7	93%
Kissel	R	7		2		2	2	2	2	2								12	6	100%
LeBeau	D	3		2		2	2	2	2	2								12	6	100%
Looney	D	11		2		2	2	2	2	2								12	6	100%
McDonald	D	27		2		2	2	2	2	2	2							14	7	100%
McKinney	R	28		2		2	2	2	2	2	2			2	1			17	9	94%
Murphy	D	16		2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2					18	9	100%
Newton	D	23		2		2	2	2	2	2								12	6	100%
Nickerson	R	36		2		2	2	2	2	2						0		12	7	86%
Peters	D	20	1	2		2	2	2	2	2	1	2						16	9	89%
Prague	D	19		2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2					16	8	100%
Roraback	R	30	2	2		2	2	2	2	2								14	7	100%
Smith	R	14		2		2	1	2	2	2								11	6	92%
Sullivan	D	5		2		2	2	2	2	2								12	6	100%
Williams	D	29		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2		2			20	10	100%

H-House S-Senate A-Appropriations ET-Energy & Tech. PD-Planning & Development PH-Public Health T-Transportation E-Environment G-Gov't Administration & Elections

HOW TO USE THE SCORECARD

These vote charts detail how legislators voted on 10 separate bills and how they scored on their overall votes for the session. Descriptions of how those votes would impact the quality of Connecticut's air, land, water, and wildlife are on pages 4 and 5.

0 - anti-environment vote
1 - absent/abstain
2 - pro-environment vote
2003 Scores - percentage of pro-environment votes cast by legislator



House of Representative Votes

Representative	Party	District	796 LEEDS	840 MTBE	1046 Invasive Species	1157-C ATV	1158 Long Island Sound	5165 Light Pollution	5686 Light Pollution	6048 Mercury Emissions	894 Energy Efficiency	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	Points	Votes	2003 Score
Committee			G	H	H	H	H	H	H	A	E	ET	PH	A	PD	T	E			
Abrams	D	83		2	2	0	2	2	2									12	7	86%
Adinolfi	R	103	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	0				0				14	10	70%
Altobello	D	82		2	2	2	0	2	2	2								12	7	86%
Amann	D	118		2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Bacchiochi	R	52		2	2	0	2	0	0	2								8	7	57%
Backer	D	121		2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2		1				19	10	95%
Barry	D	12		2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Beamon	D	72		2	1	2	2	2	2									13	7	93%
Belden	R	113		2	2	2	2	0	0	2								10	7	71%
Berger	D	73		2	2	1	2	2	2	2								13	7	93%
Bernhard	R	136		1	2	2	2	2	2		2						2	17	9	94%
Bielawa	R	2		2	2	2	2	0	0	2		0			0	0		10	10	50%
Boucher	R	143		2	2	0	2	0	2	2	0			0				10	9	56%
Boukus	D	22		2	2	2	2	2	2	2								14	7	100%
Cafero	R	142		2	2	0	2	0	2	2								10	7	71%
Candelaria	D	95		2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2			2				17	9	94%
Cardin	D	53		2	2	0	2	2	2	2								12	7	86%
Caron	R	44		2	2	0	0	0	0	2								6	7	43%
Carson	R	108		2	2	2	2	0	0	2			0					10	8	63%
Carter	D	7		2	2	2	2	2	2	2				2				18	9	100%
Caruso	D	126	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2			2	24	12	100%
Chapin	R	67		2	2	2	2	0	0	2	0	2		0			0	12	11	55%
Christ	D	11		2	2	2	2	2	2						2			16	8	100%
Cocco	D	127		2	2	2	2	2	2							2		16	8	100%
Collins	R	117		2	2	2	1	0	1	2		2					0	12	9	67%
Congdon	R	42		2	2	0	2	2	0	2	2			0				12	9	67%
Conway	D	75		2	2	2	2	2	2	2						1		15	8	94%
Currey	D	10		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1			2				17	9	94%
D'Amelio	R	71		2	2	2	2	0	0	2	1			1				12	9	67%
Dargan	D	115		2	2	2	2	2	2	2								14	7	100%
Davis	D	50		2	2	2	1	1	2	2		2			2		2	18	10	90%
DelGobbo	R	70		2	2	2	0	0	0	2		0						8	8	50%
Diamantis	D	79		2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1			1				15	9	83%
Dickman	R	132		2	0	2	2	0	2	2	0		1	0				11	10	55%
Dillon	D	92		1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	1				18	10	90%
Donovan	D	84	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2				22	11	100%
Doyle	D	28		2	1	2	2	2	2	2						1		14	8	88%
Duff	D	137		2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2						16	8	100%
Dyson	D	94		2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2			2				16	9	89%
Esposito	D	116		2	2	2	2	2	2	2								14	7	100%
Fahrbach	R	61		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0		0	0				14	10	70%
Farr	R	19		2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2			1				15	9	83%
Feltman	D	6		2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2					16	8	100%
Ferrari	R	62		2	2	0	0	0	2	2		0						8	8	50%
Flaherty, B.	R	68		2	2	0	2	0	0	2	1			1				10	9	56%
Fleischmann	D	18	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2				22	11	100%
Floren	R	149	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	1			0				13	10	65%
Fontana	D	87		2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2			2		2	20	10	100%
Fox	D	144		2	2	2	1	1	1	1								10	7	71%
Frey	R	111		2	2	0	2	0	0	2								8	7	57%

House of Representative Votes

Representative	Party	District	796 LEEDS	840 MTBE	1046 Invasive Species	1157-C ATV	1158 Long Island Sound	5165 Light Pollution	5686 Light Pollution	6048 Mercury Emissions	894 Energy Efficiency	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	Points	Votes	2003 Score
Committee			G	H	H	H	H	H	H	A	E	ET	PH	A	PD	T	E				
Fritz	D	90		2	2	2	2	2	2										14	7	100%
Geragosian	D	25		2	2	2	2	2	2	1				1					16	9	89%
Giannaros	D	21		2	2	2	2	2	2										14	7	100%
Gibbons	R	150		2	2	2	2	0	2	2						2			14	8	88%
Giegler	R	138		2	2	2	2	0	2	2			0						12	8	75%
Giuliano	R	23		2	2	2	2	0	0	2	2				0		0		12	10	60%
Godfrey	D	110		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Gonzalez	D	3		2	2	2	2	2	2	2				2					18	9	100%
Googins	R	31		2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2			2					16	9	89%
Graziani	D	57		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Green	D	1		2	1	2	2	0	1	2									10	7	71%
Greene	R	105		2	2	2	1	0	1	2									10	7	71%
Guerrera	D	29		2	2	2	2	2	2	2						1			15	8	94%
Hamm	D	34		0	2	2	2	2	2	2									12	7	86%
Hamzy	R	78		0	2	0	0	2	2	2									8	7	57%
Harkins	R	120	1	2	2	0	2	2	2	2						0			13	9	72%
Heagney	R	16		2	2	0	2	0	0	2									8	7	57%
Hetherington	R	125		2	2	2	2	0	0	2		2				2	0		14	10	70%
Hovey	R	112		2	2	0	2	0	0	2									8	7	57%
Hyslop	D	39		2	2	2	2	0	2	2									12	7	86%
Janowski	D	56		1	2	2	2	2	2	2			2			2			17	9	94%
Jarmoc	D	59		2	1	0	1	2	1	2	1	2		1	1		1		15	12	63%
Johnston	D	51		2	2	0	2	0	2	2	2			0					12	9	67%
Kalinowski	R	100		2	2	2	2	0	2	2		2		0			2		16	10	80%
Keeley	D	125		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Kerensky	D	14		2	2	2	2	2	2	2				2					18	9	100%
Kirkley-Bey	D	5		2	2	1	2	2	2	2									13	7	93%
Klarides	R	114		2	2	0	2	0	2	2									10	7	71%
Labriola	R	131	1	2	2	2	0	0	2	2									11	8	69%
Lawlor	D	99	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2									14	8	88%
Leone	D	148		2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2						16	8	100%
Lewis	D	8		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				2		2		20	10	100%
Lyons	D	146		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Malone	D	47		2	2	0	2	2	2	2			2						14	8	88%
Mann	D	140		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Mantilla	D	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1					2				17	9	94%
Martinez, L.	D	128		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2					18	9	100%
Mazurek	D	80		2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2						16	8	100%
McCluskey	D	20	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2			2			20	10	100%
McMahon	D	15		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Megna	D	97		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2					2		20	10	100%
Merrill	D	54		2	2	2	2	2	2	2				1					17	9	94%
Metz	R	101	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0			0					14	10	70%
Michele	D	77		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1			2					17	9	94%
Mikutel	D	45		2	2	2	2	2	2	2						1			15	8	94%
Miller	R	122		1	2	2	2	0	0	2			0			1			10	9	56%
Miner	R	66		2	2	2	2	0	0	2					0				10	8	63%
Moukawsher	D	40		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						2		18	9	100%
Mushinsky	D	85		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						2		18	9	100%
Nafis	D	27		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2					18	9	100%

House of Representative Votes

Representative	Party	District	796 LEEDS	840 MTBE	1046 Invasive Species	1157-C ATV	1158 Long Island Sound	5165 Light Pollution	5686 Light Pollution	6048 Mercury Emissions	894 Energy Efficiency	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6360 Environ. Justice	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	6640 Smart Growth	Points	Votes	2003 Score
Committee			G	H	H	H	H	H	H	A	E	ET	PH	A	PD	T	E				
Nardello	D	89		2	2	2	2	2	2			2	2						18	9	100%
Noujaim	R	74		2	2	2	2	2	0	2									12	7	86%
O'Brien	D	24	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2									16	8	100%
O'Connor	D	35		2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2			2					16	9	89%
Olson	D	46		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
O'Neill	R	69		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Orange	D	48		2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2		2	2					18	10	90%
Orefice	D	37		2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2							16	8	100%
O'Rourke	D	32	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2					20	10	100%
Panaroni	D	102		0	2	2	2	2	2	2			2			2			16	9	89%
Pawelkiewicz	D	49		2	2	2	2	1	2	2						2			15	8	94%
Peters	R	30	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2									6	8	38%
Piscopo	R	76		2	2	0	2	0	0	2	2						0		10	9	56%
Powers	R	151		0	0	0	2	0	0	2									4	7	29%
Reinoso	D	130	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2									15	8	94%
Rowe	R	123		1	1	1	1	1	1	2									8	7	57%
Roy	D	119		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			0		0	2		20	12	83%
Ruwet	R	65		2	2	2	2	0	0	1									9	7	64%
Ryan, J.	R	141		2	2	2	2	0	0	2					0				10	8	63%
Ryan, K.	D	139		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2					20	10	100%
Sawyer	R	55		2	2	0	2	2	2	2						1			13	8	81%
Sayers	D	60		2	2	2	2	0	2	2		2	2			1			17	10	85%
Scribner	R	107		2	2	2	2	0	2	2						0			12	8	75%
Serra	D	33		2	2	2	2	2	2	2						2			16	8	100%
Sharkey	D	103		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						2		18	9	100%
Sherer	R	147		2	0	0	2	0	0	2									6	7	43%
Spallone	D	36	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2					2				18	9	100%
Staples	D	96		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Stillman	D	38		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2					1	2		19	10	95%
Stone, C.	D	9		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Stone, J.	R	134		2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1			1	0				14	10	70%
Stripp	R	135		2	2	0	2	0	2	2	2				0				12	9	67%
Tallarita	D	58		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Tercyak	R	26		2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2							16	8	100%
Thompson	D	13		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2					18	9	100%
Tonucci	D	104		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Truglia	D	145		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1			2					17	9	94%
Tymniak	R	133		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			0					16	9	89%
Urban	R	43		2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2				2		2		17	10	85%
Villano	D	91		1	2	2	2	2	2	2									13	7	93%
Walker	D	93		2	2	2	2	2	2	2									14	7	100%
Wallace	D	109		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1				2	2			19	10	95%
Ward	R	86		2	2	0	2	0	2	2									10	7	71%
Wasserman	R	106		2	2	2	2	2	0	2	0			2					14	9	78%
Widlitz	D	98		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						2		18	9	100%
Wilber	D	63		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				2				20	10	100%
Willis	D	64		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2						2		18	9	100%
Winkler	R	41		2	2	2	2	0	0	2			1						11	8	69%
Witkos	R	17		2	2	2	2	2	2	2						2			16	8	100%
Zalaski	D	81		2	2	0	2	2	2	2									12	7	86%

THE FOLLOWING LAWMAKERS CHAMPIONED SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES DURING THE 2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE.

SENATOR BILLY CIOTTO	Wildlife License Plates
SENATOR LOU DELUCA	Phase out of methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE)
SENATOR DOC GUNTHER	Long Island Sound Moratorium
SENATOR ANDREW RORABACK	Invasive Plants
SENATOR DON WILLIAMS	Clean Cars
REPRESENTATIVE TERRY BACKER	Renewable Energy
REPRESENTATIVE KEN BERNHARD	Bottle Bill
REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS CARUSO	Mercury Emissions
REPRESENTATIVE MARY MUSHINSKY	Water Planning Council
REPRESENTATIVE BOB MEGNA	Energy Funding
REPRESENTATIVE JIM O'ROURKE	Light Pollution
REPRESENTATIVE LEW WALLACE	Smart Growth

TONY TERCYAK



In Memoriam

District 26 ~ New Britain

*Served in the Connecticut General Assembly from 1995-2003
A very good ally and a leader on environmental issues*



What Finally Happened to CEQ?

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is the independent state agency that monitors trends in Connecticut's environment. It also investigates citizen complaints about environmental problems, often where the subject of a complaint is another state agency. Pursuant to state statutes, the Council recommends new laws or other remedies when it identifies deficiencies in state environmental programs. It usually does this through a series of special reports, which frequently result in important legislative initiatives.

Despite its influential past, however, the Council's future was already in serious jeopardy. The Governor's proposed budget of March 2003 had aimed to eliminate the Council. The General Assembly disagreed, and restored the Council in each of the budgets it adopted. Those budgets were initially vetoed. Finally, in late August the General Assembly adopted and the Governor signed a supplemental "implementer bill" which included partial funding for the CEQ.

The CEQ was close to extinction at several points along this timeline. CTLCV actively engaged several dozen organizations to generate a deluge of e-mails, letters, and telephone calls from their respective members. This outpouring of support persuaded the General Assembly to put money back in the budget for the CEQ.

Once again proof that when the people lead, the leaders will follow.



Photo by John Pieker

The Death Knell: Fiscal Notes

WE FIRST REPORTED ON THIS PROBLEM IN OUR 2002 SCORECARD. IT BEARS REPEATING.

Every bill that goes to the floor of the House and Senate must include an analysis of what it would cost the state and municipalities if the bill became law. A fiscal note is prepared by the Office of Fiscal Analysis (OFA) which is part of the Legislative branch. OFA asks the agencies of the Executive branch that could be affected by a law to estimate the cost to the government of carrying out the provisions of the bill. Agencies opposed to certain bills can inflate the cost estimates and effectively kill legislation if the agency's numbers are unchallenged.

A growing concern for environmental leaders is the use of fiscal notes to kill important environmental legislation. Of even greater concern, given their life or death impact on legislation, is the almost complete inability for advocates—and usually even legislators—to question the validity of these fiscal notes.

By relying exclusively on cost estimates provided by the Executive branch, the Legislative branch relinquishes too much authority to a separate branch of government to decide the fate of a particular proposal. Furthermore, fiscal notes assess only costs, not savings.

In promoting legislation in the future, it will be important that advocates provide initial detailed cost figures to key legislators so they can provide it to OFA staff before a fiscal note is prepared.



83% of Connecticut voters believe that a clean environment makes our communities healthier, safer and better places to live and raise a family, and are supportive of stronger environmental laws.

Statewide public opinion poll of 500 likely Connecticut voters conducted
March 2003 for CTLCV Education Fund.



Department of Environmental Protection: Slashed to the Bone

This was a painful budget year with difficult decision-making, political infighting, and angry recriminations. The legislature was attempting to deal with an almost billion dollar deficit.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), even during times of surplus, has suffered cuts that have made its task to enforce and maintain the environment an enormous challenge. This year, the DEP budget is about \$10 million less than in 2001 — 22% cut in the agency budget.

As a result DEP suffered layoffs and early retirements so that it now faces a loss of 13% of the total positions of the agency. Every single bureau chief has taken the early retirement package. While there are some talented people ready to take over and lead in many of these vacated slots, they will have few “bodies” to lead. To operate effectively will be a Herculean task.

Meanwhile, when the General Assembly adds good environmental programs, it too often is unwilling to pay for the services that are required. It makes for good headlines when they pass the bill, but the public is not served and the frustrations with an underfunded program grow exponentially. This pattern of action must be stopped.

The bottom line is that the state is not paying for the responsibilities that it has placed in the hands of DEP. Such draconian cuts at DEP do not reflect the public’s concern and commitment to the environment that is consistently reflected in public opinion polling done by CTLCV’s educational affiliate. Poll results consistently show that Connecticut voters are highly favorable to government action on environmental protection, which is not always the case in many other states. (Copies of this poll can be seen on CTLCV Education Fund’s website at www.conservationeducation.org.)

Any further cuts or holding back funds that have been appropriated to the DEP will inevitably diminish programs that protect citizens’ health and the environment.

So the recent budget cuts reveal a disconnect. CTLCV is working hard to educate the legislature and the public about the impact of these drastic and destructive budget cuts on the ability of the DEP to assure a future Connecticut with safe, clean, healthy communities in which we live.

Visit Us on the Web

www.ctlc.org is a source of valuable information to supplement this Scorecard and contains past Scorecards, legislative initiatives, and information on candidates for state legislature.

www.conservationeducation.org is the site of our educational affiliate where you can find environmental polling results of Connecticut voters, information on issues and a variety of tools for conservation-minded citizens.

NEW! WILDLIFE LICENSE PLATE

One of the few bright spots in the state budget this past session was passage of legislation to create a special vehicle license plate that will provide desperately needed funding for Connecticut's wildlife conservation programs. The design is being finalized.



**FOR INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN OBTAIN THESE SIGNATURE PLATES,
CONTACT AUDUBON CONNECTICUT AT 203-264-5098.**



Energy: The Next Generation

Many of the measures before the General Assembly during the 2003 legislative session (and surely those to come) were related in one way or another to the way we produce, distribute, and consume energy.

74% of Connecticut voters would prefer their electricity to come to from renewable sources if given a choice by their electric company.



82% of Connecticut voters agree that the State of Connecticut can and should do more to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases produced in the State.

Statewide public opinion poll of 500 likely Connecticut voters conducted March 2003 for CTLCV Education Fund.

The electric restructuring legislation (of which we have not seen the last), the debate over electric cables across Long Island Sound, and the legislative raid on moneys that should have been used for energy conservation and clean energy development provide obvious examples. Legislation to reduce vehicle pollution was also before our state lawmakers last session. Our cars and trucks are major users of fossil fuels, with health, national security, and global warming implications.

In the absence of an articulated, comprehensive energy policy, these issues tend to be dealt with piecemeal in a narrow, often poorly understood, context. Decisions are heavily influenced by parochial lobbying in a setting that favors the special interests over the public interest.

As the lights were going out in parts of Connecticut as a result of the blackout this summer, the state legislature betrayed rate payers and went back on commitments to support energy conservation and cleaner renewable power by raiding rate payer funded conservation and clean energy funds. This is not only poor public policy, but has left Connecticut more vulnerable and dependent on foreign fossil fuel and nuclear energy. It also hinders our economic development by leaving us far behind our neighboring states of New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island who strongly embrace programs to support cleaner power and energy efficiency.

Are investments in energy conservation to be rewarded, or is the emphasis to be entirely on producing and distributing more and more fossil fuels, regardless of the consequences? Is our policy toward motor vehicles and their use to remain entirely laissez-faire? If so, what are the implications in terms of public investment, congestion, supply, and health?

These are only some of the issues that do not surface for public consideration in the absence of a credible planning process. It is essential that environmental leaders press for a comprehensive and inclusive approach to our state's energy policies.



CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

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Executive Director

Lori Brown

Special thanks to John Picker for his photo contributions.





PLEASE HELP SUPPORT CTLCV's FUTURE EFFORTS

Yes! I'll support CTLCV's education and political accountability work.

My check payable to CTLCV is enclosed

\$35 \$50 \$100 \$200 Other \$

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

PLEASE RETURN TO CTLCV using the reply envelope included in this report.

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters has three distinct entities, each with unique legal parameters and programs. CTLCV, Inc. helps to maintain a strong and growing environmental presence in the Connecticut General Assembly and can engage in direct political activities that are typically prohibited for other non-profits. CTLCV's Political Action Committee provides political leverage at election time. CTLCV Education Fund conducts specific outreach programs and strategic planning to strengthen the environmental community.

PLEASE TELL US WHERE YOU WANT YOUR SUPPORT TO GO:

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, Inc.

This organization has a 501(c)(4) designation by the IRS in order to produce this scorecard and make political endorsements. As such, contributions to CTLCV are not tax-deductible.

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters Political Action Committee

Contributions to CTLCV PAC support our election work. Gifts are limited to \$1,000 per person in a calendar year, and are not tax-deductible.

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, Inc.

This is the educational affiliate of CTLCV, Inc. that has a 501(c)(3) designation by the IRS. Contributions are tax-deductible.



**CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS**

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