



MARYLAND LEAGUE  
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

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## News Release

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### **Maryland House Speaker Michael Busch Receives Top Award for Environmental Leadership**

*House Speaker Busch Receives Kabler Memorial Award at Annual Event Featuring Governor  
Martin O'Malley, Congresswoman Donna Edwards and Dr. Donald Boesch*

*Annapolis, MD*, The Maryland League of Conservation Voters (LCV) honored Michael Busch, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, with its annual John V. Kabler Memorial Award in recognition of his many achievements in protecting Maryland's air, land, and water. The award recognizes outstanding environmental leadership and commitment. For 24 years as a Maryland Delegate, 7 of those years as Speaker of the House of Delegates, Busch has been a powerful leader and dedicated advocate for the environment in Maryland.

"I am pleased to be recognized tonight for the progress and hard work we have undertaken to improve Maryland's environment," said Speaker Michael E. Busch. "This award is not just an honor for me, but for the entire House of Delegates, which has invested in the future of the Chesapeake Bay and the entire State's environmental health. I look forward to continuing our work, along with the Maryland League of Conservation Voters, to fight for a greener, cleaner future."

"We are thrilled to honor Speaker Busch. In his work to protect the environment for the people of Maryland, he has embodied the spirit of the John V. Kabler award," said Cindy Schwartz, Executive Director of the Maryland League of Conservation Voters. "His long list of accomplishments for his constituents and for the state has had the effect of making Maryland a great place to live and work".

Guest speakers at the annual event included Governor Martin O'Malley and Dr. Donald Boesch, President of the University of Maryland's Center for Environmental Sciences (UMCES), who spoke on "The Gulf of Mexico & the Chesapeake Bay—Lessons Learned."

"The work of the Maryland LCV benefits not only ourselves, but the next generation," said

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Governor O'Malley. "This organization works on some of the most important issues of our times. Together, we're embracing a new spirit of progress for our environment and for a cleaner, greener, more renewable energy future. Maryland LCV's partnership in these efforts has been immeasurable."

"I'm glad to be here tonight to share my experience with the Gulf oil spill and support the unique role the Maryland League of Conservation Voters plays in protecting the Chesapeake Bay," said Dr. Don Boesch. "Restoring the Bay starts with electing the right leaders and that is what the League does best."

"Speaker Busch's many accomplishments include protection of our waterways, oyster restoration, protection of critical areas and allowing citizens the ability to have their voices heard through changes in Environmental Standing Laws," said Fred Hoover, Chair of the Board of the Maryland League of Conservation Voters. "He is willing to tackle complex budget issues that benefit all of us and through his efforts Maryland has become a national leader in the fight against climate change and air pollution."

***John V. Kabler Memorial Award***

*Established in 2001, the John V. Kabler Memorial Award honors the vision and accomplishments of John V. Kabler (1942-1996). Motivated to act on behalf of the environment in the wake of the Three Mile Island crisis in the late 1970s, Kabler inspired his environmental colleagues to become active in political campaigns. Together these leaders founded the Maryland LCV in 1979. Until his death in 1996, Kabler was a key leader of the Maryland conservation movement. Past recipients of the John V. Kabler Memorial Award include Governor Parris Glendening, U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, Maryland Senator Brian Frosh, EPA Administrator Russell Train, the Chesapeake Waterkeepers, U.S. Senator Joseph Tydings, Governor Harry Hughes, Congressman Wayne Gilchrest, and Senator Barbara Mikulski.*

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