

Drawer Report

Bills that Died without Receiving a Vote

HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

No Net Loss of Forests

Delegate Love, Senator Young

HB0120/SB0203 changed the definition in the 2013 statewide goal of “No net loss of forests” to specify contiguous forest is counted towards that goal, and not simply tree canopy, which includes street trees. The bill passed the Senate, but was blocked from a vote in the House Committee.

Environment and Solar Energy Blueprint

Delegate Stein, Senator Pinsky

HB0532/SB0744 addressed the important questions surrounding the locations of large-scale solar field development that are raised by the rapid expansion of solar required by the Clean Energy Jobs Act. The bill passed the Senate unanimously, but neither House nor Senate bill were brought up for a vote.

Smart Growth Investment Fund

Delegate Lafferty, Senator Rosapepe

Public investment in smart growth is critical to recruiting private capital and overcoming some of the barriers to high-quality, compact development in existing communities. HB117/SB0003 would have protected our environment and open spaces through disincentivizing sprawl development. The bill passed the Senate but was not brought to a vote in the House Committee.



Joan Plisco

HOUSE ECONOMIC MATTERS AND SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEES

Removing Subsidies for Waste Incinerators

Delegates Mosby and R. Lewis, Senator Hough

HB961/SB548 would have removed state subsidies from waste incinerators as a renewable resource within the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard. Initially an important component of the Clean Energy Jobs Act, this legislation was broken off into separate, stand-alone bills, which were priorities of Maryland

Green Champions for 2019

- 100% Score for current and previous year
- Lifetime scores since 2011 above 95%
- Primary sponsor for at least one Maryland LCV legislative priority in previous three years
- Not supporting legislation opposed by Maryland LCV on the Hotlist during that awards legislative session

SENATE: Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, Paul Pinsky

HOUSE: Luke Clippinger, David Fraser-Hidalgo, Tawanna Gaines, Anne Healey, Stephen W. Lafferty, Robbyn Lewis, Brooke E. Lierman, Nick Mosby

Lowest Scores for 2019

SENATE: Jack Bailey, Jason C. Gallion

HOUSE: Christopher T. Adams, Joseph C. Boteler III, Jason C. Buckel, Rick Impallaria, Trent Kittleman, Warren E. Miller.

LCV and several other environmental and environmental justice organizations. Despite overwhelming grassroots and legislative pressure, the bills did not receive a vote in either chamber's committee, raising concerns about leadership's interest in advancing the cause of environmental health and justice.

SENATE LEADERSHIP

Chlorpyrifos Ban

Delegate Stein, Senator Nathan-Pulliam

HB275/SB270 would have banned the use of Chlorpyrifos—a toxic nerve agent pesticide proven to cause brain damage to children, poison farm workers, contaminate waterways, and harm wildlife. This bill passed the House of Delegates and initially passed the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee, but was blocked from progressing to the Senate floor for passage by Senate leadership.



Kristyn Kuhn Eckel



30C West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-280-9855
www.mdlcv.org



@MDLCV

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Annapolis, MD
Permit No. 1

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 2019 SESSION, VISIT [HTTP://SCORECARD.MDLCV.ORG](http://SCORECARD.MDLCV.ORG)



Danielle Lipinski



Ben Alexandro

40TH ANNIVERSARY

MARYLAND LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

2019 Environmental Scorecard

<http://scorecard.mdlcv.org> ■ #MDLCVScore

This year, did YOUR elected legislators:

- Stand up to **protect our waterways** by eliminating Styrofoam food service containers and protecting oyster sanctuaries?
- Commit to **reducing Maryland's carbon footprint** by increasing our renewable energy usage and investing in clean buses and public transportation infrastructure?
- Fight for a **clean and healthy environment** by defending forests and banning harmful pesticides?

The 2019 Environmental Scorecard helps answer these questions. For 40 years, Maryland League of Conservation Voters (Maryland LCV) has been the non-partisan political voice of the environment in Annapolis. We work with our partners to fight for strong environmental legislation, and release an annual scorecard so you see how your elected legislators represent your conservation values.



Kai Hagan

YOUR VOICE IS POWERFUL

You can see the power in the significant legislation that your conservation supermajority passed through the General Assembly this year. Maryland became the first state to pass a statewide ban on Styrofoam food service products, and we reasserted our State's leadership in the green energy economy by passing the Clean Energy Jobs Act, working with our colleagues in organized labor to significantly boost our renewable energy production with quality, family-supporting jobs. Our champions took up the work of Chispa Maryland—our Latinx outreach program—to pass legislation that creates a permanent grant structure to fund the transition of Maryland's school bus fleet from diesel to electric-powered. All of these bills passed because of the work that you did in electing Delegates and Senators who prioritize a clean environment.



Caroline Parsa

THE DRAWER REPORT

This year's scorecard also outlines the work left undone.

Each year we highlight the bills that died without ever receiving a vote in our “Drawer Report.” When committee chairs choose to leave a bill “in a drawer” without receiving a vote it prevents true accountability of your elected officials, and subverts the democratic process. While there are occasionally legitimate reasons to table legislation for future sessions, the bills highlighted here demand sunlight. We urge you to look beyond the votes taken to the discussion of votes the General Assembly never took, despite the demands of you, their constituents.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS IN TRANSITION

We remember the legacy of longtime House Speaker Michael E. Busch as we look forward to the leadership of newly elected Speaker Adrienne Jones. With a class of bright and thoughtful first-time legislators joining with our veteran champions there is tremendous opportunity for progress this term. We will need all of their ideas and yours, as the urgency of the climate crisis becomes more apparent with every passing day. Our work—yours and ours—has never been more important. We must harness all the energy of change to effect substantive, ambitious policies that will help save our future.

For a more in-depth look at the votes we scored, as well as past votes, please go to www.mdlcv.org. We urge you to read our full, online scorecard, use our interactive map, and most importantly, contact your legislators to voice your opinion.

Maryland League of Conservation Voters (Maryland LCV) is a state-wide, nonpartisan organization that uses political action and education to protect our air, land, water, and communities. Maryland LCV endorses and elects pro-conservation candidates and holds elected officials accountable through legislative scorecards.

