Maryland League of Conservation Voters (Maryland LCV) is a state-wide, nonpartisan organization that uses political action and education to protect our air, land and water. Maryland LCV promotes smart and sustainable policies that help ensure all citizens have access to healthy, affordable outdoor recreation. To learn more about the 2016 session, visit http://mdlcv.org/scorecards

Maryland LCV 2016 Environmental Scorecard

2016 Environmental Scorecard

Bill Grayard

Every year, many more bills are introduced than actually ever make it to the floor for a vote, so each of these bills is scored in order to chart their potential impact on our environmental policy and our planet's future.

Legislators must consider how well their proposals support the goals of the Maryland League of Conservation Voters. An “A” indicates strong support; a “F” indicates weak support.

The scores are based on the League's analysis of the positions taken by each legislator on bills passed during the 2016 legislative session. The scores are determined by the League’s staff and are based on the League’s analysis of the bills that were passed. The scores are not based on the final vote on the bill, but rather on the position taken by the legislator on the bill.

Legislators can use this information to make informed decisions about their positions on environmental issues, and to hold elected officials accountable through legislative actions.

Highest and Lowest Scores for 2016

Democrats

Senate: 96% 93% 84%

Republicans: 19% 30% 30%

Senator Pugh, Ramirez, Raskin, Rosapepe, Zirkin, Zucker were the top scorers in the Senate, with scores of 96%, 93% and 84% respectively.

Delegate Lee, Madeleno, Manno, McFadden, Miller, Peters, Pinsky, Gladden, Guzzone, Kagan, Kasemeyer, Kelley, King, Klausmeier, and others were among the top scorers in the House, with scores of 87%, 84%, 83% and 82% respectively.

Lowest Scores for 2016

Democrats

Senate: 74% 71% 61%

Republicans: 29% 33% 30%

Senator Metzgar, W. Miller, Morgan, Parrott, Rey, Rose, Saab, Glass, Grammer, S. Howard, Impallaria, Kittleman, Long, and others were among the lowest scorers in the Senate, with scores of 74%, 71%, and 61% respectively.

Delegate Adams, Afzali, Arentz, Buckel, Cluster, Fisher, Hershey, Hough, Jennings, Norman, Ready, and others were among the lowest scorers in the House, with scores of 69%, 68%, 62%, and 60% respectively.

Bill sponsors receive a “D” or “F” for each bill’s effectiveness in tackling the environmental issues that the League deems important. The “D” indicates a desire for improvement, while the “F” indicates a failure to act. The scores are based on the League’s analysis of the bills that were passed.

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Fankhauser Recovery Plan—Smoke-Related Disabilities

Both the House and Senate adopted legislation that would help fund the implementation of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement. This program ensures that people are able to quit smoking and that the money generated from the settlement is used to fund programs that help people quit smoking.

The House passed a bill that would have provided funding for smoking cessation programs. The Senate passed a bill that would have prohibited the sale of tobacco products to minors.

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Since 1998, Maryland has been a leader in providing smoke-free laws and policies. In 2016, the League continued to push for stronger laws that would make it easier for people to quit smoking.

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Farebox Recovery Rate—Repeal

Delegate Queen introduced legislation to repeal the state’s farebox recovery rate, which is a regressive program that requires public-transit riders to pay a certain percentage of the amount of operating costs for the Maryland Transit Authority. This program is designed to encourage riders to pay their fair share of the cost of public transit.

Both the House and Senate passed bills that would have repealed the farebox recovery rate. The Senate passed a bill that would have provided funding for transit improvements.

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Visit Thurmont by the Environment and Transportation Committee under the Chairmanship of U.S. Senator Mike自由贸易区 Act of 2016 (Senator Ramirez, Delegate Lierman) override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override on strict party lines in the last days of session.

The overwhelming support of this legislation demonstrated the economic benefit of environmental protection. Maryland became the first state to implement a ban on residential sale and prohibited the distribution of plastic bags for free at point-of-sale in retail. Despite significant support from many communities, business, and faith leaders, as well as legislative supporters of this bill, the vote was close in the House vote due to concerns about rural development component pushed the bill over the finish line.

The Senate Committee worked diligently to reach a compromise that allowed the House to pass the bill. The vote was close in the Senate as well due to concerns about rural development component pushed the bill over the finish line.

The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017. The bill was vetoed by the Governor and will be subject to an override vote in 2017.