

How the Maryland General Assembly Voted on the Environment 1987-1990

Prepared by
The Maryland League of Conservation Voters

State Averages

	<u>1990</u>	<u>1986</u>
House	53	53
<i>Democrats</i>	54	58
<i>Republicans</i>	44	34
Senate	56	49
<i>Democrats</i>	57	50
<i>Republicans</i>	50	46

Regional Averages

		<u>Senate</u>	<u>House</u>
Western Maryland	(Districts 1-4)	22	44
North Central	(Districts 5, 34, 35)	32	37
Eastern Shore	(Districts 36-38)	13	23
Southern Maryland	(Districts 28,29)	38	44
Anne Arundel County	(Districts 30-33)	69	51
Montgomery County	(Districts 14-20)	79	88
Prince Georges County	(Districts 13, 21-27)	75	60
Baltimore County	(Districts 6-12)	65	45
Baltimore City	(Districts 39-47)	53	46

Highest Scores

Senate (100%): *Blount, Collins, Denis, Garrott, Hollinger, Lapidis, Ruben, Winegrad*

House (100%): *Alexander, Bevan, Billings, Dembrow, Forehand, Franchot, Frosh, Genn, Hattery, Kach, Perry, Pitkin, Teitelbaum*

Lowest Scores

Senate (0%): *L. Riley, Simpson, Smelser*

House (0%): *Colburn, Davis, Johnson, Matthews, Pilchard*

Congressional Averages

	<u>1989</u>	<u>1988</u>		<u>1989</u>	<u>1988</u>
Dyson (D-1)	70	44	Mikulski (D)	70	70
Bentley (R-2)	20	31	Sarbanes (D)	80	80
Cardin (D-3)	70	81			
McMillen(D-4)	70	69			
Hoyer (D-5)	90	63			
Byron (D-6)	50	44			
Mfume (D-7)	80	100			
Morella (R-8)	100	88			

The national League of Conservation Voters compiles the environmental voting records for members of the U.S. Congress. The averages listed here are from the recent publication, "The 1989 National Environmental Scorecard". For more information, write the League of Conservation Voters, 1150 Connecticut Ave. NW, #201, Washington, DC 20036.

Votes in the House of Delegates

1. Steep Slopes Protection 1987 - HB 1201

This bill would have repealed Maryland's prohibition of strip mining on slopes steeper than 20°. Maryland's law, originally passed in 1975, is the only statute in the country that bans this type of mining. A similar bill to repeal the law came up in 1985 and was vetoed by then-governor Hughes. This proposal was another in a series of periodic attempts by the coal industry to gut the original law.

The bill was sponsored by the Western Maryland delegation and, of course; supported by the coal industry. The bill passed; however, the bill was ultimately killed in the Senate, and the ban on steep slope surface mining remains. NO or Not Voting is correct.

2. The Maryland Recycling Act 1988 - HB 714

This bill required Maryland counties to reduce the amount of trash going to landfills by 20% (and smaller counties by 15%). The bill also set up a state office of recycling, and set up recycling goals and schedules. According to the legislation, if recycling goals were not met, a growth moratorium could be imposed in that jurisdiction.

The bill was initially opposed by The Maryland Department of Environment, but was supported by a tremendous and unprecedented grassroots coalition of citizen organizations and environmentalists. The bill passed the House. The correct vote is YES.

3. Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Checkoff 1988 - SB 359

This is the House vote on the Senate bill that put the special checkoff line on the State income tax form. The line allowed taxpayers to donate directly to Chesapeake Bay and endangered species programs in the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Many states have similar tax return mechanisms for wildlife programs.

The bill was opposed by Maryland's Comptroller and by some charities. The bill, introduced and killed many times over the years, finally passed with this vote. YES is the correct vote.

4. Carbofuran Task Force 1989 - HB 1290

This essentially do-nothing bill called for a task force to study the granular carbofuran pesticide. Environmentalists argued that the task force would be studying data that already existed and was widely known. The real purpose of the task force bill was to derail an environmental bill that would have banned the dangerous granular carbofuran pesticide altogether. The pesticide has been linked to deaths of bald eagles and other wildlife. This bill was strongly backed by the pesticide industry.

This bill passed in the House, NO or Not Voting is correct.

5. Newsprint Recycling 1990 - HB 131

For recycling to work, there needs to be established and reliable markets for recycled products. This comes only with greater use of recycled materials. With growing public participation in recycling efforts, jurisdictions are collecting enormous piles of old newspapers, but have been finding them increasingly difficult to sell at a good price. This is because newspaper publishers continue to use mostly virgin newsprint.

Introduced by Delegate Brian Frosh, but strenuously opposed by newspaper publishers, this bill requires all newspapers distributed in Maryland to use recycled newsprint. After some compromise language was added, the bill passed, and so by 1998, 40% of the newsprint distributed in Maryland must be from recycled stock. The correct vote is YES.

6. Ban on Chlorofluorocarbons 1990 - HB 427

Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are directly linked with the depletion of the earth's protective ozone layer and are a contributing factor to the greenhouse effect. A major portion of all CFCs released into the atmosphere in the U.S. come from automobile air conditioner servicing.

This bill, aimed at reducing CFC emissions and encouraging CFC recycling, would have banned the sale of do-it-yourself auto air conditioner recharge units and would have required service stations to use CFC recycling equipment in auto air conditioner servicing. The bill was strenuously opposed by service station owners. The bill failed to get the necessary constitutional majority by one vote. The correct vote is YES.

7. Reforestation 1990 - SB 423

Maryland is rapidly losing its forested areas, with fully half of the state's original forested land already gone. Much of the loss in recent years and the current rapid rate of forest loss can be attributed to development. SB 423 is Senator Cade's bill that would have required developers to replace the trees they destroy. The bill was strenuously opposed by developers, builders, and the real estate industry.

This was the final vote on the House floor on a heavily amended version of Cade's original reforestation bill that had been approved overwhelmingly by the Senate. Passed by the House in the final moments of the 1990 session, the amended bill never made it back to the Senate for final approval. YES is the correct vote.

District/Delegate	<i>Steep Slopes</i>	<i>Revealing Act</i>	<i>Checkoff</i>	<i>Carbofurans</i>	<i>Newsprint</i>	<i>CFC Ban</i>	<i>Reforestation</i>	SCORES	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1990	1986
01A Edwards, George (R)	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	29	33
01B Workman, Betty (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	57	
01B Kelly, Kevin (D)	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	43	
02A Taylor, Casper (D)	-	+	a	-	+	-	-	29	33
02B Callas, Peter (D)	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	43	56
02C Munson, Donald (R)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	29	22
03A Poole, Bruce (D)	+	+	+	A	+	+	-	86	
03B McClellan, James (D)	-	+	a	-	-	-	-	14	44
03B Smith, Royd (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	57	
04A Littrell, George (D)	-	+	a	-	-	-	a	14	44
04A Hattery, Thomas (D)	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	56
04B Elliott, Donald (R)	-	a	a	-	+	+	-	29	
05A Matthews, R. (R)	-	a	-	-	-	-	-	0	33
05A Dixon, Richard (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	71	56
05B LaMotte, L. (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	71	78
06 Maddox, Farrell (D)	-	+	+	-	a	-	+	43	
06 Weir, Michael (D)	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	57	44
06 Connelly, Terry (D)	-	+	+	-	a	-	+	43	44
07 Arnick, John (D)	+	+	-	A	+	-	a	57	56
07 Minnick, Joseph (D)	▲	-	+	-	-	-	-	17	
07 DePazzo, Louis (D)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	14	22
08 Felling, Donna (D)	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	57	
08 Bartenfelder, J. (D)	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	43	11
08 Burgess, William (D)	-	+	a	-	-	-	+	29	33
09 Bishop, John (R)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	71	
09 Klima, Martha (R)	-	+	-	-	-	a	+	29	22
09 Gisriel, Michael (D)	-	+	+	-	+	a	+	57	
10 Sauerbrey, Ellen (R)	-	a	-	-	-	a	+	14	22
10 Ehrlich, Robert (R)	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	29	
10 Kach, Wade (R)	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	67
11 Albin, Leon (D)	-	+	+	-	+	a	+	57	
11 Rynd, Richard (D)	-	+	a	-	+	+	+	57	
11 Levin, Theodore (D)	+	a	+	-	-	+	a	43	89
12 Masters, Kenneth (D)	-	+	a	-	+	a	a	29	44
12 Morseberger, L. (D)	-	-	+	A	-	a	-	29	22
12 Murphy, Nancy (D)	-	+	-	-	a	▲	▲	*	67
12 Dewberry, Thomas (D)	▲	▲	▲	▲	+	a	+	67	
13A Thomas, Virginia (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	a	86	100
13B DiPietro, Robert (D)	▲	▲	▲	▲	-	+	+	67	
13B Bevan, William (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100
14A Chasnoff, Joel (D)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	86	33
14B Kittleman, Robert (R)	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	71	67
14B Flanagan, Robert (R)	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	71	
15 Counihan, Gene (D)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	86	56
15 Roesser, Jean (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	
15 Toth, Judith (D)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	86	78
16 Frosh, Brian (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	
16 Genn, Gilbert (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	
16 Kopp, Nancy (D)	+	+	a	+	+	+	+	86	78

+ = Voted With the Environment - = Voted Against the Environment E = Excused Absence
 A = Unexcused Absence (advantage for Environment) a = Unexcused Absence (disadvantage for Environment)
 ▲ = Not a member at time of vote * = Score Listed in Senate Chart

