

2004 *Legislative* *Scorecard*



Conservation Council of North Carolina is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to preserving our state's natural resources and protecting public health. Conservation Council supports a full time lobbyist at the state legislature to provide a voice for the public and to hold legislators accountable for their environmental decisions. Conservation Council's non-partisan Political Action Committee takes an active role in the political process by supporting legislative candidates who will take responsibility for protecting clean air and clean water. We work with elected officials to pass legislation that protects our clean air and clean water, while at the same time encouraging conservationists to play a more active role in politics.

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The 2004 Short Session Overview

When the 2004 legislative session came to a close in the early morning hours of Sunday July 18th, nearly everyone breathed a sigh of relief. For the environmental community, the 2004 short session will be remembered for few low-profile successes and a number of minor (and major) defeats. Legislation on polluted stormwater was watered down behind closed doors, proposed increased funding for better enforcement was deleted from the final budget, and other critical environmental legislation never saw the light of day. On the plus side, a fishing license bill was finally adopted after years of stalled efforts, a new financing mechanism for purchasing conservation lands was approved, and funding for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund was maintained, though at a less than desirable level.

When legislators arrived in early May, most of them had one item and one item only on their minds—passage of a budget. Legislative leaders, facing a critical election year, wanted to pass a budget quickly and with minimum controversy. The “no controversy” agreement between the co-speakers further dampened the potential for significant progress on environmental matters.

Even though the short session was a mixed bag for the environmental community, one of the highlights was the stellar Freshman Class in the House. Once in a generation a class of freshmen barrels into the legislature and blows away legislative observers. The 2003-04 House freshman class was chock full of dynamic leaders who impressed veteran legislators with their intellect, steadfastness, diligence, and skill. These freshmen have raised the bar for environmental stewardship in the North Carolina state legislature. And we can build on the foundation these freshmen have laid for us by electing strong environmental candidates who will join these stars and expand our base of support even further. This year our Conservation PAC has endorsed 81 candidates for the legislature. Our goal is to expand the number of environ-

mental champions in the General Assembly and to build an even larger base of support for our initiatives. Currently we have about 2 dozen (out of 170) consistently pro-environment legislators. Our long-term goal is to build a base of 50+ pro-environmental supporters in the state house and state senate. Check out our endorsements at www.ccncpac.org.

On the inside pages of this newsletter you will find Conservation Council's annual legislative scorecard. The purpose of this year's score card is to give environmental voters in North Carolina adequate information to make knowledgeable decisions. Who are the strong legislators are on environmental matters? Who needs to be replaced? With the election around the corner, we hope the endorsements and the scorecard are useful tools in deciding which candidates to support, whom to contribute money to, and which ones to tell you friends about. ?

Fantastic Freshmen: The freshmen class of the 2003-04 session will go down in history as one of the best freshmen classes of all time. Although these legislators have been with the General Assembly only a short time, they have demonstrated their commitment to conservation issues by voting pro-environment on all scorable votes. Hat's off to the following fantastic freshmen!

Rep. Lucy Allen (D – Franklin)
Rep. Alice Bordsen (D – Alamance)
Rep. Becky Carney (D – Mecklenberg)
Rep. Margaret Dickson (D – Cumberland)
Rep. Rick Glazier (D – Cumberland)
Rep. Ray Rapp (D – Madison)
Rep. Deborah Ross (D – Wake)
Rep. Bonner Stiller (R – Brunswick)
Rep. Susan Fisher (D-Buncombe)
Sen. Katie Dorsett (D – Guilford)

House Vote Descriptions

The legislature's 2004 Short Session was a mixed bag for the environmental community. This year's budget was not kind to environmental funding. The House, followed later by the Senate, removed funding from the Governor's budget for seven critical sedimentation inspectors for the Department of Environment & Natural Resources (DENR). Additionally, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) was funded at \$62 million, the same amount as last year, short of the desired \$100 million. No funding was allocated for the Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, another priority for the environmental community. On the positive side, several good pieces of legislation passed, including Certificates of Participation and a fishing license bill.

Conservation Tax Credit:

HB 1602, Delays Dollar Limit on Credit for Partnerships, 2nd reading

This bill keeps an important tax incentive for private donations of lands for conservation for another tax year. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Dan McComas (R-New Hanover), passed by a vote of 103 to 0. **YES** was the conservation vote.

Status: This bill was approved and sent to the Governor.

Finance Parks:

HB 1264, Finance Vital Projects/Studies, conference report adoption

This vote adopted SB 1064, Finance Parks, Heritage and Clean Water, into a larger finance bill. Among other things, this bill authorizes Parks & Recreation and the Natural Heritage Trust Fund to use certificates of participation (COPS) to finance land conservation for parks, recreation, natural heritage and clean water. The conference report passed the House by a vote of 83 to 26. **YES** was the conservation vote.

Status: HB 1264 was approved and sent to the Governor.

Renewable Fuels:

HB 1636, Renewable Fuel Tax Credits, 2nd reading

This bill provides tax credits to those dispensing or processing renewable fuels including biodiesel and ethanol. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Joe Tolson (D-Edgecombe), passed by a vote of 111 to 1. **YES** was the conservation vote.

Status: This bill was approved and sent to the Governor.

Saltwater Fishing:

HB 831, Saltwater Fishing Fund/Holdover Appointments, concurrence

This bill, sponsored by Rep. Pryor Gibson (D-Montgomery) and Rep. Dan McComas (R-New Hanover) establishes a saltwater fishing fund and license. The bill promotes data collection which will enhance fishery management. HB 831 passed the House in 2003 and passed concurrence by votes of 54 to 50

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Senate Vote Descriptions

While they passed the COPs legislation, funded the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, and worked hard to remove long-standing obstacles to passage of the fishing license bill, the Senate ultimately disappointed environmental advocates. Conservation Council was particularly frustrated that H868, which passed the House last year, failed to see action in the Senate this year. H868 would have helped strengthen environmental enforcement programs. Behind closed doors, the Senate also watered down S1210, a bill originally designed to address polluted stormwater runoff.

Conservation Tax Credit: HB 1602, Delays Dollar Limit on Credit for Partnerships, 2nd reading

This bill keeps an important tax incentive for private donations of lands for conservation for another tax year. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Dan McComas (R-New Hanover), passed by a vote of 43 to 0. **YES** was the conservation vote.

Status: The bill was approved and sent to the Governor.

Finance Parks: SB 1064, Finance Parks, Heritage and Clean Water, 3rd reading

This bill authorizes Parks & Recreation and the Natural Heritage Trust fund to use a certificates of participation (COPs) to finance land conservation for parks, recreation, natural heritage, and clean water. This bill sponsored by John Kerr (D-Wayne), passed the Senate by a vote of 31 to 13. **YES** was the conservation vote.

Status: This bill was later added into HB 1264, Finance Vital Projects/Studies. HB 1264 was approved and sent to the governor.

Phosphorus: HB 1112, Phosphorus Nutrient Management/Animal Feedlots, 2nd reading

This bill makes the NPDES permit requirements for animal waste management consistent with federal requirements. This bill passed the Senate by a vote of 42 to 0. **YES** was the conservation vote.

Status: The bill was sent to the Governor.

Renewable Fuels: HB 1636, Renewable Fuel Tax Credits, 2nd reading

This bill provides tax credits to those dispensing or processing renewable fuels including biodiesel and ethanol. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Joe Tolson (D-Edgecombe) passed by a vote of 40 to 0. **YES** was the conservation vote..

Status: The bill was approved and sent to the Governor.

Saltwater Fishing: HB 831, Saltwater Fishing Fund/Holdover appointments, 2nd reading

This bill, sponsored by Rep. Pryor Gibson (D-Montgomery) and Rep. Dan McComas (R-New Hanover) establishes a saltwater fishing fund and license. This bill is designed to promote

(Continued on page 7)

HOUSE	Party	District	County	Cons. Tax Credit	Finance Parks	Renewable Fuels	Saltwater Fishing	Scenic Preservation	2004 Short Session	2003 Long Session	2003-2004 Score	2001-2002 Score
Pro-Conservation Vote				YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	%	%	%	%
Speaker Black	D	100	Meck.	+	+	+	+	-	80	INC	INC	NA
Adams	D	58	Guilford	+	+	+	E	-	75	75	75	NA
Alexander	D	106	Meck.	E	E	+	+	+	100	100	100	92
Allen, B	D	33	Wake	+	0	+	-	-	40	88	64	NA
Allen, G	D	55	Person	+	+	0	0	-	40	75	58	79
Allen, L	D	49	Franklin	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Allred	R	64	Alamance	+	-	+	-	-	40	25	33	29
Baker	R	91	Stokes	+	-	+	-	-	40	25	33	22
Barbee	R	70	Stanly	0	+	+	+	-	60	57	59	58
Barnhart	R	75	Cabarrus	+	+	+	-	-	60	43	51	43
Bell	D	21	Sampson	0	+	+	+	-	60	75	68	79
Blackwood	R	73	Union	+	+	+	-	-	60	50	55	NA
Blust	R	62	Guilford	+	-	+	-	-	40	50	45	57
Bonner	D	48	Robeson	0	+	+	+	-	60	75	68	82
Bordsen	D	63	Alamance	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Bowie	R	57	Guilford	+	+	+	-	-	60	25	43	64
Brubaker	R	78	Randolph	+	+	+	+	-	80	50	65	32
Capps	R	50	Wake	+	-	+	-	-	40	13	26	29
Carney	D	102	Meck.	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Church	D	86	Burke	0	+	E	0	-	25	57	41	72
Clary	R	110	Cleveland	+	+	+	E	-	75	67	71	43
Coates	D	77	Rowan	+	-	+	-	-	40	75	58	71
Cole	D	65	Rockingham	+	-	-	-	-	20	75	48	63
Crawford	D	32	Granville	+	+	+	+	-	80	63	71	72
Creech	R	26	Johnston	+	-	+	-	-	40	25	33	50
Culp	R	67	Randolph	E	+	+	+	-	75	38	56	50
Culpepper	D	2	Chowan	+	+	0	+	-	60	75	68	86
Cunningham	D	107	Meck.	+	+	+	E	-	75	INC	INC	85
Daughtridge	R	25	Nash	+	+	+	+	-	80	71	76	NA
Daughtry	R	28	Johnston	+	-	+	E	0	50	38	44	58
Decker	D	94	Forsyth	0	-	+	-	-	20	50	35	36
Dickson	D	41	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Dockham	R	80	Davidson	+	-	+	-	-	40	57	49	72
Earle	D	101	Meck.	+	+	+	-	-	60	75	68	100
Eddins	R	40	Wake	+	+	+	-	-	60	29	44	72
Ellis	R	39	Wake	+	-	+	+	-	60	57	59	77
England	D	112	Rutherford	+	+	+	+	+	100	75	88	NA
Farmer-Butterfield	D	24	Wilson	+	+	+	+	+	100	50	75	NA
Fisher	D	114	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	+	100	NA	NA	NA
Fox	D	27	Granville	+	+	+	-	-	60	75	68	72
Frye	R	84	Mitchell	+	+	+	-	-	60	63	61	NA
Gibson	D	69	Montgomery	E	+	E	+	-	67	75	71	72
Gillespie	R	85	McDowell	+	+	+	-	-	60	25	43	43

+: pro-conservation vote -: anti-conservation vote E: excused absence (not counted in final %)
0: did not vote (counted as a ?? in final %) INC: Members did not cast votes for a majority of votes N/A: No previous voting record

HOUSE	Party	District	County	Cons. Tax Credit	Finance Parks	Renewable Fuels	Saltwater Fishing	Scenic Preservation	2004 Short Session	2003 Long Session	2003-2004 Score	2001-2002 Score
Pro-Conservation Vote				YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	%	%	%	%
Glazier	D	44	Cumberland	+	E	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Goforth	D	115	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	NA
Goodwin	D	68	Richmond	+	+	+	-	-	60	88	74	92
Gorman	R	3	Craven	+	+	+	E	-	75	25	50	NA
Grady	R	15	Onslow	+	+	+	-	-	60	50	55	43
Gulley	R	103	Meck.	+	-	+	-	-	40	57	49	43
Hackney	D	54	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	93
Haire	D	119	Jackson	+	+	+	+	+	100	88	94	93
Hall	D	7	Halifax	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	86
Harrell	D	90	Surry	+	+	+	-	-	60	63	61	NA
Hill	D	20	Columbus	+	E	+	E	-	67	63	65	72
Hilton	R	88	Catawba	+	+	+	-	-	60	38	49	25
Holliman	D	81	Davidson	+	-	+	E	0	50	71	61	NA
Holmes	R	92	Yadkin	E	-	+	-	-	25	INC	INC	50
Howard	R	79	Davie	0	+	+	-	-	40	50	45	57
Hunter	D	5	Hertford	+	+	+	+	+	100	INC	INC	67
Insko	D	56	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100
Jeffus	D	59	Guilford	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	93
Johnson, C	D	4	Pitt	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	NA
Johnson, L	R	74	Cabarrus	+	+	+	-	0	60	63	61	50
Jones	D	60	Guilford	+	+	+	+	-	80	88	84	NA
Justice	R	16	Pender	0	+	+	+	0	60	75	68	NA
Justus	R	117	Henderson	+	+	+	-	-	60	50	55	36
Kiser	R	97	Lincoln	+	+	+	-	-	60	25	43	7
LaRoque	R	10	Lenoir	+	E	+	E	-	67	63	65	NA
Lewis	R	53	Harnett	+	+	+	-	-	60	50	55	NA
Lucas	D	42	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	72
Luebke	D	30	Durham	+	E	+	+	+	100	100	100	100
McAllister	D	43	Cumberland	+	0	+	E	+	75	75	75	71
McComas	R	19	New Hanover	+	+	+	+	+	100	75	88	86
McGee	R	93	Forsyth	+	-	+	+	+	80	63	71	NA
McHenry	R	109	Gaston	E	E	+	E	-	50	25	38	NA
McLawhorn	D	9	Pitt	+	+	E	+	+	100	88	94	86
McMahan	R	105	Meck.	+	E	+	+	-	75	75	75	72
Michaux	D	31	Durham	0	+	+	-	+	60	88	74	79
Miller	D	29	Durham	E	E	E	+	E	INC	100	INC	100
Miner	R	36	Wake	+	0	+	+	-	60	63	62	65
Mitchell	R	96	Iredell	+	-	+	-	-	40	25	33	50
Moore	R	111	Cleveland	+	+	+	-	-	60	25	43	NA
Morgan	R	52	Moore	+	+	+	+	E	100	86	93	65
Munford	R	34	Wake	+	+	+	+	-	80	38	59	NA
Nye	D	22	Bladen	+	+	+	-	-	60	63	61	72
Owens	D	1	Pasquotank	+	+	+	-	-	60	63	62	72
Parmon	D	72	Forsyth	+	+	+	E	0	75	75	75	NA
Pate	R	11	Wayne	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	NA

+: pro-conservation vote -: anti-conservation vote E: excused absence (not counted in final %)

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HOUSE	Party	District	County	Cons. Tax Credit	Finance Parks	Renewable Fuels	Saltwater Fishing	Scenic Preservation	2004 Short Session	2003 Long Session	2003-2004 Score	2001-2002 Score
Pro-Conservation Vote				YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	%	%	%	%
Preston	R	13	Carteret	+	-	+	-	-	40	25	33	58
Rapp	D	118	Madison	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Ray	R	95	Iredell	+	+	+	-	-	60	38	49	NA
Rayfield	R	108	Gaston	+	+	E	-	E	67	13	40	29
Rhodes	R	98	Meck.	+	-	0	-	-	20	38	29	NA
Ross	D	38	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Sauls	R	51	Lee	E	+	+	+	-	75	75	75	NA
Saunders	D	99	Meck.	+	+	+	-	-	60	75	68	79
Setzer	R	89	Catawba	+	-	+	-	-	40	50	45	29
Sexton	R	66	Rockingham	+	-	+	-	-	40	50	45	43
Sherrill	R	116	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	69
Stam	R	37	Wake	+	-	+	+	-	60	63	61	NA
Starnes	R	87	Caldwell	+	-	+	-	-	40	29	34	36
Steen	R	76	Rowan	+	+	+	-	-	60	NA	NA	NA
Stiller	R	17	Brunswick	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Sutton	D	47	Robeson	+	+	+	E	0	75	75	75	92
Tolson	D	23	Edgecombe	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	79
Wainwright	D	12	Craven	+	+	+	+	-	80	71	76	70
Walend	R	113	Transylvania	+	-	+	-	-	40	29	34	65
Walker	R	83	Wilkes	+	-	+	-	-	40	75	58	57
Warner	D	45	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	-	80	50	65	86
Warren	D	8	Pitt	+	+	+	+	-	80	83	82	64
Weiss	D	35	Wake	+	+	+	E	+	100	100	100	100
West	R	120	Cherokee	+	-	+	-	-	40	38	39	36
Williams, A	D	6	Beaufort	+	+	+	+	-	80	57	69	NA
Williams, K	R	14	Onslow	+	+	+	-	-	60	63	61	NA
Wilson, C	R	104	Meck.	+	+	+	E	-	75	50	63	57
Wilson, G	R	82	Watauga	+	+	+	-	-	60	75	68	58
Womble	D	71	Forsyth	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	93
Wood	R	61	Guilford	+	-	+	-	-	40	25	33	NA
Wright	D	18	New Hanover	+	+	+	-	-	60	63	61	79
Yongue	D	46	Scotland	+	+	+	+	-	80	75	78	93

AVERAGE PARTY SCORES	2004 Short Session	2003 Long Session	2003—2004 General Assembly Average	2001-2002 General Assembly Average
House				
Republicans	59%	48%	53%	51%
Democrats	76%	79%	78%	81%
Total House	67%	64%	66%	66%
Senate				
Republicans	72%	53%	63%	71%
Democrats	88%	83%	85%	78%
Total Senate	80%	68%	74%	76%

SENATE	Party	District	County	Cons. Tax Credit	Finance Parks	Phosphorus	Renewable Fuels	Saltwater Fishing	Scenic Preservation		2004 Short Session	2003 Long Session	2003-2004 Score	2001-2002 Score
Pro-Conservation Vote				YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO		%	%	%	%
Albertson	D	10	Duplin	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	100	92	76
Allran	R	44	Catawba	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	75	79	69
Apodaca	R	48	Henderson	+	-	+	+	+	-		67	50	59	NA
Basnight	D	1	Dare	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	50	75	83
Berger	R	26	Rockingham	+	-	+	+	+	-		67	50	59	69
Bingham	R	33	Davidson	+	+	+	E	+	-		80	100	90	69
Blake	R	22	Moore	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	50	67	NA
Brock	R	34	Davie	+	-	+	+	+	-		67	50	59	NA
Carpenter	R	50	Macon	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	25	54	76
Carrington	R	15	Wake	+	+	+	E	+	-		80	67	74	69
Clodfelter	D	37	Meck.	+	-	+	+	+	+		83	75	79	76
Dalton	D	46	Rutherford	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	75	79	55
Dannelly	D	38	Meck.	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	75	79	83
Dorsett	D	28	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	100	100	NA
Forrester	R	42	Gaston	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	INC	INC	57
Foxx	R	45	Watauga	E	-	E	E	+	-		INC	50	INC	76
Garrou	D	32	Forsyth	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	100	100	83
Garwood	R	30	Wilkes	E	-	E	+	+	-		50	INC	INC	79
Hagan	D	27	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	75	88	83
Hargett	D	6	Onslow	+	+	+	+	0	-		67	100	84	NA
Hartsell	R	36	Cabarrus	+	+	+	+	+	E		100	75	88	93
Holloman	D	4	Hertford	E	+	E	+	+	-		75	INC	INC	NA
Horton	R	31	Forsyth	+	-	+	+	+	+		83	75	79	76
Hoyle	D	43	Gaston	+	+	+	E	+	-		80	75	78	55
Hunt	D	18	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	NA	NA	NA
Jenkins	D	3	Edgecombe	E	+	E	+	+	E		INC	75	INC	NA
Kerr	D	7	Wayne	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	75	79	49
Kinnaird	D	23	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	100	100	100
Lucas	D	20	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	100	100	90
Malone	D	14	Wake	+	+	+	0	+	-		67	100	84	NA
Moore	R	5	Pitt	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	100	92	74
Nesbitt	D	49	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	71	77	79
Pittenger	R	40	Meck.	+	-	+	+	+	-		67	33	50	NA
Purcell	D	25	Scotland	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	75	88	83
Queen	D	47	Haywood	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	INC	INC	NA
Rand	D	19	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	+		100	75	88	76
Reeves	D	16	Wake	+	+	+	+	E	E		100	100	100	90
Rucho	R	39	Meck.	E	-	E	E	+	-		INC	33	INC	65
Shaw	D	21	Cumberland	+	+	+	0	+	-		67	75	71	90
Shubert	R	35	Union	+	-	+	E	0	-		40	50	45	NA
Sloan	R	41	Iredell	+	-	E	E	+	-		50	50	50	NA
Smith	R	12	Johnston	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	50	67	NA
Soles	D	8	Columbus	E	+	E	+	+	-		75	75	75	76
Stevens	R	17	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	50	67	NA
Swindell	D	11	Nash	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	75	79	86
Thomas	D	2	Craven	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	75	79	76
Tillman	R	29	Randolph	+	+	+	+	+	-		83	33	58	NA
Webster	R	24	Alamance	+	-	+	0	-	-		33	50	42	37
Weinstein	D	13	Robeson	E	+	E	+	E	E		INC	67	INC	82
White	R	9	New Hanover	+	-	+	+	+	-		67	NA	NA	NA

Environmental Champions

Environmental Champions: There are some legislators who have established stunning records of support for the environment, with a 100% voting record over the past 4 years. They deserve special recognition for their leadership and commitment to protecting the lands and waters of NC:

Verla Insko (D-Orange). In 4 terms in the NC House, Rep. Insko has distinguished herself as a thoughtful, progressive legislator who cares about the environment and public health. She can be counted on to stand up on the floor of the House against special interest and for the people. Rep. Insko goes the extra mile to support environmental causes and to strengthen the environmental community.

Paul Leubke (D-Durham). As a college professor, a legislator, an advocate for the underrepresented, Rep. Leubke is a fighter. He fights for the causes and people he believes in, including the environment. With Rep. Leubke in the legislature, we know without question we have an independent-minded advocate who cares about the world we will leave our children.

Jennifer Weiss (D-Wake). Rep. Weiss is a persistent, dogged champion for the environment. Rep. Weiss has become a strong legislative leader who is deeply respected by her colleagues for her tenacity, intellect and vision. She understands environmental issues and makes them a priority. With Rep. Weiss in the legislature we are guaranteed an effective, forceful voice for the environment.

Ellie Kinnaird (D-Orange, Person). There is no stronger environmental advocate in the State Senate than Eleanor Kinnaird. She has been a fighter for sound environmental management since her early days as mayor of Carrboro and has continued to be a fearless environmental warrior during 4 terms in the state senate. All too often underestimated by her colleagues and special interests, Sen. Kinnaird often surprises them by coming out on top of issues that matter to her. She never fails to do the right thing.

The following legislators voted pro-conservation on nearly all scoreable votes over the past 4 years and are an inspiration because of their dedication to strong environmental protections: **Rep. Martha Alexander (D – Meck.); Rep. Joe Hackney (D – Orange); Rep. Phil Haire (D – Jackson); Rep. Marian McLawhorn (D – Pitt); Rep. Paul Miller (D – Durham); Rep. Larry Womble (D – Forsyth); Sen. Linda Garrou (D – Forsyth); Sen. Jeanne Lucas (D – Durham); Sen. Eric Miller Reeves (D – Wake).**

Marc Basnight

State Senator Marc Basnight, President Pro-Tem of the Senate, has a deep personal commitment to a sustainable, healthy future for North Carolina's coast. Representing a coastal district in Eastern North Carolina, he has seen first hand the effects of water pollution on our environment and economy.

Basnight strives to find creative solutions for ongoing problems. For example, Basnight is responsible for setting up and championing the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, one of our state's cornerstone environmental programs. During its existence, the CWMTF has set aside \$438 million to protect North Carolina's waterways, water quality and quality of life...the things that make this state special.

In addition to championing the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, he is a strong advocate for the shellfishing families of the coast, and believes strongly in a safe, clean drinking water supply. He also loves and respects the fearsome power of North Carolina's coast and the subtle beauty of the intercoastal waterway. Basnight has used his tremendous power as President Pro-Tem to lead the state to a healthier, safer, more sustainable environmentally sound future.

For these reasons, Conservation Council names Marc Basnight our legislative leader of the year.

House Vote *cont.*

and 66 to 34. **YES** was the conservation vote.

Status: The bill was approved and sent to the Governor.

Scenic Preservation:

HB 429, Monetary Compensation / Outdoor Advertising, concurrence

This bill would have effectively halted progress towards billboard phase-outs along scenic roadways by requiring local governments to pay excessive prices for billboard removals. It would also have established a dangerous "property rights" precedent that could be used against other environmental cases. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Bill Culpepper (D-Chowan), passed concurrence 87 to 24. **NO** was the conservation vote.

Status: This bill was vetoed by the Governor and a compromise version was approved instead.

Senate Vote *cont.*

data collection to improve the study and management of marine resources. This bill passed the House in 2003, and passed the Senate in 2004 by a vote of 45 to 1. **YES** was the conservation vote..

Status: The bill was approved and sent to the Governor.

Scenic Preservation: HB 429, Monetary Compensation / Outdoor Advertising, 2nd reading

This bill would have effectively halted progress towards billboard phase outs along scenic roadways by requiring local governments to pay excessive prices for billboard removals. It would also have established a dangerous "property rights" precedent that could be used against other environmental cases. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Bill Culpepper (D-Chowan), passed the Senate by a vote of 34 to 11. **NO** was the conservation vote..

Status: The bill was vetoed by the Governor and a compromise version was approved instead.

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