

North Carolina League of Conservation Voters
LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

2014

*Turning environmental values
into North Carolina priorities.*



North Carolina League of Conservation Voters

The North Carolina League of Conservation Voters (NCLCV) has worked for over 45 years for clean air and water, public health, and a beautiful North Carolina. We advocate for sound environmental policies at the state legislature and work to hold our leaders accountable for their decisions. Through our affiliated political action committee, Conservation PAC, we help elect state legislators who understand that a healthy environment is critical to North Carolina’s communities, economy, and quality of life. The Legislative Scorecard is intended to help you decide how well your legislators are representing you on the issues you care about.

About the Scorecard

The Scorecard records members’ votes on selected bills from throughout the session. While it is not a comprehensive listing of all votes, the ones recorded here have been selected as some of the most significant votes cast on bills and amendments with the greatest environmental impact of the session.

This Scorecard is one tool for evaluating our legislators. Despite the importance of legislators’ votes, the Scorecard cannot represent the full complexity of what it takes to be an environmental champion. Sponsorship of legislation and leadership in support or opposition to bills can be equally important. Further, no single session perfectly captures the conservation voting record of a legislator. To better evaluate individuals’ voting histories, we have included a column containing their lifetime NCLCV score, which averages their scores from all sessions served between 1999 (our first Scorecard) and the present. For more information and past Scorecards, visit nclcv.org.

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A message from our president...

Dear Conservation Voter,

Thank you for taking the time to review this year's legislative scorecard. Environmental issues are making headlines almost daily across North Carolina, and citizens are becoming more and more aware of the impact these issues have on their quality of life. So it is imperative that we are educated on how our elected officials are voting on key environmental legislation.

Be forewarned: the pages that follow do not paint a pretty or uplifting picture. Although I refer to myself as a relentless optimist, I have to admit that as I read the commentary and legislative scores, I found myself feeling more and more discouraged. The unavoidable truth is that North Carolina's environment has taken some hard hits over the past few years, and this year has been no different.

On a positive note, I know the results we're reporting do not accurately reflect the majority of North Carolinians' values. I talk with people from across the state, who fall on every point of the political spectrum, and they all tell me the same thing: they care about our water, our air, and our treasured landscapes. Furthermore, they believe that those resources should be protected. They tell me that they don't believe we have to choose between a strong economy and a clean environment. I don't believe that either.

A growing segment of the business community, made up of large companies and small, is recognizing the economic imperative of preserving the public good. While balancing the needs of the environment, society, and profits can seem elusive at times, I can name many great examples of North Carolina companies which are doing well by embracing this multi-layered, responsible approach to both enhancing their business and their community. In the process, they are creating new business models and finding creative ways to address some of our greatest societal and environmental challenges. As a business leader, I know that my company's success is integrally related to the quality of life my employees have, to the recreational opportunities North Carolina offers, and to the other businesses that choose to locate here and help build our economy.

This is the kind of stewardship required to thrive in our 21st century economy, and North Carolina has everything that our state needs to lead on a national scale. We have the resources – natural, educational, and economic –

to make sure our state thrives economically while maintaining the quality of life we have enjoyed. But we need our legislators to work with all citizens, businesses, and stakeholders to realize this vision. It will require tough choices and an investment in the future – not just short term gains – and our elected officials must join us in our commitment if we are to reach our full potential in this new economic climate.

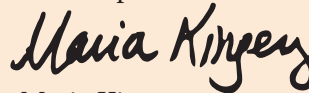
Elections are about choices and taking responsibility for our future. By casting our votes, we are making a commitment to our collective vision of a strong economy, healthy environment, clean air, and safe water for our children... for the environmental values that I know you share.

We all have a responsibility: to educate ourselves, to engage in our democracy, and to make smart choices to create the future we want. We need to elect leaders that will make responsible decisions that protect our natural resources and public health.

One of the most important things we do for the environment is vote. As we say at NCLCV: who we elect matters. Please use this scorecard to educate yourself about how our elected officials stand on the issues we care most about. Then, use this information to vote and to communicate with those we elect in order to help them understand that we need their help to create the most prosperous future possible for North Carolina.

Together, we can make a difference in shaping the future of our great state.

With hope for the future,



Maria Kingery
President, NCLCV



The 2014 Short Session: The Big Picture

The 2014 legislative session unveiled an overwhelming rush of bad bills from both the House and the Senate. We have seen many pro-conservation bills in North Carolina's past, but this year the environment was forced to play defense throughout the session. NCLCV admires the determination of the pro-conservation legislators who never gave up on our clean air and water and who tirelessly battled these pieces of environmentally destructive legislation.

This session began with high hopes and ended with major letdowns. With issues like education and Medicaid dominating the discussions this summer, environmental issues seemed to take a continual backseat at the General Assembly. The environment became more of a bargaining chip than an important issue, and procedural manipulation was a common theme throughout session. Amendments were killed left and right by substitute amendments; environmental bills were carelessly rushed through the chambers at lightning speed; and provisions passed that actually weaken current environmental and health law.

On a "good" note, some of the worst proposals failed because the House and Senate couldn't agree on a variety of issues. Unfortunately, the bills that did pass were still bad, and continued to roll back the sound environmental policies that have protected North Carolina for decades.

Important happenings this session included:

- Fracking was fast tracked without having all the rules and safety precautions in place first.
- Disappointingly weak coal ash legislation failed to mandate cleanup of all sites or to protect the public against paying for polluters' mistakes.
- Local protections of the environment were continuously threatened.
- Long-established protections for clean water and wetlands were slashed.

North Carolina has been highly ranked in the past for overall quality of life. However, in 2014 North Carolina ranks 34th for the Quality of Life Category (CNBC survey). Threats to our environment and health in particular have downgraded our score. This does not bode well for our future. Our legislators need to stop reversing the hard-won gains of past decades and begin to move our state forward again.

Policy Now, Safeguards Later

The General Assembly rushed through much of the environmental legislation this session with inadequate public review. The Energy Modernization Act (SB786) – opening the door for fracking to commence – was one of the first environmental bills introduced and the first to become law. Despite the controversy surrounding this topic, the bill was signed into law with limited debate and few improvements. A major problem with the rushed nature of the environmental bills this session is that laws are being set to take effect before all the interpreting rules and safeguards can be established.

The Energy Modernization Act is a prime example. The Mining and Energy Commission (MEC) is in charge of the fracking rules, but the rules are still being developed, long after the decision to permit fracking was made. This sends the dangerous message that legislators are more concerned with cutting corners for polluters than protecting the health and safety of North Carolina's families.

Procedural Maneuvering

Many meetings this session were behind closed doors. The legislature seemed to cut the public out of the legislative process, especially when it came to controversial bills like SB786, the "fast-track fracking" bill, and SB734, the Regulatory Reform Act of 2014. By manipulating the procedures and process, legislators maintained tight control of what issues moved, how much debate was had, and who was heard. Legislators held meetings at the last minute, preventing the public from being present. They met on important issues in closed meetings; disallowed public comment at certain committee meetings; and regularly withheld information on bills until the last minute. Often, legislators themselves would be asked to vote on bills that they were seeing for the first time, without adequate time to review. The secretive and rushed nature of the 2014

session denied the public the transparency necessary to ensure that our interests were protected and lawmakers held accountable for their decisions.

For example, we saw many good environmental amendments brought to the floor this session, but most of them were “killed” by leadership or others making a motion “to lay the amendment on the table.” This type of motion is designed to temporarily set aside a pending motion to take care of something more urgent. But in effect, this parliamentary procedure was used many times this session to take often pro-conservation amendments off the floor with no debate and remove the amendment from further consideration. This type of manipulation of procedures has been seen before, but not to this extreme – of the twelve House bills scored, three of them were tabled pro-conservation amendments that could have helped make bad fracking and coal ash legislation better.

Late-breaking Disappointments

Extraordinary confusion marked the last weeks of the 2014 legislative session over an adjournment resolution. First, the Senate proposed a temporary adjournment, to be followed by a “lame duck” mini-session after the November elections, but the House balked. It took nearly the first three weeks of August for the chambers to negotiate an overdue end to the “short” session. During that period, unfortunately, one of the worst bills of the session was finalized: SB734, the so-called “Rules Reform Bill.”

Like most recent “rules reforms” in the General Assembly, this bill was primarily a compilation of retreats from established regulations – especially environmental protections. Most destructively, the bill tripled the area of ‘isolated’ wetland that can be destroyed by a development with no state control or mitigation required. This “reform” bill also extended the ban on any state environmental protection rules that are stronger than federal minimums, arbitrarily eased stormwater controls on some coastal developments, and locked in weaker standards for any project under review at the time a rule is strengthened. As Rep. Paul Luebke said during floor debate, “This is not regulatory reform, it is regulatory repeal. Our environment is hurt by the contents of this bill.”

Finally, during the extended back-and-forth on adjournment, the General Assembly adopted a woefully inadequate bill on coal ash.



Cleaning Up Coal Ash... Or Not

The North Carolina coal ash spill was the third largest spill in our nation’s history. An estimated 39,000 tons of coal ash spilled into the Dan River in February 2014. The legislature promised to develop an aggressive management plan for this disaster entering into the 2014 legislative session. Instead, after repeated starts and sputters, the General Assembly adopted diluted legislation that fails to mandate comprehensive cleanup of the polluting coal ash sites.

The Senate kicked off the session with SB729, the Governor’s Coal Ash Management Plan, which might as well have been Duke Energy’s personal cleanup plan. This plan had no strict timelines, allowed ponds to be drained and covered (capping-in-place), and didn’t protect ratepayers from paying for the spill cleanup. For round two, the Senate proposed its own version of a cleanup plan. While this bill was better than the Governor’s plan, it was not what we were expected. The bill gave too much power and discretion to the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), which is currently under criminal investigation for its relationship with Duke Energy. Also, the proposed new Coal Ash Commission would have little oversight or accountability. During this time, the House had been preparing its own coal ash bill behind closed doors. We were expecting a strong alternative, but when the House’s bill was unveiled, it proved to



be even weaker than the Senate's. It was apparent that the only winner in this scenario of weak alternatives would be Duke Energy, and the losers were the people and the environment of North Carolina.

During the House floor debate, there were multiple attempts to strengthen the bill. All were either voted down or pushed aside by leadership-sanctioned procedural maneuvers. Some of the drama included attempts to mandate cleanup for particular high-risk ponds. Ultimately, all of those failed.

The final legislation named only four ponds as high-risk for accelerated cleanup. Why were these four designated as high-risk? They weren't chosen by size. They weren't chosen by populations or statistics. In fact, they weren't chosen by any scientific standard. They were chosen because those were the four sites that our friends at the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC) targeted in a first round of citizen suit litigation against Duke. As a result, Duke had already agreed to treat them as high priority before the first bill was even written. The legislation was written to rubber-stamp the status quo.

As stated previously, it appeared at the beginning of August that negotiations between the House and Senate on a coal ash compromise had irreparably broken down. However, House leadership – fearful of public backlash for failing to address this issue – refused to go home without a final attempt to strike a deal. At the session's eleventh

hour, House and Senate leaders agreed to bring forward their inadequate compromise bill.

In the end, the version of SB729 driven through by House and Senate leadership failed to meet the needs of the public for protection from water pollution by coal ash, and left the electric ratepayers vulnerable to being charged for the high costs of cleaning up Duke Energy's coal ash mistakes. Sites designated as "low-risk" by the new Coal Ash Management Commission could be "capped in place," often remaining near waterways, rather than cleaned up – essentially throwing a cover over the problem and pretending it went away. In their political urgency to take some action – any action – the General Assembly's leadership fell irresponsibly short of protecting the public.

We would like to recognize all of the legislators who stepped up and proposed amendments to add additional coal ash sites to the high priority cleanup list: Representative Mike Stone, Representative Michael Wray, Representative Ken Goodman, Representative George Graham, Representative W.A. Wilkins, Representative Charles Graham, Senator Valerie Foushee, Senator Gene McLaurin, Senator Jeff Jackson, and Senator Terry Van Duyn. These amendments were largely "killed" through manipulation of the parliamentary process, as described above.

VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

The bill descriptions are based on the text of the legislation at the time the scored vote was cast. Subsequent amendments or changes in content in many cases have altered the substance of the bills, but we believe it is appropriate to describe exactly what the legislators were proposing and voting on at the time, rather than any changes which occurred after.

HOUSE VOTES

[H1] SB 786 House Amendment 7 (Energy Modernization Act)

Amendment 7, proposed by Representative Rick Glazier, sought to strengthen the permitting process for drilling by making it more difficult for hydraulic fracturing companies to receive permits. The Amendment essentially would have required reduced air emissions to receive a permit. Knowing that fracking was going to pass, this amendment would have provided important health protections by reducing dangerous chemical emissions. This amendment failed with a vote of 46-69.

Pro-conservation vote: YES.

[H2] SB 786 House Amendment 13 (Energy Modernization Act)

Proposed by Representative Susan Fisher, this amendment was an attempt to make the fracking process safer by regulating the drilling process and materials used. This amendment stated that the Department shall deny any permit to an oil or gas company that uses asbestos in drilling mud, uses depleted uranium in explosive charges, or participates in land farming of drill cuttings and drilling mud. This amendment would have also required any oil or gas developer to register an account of usage for any radioactive material used in drilling and exploration practices. This amendment failed with a vote of 42-67.

Pro-conservation vote: YES.

[H3] SB 786 M3 to Table House Amendment 17 (Energy Modernization Act)

Representative Darren Jackson proposed pro-conservation Amendment 17, which would have required companies to have the written consent of the person that owns the surface property above the drilling site. This would have protected North Carolinians from drilling on their proper-

ty without their consent. However, to avoid holding drilling companies accountable, this motion was proposed, and the amendment was tabled with a vote of 58-53.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H4] SB 786 M3 to Table House Amendment 19 (Energy Modernization Act)

Pro-conservation Amendment 19 was also tabled with a vote of 60-53. Representative Reives' proposal would have allowed local ordinances to regulate oil and gas drilling, including fracking. Time after time this session, the legislature acted to take local power away, and this motion to lay Amendment 19 on the table (or "kill" the amendment) was no different. Under the Energy Modernization Act, the counties and cities that don't want fracking have no local control.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H5] SB 786 3rd Reading (Energy Modernization Act)

The Energy Modernization Act passed the 3rd reading in the House with a vote of 64-50. Fracking was fast tracked despite all the attempted amendments to make the bill better. The bill got through the House with very few changes, and passed on 3rd reading with numerous problems and lax regulations that fail to protect North Carolinians and their water. SB786 allowed DENR and the MEC to issue hydraulic fracturing permits 61 days after the passage of the rules, which at the time of voting had not been written by the MEC yet. This bill also defined the disclosure of harmful fracking fluids as a crime, reduced the radius of contamination liability, and prohibited local governments from taxing activities such as oil exploration.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H6] SB 38 House Amendment 2 (Amend Environmental Laws 2014)

This amendment, proposed by Representative Ruth Samuelson, would have rolled back existing protections on wetlands. The first provision in the amendment reduced the amount of required mitigation for isolated wetlands. Amendment 2 also changed the definition of an isolated wetland so what was once designated a wetland might not be protected as a wetland now. This amendment passed with a vote 96-19.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H7] SB 38 3rd Reading (Amend Environmental Laws 2014)

We would like to recognize the entire House for taking out all of the environmental provisions from the Senate's 60+ page Regulatory Reform Act and dedicating more time to focus solely on the environmental issues. However, the end result was just as many environmental rollbacks in this bill as we saw in SB734. SB38 deregulates isolated wetlands, orders the removal of all state air quality monitors that aren't required by federal law, provides blanket immunity from civil and administrative penalties and fines for environmental violations, and weakens Jordan Lake riparian buffer protections. This bill passed 3rd reading 97-13.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H8] SB 729 M3 to Table House Amendment 16 (Coal Ash Management Act of 2014)

Amendment 16 was proposed by Representative Nathan Baskerville and would have prevented Duke Energy from putting its cost recovery on ratepayers. This would have held Duke Energy fully responsible for its own cleanup costs. However, this amendment also fell to a motion to table. The vote was 63-49.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H9] SB 729 3rd Reading (Coal Ash Management Act of 2014)

We expected a strong coal ash plan to come out of the House, but instead we saw a sweetheart deal for Duke Energy. The House version of the bill was not much more than what Duke Energy said it would do anyway. This bill allowed for up to 10 sites to be capped in place, left far too

much decision power to the Coal Ash Commission and DENR, and did not require strict cleanup timelines. This bill also allowed for Duke Energy to raise costs on consumers to help pay for their bad business decisions. This bill passed its 3rd reading with a vote of 94-16.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H10] HB 201 M11 to Concur (Building Reutilization for Economic Development Act)

This bill creates many environmental exemptions for buildings that will be reutilized. HB201 allows some commercial buildings to be exempt from current energy code requirements. Another provision prohibits DENR and the MEC from defining the term "gravel" in stormwater projects. HB201 also allows exemptions from the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act. This bill passed the vote to concur by 66-42.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H11] SB 734 Adoption of conference report (Regulatory Reform Act of 2014)

This bill was the final version of "rules reform" adopted by the 2014 General Assembly and contained the rollback of several critical environmental protections for wetlands, stormwater controls, and development. Passed with a vote of 64-27.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[H12] SB 729 Adoption of conference report (Coal Ash Management Act of 2014)

This bill was the woefully inadequate final version of coal ash legislation adopted under political pressure at the very end of an over-long session. It fails to require cleanup of most coal ash pits and fails to protect electric ratepayers against potentially being charged with the high costs of paying to clean up Duke Energy's mistakes. Passed with a vote of 84-13.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

HOW TO READ THE SCORECARD

Nine House and ten Senate votes were scored. We included floor votes, motions, and amendments on particularly important bills. It is important to note which version of the bill was scored. Second readings are often more reflective than the third and final reading because members may vote their preference on second reading, but vote with the majority on third, when it is clear what the outcome will be. At the top of the Scorecard tables, you will see a number that correlates with the bill description. Legislators are listed

alphabetically, with their votes during the 2014 session, their 2014 score, previous averages, and “lifetime” scores. “Lifetime Scores” start in 1999, when our first Legislative Scorecard was published. A “+” is a pro-conservation vote, a “-” is an anti-conservation vote, NV indicates a missed vote, which is counted as an anti-conservation vote. Excused absences and votes (E) are not scored. INC indicates members did not cast enough votes to score. N/A means no previous voting record.

House	Party	District	County	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	H12	2014 Short Session	2013 Long Session	2011-2012 Average	Lifetime Score
Pro Environmental Vote:				Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
Adams	D	58	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	91	85
Alexander	D	107	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	E	+	+	-	73	78	68	80
Arp	R	69	Union	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Avila	R	40	Wake	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	17	0	9	23
Baskerville	D	32	Vance	+	+	+	+	+	-	NV	+	+	+	-	+	75	100	NA	84
Bell, J.	R	10	Wayne	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Bell, L.	D	21	Sampson	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	67	78	83	73
Blackwell	R	86	Burke	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	E	18	22	18	22
Blust	R	62	Guilford	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	25	0	13	38
Boles, Jr.	R	52	Moore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	14
Brandon, Jr.	D	60	Guilford	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	E	-	64	63	70	67
Brawley, R.	R	95	Iredell	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	33	0	NA	21
Brawley, Jr., W.	R	103	Mecklenburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	13	7
Brisson	D	22	Bladen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	NV	+	+	+	33	14	17	39
Brody	R	55	Union	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	NA	5
Brown, B.	R	9	Pitt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	0	0	NA	0
Brown, R.	R	81	Davidson	-	-	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	18	9
Bryan	R	88	Mecklenburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	E	0	0	NA	0
Bumgardner	R	109	Gaston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Burr	R	67	Stanly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	15
Carney	D	102	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	67	78	78	79
Catlin	R	20	New Hanover	-	NV	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	11	NA	19
Cleveland	R	14	Onslow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	+	-	9	0	13	30
Collins	R	25	Nash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	0	0	14	5
Conrad	R	74	Forsyth	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	E	E	-	-	-	0	11	NA	5
Cotham	D	100	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	58	50	91	80
Cunningham	D	106	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	67	100	NA	79
Daughtry	R	26	Johnston	-	-	-	NV	-	-	-	+	-	-	E	-	9	0	13	37
Davis, Jr.	R	19	New Hanover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	NA	0
Dixon	R	4	Duplin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	13	7
Dobson	R	85	McDowell	-	-	NV	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	E	18	11	NA	15
Dollar	R	36	Wake	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	11	13	39
Earle	D	101	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	-	NV	+	-	+	-	-	58	100	83	76
Elmore	R	94	Wilkes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Faircloth, Jr.	R	61	Guilford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	5
Farmer-Butterfield	D	24	Wilson	+	+	+	+	+	-	NV	+	+	+	E	E	80	100	82	84
Fisher	D	114	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	100	100	92	95
Floyd	D	43	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	58	56	87	76

House	Party	District	County	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	H12	2014 Short Session	2013 Long Session	2011-2012 Average	Lifetime Score
Ford	R	76	Rowan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	8	0	NA	5
Fulghum	R	49	Wake	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	E	N/A	N/A	N/A	INC	0	NA	0
Gill	D	33	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	E	E	90	100	92	92
Glazier	D	44	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	E	E	80	100	96	94
Goodman	D	66	Richmond	+	NV	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	33	44	79	59
Graham, C.	D	47	Robeson	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	92	100	87	90
Graham, G.	D	12	Lenoir	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	67	100	NA	81
Hager	R	112	Rutherford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	13	7
Hall, D.	D	11	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	NA	100
Hall, L.	D	29	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	100	100	96	97
Hamilton	D	18	New Hanover	+	+	+	+	+	-	E	+	-	-	+	-	64	67	67	68
Hanes, Jr.	D	72	Forsyth	+	+	+	+	NV	+	-	+	-	+	E	E	70	86	NA	76
Hardister	R	59	Guilford	-	NV	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	NA	5
Harrison	D	57	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	+	100	100	100	100
Hastings	R	110	Gaston	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	6
Holley	D	38	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	NV	+	E	73	100	NA	85
Hollo	R	73	Alexander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	0	0	13	25
Holloway	R	91	Stokes	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	22	27	37
Horn	R	68	Union	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	E	-	9	0	13	9
Howard	R	79	Davie	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	14	44
Hurley	R	70	Randolph	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	8	0	13	31
Iler	R	17	Brunswick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	0	0	9	15
Insko	D	56	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	100	100	96	98
Jackson	D	39	Wake	+	NV	+	+	+	E	-	+	-	E	E	-	56	86	86	81
Jeter	R	92	Mecklenburg	+	-	-	-	+	-	E	-	-	-	-	E	20	11	NA	16
Johnson	R	83	Cabarrus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	13	41
Jones, Jr.	R	65	Rockingham	-	-	E	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	13	7
Jordan	R	93	Ashe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	8	0	18	12
Lambeth	R	75	Forsyth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Langdon, Jr.	R	28	Johnston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	E	E	10	0	17	31
Lewis	R	53	Harnett	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	9	34
Lucas	D	42	Cumberland	+	+	+	+	+	-	NV	+	-	E	+	-	64	78	87	76
Luebke	D	30	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	96	99
Malone	R	35	Wake	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33	0	NA	20
Martin, G.	D	34	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	96	97
Martin, S.	R	8	Wilson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV	-	0	0	NA	0
McElraft	R	13	Carteret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	23
McGrady	R	117	Henderson	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	E	-	27	78	75	63
McNeill	R	78	Randolph	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	NA	5
Meyer	D	50	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	92	NA	NA	92
Michaux, Jr.	D	31	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	100	83	82
Millis	R	16	Pender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	0
Mobley	D	5	Hertford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	100	100	92	87
Moffitt	R	116	Buncombe	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	-	-	-	E	-	0	0	13	8
Moore, R.	D	99	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	E	-	45	67	73	65
Moore, T.	R	111	Cleveland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	30
Murry	R	41	Wake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	E	-	9	17	20	16
Pierce	D	48	Scotland	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	75	100	92	80

House	Party	District	County	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	H12	2014 Short Session	2013 Long Session	2011-2012 Average	Lifetime Score
Pittman	R	82	Cabarrus	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	25	11	0	13
Presnell	R	118	Yancey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Queen	D	119	Haywood	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	E	E	-	70	89	NA	80
Ramsey	R	115	Buncombe	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	13	NA	20
Reives	D	54	Lee	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	75	NA	NA	75
Richardson	D	7	Franklin	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	E	E	80	100	NA	89
Riddell	R	64	Alamance	-	NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	0	0	NA	0
Ross, S.	R	63	Alamance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Saine	R	97	Lincoln	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	0	3
Samuelson	R	104	Mecklenburg	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	INC	11	13	33
Schaffer	R	105	Mecklenburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	0	0	NA	0
Setzer	R	89	Catawba	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	27	11	13	37
Shepard	R	15	Onslow	-	NV	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	9	7
Speciale	R	3	Craven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	8	22	NA	14
Stam	R	37	Wake	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	0	13	40
Starnes	R	87	Caldwell	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	29	0	13	35
Steinburg	R	1	Chowan	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	E	E	30	0	NA	16
Stevens	R	90	Surry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	8	0	13	18
Stone	R	51	Lee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	5
Szoka	R	45	Cumberland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	0	0	NA	0
Terry	D	71	Forsyth	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	E	+	91	100	NA	95
Tillis	R	98	Mecklenburg	NV	NV	NV	NV	-	NV	NV	NV	-	NV	-	-	INC	0	INC	24
Tine	D	6	Dare	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	E	E	+	-	E	67	57	NA	63
Tolson	D	23	Edgecombe	+	+	+	+	+	-	E	E	E	+	+	E	88	100	83	82
Torbett	R	108	Gaston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	13	7
Turner	R	84	Iredell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Waddell	D	46	Columbus	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	E	-	64	57	NA	61
Warren	R	77	Rowan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	5
Wells	R	96	Catawba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	0	14	NA	6
West	R	120	Cherokee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	NV	E	E	0	0	9	28
Whitmire	R	113	Transylvania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Wilkins, Jr.	D	2	Person	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	50	89	70	69
Wray	D	27	Northhampton	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	67	100	79	76
Younts	R	80	Davidson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0

Senate	Party	District	County	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	2014 Short Session	2013 Long Session	2011-2012 Average	Lifetime Score
Pro Environmental Vote:				Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No				
Allran	R	42	Catawba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	0	10	9	50
Apodaca	R	48	Henderson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4	36
Barefoot	R	18	Wake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	NA	5
Barringer	R	17	Wake	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	22	NA	15
Berger	R	26	Rockingham	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4	33

+ pro-conservation vote - anti-conservation vote NV missed vote counted as anti-conservation vote
 E excused absences/votes are not scored INC members did not cast enough votes to score N/A no previous voting record

Senate	Party	District	County	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	2014 Short Session	2013 Long Session	2011-2012 Average	Lifetime Score
Bingham	R	33	Davidson	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	E	-	0	0	33	50
Blue	D	14	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	+	-	E	88	90	80	85
Brock	R	34	Davie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4	29
Brown	R	6	Onslow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	26
Bryant	D	4	Nash	+	+	+	+	+	-	E	E	+	-	E	75	100	93	89
Clark	D	21	Hoke	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	45	60	NA	52
Cook	R	1	Beaufort	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	0	10	14	7
Curtis	R	44	Lincoln	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	0	0	NA	0
Daniel	R	46	Burke	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	0	10	9	7
Davis, D.	D	5	Greene	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	73	78	NA	79
Davis, J.	R	50	Macon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	0	0	17	8
Ford	D	38	Mecklenburg	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	E	60	56	NA	58
Foushee	D	23	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	100	100	NA	100
Goolsby	R	9	New Hanover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	0	0	4	3
Graham	D	40	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	100	86	71	81
Gunn	R	24	Alamance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	0	0	4	2
Harrington	R	43	Gaston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	5
Hartsell	R	36	Cabarrus	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	INC	13	19	58
Hise	R	47	Mitchell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	4	5
Hunt	R	15	Wake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	0	30	38	45
Jackson, B.	R	10	Sampson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	14	7
Jackson, J.	D	37	Mecklenburg	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	E	80	NA	NA	80
Jenkins	D	3	Edgecombe	+	+	-	+	+	E	-	+	-	E	E	63	25	36	66
Krawiec	R	31	Forsyth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	NA	NA	0
McKissick	D	20	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	73	90	65	75
McLaurin	D	25	Richmond	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	55	33	NA	45
Meredith	R	19	Cumberland	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	23	15
Newton	R	11	Wilson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	4	5
Parmon	D	32	Forsyth	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	+	E	-	INC	90	96	78
Pate	R	7	Wayne	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	0	0	9	32
Rabin	R	12	Harnett	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	NA	5
Rabon	R	8	Brunswick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4	2
Randleman	R	30	Wilkes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	13	17
Robinson	D	28	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	E	E	89	75	50	65
Rucho	R	39	Mecklenburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	8	29
Sanderson	R	2	Pamlico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	5
Soucek	R	45	Watauga	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	INC	0	4	3
Stein	D	16	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	82	90	74	83
Tarte	R	41	Mecklenburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Tillman	R	29	Randolph	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	5	35
Tucker	R	35	Union	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	0	0	9	5
Van Duyn	D	49	Buncombe	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	NA	NA	100
Wade	R	27	Guilford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	NA	0
Walters	D	13	Robeson	+	+	-	+	+	-	E	E	-	-	-	44	29	19	34
Woodard	D	22	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	E	-	80	89	NA	84

+ pro-conservation vote - anti-conservation vote NV missed vote counted as anti-conservation vote
 E excused absences/votes are not scored INC members did not cast enough votes to score N/A no previous voting record

SENATE VOTES

[S1] SB 786 Senate Amendment 3 (Energy Modernization Act)

Similar to a proposed House amendment, Senator Gene McLaurin introduced Amendment 3, which would have allowed local ordinances to regulate and tax oil and gas exploration activities. This would have let local entities better protect themselves from possible water contamination and have more of a say in what happens. This amendment failed 16-30.

Pro-conservation vote: YES.

[S2] SB 786 Senate Amendment 4 (Energy Modernization Act)

Senator Mike Woodard proposed Amendment 4, which essentially would have prohibited forced pooling. Under forced pooling, an unwilling landowner's rights can be usurped by fracking interests. This amendment failed with a vote of 16-30.

Pro-conservation vote: YES.

[S3] SB 786 3rd Reading (Energy Modernization Act)

See H5 for a full description. The bill passed 35-12.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[S4] SB 734 Senate Amendment 4 (Regulatory Reform Act of 2014)

Senator Mike Woodard proposed an amendment that would uphold and strengthen the Jordan Lake buffer rule. SB734 was weak to begin with, and would allow polluters to be exempt from the buffer rule. This amendment failed with a vote of 16-31.

Pro-conservation vote: YES.

[S5] SB 734 Senate Amendment 5 (Regulatory Reform Act of 2014)

Amendment 5 was proposed by Senator Floyd McKissick and aimed to keep an energy audit system in place. SB734 had a provision that would do away with energy audits, making it more difficult to keep track of our energy usage and what strides we could make to reduce our waste. Amendment 5 failed with a vote of 16-31.

Pro-conservation vote: YES.

[S6] SB 734 3rd Reading (Regulatory Reform Act of 2014)

SB734 was a monster bill that had provisions on everything from cursing on the highway to air quality monitors. The bill was so convoluted that it was very easy to slip in bad provisions. There was an entire environmental section, where most provisions rolled back existing environmental protections in North Carolina. SB734 deregulates isolated wetlands, orders the removal of all state air quality monitors that aren't required by federal law, provides immunity from civil and administrative penalties for environmental violations, and diminishes Jordan Lake riparian buffer protections. This bill passed the 3rd reading with a vote of 35-10.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[S7] SB 729 Senate Amendment 12 (Coal Ash Management Act of 2014)

Amendment 12, proposed by Senator Tom Apodaca, was the substitute amendment that killed pro-conservation Amendment 11 in another act of procedural degradation. (Amendment 11 would have required liners in coal ash ponds to protect our drinking water supplies.) Amendment 12 still did not require the separation of ash from water supplies, which is the main danger of capping in place. Amendment 12 also states that capping in place is allowed, should it be deemed as the most effective option. This amendment passed with a vote of 37-9.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[S8] SB 729 Senate Amendment 13 (Coal Ash Management Act of 2014)

Senator Ben Clark proposed an amendment that attempted to reduce the number of coal ash ponds that could potentially be named as low-risk and capped in place. The amendment stated the ponds would be classified using the US EPA rankings. This would have significantly reduced the number of low-risk sites and made Duke Energy clean more sites up front and treat them as high and intermediate risk. This amendment failed with a vote 13-33.

Pro-conservation vote: YES.

[S9] HB 201 2nd Reading (Building Reutilization for Economic Development Act)

The description of this bill can be found under [H10]. The bill passed 39-9.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[S10] SB 734 Adoption of conference report (Regulatory Reform Act of 2014)

The description of this bill can be found under [H11]. Passed 35-1.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.

[S11] SB 729 Adoption of conference report (Coal Ash Management Act of 2014).

The description of this bill can be found under [H12]. Passed 38-2.

Pro-conservation vote: NO.





GROWING POLARIZATION BY THE NUMBERS

Partisan polarization in voting on environmental issues reached a new depth during 2014. The score gap between Republican and Democratic averages was 75 points in the House for the combined 2013-14 session, while it was 72 points in the Senate. This carried to a new extreme the alarming shift which began with the advent of new legislative leadership in 2011.

For the combined 2013-14 full term scores, House Democrats averaged 81% on the NCLCV environmental voting score, while House Republicans averaged 6%. In the Senate, Democrats averaged 74% while Republicans averaged 2%. For the one-year score in 2014, the average score among House Democrats dropped somewhat to 75%, from 87% in 2013. The 2014 House Republican average inched up to 8% from its 4% low point in 2013. In the Senate, the Democratic average ticked up to 75% from 73% in 2013.

The most jarring of the 2014 numbers, however, came in the Senate Republicans' average score: 0%. This indicates that no Senate Republican cast a pro-environment vote on any of the bill or amendment votes scored by NCLCV for the 2014 session. That startling statistic reflects a level of leadership and institutional hostility to environmental protection policies that is unprecedented in the modern history of our state. Changing this dynamic represents the most critical task now laid out before North Carolina citizens concerned with protection of our state's public health and natural resources.

Key Numbers

Number of Representatives: 120

Number of Senators: 50

10% and Below: 52%

90% and Above: 9%

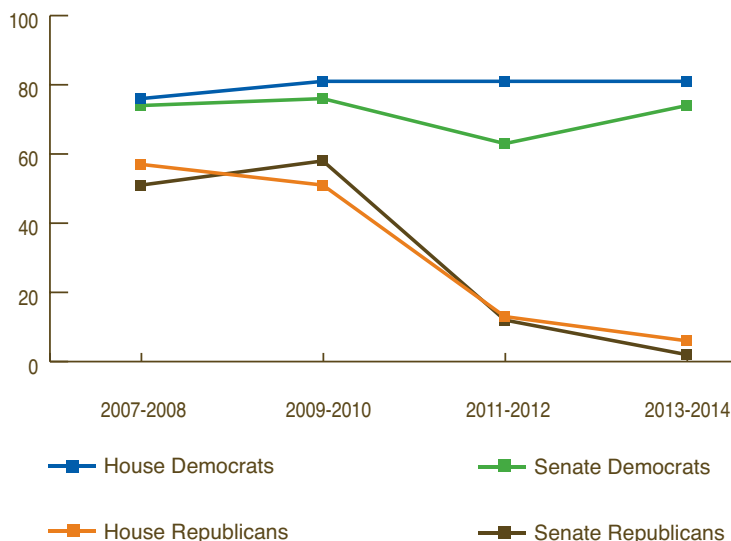
Total Zeros: 70

Total Hundreds: 12

AVERAGE PARTY SCORES

	2007-2008 Average	2009-2010 Average	2011-2012 Average	2013-2014 Average
House				
Republicans	57%	51%	13%	6%
Democrats	76%	81%	81%	81%
Total House	67%	67%	47%	44%
Senate				
Republicans	51%	58%	12%	2%
Democrats	74%	76%	63%	74%
Total Senate	66%	69%	37%	38%

AVERAGE SCORES OVER TIME



Governor's Midterm Report

Weak Coal Ash Proposal

The Governor's coal ash plan – the weakest of all the proposals we saw – started the 2014 legislative session. Governor McCrory, who had spent his professional career as a Duke Energy employee, seemed to take his old employer's dictation in drafting a coal ash plan. His proposal asked Duke to do nothing beyond what they had already said they would do. It failed to protect North Carolinians from having to pay for Duke's poor business decisions, and it failed to ensure the cleanup of coal ash pits or protection of water quality. This woefully inadequate proposal got the legislative debate on coal ash off to a poor start from which it never recovered.

What He Pushed For

We will give you a hint: it wasn't environmental protections. SB786, The Energy Modernization Act, was one of the first environmental bills signed into law this session. Governor McCrory was a huge supporter of the fracking bill and was all smiles as he signed it into law. He welcomed the rushed and careless passage of this legislation that empowers drillers to override landowners' objections to fracking underneath their property. The Act goes so far as to criminalize the public release of information on what toxins are included in fracking fluids pumped into the ground.

The Governor also continues to advocate for drilling for oil off our coast. If the passage of fracking is foreshadowing of how our legislature will treat offshore drilling, then we should expect more reckless decisions to be made on that front as well. Governor McCrory supports these environmentally dangerous approaches, despite the threats to our state's key resources and traditional industries like tourism and fishing, not to mention the lack of evidence that such moves would even benefit the state economically.

Denying Science

Despite the overwhelming consensus of climate scientists, Governor McCrory continues to deny that climate change is linked to human activity. He argues that the costs of climate mitigation are too great. His appointees to various positions reflect similar attitudes by perpetuating the political myth that human-induced climate change is still in doubt, and work to undercut efforts to prepare for and mitigate threats, especially to our coastal areas.

Summing up the Governor's 2014 Record

Under Governor McCrory's leadership this year:

- North Carolina suffered the third largest coal ash spill in United States history;
- Eight days prior to the coal ash disaster, Burlington suffered a toxic raw sewage spill that was not reported to the public until after 24 hours had passed;
- Fracking was signed into law without provisions to properly protect North Carolina citizens' health and water, while subsidies for cleaner energy technology are scheduled to end soon;
- Environmental and health protections were further rolled back;
- Coal ash cleanup efforts were cut off after only a fraction of the spilled coal ash was recovered; and
- Weak coal ash legislation passed that fails to guarantee cleanup of most coal ash pits and to hold corporate polluters liable to pay for their mistakes.

McCrory's leadership during this session follows a first year of disastrous environmental stewardship. Most notably, his appointee for the influential Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources aggressively pursued an agenda of de-emphasizing enforcement of pollution control laws, and treating polluters as "customers," ignoring the interests and health of our citizens. Under the guidance of McCrory's former budget director, Art Pope, his Administration oversaw the decay of our state's ability to enforce environmental regulations, as the budget included disproportionately deep cuts to DENR staff.

With half of his term in office now gone, Governor McCrory will need to exercise an abrupt about-face to achieve even mediocrity when it comes to preserving environmental protections.



Who Stands Out? Advocates and Adversaries

ADVOCATES

Representative Pricey Harrison

Representative Harrison received the 2012 NCLCV Defender of the Environment Award. She has a lifetime score of 100% and continues to fight for North Carolinians' health and environment. This session she pushed the General Assembly to make science-based decisions on fracking, coal ash cleanup, and other environmental policies.

Senator Jeff Jackson

New to the Senate, Senator Jackson came on strong in his first year. He actively spoke up on behalf of the environment throughout the session. His voting record reflects this environmental ethic. We see a Rising Star in the making.

ADVERSARIES

Senator Andrew Brock

Senator Brock has been a major supporter of fracking this session, including being a sponsor of the Energy Modernization Act. Despite their enthusiasm for fast-tracking fracking, the bill's sponsors, when challenged, could not identify the sources of their assertions on potential jobs and gas exports. Senator Brock has failed to adequately prepare background information, has continuously ignored scientific evidence, and relentlessly pushed for harmful provisions related to fracking, air quality, wetland mitigation, and water quality.

Senator Trudy Wade

Senator Wade has advocated for some of the worst environmental legislation this session, including removing clean air monitors across the state and buffers around landfills. She also defends fracking at every turn and has voted to fast track it at every opportunity.

IT'S COMPLICATED

Senator Tom Apodaca

Senator Apodaca became notorious for bringing forward substitute amendments to quash others that he opposed. He brought forth several to the floor during the SB734, the

so-called "rules reform" bill, and SB729, the weak coal ash management bill debates. This tactic merely changed the date of deadlines by one day, but killed substantive amendments that would have better protected our air, water, and public health. However, Senator Apodaca has played a pivotal role in advocating for clean energy and the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard in previous sessions. We will need his continued support in order to protect this legislation which will likely be under attack again. He should also be applauded for speaking out in the media early on the coal ash spill, demanding the problem be addressed.

Representative Chuck McGrady

The environmental community looks to Representative McGrady for leadership due to his strong personal history of concern for the environment. Those high expectations resulted in frustration this year, as the House produced an even weaker coal ash proposal than the Senate, despite Rep. McGrady's efforts. It served as a stark reminder that even the best advocates need help within their caucus to accomplish much – and too often this session, that help never came.

Representative Ruth Samuelson

Representative Samuelson has often fought against some of the worst environmental provisions proposed and was effective. She could then pivot to selling an environmental rollback that wasn't as bad but still moved the state in the wrong direction. In one key example, she led the fight to block a provision that would have entirely gutted protection of "isolated" wetlands in the Piedmont and mountains – and then helped advocate for the substitute that 'merely' rolled protections back. It's tough to reflect such nuances in the raw scores. Rep. Samuelson is an effective, persuasive legislator, and we're sorry to see her not seek re-election this year.

Senator Gene McLaurin

Senator McLaurin had a history of siding with fracking, but the weight of evidence changed his mind this session. Sen. McLaurin spoke eloquently on the need to protect our water and other natural resources for future generations. He continues to be a thoughtful, pragmatic legislator on environmental issues. Although his score has some room to improve, we look forward to having thoughtful conversations with him on how to get his score up.

The 2014 Green Tie Award Winners

NCLCV hosts an annual Green Tie Awards Dinner to honor legislators who prioritize the environment when making difficult decisions and community leaders who bring environmental issues to light. The 2014 Green Tie Award winners are:

Senator of the Year - Senator Angela Bryant

Senator Angela Bryant previously earned a Rising Star award in 2009. She advocated against a range of bad environmental legislation from bills that fast-tracked fracking to the expiration of rules regulating polluters. Senator Bryant consistently fights for North Carolina's citizens and communities.

Representative of the Year - House Minority Leader Larry Hall

House Minority Leader Larry Hall advocates strongly for the environment, but as House Minority Leader, he is also able to work behind the scenes to provide sound defense on environmental issues and call other voices to speak with him. Rep. Hall has consistently demanded a thorough, thoughtful, and slow approach when considering opening North Carolina to fracking.

Rising Stars - Senators Valerie Foushee and Mike Woodard; Representatives Nathan Baskerville, Carla Cunningham, George Graham, Duane Hall, Yvonne Lewis Holley, Bobbie Richardson, and Evelyn Terry

The Rising Star award went to nine legislators for making the environment one of the issues they championed throughout their first terms. With each of the representatives earning 100% in the 2013 session, they cast pro-conservation votes on issues ranging from fracking, to Jordan Lake water quality, to landfills, to anti-environmental regulatory reform.

The Joes - Senators Ellie Kinnaird, Dan Clodfelter and Martin Nesbitt; Representative Joe Tolson

NCLCV also took the opportunity to thank several legislators who will not be returning to the General Assembly for their service on behalf of the environment with "The Joe" award, named for the environmental legacy of former House Speaker Joe Hackney.

Senator Ellie Kinnaird, a 2009 Green Tie recipient, was a tireless advocate on an extensive range of environmental



issues throughout her 16 years of legislative service. Representative Joe Tolson spent nine terms in the House supporting environmental issues. Senator Dan Clodfelter was a dedicated advocate for the environment for 16 years in the legislature and will carry this forward as Mayor of Charlotte.

Remembering the Legacy of Martin Nesbitt

NCLCV also honored the legacy of Senator Martin Nesbitt (1946-2014) who was a powerful and memorable voice for North Carolinians for more than three decades, fighting for the rights of everyday citizens on issues ranging from public health to clean air. Sen. Nesbitt dedicated himself to the citizens of North Carolina and tirelessly fought to protect our natural resources. In 2013, he received a score of 90% and had a lifetime score of 77% after three decades of service. He led the charge on the 2002 Clean Smokestacks Bill. This historic legislation forced power plants to clean up their toxic emissions and set the stage for North Carolina's Attorney General to successfully hold out-of-state polluters accountable.

"Martin Nesbitt was a North Carolina mountain populist who understood that representing the people requires protecting the air they breathe, the water they drink, and the land they love," said NCLCV Director of Governmental Relations, Dan Crawford. "A skilled and eloquent attorney, he knew how to craft law to ensure that the public's health would be protected and the voices of ordinary people would always be heard."

Now that you know the score... take action!

Help us hold legislators accountable. Thank legislators who stood up for sound environmental policies. If they had a low score, let your elected officials know what you think about their votes. You can find out who represents you at: <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/representation/WhoRepresentsMe.aspx>.

Find out where your candidates for local, state, and federal office stand on these issues. Use the Scorecard to make informed decisions about which candidates deserve your support in the upcoming election.

Become a member of NCLCV today! You can help turn environmental values into North Carolina priorities by becoming a member of NCLCV today at nclcv.org.

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2014 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

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