The California Legislative

2009 REPORT CARD

MONIED INTERESTS REIGN IN CAPITOL — WATER, AIR, FORESTS AND COAST SUFFER

For most of this decade, California's legislators and governors have established an environmental record unmatched by any other state, and certainly way ahead of policymakers at the national level. In 2009 that progress stalled. Wealthy polluters and developers, always influential in the Capitol, used the state's economic and fiscal crises to gain the upper hand.

Legislation that would have greened our energy system, preserved our parks and coast, cleaned the air and water, and removed toxins from products either fell short of the needed votes in the legislature or suffered vetoes from Governor Schwarzenegger. Utilities, oil, logging and chemical companies, and big developers poured millions of dollars into lobbying, advertising and campaign contributions in their effort to thwart Californians' desire for stronger safeguards for our wildlands, atmosphere and watersheds.

Environmental groups were forced into a defensive posture several times, as these same oil companies, developers, factory farmers and other polluters exploited their inside influence to bypass the normal, public legislative process and jam through measures to carve loopholes in key laws like the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In past years, such "jailbreaks" were almost always stymied by courageous and principled legislative leaders like Byron Sher and John Burton; this year, on the other hand, exemptions from environmental laws were attached to must-pass budgets in the middle of the night, taken away from the committees that had the relevant expertise and jurisdiction, and, in one especially egregious case, sent to the Arts and Entertainment Committee only.

While we were able to stop some of these assaults on our environmental safeguards — like a bid to open new oil drilling off the Santa Barbara coast despite the disapproval of the State Lands Commission — the economic downturn was used as a convenient excuse to exempt various projects in Southern California from CEQA review and to roll back air-quality standards reducing diesel exhaust from off-road vehicles. And the proudest achievement of the governor and legislative leaders, on water supply issues, emerged from backroom deals as too expensive, too weak, and overweighted toward new dams and a water transport canal.

Sierra Club California continues to make the case to policymakers that weakening environmental safeguards is no way to revive our economy. On the contrary, we agree with the many experts who see creation of green jobs as the best route to a sustainable recovery. We can put people back to work and enhance our water, air, parks and wilderness — but only if our elected officials turn away from the monied interests and back to the people who elected them.

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2009 Scorecard Bill Summaries

AB 64 (Krekorian, Bass, Fuentes, Simitian, Leno, Padilla), **Clean Energy**: would reduce greenhouse gas pollution, bring economic certainty to the renewable energy industry, help to create green-collar jobs, and reduce our reliance on natural gas by setting a hard and enforceable 33% Renewables Portfolio Standard target by 2020. *SUPPORT*

AB 920 (Huffman) **Solar and Wind Energy**: requires utilities to compensate owners of solar or wind energy systems, for any surplus electricity generated on a yearly basis. *SUPPORT*

AB 975 (Fong) **Water Conservation**: requires water corporations with more than 500 service connections to install water meters on unmetered connections by 2020 and requires water billing to be based on meter readings and actual volume of water used. *SUPPORT*

AB 1066 (Mendoza) **Forest Practices**: increases the harvest period under a Timber Harvest Plan from the current 3 years to 5 years (with an additional 2 years in extensions, for a total of 7 years), which will compound THP impacts and difficulties in analyzing cumulative impacts. *OPPOSE*

AB 1242 (Ruskin) **Human Right to Water**: would make it a policy of the state of California that everyone should have access to safe, affordable water for basic human needs. *SUPPORT*

AB 1318 (V. M. Perez) **Air Pollution**: abrogates a lawsuit brought by a coalition of health, community and environmental justice groups that exposed efforts by the South Coast Air Quality Management District to create new air pollution credits without adequate environmental review. *OPPOSE*

AB 1404 (De Leon) **Environmental Justice**: would improve environmental justice and air quality in California communities by setting some sensible limits on emissions offsets in the implementation of the Global Warming Solutions Act. *SUPPORT*

ABX3 81 (Hall) **Land Use Loophole**: turns the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and general plan law on its head to provide a football stadium proposed project with an exemption and negate an existing and any future lawsuit over the project. *OPPOSE*

SB 14 (Simitian, Kehoe, Padilla, Steinberg, Krekorian, Alquist, Desaulnier, Leno, Lowenthal, Romero, Wiggins, Jones, Skinner) **Clean Energy**: would reduce greenhouse gas pollution, bring economic certainty to the renewable energy industry, help to create green-collar jobs, and reduce our reliance on natural gas by setting a hard and enforceable 33% Renewables Portfolio Standard target by 2020. *SUPPORT*

SB 679 (Wolk) **State Parks:** would reinforce the statewide significance of our state park system and enact protections that safeguard the multi-billion dollar investment in our state parks. *SUPPORT*

SB 797 (Pavley) **Toxic Products**: would prohibit the use of bisphenol A, a hormone-disrupting chemical, in baby bottles, sippy cups, infant formula containers, and baby food jars. Many alternatives for these products are already on the market. *SUPPORT*

ABX2 8 (Nestande) **Air Pollution**: exploits the budget crisis to roll back standards that reduce air pollution from off-road diesel engines. *OPPOSE*

ABX4 23 (DeVore) **New Offshore Oil Drilling**: would have created a new board for the purpose of approving the Tranquillon Ridge Field (PXP) proposed lease and development project that was rejected by the State Lands Commission (SLC). *OPPOSE*

SBX7 1 (Simitian) **Delta Governance**: creates new state bureaucracy to govern actions in the Delta that lacks authority to protect the Delta ecosystem; fails to require minimum in-stream Delta flows. *OPPOSE*

SBX7 2 (Cogdill) **Water Bond**: places $11.1 billion water bond on the November 2010 ballot for voter approval, includes $3 billion for new dams or dam expansion and $1.75 billion for special earmarks. *OPPOSE*

Schwarzenegger Goes 2 for 13 on Top Environmental Bills

Of the 15 most important bills affecting California's environment that reached the floor of the Assembly and Senate, 13 passed and went to the Governor to sign or veto. Governor Schwarzenegger took the pro-environment side on only two of those 13 bills.

SIERRA CLUB CALIFORNIA **SENATE REPORT CARD**	Score	AB 64	AB 920	AB 975	AB 1066	AB 1242	AB 1318	AB 1404	ABX2 8	ABX3 81	ABX4 23	SB 14	SB 679	SB 797	SBX7 1	SBX7 2
		Clean Energy	Solar and Wind energy	Water Conservation	Forest Practices	Human Right to Water	Air Pollution	Environmental Justice	Air Pollution	Land Use Loophole	New Offshore Oil Drilling	Clean Energy	State Parks Protection	Toxic Products	Delta Governance	Water Bond
Corbett, D–10	15/15	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hancock, D-09	15/15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wiggins, D -2	15/15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+
Yee, D-8	14/15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+
DeSaulnier, D-07	12/13	+	+	E	E	+	NV+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+
Leno, D-03	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	+
Lowenthal , D-27	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Simitian, D-11	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Wolk, D-05	13/15	+	+	+	–	+	NV+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV+
Cedillo, D-22	12/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	NV+	–	+	+	+	+	–	–
Kehoe, D-39	12/15	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Pavley, D-23	12/15	+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Romero, D-24	12/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	–	–
Florez, D-16	11/14	+	+	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	–	E	+	+	+	+	–	–
Price. D-26	9/13	+	+	+	–	+	NV+	+		–	+	+	+		–	–
Alquist. D-13	9/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	–	+	–	–	–	+	+	+	–	–
Liu, D-21	9/15	NV-	NV-	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	+	–	+	NV-	+	+	–	–
Padilla, D-20	9/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	NV+	+	+	+	–	–
Oropeza, D-28	7/11	NV-	+	E	E	NV-	NV+	+	NV+	–	+	+	NV-	+	E	E
Calderon, D-30	8/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	NV+	NV+
Ducheny, D-40	8/15	+	+	+	–	NV-	–	+	–	+	–	+	+	+	–	–
Steinberg, D-6	8/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	–	+	+	+	–	–
Negrete McLeod, D-32	5/15	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	–	NV+	–	NV-	+	–	–	–
Correa, D-34	3/15	–	–	+	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	NV-	–	+	–	–
Cox, R-1	3/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	+
Denham, R-12	3/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	+
Maldonado, R-15	3/15	+	–	–	–	NV-	–	–	–	–	+	NV-	+	NV-	–	–
Wright, D-25	3/15	NV-	–	+	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	NV-	+	–	–	–
Aanestad, R-4	2/13	–	–	–	NV+	–	–	–	–	NV+	–	–	–	–	E	E
Ashburn, R-18	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	–
Strickland, R-19	2/15	+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	NV-	–	–
Dutton. R-31	1/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	NV+	–
Hollingsworth, R-36	1/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	–
Huff, R-29	1/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	NV+	–	–	–	–	–	–
Wyland, R-38	1/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	–
Runner, R-17	0/13	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	E	E
Benoit, R-37	0/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Cogdill, R-14	0/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Harman, R-35	0/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Walters, R-33	0/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

+ = Pro-environment vote / – = Anti-environment vote / NV- = Not voting on good bill hurt environment
NV+ = Not voting on bad bill helped environment / E= Excused Absence (Does not count toward total score)

SIERRA CLUB CALIFORNIA

ASSEMBLY REPORT CARD

	Score	AB 64	AB 920	AB 975	AB 1066	AB 1242	AB 1318	AB 1404	ABX2 8	ABX3 81	ABX4 23	SB 14	SB 679	SB 797	SBX7 1	SBX7 2
		Clean Energy	Solar and Wind Energy	Water Conservation	Forest Practices	Human Right to Water	Air Pollution	Environmental Justice	Air Pollution	Land Use Loophole	New Offshore Oil Drilling	Clean Energy	State Parks Protection	Toxic Products	Delta Governance	Water Bond
Skinner, D-14	15/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Monning, D-27	15/15	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ammiano, D-13	14/15	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Chesbro, D-01	14/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Yamada, D-08	14/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Brownley, D-41	13/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Feuer, D-42	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Hill, D-19	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	–	NV+
Fong, D-22	13/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	+	+
Nava, D-35	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Ruskin, D-21	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	NV+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	–
Huffman, D-06	13/15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Beall, D-24	12/15	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	–
Buchanan, D-15	12/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	NV-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Evans, D-07	12/15	+	+	+	–	+	NV+	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jones, D-09	12/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	–	NV+
Hayashi, D-18	12/15	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	+	+
Krekorian, D-43	12/15	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Lowenthal, D-54	12/15	+	+	+	–	+	NV+	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Saldana, D-76	12/15	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Swanson, D-16	12/15	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	+	+
Blumenfield, D-40	11/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	NV+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Ma, D-12	11/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	NV+	–	+	+	+	+	NV+	–
Salas, D-79	11/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–
Torlakson, D-11	11/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	+	+

Davis, D-48	10/14	+	+	+	E	+	–	+	NV+	–	NV+	+	+	+	–	–
Block, D-78	10/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	+	NV+	+	+	+	–	–
De Leon, D-45	10/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	–	–
Eng, D-49	10/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	–	–
Lieu, D-53	10/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	–	–
Perez, J., D-46	10/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	NV-	+	–	–
Bradford, D-51	5/8	+	+			+	–	+				+			–	–
Bass, D-47	9/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	NV+	+	+	+	–	–
Carter, D-62	9/15	+	+	+	NV+	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	NV-	–	–
Coto, D-23	9/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	–	–
De La Torre, D-50	9/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	NV+	–	+	+	+	NV-	–	–
Portantino, D-44	9/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	–	–
Torrico, D-20	9/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	NV-	+	–	–
Calderon, D-58	8/13	+	+	+	NV+	+	NV+	+	+	–	–	NV-	–	NV-	E	E
Arambula, I-31	8/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	+	–	+	+	–	–	–
Caballero, D-28	8/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	NV-	–	+	+	+	+	–	–	–
Hall, D-52	8/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	NV-	+	–	NV+	+	+	–	–	–
Hernandez, D-57	8/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	NV+	+	+	NV-	–	–
Mendoza, D-56	8/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	–	NV-	–	–
Fuentes, D-39	7/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	NV-	+	–	+	+	–	NV-	–	–
Furutani, D-55	7/15	+	NV-	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	+	NV-	–	–
Galgiani, D-17	7/15	+	NV-	+	–	+	–	NV-	–	–	+	+	+	NV-	+	–
Huber, D-10	7/15	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	+	NV-	NV-	+	+
Perez, M., D-80	7/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	+	+	NV-	NV-	–	–
Torres, D-61	7/15	NV-	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	–	+	NV-	+	NV-	–	–
Solorio, D-69	6/15	+	+	+	–	+	–	NV-	–	–	NV+	+	–	–	–	–
Fletcher, R-75	5/15	–	+	+	–	+	–	–	–	+	NV+	–	–	–	–	–
Anderson, R-77	4/15	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	+

Blakeslee, R-33	4/15	–	+	+	–	NV-	–	–	NV+	–	–	–	+	–	–	–
Devore, R-70	3/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	+
Miller, R-71	3/15	–	–	–	–	–	NV+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	+
Niello, R-5	3/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	+
Berryhill, B., R-26	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	+
Emmerson, R-63	2/15	–	+	+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Gaines, R-04	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	+
Garrick, R-74	2/15	–	–	NV-	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	–
Harkey, R-73	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	NV+	–	–	–	+	–
Knight, R-36	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	+
Logue, R-03	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	+
Nielsen, R-02	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	–
Smyth, R-38	2/15	–	+	+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Strickland, R-37	2/15	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–
Tran, R-69	2/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	NV+	–	–	–	–	+	–
Villines, R-29	2/15	–	–	+	–	NV-	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	NV+	–
Duvall, R-72	1/8			NV-	–	NV-			–	NV+	–		–	NV-		
Berryhill, T., R-25	1/13	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	E	E
Adams, R-59	1/15	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Conway, R-34	1/15	–	–	NV-	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–
Gilmore, R-30	1/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	–
Nestande, R-64	1/15	–	+	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Cook, R-65	0/15	–	–	NV-	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Fuller, R-32	0/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Hagman, R-60	0/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Jeffries, R-66	0/15	–	–	NV-	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Silva, R-67	0/15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

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NV+ = Not voting on bad bill helped environment / E= Excused Absence (Does not count toward total score)