



NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

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www.SierraClub.org/NJ

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Sierra Club Endorses Tom Malinowski for U.S. Congress

The New Jersey Sierra Club will be announcing our endorsement of Tom Malinowski for New Jersey's 7th Congressional District. Assistant Secretary of State under President Obama, Member of President Clinton's National Security Council, Washington Director for Human Rights Watch- Tom Malinowski is running for Congress to fight for a better deal for New Jersey and for the people of our district, and always put country over party.

"We are proud to announce our endorsement of Tom Malinowski for New Jersey's 7th Congressional District. To his credit, Tom has been outspoken in opposing the PennEast natural gas pipeline, which is slated to run through the western part of this district, and threatens wetlands, waterways and parkland in an area of great natural beauty, with no clear economic benefit. And, unlike a lot of other candidates right now, he looks forward not backward and knows that there's a lot more jobs with green energy like solar and offshore wind than with dirty fossil fuels," **said Rich Isaac, Chapter Chair of the New Jersey Sierra Club.** "With his experience in Washington working with the Transportation Committee, his experience on mass transit has already prepared him to help get the necessary funding to build the Gateway Tunnel, which will not only help clean our air by reducing vehicle traffic but give a substantial boost to this region's economy."

The 7th Congressional District includes all of Hunterdon County, and parts of Essex, Morris, Somerset, Union, and Warren counties and is inclusive of 74 municipalities. Congressman Leonard Lance (R) is the incumbent for 10 years.

"I am proud to receive the Sierra Club's endorsement. I want to preserve the natural beauty of our district for the hikers, fishers, hunters and tourists who cherish it, and to keep our air, water and soil safe and clean. Conservation and common sense environmental protections are also critical to the economic vitality of our state — America should lead the world towards a clean energy future, and New Jersey should lead America," **said Tom Malinowski.**

Leaders in Congress are in lock step with Trump's war on the environment. They support President Trump's cuts to the federal Environmental Protection Agency and rollback of Waters of the United States regulations, and for opposing EPA regulations of greenhouse gases. They are pushing for legislation that would make it easier to build pipelines on public land.

"We are endorsing Tom because he has the convictions and the principles to stand up for what is right as a congressperson. He has a career that shows that he will support environment and the people. He has the experience to walk right into to Congress and lead. We need a congressperson



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who will stand up to the environment here and across the country and we believe Tom will do just that. We believe his experience as a diplomat in the Clinton and Obama administrations will enable him to hit the ground running working with an understanding of the federal government and would be able to help in our efforts to enforce environmental regulations. He has opposed the PennEast pipeline that would cut through his district and threaten open space, farmland and drinking water for too many people. He will support full funding for the EPA and defend its authority to regulate, monitor, and enforce strong standards that hold fossil fuel polluters accountable. He will also support policies that not only preserve and protect the environment but promote racial, economic, social, and environmental justice," **said Jeff Tittel, Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club.** "We consider Tom as the best and most viable candidate to be able to take on Congressman Lance and beat him."

President Trump has been attacking the environment daily, rolling back one thing after another. His budget proposal for fiscal 2019 contains a 30 percent cut to funding for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). By slashing funding and jobs, it will directly impact New Jersey by removing oversight and inspections on regulations. Trump has pulled the U.S. out of the Paris Accords, making us the only country to do so. His rollbacks eliminate programs to do climate change, clean energy and conservation work and 2017 set a record of \$306 billion worth of damage from extreme weather events. Trump's Interior Department Secretary Zinke supports opening our public lands to fracking and coasts to offshore drilling as well as privatizing national parks. They've eliminated protections for national monuments, including 90% of Bears Ears in Utah to allow for uranium and coal mining. While they've removed the plastic bottle ban in national parks, the administration has doubled entrance fees.

"Tom will not only oppose drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge but will also work to stop the assault on our federal public lands by the Republicans in Congress and the Trump administration. Having hiked in Bears Ears National Monument last year, he understands the importance of preserving wilderness for future generations. Tom's experience in government makes him the candidate best qualified to take on Leonard Lance and elect a pro-environmental champion this November" **said John Kashwick, Political Chair of the New Jersey Sierra Club.** "This endorsement decision is made by grassroots volunteer activists that have a strong commitment to the environment. While we were impressed with many of the candidates running this year, we feel that Tom's experience in government makes him the most qualified to serve the people of the 7th district. He would hit the ground running when he arrives in Washington."

The Trump Administration have gotten rid of the Clean Power Plan, Waters of the United States Rule, and the Methane Rule. They cut funding for the Superfund Program by 30 percent, the Office of Science by 50 percent and eliminated the Office of Environmental Justice. They've removed rules that protect against sewer discharge, air pollution, coal ash dumping, and more. Part of their Drill Baby, Drill plan includes opening up areas from ANWAR to New Jersey for offshore drilling. There isn't a single subject that hasn't been negatively impacted by the Trump Administration.



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We believe Tom will fight against Trump's rollbacks on environmental protections. Trump's Interior Department puppet Zinke supports opening our public lands to fracking and coasts to offshore drilling as well as privatizing national parks. Tom will stand up to the Department of Interior and make sure our rights, our land, and our parks are protected. The one area where the Trump Administration is succeeding is hurting the environment and making U.S. more vulnerable to climate impacts", **said Jeff Tittel, Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club.** "We need our open space and shores to be protected from oil and gas drilling. We believe Tom will protect our public land and our shore from drilling. We believe he will make Congress uphold the law and the Trump Administration to enforce protections for clean air, water, and climate change."

Congressman Leonard Lance (R) is the incumbent and was elected to the United States House of Representatives in November 2008 and reelected to a fifth term on November 8, 2016 to represent New Jersey's 7th Congressional District. Lance's record has been abysmal. He has supported undermining the EPA and opposed protection for wildlife. He voted against the tax bill while supporting cuts to important agencies such as the EPA, NOAA, and DOE that would help fight climate change and programs that protect the environment. Lance voted for the cross-border bill that will make it easier to build pipelines like Keystone XL and Dakota Access or allow proposals like PennEast or Pilgrim to become export pipelines. At one time, Lance had a good environmental record however it deteriorated after his second term as congressman.

"Congressman Lance says he is for open space but voted to repeal the Antiquities Act. He says he's against PennEast but he voted for a bill that would make it make it easier to build pipelines like Keystone XL and Dakota Access or allow proposals like PennEast or Pilgrim to become export pipelines. He voted to block the EPA from regulating greenhouse gases. He also voted for Trump's rollbacks on clean and clean water. Congressman Lance's voting record shows how hypocritical he really is. He is siding with subsidies for corporate polluters and against the people of his own district. He is playing games when it comes to protecting the environment. The 7th district needs a congressperson to lead people, Lance is not that congressman, but Tom Malinowski will be. We believe Tom Malinowski will be a good congressman on local issues but will be a national leader," **said Tittel.**

Tom Malinowski has a good grasp of federal lands policy and the need to protect the Antiquities Act. He has pledged to support policies that protect our air and water, and incentivize the green technologies on which our future jobs depend and understand the impact of climate change. In New Jersey we are working to fight to stop the PennEast Pipeline, and if elected, Mr. Malinoski said he would work to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to get more public input before approving pipeline projects and measure environmental impact in a more rigorous way.

"Tom will fight and reform pipeline applications to protect the public land that belongs to all of us. He sees climate change as a global threat and has seen environmental disasters firsthand. We



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believe he will take an international view on national policies. Part of the reason for Tom's endorsement is because of his global view on environmental issues and human rights issues. Tom has fought throughout his career to protect the rights of environmental activists in countries where they face violence and repression for their work," **said Jeff Tittel, Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club.** "We believe Tom will be great congressman for the 7th district and a leader on local and national level. We believe he will be an environmental leader and champion for the people of his district. Tom will fight for New Jersey's environment, public health, and economy and we fully endorse him for U.S Congress in the 2018 election."

The Sierra Club is the nation's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization with over 1,000,000 members nationwide. The Sierra Club traces its roots to 1892, when noted conservationist John Muir founded the organization. Muir is widely credited with influencing President Theodore Roosevelt to create the nation's first national parks. The Sierra Club boasts an estimated 20,000 members in New Jersey, the tenth largest of the organization's 65 chapters in the United States, Canada and Mexico.