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## **Sierra Club California Releases 2018 Legislative Report Card: Scores Sink Thanks to Logging & Incineration**

SACRAMENTO – Sierra Club California released today its 2018 Report Card on the performance of legislators on environmental issues.

Of the 80 assembly members, only 9 earned 100-percent scores, and of the 40 senators, only one earned a 100-percent score. Scores were driven down by votes for a wildfire liability bill, Senate Bill 901. The logging industry negotiated conditions that reduce oversight of logging in certain cases, leaving water supplies, soil condition and habitat more vulnerable. The waste incineration industry won language extending contracts allowing certain high-polluting incinerators to continue functioning.

The assembly members who earned 100 percent scores are Richard Bloom (Assembly District 50), Rob Bonta (AD 18), Jesse Gabriel (AD 45), Cristina Garcia (AD 58), Ash Kalra (AD 27), Marc Levine (AD 10), Monique Limón (AD 37), Kevin McCarty (AD 7) and Kevin Mullin (AD 22). The lone senator who voted with the environment consistently on the report card was Jerry Hill (Senate District 13).

“It was unfortunate that the Brown Administration and the legislative committee crafting fire liability language in Senate Bill 901 allowed the logging and waste incineration industries to jam into the bill a small Christmas tree of demands they’ve been making for many years,” said Kathryn Phillips, director of Sierra Club California.

“One of those demands has been reduced oversight of logging practices,” Phillips said. “The logging industry got that, but fortunately the reduction is more limited than the loggers or incinerator operators wanted. However, what they got from SB 901 represents another inching forward of the camel’s nose under the tent.”

Sixteen senators earned scores of 90 percent, and 18 assembly members earned scores of 91 percent, just short of 100 percent because of their votes on SB 901.

Overall, 38 assembly members and 25 senators earned scores of 70 percent or better. That means that more than half the senate and slightly less than half the assembly members are consistently voting in ways that represent the environmental values Californians hold, according to polling.

“If one thing stands out, it is that, once again, no Republican members of the legislature earned a high enough score on the report card to effectively meet the equivalent of a “C” grade,” said Phillips. “Those legislators represent areas of the state whose constituents and economies depend on a clean, healthy environment. They are voting contrary to their districts’ interests.”

To prepare the report card, Sierra Club California staff selected 10 bills to score in the senate and 11 bills to score in the assembly. The bills represent a cross-section of environmental and environmental justice issues, provided vote counts that distinguish the most environmentally consistent legislators, and were among the top priority California legislation the Sierra Club’s staff and volunteers engaged in this year.

How each legislator voted on each bill was noted and a score was calculated by dividing the number of times the legislator voted with the Club’s recommendation by the total number of bills for which the legislator was present to cast a vote.

The report card [is available online](#) at Sierra Club California’s website.

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*Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of the 13 Sierra Club chapters in California, representing more than 400,000 members and supporters statewide.*