



North Carolina League of
CONSERVATION VOTERS

2019 North Carolina Legislative Scorecard



2019 North Carolina

Legislative Scorecard

A Message From Our Director

Dear Conservation Voter,

For the last nine years, the General Assembly has been bent on rolling back decades of environmental progress that protected North Carolinians' health from polluters' worst abuses, advanced our clean energy economy, and preserved the natural beauty that makes this state a great place to live, visit, and do business. But the pendulum began to swing back in 2017. With significant help from NCLCV, North Carolinians showed a 30-year Duke Energy employee the door and welcomed Roy Cooper to the governor's mansion.

Gov. Cooper has lived up to his promise on our issues, bringing science back to decision-making, and putting public health and environmental enforcement back at the forefront of our government's priorities. In October 2018, he signed Executive Order 80, setting in motion a plan to move our state to a 100% clean energy economy with net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. That plan was released a few months ago, and Gov. Cooper's administration is moving to enact the parts that it can, like electrifying state-owned vehicles, expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and improving state-owned building energy efficiency.

But fully enacting the plan requires major legislative action, and right now, legislative leaders are throwing up roadblocks and sending us in the opposite direction. The 2019 session was the longest in almost 20 years, and legislators threw a lot of spaghetti at the wall to see what would stick. They tried to allow Duke Energy to pad its profits and pay for coal ash clean up by raising your rates for three years at a time. They floated making electric and hybrid vehicle registration fees the highest in the South. They tried again to renew the wind energy ban across an even wider swath of our coast than their last moratorium. They wanted to let billboard companies clear more trees without local input. And they continue to shelve any bills that would tackle the climate crisis, boost our vital clean energy economy, fully staff environmental regulators, or deal seriously with persistent problems like coal ash, GenX, hog waste, and offshore drilling.

With your advocacy and the growing ranks of environmental champions backing up Gov. Cooper's vetoes after the 2018 elections, we have — at least so far — stopped the Duke rate hike, the wind ban, the billboard bill, the electric car rate hike, and other measures. But others we could not prevent, and just a few positive measures passed this session. It's clear the current majority isn't serious about protecting us from polluters or the worst climate impacts. So to see Gov. Cooper's plan come to fruition, we need our legislative Green Caucus to become a majority caucus in 2021.

Please use this scorecard to hold your legislators accountable for their votes. And use it when you consider your own vote next year.

Thanks,

Carrie



Carrie Clark
Executive Director

A large white wind turbine stands on a grassy hill under a clear blue sky. The turbine has three blades and a tall tower. The sun is low in the sky, creating a lens flare effect in the bottom right corner. The overall scene is bright and clear.

Long Session

Energy Rules the Day
in 2019 Long Session

■ Duke's Dirty Dealing

The most notorious legislation this session was Senate Bill 559, better known as the Duke Energy rate hike bill.

Upon first glance, the bill appeared noncontroversial, with its first section focusing on financing for storm recovery costs. Even its second section on utilities employing alternative rate plans explicitly called for rate setting to be fair to both utilities and consumers, something everyone can get on board with.

However, Duke Energy expertly worked with bill sponsors to write the language to its benefit. The bill's implementation would have **boosted Duke's profits at North Carolina ratepayers' expense.**

Of most concern was the bill's second section, which would have authorized multi-year rate plans, and would have likely circumvented the current yearly review of utility rates. By one estimate, if S559 had been enacted under the current rate plan, **Duke would have stood to reap more than \$100 million in additional annual profits**, while potentially **saddling consumers with the cost of**

cleaning up coal ash, and hindering progress toward a clean energy economy.

Though S559 was first introduced in early April, a drawn-out partisan stalemate prevented the bill from appearing on Gov. Cooper's desk. The bill passed the Senate 27-21 in early May, but took over two months to make its way to the House floor, where it was repeatedly pulled from the calendar for a lack of votes.

In a last-ditch bid for Democratic support, House Republicans amended the bill to require that any Duke overearnings are invested in infrastructure projects for "low income areas." The reality, however, is that the bill still lacked the teeth to ensure such communities receive any benefit from Duke's "investment." Written in broad terms, the amendment would have potentially allowed Duke to "double dip," earning profits from new infrastructure without returning benefits and excess income to areas in need.

Additionally, despite a supposed interest in fairness for both the utility and the consumer, **legislators**





avoided engagement with ratepayers and other stakeholders during the bill drafting process. In its original form, the bill's passage would have been a hard blow to North Carolinians and to the health of our environment, as Duke continues its dirty monopoly.

The good news is our advocacy against the bill ultimately won the day. The House voted to make the second section a larger study of ratemaking procedures, including multi-year rate increases. The improved bill passed the House overwhelmingly. However, the Senate did not concur with that change, and the bill went to a conference committee. In conference, the study was removed, reverting the bill to its original structure, allowing Duke the extra earnings.

But the House had the courage of its convictions, and refused to pass the conference report. So the controversial second section was removed again, and the bill passed with only the language on storm securitization.

This was a truly bipartisan effort, but it also shows the strength of our movement in electing the right leaders and holding their feet to the fire.

■ An Unexpected Win for Solar

In what could have been an enormous burden on North Carolina's thriving solar industry, Senate Bill 568 sought to create rules for what happens when a solar farm is decommissioned, but contained hefty costs, and was uninformed by research. .

Bill sponsors Paul Newton, Bill Rabon, and Ralph Hise crafted the bill in a supposed attempt to be "good stewards of the environment." And at face value, the bill could be construed as environmentally sound — proper cleanup, disposal, and recycling of renewable energy material are key in a continued push to eliminate environmental hazards, reduce fossil fuel dependence, and protect North Carolinians' health.

Both those in the environmental field and the solar industry, however, found much cause for concern. The bill initially required heavy up-front insurance costs for new solar projects, which would have caused plummeting solar installation costs to skyrocket instead. Many also argued the bill's disposal provisions are already common practices incorporated into solar companies' contracts.

Overall, the bill simply lacked a factual, research-based foundation or enough stakeholder input to stand as a sound piece of legislation.

But in a surprising turn of events, Newton made good on his claim he simply wanted to ensure a clean end of life for solar technology. Committee testimony from solar industry representatives brought assurance that the senator was working closely with them to create a more informed, collaborative iteration of the bill.

In the end, S568 disappeared entirely. Instead, solar panel disposal requirements are now addressed in House Bill 329, which largely covers electric vehicle charging stations and small hydroelectric power facilities. It was amended to add a section requiring the Environmental Management Commission and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to develop disposal and recycling regulations before January 1, 2022. This change allows ample time for DEQ to research best practices regarding solar panel waste disposal.

Additionally, the original bill required solar companies to provide upfront financial assurance before being granted a permit for solar operation. Instead, the new bill only requires DEQ to determine the necessity of financial assurance requirements and to ensure that utility-scale solar projects are properly decommissioned when their service is complete.

On Monday, July 1, the Senate passed H329 unanimously. Just a week later, the House concurred overwhelmingly, and Gov. Cooper signed the bill on July 19.



■ Wind Ban No More

In a bout of déjà vu from last session, Senate Majority Leader Harry Brown brought his unpopular wind energy ban back from the dead.

The 18-month moratorium on wind projects Brown snuck into an otherwise good 2017 solar energy bill expired at the end of 2018, and clean energy advocates breathed a cautious sigh of relief. But Brown and a few other Senate leaders seemed set on continuing their string of poor environmental choices. In March, Brown introduced Senate Bill 377, this time proposing **a permanent ban on wind facilities across a map that included nearly the entire state's coast and much of its inland territory.**

The map purported to include areas which conflict with military operations. As in 2017, Brown continued to argue this ban was necessary to protect North Carolina's economically vital military installations and to uphold national security, titling the bill with the Orwellian "Military Base Protection Act." Bill proponents claimed wind turbines pose a significant "vertical obstruction" to pilot training, and could ultimately risk base shutdown.

Given **the bill's primary sponsors are all recipients of campaign funding from fossil fuel and utility interests**¹, it is not hard to imagine they had ulterior motives for slowing renewable energy's progress in our state. After all, their stated reason was **repeatedly debunked by military leaders** and other national security stakeholders, who strongly asserted the ban was **an unnecessary measure.** That's because in 2011, the Department of Defense established a Siting Clearinghouse to determine how new construction could obstruct

military operations. Both the Clearinghouse and the Federal Aviation Administration already review concerns with siting and obstruction, rendering this ban redundant². On top of that, **the military has openly declared its support for renewables.**³

In the beginning of June, a Senate Finance Committee amendment sought to address public backlash by shrinking the moratorium from a permanent ban to three years. In committee, Sen. Jim Perry assured the public this period would be necessary to review and create guidelines for turbine interference with flight projects. Perry also noted the ultimate goal was to eliminate the moratorium altogether, and asked everyone to "take a leap of faith."⁴ Despite testimony from the military and environmental communities that wind energy would only bolster our state's economy and security, the amended bill passed the Senate.

In late June, the House Energy and Public Utilities Committee approved a committee substitute to SB 377 — this time, sans moratorium. Wind companies already have to seek local, state, and federal approval before instituting projects, and the revised bill now instructs state regulators to also seek information from military commanders before granting permit approval.⁵

This is an improvement on the original bill, but still an unnecessary additional layer of bureaucracy. Enough House leaders seem to agree, for the bill has remained in the Rules Committee since June 25. But if the bill comes to the House floor, it is essential that legislators uphold North Carolinians' interest in advancing clean energy.

¹ <https://www.desmogblog.com/2019/05/09/harry-brown-north-carolina-anti-wind-lawmaker-koch-money> ² <https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article229953299.html> ³ About the DoD Siting Clearinghouse, DoD Siting Clearinghouse, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment, <https://www.acq.osd.mil/dodsc/about/index.html>. ⁴ <https://www.wral.com/eastern-wind-farm-ban-bill-back-shrunk-to-3-years/18433939/> ⁵ <https://www.wunc.org/post/nc-wind-energy-future-bill-leaves-out-ban-or-moratorium>

— “I Will Not Yield”

The “part-time” legislature’s 2019 session technically isn’t even over. Legislators will come back January 14, 2020, for some unfinished business. The session has dragged on for months after its usual midsummer end because **legislative leaders could not find the votes to override Gov. Cooper’s veto of their anti-environment budget**. So they kept the budget override on the calendar day after day, **waiting for enough minority party members to be absent** so that they would have the required three-fifths of members present to override that veto. That moment almost never came.

On September 11, with 40 of Democrats’ 55 members absent, and nearly all Republican members in their seats first thing in the morning, Speaker Moore opened session, and following the usual prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, quickly called a vote to override the governor’s budget veto. It passed along party lines. The House had overridden the veto, and the ball was now in the Senate’s court.

Why were almost all the Democrats missing? Because the night before, **Republican leaders had told them and the media that there would be no votes** the morning of September 11. Tired of waiting, leadership engineered a ruse. **They lied to voters.**

In the session’s most dramatic moment, environmental champion Rep. Deb Butler rose from her seat, grabbed her microphone, and began protesting Speaker Moore’s assault on our democracy. Moore cut off her microphone, so she grabbed her seatmate’s mic. **“I will not yield!”** she yelled, as several representatives crowded around her to

prevent the Sergeant at Arms from removing her from the chamber.

North Carolina found itself in the news for the wrong reasons yet again. In 2018, voters had elected more members of Gov. Cooper’s party to help him lead the state back in the right direction. Ignoring that, Moore and company remain bent on **thwarting voters’ will to retain power at any cost. But Butler’s voice was heard around the world, and her war cry lit a spark in the pro-conservation, pro-democracy movement as we head into 2020.**

Luckily, Senate Democrats held #21Strong, and **Republican leaders gave up trying to override the veto there.**

This attack on our democratic process is an example of the extremes inherent with **districts that are so gerrymandered — where extreme partisan ideology overtakes legitimate debate without moderation.** We are hopeful that, in the future, more competitive legislative districts will restore democracy and voters’ faith in their leaders.



An aerial photograph of a river flowing through a forest. The river is the central focus, with white water rapids and dark, rocky sections. The surrounding forest is dense, with trees showing vibrant autumn colors in shades of yellow, orange, and red, interspersed with some green foliage. The overall scene is a beautiful natural landscape.

2019 General Assembly

Here's what the 2019 General Assembly bills mean for conservation

House Votes

■ Pro-conservation measure or result

■ Anti-conservation measure or result

[H1] HB 330, Second Reading

Efficient Government Buildings & Savings Act

This bill seeks to save North Carolina taxpayer dollars by mandating reductions in energy and water consumption in public buildings by 2025.

Passed 111-2. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

[H2] HB 966, Amendment 26 (Richardson)

2019 Appropriations Act

This amendment would have funded the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for detection and prevention of water and air contamination, and analysis of emerging compounds such as GenX.

Failed 55-59. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

[H3] HB 966, Third Reading

2019 Appropriations Act

Among other deficiencies, the budget underfunds environmental protection, specifically actions to combat GenX water pollution.

Passed 61-51. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

[H4] HB 823, Second Reading

Managing Environmental Waste Act

This bill seeks to save North Carolina taxpayer dollars by mandating reductions in energy and water consumption in public buildings by 2025.

Passed 115-1. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

[H5] HB 645, Second Reading

Revisions to Outdoor Advertising Laws

This bill exempts billboard companies from local ordinances regarding tree removal, and allows companies to alter or eliminate trees obstructing sign visibility.

Passed 73-43. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

[H6] SB 559, Amendment 1 (Strickland)

NC Storm Securitization/Alt. Rates Act of 2019

This amendment replaced the bill's second section, which allowed the multi-year rate increases and profit padding, with a comprehensive study of utility ratemaking policies.

Passed 63-51. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

Senate Votes

■ Pro-conservation measure or result

■ Anti-conservation measure or result

[S1] SB 559, Second Reading

NC Storm Securitization/Alt. Rates Act of 2019

This bill would allow the state Utilities Commission to approve multi-year rate increases for Duke Energy without annual review. It would also let utilities earn excess profits while customer rate hikes go unchecked.

Passed 27-21. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

[S2] SB 559, Motion 11 To Divide (Peterson)

NC Storm Securitization/Alt. Rates Act of 2019

This motion would have divided the bill into two separate parts, so the non-controversial securitization section could have been voted on independently of the multi-year rate part.

Failed 19-28. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

[S3] SB 559 Amendment 1 (Woodard)

NC Storm Securitization/Alt. Rates Act of 2019

This amendment sought to convert SB 559 into a study.

Failed 17-30. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

[S4] HB 966, Third Reading

2019 Appropriations Act

Among other deficiencies, the budget underfunds environmental protection, specifically actions to combat GenX water pollution.

Passed 30-16. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

[S5] SB 377, Second Reading

Military Base Protection Act

This bill sought to impose a three-year moratorium on wind energy projects across nearly our entire coast.

Passed 25-19. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

[S6] SB 315, Amendment 2 (Peterson), Motion 1

To Table

Farm Act of 2019

This motion tabled Sen. Peterson's proposed amendment, which would have prohibited construction of dry-litter poultry facilities in the 100-year floodplain.

Passed 26-19. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

[S7] SB 315, Second Reading

Farm Act of 2019

Among many agricultural regulation changes, this bill allows the pork industry to circumvent existing hog farming rules and environmental protections. It also requires information on agricultural soil and water conservation be kept confidential, imposing a barrier to potential filing of nuisance lawsuits.

Passed 31-14. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

[S8] HB 329, Second Reading

Renewable Energy Amends

This bill requires the Environmental Management Commission to adopt rules regarding the decommissioning of utility-scale solar projects, following stakeholder input and DEQ rulemaking. It additionally removes utility regulation of electric vehicle charging stations.

Passed 45-0. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

[S9] HB 645, Amendment 3 (Woodard)

Revisions to Outdoor Advertising Laws

This amendment would have preserved local government authority over whether billboards can be located within their jurisdiction.

Failed 19-25. Pro-conservation Vote: Yes.

[S10] HB 645, Second Reading

Revisions to Outdoor Advertising Laws

This bill exempts billboard companies from local ordinances regarding tree removal, and allows companies to alter or eliminate trees obstructing sign visibility.

Passed 28-17. Pro-conservation Vote: No.

Reading the Scorecard

NCLCV's Legislative Scorecard records members' votes on selected bills for the 2019 legislative biennium, and details votes on bills and amendments which we believe to have the most significant environmental impacts.

As you delve into our 2019 Scorecard, we encourage you to pay close attention to legislators' lifetime scores, and keep in mind that, although legislators' votes remain an important part of environmental stewardship, many other tools exist to evaluate legislators. The Scorecard presents crucial information, but cannot represent the full complexity of what it takes to be an environmental champion.

For more information, or to review past Legislative Scorecards, we encourage you to visit nclcv.org/scorecard. We hope our Scorecard provides you with the first steps towards a better understanding of the North Carolina General Assembly.

2019 By the Numbers

Number of legislators who scored...

0%: **2**

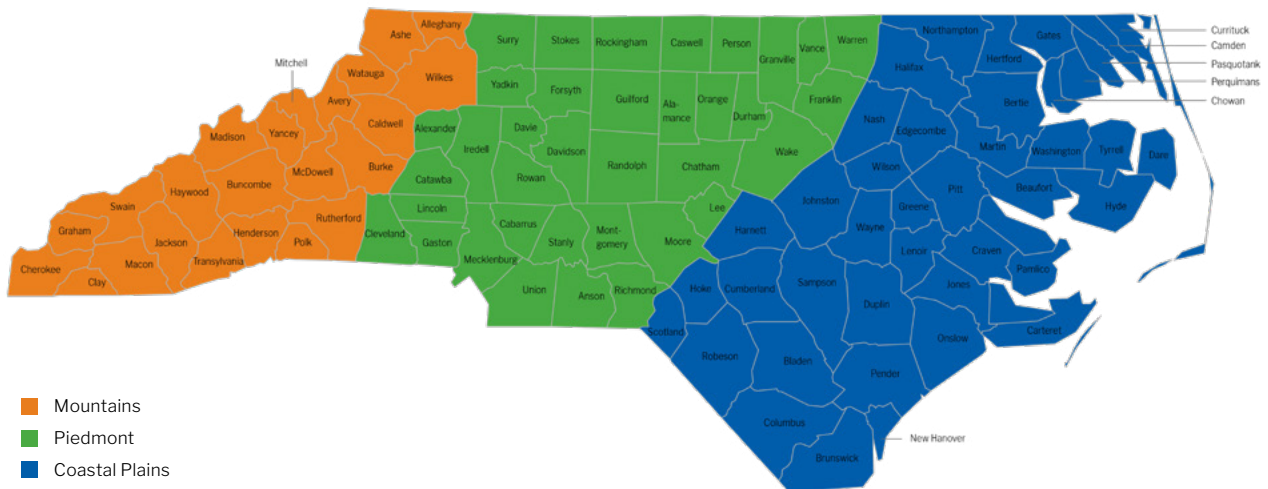
10% and Below: **16**

90% and Above: **50**

100%: **48**

Average Scores Over Time	2009-10	2011-12	2013-14	2015-16	2017-18	2019	Lifetime
House Democrats	81%	81%	81%	79%	86%	92%	92%
House Republicans	51%	13%	6%	7%	6%	39%	18%
Senate Democrats	76%	63%	74%	79%	91%	88%	87%
Senate Republicans	58%	12%	2%	0%	3%	13%	9%
Total House Average	67%	47%	44%	34%	36%	64%	51%
Total Senate Average	69%	37%	38%	27%	30%	45%	42%

Scorecard Organized by Regions



HOUSE

Mountains



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Ager, John	Buncombe	D	115	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Blackwell, Hugh	Burke	R	86	✓	E	E	E	E	✗	50	40	23
Corbin, Kevin	Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon	R	120	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	12
Dobson, Josh	Avery, McDowell, Mitchell	R	85	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	60	11	18
Elmore, Jeffrey	Alexander, Wilkes	R	94	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	E	40	0	4
Fisher, Susan	Buncombe	D	114	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	96
Hall, Destin	Caldwell	R	87	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	18	29
Henson, Cody	Henderson, Polk, Transylvania	R	113	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	NA	40	18	25
Johnson, Jake	Henderson, Polk, Transylvania	R	113	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✗	INC	NA	INC
McGrady, Chuck	Henderson	R	117	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	67	55	59
Presnell, Michele	Haywood, Madison, Yancey	R	118	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	4
Queen, Joe Sam	Haywood, Jackson, Swain	D	119	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	82
Rogers, David	Burke, Rutherford	R	112	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	13
Russell, Ray	Ashe, Watauga	D	93	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Stevens, Sarah	Alleghany, Surry, Wilkes	R	90	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	16
Turner, Brian	Buncombe	D	116	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100

Key

✓ Pro-conservation
✗ Anti-conservation

NA Not in office for vote. Resigned or was appointed to replace a resigned legislator
NV Missed vote, counted as anti-conservation vote
E Excused absence, vote not scored

Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name

HOUSE

Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Adams, Jay	Catawba	R	96	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	50	0	15
Adcock, Gale	Wake	D	41	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	91	89
Alexander, Kelly	Mecklenburg	D	107	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	60	76
Arp, Dean	Union	R	69	E	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	20	0	4
Autry, John	Mecklenburg	D	100	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Ball, Cynthia	Wake	D	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Barnes, Lisa	Franklin, Nash	R	7	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	NA	33
Batch, Sydney	Wake	D	37	E	✓	✓	E	E	✓	100	NA	100
Beasley, Chaz	Mecklenburg	D	92	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	91	88
Belk, Mary	Mecklenburg	D	88	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Black, MaryAnn	Durham	D	29	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Boles, Jamie	Moore	R	52	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	11
Brewer, Scott	Montgomery, Richmond, Stanly	D	66	NA	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	80	NA	80
Brockman, Cecil	Guilford	D	60	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	100	89
Brody, Mark	Anson, Union	R	55	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	17	9	6
Bumgardner, Dana	Gaston	R	109	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	30	13
Carney, Becky	Mecklenburg	D	102	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	71	79
Carter, Jerry	Rockingham	R	65	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	NA	33
Clark, Christy	Mecklenburg	D	98	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Clemmons, Ashton	Guilford	D	57	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Conrad, Debra	Forsyth	R	74	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	7
Cunningham, Carla	Mecklenburg	D	106	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	80	80	82
Dahle, Allison	Wake	D	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Elmore, Jeffrey	Alexander, Wilkes	R	94	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	E	40	0	4
Everitt, Terence	Wake	D	35	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Faircloth, John	Guilford	R	62	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	50	0	8

Key

✓ Pro-conservation
✗ Anti-conservation

NA Not in office for vote. Resigned or was appointed to replace a resigned legislator
NV Missed vote, counted as anti-conservation vote
E Excused absence, vote not scored

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HOUSE

Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Fraley, John	Iredell	R	95	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	11
Garrison, Terry	Granville, Vance, Warren	D	32	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	67	100	88
Gill, Rosa	Wake	D	33	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	95
Goodman, Ken	Montgomery, Richmond, Stanly	D	66	✓	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	INC	9	45
Hall, Kyle	Rockingham, Stokes, Surry	R	91	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	18
Hardister, Jon	Guilford	R	59	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	6
Harris, Wesley	Mecklenburg	D	105	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	100	NA	100
Harrison, Pricey	Guilford	D	61	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Hastings, Kelly	Cleveland, Gaston	R	110	✓	✗	✗	E	E	E	33	0	5
Hawkins, Zack	Durham	D	31	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Holley, Yvonne Lewis	Wake	D	38	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	82	88
Horn, Craig	Union	R	68	✓	E	✗	✓	✓	✗	60	0	13
Howard, Julia	Davie, Rowan	R	77	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	18	39
Hunt, Rachel	Mecklenburg	D	103	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Hurley, Pat	Randolph	R	70	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	25
Insko, Verla	Orange	D	56	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	98
Jackson, Darren	Wake	D	39	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	85
Jarvis, Steve	Davidson	R	80	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	NA	33
John, Joe	Wake	D	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Johnson, Linda	Cabarrus	R	82	E	E	E	E	E	✗	INC	0	35
Lambeth, Donny	Forsyth	R	75	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	4
Lofton, Brandon	Mecklenburg	D	104	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Logan, Carolyn	Mecklenburg	D	101	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Majeed, Nasif	Mecklenburg	D	99	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	NA	83
Martin, Grier	Wake	D	34	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	97
McNeely, Jeffrey	Iredell	R	84	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✗	INC	NA	INC

Key ✓ Pro-conservation ✗ Anti-conservation **NA** Not in office for vote. Resigned or was appointed to replace a resigned legislator **NV** Missed vote, counted as anti-conservation vote **E** Excused absence, vote not scored

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HOUSE
Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
				✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓			
McNeill, Allen	Moore, Randolph	R	78	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	6
Meyer, Graig	Caswell, Orange	D	50	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	100	92
Montgomery, Derwin	Forsyth	D	72	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Moore, Tim (Speaker)	Cleveland	R	111	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	17	0	24
Morey, Marcia	Durham	D	30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Pittman, Larry	Cabarrus, Rowan	R	83	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	17	9	10
Potts, Larry	Davidson	R	81	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	12
Quick, Amos	Guilford	D	58	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Reives, Robert	Chatham, Durham	D	54	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	93
Riddell, Dennis	Alamance	R	64	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	6
Ross, Stephen	Alamance	R	63	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	9
Saine, Jason	Lincoln	R	97	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	7
Sasser, Wayne	Cabarrus, Stanly	R	67	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	NA	33
Sauls, John	Harnett, Lee	R	51	✓	E	E	✓	✗	✗	50	0	13
Setzer, Mitchell	Catawba	R	89	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	18	34
Stevens, Sarah	Alleghany, Surry, Wilkes	R	90	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	16
Terry, Evelyn	Forsyth	D	71	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	100	96
Torbett, John	Gaston	R	108	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	8
Turner, Rena	Iredell	R	84	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	NA	40	0	6
von Haefen, Julie	Wake	D	36	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Warren, Harry	Rowan	R	76	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	9	7
Yarborough, Larry	Granville, Person	R	2	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	15
Zachary, Lee	Forsyth, Yadkin	R	73	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	11

Key

✓ Pro-conservation
✗ Anti-conservation

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NV Missed vote, counted as anti-conservation vote
E Excused absence, vote not scored

Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name

HOUSE

Coastal



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Barnes, Lisa	Franklin, Nash	R	7	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	NA	33
Bell, John	Greene, Johnston, Wayne	R	10	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	4
Brisson, William	Bladen, Sampson	R	22	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	33
Butler, Deb	Brunswick, New Hanover	D	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Cleveland, George	Onslow	R	14	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	50	0	28
Davis, Ted	New Hanover	R	19	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	67	18	18
Dixon, Jimmy	Duplin, Onslow	R	4	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	9	10
Farmer-Butterfield, Jean	Wilson	D	24	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	90	86
Floyd, Elmer	Cumberland	D	43	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	50	64	71
Gailliard, James	Nash	D	25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Goodwin, Edward	Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington	R	1	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	NA	50
Graham, Charles	Robeson	D	47	✓	✓	E	✓	✗	✓	80	60	78
Grange, Holly	New Hanover	R	20	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	21
Hanig, Bobby	Currituck, Dare, Hyde, Pamlico	R	6	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	NA	50
Humphrey, Chris	Lenoir, Pitt	R	12	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	NA	50
Hunter, Howard	Gates, Hertford, Pasquotank	D	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	83	90	77
Iler, Frank	Brunswick	R	17	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	13
Jones, Brenden	Columbus, Robeson	R	46	✓	✗	E	✓	✗	✗	40	0	13
Kidwell, Keith	Beaufort, Craven	R	79	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	17	NA	17
Lewis, David	Harnett	R	53	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	29
Lucas, Marvin	Cumberland	D	42	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	67	60	74
McElraft, Pat	Carteret, Jones	R	13	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	19
Murphy, Gregory	Pitt	R	9	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	E	40	0	13
Pierce, Garland	Hoke, Scotland	D	48	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	67	73	79

Key

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Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name

HOUSE

Coastal



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Richardson, Billy	Cumberland	D	44	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	E	80	82	81
Sauls, John	Harnett, Lee	R	51	✓	E	E	✓	✗	✗	50	0	13
Shepard, Phil	Onslow	R	15	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	7
Smith, Carson	Columbus, Pender	R	16	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	NA	33
Smith, Kandie	Pitt	D	8	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Smith, Raymond	Sampson, Wayne	D	21	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Speciale, Michael	Craven	R	3	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	36	20
Strickland, Larry	Harnett, Johnston	R	28	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	18
Szoka, John	Cumberland	R	45	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	10
White, Donna McDowell	Johnston	R	26	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	50	0	18
Willingham, Shelly	Edgecombe, Martin	D	23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	67	100	91
Wray, Michael	Halifax, Northampton	D	27	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	67	55	68

Key

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Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name

SENATE
Mountains



Representative	Counties	Party	District	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Ballard, Deanna	Alleghany, Ashe, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes	R	45	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	4
Daniel, Warren	Avery, Burke, Caldwell	R	46	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	20	8
Davis, Jim	Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain	R	50	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	11	0	6
Edwards, Chuck	Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania	R	48	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	5
Hise, Ralph	Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Yancey	R	47	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	13	0	4
Van Duyn, Terry	Buncombe	D	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	98

Key	✓ Pro-conservation	NA Not in office for vote. Resigned or was appointed to replace a resigned legislator	Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name
	X Anti-conservation	NV Missed vote, counted as anti-conservation vote	
		E Excused absence, vote not scored	

SENATE
Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Alexander, John	Franklin, Wake	R	18	E	E	E	X	E	E	E	✓	X	X	INC	0	15
Alexander, Ted	Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln	R	44	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	NA	10
Berger, Phil (President Pro Tem)	Caswell, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry	R	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	25
Bishop, Dan	Mecklenburg	R	39	X	X	X	X	E	E	E	E	E	E	0	0	0
Blue, Dan	Wake	D	14	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	50	91	83
Burgin, Jim	Harnett, Johnston, Lee	R	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	E	E	13	NA	13
Chaudhuri, Jay	Wake	D	15	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Ford, Carl	Rowan, Stanly	R	33	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	9	6
Foushee, Valerie	Chatham, Orange	D	23	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	E	E	✓	✓	✓	100	100	96
Gallimore, Eddie	Davidson, Montgomery	R	29	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	11	NA	11
Garrett, Michael	Guilford	D	27	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Gunn, Rick	Alamance, Guilford	R	24	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	3
Harrington, Kathy	Gaston	R	43	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	E	E	13	9	5
Jackson, Jeff	Mecklenburg	D	37	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	100	100	93
Johnson, Todd	Union	R	35	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	0	NA	0
Krawiec, Joyce	Davie, Forsyth	R	31	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	2
Lowe, Paul	Forsyth	D	32	X	✓	X	✓	✓	E	E	✓	E	X	57	82	69
Marcus, Natasha	Mecklenburg	D	41	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
McInnis, Tom	Anson, Moore, Richmond, Scotland	R	25	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	3
McKissick, Floyd	Durham	D	20	E	E	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	100	100	81
Mohammed, Mujtaba	Mecklenburg	D	38	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Newton, Paul	Cabarrus, Union	R	36	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	4
Nickel, Wiley	Wake	D	16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	90	NA	90

Key

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Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name

SENATE
Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
				✓	✓	✓	✗	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Robinson, Gladys	Guilford	D	28	✓	✓	✓	✗	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89	100	78
Sawyer, Vickie	Iredell, Yadkin	R	34	✓	✓	✗	✗	E	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	NA	33
Searcy, Sam	Wake	D	17	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	80	NA	80
Tillman, Jerry	Guilford, Randolph	R	26	✓	✗	✓	E	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	33	0	28
Waddell, Joyce	Mecklenburg	D	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	90	91	86
Wells, Andy	Alexander, Catawba	R	42	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	E	11	9	6
Woodard, Mike	Durham, Granville, Person	D	22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	90	91

Key	✓ Pro-conservation	NA Not in office for vote. Resigned or was appointed to replace a resigned legislator	Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name
	✗ Anti-conservation	NV Missed vote, counted as anti-conservation vote	
		E Excused absence, vote not scored	

SENATE

Coastal



Representative	Counties	Party	District	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	2019 Average %	2017-2018 Average %	Lifetime Score %
Britt, Danny Earl	Columbus, Robeson	R	13	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	E	E	13	0	6
Brown, Harry	Jones, Onslow	R	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	19
Burgin, Jim	Harnett, Johnston, Lee	R	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	E	E	13	NA	13
Clark, Ben	Cumberland, Hoke	D	21	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	67	80	61
Davis, Don	Greene, Pitt	D	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	80	73	79
deViere, Kirk	Cumberland	D	19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Fitch, Toby	Edgecombe, Halifax, Wilson	D	4	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	60	100	63
Horner, Rick	Johnston, Nash	R	11	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	20	0	10
Jackson, Brent	Duplin, Johnston, Sampson	R	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	5
McInnis, Tom	Anson, Moore, Richmond, Scotland	R	25	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	3
Perry, Jim	Lenoir, Wayne	R	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	NA	10
Peterson, Harper	New Hanover	D	9	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Rabon, Bill	Bladen, Brunswick, New Hanover, Pender	R	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	10	0	3
Sanderson, Norman	Carteret, Craven, Pamlico	R	2	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	20	0	5
Smith, Erica	Beaufort, Bertie, Martin, Northampton, Vance, Warren	D	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	89	100	86
Steinburg, Bob	Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington	R	1	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	30	0	12

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Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by last name

ADVERSARIES

&

ALLIES

Adversaries

Harry Brown

Refusing to leave a dead horse alone, Senate Majority Leader Brown was at it again this session, attempting to pass a permanent ban on wind energy facilities with Senate Bill 377. He continued to flog the fallacious claim that wind developments threaten North Carolina's military bases, despite repeated statements to the contrary from military officials.



Supporters of Senate Bill 559

Given Republican leadership's poor history with environmental votes, it was no surprise a majority of conservative senators voted in favor of one of this session's most notorious bills — the Duke Energy "rate hike bill." The surprise was Senate Minority Leader Dan Blue being a vocal advocate as a lead sponsor of the bill.



In an era in which most conservative legislators work to actively undo basic environmental protections, we need all the votes we can get to safeguard those protections and hold polluting industries accountable. We would expect better from members of the minority party, which has historically championed environmental legislation. Big utilities like Duke Energy should not continue to profit at the expense of consumers and the planet. These legislators must seriously reconsider their actions, or be prepared to be held accountable by their constituents.

Phil Berger and Tim Moore

As in the last session, House Speaker Moore and Senate President Pro Tempore Berger wielded their immoderate and imprudent influence over state policymaking. These two legislators consistently supported anti-environmental stances, ignored dissenting opinions, pulled stunts to deter or completely shut out the minority party's votes, and generally made choices that harm North Carolinians.



Allies



Harper Peterson

As a freshman legislator, Sen. Peterson has hit the ground running, fighting hard for stronger environmental protections in his district and the state at-large. Namely, Sen. Peterson held an informational session on coal ash contamination, highlighting Duke University research on the Sutton Lake impoundment and its potential link to health impacts such as thyroid cancer. Peterson is an outspoken proponent of increased oversight of poultry facilities and their waste management practices. He sought tighter rules against GenX contamination, and cast a much-needed “no” vote on the budget when it left out important funding for GenX cleanup. We applaud Sen. Peterson’s leadership, and look forward to more in the coming years.



Pricey Harrison

Rep. Harrison deserves a permanent place in this section of the scorecard. Session after session, she has been her chamber’s leading environmental advocate, both on the House floor and in her committees. Harrison has introduced a number of bills and amendments supporting environmental protections, including the cleanup of industrial contamination like GenX and coal ash, prohibiting pesticides that harm honeybees, testing for lead in school drinking water, and stricter regulation of emerging contaminants. Her 100% lifetime score demonstrates her commitment to pushing for beneficial environmental legislation. Thank you, Rep. Harrison, for your continued dedication to defending North Carolinians’ health.



Legislators with 100% Scores This Session

We would also like to congratulate the legislators who have maintained a perfect score this session. These environmental champions have demonstrated a firm commitment to protecting our air, water, and renewable energy future. Thank you to Representatives Gale Adcock, John Ager, John Autry, Cynthia Ball, Sydney Batch, Mary Belk, MaryAnn Black, Deb Butler, Becky Carney, Christy Clark, Ashton Clemmons, Allison Dahle, Terence Everitt, Susan Fisher, James Gailliard, Rosa Gill, Wesley Harris, Pricey Harrison, Zack Hawkins, Yvonne Holley, Rachel Hunt, Verla Insko, Darren Jackson, Joe John, Brandon Lofton, Carolyn Logan, Grier Martin, Derwin Montgomery, Marcia Morey, Joe Sam Queen, Amos Quick, Robert Reives, Ray Russell, Kandie Smith, Raymond Smith, Brian Turner, and Julie Von Haefen, and Senators Jay Chaudhuri, Kirk deViere, Valerie Foushee, Michael Garrett, Jeff Jackson, Natasha Marcus, Floyd McKissick, Mujtaba Mohammed, Harper Peterson, Terry Van Duyn, and Mike Woodard.

Governor's Scorecard

Overall, Gov. Cooper earns an A for his actions during his third year in office.

During his first term, the governor has continuously championed environmental policies that safeguard communities, bolster the economy, and improve the lives of all North Carolinians. Cooper has been successful in tackling legislative challenges and implementing robust executive actions to mitigate our most pressing environmental problems.

Gov. Cooper has prioritized a cleaner, more sustainable future for North Carolina, working to enable state environmental agencies to exercise their authority. Aided by a more cooperative General Assembly following his party's gains in the 2018 election, Cooper has made progress on several environmental fronts, and stopped some of the worst outcomes with the threat of his veto. The governor does not vote on bills, so his score is based solely on which bills he decides to sign into law or veto, his public statements, and executive orders.

A Overall	
A	Appointed highly qualified, strong environmental leaders to the Utilities Commission and Environmental Management Commission to ensure a commitment to protecting our state's natural resources and holding Duke Energy accountable.
A	Rejected a company's request to explore for oil and gas off the coast with sonic blasting, preventing dangerous conditions for marine life and fisheries.
A	Oversaw a Department of Environmental Quality which enacted new hog farm waste management requirements which protect water quality and public health.
A	Signed Executive Order 80, which outlines state goals for addressing climate change and transitioning to a clean energy economy.
A	Vetoed the 2019-20 budget, which failed to adequately address health concerns posed by GenX.
A	Vetoed HB 645, Revisions to Outdoor Advertising Law, which gave more power to billboard companies over the environment and local governments.
A	Proposed a budget with strong environmental protections, including a suggested \$6.3 million investment to support the identification and regulation of GenX and other emerging compounds through water supply sampling and analysis.



What To Do Now

Hold your legislators accountable.

Thank legislators who stood up for sound environmental policies. If they earned a low score or cast an anti-conservation vote, let your elected officials know how this impacts you and your values. Find who represents you at nclcv.org/scorecard/#represent.

Ask your local, state, and federal candidates where they stand on these issues.

Use this scorecard to make informed decisions when choosing which state candidates deserve your support in the upcoming election. Visit LCV.org to see how your members of Congress are voting on federal issues.

Join NCLCV to help reclaim North Carolina's natural identity.

You can help turn environmental values into North Carolina priorities by becoming a NCLCV member today at nclcv.org/donate. On our website, you can also sign up for our weekly Conservation Insider Bulletin to keep up with political and environmental policy news here in North Carolina and nationally.





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