



# 2014 Virginia General Assembly Conservation Scorecard



## Table of Contents

- p2 A Letter from the Virginia League Interim Executive Director
- p3 The Political Force for Conservation
- p5 2014 Legislative Heroes
- p6 2014 Legislative Leaders
- p7 Session Highlights and Scorecard Vote Key
- p14 House Scorecard
- p17 Senate Scorecard
- p19 House Districts Map
- p20 Senate Districts Map
- p21 Know the Score
- p22 The Importance of Bill Patrons

### 2014 Scorecard Acknowledgements

**Content:** Emily Francis, Interim Executive Director  
Travis Blankenship, Legislative Assistant  
Blair Curcie, Legislative Intern

**Map Graphics:** Commonwealth of Virginia, Division of Legislative Services

**Graphic Design:** Michael Harl, DIALOGUE

**Front Cover Photo:** *Lazy Afternoon* by Jean Fripp

Courtesy of Scenic Virginia, [ScenicVirginia.org](http://ScenicVirginia.org)

### Board of Directors

John B. Jaske, Chair	Carey Whitehead, Vice Chair
Sam Bleicher	Leslie Cheek, III
John Grant	Roy Hoagland
Lori Keenan McGuinness	Christopher G. Miller
George L. Ohrstrom, II	Jean Perin
Dick Raines	Rab Thompson



PHOTO CREDIT: Sunrise on Assateague by Laura S. Dent | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

# Dear Conservation Voter,

We welcomed many new faces to Richmond during the 2014 General Assembly session. Along with Virginia's new Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General, sixteen new Delegates walked the halls of the Capitol and two new Senators joined the upper chamber this year. Virginia had a cascade of special elections that moved legislators from one seat to another after the results of nail-biting recounts were finalized. And once the dust settled, a rare mid-session restructuring of committee assignments shifted control of the Senate to Democrats with new Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam casting tie-breaking votes.

We began the session with a conservation commitment from Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe to veto any legislation that would lift Virginia's 31-year ban on uranium mining or even hint at developing regulations for such a dangerous activity. This is a hard-earned victory for citizens, businesses, and organizations statewide that understand the long term economic risk to Virginians is not worth the short term financial gains for a few private citizens. We applaud Governor McAuliffe for reaffirming his commitment to keeping the ban and to the tens of thousands of Virginians who helped make this victory possible.

Medicaid expansion and its implications on Virginia's budget consumed a significant part of the session, the special session and the veto session. As of this writing, the debate continues and is still tied to ongoing budget negotiations. As a result, funding levels for key land conservation programs remain uncertain.

Despite the contentious debate over Medicaid expansion and the partisan power change in the Senate, conservation issues received strong bipartisan attention on several fronts. Bills encouraging the use of clean energy, improvements to the Commonwealth's Renewable Portfolio Standard, the repeal of the tax on hybrid-electric vehicles, and increases in transparency to Virginia's transportation processes were all well-received and passed with bipartisan support. This bipartisan cooperation continues to demonstrate that protecting our clean air, clean water and open spaces is not a partisan issue, but rather important policy we all can support.

While we did see significant bipartisan support on many proposals, our natural landscape unfortunately suffered defeat on a few very important policies. We were unable to maintain local land use authority for counties and towns to best manage local agricultural operations.

Additionally, along with our partners, we were unable to secure common sense protections for ground and surface waters against the many uncertainties of modern hydraulic fracking in the Tidewater Region of the Commonwealth. We continue our efforts to educate elected officials on the unintended consequences to our natural landscape when appropriate safeguards are not maintained.

Throughout the rest of the year, we will keep a watchful eye on these issues, and others, so that we can continue to advocate for future policy improvements that benefit our natural landscape. Thank you for following the 2014 General Assembly session with us and for your continued support of conservation. The work of the Virginia League is only made possible because of you. Your involvement is vital to the success of our efforts as we protect the Commonwealth's precious and natural landscape.

Emily Francis  
Interim Executive Director  
Virginia League of Conservation Voters





# The Political Force for Conservation

The Virginia League of Conservation Voters protects resources important to all Virginians: clean air and water, thriving communities and rural landscapes, productive farms and forests, historic battlefields and Main Streets, and ample public lands and recreation.

To do this, we secure good public policies at the state level, hold elected officials accountable for their positions on conservation and endorse conservation-minded candidates for state level offices. We are unique among Virginia's conservation community in that we are the political force for conservation at the State Capitol.

## **Conservation Accountability**

Our annual Conservation Scorecard is the only tool available to Virginians that demonstrates how our elected officials perform on behalf of our environment. Knowing what happens in committee rooms and on the floor of both the House and Senate chambers is critical information. We honor the best conservation legislators for their hard work during the General Assembly and we shine a public spotlight on the remaining legislators who didn't quite do enough. It is critical that you talk with your elected officials about their scores included in this Conservation Scorecard. Let them know our environment is worth preserving.

## **Conservation Endorsements**

The Virginia League is one of the few organizations in the state that endorses and seeks to elect candidates to office. Along with the scores in our Conservation Scorecard, we conduct research, administer candidate questionnaires and perform personal interviews to determine which candidates deserve our "conservation seal of approval."

After being endorsed by our Board of Directors, candidates are provided with political field expertise and financial backing. We educate conservation voters about the best candidates and work hard to ensure our endorsed candidates win.

## **Conservation Advocacy**

Once elections are final, Virginia League staff and volunteers increase their advocacy activities on behalf of Virginia's natural landscape. We work to inform elected officials about the value and benefits of conservation and to push forward sound conservation policy.

There are two ways you can get involved in our advocacy efforts:

### **1) Conservation Action Teams**

Our environment is better protected when residents all across the Commonwealth speak in favor of clean air, clean water and open spaces.

To actively engage residents in the protection of these important natural resources, the Virginia Conservation Network and the Virginia League of Conservation Voters Education Fund created the Conservation Action Team Program (formerly known as Legislative Contact Teams) in the fall of 2002.

Action Teams are designed to recruit and train volunteers to serve as conservation leaders in their local community. Program participants learn about important conservation topics, engage in activities that build support for our environment, and speak directly to their legislators about preserving our natural landscape. The more our elected officials hear from conservationists in their districts, the better our environment.

To date, the Action Team Program has trained thousands of volunteers to communicate effectively with elected leaders. Over 400 participants, in nearly every House and Senate district, have been involved in advocacy efforts related to the 2014 General Assembly Session. Thanks to those outspoken individuals all across Virginia, our conservation voice at the Capitol is stronger than ever.

To join your local Action Team or for more information, visit [valcvvf.org](http://valcvvf.org).

## 2) Conservation E-Action

Action alerts from the Virginia League are a simple way to stay updated on what our decision makers are doing (or not doing) on behalf of conservation. At critical moments during the General Assembly session and throughout the year, we ask volunteers to take action. Those actions include sending emails, making phone calls and writing letters to the editor of your local newspaper; collectively they send a strong message to our elected officials that conservation is a priority.

Please sign up for Conservation E-Action Alerts by visiting [www.valcv.org](http://www.valcv.org). We will put you in touch with key decision makers on issues such as clean air and water, transportation, energy, land conservation and others.

Keep an eye on [valcv.org](http://valcv.org) to read about our events and activities throughout the rest of the year. During the legislative session, you can always find our Conservation Bill Chart which lists important conservation bills moving through the General Assembly.



Like the Virginia League at [facebook.com/VirginiaLCV](https://facebook.com/VirginiaLCV)



Follow us on Twitter @[VirginiaLCV](https://twitter.com/VirginiaLCV)

PHOTO CREDIT: Canal Walk by Joseph Ring | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia





# 2014 Legislative Heroes

Our Legislative Heroes show special dedication to conservation priorities. Four Senators and nineteen Delegates voted on behalf of conservation on every bill the Virginia League selected for the 2014 Conservation Scorecard. These legislators deserve a special show of support for their hard work, integrity and dedication to environmental concerns – especially when it is the toughest vote.



Senator Adam Ebbin



Senator Barbara Favola



Senator Janet Howell



Senator Donald McEachin



Delegate Robert Bloxom, Jr



Delegate David Bulova



Delegate Betsy Carr



Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn



Delegate Michael Futrell



Delegate Charniele Herring



Delegate Patrick Hope



Delegate Mark Keam



Delegate Kaye Kory



Delegate Robert Krupicka



Delegate Alfonso Lopez



Delegate Monty Mason



Delegate Jennifer McClellan



Delegate Joe Morrissey

# 100%



Delegate Kenneth Plum



Delegate Mark Sickles



Delegate Marcus Simon



Delegate David Toscano



Delegate Jeion Ward



# 2014 Legislative Leaders

The Virginia League's Legislative Leaders earn scores ranging from 75% to 99%. Fifteen Senators and seventeen Delegates deserve recognition for their commitment to conservation during the 2014 General Assembly Session. We thank these legislators for working with us as we preserve Virginia's natural landscape for future generations.

**91%**

Senator Chap Petersen

**90%**

Senator Creigh Deeds  
Senator John Edwards  
Senator Dave Marsden  
Senator John Miller  
Senator Jill Vogel

**88%**

Senator Dick Saslaw

**86%**

Delegate Luke Torian  
Senator Lynwood Lewis  
Senator Jennifer Wexton

**83%**

Delegate Rosalyn Dance  
Delegate Randy Minchew  
Delegate Scott Surovell

**80%**

Delegate Mamye BaCote  
Delegate Bob Brink  
Delegate Gordon Helsel  
Delegate Algie Howell  
Speaker Bill Howell  
Delegate Manoli Loupassi  
Delegate Delores McQuinn  
Delegate Israel O'Quinn  
Delegate Sam Rasoul  
Delegate Lionell Spruill  
Delegate Roslyn Tyler  
Delegate Vivian Watts  
Senator Kenny Alexander

**78%**

Senator George Barker  
Senator Mamie Locke

**75%**

Delegate Daun Hester  
Senator Henry Marsh  
Senator Tommy Norment  
Senator Toddy Puller







# Session Highlights and Scorecard Vote Key

A significant highlight from the 2014 General Assembly session was the widespread bipartisan support for a range of conservation policies. Members from both sides of the aisle introduced and supported strong conservation legislation that advanced clean energy, improved our transportation system, protected vital water quality, and promoted good government.

Bipartisan efforts were particularly strong with respect to renewable energy. You'll notice on our patron credits page that multiple bills were introduced to encourage the use of renewables – specifically solar. Legislation (SB 222, Petersen D-Fairfax) was passed almost unanimously to remove restrictions by Homeowner Associations on the use of solar panels. Other legislation (SB 653, Norment R-Williamsburg) included the creation of a grant fund to assist with the costs of installing renewable energy sources. This bipartisan cooperation on such an important issue is promising for future progress.

It is worth noting that the work of a conservation watchdog is never finished. Even the simplest of conservation bills can be quietly amended to include language that drastically alters its original intent. We are reminded that the work of the Virginia League to remain ever watchful and to quickly alert elected officials to changes that occur in the blink of an eye is a critical service for conservationists statewide.

While these changes did not occur swiftly, the Virginia League was particularly watchful of this year's leading transportation legislation (HB 2, Stolle R-Virginia Beach). The bill prioritized the funds from last year's landmark transportation package and while we did not take an official position on the bill – which is why you will not find it listed in the Scorecard – we were able to advocate for and secure important improvements. Those improvements included taking environmental impacts into account when rating transportation projects and increasing transparency in how transportation projects are funded.

As you continue reading the Virginia League's 2014 Conservation Scorecard, you will not see every bill that our staff worked on. You will, however, see the measures that illustrate a clear distinction between those legislators who supported conservation positions and those who did not.

We invite you now to review the Vote Key on the following pages to learn more about the votes we have selected and to find out how your Delegate and Senator scored on this year's important conservation topics.







## Protecting Our Water

### ✘ HB 1173 – Stormwater Management Programs

Delegate Keith Hodges (R-Urbanna)

Stormwater was a prominent issue in the General Assembly this year. House Bill 1173 was one of many bills aimed at delaying or weakening the implementation of localities' stormwater management plans. These plans, set to take effect July 1, will reduce the amount of pollution running off our developed lands and entering local streams and the Chesapeake Bay. Stormwater is a source of pollution that is on the rise in Virginia; efforts must be redoubled, not weakened, to reduce this polluted runoff. The Virginia League opposed any legislation that delayed or weakened stormwater pollution reductions.

We opposed HB 1173 as it came before the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources due to the fact that it weakened pollution reductions for construction projects; the bill reported from Committee by a wide margin. It was later amended after extended negotiations between stakeholders, allowing the Virginia League to remove opposition as the bill moved to the House Floor and over to the Senate. The Governor approved the bill. (*House Committee: 17-Y 4-N*)

### ✔ SB 48 – Drilling in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area

Senator Richard Stuart (R-Montross)

Over the past two years, Texas-based Shore Exploration and Production Company has purchased more than 84,000 acres of leases in what is known as the Taylorsville Basin, a geologic formation east of Fredericksburg. Representing a portion of this area, Senator Stuart introduced initial legislation to ban oil and gas drilling in this region (defined as the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area).

After working with stakeholders, Senator Stuart offered substitute language that would enhance surface and groundwater protections if oil and gas drilling were to commence in the region. The substitute bill, which the Virginia League supported, called for a few simple improvements to current policy: 1) environmental impact assessments for each project must include impacts to surface and groundwater quality and quantity 2) ambient ground and drinking water must be sampled prior to drilling, and 3) the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy must incorporate into its permits water quality recommendations from the Department of Environmental Quality.

This modest bill passed the Senate Agriculture Committee unanimously and passed the floor of the Senate with broad bipartisan

support. Unfortunately, it was tabled by a voice vote in the House Committee on Commerce and Labor. (*Senate: 28-Y 12-N*)

### ✘ SB 551 – Virginia Scenic Rivers System; amendment

Senator Phillip Puckett (D-Tazewell)

Virginia's Scenic Rivers System serves to preserve the scenic, recreational and historic values that so many of our rivers and streams hold. As introduced, SB 551 intended to designate a portion of the Cranesnest River in Dickenson County as a component of the Scenic Rivers System – which the Virginia League supported. However, the House of Delegates quietly amended the bill to limit the use of all river designations so they may not prohibit mining or surface mineral mining on the lands adjacent to designated rivers and streams. This amendment undermines the intent and purpose of the overall Scenic Rivers program. The Senate approved the amendment – which is the vote scored – and the bill was sent to the Governor for approval. Prior to the Veto Session, Governor McAuliffe made amendments addressing our concern. The Senate concurred with the Governor's amendments through a bipartisan vote while the House rejected the amendments. (*Senate: 21-Y 17-N*)



### ✓ SB 629 – Navigation On Certain Waters

Senator David Marsden (D-Burke)

The Commonwealth's unique landscape yields great opportunity for Virginians to enjoy an array of outdoor activities. While canoeing and kayaking have become two of the most popular of these activities, our current laws make persons floating upon certain waters liable for trespass. Senate Bill 629 would have removed this liability to ensure that all Virginians have the right to access the Commonwealth's streams and rivers. The bill received bipartisan support in the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, which was critical for the bill to move to the Senate Floor, where it ultimately suffered defeat. *(Senate Committee: 7-Y 6-N)*

### Land Use and Transportation

#### ✗ HB 268 – Limitations to Local Land Use Authority

Delegate Bobby Orrock (R-Thornburg)

The Commonwealth's economy is largely dependent on its rich, diverse agricultural operations. With each region of Virginia having unique specialties, local governments have had the ability to work with farmers and residents to ensure protections of the health, safety and livelihood of their communities. However, in the

second consecutive year of assault on this authority, House Bill 268 and its companion Senate Bill 51 (Stuart, R-Montross) remove a locality's ability to work with agricultural operations and instead place a problematic one-size-fits-all regulation on every locality. Despite strong opposition from the conservation community and local governments, this bill passed both the House and the Senate. The Governor approved the bill. *(Senate: 33-Y 7-N; House: 73-Y 23-N)*

#### ✗ HB 377 – Billboard Relocation

Delegate Richard Anderson (R-Woodbridge)

During last year's General Assembly, legislators approved a bill that allows billboards to be relocated as a result of certain road projects. That relocation is allowed even if a locality's local ordinance prohibits a billboard in that location. This year, House Bill 377 and its companion Senate Bill 295 (Puckett, D-Tazewell) expand the list of reasons for billboard relocation to include the erection of a sound barrier. This legislation disregards the protections localities have in place to preserve their natural and scenic landscape. This bill passed both the House and the Senate – which is the vote scored – and was sent to the Governor for approval. The Governor made amendments requiring local officials to approve the relocation; however, this amendment was rejected by the House. *(Senate: 28-Y 12-N; House: 62-Y 37-N)*

PHOTO CREDIT: The Mesmerizing Waters of Crab Run by Doug Puffenbarger | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia



## 2014 Notable Numbers

Number of bills introduced in the 2014 Session: **2,888**

Number of bills tracked by the Virginia League: **179**

Number of bills with a Virginia League position: **81**





✓ **HB 975 and SB 127 – Repeal of Hybrid Electric Motor Vehicles Annual License Tax**

Delegate Tom Rust (R-Herndon)  
Senator Stephen Newman (R-Forest)

The 2013 General Assembly passed landmark transportation legislation that included a \$64 annual licensing tax directed at hybrid-electric vehicles. This tax was viewed by many Virginians to be an unfair tax applying only to those who were trying to lessen their carbon footprint. After the introduction of many bills to repeal this tax, House Bill 975 and Senate Bill 127 became the vehicles to move this legislation through the General Assembly. This quickly became a strong bipartisan issue and the bills passed overwhelmingly. The Governor approved both of these bills. *(Senate: 35-Y 3-N; House: 89-Y 9-N)*

**Energy**

✓ **HB 1239 and SB 418 – Solar Equipment Tax Exemption**

Delegate Tim Hugo (R-Centreville)  
Senator Emmett Hanger (R-Mount Solon)

Tax incentives are an effective approach to encouraging the use of renewable energy in the Commonwealth. The 2014 session heard and passed with broad bipartisan support legislation incentivizing the use of solar energy. House Bill 1239 and Senate Bill 418 exempt businesses of real and personal property tax on solar energy equipment, facilities, and devices

that collect, generate, transfer and store thermal or electric energy. The Governor approved both of these bills. *(Senate: 40-Y 0-N; House: 93-Y 6-N)*

✓ **SB 498 – Renewable Portfolio Standard**

Senator Donald McEachin (D-Richmond)

The conservation community seeks to improve Virginia’s voluntary Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) year after year. This session, we were able to make a small, yet significant improvement to the program. Senate Bill 498 and its companion House Bill 822 (Lopez, D-Arlington) limit the time a utility has to use its renewable energy certificates towards its RPS goals to five years. Previously, utilities had no time limit and could apply renewable energy created decades ago to their RPS goals. This bill received broad bipartisan support in both the Senate and the House. The Governor approved the bill. *(Senate: 40-Y 0-N; House: 88-Y 9-N)*

**Good Government**

✓ **SB 3 – No-excuse Absentee Voting**

Senator Janet Howell (D-Reston)

In Virginia, every year is an election year. A key component of a vibrant democratic process is for citizens to be able to have their voices heard. To do this, voting should be more accessible for Virginians. No-excuse absentee voting, as proposed

in Senate Bill 3, would have allowed qualified voters to vote in person prior to the election regardless of the reason. This legislation would have provided more opportunities for voters to take part in the democratic process. By a party line vote, the bill failed to report from the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections. *(Senate Committee: 7-Y 7-N)*

✓ **SB 158 – Bipartisan Virginia Redistricting Commission**

Senator John Miller (D-Newport News)

In 2013, every seat in the House of Delegates was up for re-election. Almost half of those seats, however, went uncontested and were considered to be safe before Election Day. This created a shortfall of choice for many Virginians. Part of the blame is attributed to the fact that legislators seemingly choose their voters every 10 years when they re-draw state district lines. This creates districts that are virtually impossible for challengers to overcome the incumbents. However, year after year, the General Assembly defeats legislation to create a bipartisan redistricting commission. This year, Senate Bill 158 would have created a referendum to put the issue before voters this fall. This bill received broad bipartisan support in the Senate, but was quickly tabled by a voice vote in the House Elections Subcommittee. *(Senate: 36-Y 4-N)*











# House Scorecard

✓ = Right ✗ = Wrong NV = Not Voting AB = Abstained

Delegate	District	Party	2014 Score	2013 Score	Cumulative Score Since 2000	HB 1173: Stormwater Management	HB 268: Local Land Use	HB 377: Billboard Relocation	HB 975: Repeal of Hybrid Electric License Tax	HB 1239: Solar Equipment Tax Exemption	SB 498: Renewable Portfolio Standard	Patron Credit
Adams	16	R	50%	-	50%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
Albo	42	R	60%	67%	43%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Anderson	51	R	60%	50%	43%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Austin	19	R	60%	-	60%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
BaCote	95	D	80%	100%	74%		✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Bell, D	20	R	40%	70%	45%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	
Bell, R	58	R	40%	40%	39%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	
Berg	29	R	40%	-	40%		✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	
Bloxom	100	R	100%	-	100%						✓	
Brink	48	D	80%	100%	89%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bulova	37	D	100%	91%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Byron	22	R	60%	60%	40%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Campbell	6	R	60%	-	60%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Carr	69	D	100%	100%	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Chafin	4	R	60%	-	60%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Cline	24	R	40%	40%	36%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	
Cole	88	R	60%	50%	51%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Comstock	34	R	60%	70%	49%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Cox	66	R	60%	60%	42%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Dance	63	D	83%	78%	76%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Davis	84	R	40%	-	40%		✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	
DeSteph	82	R	60%	-	60%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Edmunds	60	R	67%	64%	57%	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Fariss	59	R	40%	60%	50%	✗	NV	✗	✗	✓	✓	
Farrell	56	R	60%	25%	35%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Filler-Corn	41	D	100%	100%	97%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Fowler	55	R	60%	-	60%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Futrell	2	D	100%	-	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garrett	23	R	60%	60%	44%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Gilbert	15	R	20%	30%	32%		✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	
Greason	32	R	60%	78%	53%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	



# House Scorecard

✓ = Right ✗ = Wrong NV = Not Voting AB = Abstained

Delegate	District	Party	2014 Score	2013 Score	Cumulative Score Since 2000	HB 1173: Stormwater Management	HB 268: Local Land Use	HB 377: Billboard Relocation	HB 975: Repeal of Hybrid Electric License Tax	HB 1239: Solar Equipment Tax Exemption	SB 498: Renewable Portfolio Standard	Patron Credit
Habeeb	8	R	60%	40%	40%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Head	17	R	60%	40%	42%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Helsel	91	R	80%	70%	60%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Herring	46	D	100%	100%	95%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hester	89	D	75%	89%	85%		✗	✓	✓	✓	NV	
Hodges	98	R	60%	64%	50%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Hope	47	D	100%	100%	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Howell, A	90	D	80%	89%	70%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Howell, W	28	R	80%	80%	48%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Hugo	40	R	67%	60%	49%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ingram	62	R	60%	60%	43%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
James	80	D	67%	80%	77%	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Joannou	79	D	60%	70%	47%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Jones	76	R	60%	55%	43%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Keam	35	D	100%	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Kilgore	1	R	60%	60%	39%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Knight	81	R	50%	60%	40%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Kory	38	D	100%	100%	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Krupicka	45	D	100%	100%	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Landes	25	R	20%	60%	46%		✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	
LaRock	33	R	20%	-	20%		✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	
Leftwich	78	R	60%	-	60%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
LeMunyon	67	R	60%	60%	56%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Lingamfelter	31	R	67%	55%	53%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lopez	49	D	100%	100%	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Loupassi	68	R	80%	67%	47%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Marshall, D	14	R	33%	64%	36%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	
Marshall, R	13	R	60%	56%	61%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Mason	93	D	100%	-	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Massie	72	R	60%	60%	43%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
McClellan	71	D	100%	100%	97%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
McQuinn	70	D	80%	100%	89%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Miller	50	R	50%	60%	38%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Minchew	10	R	83%	90%	72%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Morefield	3	R	50%	40%	44%	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	



# House Scorecard

✓ = Right ✗ = Wrong NV = Not Voting AB = Abstained

Delegate	District	Party	2014 Score	2013 Score	Cumulative Score Since 2000	HB 1173: Stormwater Management	HB 268: Local Land Use	HB 377: Billboard Relocation	HB 975: Repeal of Hybrid Electric License Tax	HB 1239: Solar Equipment Tax Exemption	SB 498: Renewable Portfolio Standard	Patron Credit
Morris	64	R	20%	50%	42%		✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	
Morrissey	74	D	100%	82%	91%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
O'Bannon	73	R	60%	60%	45%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
O'Quinn	5	R	80%	60%	58%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Orrock	54	R	50%	60%	46%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Peace	97	R	60%	63%	53%		✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	
Plum	36	D	100%	100%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pogge	96	R	33%	50%	35%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	
Poindexter	9	R	17%	60%	36%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	
Ramadan	87	R	60%	60%	54%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Ransone	99	R	50%	33%	36%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Rasoul	11	D	80%	-	80%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Robinson	27	R	60%	60%	50%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Rush	7	R	60%	40%	42%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Rust	86	R	67%	70%	59%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scott	30	R	57%	55%	46%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sickles	43	D	100%	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Simon	53	D	100%	-	100%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spruill	77	D	80%	70%	67%		✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Stolle	83	R	67%	70%	49%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Surovell	44	D	83%	90%	93%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Taylor	85	R	60%	-	60%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Torian	52	D	86%	82%	91%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Toscano	57	D	100%	100%	97%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tyler	75	D	80%	100%	81%		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Villanueva	21	R	67%	64%	50%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ward	92	D	100%	100%	82%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ware	65	R	67%	55%	50%	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Watts	39	D	80%	100%	83%		✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	
Webert	18	R	67%	60%	64%	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Wilt	26	R	50%	50%	43%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Wright	61	R	33%	63%	42%	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	
Yancey	94	R	60%	60%	54%		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	
Yost	12	R	60%	70%	52%		✗	✗	✓	✓	NV	✓
<b>Average</b>			<b>67%</b>	<b>70%</b>								



# Senate Scorecard

✓ = Right ✗ = Wrong NV = Not Voting AB = Abstained

Delegate	District	Party	2014 Score	2013 Score	Cumulative Score Since 2000	SB 48: Drilling in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area	SB 551: Scenic River (Amendment)	SB 629: Navigation on Certain Waters	HB 268: Local Land Use	HB 377: Billboard Relocation	SB 127: Repeal of Hybrid Electric License Tax	SB 418: Solar Equipment Tax Exemption	SB 498: Renewable Portfolio Standard	SB 3: No-excuse Absentee Voting	SB 158: Bipartisan Redistricting Commission	Patron Credit
Alexander	5	D	80%	100%	84%	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Barker	39	D	78%	91%	84%	✓	✗		✓	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Black	13	R	44%	42%	37%	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✗	
Carrico	40	R	44%	50%	36%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	
Colgan	29	D	50%	92%	57%	✓	✗		✗	✗	✗	✓	✓		✓	
Cosgrove	14	R	33%	60%	45%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✗	
Deeds	25	D	90%	83%	85%	✓	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ebbin	30	D	100%	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Edwards	21	D	90%	92%	84%	✓	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Favola	31	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Garrett	22	R	44%	45%	48%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	
Hanger	24	R	60%	75%	43%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Howell	32	D	100%	92%	86%	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lewis	6	D	86%	80%	85%	✓	✓		✗	✓	NV	✓	✓		✓	
Locke	2	D	78%	82%	84%	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Lucas	18	D	71%	83%	71%	✓	NV		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Marsden	37	D	90%	92%	85%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Marsh	16	D	75%	82%	70%	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Martin	11	R	44%	58%	34%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	
McDougle	4	R	50%	64%	45%	✓	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✗	
McEachin	9	D	100%	100%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
McWaters	8	R	40%	75%	50%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Miller	1	D	90%	100%	81%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Newman	23	R	56%	42%	33%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Norment	3	R	75%	73%	48%	✓	NV		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Obenshain	26	R	40%	46%	39%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	
Petersen	34	D	91%	85%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Puckett	38	D	60%	85%	64%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Puller	36	D	75%	92%	77%	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Reeves	17	R	44%	64%	55%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	
Ruff	15	R	63%	75%	37%	✓	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Saslaw	35	D	88%	100%	67%	✓	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Smith	19	R	33%	55%	36%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	



# Senate Scorecard

✓ = Right ✗ = Wrong NV = Not Voting AB = Abstained

Delegate	District	Party	2014 Score	2013 Score	Cumulative Score Since 2000	SB 48: Drilling in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area	SB 551: Scenic River (Amendment)	SB 629: Navigation on Certain Waters	HB 268: Local Land Use	HB 377: Billboard Relocation	SB 127: Repeal of Hybrid Electric License Tax	SB 418: Solar Equipment Tax Exemption	SB 498: Renewable Portfolio Standard	SB 3: No-excuse Absentee Voting	SB 158: Bipartisan Redistricting Commission	Patron Credit
Stanley	20	R	50%	71%	51%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Stosch	12	R	63%	75%	42%	✓	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Stuart	28	R	70%	69%	55%	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Vogel	27	R	90%	80%	86%	✓	✓		✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Wagner	7	R	56%	67%	39%	✗	✗		✗	✗	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Watkins	10	R	56%	77%	41%	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓		✓	
Wexton	33	D	86%	-	86%	✓	✓		✗	✓	NV	✓	✓		✓	
<b>Average</b>			<b>68%</b>	<b>78%</b>												

PHOTO CREDIT: *Bear Went Over the Mountain* by Francie Davis | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia



## 2014 Notable Numbers

Number of bills passed in 2014 Session: **1,647**

Number of bills continued to 2015 Session: **235**

Number of ties broken by Lieutenant Governor: **7**



# House Districts



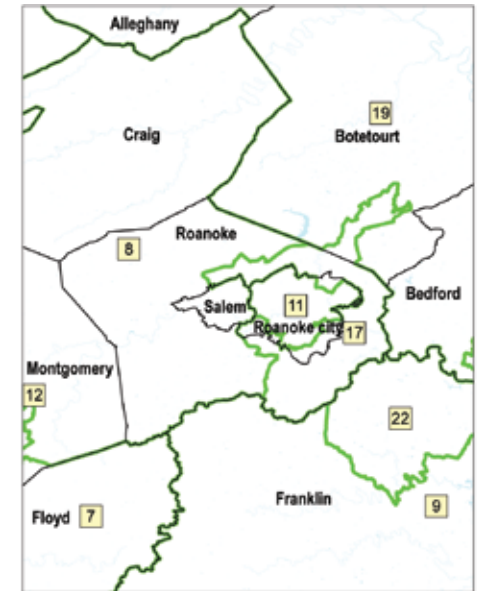
Northern Virginia



Tidewater Area



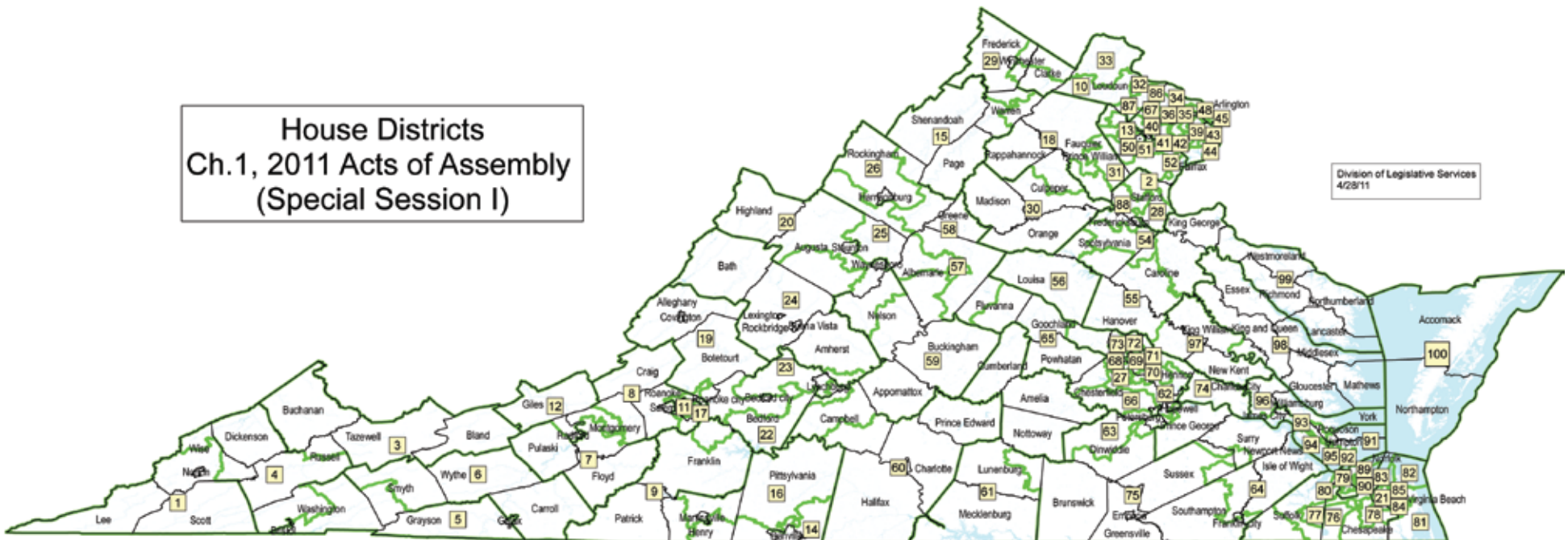
Central Virginia



Roanoke Area

House Districts  
Ch.1, 2011 Acts of Assembly  
(Special Session I)

Division of Legislative Services  
4/28/11



# Senate Districts



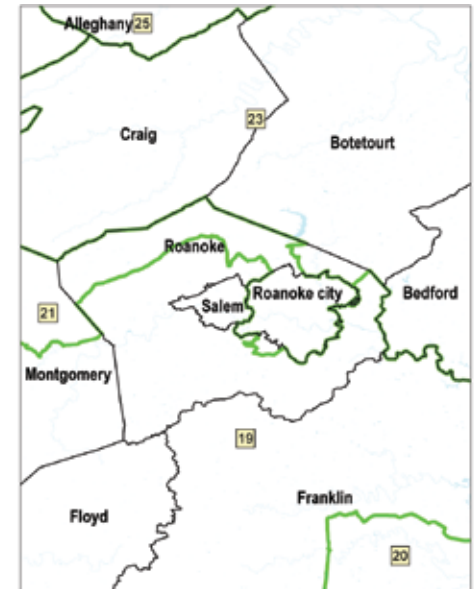
Northern Virginia



Tidewater Area



Central Virginia



Roanoke Area

Senate Districts  
Ch.1, 2011 Acts of Assembly  
(Special Session I)

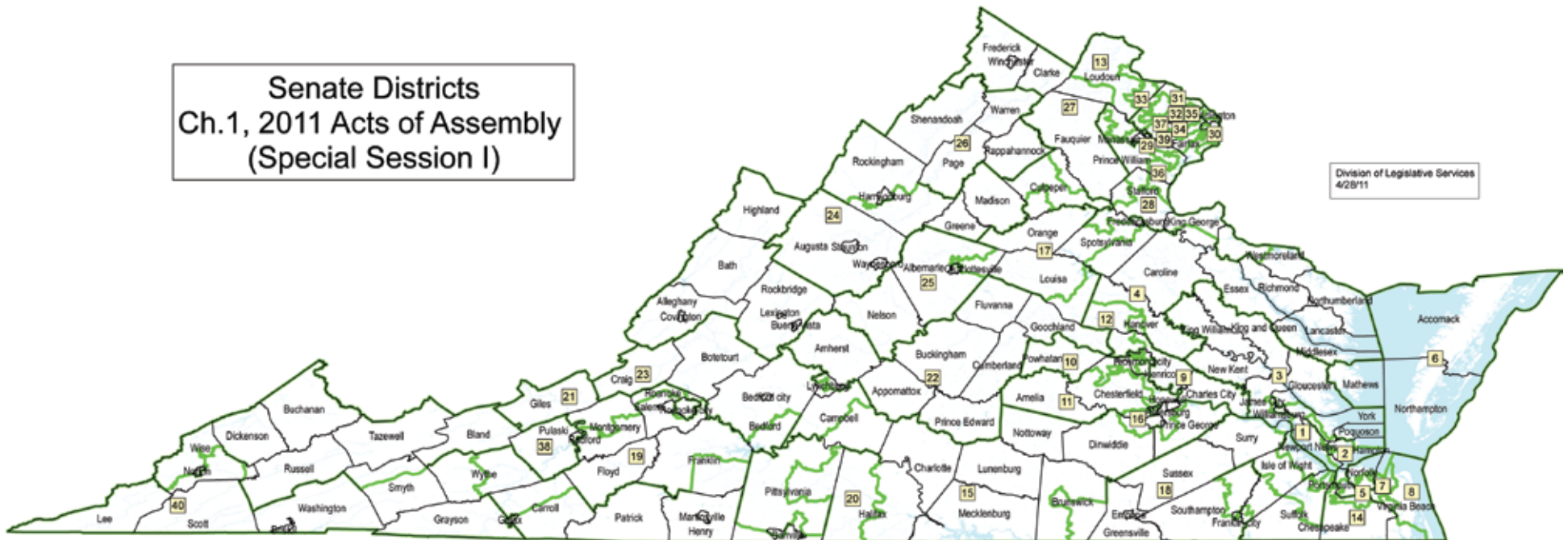






PHOTO CREDIT: *The Secret Dorway* by Joseph Ring | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

# Know the Score

As a conservation watchdog in the General Assembly, the Virginia League tracks voting records on key conservation and funding legislation. We work hard to make sure legislators hear from their constituents. Then at session's end, we publish this Conservation Scorecard to help voters distinguish between the rhetoric and the reality of a lawmaker's record.

Check out your legislators' scores and let them know what you think. Thank them for supporting conservation or let them know they can do better. Send an email, make a phone call or schedule a visit with your legislator—it doesn't matter how you contact them, just let them know you saw their scores. Visit [valcv.org](http://valcv.org) to find your legislators' contact information.

## How the Votes Were Chosen

Hundreds of bills that impact our environment are introduced in the legislature

each year. Throughout the annual session, we provide clear guidance to legislators on the conservation community's preferred position on bills. We also alert legislators to the fact that these bills may be included in the Conservation Scorecard.

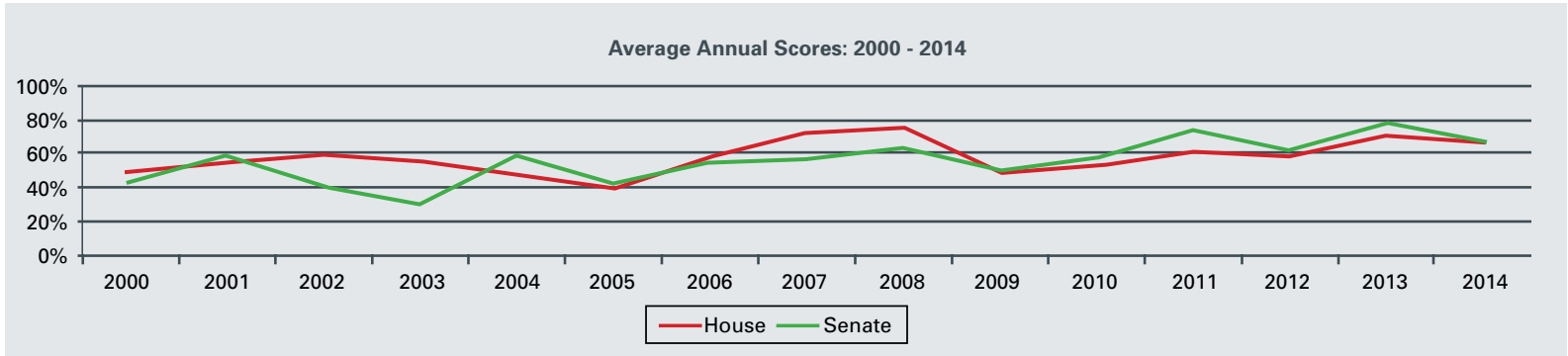
Once the session has concluded, the Virginia League chooses a handful of important votes that illustrate a clear distinction between those legislators who supported the conservation position and those who did not. Some of these important votes are held in committee while others are held on the full floor of the House and/or Senate.

## How the Scores Were Calculated

For each correct conservation vote taken by a legislator, he or she receives one point. If this legislator was also the patron of a conservation bill, he or she receives a patron credit in the form of one extra

point. These cumulative points are divided by the total number of conservation voting opportunities available for that particular legislator. This percentage is the final score reported in the Conservation Scorecard.

It is important to remember that we must not permanently chastise legislators for one year's poor performance. Every legislator has room for improvement and we should be encouraging them each session to better protect our environment. Conversely, we must not take legislators' good performances for granted—they still need to hear from conservation voters.



# The Importance of Bill Patrons

The Virginia League acknowledges the efforts of those legislators who promoted conservation and good government in their 2014 introduced legislation. These patrons received an additional “plus” vote on the Scorecard. Note that only one Patron “extra” credit is allocated per legislator.

## Clean Water

Delegate Scott Lingamfelter (R) – HB 131; Chesapeake Bay Voluntary Tax Contributions

Delegate Ed Scott (R) – HB 655; Menhaden fishery management

Delegate Les Adams (R) – HB 1116; Scenic River Designation

Senator Richard Stuart (R) – SB 48; Water quality protections

Senator Richard Stuart (R) – SB 49; Menhaden fishery management

Senator Creigh Deeds (D) – SB 257; Scenic River Designation

Senator Emmett Hanger (R) – SB 414; Chesapeake Bay Voluntary Tax Contributions

Senator Phillip Puckett (D) – SB 551; Scenic River Designation

Senator David Marsden (D) – SB 629; Navigation on certain waters

## Transportation

Delegate Scott Surovell (D) – HB 4; Hybrid tax repeal

Delegate Kaye Kory (D) – HB 47; Hybrid tax repeal

Delegate Randy Minchew (R) – HB 416; Preservation of Loudoun unpaved roads

Delegate Tim Hugo (R) – HB 904; Transportation projects notice by VDOT

Delegate Tom Rust (R) – HB 975; Hybrid tax repeal

Delegate Ron Villanueva (R) – HB 1090; Transportation technology programs update

Senator Adam Ebbin (D) – SB 1; Hybrid tax repeal

Senator Kenny Alexander (D) – SB 26; Public comment on transportation projects

Senator Stephen Newman (R) – SB 127; Hybrid tax repeal

Senator Richard Stuart (R) – SB 147; VDOT public notice on projects

Senator Jill Vogel (R) – SB 397; Preservation of Loudoun unpaved roads

## Energy

Delegate Luke Torian (D) – HB 687; Building Revitalization Grant Fund

Delegate Alfonso Lopez (D) – HB 822; Renewable Portfolio Standard reform

Delegate Joseph Yost (R) – HB 879; Net metering

Delegate Ron Villanueva (R) – HB 910; Renewable energy tax credits

Delegate Rob Krupicka (D) – HB 906; Net metering

Delegate Ron Villanueva (R) – HB 1063; Renewable energy tax credits

Delegate Tim Hugo (R) – HB 1239; Tax exemption on solar equipment

Delegate Chris Stolle (R) – HJ 16; Recurrent flooding study

Senator William Stanley (R) – SB 106; Building Revitalization Grant Fund

Senator Chap Petersen (D) – SB 222; Solar panels in community associations

Senator John Edwards (D) – SB 350; Net metering

Senator Donald McEachin (D) – SB 498; Renewable Portfolio Standard reform

Senator Frank Wagner (R) – SB 512; Tax exemption on solar equipment

Senator Tommy Norment (R) – SB 653; Renewable energy grants

Senator Mamie Locke (D) – SJ 3; Recurrent flooding study

Senator Jeffrey McWaters (R) – SJ 34; Recurrent flooding study

## Land Use

Senator Emmett Hanger (R) – SJ 63; Bobwhite quail preservation study

## Good Government

Delegate Kaye Kory (D) – HB 37; Absentee voting persons 65 and older

Delegate Marcus Simon (D) – HB 75; No-excuse absentee voting

Delegate Rosalyn Dance (D) – HB 119; No-excuse absentee voting

Delegate Charniele Herring (D) – HB 601; No-excuse absentee voting

Delegate Monty Mason (D) – HB 622; No-excuse absentee voting

Delegate Luke Torian (D) – HB 692; No-excuse absentee voting

Delegate Michael Futrell (D) – HB 783; No-excuse absentee voting

Delegate Alfonso Lopez (D) – HB 800; No-excuse absentee voting

Delegate Alfonso Lopez (D) – HB 802; Absentee voting persons 65 and older

Senator Janet Howell (D) – SB 3; No-excuse absentee voting

Senator John Miller (D) – SB 16; Absentee voting persons 65 and older

Senator Barbara Favola (D) – SB 129; Absentee voting persons 65 and older

Senator George Barker (D) – SB 140; Absentee voting persons 65 and older

Senator John Miller (D) – SB 158; Bipartisan Redistricting Commission referendum

Senator Jeffrey McWaters (R) – SB 182; Absentee voting persons 65 and older

Senator Creigh Deeds (D) – SJ 37; Virginia Redistricting Commission





## VIRGINIA LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

The Virginia League of Conservation Voters protects resources important to all Virginians: clean air and water, thriving communities and rural landscapes, productive farms and forests, historic battlefields and Main Streets, and ample public lands and recreation. We secure good public policy at the Capitol, hold Virginia's elected officials accountable for their positions on conservation and work to elect pro-conservation candidates to office.

The Virginia League is a nonpartisan, nonprofit advocacy organization and gifts to it and its Political Action Committee are not tax deductible.

---

**Virginia League of Conservation Voters**  
530 East Main Street, Suite 410 | Richmond, VA 23219  
Phone: 804.225.1902  
[valcv.org](http://valcv.org)