



VIRGINIA LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS

2025 | Conservation Scorecard

valcv.org

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2025 Scorecard acknowledgments:

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Foreword from Executive Director Michael Town

Youngkin Raises Environmental Stakes in Pivotal Election Year

Progress rarely comes easy. But Virginia's conservation community has a track record of making the difficult possible. The 2025 session was challenging – a short session, an election year, and a national mood bent toward Washington not Richmond. Despite those challenges, the conservation community was able to squeak out successes despite one individual often standing in the way of progress.

Fifty-one pro-environmental bills made it to the governor's desk – most with bipartisan support – but Governor Youngkin's actions on that legislation leave us with very little forward movement on the issues we care about as Conservation Voters. On many issues (though not all) the legislature did their job.

Youngkin blocked or undermined legislation that would have cut our energy bills, expanded clean energy, protected clean water, and kept our communities safe from pollution. Rather than do the hard work to ensure we move forward with clean, affordable electricity, responsibly address Virginia's unsustainable data center growth, and ensure a conservation legacy, as most of his recent predecessors have done, our governor chose to play partisan politics and Virginia's environment suffered.

This year all 100 seats in the House of Delegates are on the ballot alongside the statewide offices of Governor, Attorney General and Lieutenant Governor, presenting us with

the opportunity for the next Conservation Majority in 2026.

After four years of Youngkin's failed job at the helm, the next Governor of Virginia will have the challenge of making up for lost time in a big way, while showing a willingness to come to the table with lawmakers to drive the next proactive environmental agenda forward.

This means not just defending the laws we have on the books, but going further with visionary policies that help us meet the moment, reach our climate goals in a clean and affordable way, grow a clean energy economy, protect the Chesapeake Bay for the next generation, and ensure all Virginians have access to a clean and healthy environment.

This will take strong leadership at the legislature and in the Governor's Mansion, and Virginia's environmental community will have to give it their all. The next wave of environmental progress is just around the corner, and we'll be doing everything we can to turn the page on Youngkin toward a brighter future for Virginia and our movement.

Sincerely,



Michael Town,
Executive Director

Virginia LCV Honors Five Lawmakers with Legislative Leadership Awards in 2025

In addition to recognizing lawmakers with pro-environmental voting records every year, Virginia LCV also makes it a point to acknowledge legislators who demonstrate exceptional leadership at the General Assembly by going above and beyond when it comes to getting the job done for our environment. Virginia's legislative session is noisy and fast. And environmental policies tend to be complicated and nuanced – hard issues for a part-time legislature to tackle every year, and even more difficult for the legislators who carry these bills. This year we recognize five lawmakers who demonstrated exceptional legislative leadership this General Assembly session.

Unlocking Affordable Solar Energy for Virginians

Delegate Katrina Callsen (D-Charlottesville)
Senator Schuyler VanValkenburg (D-Henrico)

Solar energy is the most affordable and readily available energy source we have at our disposal, and deploying solar projects of all sizes is key to our affordable, clean energy future. This past session Delegate Katrina Callsen and Senator Schuyler VanValkenburg teamed up to carry the Distributed Generation Expansion Act, one of the components of the “Community Access to Renewable Energy” package, with the goal of lowering energy costs, growing a clean energy economy, and expanding access to clean energy.

This legislation increases the role that smaller scale renewable energy projects play in our broader clean energy transition by expanding the definition of distributed renewable energy resources from 1 megawatt (MW) to 3 MW in Virginia, increasing the carve-out for small renewable energy resources from 1% to



Callsen



VanValkenburg

8% by 2030, and opening the door to more third-party development – expanding competition and lowering clean energy costs.

The legislation also aimed to lessen the environmental impact of solar development by expanding the clean energy carve-out from 200 to 1000 MW for projects on previously disturbed sites like parking lots, landfills, and quarries, making it easier to deploy smaller scale solar across all the places where Virginians across the board agree these projects should go.

We are grateful for Delegate Callsen's and Senator VanValkenburg's efforts this session. The debate on how to get more clean energy on our grid as we work toward 100% clean energy is far from settled; we are fortunate to have leaders like these lawmakers committed to ensuring we're making it easier – not harder – to meet these important goals.

Putting Guardrails on Data Centers

Delegate Josh Thomas (D-Prince William)

An estimated 70% of the world's Internet traffic goes through data centers in Northern Virginia – and the industry continues to expand, creating tough local land-use decisions and debates over how to best meet the huge energy demand of these facilities.

There were more than a dozen policy pro-

posals this year to address Virginia's exploding data center industry. Delegate Josh Thomas, whose district is uniquely threatened by data center development, has been a leader on this issue in back-to-back sessions where he carried multiple bills requiring the data center industry to implement better sustainability



Thomas

guardrails, while increasing industry oversight, and consumer protection.

These bills included HB1601, which would have created more transparency on environmental and community impacts of data center development during the land-use permitting process.

While lawmakers didn't address the full host of issues that data centers create this year, they did advance this bill requiring developers to provide localities with a site assessment examining their noise impact on nearby residential areas and schools and making it clear that localities have the authority to consider these facilities' larger impacts on water, agriculture, parks, historic sites, forests, and electric utility infrastructure when making land-use decisions.

Data centers, and their impact on local communities and to our electric grid, will continue to be one of the biggest environmental threats we face in Virginia. We are grateful for Delegate Thomas's ongoing leadership on this issue and look forward to continuing to work with him and his colleagues to secure a more sustainable path forward.

Norfolk's New Environmental Leadership

Delegate Bonita Anthony (D-Norfolk)

Delegate Phil Hernandez (D-Norfolk)

The 2023 election – the first in brand new legislative districts – sent an unprecedented number of freshman legislators to Virginia's General Assembly, including more than 30 new members to the 100-member House of



Anthony

Delegates. Many freshman legislators have become vocal, effective advocates right out the gate on a number of key policy issues, and two freshman legislators in particular have shown exceptional leadership on climate action, environmental justice, and conservation: Delegate Phil Hernandez and Delegate Bonita Anthony, who both represent Norfolk, one of the cities most impacted by the climate crisis and legacy environmental harms.



Hernandez

Among the bills that Delegate Anthony carried this year were two to advance environmental justice and address local pollution impacts. Her House Bill 2030 would establish an Environmental Justice Task Force for certain state agencies and departments to ensure they're considering the environmental justice consequences of departmental and agency decisions and actions. A second bill, House Bill 2267, would continue

an ongoing air monitoring program in Hampton Roads with the goal of identifying and remedying current pollution levels, associated health risks, and the impacts of those risks on fence-line communities.

Legislation carried by Delegate Hernandez this year would protect workers and homeowners from the impacts of climate change while also ensuring we're meeting energy demand with existing clean energy sources instead of new fossil fuel infrastructure. His House Bill 1980 would address a growing threat to workers because of climate change – heat illness – by identifying at-risk industries and adopting regulations to protect these workers. A second bill, House Bill 2348, would require the seller of a home to disclose whether their home is in flood-hazard area to potential homebuyers – an important safeguard in low-lying and flood-prone Hampton Roads.

A third bill from Delegate Hernandez, House Bill 2346, would implement a preliminary Virtual Power Plant program in Virginia to allow utilities to tap into qualifying energy efficiency and clean energy resources in Virginians' homes to meet peak energy demand, eliminating the need to build additional, costly fossil fuel infrastructure, and cutting all of our energy bills.

The environmental challenges in Hampton Roads, from flooding to air quality, are complex and intertwined. Constituents in Norfolk are fortunate to have two new delegates committed to tackling these threats and we are grateful for their continuing leadership.

100 % 2025 Legislative Heroes

Virginia LCV Legislative Heroes demonstrate a strong dedication and prioritization of our conservation values. This year we recognize 21 Senators and 51 Delegates for voting with Virginia LCV 100 percent of the time.

Of the hundreds of bills these legislators vote on every session, they deserve special acknowledgment for getting the conservation vote right every time.

On behalf of Conservation Voters in Virginia, we thank the Legislative Heroes pictured here and look forward to their continued commitment to protecting the Commonwealth's precious natural resources.



Sen. Lashrecse Aird



Sen. Lamont Bagby



Sen. Jennifer Boysko



Sen. Jennifer Carroll Foy



Sen. Creigh Deeds



Sen. Adam Ebbin



Sen. Barbara Favola



Sen. Ghazala Hashmi



Sen. Mamie Locke



Sen. Louise Lucas



Sen. Dave Marsden



Sen. Jeremy McPike



Sen. Stella Pekarsky



Sen. Russet Perry



Sen. Danica Roem



Sen. Aaron Rouse



Sen. Saddam Salim



Del. K. Srinivasan



Sen. Scott Surovell



Sen. S. VanValkenburg



Sen. A. Williams Graves



Del. Bonita Anthony



Del. Alex Askew



Del. E. Bennett-Parker



Del. David Bulova



Del. Katrina Callsen



Del. Betsy Carr



Del. Nadarius Clark



Del. Laura Jane Cohen



Del. Joshua Cole



Del. K. Convors-Fowler



Del. Rae Cousins



Del. Karrie Delaney



Del. Michael Feggans



Del. Debra Gardner



Del. Jackie Glass



Del. Cliff Hayes



Del. Dan Helmer



Del. Rozia Henson



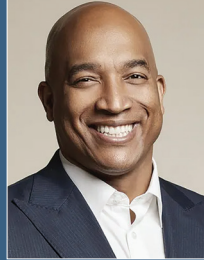
Del. Phil Hernandez



Del. Charniele Herring



Del. Patrick Hope



Del. Michael Jones



Del. K. Keys-Gamara



Del. Paul Krizek



Del. Amy Laufer



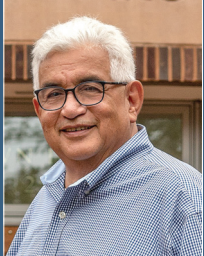
Del. D. LeVere Bolling



Del. Alfonso Lopez



Del. Michelle Maldonado



Del. Marty Martinez



Del. Adele McClure



Del. Delores McQuinn



Del. C. Mundon King



Del. Cia Price



Del. Sam Rasoul



Del. Atoosa Reaser



Del. David Reid



Speaker Don Scott



Del. Holly Siebold



Del. Briana Sewell



Del. Irene Shin



Del. Mark Sickles



Del. Mark Simon



Del. Shelly Simonds



Del. JJ Singh



Del. Rip Sullivan



Del. Josh Thomas



Del. Luke Torian



Del. Kathy Tran



Del. Jeion Ward



Del. Vivian Watts



Del. Rodney Willett

Scored Legislation:

Energy & Climate

Advancing the Offshore Wind Workforce

*House Bill 1616 - Del. Michael Feggans
(D-Virginia Beach)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

This bill connects Virginians interested in working in the fast-growing offshore wind industry with technical training opportunities and job prospects, and includes provisions for developing critical pre-hire soft skill programs. It also includes consideration for establishing

a Virginia-based Global Wind Organisation training program to meet minimum safety requirements, which will lower the cost for product and service companies investing or adjacent industries expanding in Virginia to get their workers qualified to work offshore. Today, Virginia offshore wind workers must travel out of state to receive this mandatory training and must be recertified every two years. This legislation passed out of the House on a bipartisan 57-43 vote and cleared the Senate by a one-vote margin of 20-19 before being vetoed by Governor Youngkin.

Unlocking Distributed Renewable Energy

*House Bill 1883 - Del. Katrina Callsen
(D-Charlottesville)*

*Senate Bill 1040 - Sen. Schuyler
VanValkenburg (D-Henrico)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

This bill was part of a suite of legislation called the “Community Access to Renewable Energy” (CARE) package, aimed at lowering energy costs, growing a clean energy economy, and expanding access to clean energy.

This legislation increases the size of a distributed resource like solar, wind, or hydropower from 1 megawatt (MW) to 3 MW in Virginia,

Know the Score:

As an exclusive accountability tool for Conservation Voters, it is important to know how we arrive at the final scores for each General Assembly session. The Conservation Scorecard gives you a comprehensive understanding of how your elected leaders represented your conservation values in Richmond.

While some sessions carry more contentious, high-stakes debates than others, our Scorecard allows you to distinguish between the rhetoric and the reality of a legislator’s record by providing you detailed summaries of what happened inside the State Capitol each session.

How the Votes Were Chosen

With hundreds of bills introduced every

session, Virginia LCV carefully tracks and takes positions on all priority legislation that impacts conservation. As legislation evolves throughout the lawmaking process, we communicate our position at every step along the way – from subcommittee, to full committee, to the floor of each chamber.

After session’s end, we closely examine the votes and determine a selection of votes which best illustrates how legislators prioritized conservation issues. While some votes are easier than others, our look into what happened on the record and behind the scenes gives an encompassing representation of conservation performance.

How the Scores Were Calculated

For every vote recorded on the chosen

legislation, legislators receive one “correct vote” for voting the way of our communicated position. The number of “correct” votes is divided by the total number of possible votes for each legislator, which generates a lawmaker’s percentage score for the session. Legislators that sponsored bills supported by Virginia LCV receive a patron credit, which counts as one additional “possible vote” averaged into their final percentage.

Although some legislators perform more poorly than others from year to year, it is important that they hear from you your encouragement to do better. Conversely, we must not take our Legislative Heroes and Leaders for granted – let them know you appreciate their commitment to conservation and look forward to their continued support.

gradually increases the carve-out for small renewable energy resources from 1% to 8% by 2030, and opens the door to more third-party development, expanding competition and lowering clean energy costs. In an effort to lessen the impact of clean energy development, it expands the carve-out from 200 to 1000 MW for projects on previously disturbed sites like parking lots, landfills, and quarries. This legislation also eliminates the 50-kilowatt threshold for the power purchase agreement (PPA) pilot program, expanding access to solar power for all Virginians and small businesses.

The House version passed unanimously. The Senate version passed 26-14. Youngkin introduced toxic amendments to undermine the goals of the legislation, which were rejected by lawmakers. Youngkin then vetoed the bill, missing a huge opportunity to cut energy costs and expand clean energy.

Protecting Workers from Extreme Heat

*House Bill 1980 - Del. Phil Hernandez
(D-Norfolk)*

*Senate Bill 1103 - Sen. Ghazala Hashmi
(D-Richmond)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

With 2024 being one of the hottest years on record and the top-10 hottest years on record all occurring within the past decade, extreme heat is a direct threat to Virginia workers who are exposed to the elements in their day-to-day work.

These bills directed the Virginia Safety and Health Codes Board (VSHC), in consultation with Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI), to identify high-hazard industries related to



Photo Credit: **The Tye Meets The James** by Mark Calhoun of Blue Ridge | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

heat illness and finalize regulations that protect workers from exposure. Employers in violation of these regulations would face civil fines.

The House version passed on a party-line vote of 51-49 before being killed in Senate Finance and Appropriations. The Senate version reported out of Commerce and Labor before being left in Senate Finance and Appropriations with no further action taken.

Expanding Parking Lot Solar

House Bill 2037 - Del. David Bulova (D-Fairfax)

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Parking lots are one of Virginia's least utilized but best-suited sites for renewable energy deployment, and this legislation aims to capitalize on this asset. HB 2037 would empower localities to require developers to install a solar

canopy over large, nonresidential parking areas – those with 100 parking spaces or more – with elevated panels covering up to half of the total area.

Clean energy advocates have long identified parking lots as a potential site for solar because they make up a large portion of the built environment, can co-exist easily with solar development, and installations help reduce the heat island effect.

The bill cleared the House on a bipartisan vote of 64-33 and passed out of the Senate 21-18, before being vetoed by the Governor.

Cutting Costs for Small Solar Projects

House Bill 2266 - Del. Kathy Tran (D-Fairfax)

*Senate Bill 1058 - Sen. Adam Ebbin
(D-Alexandria)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Excessive interconnection costs – the charges that big utilities levy on third-party energy developers to bring clean energy onto the grid – have been a huge barrier to bringing small distributed solar projects online in recent years. This legislation would address this problem by ensuring that no singular solar installation has to bear the entire cost of grid upgrades by spreading these charges across multiple projects – efforts that will cut costs for clean energy and bring projects online faster.

Specifically, these bills task the State Corporation Commission with establishing a regulation by the end of the year to see these goals through.

HB 2266 passed the House on a strong bipartisan vote of 59-41 while SB 1058 cleared the Senate on a party-line vote. On April 2, lawmakers accepted Youngkin's amendments to this bill, which weakened it somewhat but



Photo Credit: **Frosty Fall Morning at Birch Knob** by James Deel of Clintwood | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

were still an improvement to the status quo.

Meeting Energy Demand with Virtual Power Plants

*House Bill 2346 - Del. Phil Hernandez
(D-Norfolk)*

*Senate Bill 1100 - Sen. Ghazala Hashmi
(D-Richmond)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Another component of this year's "CARE" package, this bill is another pathway to cutting energy costs and meeting demand with existing clean energy resources.

Specifically, this legislation creates a virtual power plant ("VPP") pilot program in Dominion Energy territory that coordinates distributed energy resources ("DERs") to help meet power demand when it's at its highest instead of building new, costly, and polluting generation infrastructure. Qualifying DERs include residential, commercial, and industrial solar and battery storage; smart thermostats; water heaters; heat pumps; and electric vehicles, and participating customers would get bill credits when their resources are utilized.

HB 2346 passed the House on a vote of 72-27 while SB 1100 cleared the Senate on a

party-line vote. Lawmakers rejected Youngkin's bad-faith amendments to these bills and he signed them into law in their original form.

Paying Clean Energy Workers a Prevailing Wage

*House Bill 2356 - Del. Candi Mundon King
(D-Prince William)*

*Senate Bill 853 - Sen. Aaron Rouse
(D-Virginia Beach)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

As Virginia works toward securing a clean and affordable energy future, we will need a large pool of qualified workers to make this transition possible. This, the third pillar of the "CARE" package, focuses on ensuring that these workers earn a prevailing wage and establishes apprenticeship requirements to create a pipeline of qualified workers with the necessary skills to successfully deploy solar, storage, and other clean energy technologies at the speed and scale needed.

HB 2356 passed out of the House of Delegates on a party-line 51-49 vote and SB 853 passed out of the Senate 20-18. Governor Youngkin vetoed both bills.

Undermining Virginia's Renewable Portfolio Standard

*House Bill 2365 - Del. Tony Wilt
(R-Harrisonburg)*

Virginia LCV Position: Oppose

The landmark Virginia Clean Economy Act established Virginia's first Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), with the goal of spurring development of clean energy resources to help create a carbon-free electric grid by mid-century.

This legislation would undermine these goals by allowing non-renewable energy resources to qualify for the RPS. Specifically, it defines hydrogen and nuclear as "renewable energy," and changes the definition of "zero-carbon electricity" to include fossil fuel-fired power plants with carbon capture technologies.

By allowing non-renewable energy resources to qualify for the RPS, this bill would push out actual renewables, reducing investment in wind and solar while incentivizing dirty generation.

Fortunately, this bill was defeated 6-4 in the House Committee on Labor and Commerce Subcommittee #3 along with a number of other attacks on Virginia's clean energy laws.

Repealing Virginia's Climate Action Goals

*Senate Bill 1077 - Sen. Mark Peake
(R-Lynchburg)*

Virginia LCV Position: Oppose

This single piece of legislation would have repealed all of the major progress Virginia's made on climate action and clean energy in recent years. These include passing the Virginia Clean Economy Act and joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – efforts that catapulted Virginia to a top tier of states working to address the climate crisis.

SB 1077 sought to erase this progress overnight by eliminating provisions that usher in clean energy investments, reduce and regulate air pollution, and prevent unnecessary build-out of new fossil fuel generators, putting climate progress, public health, and Virginia workers at risk.

Pro-climate lawmakers killed this bill on a 9-6 vote in the Senate Committee on Com-

merce & Labor. Similar attacks on climate action died along the same vote count.

Good Government

Advancing Environmental Justice at the Local Level

*House Bill 1827 - Del. Shelly Simonds
(D-Newport News)*

*Senate Bill 1254 - Sen. Lamont Bagby
(D-Richmond)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

The continuing legacy of pollution and environmental degradation has put many low-income communities and communities of color in harm's way. And many times the best solutions to address these threats start at the local level.

This legislation would advance a healthy communities strategy where localities incorporate the social determinants of health in the comprehensive planning process to secure better community health outcomes by identifying air, water, and other pollution sources within their jurisdiction.

Goals of this holistic approach include reducing pollution exposure, improving air and water quality, expanding affordable broadband Internet access, job training, access to healthy foods, aging in place, ensuring adequate emergency management, and increasing resilience to increased flooding and excessive heat, the promotion of public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity.

HB 1827 passed out of the House 59-40 and SB 1254 cleared the Senate 20-19. For the second year in a row, Governor Youngkin vetoed this legislation.

Working Toward Automatic Restoration of Voting Rights

House Joint Resolution 2 - Del. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (D-Alexandria)

Senate Joint Resolution 248 - Sen. Mamie Locke (D-Hampton)

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Restrictive voting laws passed in the early 1900s at the height of Jim Crow discrimination in Virginia included a measure stripping anyone convicted of a felony of the right to vote. Alongside measures like literacy tests and poll taxes, these laws had one goal: to diminish the political power of Black Virginians. Today, more than 260,000 Virginians can't vote because of a prior conviction – roughly 5% of the voting age population, and made up disproportionately of Virginians of color.

In order to regain the right to vote, an individual must petition the Governor, an incredibly burdensome bureaucratic process, and the current Administration has taken up these petitions at the lowest rate of any Governor in more than a decade, exposing the pitfalls of this archaic process.

This legislation would end this source of disenfranchisement for good by amending Virginia's Constitution to ensure automatic restoration of voting rights for citizens reentering society.

HJ 2 and SJ 248 passed the House of Delegates on a bipartisan 56-44 vote and cleared the Senate on a party-line 21-19 vote. The resolutions will have to pass again in their same form in 2026 before heading to the ballot in that Fall's General Election as a referendum.

Land Conservation

Reining in Invasive Plant Sales

House Bill 1941 - Del. Holly Siebold (D-Fairfax)

Senate Bill 1166 - Sen. Saddam Salim (D-Loudoun)

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Nearly 40 species of invasive plants that threaten our natural environment, wildlife, and pollinators are readily available for sale in Virginia without any required notice to consumers of their harm or recommendation for better alternatives.

This results in the ongoing purchase, planting, and spread of invasive plants often by well-meaning Virginians.

To curb this threat, this legislation would require plant retailers, beginning in 2027, to

Dedicated parks funding goes by the wayside at 2025 General Assembly

Virginia is fortunate to have a wealth of natural beauty, a range of landscapes from mountains and valleys to marshland and ocean-front, and centuries of history to learn from.

Unfortunately, we lack dedicated funding to ensure these resources are protected for future generations while preserving and maintaining the outdoor spaces we do have. Given the opportunity to address this issue this legislative session, lawmakers didn't even have the opportunity to vote "yea" or "nay."

Despite broad public support for parks, public lands, and green-spaces, and the clear benefit of expanding and protecting access to these amenities, the "Virginia Great Outdoors Act" (HB 2059 from Del. Paul Krizek) was referred to the House Committee on Appropriations and never taken up – a huge missed opportunity to protect our natural resources at a time when federal investments are fast disappearing.

This legislation would have provided \$230 million of dedicated funding each year to protect vulnerable areas, improve public ac-

cess to parkland by fixing and expanding our current state parks and greenspaces, and create new parks, trails, and natural areas across the state for all Virginians to enjoy.

Because Virginia has no dedicated source of funding for outdoor spaces, recreation programs are either inconsistently or under-funded while the maintenance backlog keeps increasing.

Outdoor recreation spiked during the COVID-19 pandemic and has remained high, putting stress on our parks and exposing the need for greater state investment.

A greater funding commitment in parks from the General Assembly would build and maintain a system we all can be proud of while also investing in local economies – in 2023, outdoor recreation contributed \$13.4 billion to our economy and was responsible for more than 122,000 jobs.

Parks are a win-win for local communities, our economy, our environment and quality of life, and it's past time for Virginia to have dedicated funding to protect and expand access to the outdoors.



Photo Credit: **Down on Main Street** by Michael Mancuso of Chesterfield | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

provide consumers with clear signage identifying plants as invasive and directing consumers to native or non-invasive alternatives.

HB 1941 passed out of the House of Delegates 67-33 while SB 1166 cleared the Senate 30-8. These bills were signed into law with a delayed effective date of Jan. 1, 2027.

Making Monroe's 'Oak Hill' a New State Park

*House Bill 2306 - Del. Alfonso Lopez
(D-Arlington)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Lawmakers this year were presented with

the opportunity to permanently protect and provide public access to the last privately owned founding-era presidential home in James Monroe's "Oak Hill," a 1,240 acre estate in Loudoun County.

This bill would have authorized the Department of Conservation and Recreation to accept the property and establish it as a new state park in Northern Virginia, a huge population center where green space and recreational opportunities are in high-demand.

A feasibility study showed wide community support; it indicated that "conserving Oak Hill's roughly 1,200 acres may well be the last viable opportunity to secure public open space of this size and significance in Northern Virginia," and

showed that it could be open to the public with minimal investment by the state.

This legislation passed unanimously out of the House, but was unfortunately rereferred to Senate Finance and Appropriations from the Senate Floor in the waning days of session without a recorded vote after having already passed out of that committee with unanimous consent.

Partisan, election-year politics further complicated this issue when it returned as a budget amendment in April and was rejected in a block alongside a number of harmful provisions sent down by the Governor. We will be looking to lawmakers to not miss this opportunity again in 2026.

Land Use and Transportation

Helping Localities Responsibly Site Data Centers

*House Bill 1601 - Del. Josh Thomas
(D-Prince William)*

*Senate Bill 1449 - Sen. Adam Ebbin
(D-Alexandria)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

The proliferation of data centers across Virginia comes with a number of challenging environmental impacts, everything from water quality and energy demand, to noise and local land-use concerns.

While lawmakers didn't address the full host of issues that data centers create this year, they did advance this legislation requiring developers to provide localities with a site assessment examining their noise impact on nearby residential areas and schools and making it clear that localities have the authority

to consider these facilities' larger impacts on water, agriculture, parks, historic sites, forests, and electric utility infrastructure when making land-use decisions.

HB 1601 cleared the House 58-41 while SB 1449 passed out of the Senate 30-9 with one abstention. Lawmakers in both chambers rejected bad amendments sent down by the Governor and he then moved to kill the legislation.

Expanding Rural EV Charging Infrastructure

House Bill 1791 - Del. Rip Sullivan (D-Fairfax)

Senate Bill 1225 - Sen. Lashrecse Aird (D-Petersburg)

Virginia LCV Position: Support

As more carmakers make plans to go all-electric and more and more drivers make the switch to an electric vehicle, Virginia will need adequate charging infrastructure across the state, not just in higher density suburban and urban areas or major highway corridors.

Without a strong network of public charging stations, EV owners won't be able to visit many parts of the state, especially rural areas, which could result in these localities missing out on tourism dollars and other economic benefits.

With this in mind, this bill creates the Rural Charging Infrastructure Program and Fund, providing developers with grants covering up to 70% of the costs associated with the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in rural and low-income localities. Lawmakers also advanced a \$1.5 million budget amendment to get this program up and running.

While the Senate version of this bill did not make it out of committee initially, HB 1791 cleared both chambers on votes of 56-42 and



Photo Credit: **Colonial Williamsburg** by Mark Calhoun of Blue Ridge | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

21-19. Governor Youngkin then vetoed this legislation, robbing rural Virginia of an important economic development opportunity.

Repealing Virginia's Clean Cars Standard

Senate Bill 806 - Sen. Richard Stuart (R-Westmoreland)

Virginia LCV Position: Oppose

Emissions from the transportation sector make up roughly half of Virginia's overall carbon footprint, making tailpipe pollution our largest contributor to the climate crisis by far and a big threat to public health. This is why

lawmakers voted in 2021 to adopt the Advanced Clean Cars Standard to bring cleaner gas-powered vehicles and a greater variety of emission-free electric vehicles to Virginia.

The standards took effect in 2024 but were undermined by the Youngkin Administration, which announced last summer that Virginia would be exiting the program. This legislation was an attempt to codify this illegal move by formally repealing the Clean Cars Standard – efforts that ignore the significant environmental, economic and public health benefits of curbing pollution from vehicles by transitioning to cleaner cars.



Photo Credit: **Winding Waterways** by Jeremy Grant of Onancock | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

Thankfully, this bill was defeated 8-7 in the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources.

Expanding Affordable Housing Options Across Virginia

*Senate Bill 1313 - Sen. Jeremy McPike
(D-Prince William)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Virginians in many localities looking to buy or rent a home face few affordable housing options.

This bill authorizes any locality in the Commonwealth to amend their zoning ordinance

to adopt an affordable housing dwelling unit program in order to promote construction of moderately priced housing by providing optional increases in density and other measures to boost housing supply.

Currently, only the counties of Albemarle, Loudoun, and Fairfax, and the cities of Alexandria and Charlottesville have this authorization. These localities have approved numerous mixed-income developments that include 6% to 12.5% or more units affordable at 60% of area median income (AMI) and below in return for density bonuses. Higher density developments tend to be more energy efficient and also prevent the impacts of sprawl to our

environment.

This legislation passed both chambers on party-line votes of 50-49 and 20-19, respectively. Governor Youngkin then vetoed this legislation.

Water Quality

Protecting Tree Canopy at the Local Level

*House Bill 2630 - Del. Rodney Willett
(D-Henrico)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Preserving tree canopy is one of the best ways to prevent stormwater runoff, mitigate flooding, and secure air and water quality, which are all essential to ensure a clean and healthy Chesapeake Bay and safe communities. But unfortunately, canopy is disappearing at an astonishing rate, especially in the rapidly growing areas around Virginia's major highway corridors.

This legislation makes it easier for local governments to replace canopy that's lost during development while giving builders more flexibility to meet tree canopy requirements by establishing a "Tree Fund," which developers pay into when they cannot meet canopy requirements. Once established by ordinance, the local government can collect, manage, and disburse fees collected from developers, which can then be used to plant and maintain trees on public or private properties, or granted to a non-profit community-based organization dedicated to tree stewardship.

HB 2630 passed out of the House on a 63-36 vote, cleared the Senate 27-9, and was signed into law, giving Virginia localities a new tool to protect tree canopy and water quality.

Expanding Catch Limits for Invasive Blue Catfish

*House Bill 2782 - Del. Shelly Simonds
(D-Newport News)*

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Invasive blue catfish were introduced to Virginia waters in the 1970s to develop a recreational fishery. Due to their adaptability to different water conditions, they've since expanded their range into nearly every Chesapeake Bay tributary where they threaten native species such as menhaden, striped bass, eel, shad, river herring, and blue crabs, impacting ecosystems and the food chain.

This legislation initially removed the one-fish daily limit for blue catfish longer than 32 inches in Lake Gaston, Kerr Reservoir, and the James, Rappahannock, and York Rivers and their tributaries below the fall line, but was expanded to the entire state under amendments on the Senate side. HB 2782 cleared the House of Delegates 79-18 passed the Senate 35-1, but was unfortunately vetoed by the Governor.

Protecting our Water from 'Forever Chemicals'

Senate Bill 1319 - Sen. Jeremy McPike (D-Prince William)

Virginia LCV Position: Support

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are synthetic chemicals used in various industrial processes and consumer products due to their water-repellent and heat-resistant properties. These chemicals are highly persistent in the environment and linked to adverse health effects, including cancer, hormone disruption, and immune system suppression.

This legislation would require industrial facilities discharging into Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) to monitor their discharges for PFAS and report the results quarterly to the Department of Environmental Quality and POTWs, helping identify significant sources of PFAS, and preventing contamination by requiring pre-treatment at industrial sites when testing indicates the presence of these toxins.

SB 1319 passed out of the Senate unanimously and on a 71-27 vote in the House of Delegates. This critical clean water safeguard was unfortunately vetoed by Governor Youngkin.

2025 Lawmaker Score Analysis

Partisan Breakdown:

This year all 72 Democrats at the General Assembly earned 100% scores, the result of deepened partisanship within divided government, and a short, election-year legislative session that saw a higher number of unrecorded votes than normal. Legislation that got to the floor of each body was met with consensus from Democrats who hold narrow 51-49 and 21-19 majorities in the House and Senate, respectively.

The House was the least partisan of the two bodies this year, with Republicans joining Democrats on most of the bills we score this year. That was less of the case in the Senate where a majority of votes fell along party lines (the Senate is not up for election this year).

Caucus averages reflect this dynamic. House Republicans averaged 30% this year with the highest score being Del. Rob Bloxom's and Del. Chad Green's 59% and the lowest score going to House Republican Leader Todd Gilbert with 6%.

The Senate Republican Caucus averaged 23% with the highest Republican score being Sen. Richard Stuart's 40% and the lowest going to Sen. Mark Obenshain with 7%.

Legislative Successes:

Of the priority issue-area bills we score this year only four will become law, with most of these pieces of legislation dying from the Governor's veto pen in the leadup to the April 2 "Reconvened Session" or in the weeks that followed.

Overall, Virginia LCV communicated positions on around 100 bills this year. Of these 49 died at the legislature including 20 bills that we opposed and sought to defeat.

Of the bills that survived, 23 were vetoed and another 23 bills will become law (a handful of resolutions also passed but didn't require gubernatorial action).

House Scorecard

✓ = Patron Credit

Delegate	District	Party	2025 Score	2024 Score	Career Score Since 2000	Energy & Climate								Good Government		Land Conservation		Land Use & Transportation			Water Quality		
						HB1616	HB1883	HB1980	HB2037	HB2266	HB2346	HB2356	HB2365	HB1827	HJ2	HB1941	HB2306	HB1601	HB1791	SB1313	HB2630	HB2782	SB1319
Anthony	92	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arnold	46	R	12%	26%	19%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Askew	95	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Austin	37	R	47%	26%	40%	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X
Ballard	42	R	18%	33%	32%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Batten	71	R	18%	43%	26%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓
✓ Bennett-Parker	5	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bloxom	100	R	59%	67%	51%	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X
✓ Bulova	11	D	100%	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ Callsen	54	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Campbell	36	R	35%	45%	41%	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X		✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Carr	78	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cherry	74	R	18%	48%	37%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Clark	84	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cohen	15	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cole	65	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Convirs-Fowler	96	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cordoza	86	R	41%	57%	45%	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X
Cousins	79	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coyner	75	R	35%	57%	42%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓
Davis	39	R	18%	40%	30%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Delaney	9	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Earley	73	R	31%	43%	38%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	NV	✓
Ennis	89	R	38%	48%	43%	✓	NV	X	✓	X	X	X		✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	X
✓ Feggans	97	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fowler	59	R	29%	33%	36%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	X
Freitas	62	R	12%	29%	20%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gardner	76	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV
Garrett	56	R	13%	25%	30%	X	✓	X	NV	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gilbert	33	R	6%	19%	24%	X	NV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Glass	93	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Green	69	R	59%	48%	53%	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X		✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓
Griffin	53	R	12%	15%	14%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X

✓ = right X = wrong NV = Not Voting AB = Abstained																							
✓ = Patron Credit						Energy & Climate							Good Government		Land Conservation		Land Use & Transportation			Water Quality			
Delegate	District	Party	2025 Score	2024 Score	Career Score <small>Since 2000</small>	HB1616	HB1883	HB1980	HB2037	HB2266	HB2346	HB2356	HB2365	HB1827	HJ2	HB1941	HB2306	HB1601	HB1791	SB1313	HB2630	HB2782	SB1319
Hayes	91	D	100%	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Helmer	10	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Henson	19	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hernandez	94	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Herring	4	D	100%	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Higgins	30	R	41%	32%	36%	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓
Hodges	68	R	29%	40%	40%	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Hope	1	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jones	77	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kent	67	R	24%	38%	32%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Keys-Gamarra	7	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kilgore	45	R	41%	48%	38%	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X
Knight	98	R	50%	29%	34%	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X		NV	X	✓	✓	NV	NV	X	NV	NV	✓
Krizek	16	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laufer	55	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Leftwich	90	R	24%	33%	37%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓
LeVeré Bolling	80	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lopez	3	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lovejoy	22	R	47%	52%	50%	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X		✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓
Maldonado	20	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Marshall	49	R	44%	44%	36%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	NV		X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Martinez	29	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
McClure	2	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
McNamara	40	R	31%	45%	32%	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	NV	✓
McQuinn	81	D	100%	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓
Milde	64	R	47%	52%	50%	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓
Morefield	43	R	44%	43%	36%	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X		✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	NV
Mundon King	23	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oates	31	R	12%	29%	21%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Obenshain	41	R	47%	52%	51%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓
O’Quinn	44	R	17%	43%	34%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Orrock	66	R	41%	50%	43%	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X		✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓
Owen	57	R	29%	43%	37%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Phillips	48	R	35%	45%	41%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Price	85	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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Delegate	District	Party	2025 Score	2024 Score	Career Score <small>Since 2000</small>	HB1616	HB1883	HB1980	HB2037	HB2266	HB2346	HB2356	HB2365	HB1827	HJ2	HB1941	HB2306	HB1601	HB1791	SB1313	HB2630	HB2782	SB1319
Rasoul	38	D	100%	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reaser	27	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reid	28	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Runion	35	R	35%	40%	34%	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X		✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	X
Scott, D.	88	D	100%	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scott, P.	63	R	12%	19%	18%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
✓ Seibold	12	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sewell	25	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shin	8	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sickles	17	D	100%	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Simon	13	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ Simonds	70	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Singh	26	D	100%	N/A	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ Sullivan	6	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tata	99	R	35%	45%	42%	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓
Taylor	82	R	29%	48%	42%	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X		X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓
✓ Thomas	21	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Torian	24	D	100%	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ Tran	18	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wachsmann	83	R	18%	40%	36%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓
Walker	52	R	24%	33%	26%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	X
Ward	87	D	100%	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ware	72	R	44%	40%	48%	X	✓	X	✓	✓	NV	X		X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X
Watts	14	D	100%	100%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Webert	61	R	28%	41%	40%	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X
Wiley	32	R	24%	38%	34%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X
✓ Willett	58	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Williams	47	R	28%	37%	33%	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Wilt	34	R	41%	52%	40%	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X		X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Wright	50	R	19%	24%	32%	X	✓	X	NV	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X
Wyatt	60	R	25%	33%	27%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	✓	NV	X	X	X	✓	✓	X
Zehr	51	R	12%	19%	16%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Average			66%																				

Senate Scorecard						Energy & Climate							Good Government		Land Use, Conservation & Transportation					Water Quality		
						HB1616	SB853	SB1040	SB1058	SB1077	SB1100	SB1103	SB1254	SJ248	HB1791	SB806	SB1166	SB1313	SB1449	HB2630	HB2782	SB1319
Senator	District	Party	2025 Score	2024 Score	Career Score <small>(Since 2000)</small>																	
Aird	13	D	100%	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bagby	14	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Boysko	38	D	100%	95%	99%	✓	NV	✓	✓		✓		NV	✓	✓		NV	NV	✓	✓	✓	
Carroll Foy	33	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Cifers	10	R	29%	N/A	29%	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	✓	✓	✓	
Craig	19	R	23%	24%	24%	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		✓	X	AB	X	✓	
Deeds	11	D	100%	100%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
DeSteph	20	R	25%	19%	38%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	✓	✓	✓	
Diggs	24	R	29%	38%	34%	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		✓	X	X	✓	✓	
Durant	27	R	18%	24%	29%	X	NV	X	X		X		X	X	X		✓	X	X	NV	NV	
Ebbin	39	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Favola	40	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
French	1	R	23%	23%	26%	X	X	✓	X		X		X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	NV	NV	
Hackworth	5	R	27%	43%	40%	X	X	✓	X		X		X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	
Hashmi	15	D	100%	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Head	3	R	8%	24%	29%	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	NV	NV	
Jordan	17	R	31%	29%	25%	X	X	X	X		X		X	NV	X		✓	X	✓	X	✓	
Locke	23	D	100%	90%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lucas	18	D	100%	95%	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Marsden	35	D	100%	95%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
McDougle	26	R	19%	25%	38%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	✓	✓	
McPike	29	D	100%	95%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mulchi	9	R	13%	22%	21%	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	
Obenshain	2	R	7%	24%	30%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NV	NV	
Peake	8	R	19%	29%	34%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	✓	X	✓	
Pekarsky	36	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Perry	31	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pillion	6	R	15%	38%	39%	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		NV	X	X	X	✓	
Reeves	28	R	25%	24%	34%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	✓	X	✓	
Roem	30	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Rouse	22	D	100%	95%	98%	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Salim	37	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Srinivasan	26	D	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Senate Scorecard

						Energy & Climate						Good Government		Land Use, Conservation & Transportation						Water Quality		
Senator	District	Party	2025 Score	2024 Score	Career Score <small>(Since 2000)</small>	HB1616	SB853	SB1040	SB1058	SB1077	SB1100	SB1103	SB1254	SJ248	HB1791	SB806	SB1166	SB1313	SB1449	HB2630	HB2782	SB1319
✓ = Patron Credit																						
Stanley	7	R	24%	25%	37%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stuart	25	R	40%	50%	46%	X	X	✓	X		X		X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sturtevant	12	R	29%	24%	38%	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓
Suetterlein	4	R	33%	57%	36%	X	X	✓	X		X		X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓
Surovell	34	D	100%	95%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ VanValkenburg	16	D	100%	95%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Williams Graves	21	D	100%	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Average:			63%																			

Photo Credit: **Sunrise Bliss on the Potomac River** by Stephen Olson of Fredericksburg | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia





Photos by Jenny Morand



Photo by Dane Levis

State environmental leadership matters more than ever

The 2024 Election could not have been worse for climate action and environmental protection. After years of steady progress addressing climate change in state capitals across the nation (40% of Americans now live in a state that has a 100% carbon free goal), and culminating with federal passage of the world's largest investment ever in climate action and clean energy, we are now seeing a full-fledged assault on that progress and our issues.

The extreme Trump Administration wasted no time going after environmental protections with aggressive, overreaching, and often illegal executive actions aimed at neutering the clean energy transition and enriching his Big Oil donors – efforts that will raise energy costs on American families, kill good-paying jobs throughout our nation, and harm communities including right here in Virginia.

This has meant pausing or cancelling altogether renewable energy projects already underway, freezing federal funding already awarded for environmental remediation, flood protection, and clean energy deployment, threatening states like Virginia with strong climate laws with legal action, and taking pains to boost dirty and expensive fossil fuels – at the expense of cheaper clean energy projects.

The litany of attacks on our environment and humanity is too long to list here, and it's been a lot to bear.

The good news: People are fighting back like never before. Record crowds are hitting the streets on a regular basis protesting the extreme actions of this Administration, its disrespect for the rule of law and our Constitution, and for its policies that hurt everyday Virginians.

In the months ahead, we have the chance to expand our “Conservation Majority” in Virginia by electing new leadership for Governor, Lieutenant

At left: Protestors fill Monroe Park in Richmond, Va., on Thursday, May 1, or “May Day,” to protest the extreme Trump Administration and show solidarity with the Labor Movement.

Governor and Attorney General, and returning and potentially growing a pro-environment majority to the House of Delegates.

These races are critical to the future success of our Conservation Voter Movement here in Virginia.

After four years of an antagonistic Governor that's been working to take us backwards, and now with a toxic Administration in D.C., the stakes to win have never been higher in the Commonwealth.

Now, more than ever, we need leaders who will stand up to polluters, protect Virginia from the terrible policies coming out of Washington, and pass bold laws that advance

**This is a
pivotal
moment
– and
it's time
to move
forward.
Together.**

clean and affordable energy, protect our air and water, and secure a safe and healthy environment for all Virginians.

We have been here before. The last time Trump was president spurred the greatest environmental progress Virginia had seen in decades. Virginia stepped up in a big way, passing some of the nation's most ambitious policies to tackle the climate crisis.

We can – and must – do it again.

It won't be easy. It's going to take a lot of work to mobilize with boots on the ground, talk to voters about what's truly at stake, and show Virginians that

protecting the environment and addressing climate change leads to lower energy bills, better health outcomes, and healthier more prosperous communities.

And after Election Day, we'll have to lean on and push decision-makers to get it done.

It's a long game that we must win. And we need every Conservation Voter with us.

We at Virginia LCV have never been as motivated to make this a reality and we need you to join us in this fight. Your support of Virginia LCV will help us build power, win, and drive the transformational environmental change that we all care about.

This is a pivotal moment – and it's time to move forward. Together.

Virginia LCV: Conservation's Political Voice in the Commonwealth

Virginia League of Conservation Voters is the political voice of conservation in the Commonwealth. We work tirelessly to protect all of Virginia's treasured natural resources – clean air and water, thriving communities and rural landscapes, productive farms and forests, historic battlefields and Main Streets, and ample public lands and open spaces.

To do this, we advocate for and secure strong public policy at the state level, hold elected officials accountable for their positions on conservation issues, and endorse conservation-minded candidates for state office. Of the organizations in Virginia's conservation community, Virginia LCV is unique in that we provide the political power of bringing legislators' records on conservation issues to the forefront of their campaigns and the minds of their voters.

Accountability

Virginia LCV's annual Conservation Scorecard provides the only comprehensive look at how legislators voted on the year's most important conservation issues. From land conservation, to water quality, to transportation, to energy, the scorecard provides an inside take on what happened in Richmond on a full spectrum of issues. Further, the Scorecard provides a distinctive and useful tool for voters as they choose who represents their conservation values in Richmond. As a constituent and a Conservation Voter, it is important for you to let your elected officials know you saw their scores. Thank those who helped protect Virginia's natural resources and urge those who didn't to do better.

Endorsements

As conservation's political voice in the Commonwealth, Virginia LCV proudly endorses and seeks to elect and re-elect candidates to office who prioritize conservation. In addition to using the Conservation Scorecard, we issue an inclusive candidate questionnaire, research the dynamics of races, and lead candidate interviews to determine which candidates deserve our "conservation seal of approval."

Virginia LCV's endorsed candidates receive our guidance on how to make conservation issues a priority in their races, our financial support, and our outreach efforts to ensure Conservation Voters in their districts know of our endorsement. All of these factors are important to seeing our candidates win and to seeing a Conservation Majority in the legislature.

Advocacy

After candidates are sworn in, Virginia LCV staff and members work diligently to advocate for conservation values in the General Assembly. Our efforts are essential to guaranteeing legislators are best educated on the importance and value of protecting our natural resources and safeguarding our clean air, clean water and open spaces. The more they hear from us, and especially from you, the more victorious we will be.

Join Our Team

Check in at valcv.org to keep updated on what's happening with conservation issues in Virginia. There, you can take important conservation actions, support our work, get updated on Virginia LCV news, and follow our positions on critical legislation during the General Assembly session.

Support our Work!





Photo Credit: **Sunrise in Yorktown** by Judy Jones of Williamsburg | Courtesy of Scenic Virginia

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Virginia LCV is a nonpartisan, nonprofit advocacy organization and gifts to it and its Political Action Committee are non-tax deductible.



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