

2009 State Legislative Scorecard

Montana Conservation Voters

is the nonpartisan political voice of Montana's conservation and environmental community. MCV is dedicated to informing voters of the votes and actions of elected officials – from City Hall to Congress – affecting clean water and air, fish and wildlife, public health, open space, and citizen participation in government. Through its affiliated Political Action Committee, MCV supports candidates who will fight for Montana's conservation values.

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Conservation Collaboration: Working Together to Protect Montana

Montana Conservation Voters works with folks from all walks of life devoted to protecting our special places. We determine legislative priorities in collaboration with the Conservation Working Group, a diverse coalition of environmental and conservation groups whose policy experts identify common policy priorities to maintain healthy communities.

These shared priorities promote vibrant clean energy jobs, and protect the clean cold water that defines our state. Please see "Conservation Legislative Priorities" (page 3) for more details on these bills.



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10 Years Strong

Who we elect matters to protect Montana!

It's Montana Conservation Voters' 10 year anniversary. For the last decade, we've helped protect the rivers, lakes and streams that define our state, and fought for healthy communities, stewardship of our lands, and clean, renewable energy for future generations.

Montana Conservation Voters' unique role is to hold elected officials accountable by engaging voters politically, based on lawmakers' conservation ethics and voting records. We help elect candidates who stand up for our special places, and we believe our work has made a difference.

Montana Conservation Voters began during the 1999 legislature, when some legislators wanted to repeal the 1998 voter-approved ban on new cyanide leach gold mines. I remember going door to door in Billings, talking with people who emphasized their commitment to clean water, and reasserted their support for the ban. Many legislators got the message and decided not to risk losing their elected position by casting their votes for polluting cyanide mines.

Ten years later, the legislature has changed. As the scorecard snapshot on page 19 shows, legislators are voting ten percent more frequently with the conservation and environmental community today than in 1999. This decade finds some Montana policy makers forging a renewable energy economy to ensure clean energy jobs and an independent energy future for Montana. Just as important, conservation advocates and legislators defeated many proposed policies that would turn the clock back to the days when exploitative companies polluted land and water, and left communities holding the bag.

But as these pages show, many legislators in the 2009 session voted against Montanans' conservation values. Unlike the 2005 and 2007 legislative sessions, when conservationists defeated all "rollbacks" (bills that would have weakened Montana's environmental laws), the 2009 legislature passed several bills that would degrade our land, air and water. Thankfully, Governor Schweitzer vetoed two (SB 257 and HB 575), and heavily amended a third (HB 483).

To protect our state, we need strong conservation policies and even stronger conservation leaders. To achieve both, we need your help to protect the things we value most about Montana – clean air and water, world-class fish and wildlife, healthy communities and incredible landscapes.

Thank you for supporting Montana Conservation Voters! We need you now more than ever. Together we can elect lawmakers who will protect what we value about Montana.

Theresa M. Keaveny, Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters



Support Montana Conservation Voters

The Montana Conservation Voters Board of Directors has set an ambitious fundraising goal this year, to launch our group on solid financial footing for the next decade. Be part of our growing grassroots movement, working to protect Montana for future generations. **If you are not a member, join us. If you are, we thank you and ask you to please consider an additional gift to support our work. Give generously today using the enclosed remittance envelope. Or, give online at www.mtvoters.org/support.**

Conservation Legislative Priorities

Major Victory: HB 645 Energy Efficiency in Schools, Saves Money and Creates Jobs



The 61st State Legislature created new, good paying jobs and saved taxpayers money, appropriating \$15 million of federal stimulus resources toward energy efficiency improvements in our local schools.

This appropriation (contained in HB 645) establishes necessary resources, called “**Quick Start Grants**,” for public schools to improve energy efficiency in their facilities. The measure was made possible through the **leadership of Rep. Wanda Grinde** (D-Billings), a former school teacher, the Northern Plains Resource Council and the collaboration of Working Group partners (listed on page 18).

HB 645 is not scored because it contained all state appropriations for federal stimulus resources. Members of the House Appropriations committee fought hard for the Quick Start Grants, including chair Rep. Jon Sesso (D-Butte), Rep. Dan Villa (D-Anaconda) and Natural Resources subcommittee chair Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D-Helena).

To help connect your local schools to energy efficiency resources, please contact the Montana Department of Commerce, Program Specialist Kali Wicks via email at kwicks@mt.gov or by phone 406-841-2800.

HB 641: Energy Efficiency Standard for Utilities Boasts Excellent First Showing

Conservationists, led by the Montana Environmental Information Center and the Natural Resources Defense Council, collaborated with the State’s largest electric utility, NorthWestern Energy, to bring an energy efficiency standard for utilities before the Legislature. HB 641, sponsored by Rep. Art Noonan (D-Butte, Energy committee chair), would have **required the state’s three largest utilities to acquire cost-effective energy efficiency improvements by 2020**. Since energy efficiency is the cheapest and fastest way to meet Montana’s energy needs, a policy like HB 641 would help **shave \$141 million off energy bills** in the next decade (*Montana DEQ and Climate Change Advisory Committee, 2008*).

The Energy Efficiency Standard for Utilities died in the House Energy committee on a party-line vote (and thus is not scored), with all Democrats supporting it. Eighteen other states in the U.S. have adopted energy efficiency standards, and the federal government is considering enacting a national standard. Montanans should continue to build support for this critical next step toward reduced power bills and clean energy jobs during the interim.


HB 455: The Big Sky Rivers Act Killed on Tie Vote in House Local Government

Several conservation organizations, led by Montana Audubon, Montana Trout Unlimited, the Clark Fork Coalition and the Smart Growth Coalition fought hard to protect clean, cold and clear water in the Legislature.


HB 455, the **Big Sky Rivers Act**, sponsored by Rep. Michele Reinhart (D-Missoula), would have **empowered local governments to create a 250-foot streamside management area** to buffer Montana’s “Big 10” rivers from new commercial and residential development. Streamside management zones give our rivers and streams room to breathe, protecting public health and safety as well as world-class fish and wildlife. *Despite widespread support, HB 455 failed in House Local Government (and thus is not scored) on a tie, party-line vote, with Democrats supporting the measure and Republicans opposing it.*

Stand Up, Shout Out


Legislative Leadership for Montana's Air, Land and Water

 Thanks, **Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D-Billings)** chair of the House Fish, Wildlife and Parks committee, who lead the way to solve a dispute over access from public bridges. As a result, the legislature passed HB 190, the first stream access legislation in 24 years, with overwhelming bi-partisan support.




 Thanks, **Rep. David Roundstone (D-Busby)**, a new voice for traditional values, for powerfully insisting coal bed methane development must respect senior water rights and water quality.




 Thanks, **Sen. Carol Williams (D-Missoula)**, the Senate Democratic Minority Leader, who consistently stood for our constitutional right to a clean and healthful environment and reminded colleagues of the legislative responsibility to protect that right. Sen. Williams earned a 100% conservation score for the third session in a row.




 Thanks, **Rep. Michele Reinhart (D-Missoula)**, a voice for livable communities. Rep. Reinhart sponsored the Big Sky Rivers Act, promoting responsible growth and development and clean cold water. She worked hard to provide additional planning tools for cities and towns, and sponsored a successful measure (HB 420) that allows local governments to improve energy efficiency in new construction.




 Thanks, **Sen. Lynda Moss (D-Billings)**, **Sen. Bob Hawks (D-Bozeman)** and **Sen. Ron Erickson (D-Missoula)** for standing up for clean energy. These senators consistently spoke for clean air, water and open space while considering energy proposals in the Senate Energy committee and on the Senate floor.



 Thanks, **Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D-Billings)**, Vice Chair of the **House Energy Committee** for courageously standing up for citizens' right to protect their private property and public health as the lone committee vote against HB 483 (more on page 16).



 Thanks, **Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D-Bozeman)** and **Rep. Jill Cohenour (D-East Helena)** for fighting to protect citizens from irresponsible gravel mining operations and working to protect our water quality and property values by reforming gravel mining operations. Each sponsored numerous gravel mine related bills, and work in their own communities to amplify constituents' voices to protect our resources.



Conservation Votes That Count

The following votes are featured in 2009 legislative scores



SB 49, Establish energy efficiency standards for construction of state buildings

Sponsor: Sen. Wanzenried (D-Missoula)

This bill requires a minimum energy efficiency standard for new state buildings and state buildings undergoing major renovations. Supporters included the Montana Environmental Information Center.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Senate Vote: 2nd reading Feb. 10: 44Y/6N, 3rd reading Feb. 11: 45Y/5N

House Vote: 2nd reading Mar. 12: 69Y/31N, 3rd reading Mar. 13: 72Y/27N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate and House and was signed into law



SB 183, Void the state management plan for wolves

Sponsor: Sen. Balyeat (R-Bozeman)

SB 183 would have voided Montana's Wolf Conservation and Management Plan, already approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service – an essential

step before wolves are eligible to be removed from Endangered Species Act protections. Consequently, it would have caused the wolf-delisting program to grind to a halt and start over. Lead opponents included Montana Audubon, Montana Cattlemen's Association and Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The Montana Shooting Sports Association supported the bill.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 24: 23Y/27N

Bill Status: Died in the Senate



SB 200, Keep phosphorus out of our rivers and streams

Sponsor: Sen. Erickson, (D-Missoula)

Phosphorus is a naturally occurring element, and an important nutrient for a healthy ecosystem. But too much phosphorus in our rivers and streams results in heavy algal blooms that harm water quality. This bill bans phosphorus-containing household cleaning products in the Clark Fork River basin, and sets up a framework for other counties voluntarily do the same. Lead proponents included the Clark Fork Coalition and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

Conservation Community Position: Support

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 24: 33Y/17N, 3rd reading, Feb. 26: 34Y/15N

House Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 31: 56Y/44N, 3rd reading, Apr. 1: 61Y/39N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate and House and was signed into law



SB 217, Reimburse livestock producers for tests for disease transmitted by wildlife

Sponsor: Sen. Barrett (R-Dillon)

This bill would have required Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) to reimburse livestock producers for disease testing, a responsibility currently born by private producers. It included an \$18 million fiscal note, which would force the public to pay to benefit a select few private entities. Lead opponents included Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Montana Audubon and the Montana Wildlife Federation. The Montana Stockgrowers Association and Montana Farm Bureau supported the bill.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 25: 27Y/23N, 3rd reading, Mar. 26: 27Y/23N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate but died in the House

SB 257, Give large dam owners credit for routine

Conservation Votes That Count

The following votes are featured in 2009 legislative scores



upgrades, eliminating incentives for new renewable energy

Sponsor: Sen. Keane (D-Butte)

This bill would have destroyed the Renewable Energy Standard (SB 415, Tester, 2005), allowing the owners of large hydroelectric dams to count routine upgrades toward the requirements of the act. The bill would decrease statewide incentives to develop new renewable sources like wind power. Public Service Commissioner John Vincent, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Montana Environmental Information Center led the bill's opposition. Notable proponents included PPL Montana, the Montana Chamber of Commerce and the Montana Electric Cooperatives Association.

Conservation Community

Position: Oppose

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 23: 38Y/11N, 3rd reading, Mar. 24: 39Y/11N

House Vote: 2nd reading, Apr. 14 62Y/38N, 3rd reading, Apr. 15 57Y/43N

Bill Status: Passed by the House and Senate; vetoed by Governor Schweitzer May 9th, 2009



SB 257, Amendment- Increase the Renewable Energy Standard (RES)

Sponsor: Rep. Hands (D-Missoula)

This amendment would have increased the state's Renewable Energy Standard. Presently, Montana utilities must purchase 15% of their power from new renewable sources like wind by 2015. The amendment would increase the standard to 25% by 2025 to account for the "new renewable" energy created by upgrades to dams in SB 257, while providing incentives for development of wind, solar, biomass and geothermal resources. This amendment was intended to make SB 257 acceptable but it did not pass.

Conservation Community Position: Support

House Vote: Apr. 14 47Y/53N

Bill Status: Amendment failed



SB 402, Declare citizen-banned game farms eligible for "takings" payment

Sponsor: Sen. Peterson (R-Butte)

SB 402 would have defined "regulatory takings" under Montana law. Consequently, it would have overturned two Montana Supreme Court cases, requiring the state to pay game farm owners millions for activities banned by voters in an important citizen's initiative (I-143, 2000). The long line of opponents included the Montana Smart Growth Coalition, the State Auditor, Office of Public Instruction, Fish Wildlife and Parks and

the Department of Labor.

Proponents included the Montana Stockgrowers Association, United Property Owners of Montana, The Montana Chamber of Commerce, the Montana Association of Realtors and former Constitution party legislator Rick Jore.

Conservation Community

Position: Oppose

Senate Vote: 2nd reading,

Mar. 24: 31Y/19N, 3rd reading, Mar. 26: 32Y/18N

House Vote: Blast motion, Apr. 17: 49Y/49N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate but died in the House



SB 417, Diminish effectiveness of MEPA review

Sponsor: Sen. Keane (D-Butte)

This bill would have destroyed the Montana Environmental Policy Act, eliminating citizen's ability to sue under MEPA, and prohibiting agencies from using environmental review to inform agency decisions. Lead opponents included Fish Wildlife and Parks, Montana Audubon, and multiple conservation organizations. Proponents included various industry interests such as the

Conservation Votes That Count

The following votes are featured in 2009 legislative scores

Western Environmental Trade Association and the Montana Mining Association, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 21: 27Y/22N, 3rd reading, Feb. 23: 29Y/21N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate but died in the House



SB 435, Prohibit net gain in state land

Sponsor: Sen. Brenden (R-Scobey)

This bill would have prohibited a net gain in land ownership by the state.

This would disallow the state from purchasing new land for parks and access. Montana Audubon, Fish Wildlife and Parks and the Department of Natural Resources led a long line of opponents. United Property Owners of Montana supported the bill.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 24: 26Y/24N, 3rd reading, Mar. 26: 26Y/24N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate but died in the House



SB 440, Exempt air quality permits from MEPA review

Sponsor: Sen. Gebhardt (R-Roundup)

This bill would have exempted all air permits from compliance with MEPA, preventing adequate disclosure of the most significant impacts from a project to the public. Montana Audubon and the Montana Environmental Information Center led the opposition, while Southern Montana Electric Power Cooperative, backers of the Highwood Generation Station, supported the bill.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 24: 26Y/24N, 3rd reading, Feb. 25: 26Y/24N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate but died in the House

HB 361, Create energy improvement districts

Sponsor: Rep. Wiseman (D-Bozeman)

This bill would have authorized cities and counties to establish Energy Improvement Districts in order to make loans to property owners for energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades. Lead proponents included the Alternative Energy Resource Organization, the Governor's office, and various city and county elected officials. Opponents included Northwestern Energy and the Montana Electric Cooperatives Association.

Conservation Community Position: Support

House Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 28: 52Y/46N, 3rd reading, Mar. 30: 52Y/47N

Bill Status: Passed the House but died in the Senate



HB 420, Allow local government to adopt energy conservation building codes

conservation building codes

Sponsor: Rep. Reinhart (D-Missoula)

The bill allows local governments to establish voluntary, incentive-based energy conservation standards for new

construction. It increases the energy efficiency of housing for long-term residents and businesses, while supporting local efforts for energy efficiency and economic independence. Lead proponents included S.A.V.E, while the Montana Building Industry Association opposed the bill.

Conservation Community Position: Support

House Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 21: 75Y/22N, 3rd reading, Feb. 23: 65Y/34N

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 31 29Y/21N, 3rd reading, Apr. 1 32Y/18N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate and House and was signed into law

Conservation Votes That Count

The following votes are featured in 2009 legislative scores

HB 483, Hamper citizen review and appeal of energy development permits

Sponsor: Rep. Jones (R-Conrad)

This bill undermines the environmental permitting appeals process in Montana. As amended, the bill makes public challenge to agency decisions on permits for “energy development projects” more difficult, potentially imposing a bond to appeal. Lead opponents were the Montana Environmental Information Center, joined by numerous conservation groups and others. Proponents included Southern Montana Electric, the Montana Economic Developers Association and the Montana Chamber of Commerce.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

House Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 24: 71Y/28N, 3rd reading, Feb. 25: 68Y/32N

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 28: 28Y/20N, 3rd reading, Mar. 30: 30Y/20N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate and House, significantly improved by Governor Schweitzer’s amendments, signed into law



HB 566, Diminish effectiveness of MEPA review

Sponsor: Rep. Jones (R-Conrad)

Currently state agencies use the MEPA process to improve projects. This bill would eliminate their ability to incorporate important information gained in MEPA review and eliminate consequences for failure to comply with the act. Montana Audubon led opposition to the bill, while various industry groups like the Montana Chamber of Commerce supported it.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

House Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 24: 50Y/50N

Bill Status: Died in the House



HB 575, Redefine polluted coal bed methane water as “production water,”

Sponsor: Rep. McChesney (D-Miles City)

This bill would have reversed longstanding principles of Western water law, allowing the issuance of a permit for the use of water associated with coal bed methane production without providing protection to senior water rights holders. Northern Plains Resource Council led opposition, while Fidelity Gas Exploration and the Montana Stockgrowers Association supported it.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose

House Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 30: 59Y/41N, 3rd reading, Mar. 31: 56Y/44N

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Apr. 15: 30Y/20N, 3rd reading, Apr. 16: 30Y/20N

Bill Status: Passed the Senate and House, vetoed by the Governor on April 22, 2009

HB 584, Study a siting process for wind energy

Sponsor: Rep. Art Noonan (D-Butte)

This bill would have

required FWP to conduct an interim study to develop a voluntary wind generation certification program for wind facilities willing to minimize their impacts on wildlife, wildlife habitat, and cultural and historic resources. Montana Audubon and Fish, Wildlife and Parks led support for the bill, while a single Teton County Commissioner opposed it.

Conservation Community Position: Support

House Vote: 2nd reading, Feb. 24: 80Y/20N, 3rd reading, Feb. 25: 82Y/18N

Senate Vote: 2nd reading, Mar. 30: 25Y/25N

Bill Status: Passed the House but died in the Senate

2009 Senate Scores

"+" : Vote in support of MCV's position

"-" : Vote against MCV's position

"A" : Absent, excused or not voting, not counted in score

Scores in italics were earned in the House

Dist	Senator	City	Term limited in 2010 or 2012	Energy efficiency standards for constructing state buildings (2nd reading) Support	Eliminate state wolf management policy (2nd reading), Oppose	Improve water quality by reducing phosphorus (2nd reading), Support	Force FWP to pay for wildlife disease control (2nd reading), Oppose	Erodore RES by counting upgrades to dams (3rd reading), Oppose	Define state regulations as "regulatory takings" (2nd reading), Oppose
				SB 49	SB 183	SB 200	SB 217	SB 257	SB 402
20	Bales, Keith (R)	Otter	T	+	-	-	-	-	-
34	Balyeat, Joe (R)	Bozeman	T	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Barkus, Greg (R)	Kalispell	T	+	-	-	-	-	-
36	Barrett, Debby (R)	Dillon		+	-	-	-	-	-
14	Black, Jerry (R)	Shelby	T	+	-	-	-	-	-
27	Branæ, Gary (D)	Billings		+	+	+	+	-	+
18	Brenden, John (R)	Scobey		+	-	-	-	-	-
25	Brown, Roy (R)	Billings		+	-	-	-	-	-
22	Brown, Taylor (R)	Huntley		+	+	+	-	-	-
6	Brueggeman, John (R)	Polson	T	+	-	+	-	-	-
40	Cooney, Mike (D)	Helena	T	+	+	+	+	+	+
1	Curtiss, Aubyn (R)	Fortine	T	+	-	-	-	-	-
47	Erickson, Ron (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+	+
31	Esp, John (R)	Big Timber	T	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	Essmann, Jeff (R)	Billings		+	+	+	-	-	-
37	Gallus, Steven (D)	Butte	T	+	+	+	+	-	+
23	Gebhardt, Kelly (R)	Roundup	T	+	-	-	-	-	-
24	Gillan, Kim (D)	Billings	T	+	+	+	+	-	+
10	Hamlett, Bradley (D)	Cascade		+	-	+	+	-	-
17	Hansen, Ken (D)	Harlem	T	+	+	+	+	+	-
33	Hawks, Bob (D)	Bozeman	T	+	+	+	+	+	+
7	Hinkle, Greg (R)	T. Falls		-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Jackson, Verdell (R)	Kalispell		-	-	+	-	-	-
32	Jent, Larry (D)	Bozeman		+	+	+	+	+	+
8	Juneau, Carol (D)	Browning		+	+	+	+	-	+
41	Kaufmann, Christine (D)	Helena		+	+	+	+	+	+
38	Keane, Jim (D)	Butte		+	+	+	+	-	-
44	Laible, Rick (R)	Darby	T	+	+	+	-	-	-
50	Larsen, Cliff (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+	+
43	Laslovich, Jesse (D)	Anaconda	T	+	+	+	+	-	+
42	Lewis, Dave (R)	Helena		+	-	-	-	-	-
29	McGee, Daniel (R)	Laurel	T	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Moss, Lynda (D)	Billings	T	+	+	+	+	+	+
39	Murphy, Terry (R)	Cardwell		+	-	+	-	-	-
35	Perry, Gary (R)	Manhattan	T	+	-	+	-	-	-
15	Peterson, Jim (R)	Buffalo		+	-	-	-	-	-
9	Ripley, Rick (R)	Wolf Creek		+	-	-	-	-	-
11	Schmidt, Trudi (D)	Great Falls	T	+	+	+	+	-	+
45	Shockley, Jim (R)	Victor	T	+	-	+	-	-	-
48	Squires, Carolyn (D)	Missoula	T	+	+	+	+	+	+
19	Steinbeisser, Donald (R)	Sidney	T	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Stewart-Peregoy, Sharon (D)	Crow Agency		+	+	+	+	-	+
30	Story, Robert (R)	Park City	T	+	-	-	-	-	-
13	Tropila, Joe (D)	Great Falls	T	+	+	+	+	-	+
12	Tropila, Mitch (D)	Great Falls		+	+	+	+	-	+
3	Tutvedt, Bruce (R)	Kalispell		+	+	+	-	-	-
49	Wanzenried, Dave (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+	+
46	Williams, Carol (D)	Missoula	T	+	+	+	+	+	+
16	Windy Boy, Jonathan (D)	Box Elder		+	+	+	+	-	-
2	Zinke, Ryan (R)	Whitefish		+	+	+	-	-	-

Strip the Montana Environmental Policy Act (3rd reading), Oppose	Prohibit net gains in state lands (2nd reading), Oppose	Exempt air quality permits from MEPA (3rd reading), Oppose	Local energy conservation building codes (2nd reading), Support	Eliminate citizen participation in environmental appeals (2nd reading), Oppose	Jeopardize water of farmers and ranchers (3rd reading), Oppose	Study to create voluntary wind siting process (2nd reading), Support	Past Scores				Senator
							2009	2007	2005	2003	
SB 417	SB 435	SB 440	HB 420	HB 483	HB 575	HB 584					
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	18	0	0	Bales
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	8	15	Balyeat
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	9	8	6	Barkus
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	17	0	Barrett
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	36	17	13	Black
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	100	100	92	Branae
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	Brenden
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	18	17	7	Brown, R
-	-	-	-	-	+	-	31	-	-	-	Brown, T
+	-	-	+	+	-	-	38	45	25	0	Brueggeman
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100	Cooney
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	9	8	0	Curtiss
+	+	+	+	A	+	+	100	100	-	100	Erickson
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	18	8	6	Esp
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	27	33	-	Essmann
-	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	100	92	64	Gallus
-	-	-	-	-	-	+	15	18	17	0	Gebhardt
+	+	+	+	+	-	+	85	78	83	86	Gillan
+	+	+	+	-	+	+	69	-	-	-	Hamlet
+	+	+	+	+	-	-	77	91	100	88	Hansen
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Hawks
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Hinkle
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	15	9	0	0	Jackson
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	92	100	Jent
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	91	100	100	Juneau
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100	Kaufmann
-	+	-	+	-	-	+	54	46	67	71	Keane
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	60	25	0	Laible
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Larsen
+	+	+	+	+	-	+	85	91	92	79	Laslovich
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	55	25	7	Lewis
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	18	0	0	McGee
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Moss
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	23	27	-	-	Murphy
-	-	-	+	-	-	+	31	27	33	6	Perry
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	9	25	0	Peterson
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	0	17	0	Ripley
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	82	92	93	Schmidt
-	+	+	+	-	-	-	38	45	42	36	Shockley
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100	Squires
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	27	0	7	Steinbeisser
-	+	+	+	A	+	+	83	-	-	-	Stewart-Peregoy
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	18	8	6	Story
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	73	100	94	Tropila
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	82	-	-	Tropila
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	-	-	Tutvedt
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	91	100	100	Wanzenried
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Williams
-	+	+	+	+	+	+	77	100	92	100	Windy Boy
+	-	+	+	-	-	+	54	-	-	-	Zinke

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				HB 361	HB 420	HB 483	HB 566	HB 575
43	Ankney, Duane (R)	Colstrip		-	+	-	-	-
53	Arntzen, Elsie (R)	Billings		-	+	-	-	-
16	Augare, Shannon (D)	Browning		+	+	-	+	-
93	Barrett, Dick (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
17	Bean, Russell (R)	Augusta		-	-	-	-	-
6	Beck, Bill (R)	Whitefish		-	+	-	-	-
59	Beck, Paul (D)	Red Lodge		+	+	-	+	+
52	Becker, Arlene (D)	Billings	T	+	+	+	+	+
32	Belcourt, Tony (D)	Box Elder		+	+	-	+	+
1	Bennett, Gerald (R)	Libby		-	+	-	-	-
33	Bergren, Bob (D)	Havre	T	+	+	+	+	-
45	Berry, Tom (R)	Roundup		-	+	-	-	-
10	Blasdel, Mark (R)	Somers		-	-	-	-	-
21	Blewett, Anders (D)	Great Falls		+	+	+	+	+
23	Boland, Carlie (D)	Great Falls		+	+	+	+	+
61	Boniek, Joel (R)	Livingston		+	-	-	-	-
15	Boss Ribs, Frosty (D)	Heart Butte		+	+	+	+	+
3	Brown, Dee (R)	Hungry Horse	T	-	+	-	-	-
29	Butcher, Edward (R)	Winifred		-	A	-	-	-
80	Cafarro, Mary (D)	Helena		+	+	+	+	+
31	Campbell, Margaret (D)	Poplar		+	+	-	+	+
78	Cohenour, Jill (D)	East Helena	T	+	+	+	+	+
25	Dickenson, Sue (D)	Great Falls	T	+	+	+	+	+
51	Driscoll, Robyn (D)	Billings		+	+	+	+	+
62	Ebinger, Bob (D)	Livingston		+	+	+	+	+
12	Fleming, John (D)	Saint Ignatius		+	+	-	+	+
36	French, Julie (D)	Scobey		+	+	-	+	+
91	Furey, Tim (D)	Milltown		+	+	+	+	+
38	Getz, Dennis (D)	Glendive		+	+	-	+	+
44	Glaser, William (R)	Huntley		-	+	-	-	-
48	Grinde, Wanda (D)	Billings		+	+	+	+	+
92	Hamilton, Robin (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
99	Hands, Betsy (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
90	Hawk, Ray (R)	Florence	T	-	-	-	-	-
14	Hendrick, Gordon (R)	Superior		-	-	-	-	-
96	Henry, Teresa (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
47	Himmelberger, Dennis (R)	Billings	T	-	-	-	-	-
85	Hiner, Cynthia (D)	Deer Lodge		+	+	-	+	-
28	Hollandsworth, Roy (R)	Brady		-	+	-	-	-
81	Hollenbaugh, Galen (D)	Helena		+	+	+	+	+
24	Hoven, Brian (R)	Great Falls		-	+	-	-	-
60	Howard, David (R)	Park City		A	A	-	-	-
79	Hunter, Chuck (D)	Helena		+	+	+	+	+
13	Ingraham, Pat (R)	T. Falls		-	+	-	-	-
27	Jones, Llew (R)	Conrad		-	+	-	-	-
4	Jopek, Mike (D)	Whitefish		+	+	-	+	+
30	Kasten, Dave (R)	Brockway	T	A	-	-	-	-
58	Kerns, Krayton (R)	Laurel		-	-	-	-	-
83	Klock, Harry (R)	Harlowton		-	+	-	-	-
20	Kottel, Deborah (D)	Great Falls	T	+	+	+	+	+

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						2009	2007	2005	2003	
HB 584	SB 49	SB 200	SB 257	SB 257	SB 402	27	8	-	-	Ankney
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	0	25	-	Arntzen
+	+	+	+	-	A	70	92	-	-	Augare
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Barrett
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Bean
+	-	-	-	-	-	18	8	-	-	Beck, B
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	-	-	-	Beck, P
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	100	100	Becker
+	+	+	-	-	-	64	-	-	-	Belcourt
-	+	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	Bennet
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	92	92	57	Bergren
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	Berry
+	-	-	-	-	-	9	0	-	-	Blasdel
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Blewett
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Boland
-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	Boniek
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Boss Ribs
+	+	+	-	-	-	36	-	25	0	Brown
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	17	13	Butcher
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Cafferro
+	-	+	+	+	+	82	92	100	-	Campbell
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	93	Cohenour
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	100	100	Dickenson
+	+	+	+	-	+	91	100	100	-	Driscoll
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Ebinger
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	-	-	-	Fleming
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	100	-	-	French
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Furey
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	-	-	-	Getz
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	31	33	0	Glaser
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Grinde
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	100	-	Hamilton
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Hands
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0	0	Hawk
+	+	-	-	-	-	18	8	25	-	Hendrick
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	100	-	Henry
+	+	-	-	-	-	18	0	8	-	Himmelberger
+	+	+	+	-	+	73	77	92	-	Hiner
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	Hollandsworth
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Hollenbaugh
+	+	+	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	Hoven
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Howard
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Hunter
+	-	-	-	-	-	18	8	-	-	Ingraham
+	+	-	-	-	A	30	25	25	-	Jones
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	92	100	-	Jopek
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	7	Kasten
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	-	-	Kerns
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	8	36	-	Klock
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	-	-	Kottel

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				HB 361	HB 420	HB 483	HB 566	HB 575
88	Lake, Bob (R)	Hamilton	T	-	-	-	-	-
54	MacDonald, Margaret (D)	Billings		+	+	+	+	+
89	MacLaren, Gary (R)	Victor		-	+	-	-	-
98	Malek, Sue (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
94	McAlpin, Dave (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
40	McChesney, Bill (D)	Miles City		+	+	-	+	-
75	McClafferty, Edith (D)	Butte		+	+	-	+	+
50	McGillvray, Tom (R)	Billings		-	-	-	-	-
37	McNutt, Walter (R)	Sidney		-	+	-	-	-
26	Mehlhoff, Robert (D)	Great Falls		+	+	-	+	+
82	Menahan, Mike (D)	Helena		+	+	+	+	+
77	Mendenhall, Scott (R)	Clancy	T	-	-	-	-	-
19	Milburn, Mike (R)	Cascade		-	+	-	-	-
84	Miller, Mike (R)	Helmville		-	-	-	-	-
70	More, Michael (R)	Gallatin Gtwy.		-	-	-	-	-
57	Morgan, Penny (R)	Billings	T	-	-	-	-	-
74	Noonan, Art (D)	Butte		+	+	-	+	+
73	Noonan, Pat (D)	Ramsay		+	+	-	+	-
100	Nooney, Bill (R)	Missoula		-	+	-	-	-
18	O'Hara, Jesse (R)	Great Falls		-	+	-	-	-
42	Pease-Lopez, Carolyn (D)	Billings		+	+	-	+	+
46	Peterson, Ken (R)	Billings		-	+	-	-	-
66	Phillips, Mike (D)	Bozeman		+	+	-	+	+
63	Pomnichowski, JP (D)	Bozeman		+	+	+	+	+
39	Randall, Lee (R)	Broadus		-	-	-	-	-
5	Regier, Keith (R)	Kalispell		-	+	-	-	-
9	Reichner, Scott (R)	Bigfork		-	+	-	-	-
97	Reinhart, Michele (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
56	Roberts, Don (R)	Billings		-	+	-	-	-
41	Roundstone, J. David (D)	Busby		+	+	+	+	+
68	Sales, Scott (R)	Bozeman	T	-	-	-	-	-
95	Sands, Diane (D)	Missoula		+	+	+	+	+
76	Sesso, Jon (D)	Butte		+	+	-	+	-
55	Smith, Cary (R)	Billings		-	-	-	-	-
7	Sonju, Jon (R)	Kalispell		-	-	-	-	-
35	Stahl, Wayne (R)	Saco		+	A	-	-	-
8	Stenson, Cheryl (D)	Kalispell		+	+	+	+	+
87	Stoker, Ron (R)	Darby	T	-	-	-	-	-
11	Taylor, Janna (R)	Dayton		-	-	-	-	-
49	Van Dyk, Kendall (D)	Billings		+	+	+	+	+
67	Vance, Gordon (R)	Bozeman		-	+	-	-	-
86	Villa, Dan (D)	Anaconda		+	+	-	+	+
2	Vincent, Chas (R)	Libby		-	+	-	-	-
71	Wagner, Bob (R)	Harrison		-	+	-	-	-
34	Warburton, Wendy (R)	Havre		-	-	-	-	-
69	Washburn, Ted (R)	Bozeman		-	+	-	-	-
72	Welborn, Jeffrey (R)	Dillon		-	-	-	-	-
64	Wilmer, Franke (D)	Bozeman		+	+	+	+	+
22	Wilson, Bill (D)	Great Falls	T	+	+	+	+	+
65	Wiseman, Brady (D)	Bozeman		+	+	+	+	+

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						2009	2007	2005	2003	
HB 584	SB 49	SB 200	SB 257	SB 257	SB 402	0	15	8	0	Lake
-	-	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	MacDonald
+	+	+	+	+	+	18	25	50	-	MacLaren
+	-	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	Malek
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	McAlpin
+	+	+	+	+	+	82	54	-	-	McChesney
+	+	+	-	-	+	73	-	-	-	McClafferty
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	25	-	McGillvray
+	-	-	-	-	-	18	31	25	6	McNutt
+	+	+	+	-	+	82	-	-	-	Mehlhoff
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Menahan
-	+	-	-	-	-	9	0	8	7	Mendenhall
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	0	33	-	Milburn
+	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	Miller
+	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	More
-	+	-	-	-	-	9	0	9	0	Morgan
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	92	100	-	Noonan, A
+	+	+	-	-	+	64	-	-	-	Noonan, P
+	-	+	-	-	-	27	15	-	-	Nooney
+	+	+	-	-	-	36	15	-	-	O'Hara
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	-	-	-	Pease-Lopez
+	-	-	-	-	-	18	15	-	-	Peterson
+	+	+	+	+	+	91	92	-	-	Phillips
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Pomnichowski
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Randall
+	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	Regier
+	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	Reichner
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Reinhart
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	-	42	0	Roberts
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Roundstone
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	8	21	Sales
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	-	-	Sands
+	+	+	+	+	+	82	85	92	-	Sesso
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Smith
+	-	-	-	-	-	9	8	25	-	Sonju
-	-	+	-	+	-	30	8	42	-	Stahl
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Stenson
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	17	0	Stoker
-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	25	-	Taylor
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Van Dyk
-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	Vance
+	+	+	+	-	+	82	92	100	-	Villa
+	+	-	-	-	-	27	0	-	-	Vincent
-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	Wagner
+	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	Warburton
+	+	+	-	-	+	45	-	-	-	Washburn
+	+	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	Welborn
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Wilmer
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	92	92	100	Wilson
+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Wiseman

Energy Issues Take Center Stage

Renewable Energy Faced Legislative Challenges in 2009

In 2005, the 59th Legislature narrowly passed SB 415, Montana's Renewable Energy Standard, kicking off a new era of clean energy jobs in the Northern Rockies. The Renewable Energy Standard requires Montana's energy providers to obtain 15% of their total energy supply from new, clean, renewable resources like wind by the year 2015. **According to Gov. Schweitzer, the standard "has already spurred \$1 billion in investment in renewables in Montana.**

Green is good for business" (Time Magazine, January 14th, 2008).

We are right on target to meet the standard, and new wind farms are cropping up around rural Montana. **So why did the 61st Legislature jeopardize that \$1 billion industry?**

Part of the original challenge drafting the Renewable Energy Standard surrounded defining the resources that qualify as renewable. The bill was meant to provide incentives for new clean energy jobs in rural Montana while protecting our clean air and water. Parties agreed to exclude the state's current major hydropower resources to give sprouting industries the jump start necessary to get out of planning and into the building stage.

In 2009, the 61st Legislature risked it all by passing

SB 257 (Sen. Keane, D-Butte). Pennsylvania Power and Light (PPL) owns Montana's dams, and was the main proponent for the measure. SB 257 undermined the Renewable Energy Standard by counting routine upgrades to aging dams toward the standard. The bill applied retroactively to upgrades made to the Kerr Dam in Polson in 2005, and likewise gave credit for improvements firmly implanted in PPL's business plan for this and next year.

The result? If signed into law, Montana would have met the Standard, and state incentives for new, clean resources like wind power would evaporate.

True to his word, the Governor upheld his promises to promote and protect clean renewable energy jobs and vetoed SB 257.



Montanans who support development of new, clean energy resources should talk to legislators, and make it clear that Montana should protect its Renewable Energy Standard.

Furthermore, future legislation should increase the standard, to keep driving Montana away from the dirty energy of the past.

For deeper analysis of critically important issues like carbon sequestration, open space, the Montana Legacy Act and election law, please go to www.mtvoters.org.

Citizen Participation Under Fire

Some energy developers believe Montana's time-honored tradition of public involvement in environmental decision-making should be stymied.

Industry interests brought HB 483 (Rep. Llew Jones, R-Conrad) to the 61st Legislature in an apparent attempt to silence opposition to energy development at all costs. The House Energy Committee killed several similar measures, including SB 387 (Sen. Bales, R-Otter) and SB 288 (Sen. Hinkle, R-Trout Creek). In the end, Governor Schweitzer significantly improved the bill, amending it 37 times before signing it.

But why did Legislators pass the bill in its original form?

Initially, HB 483 essentially eliminated public oversight of state decisions on air and water permits, **instituting a pay-to-play system.** The bill would have required most citizens to post a bond of unlimited amount to appeal an environmental permit for an energy development project. Clearly, this would result in **a chilling effect on citizen participation, destroying government accountability to the public.**

Montana has one of the most efficient permitting systems in the nation. Out of the 3,616 environmental permits issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in 2008, only 3 were appealed. All three appeals in 2008 were filed by the facility seeking the permit, not citizens.

So why should we fight to protect the opportunity to appeal environmental permits?

Sometimes government makes mistakes.

In 2006, the DEQ issued an air permit to the new Hardin Coal Facility without a plan for mercury abatement. Coal-fired power plants are the leading source of human-caused mercury pollution, a powerful neuro-toxin. Three coal plant neighbors opposed the permit, and filed an appeal with technical assistance from Montana Environmental Information Center. Citizens won, and as a result, the plant installed the best available technology, protecting future generations from dangerous mercury. Interestingly, stakeholders negotiated controls that went well beyond what DEQ required in its permit decision.

The bottom line? Through the public appeals process, communities and energy facility sponsors can work together to protect public health and create jobs.



Conservationists asked Governor Schweitzer to veto HB 483, but agree his amendments make the bill less dangerous. The bill as amended still leaves room for the district court or the Board of Environmental Review (BER) to require citizens to pay a bond,

but only if the appeal is for "improper purpose," without a "reasonable basis in law or fact." This still unnecessarily gives greater discretion to the court or BER (a volunteer board appointed by the governor) that could damper legitimate citizen action in the future.

The very premise of the measure raises our hackles. **Citizens are charged with the responsibility to protect Montana's "clean and healthful environment," a right delineated in our state constitution, as well as private property and public health.**

For that matter, so is the Legislature.

Energy Committee Focus

Some of the most important debates and decisions surrounding clean air and water occur in legislative committees.

In 2009, much of this conversation percolated in the Senate and House Energy committees. Other committees, like Natural Resources, Local Government and Fish, Wildlife and Parks, considered conservation bills as well.

For additional committee analysis, please visit www.mtvoters.org.

House Energy Representative	HB 483	HB 529	HB 566	HB 584	HB 641	SB 257	SB 387	SB 417	SB 481
Augare, Shannon (D)	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Boland, Carlie (D)	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Driscoll, Robyn (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Jones, Lew (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Jopek, Mike (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Klock, Harry (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-
MacLaren, Gary (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Noonan, Art (D)	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
O'Hara Jesse (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Phillips, Mike (D)	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Regier, Keith (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Reichner, Scott (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Stahl, Wayne (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Wiseman, Brady (D)	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Senate Energy Senator	SB 66	SB 257	SB 387	HB 483	HB 529	HB 584
Black, Jerry (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtiss, Aubyn (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown, Roy (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erickson, Ron (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+
Esp, John (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gebhardt, Kelly (R)	-	-	-	-	-	+
Hawks, Bob (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lewis, Dave (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moss, Linda (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stewart-Peregoy, Shannon (D)	+	-	+	+	+	+
Tropila, Mtich (D)	+	-	+	+	+	+

HB 483, page 8.

HB 529, Reduce the required Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) review on energy projects that include school trust land, Rep. Jones (R-Conrad). This bill would have reduced the scope of environmental review on an energy development project that included school trust land.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose
Bill Status: Signed into law

HB 566, page 8.

HB 584, page 8.

HB 641, page 3.

SB 66, Establish carbon sequestration standards, Sen. Erickson (D-Missoula). This bill would have required the Board of Environmental Review to set carbon sequestration standards and regulations, assigned liability to the entity that stores the carbon, and established ownership of the underground "pore space" by the surface landowner.

Conservation Community Position: Support
Bill Status: Died in Senate Energy

SB 257, page 5.

SB 288, Require unlimited bond for appeals to natural resource permits, Sen. Hinkle (R-Thompson Falls).

This bill would have further weakened the ability of Montanans to protect private property from industrial activities that do not comply with state law, by forcing appellants to post a potentially unlimited bond.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose
Bill Status: Passed Senate Energy committee, Failed in House Judiciary

SB 387, Hamper citizen review and appeal of industrial development permits, Sen. Bales (D-Otter).

This bill was a more extreme version of HB 483, meant to limit citizens' ability to appeal environmental permits.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose
Bill Status: Passed the Senate, Died in House Energy

SB 417, page 6.

SB 481, Exempt economic stimulus projects from MEPA, Sen. Barkus (R-Kalispell). This measure may have encouraged projects paid for by federal stimulus resources to be exempt from public participation and proper environmental review.

Conservation Community Position: Oppose
Bill Status: Passed the Senate, Died in House Energy

Scorecard Snapshot

In the last 10 years, Montana Conservation Voters helped elect Montanans to the legislature from all walks of life who stand up for our outdoor heritage, and are committed to clean energy jobs. Thanks to our collective efforts, legislators are voting ten percent more frequently with the conservation and environmental community today (53%) than in 1999 (43%). **Ten percent in ten years means we've tipped the balance in favor of a healthier future for Montana.**



Celebrating the HB 190 bill signing, left to right: Governor Brian Schweitzer, Attorney General Steve Bullock and bill sponsor Rep. Kendall Van Dyk.

Legislature	2009	2007	2005	2003	2001	1999
Score Average	53	53	60	47	42	43
Democrat Average	92	91	96	85	85	83
Republican Average	15	15	21	8	13	17

Senate	2009	2007	2005	2003	2001	1999
Score Average	50	59	60	40	39	42
Democrat Average	90	89	94	78	76	82
Republican Average	15	26	19	13	15	20

By County (Senate)	2009	2007	2005	2003	2001	1999
Missoula	85	92	92	62	62	69
Cascade	71	73	85	71	61	64
Silver Bow	70	97	94	33	42	40
Gallatin	58	59	60	60	36	44
Yellowstone	49	48	61	28	27	27
Lewis and Clark	48	69	57	58	50	45
Ravalli	31	53	33	0	7	14
Flathead	28	34	30	6	10	27

House	2009	2007	2005	2003	2001	1999
Score Average	54	50	59	44	44	43
Democrat Average	93	92	92	88	89	83
Republican Average	15	9	22	5	12	15

By County (House)	2009	2007	2005	2003	2001	1999
Missoula	87	82	86	68	78	71
Silver Bow	78	71	88	61	72	51
Cascade	76	71	83	61	57	58
Lewis and Clark	61	59	66	55	44	49
Gallatin	57	52	45	41	40	39
Yellowstone	45	40	55	42	43	42
Flathead	33	27	38	16	12	20
Ravalli	5	16	19	9	25	25

Acknowledgements

We're especially thankful to the **Conservation Working Group** for their policy expertise and continued direct and grassroots lobby collaboration. Thank you to Alternative Energy Resource Organization/ Ben Brouwer and Linda Gryczan; Clark Fork Coalition/ Brianna Randall; Climate Solutions/ Beth Berlin; Montana Audubon/ Janet Ellis and intern Casey Perkins; Montana Environmental Information Center/ Anne Hedges, Jim Jensen, Kyla Wiens, and intern Allie Savage; Montana Trout Unlimited/ Mark Aagenes; Montana Public Interest Research Group/ Sheena Rice; Montana Sierra Club/ Bob Clark; Montana Smart Growth Coalition/ Tim Davis; the National Center for Appropriate Technology; Natural Resources Defense Council/ Chuck Magraw; and Northern Plains Resource Council/ Matt Leow and Julia Page. Thanks to the whole Montana Conservation Voters' staff, election law expert Jeanne Marie Souvigny, and legislative intern Kevin Olp.

Thank you to our many generous members and supporters who make our work possible.

Sarah Cobler, Program Director and Montana Conservation Voters Lobbyist



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2009 STATE LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

Know the Score

Montana Conservation Voters' 2009 State Legislative Scorecard shows how Montana legislators voted on key legislation affecting clean air, water and open spaces.

Who we elect matters! Use this scorecard to find out how your legislators voted.

- Thank those who worked to promote a clean energy future, and to protect our clean air and water, world-class fish and wildlife and healthy communities.
- Call on legislators who didn't support conservation to explain their votes – and hold them accountable. Get involved in recruiting candidates now for the 2010 elections.
- While the scorecard is a reliable indicator of where legislators stand, the numbers alone do not recognize the long hours and dedication of many legislators who fight for Montanans. Thank you!

Help us elect Montanans to protect clean air, water and open space.

Visit www.mtvoters.org

and make a contribution today!