

An aerial photograph of a river system. A large, dark blue river flows from the top left towards the bottom right. In the upper left, a long, narrow island covered in dense green trees extends into the water. In the lower left, a flooded area shows a mix of green trees and brown, muddy water. Several power lines with wooden poles cross the flooded area. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and human infrastructure.

2018 **Legislative Scorecard**

of North Carolina

North Carolina League of



CONSERVATION VOTERS

2018

**Legislative
Scorecard**

of North Carolina

Table of Contents

6	—————	The 2017 Long Session
10	—————	The 2018 Short Session
14	—————	GenX Timeline
17	—————	Vote Descriptions
21	—————	Scorecard
32	—————	Adversaries & Allies
34	—————	Governor's Scorecard
36	—————	Constitutional Amendments
37	—————	What to Do Now



Message *from* Our Director

Dear Conservation Voter,

This is the first time in NCLCV history in which our Legislative Scorecard features the Story of the Biennium: an overview of the 2017 long session hand in hand with the 2018 short session. In doing so, we have created a comprehensive evaluation of the 2017-18 General Assembly's legislative activity regarding environmental issues.

The 2017-18 General Assembly was confronted with a wide variety of critical environmental challenges, but it created more problems than it solved.

First and foremost, the General Assembly still has yet to adequately address GenX and other emerging contaminants. We have watched our elected officials sit idly by for over a year now, as chemically contaminated water continues to keep thousands of North Carolinians from drinking the water that comes out of their tap. In the face of a public health emergency, legislators did not seize the opportunity to come together as fellow North Carolinians. Instead, they desperately clung to their ideologies—their differences—and failed to provide one of our citizens' most basic needs—clean water—when people needed it most.

Although the GenX crisis took center stage over the biennium, we hope this holistic approach to the Legislative Scorecard can shed light on the unacceptable anti-environmental legislation that flew under the radar, including the appeasement of multinational corporate hog polluters in our rural communities, the sabotage of wind energy investments, and the continued

environmental protection rollbacks. Indeed, the legislative biennium as a whole was a full-frontal assault on our environment.

Despite the actions (and inactions) of the 2017-18 General Assembly, NCLCV remains hopeful about the future of conservation in North Carolina. With a record number of candidates in the 2018 general election, and your support at the polls, we are confident that the number of pro-environmental legislators in the General Assembly will only continue to grow. This November also brings the retirement of a number of anti-environmental legislators, granting us a unique opportunity to fill the General Assembly's roster with a new crop of environmental champions who will form a Green Caucus dedicated to putting people before polluters.



Beyond the voting booth, we must be active in our communities to ensure that environmental protections are legislators' top priorities. Use your voice as an instrument for change; if you disapprove of your legislators' environmental records, let them know. Ask your candidates where they stand on environmental issues. Together, through broader civic engagement, we can help build a healthier North Carolina by electing public servants who will fight for clean water, clean air, and clean energy.

Sincerely,

Carrie Clark

Executive Director

North Carolina League of Conservation Voters

THE 2017 LONG SESSION

Poison Pills
and Poisoned Water





Expanding Solar

at the Expense of Wind

During the 2017 long session, the General Assembly unveiled House Bill 589, “Competitive Energy Solutions for NC.” The bill was crafted from nearly a year of intensive negotiations between competing interests in the energy sphere. Lawmakers sought input from a wide variety of stakeholders, including utility executives, solar companies, and environmental organizations. As the bill approached its final stages, however, lawmakers slammed the door shut on discussion.

House Bill 589 was designed to boost North Carolina’s already thriving solar industry by implementing a competitive bidding process for solar developers and expanding rooftop solar initiatives. Yet what was originally strictly a solar measure quickly turned highly contentious after Senate Majority Leader Harry Brown inserted a provision to place an 18-month moratorium on wind energy projects across the state.

Governor Cooper was appalled by Senator Brown’s actions, saying, “The bill is critical for the future of significant increases in our already booming solar industry. I strongly oppose the ugly, last-minute, politically motivated wind moratorium. However, this fragile and hard fought solar deal will be lost if I veto this legislation and that veto is sustained.”¹

Governor Cooper ultimately opted to sign the bill into law. However, in an attempt to alleviate the effects of the moratorium, he immediately signed Executive Order 11, requiring the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to continue the permitting and application process for wind energy projects, so that wind facilities can be brought online as quickly as possible after the moratorium ends. The moratorium is set to expire at the end of 2018, yet unfortunately, there have already been indications that the General Assembly could move to extend it. 🍌



Failure to Act on GenX?

The legislative biennium coincided with one of North Carolina's most pressing environmental emergencies in years: GenX. When the *Wilmington StarNews* first reported the toxic contamination of the Cape Fear River, North Carolinians were shocked, and wanted swift action.

And how did the General Assembly respond? It didn't.

Legislators are still struggling to adequately address the growing threat of irreversible GenX damage. While documented GenX discharge into the Cape Fear watershed has occurred since the 1980s, scientists have since proven that GenX and related chemicals are not only toxic, but are also persistent in our environment, meaning they can contaminate water sources far from their initial point of entry and remain there for years.

Despite being faced with a serious environmental and public health issue, legislators dealt our environment additional blows through rollbacks in environmental protections near the coast (see House Bill 56) and budget cuts to DEQ and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). These unacceptable actions

occurred while tens of thousands of North Carolinians continue to drink water contaminated with a chemical which has been shown to increase cancer risks, liver problems, and other health defects in lab animals.² GenX's long-term health effects in humans is currently unknown, but the National Institute for Public Health in the Netherlands analyzed the animal research on GenX, and concluded that categorizing GenX as a suspected human carcinogen is justified.³ These are real health problems affecting real people.

Moreover, this crisis comes on the heels of nearly a decade of drastic cuts to DEQ and DHHS budgets. These cuts resulted in 70 lost jobs,⁴ in conjunction with ongoing and aggressive regulatory rollbacks, undermining our state agencies' ability to test for these and other pollutants, and to enforce rules protecting us from them.

As the legislature stalls, GenX continues to erode our quality of life. **It's not only present in our drinking water, but in our rain and in our wildlife.**⁵ Similar contaminants are being identified in more places that will further stretch limited DEQ resources as the General Assembly fails in its responsibility to protect North Carolinians. 🍌

“
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It didn't.
”



² "Timeline: GenX Study Results." <https://www.lamblawoffice.com/genx-timeline-study-results/> ³ Wagner, Adam. "New Hanover, Wilmington officials to meet with Chemours over GenX." *Wilmington StarNews*. June 10, 2017. ⁴ Doran, Will. "As NC pollution concerns grow, so do environmental budget cuts." *News & Observer*. September 22, 2017. ⁵ "Preliminary PFAs Study in a Man-Made Lake." *Department of Environmental Quality*. June 18, 2018. <https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/GenX/SAB/NCDEQ%20Man-made%20Lake%20Preliminary%20PFAS%20Study.pdf>

THE 2018 SHORT SESSION

Shutting the People Out,
Handing the Keys to Corporate Polluters





Photo credit:
Waterkeeper Alliance

A Broken Process

Leads to Broken Promises

The budget bill, SB 99, was the landmark piece of legislation passed during the 2018 short session. The budget was an opportunity to address critical issues facing North Carolina, including GenX, teachers' wages, and health-care. Yet somehow, the General Assembly managed to find an avenue to put politics over people.

The House and Senate leadership decided to utilize a rare procedural process to pass the budget, drafting it as a conference committee report attached to a pre-existing bill. Conference committee reports do not allow members to offer any amendments, even to fix clerical errors. This process was highly irregular and contentious, as it shut the vast majority of the General Assembly out of the budget-making process, and excluded public input outright.

Legislators were furious. House Minority Leader Darren Jackson said he was “unaware of any instance in modern North Carolina history where the state budget was amended via a process that did not allow for committee consideration, committee amendments, and floor amendments.”⁶

The budget ultimately passed both chambers easily, surviving a veto by Governor Cooper. Despite publicly promising to deal with GenX, the budget allocated \$12.2 million less to DEQ than did the governor's proposed budget,⁷ hamstringing the agency's ability to test for GenX and enforce the law. The budget also diverted significant research funds to the Policy Collaboratory at UNC-Chapel Hill, which the General Assembly created in 2016. The collaboratory does not possess the regulatory authority to require Chemours to clean up the Cape Fear River. This could set DEQ back significantly in its efforts to contain GenX and other contaminants, while citizens rightly worry about the safety of their drinking water.

The toxicity of the budget process was fundamentally undemocratic. Coupled with a failure to prioritize our environment and public health, the General Assembly acted against the best interest of North Carolina's citizens. 🌱

Hog Polluters

Get a Sweetheart Deal

Dating back to 2014, North Carolinians have filed 26 nuisance lawsuits against Murphy-Brown, a subsidiary of the world's largest pork producer, Virginia-based Smithfield Foods, which is itself owned by a Chinese company,

WH Group. Murphy-Brown's waste management practices make living conditions unbearable for those who live near their factory farms, many of whom lived on their property long before the farms set up shop next door. In addition to attracting buzzards and flies, the foul odor from manure lagoons and spray fields pervade neighbors' homes so strongly that some cannot even venture outside, many suffer ill health effects, and most see their property values decline.

This summer, the General Assembly passed Senate

Bill 711, the “NC Farm Act of 2018,” which put global hog corporations’ interests over constituents’ property rights. The Farm Act restricts citizens’ ability to file nuisance suits so tightly, they have become almost impossible to file. By stripping people of their right to take legal action, the General Assembly subjects rural North Carolinians to living in these unbearable conditions.

Under the new law, nuisance suits can only be filed within a year of a farm operation being established, or if the operation undergoes a “fundamental change”⁸—which does not include changes in ownership, technology, product, or size. Essentially, **any hog farm that has operated with consistent waste management practices (no matter how dangerous) for over a year will become untouchable.** Additionally, even if a case can be made to file a nuisance suit, **punitive damages can only be recovered if the farm operator has been previously criminally convicted or has received a regulatory notice of violation of state farm laws,**⁹ both of which are extremely rare. Rural North Carolinians are being forced to watch their health, quality of life, and property values diminish.

As previously filed nuisance cases are finally reaching their long-awaited conclusions, it is evident that the

courts are siding with the people of North Carolina over polluters’ profits. On April 28, 2018, one jury ruled that Murphy-Brown must pay \$50 million to 10 families in Bladen County. In June, another couple was awarded \$25 million. More recently, a jury awarded six plaintiffs a whopping \$473.5 million in damages. Unfortunately, the compensation packages will be reduced to \$3.25 million, \$630,000, and \$94 million, respectively, due to state law.¹⁰

Despite these verdicts, legislators continue to ridicule the lawsuits, dismissing them as “frivolous.”¹¹ Proponents of the Farm Act falsely claim the bill is designed to protect small farmers. But Murphy-Brown, the corporation which owns the pigs, is the defendant in all the cases, not their contract farmers; the policies and practices under scrutiny are solely the responsibility of Murphy-Brown and its parent company.

The General Assembly’s actions during the 2017-18 biennium revealed their true priorities regarding hog pollution—protecting powerful polluters’ profits instead of people. The General Assembly abdicated its responsibility to its constituents by kowtowing to big-money interests and not putting the people of North Carolina first. 🌱



⁸ Senate Bill 711: NC Farm Act of 2018. ⁹ Ibid. ¹⁰ Bauerlein, Valerie. “Smithfield Foods Ordered to Pay North Carolina Residents Near Hog Farms.” *The Wall Street Journal*. August 4, 2018. ¹¹ Sorg, Lisa. “State lawmakers moving suddenly and swiftly to shut down nuisance suits against industrial hog farms.” *NC Policy Watch*. June 6, 2018.

GenX Timeline ^{12, 13, 14}

DuPont has been discharging the chemical which is now known as GenX as a byproduct of one of its manufacturing processes since the 1980s.

2002

DuPont settles a water contamination suit with the EPA, as negative health effects emerge in West Virginia and Ohio stemming from the company's discharge of PFOAs in drinking water.

2005

1980's

Oct

DuPont starts producing PFOA at its Fayetteville Works facility adjacent to the Cape Fear River. PFOA was a precursor to GenX, and lawsuits uncovered DuPont was aware of the chemical's health risks, including increased testicular, pancreatic, and liver cancer in lab animals.

2004

DuPont pays the EPA for its multiple failures to report information about substantial risk of injury to human health and the environment from PFOAs.

Nov 16

State officials move to revoke a key portion of Chemours' wastewater permit, limiting its ability to discharge GenX into the Cape Fear river.

Oct 17

The number of residential wells with levels of GenX above the state health goal rises to 35.

Sep 21

DEQ finds 11 residential wells have drinking water with GenX levels above the state health goal of 140 ppt.

Jun 18

GenX discovered in fish in a man-made lake near the Chemours plant.

Dec 13

The number of residential wells with levels of GenX above the state health goal **rises to 115.**

Nov 3

The number of residential wells with levels of GenX above the state health goal rises to 50.

Oct 6

Chemours fails to report a chemical spill of a GenX precursor, which rainwater washed into the Cape Fear River.

Aug

DEQ and DHHS leaders request an additional \$2.6 million in funding to address the GenX problem. **Senate leadership sends a series of questions to Governor Cooper in response to the request for additional funding.** Along party lines, the General Assembly approves only \$435,000 to study and monitor GenX, and ties it to a repeal of a coastal plastic bag ban.

2018

¹² "Timeline: Tracking GenX contamination in NC." *WRAL*. August 17, 2017. Updated July 17, 2018. ¹³ Mackinson, India. "GenX -- An Interactive Timeline." *North Carolina Health News*. July 5, 2018.

¹⁴ "Timelines." *Clean Cape Fear*. <https://www.cleancapefear.org/new-page-3/>

DuPont agrees to phase out PFOAs by 2015, replacing them with GenX. In an agreement with the EPA—the Toxic Substances Control Act—DuPont is required to prevent GenX from escaping from any manufacturing processes with “99 percent efficiency.”

2012

Chemours is spun off from DuPont.

2009

GenX is discovered in the Cape Fear River, and findings are published in the coming years.

2015

2016

NC State Professor Detlef Knappe publishes findings of Cape Fear River contamination, confirming the presence of GenX and six other unknown fluorochemicals. GenX is present in the river at more than nine times the EPA lifetime advisory limit. The paper also finds that GenX is resistant to standard water cleaning treatments.

2017

Jul

DHHS lowers a health limit for GenX levels in drinking water by 99.8% —from 70,909 parts per trillion (ppt) to 140 ppt.

Jul

A DEQ site inspection finds **Chemours is still discharging GenX.** The EPA begins an investigation into whether Chemours complied with the Toxic Substances Control Act.

Jul

Governor Cooper directs the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to determine whether a criminal investigation of Chemours’ actions is necessary, and says that the state will deny the company’s permit request to release GenX.

Jun

Chemours announces it will stop discharging GenX. The EPA announces an investigation into Chemours for compliance with the Toxic Substances Control Act. GenX is detected in Wilmington drinking water; the substance was present in the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority’s municipal water supply as early as 2012. **Neither local utilities nor the state government publicized these findings.**

How *Did the* General Assembly Respond to GenX?

In August 2017, DEQ, DHHS, and Governor Cooper asked the General Assembly for \$2.6 million in emergency funding to take immediate action on GenX. In response, Senate leadership wrote a letter to Governor Cooper questioning whether “any additional appropriations would make a meaningful difference in water quality and public safety in the Cape Fear region.”¹⁵ The letter was a blatantly political response to a serious health and public safety issue.

Instead, lawmakers passed House Bill 56, “Amend Environmental Laws” -- a bill which allocated \$185,000 in funding to the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority (CFPUA) and \$250,000 to UNC Wilmington. The General Assembly punished DEQ by neglecting its modest request of \$2.6 million, and instead allocated limited funds towards CFPUA -- an organization that knew about the GenX crisis, and had previously failed to inform DEQ. Neither organization that received funding is able to take regulatory action regarding this issue, thereby prolonging the amount of time it will take to clean the Cape Fear River Basin.

The bill also repealed the plastic bag ban in the Outer Banks, eased regulations on landfills, and allowed law enforcement to reduce riparian buffers.


Senators introduced another piece of pitiful legislation to address GenX, titled SB 724, “The Water Safety Act.” This bill once again **demonstrated the legislature’s inability to work cohesively to address a pressing nonpartisan issue.** SB 724 would have only made cleaning the Cape Fear more difficult by making DEQ’s actions entirely dependent on an administrative order from Governor Cooper. A *Fayetteville Observer* editorial blasted Senators Michael Lee, Wesley Meredith, and Bill Rabon for introducing SB 724 and putting “deregulation mania ahead of public safety.”¹⁶ The

editorial continued, claiming “**if they don’t know how badly their legislation can frustrate efforts to stop the pollution, determine its health effects and clean it up, shame on them. If they don’t understand what they’re doing, shame on them too.**”¹⁷ Thankfully, SB 724 failed to advance past a first committee hearing.

In a budget proposal of his own, Governor Cooper proposed a \$14.5 million increase in DEQ funding to address GenX and other emerging contaminants. If appropriated, this would have created nearly 50 new DEQ jobs conducting field work, testing and evaluating water samples, and administering health advice to those affected by water contamination.

However, the General Assembly’s adopted budget drastically underfunded DEQ and DHHS, **despite over a year of urgent requests for additional funding to address GenX.** As a result, both agencies will struggle to resolve the current crisis, identify human health risks, or identify new emerging contaminants and their sources. Along with the limited DEQ and DHHS funding, SB 99 included many GenX provisions similar to SB 724’s inadequate approach.

SB 99 also limited the scope of GenX research. The funds can only be used to investigate water contamination from known PFOAs; therefore, **they cannot be used to identify any other unregulated contaminants in our water systems.** Representative Deb Butler criticized her colleagues, arguing that legislators were knowingly taking the “ignorance is bliss”¹⁸ approach by neglecting to identify other potential contaminants.

At the end of both the 2017 long session and 2018 short session, legislators failed to pass any meaningful legislation to resolve GenX. Meanwhile, constituents continue to worry about the quality of their water and the potential health impacts for their families over the long term. 

An aerial photograph showing a flooded area. In the foreground, two long, low-profile industrial buildings with corrugated metal roofs are partially submerged in murky water. In the background, several houses with red roofs are surrounded by water, with trees and other structures visible. The water is a dark, muddy brown color. The overall scene depicts significant flooding in a residential and industrial area.

PUTTING PEOPLE BEFORE POLLUTERS?

Vote descriptions from the
2017-18 General Assembly

Photo credit: Waterkeeper Alliance

House Votes

- Pro-conservation
- Anti-conservation

[H1] SB 131 Third Reading

Regulatory Reform Bill of 2017

Among a list of regulatory changes, the bill extended the length of a stream which developers can damage without paying a fine, increasing the chances of mudslides. More importantly, the bill also reduced the penalty for exceeding damage restrictions.

Passed 3rd Reading 84-27

[H2] HB 467 Third Reading

Agriculture & Forestry Nuisance Remedies of 2017

The “Pork Polluter Protection Act” limited the amount of money property owners can collect in nuisance lawsuits against agriculture corporations.

Passed 3rd Reading 68-47

[H3] HB 576 Second Reading

Allow Aerosolization of Leachate of 2017

The “garbage juice” bill would have allowed landfills to dispose of leachate by spraying it over their property without a permit.

Passed 2nd Reading 75-45

[H4] HB 589 Conference Report Adoption

Competitive Energy Solutions for NC of 2017

Although this bill was designed to boost solar energy, it also included an 18-month moratorium on wind energy projects.

Passed Conference Committee Concurrence 66-41

[H5] SB 257 Third Reading

Appropriations Act of 2017

The 2017 budget bill featured several cuts in appropriations for environmental protection. It also included special provisions that could have lasting environmental effects.

Passed 3rd Reading 80-31

[H6] SB 257 Amendment 16 Harrison Second Reading

Appropriations Act of 2017

This amendment would have reinstated the Jordan Lake Rules to begin cleaning up contaminants in the lake.

Amendment Failed 40-74

[H7] HB 374 Veto Override

Business Freedom Act of 2018

HB 374 restricted who can challenge environmental permits from anyone harmed by the permitted activity to anyone who previously submitted public comments, and relaxed requirements on coal ash recycling.

Passed Veto Override 75-44

[H8] SB 711 Amendment 8 Blust Second Reading

NC Farm Act of 2018

This amendment would have eliminated the provision that places strict limits on compensation from nuisance lawsuits.

Amendment Failed 48-65

[H9] SB 711 Third Reading

NC Farm Act of 2018

The Farm Act made it almost impossible to file nuisance lawsuits against hog corporations, and strictly limited the compensation a successful plaintiff can receive.

Passed 3rd Reading 65-42

[H10] SB 711 Veto Override

NC Farm Act of 2018

See above.

Passed Veto Override 74-45

[H11] SB 99 Veto Override

Appropriations Act of 2018

The \$23.9 billion budget bill left DEQ without sufficient funding to address GenX and other emerging contaminants, and delayed the implementation of the Jordan Lake Rules once again.

Passed 3rd Reading 73-44

Senate Votes

■ Pro-conservation

■ Anti-conservation

[S1] SB 434 Second Reading

Amend Environmental Laws 2 of 2017

This bill is similar to House Bill 56; it permitted the reduction of riparian buffers, repealed the coastal plastic bag ban, and continued delaying appropriate action on Jordan and Falls Lake water quality.

Passed 2nd Reading 31-17

[S2] SB 131 Conference Report Motion 8 to Adopt Second Reading

Regulatory Reform Bill of 2017

The Regulatory Reform bill addressed stream mitigation; allowed developers to damage more of a stream without being fined, thus increasing risk of stream bed loss; eliminated requirements for 10 different environmental reports; and reduced regulation of motor vehicle emissions.

Passed Conference Report 35-14

[S3] HB 467 Second Reading

Agriculture & Forestry Nuisance Remedies of 2017

This bill limited the amount of money property owners can collect in a nuisance lawsuit against agricultural and forestry corporations, effectively barring citizens from receiving appropriate settlements for their complaints.

Passed 2nd Reading 30-19

[S4] HB 576 Second Reading

Allow Aerosolization of Leachate of 2017

This “garbage juice” bill relaxed landfill leachate disposal regulations; it recategorized leachate as insignificant air contamination, and allowed the spraying of leachate without a permit.

Passed 2nd Reading 29-14

[S5] HB 589 Adoption Conference Report

Competitive Energy Solutions for NC of 2017

While this bill was intended to increase solar energy opportunities in the state, it also tacked on an 18-month wind farm moratorium, limiting wind energy expansion.

Passed Conference Report 36-4

[S6] SB 257 Third Reading

Appropriations Act of 2017

The 2017 budget bill featured cuts in appropriations for environmental protection, including an 18% decrease in funding for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, and slashed DEQ funding.

Passed 3rd Reading 32-15

[S7] HB 56 Second Reading

Amend Environmental Laws of 2017

Besides reinforcing legislation to repeal the coastal plastic bag ban, this bill also limited the necessary response measures for GenX contamination in the Cape Fear watershed, and needlessly allocated funding away from cleanup measures.

Passed 2nd Reading 33-15

[S8] HB 374 Motion 11 Veto Override

Regulatory Reform Act of 2018

This bill had several sections, but was ultimately vetoed because it ended some pollution protections in our coastal communities.

Passed Veto Override 34-11

Senate Votes

- Pro-conservation
- Anti-conservation

[S9] SB 711 Third Reading

NC Farm Act of 2018

The Farm Act made it almost impossible to file nuisance lawsuits against hog corporations, and strictly limited the amount of compensation a successful plaintiff can receive.

Passed 3rd reading 33-13

[S10] SB 711 Veto Override

NC Farm Act of 2018

See above.

Passed Veto override 37-9

[S11] SB 99 Motion 11 Veto Override

Appropriations Act of 2018

Legislators' budget bill ignored the governor's proposed budget. Instead, they rolled back environmental regulation, diverted money from GenX cleanup and research and from DEQ generally, while further delaying Jordan Lake Rules implementation.

Passed Veto override 34-13



Photo credit:
Waterkeeper Alliance



How to Read the Scorecard

NCLCV's Legislative Scorecard records members' votes on selected bills for the 2017-2018 legislative biennium, and details votes on bills and amendments which we believe to have the most significant environmental impacts.

This is the first time the Scorecard covers the entire legislative biennium. We chose to score 11 Senate votes and 11 House votes. This marks a sharp increase in the number of environmental bills that moved through the General Assembly compared to the 2016 session. Unfortunately, this does not mean these bills contain environmentally sound provisions, as legislators once again focused on cutting regulations and making it easier to pollute, with predictably disastrous environmental consequences.

Hallmarks of this biennium include the failure to adequately address GenX, the detrimental Farm Act, the continued assault on sound environmental protections, and the dismantling of our state agencies tasked with the protection of the environment and our public health.

As you delve into our 2017-2018 Scorecard, we encourage you to pay close attention to legislators' lifetime scores, and keep in mind that, although legislators' votes remain an important part of environmental stewardship, many other tools exist to evaluate legislators. The Scorecard presents crucial information, but cannot represent the full complexity of what it takes to be an environmental champion.

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

2017-18 By the Numbers

Number of legislators who scored...

0%: **83**

10% and Below: **96**

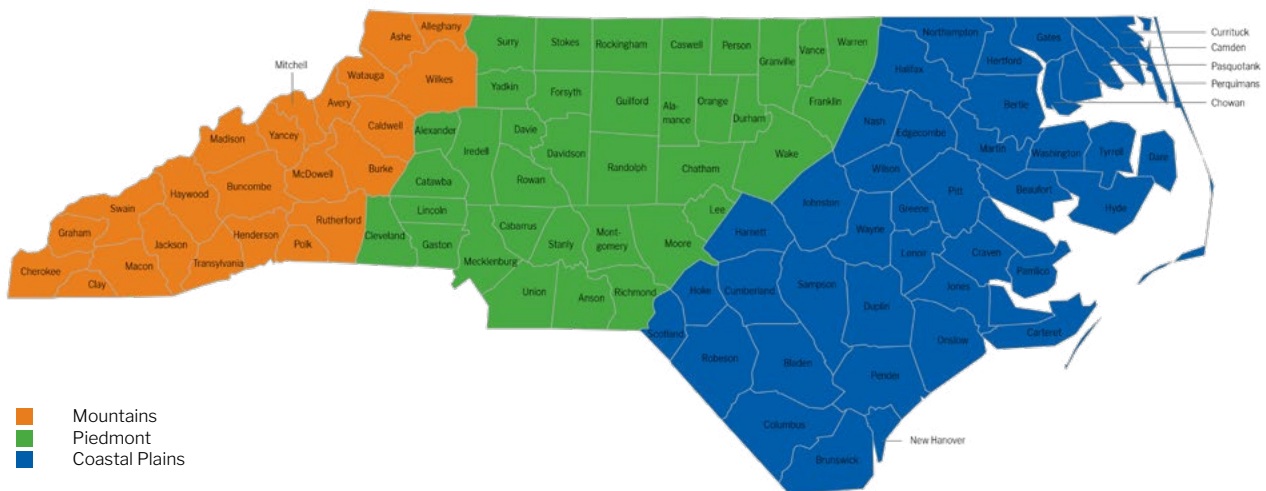
90% and Above: **39**

100%: **31**

Average Scores Over Time

	2007-08	2009-10	2011-12	2013-14	2015-16	2017-18	Lifetime
House Democrats	76%	81%	81%	81%	79%	86%	87%
House Republicans	57%	51%	13%	6%	7%	6%	10%
Senate Democrats	74%	76%	63%	74%	79%	91%	83%
Senate Republicans	51%	58%	12%	2%	0%	3%	8%
Total House Average	67%	67%	47%	44%	34%	36%	39%
Total Senate Average	66%	69%	37%	38%	27%	30%	31%

Scorecard Organized by Regions



HOUSE
Mountains



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #
Zachary, Lee	Alexander, Wilkes, Yadkin	R	73	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	10	5
Elmore, Jeffrey	Alleghany, Wilkes	R	94	E	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Jordan, Jonathan	Ashe, Watauga	R	93	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	18	13
Dobson, Josh	Avery, McDowell, Mitchell	R	85	X	X	X	✓	E	X	X	X	X	X	E	11	9	13
Ager, John	Buncombe	D	115	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Fisher, Susan	Buncombe	D	114	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	96
Turner, Brian	Buncombe	D	116	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Blackwell, Hugh	Burke	R	86	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	E	✓	X	40	9	23
Rogers, David	Burke, Rutherford	R	112	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Hall, Destin	Caldwell	R	87	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	18	NA	18
Corbin, Kevin	Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon	R	120	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Clampitt, Mike	Haywood, Jackson, Swain	R	119	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Presnell, Michelle	Haywood, Madison, Yancey	R	118	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
McGrady, Chuck	Henderson	R	117	X	X	✓	✓	X	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	55	44	59
Henson, Cody	Henderson, Polk, Transylvania	R	113	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	18	NA	18
Stevens, Sarah	Surry, Wilkes	R	90	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	11	14

Key

✓ Pro-conservation
X Anti-conservation

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

Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by county, then last name

HOUSE
Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #
Riddell, Dennis	Alamance	R	64	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Ross, Stephen	Alamance	R	63	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	3
Zachary, Lee	Alexander, Wilkes, Yadkin	R	73	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	10	5
Brody, Mark	Anson, Union	R	55	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	5
Johnson, Linda	Cabarrus	R	83	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	0	9	36
Pittman, Larry	Cabarrus	R	82	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	9
Ford, Carl	Cabarrus, Rowan	R	76	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	5
Jones, Bert	Caswell, Rockingham	R	65	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	0	0	5
Adams, Jay	Catawba	R	96	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	0	9	5
Setzer, Mitchell	Catawba	R	89	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	18	18	34
Reives, Robert	Chatham, Lee	D	54	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	91
Moore, Tim	Cleveland	R	111	NV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	24
Hastings, Kelly	Cleveland, Gaston	R	110	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	4
Potts, Larry	Davidson	R	81	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Watford, Sam	Davidson	R	80	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	5
Howard, Julia	Davie, Forsyth	R	79	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	18	10	40
Black, Mary Ann	Durham	D	29	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Michaux, Mickey	Durham	D	31	X	✓	X	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	73	73	80
Morey, Marcia	Durham	D	30	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Meyer, Graig	Durham, Orange	D	50	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	90	94
Conrad, Debra	Forsyth	R	74	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	3
Hanes, Edward	Forsyth	D	72	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	55	82	72
Lambeth, Donny	Forsyth	R	75	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Terry, Evelyn	Forsyth	D	71	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	98

Key

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HOUSE
Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #
Collins, Jeff	Franklin, Nash	R	25	X	X	X	✓	NV	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	5
Richardson, Bobbie	Franklin, Nash	D	7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	95
Bumgardner, Dana	Gaston	R	109	E	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	30	0	8
Torbett, John	Gaston	R	108	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	6
Yarborough, Larry	Granville, Person	R	2	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	5
Garrison, Terry	Granville, Vance, Warren	D	32	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Blust, John	Guilford	R	62	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	64	0	37
Brockman, Cecil	Guilford	D	60	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	82	90
Faircloth, John	Guilford	R	61	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	5
Hardister, John	Guilford	R	59	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	2
Harrison, Pricey	Guilford	D	57	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	100
Quick, Amos	Guilford	D	58	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Sauls, John	Harnett, Lee	R	51	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Goodman, Ken	Hoke, Montgomery, Richmond, Robeson, Scotland	D	66	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	9	18	44
Pierce, Garland	Hoke, Richmond, Robeson, Scotland	D	48	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	73	82	79
Fraley, John	Iredell	R	95	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	5
Turner, Rena	Iredell	R	84	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	2
Saine, Jason	Lincoln	R	97	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	13	4
Alexander, Kelly	Mecklenburg	D	107	X	✓	✓	E	X	✓	NV	✓	✓	NV	✓	60	64	76
Autry, John	Mecklenburg	D	100	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Beasley, Chaz	Mecklenburg	D	92	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91	NA	91
Belk, Mary	Mecklenburg	D	88	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Bradford, John	Mecklenburg	R	98	X	✓	X	E	X	X	X	E	E	X	X	13	9	11
Brawley, William	Mecklenburg	R	103	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	18	8

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HOUSE
Piedmont



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Carney, Becky	Mecklenburg	D	102	X	E	✓	E	X	✓	✓	E	E	✓	✓	71	71	78
Cunningham, Carla	Mecklenburg	D	106	X	✓	✓	X	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	80	91	83
Dulin, Andy	Mecklenburg	R	104	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Earle, Beverly	Mecklenburg	D	101	X	✓	✓	X	E	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	70	78	75
Moore, Rodney	Mecklenburg	D	99	X	E	✓	X	E	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	71	27	59
Stone, Scott	Mecklenburg	R	105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	E	X	X	0	NA	0
Burr, Justin	Montgomery, Stanly	R	67	X	X	X	E	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	0	10	13
Boles, James	Moore	R	52	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	10
McNeill, Allen	Moore, Randolph	R	78	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	2
Insko, Verla	Orange	D	56	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	98
Hurley, Pat	Randolph	R	70	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	24
Hall, Kyle	Rockingham, Stokes	R	91	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Warren, Harry	Rowan	R	77	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	5
Stevens, Sarah	Surry, Wilkes	R	90	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	11	14
Arp, Dean	Union	R	69	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	2
Horn, D. Craig	Union	R	68	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	18	9
Adcock, Gale	Wake	D	41	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91	82	86
Ball, Cynthia	Wake	D	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Dollar, Nelson	Wake	R	36	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	18	18	35
Gill, Rosa	Wake	D	33	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	100	100	95
Hall, Duane	Wake	D	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	73	91	91
Holley, Yvonne Lewis	Wake	D	38	NV	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	82	91	86
Jackson, Darren	Wake	D	39	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	80	84
John, Joe	Wake	D	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Malone, Chris	Wake	R	35	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	12
Martin, Grier	Wake	D	34	✓	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	97
Williams, Linda Hunt	Wake	R	37	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	0	NA	0

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HOUSE

Coastal Plains



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #
Speciale, Michael	Beaufort, Craven, Pamlico	R	3	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	36	9	19
Boswell, Beverly	Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Washington	R	6	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	NA	9
Hunter, Howard	Bertie, Gates, Hertford, Pasquotank	D	5	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	90	60	75
Jones, Brenden	Bladen, Columbus, Robeson	R	46	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Brisson, William	Bladen, Johnston, Sampson	R	22	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	14	33
Iler, Frank	Brunswick	R	17	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	11
Butler, Deb	Brunswick, New Hanover	D	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	100
Steinburg, Bob	Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrel	R	1	X	X	X	E	NV	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	8
McElraft, Pat	Carteret, Jones	R	13	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	0	0	18
Graham, George	Craven, Greene, Lenoir	D	12	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91	82	84
Bell, John	Craven, Greene, Lenoir, Wayne	R	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Floyd, Elmer	Cumberland	D	43	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	64	64	73
Lucas, Marvin	Cumberland	D	42	X	X	X	E	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	60	70	74
Richardson, William	Cumberland	D	44	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	82	NA	82
Szoka, John	Cumberland	R	45	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	18	5
Bell, Larry	Duplin, Sampson, Wayne	D	21	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	55	56	71
Dixon, Jimmy	Duplin, Wayne	R	4	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	6
Willingham, Shelly	Edgecombe, Martin	D	23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	97
Collins, Jeff	Franklin, Nash	R	25	X	X	X	✓	NV	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	5
Richardson, Bobbie	Franklin, Nash	D	7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	100	95
Wray, Michael	Halifax, Northampton	D	27	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	55	27	69
Lewis, David	Harnett	R	53	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	29
Sauls, John	Harnett, Lee	R	51	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0

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HOUSE

Coastal Plains



Representative	Counties	Party	District	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7	H8	H9	H10	H11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #	
Goodman, Ken	Hoke, Montgomery, Richmond, Robeson, Scotland	D	66	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	9	18	44
Pierce, Garland	Hoke, Richmond, Robeson, Scotland	D	48	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	73	82	79
Strickland, Larry	Johnston	R	28	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
White, Donna McDowell	Johnston	R	26	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Davis, Ted	New Hanover	R	19	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	18	10	9	
Grange, Holly	New Hanover	R	20	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	E	0	NA	0	
Cleveland, George	Onslow	R	14	X	X	X	E	E	E	X	E	X	X	E	0	11	27	
Shepard, Phil	Onslow	R	15	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	0	0	5	
Millis, Chris	Onslow, Pender	R	16	X	X	X	✓	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17	0	3	
Muller, Bob	Onslow, Pender	R	16	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	INC	
Murphy, Gregory	Pitt	R	9	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0	
Farmer-Butterfield, Jean	Pitt, Wilson	D	24	✓	✓	✓	E	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90	100	86	
Martin, Susan	Pitt, Wilson	R	8	X	X	X	X	E	E	X	E	X	X	X	0	9	3	
Graham, Charles	Robeson	D	47	X	X	X	E	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	60	40	77	

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SENATE
Mountains



Representative	Counties	Party	District	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #
Ballard, Deanna	Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, Watauga	R	45	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	INC	0
Van Duyn, Terry	Buncombe	D	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	100	84	97
Edwards, Chuck	Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania	R	48	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Daniel, Warren	Burke, Cleveland	R	46	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	E	X	X	20	0	8
Davis, Jim	Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain	R	50	X	X	E	X	E	E	X	E	X	X	X	0	0	5
Hise, Ralph	Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Yancey	R	47	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	3
Randleman, Shirley	Stokes, Surry, Wilkes	R	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	12

SENATE
Piedmont



Representative	Counties	Party	District	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #
Gunn, Rick	Alamance, Randolph	R	24	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	2
Wells, Andy	Alexander, Catawba	R	42	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	5
McInnis, Tom	Anson, Richmond, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly	R	25	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Daniel, Warren	Burke, Cleveland	R	46	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	E	X	X	20	0	8
Newton, Paul	Cabarrus, Union	R	36	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Woodard, Mike	Caswell, Durham, Person	D	22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	X	✓	90	92	89
Foushee, Valerie	Chatham, Orange	D	23	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	100	84	95
Dunn, Cathy	Davidson, Montgomery	R	33	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Barrett, Dan	Davie, Iredell, Rowan	R	34	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	0	NA	INC

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SENATE
Piedmont



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Brock, Andrew	Davie, Iredell, Rowan	R	34	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0	24
McKissick, Floyd	Durham, Granville	D	20	✓	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	92	80
Lowe, Paul	Forsyth	D	32	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	82	67	72
Krawiec, Joyce	Forsyth, Yadkin	R	31	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Barefoot, Chad	Franklin, Wake	R	18	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	5	58
Harrington, Kathy	Gaston	R	43	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	0	4
Curtis, David	Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln	R	44	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	E	X	0	0	0
Robinson, Gladys	Guilford	D	28	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	E	E	E	✓	100	92	77
Wade, Trudy	Guilford	R	27	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Berger, Phil	Guilford, Rockingham	R	26	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	27
Bryant, Angela	Halifax, Nash, Vance, Warren, Wilson	D	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	NA	NA	NA	NA	86	75	88
Fitch, "Toby"	Halifax, Nash, Vance, Warren, Wilson	D	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	INC
Rabin, Ronald	Harnett, Johnston, Lee	R	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	3
Bishop, Dan	Mecklenburg	R	39	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	0	0	0
Ford, Joel	Mecklenburg	D	38	✓	✓	✓	E	E	✓	E	X	E	X	E	67	65	63
Jackson, Jeff	Mecklenburg	D	37	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	100	90	91
Tarte, Jeff	Mecklenburg	R	41	✓	X	X	X	E	E	X	X	X	X	X	11	0	2
Waddell, Joyce	Mecklenburg	D	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91	79	85
Tillman, Jerry	Moore, Randolph	R	29	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	28
Randleman, Shirley	Stokes, Surry, Wilkes	R	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	9	12
Tucker, Tommy	Union	R	35	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Alexander, John	Wake	R	15	E	X	X	NV	X	X	E	X	E	X	X	0	20	14
Barringer, Tamara	Wake	R	17	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	E	X	✓	X	X	X	50	27	26
Blue, Dan	Wake	D	14	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91	80	85
Chaudhuri, Jay	Wake	D	16	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	INC	100

Key

✓ Pro-conservation
✗ Anti-conservation

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

Within regions, legislators sorted alphabetically by county, then last name

SENATE
Coastal Plains



Representative	Counties	Party	District	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	2017-2018 Average %	2015-2016 Average %	Lifetime Score #
McInnis, Tom	Anson, Richmond, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly	R	25	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0
Cook, Bill	Beaufort, Camden, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans	R	1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	5
Smith, Erica	Bertie, Chowan, Edgecombe, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Tyrrell, Washington	D	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	73	85
Rabon, Bill	Bladen, Brunswick, New Hanover, Pender	R	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	2
Sanderson, Norman	Carteret, Craven, Pamlico	R	2	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	3
Britt, Danny Earl	Columbus, Robeson	R	13	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Meredith, Wesley	Cumberland	R	19	X	✓	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	10	19	16
Clark, Ben	Cumberland, Hoke	D	21	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	80	55	61
Jackson, Brent	Duplin, Johnston, Sampson	R	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	4
Davis, Don	Greene, Lenoir, Pitt, Wayne	D	5	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	73	75	80
Bryant, Angela	Halifax, Nash, Vance, Warren, Wilson	D	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	NA	NA	NA	NA	86	75	88
Fitch, "Toby"	Halifax, Nash, Vance, Warren, Wilson	D	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✓	✓	✓	✓	100	NA	INC
Rabin, Ronald	Harnett, Johnston, Lee	R	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	3
Horner, Rick	Johnston, Nash, Wilson	R	11	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	NA	0
Brown, Harry	Jones, Onslow	R	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	21
Pate, Louis	Lenoir, Pitt, Wayne	R	7	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	25
Lee, Michael	New Hanover	R	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	0

Key

✓ Pro-conservation
✗ Anti-conservation

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ADVERSARIES

Brent Jackson and Jimmy Dixon

During the 2018 short session, Senator Jackson sponsored the NC Farm Act of 2018, which protects corporate polluters by severely restricting citizens' ability to file nuisance lawsuits against hog farms' "agricultural operations" (flowery language for spray fields and manure lagoons). This gives giant corporations carte blanche to continue polluting communities without repercussions. Representative Dixon, who receives a significant amount of money from the pork industry, authored House Bill 467, Agriculture and Forestry Nuisance Remedies. HB 467 was a precursor to Senator Jackson's Farm Act, and significantly reduced the compensation citizens can receive in nuisance litigation against hog corporations. Dixon was also an outspoken supporter of the Farm Act, demonstrating how he puts large corporations' bank accounts ahead of North Carolinians' health.



JACKSON



DIXON

Harry Brown

Senate Majority Leader Brown has supported many of the anti-conservation laws passed by the Senate these past two years, and has been a staunch opponent of wind energy throughout his political career. Perhaps his worst act yet was the last-minute rewrite of House Bill 589, Competitive Energy Solutions for North Carolina. This bill was designed to bolster the solar energy industry, yet Senator Brown's revision pitted solar against wind, placing an 18-month moratorium on new wind farms, though his original recommendation was a four-year moratorium. Brown claimed the wind farms pose threats to North Carolina's military bases, despite the Department of Defense already having the power to review and approve wind developments before they are constructed.¹⁹



Phil Berger and Tim Moore

House Speaker Moore and Senate President Pro Tempore Berger possess outsized influence over state policy. Unfortunately, these two have used their power to allow anti-environmental legislation to prevail, and have largely shut out dissenting opinions. For example, Berger and Moore made the environmentally disastrous decision to pass the 2018 budget using a conference report. This fundamentally undemocratic move limited debate, and did not allow rank-and-file lawmakers from either party to offer amendments. The result? A budget which underfunded DEQ and inadequately addressed GenX.



BERGER



MOORE

ALLIES

Deb Butler



Representative Butler of New Hanover County has fought tooth and nail to solve the GenX crisis. Immediately after the *Wilmington StarNews* reported that the drinking water in the Cape Fear River Basin was severely contaminated, Representative Butler called legislators to action. In her memo to them, Butler outlined the severity of the problem and the need for regulatory action, and pleaded for an increase in DEQ funding.²⁰ Her persistence has been truly admirable. Representative Butler has requested to be placed on the House Committee on River Quality three times, yet she has either been denied or left in limbo each time. Butler, whose district has been affected by the GenX water contamination, has been vocally critical of her colleagues' lack of urgency and their failure to take action. Butler earned our 2018 Green Tie Representative of the Year Award for her tireless persistence on this issue, becoming the first freshman legislator to win the award. We applaud you, Representative Butler, for holding your colleagues accountable on GenX.

Jay Chaudhuri



Senator Chaudhuri of Wake County has continuously proven to be an environmental champion, an outspoken opponent of coal ash pollution, and a steady proponent of climate action. Senator Chaudhuri speaks out against large-scale polluters. In his role on the Agriculture, Environmental, and Natural Resources Committee, Chaudhuri has consistently advocated for regulatory action to protect the environment. His 100% lifetime score reflects his commitment to taking environmentally conscious legislative action. Thank you, Senator Chaudhuri, for your firm commitment to safeguarding North Carolina's environment.

Legislators with perfect lifetime scores



We would also like to congratulate the legislators who have maintained perfect lifetime scores throughout the history of the NCLCV scorecard. These environmental champions have demonstrated a firm commitment to protecting the air we breathe and the water we drink. Thank you to Representatives John Ager, John Autry, Cynthia Ball, Mary Belk, Mary Ann Black, Deb Butler, Terry Garrison, Pricey Harrison, Joe John, Amos Quick, and Brian Turner, and Senators Jay Chaudhuri and Toby Fitch.

²⁰ Rohler, Gwenyfar. "Live local, live small: Deb Butler runs 2018 campaign to keep her seat in N.C. House of Representatives." *Encore*. January 23, 2018.

Governor's Scorecard

Overall, Governor Cooper earns an A for his actions during the legislative biennium.

Throughout his first two years in office, he has consistently advocated for environmental policies that protect communities, strengthen the economy, and improve North Carolinians' lives. When faced with environmental challenges, Cooper has worked swiftly and surely to identify the problems and implement solutions.

Governor Cooper has prioritized moving North Carolina towards a cleaner, more sustainable future, and has worked to allow state environmental agencies to exercise the full scope of their authority. Despite being limited by the General Assembly's environmental deregulation agenda, he has made progress on several environmental fronts. The governor does not vote on bills, so his score is based on his executive decisions, including which bills he decides to sign into law or veto, his public statements, and executive orders.

A Overall	
A	Vetoed the 2017 and 2018 budgets, which failed to adequately fund DEQ or address the threat posed by GenX. Vetoed the 2018 Farm Act which protected large-scale hog polluters from nuisance lawsuits.
A	Signed Executive Order 11, which directed DEQ to continue pursuing wind energy investments and issuing permits. This alleviated concerns after the passage of HB 589, Competitive Energy Solutions for NC, which placed an 18-month moratorium on new wind energy projects in the state. This executive order will allow new wind farms to be brought online quickly after the moratorium expires.
A	Appointed highly qualified environmental attorneys to the Utilities Commission to ensure that Duke Energy is held accountable.
A	Made it clear to the Trump Administration that he will not put coastal communities and ecosystems at risk by allowing offshore drilling and seismic blasting.
A	Focused on a more sustainable future for North Carolina with the creation of a renewable energy fund designed to reduce the state's carbon footprint.
B-	Approved permits for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, thereby allowing a new natural gas pipeline to be built across the state.





CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

In a highly calculated move to strengthen its grasp on power,²¹ the General Assembly passed six constitutional amendments to be placed on the ballot. **This November, voters will decide the fate of these controversial provisions.**

These amendments are intentionally vague,²² deceptive,²³ and misleading.²⁴ Legislators have not provided us information about how any of them will be implemented.²⁵ If we don't know the full extent of what they will do, how can we make an informed choice?

Here's what we do know about each, in reverse order of their appearance on the ballot:

Eliminate Nonpartisan Representation on Board of Elections²⁶

This amendment would create a 4-4 partisan deadlock on the state Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement, hamstringing their ability to enforce the law and protect our right to vote. If we can't vote, we can't hold our elected leaders accountable, and they can get away with doing big polluters' bidding.

Legislature to Control Judicial Appointments²⁷

This amendment would let legislators appoint the judges who will rule on the constitutionality of their laws. This threatens our right to clean air and water, and the independence of our judiciary.

Require Photographic Identification to Vote^{28 29}

This amendment would make North Carolina one of only two states with a voter identification provision in its constitution, along with Mississippi. Voter identification laws disproportionately impact low-income citizens, the elderly, and racial and ethnic minorities. Like with the previous two amendments, this would limit our ability to hold our leaders and polluters accountable.

Cap Maximum State Income Tax at 7%³⁰

This amendment would not lower your taxes, but would handicap future leaders from funding basic services like environmental protections in times of crisis, like hurricanes or economic downturns. It would also pressure state lawmakers and local governments to raise other taxes and fees which disproportionately burden low-income citizens, including property and sales taxes.

Changes to Current Victims' Rights Amendment

This amendment would grant additional rights to crime victims at the expense of the accused, who are frequently of low income.

Right to Hunt and Fish

These rights are not under threat, and this amendment is unnecessary.

21 Specht, Paul. "Don't hijack our constitution," McCrory says as all 5 ex-governors blast power shift." *News & Observer*. August 13, 2018. 22 Editorial Board. "The proposed constitutional amendments are a hot mess." *News & Observer*. July 23, 2018. 23 Chaudhuri, Jay. "Why you need multiple PhDs to understand this NC constitutional amendment." *Charlotte Observer*. September 4, 2018. 24 Editorial Board. "The NC GOP's amendment plan: Fool the voters." *News & Observer*. September 7, 2018. 25 Killian, Joe. "Not final yet: Trio of state officials must still agree on ballot language for proposed constitutional amendments." *NC Policy Watch*. July 3, 2018. 26 Gilkeson, Bill. "NC amendment would create a State Board of Elections 'designed to fail.'" *News & Observer*. August 29, 2018. 27 Blythe, Anne. "NC lawmakers push for prominent role in selecting judges who rule on their laws." *News & Observer*. June 21, 2018. 28 Cohen, Gerry. "The new voter photo ID bill is vague and leaves lots of questions." *News & Observer*. June 11, 2018. 29 Orr, Bob. "NC Republican: I've changed my mind on voter ID." *Charlotte Observer*. June 13, 2018. 30 Nackman, Lee. "The state income tax cap amendment is bad news. Here's why." *News & Observer*. July 13, 2018.



WHAT TO DO NOW

Hold your legislators accountable.

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

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

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

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

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

North Carolina League of 
CONSERVATION VOTERS

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For more information, please visit NCLCV.org.

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An aerial photograph of a large, dark blue lake with several forested islands and peninsulas. The water is a deep, clear blue. The islands are covered in dense green trees. In the foreground, there is a sandy, light-colored shoreline with some sparse vegetation and utility poles. The overall scene is a natural, scenic landscape.

North Carolina League of Conservation Voters

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