



## Sierra Club 2005-06 Environmental Scorecard – Wisconsin State Assembly

Representative (Party, District #)	AB 277	AB 278	AB 558	AB 15	AB 678	AB 734	SB 459	AB 71	AB 441	AB 437	AB 155	AJR 77	%
MONTGOMERY, Phil (R, 4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	8
MOULTON, Terry (R, 68)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
MURSAU, Jeffrey (R, 36)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
MUSSER, Terry (R, 92)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
NASS, Stephen (R, 31)	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	33
NELSON, Tom (D, 5)	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	50
NERISON, Lee (R, 96)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	25
NEWCOMER, Scott (R, 33)	**	**	**	**	-	-	+	-	**	**	**	-	20
NISCHKE, Ann (R, 97)	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	0
OTT, Alvin (R, 3)	-	+	+	+	-	X	+	-	-	-	-	+	45
OWENS, Carol (R, 53)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
PARISI, Joe (D, 48)	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
PETROWSKI, Jerry (R, 86)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	41
PETTIS, Mark (R, 28)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
POCAN, Mark (D, 78)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
POPE-ROBERTS, Sondy (D, 79)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	92
PRIDEMORE, Don (R, 99)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	8
RHOADES, Kitty (R, 30)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
RICHARDS, Jon (D, 19)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	75
SCHNEIDER, Marlin (D, 72)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
SEIDEL, Donna (D, 85)	+	+	+	nv	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	72
SHERIDAN, Mike (D, 44)	+	+	+	nv	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	81
SHERMAN, Gary (D, 74)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	83
SHILLING, Jennifer (D, 95)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	X	+	72
SINICKI, Christine (D, 20)	X	X	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	80
STASKUNAS, Tony (D, 15)	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	58
STEINBRINK, John (D, 65)	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	75
STONE, Jeff (R, 82)	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
STRACHOTA, Pat (R, 58)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	8
SUDER, Scott (R, 69)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	25
TOLES, Barbara (D, 17)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	92
TOWNS, Debi (R, 43)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
TOWNSEND, John (R, 52)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
TRAVIS, David (D, 81)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	92
TURNER, Robert (D, 61)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	83
UNDERHEIM, Gregg (R, 54)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	8
VAN AKKEREN, Terry (D, 26)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	83
VAN ROY, Karl (R, 90)	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
VOS, Robin (R, 63)	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	33
VRAKAS, Daniel (R, 33)	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	-	-	-	*	0
VRUWINK, Amy Sue (D, 70)	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	X	+	+	-	+	63
VUKMIR, Leah (R, 14)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	25
WARD, David (R, 37)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
WASSERMAN, Sheldon (D, 22)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	83
WIECKERT, Steve (R, 57)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	17
WILLIAMS, Annette (D, 10)	+	+	+	nv	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	81
WILLIAMS, Mary (R, 87)	-	-	-	nv	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	27
WOOD, Jeffrey, (R, 67)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	25
YOUNG, Leon (D, 16)	+	+	+	nv	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	90
ZEPNICK, Josh (D, 9)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	75
ZIEGELBAUER, Bob (D, 25)	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	67

Key: + = pro-environment vote, - = anti-environmental vote, x = absent, nv = no vote. \* Rep. Vrakas resigned the Assembly in Oct. 2005. \*\* Rep. Newcomer was elected to the Assembly in January 2006. Note that voting percentages were recalculated to reflect missed votes. The missed votes were not counted against the legislators.

## 2005-06 Sierra Club Environmental Scorecard- WI State Senate

Senator name, (party, district number)	AB 277	AB 437	AB 441	SB 459	AB 678	AB 15	SJR 63	%
BRESKE, Roger (D-12)	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	43
BROWN, Ron (R-31)	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	43
CARPENTER, Tim (D-3)	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	71
COGGS, Spencer (D-6)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	86
COWLES, Robert (R-2)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	29
DARLING, Alberta (R-8)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14
DECKER, Russ (D-29)	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	71
ELLIS, Michael (R-19)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	29
ERPENBACH, Jon (D-27)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
FITZGERALD, Scott (R-13)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14
GROTHMAN, Glenn (R-20)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14
HANSEN, Dave (D-30)	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	43
HARSDORF, Sheila (R-10)	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	43
JAUCH, Bob (D-25)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	86
KANAVAS, Theodore (R-33)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14
KAPANKE, Dan (R-32)	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	43
KEDZIE, Neal (R-11)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	29
LASEE, Alan (R-1)	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	43
LASSA, Julie (D-24)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	86
LAZICH, Mary (R-28)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14
LEIBHAM, Joe (R-9)	-	-	X	+	-	-	-	14
MILLER, Mark (D-16)	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	86
OLSEN, Luther (R-14)	-	-	-	+	-	X	+	29
PLALE, Jeff (D-7)	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	29
REYNOLDS, Tom (R-5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
RISSER, Fred (D-26)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
ROBSON, Judith (D-15)	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	71
ROESSLER, Carol (R-18)	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	43
SCHULTZ, Dale (R-17)	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	29
STEPP, Cathy (R-21)	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	29
TAYLOR, Lena (D-4)	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	71
WIRCH, Robert (D-22)	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57
ZIEN, Dave (R-23)	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	29

Key: + = pro-environment vote, - = anti-environmental vote, x = absent, nv = no vote.  
 Note that voting percentages were recalculated to reflect missed votes. The missed votes were not counted against the legislators.

## **2005-06 Environmental Scorecard**

The scorecard is a tally of environmental votes taken by State Senators and Assembly Representatives. The scorecard reflects votes taken by the Wisconsin Legislature in the 2005-06 session that the John Muir Chapter actively worked on. Use the scorecard to judge candidates in your district this election year. Let your representatives know if you're pleased or disappointed with their voting records when you vote! And don't forget to vote on November 7.

You can learn about bills that affect you and more by using our new Legislative Tracker on the Chapter website at <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/tracker>. This exciting new tool allows you to read details about bills and our position on them and gives you an easy way to contact your legislator to register your opinion. While you're there, join the E-Alert system on the chapter home page or Issues page to get email notification of actions needed on critical environmental legislation. If you've used this new system, thank you for contacting your State Representative or Senator and for being a part of the process.

## **2005-06 Environmental Scorecard Bill Descriptions**

### **AB 277 – Dirty Air Bill**

AB 277 will greatly weaken protections for the air Wisconsinites breathe. It attempts to degrade air quality by making dramatic changes to the air permitting process, from exempting the largest sources of air pollution from obtaining construction permits to stopping limits on air pollution pending a legal challenge by the permit holder. Adopted by Assembly 73-25 on 4/12/05. Adopted by Senate 21-12 on 6/23/05. Pro-environmental vote is NO. Signed into law as Act 28.

### **AB 437 - Condemning Public Land for Electric Transmission Line**

AB 437 requires counties and other municipalities to sell public land at market value to companies with approved power line permits thus subverting local control over use of public lands. Adopted by Assembly 61-35 on 6/16/05. Adopted by Senate 27-6 on 6/23/05. Pro-environmental vote is NO. Signed into law as Act 24.

### **AB 441 - Expedited Power Plant Siting**

The bill allows state regulators to consider a power plant application complete even if it does not contain all needed permits and approvals. Passed by Assembly on 74-22 on 6/14/05. Adopted by Senate by 24-8-1 on 6/23/05. Pro-environmental vote is NO. Signed into law as Act 29.

### **SB 459 - Energy Efficiency and Renewables**

SB 459 moves Wisconsin toward a cleaner energy future with a renewable energy portfolio standard of 10% by 2015 and by protecting the Public Benefits Fund from future budget raids by keeping those funds out of the state treasury. Adopted by Assembly 94-0 on 3/7/05. Adopted by Senate 32-1 on 2/21/06. Pro-environmental vote is YES. Signed into law as Act 141.

### **AB 678 – Permitting Overweight Trucks**

AB 678 covers raw forest product and other agricultural commodities trucks. It allows much heavier trucks. Heavier trucks are unsafe, increasing risk of a crash being fatal. Heavier trucks accelerate deterioration of roadbed and bridges at substantial public repair costs estimated by WI Department of Transportation at greater than \$2.15 Billion. Adopted by Assembly 71-25 on 1/31/05. Adopted by Senate 23-10 on 3/7/06. Pro-environmental vote is NO. Signed into law as Act 167.

### **AB 15 – Ethanol 10% Mandate**

The bill mandates 10% ethanol in gasoline sold in Wisconsin. As amended by the Assembly it would require 20% of the ethanol be fiber-based by 2020 to help our farm economy. Amendment AA4 to ASA3 Adopted by Assembly 73-20 on 12/15/05. Pro-environmental vote in Assembly was YES.

Senate vote was 17-15-1 to indefinitely postpone, 3/9/06. Pro-environmental vote in Senate was NO. Died in Senate.

### **AB 278 – Restricting Public Nuisance Actions**

AB278 would take away the ability of WI Department of Justice and local governments to fight on behalf of the public against nuisances that harm human health and degrade Wisconsin's water, air and land.

Passed by Assembly 56-40 on 4/12/05. Pro-environment vote is NO. Died in Senate.

### **AB 558 – Limiting Conditional Use Permits**

The bill too strictly ties the hands of local decision makers by limiting their ability to deny conditional use permits. The bill comes at a time when they need more flexibility, not less, in order to implement their comprehensive plans and local regulations.

Passed by Assembly 62-35 on 10/27/05. Pro-environment vote is NO. Died in Senate.

### **AB 734 – Reducing Lake Protections**

AB 734 would damage Wisconsin's lakes and rivers by allowing decisions about dredging, construction or enlargement of water bodies to be based on politics rather than on science.

Passed by Assembly 60-37 on 1/31/05. Pro-environment vote is NO. Died in Senate.

### **AB 71 - Reducing Water and Shoreland Protection**

The bill would allow counties to overrule the state on where the ordinary high water mark is on lakes and reducing protection to birds, fish, and other wildlife. The bill is an unconstitutional threat to the state Public Trust Doctrine.

Passed by Assembly 59-35 on 3/9/05. Pro-environment vote is NO. Died in Senate

### **AB 155 - Infringing on the Right of Cities to Remove Billboards**

AB 155 would deny cities, towns and villages the right to require the removal of "structures and fixtures", including billboards, that do not conform to ordinances, by a method known as "amortization." Municipalities give sign companies 5-15 years to amortize costs to come into compliance with codes or remove signs.

Passed by Assembly 70-27 on 9/27/05. Pro-environment vote is NO. Signed into law as Act 81.

### **AJR 77 – SJR 63 (TABOR II)**

The Taxpayer Protection Amendment (TPA or TABOR II) is a constitutional amendment designed to limit government revenues. Citizens depend upon our government for safe drinking water, clean beaches, local parks and boat launches, environmental protection and public safety. Rolling back basic services is an extreme mandate. Regulatory protection, public health, emergency responders, park maintenance, and sanitation services would all face serious cutbacks. Adopted by Assembly 50-48 on 4/27/06. Failed in the Senate 21-11 on 5/4/06. Pro-environment vote is NO. Died in Senate.