



SIERRA CLUB

HOOSIER CHAPTER

Conservation and Sustainable Energy Scorecard

Indiana General Assembly
2014-2022

We've got the receipts

During the 2022 legislative session, Sierra Club told you that Indiana legislators are putting Hoosiers on a dangerous path, refusing to listen to our urgent concerns about climate change and the need for greater access to renewable energy. Instead, they are pursuing false, risky and expensive schemes on behalf of special interests in exchange for our health, environment, financial security and collective futures.

The climate crisis has reached “code red for humanity,” according to the latest United Nations climate report¹. Climate change is already resulting in increased extreme rain events, reduced agricultural production, and more intense droughts and heatwaves in Indiana.

This scorecard will show you whether your legislator supports real climate solutions or false ones. With two-thirds of the Indiana legislature earning a D or an F, and the average grade at a D+, it is likely — infuriatingly — the latter.

The legislature is out of step with the concerns of everyday Hoosiers. A recent Audubon Society survey² found that 78% of Hoosiers believe that climate change is a threat. Nearly three-quarters of voters (74%), regardless of party or political orientation, favor expanding the use of renewable energy in Indiana. In fact, 75% of Hoosiers, including an overwhelming majority of Republicans, Independents and Democrats, support net metering, a policy that fairly compensates customers, usually those with rooftop solar panels, for the energy they sell back to the electrical grid. And 70% of Hoosiers believe state government should do more to expand the use of solar power.

As one of the worst states in the U.S. for carbon pollution³, Indiana has a critical role to play in creating climate solutions. We can avoid the worsening impacts of climate change on our communities and our collective futures with cleaner air and water and lower energy costs. We can generate our own energy and take back power from monopoly utilities. We can ensure that the energy transition is an equitable one that benefits everyday Hoosiers, and not just special interests.

We have the climate solutions. What we need is a legislature that puts people before special interests and takes action that is so urgently needed.

We hope this scorecard will empower you to hold your legislators accountable.

¹ <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/resources/press/press-release>

² <https://gl.audubon.org/news/new-indiana-poll-reveals-strong-bipartisan-support-renewable-energy>

³ <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/environment/2021/09/07/indiana-carbon-emissions-ranking-among-highest-us/5683729001/>

Scorecard

About the Indiana General Assembly

The Indiana General Assembly is the legislative body and one of three co-equal branches of Indiana State Government. The primary role of the Indiana General Assembly is to enact laws governing the state of Indiana.

There are two chambers in the General Assembly (House of Representatives and Senate). The House of Representatives has 100 members elected to two year terms. The Senate has 50 members elected to four year terms. Every citizen in Indiana has one member representing you in the State House of Representatives and one member representing you in the State Senate.

In order for a proposed piece of legislation to become law it must pass both the House and Senate at the Indiana General Assembly during a legislative session. The legislation must also overcome a Governor veto should the Governor of Indiana decide to veto a bill that arrives on their desk from the Indiana General Assembly.

Definitions and Acronyms

HB - House Bill

SB - Senate Bill

SJR - Senate Joint Resolution

Amd. - Amendment to a proposed bill

Author - Legislators who introduce legislation

Co-Author - Legislators who add their name to a bill they did not introduce

Extra Credit on Legislation not receiving a vote




Bills introduced during the legislative session aren't guaranteed a vote at the Indiana General Assembly. However, many legislators introduce or co-author bills to tackle environmental issues like climate change, coal ash cleanup, and renewable energy.

That's why, while many bills did not get a vote we did add extra credit points to the overall score for legislators who introduced or co-authored environmental legislation we supported. While legislators did not receive a vote on bills for us to score we wanted to reflect their leadership on environmental policy in Indiana. Extra Credit scores are reflected in their "Overall Environmental Grade".

Indiana General Assembly Score Summary

Grade	House	Senate	Total
A	17	6	23
B	11	6	17
C	5	5	10
D	36	18	54
F	31	15	46
Average Overall Grade at the Indiana General Assembly			D+

Scorecard Key

	Supported Sierra Club Position
	Opposed Sierra Club Position
	Not Member
E	Excused/Absent
P	Present - Not Voting

Indiana House of Representatives Scorecard

Member Name	District	2014 - SB 340	2015 - HB 1082	2017 - SB 309	2017 - HB 1494	2019 - SB 472 Amd. #1	2019 - HB 1470	2021 - SB 389	2022 - HB 1100	2022 - SB 271	2022 - HB 1209	Conservation Grade	Sustainable Energy Grade	Overall Environmental Grade
Rep. David Abbott	HD 82											C	F	D-
Rep. Mike Andrade	HD 12											A	C	B
Rep. Terri Austin	HD 36						E					B	C+	B-
*Rep. Michael Aylesworth	HD 11				E							D+	D-	D+
Rep. Beau Baird	HD 44											F	D-	D-
Rep. Bradford Barrett	HD 56											F	F	F
Rep. Stephen Bartels	HD 74											F	D	D-
Rep. John Bartlett	HD 95								E			A	B+	A-
*Rep. Maureen Bauer	HD 06									E		A	A	A+
Rep. Robert Behning	HD 91											F	F	F
Rep. Bruce Borders	HD 45											D	C-	D+
*Rep. Patricia Boy	HD 09											A	A	A+
Rep. Tim Brown	HD 41											F	F	F
*Rep. Chris Campbell	HD 26											A	A	A+
Rep. Martin Carbaugh	HD 81											D	D+	D
Rep. Bob Cherry	HD 53		E							E		D+	D	D
Rep. Edward Clere	HD 72											F	D-	D-
*Rep. Tony Cook	HD 32											F	F	D-
Rep. Michelle Davis	HD 58											F	F	F
Rep. Steve Davisson	HD 73							E				F	F	F
Rep. Ed DeLaney	HD 86											A	B+	A
Rep. Dale DeVon	HD 05								E			F	F	F
Rep. Ryan Dvorak	HD 08				E							A	B+	A-
Rep. Sean Eberhart	HD 57											F	D-	D-
Rep. Jeff Ellington	HD 62											F	F	F
Rep. Karen Engleman	HD 70											F	F	F
*Rep. Sue Errington	HD 34				E							A	B+	A
Rep. Rita Fleming	HD 71											C	B	B-
Rep. Randy Frye	HD 67							E				D+	F	D-
Rep. Phil GiaQuinta	HD 80											A	B+	A
Rep. Chuck Goodrich	HD 29											F	F	F
Rep. Mitch Gore	HD 89										E	A	F	B-

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Rep. Douglas Gutwein	HD 16											C	F	D-
*Rep. Carey Hamilton	HD 87											A	A	A+
Rep. Earl Harris JR	HD 02									E		A	B	A-
Rep. Ragen Hatcher	HD 03											A	A	A+
Rep. Ryan Hatfield	HD 77											B-	C+	C+
Rep. Bob Heaton	HD 46											F	F	F
Rep. Dave Heine	HD 85											F	F	F
Rep. Matt Hostettler	HD 64											F	D	D-
Rep. Todd Huston	HD 37								P	P		F	F	F
*Rep. Carolyn Jackson	HD 01								E			A	C	B+
Rep. John Jacob	HD 93									E		F	A	D+
Rep. Chris Jeter	HD 88											F	F	F
Rep. Blake Johnson	HD 99 100											A	C	B
Rep. Jack Jordan	HD 17											F	C	D
Rep. Christopher Judy	HD 83									E		D	D	D
Rep. Michael Karickhoff	HD 30					P						F	F	F
Rep. Joanna King	HD 49											F	F	F
Rep. Sheila Klinker	HD 27											B	B+	B+
Rep. Ryan Lauer	HD 59											F	D	D-
Rep. Cindy Ledbetter	HD 75											F	F	F
Rep. Donald Lehe	HD 25											F	F	F
Rep. Matt Lehman	HD 79											F	F	F
Rep. Dan Leonard	HD 50	E										D	D-	D
Rep. Shane Lindauer	HD 63											F	F	F
Rep. Jim Lucas	HD 69											F	D-	D-
Rep. Randy Lyness	HD 68											F	D-	D-
Rep. Ethan Manning	HD 23											F	F	F
Rep. Christopher May	HD 65								E			F	D-	D-
Rep. Peggy Mayfield	HD 60											F	F	F
Rep. Wendy McNamara	HD 76											F	D-	D-
Rep. Douglas Miller	HD 48						E					F	F	F
Rep. Justin Moed	HD 97				P	E						A	C+	B

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Rep. Robert Morris	HD 84											D	D-	D-
*Rep. Alan Morrison	HD 42								E			F	F	D-
Rep. Charles Moseley	HD 10								E			A	C	B-
Rep. Sharon Negele	HD 13											F	D+	D-
Rep. Curt Nisly	HD 22											D	C+	C-
Rep. Tim O'Brien	HD 78											F	F	F
Rep. Julie Olthoff	HD 19											D	F	D-
Rep. Renee Pack	HD 92											A	C	B
Rep. Zach Payne	HD 66											F	C	D
Rep. Tonya Pfaff	HD 43											A	C	B-
Rep. Matt Pierce	HD 61											A	A	A+
Rep. Greg Porter	HD 96											A	B+	A
Rep. J.D Prescott	HD 33											F	D	D-
Rep. Jim Pressell	HD 20											F	F	F
Rep. Cherrish Pryor	HD 94											A	B+	A
Rep. Elizabeth Rowray	HD 35											F	F	F
Rep. Thomas E Saunders	HD 54								E			A	D+	C
*Rep. Donna Schaibley	HD 24											C	D-	C-
*Rep. Robin Shackelford	HD 98						P			E	E	A	A	A+
Rep. Harold Slager	HD 15											B	F	D+
Rep. Ben Smaltz	HD 52											D	D-	D-
Rep. Vernon Smith	HD 14				E	E	E					A	A	A+
Rep. Craig Snow	HD 18											F	F	F
Rep. Edmond Soliday	HD 04											F	F	F
Rep. Mike Speedy	HD 90										E	F	D-	D-
Rep. Greg Steuerwald	HD 40					E						F	F	F
Rep. Vanessa Summers	HD 99				E					E		A	B+	A-
Rep. Jake Teshka	HD 07											F	F	F
Rep. Jeff Thompson	HD 28											F	D-	D-
Rep. Jerry Torr	HD 39											F	D+	D-
Rep. Heath VanNatter	HD 38								E			F	D-	D-
Rep. Ann Vermilion	HD 31								E			F	F	F

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Rep. Timothy Wesco	HD 21											E	F	F
Rep. John Young	HD 47											E	D+	C
Rep. Dennis Zent	HD 51											E	C	D-
Rep. Cindy Ziemke	HD 55	E							E			D+	D-	D

*Received additional points based on support for legislation not voted upon.
Extra Credit only reflected in "Overall Environmental Grade"

Indiana State Senate Scorecard

Member Name	District	2014 - SB 340	2015 - SJR 12	2015 - HB 1082	2017 - SB 309	2019 - HB 1470	2021 - SB 141	2021 - SB 389	2022 - SB 271	2022 - HB 1209	Conservation Grade	Sustainable Energy Grade	Overall Environmental Grade
*Sen. Ronnie Alting	SD 22										B	C-	B-
Sen. Scott Baldwin	SD 20										C	F	D
Sen. Eric Bassler	SD 39									P	B	F	C-
*Sen. Vaneta Becker	SD 50										B	C-	B-
Sen. Kevin Boehnlein	SD 46										-	F	F
*Sen. Mike Bohacek	SD 08										C	D	C
Sen. Phil Boots	SD 23										F	D-	D-
Sen. Rodric Bray	SD 37										D	F	D-
Sen. Jean Breaux	SD 34					E					B	A	A-
*Sen. Liz Brown	SD 15										D	F	D
Sen. Brian Buchanan	SD 07										F	F	F
Sen. James R Buck	SD 21										F	D-	D-
Sen. Justin Busch	SD 16										F	F	F
Sen. Gary Byrne	SD 47										-	F	F
Sen. Ed Charbonneau	SD 05										D	F	D-
Sen. John Crane	SD 24										F	D	D-
Sen. Michael Crider	SD 28										C	D-	D+
Sen. Stacey Donato	SD 18										F	F	F
Sen. Blake Doriot	SD 12										F	F	F
*Sen. J.D Ford	SD 29										A	A	A+
*Sen. Jon Ford	SD 38										C	D	C
Sen. Aaron Freeman	SD 32										F	D	D-
Sen. Chris Garten	SD 45										F	D+	D-
Sen. Mike Gaskill	SD 26										F	F	F
*Sen. Sue Glick	SD 13										B	F	C-
Sen. Michael Griffin	SD 01										-	F	F
Sen. Travis Holdman	SD 19										F	F	F
Sen. Eric Koch	SD 44										F	F	F
Sen. Dennis Kruse	SD 14										F	C-	D
*Sen. Timothy Lanane	SD 25										B	A	A

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Sen. Jean Leising	SD 42										F	F	F
Sen. Eddie Melton	SD 03				E	E					A	C	B
Sen. Mark Messmer	SD 48										F	F	F
Sen. Ryan Mishler	SD 09										F	F	F
Sen. Rick Niemeyer	SD 06										D	D-	D
Sen. David L Niezgodski	SD 10										A	C	B
Sen. Chip Perfect	SD 43										D	F	D-
*Sen. Rodney Pol	SD 04										-	A	A+
*Sen. Fady Qaddoura	SD 30										A	A	A+
Sen. Jeff Raatz	SD 27										D	C	D+
Sen. Lonnie Randolph	SD 02										B	B+	B
Sen. Linda Rogers	SD 11										F	F	F
Sen. Jack Sandlin	SD 36										F	D	D-
Sen. Greg Taylor	SD 33										B	C+	B-
Sen. Jim Tomes	SD 49										F	D-	D-
Sen. Kyle Walker	SD 31										A	F	C
Sen. Greg Walker	SD 41										D	C-	D+
*Sen. Shelli Yoder	SD 40										A	A	A+
Sen. R.Michael Young	SD 35									E	F	F	F
Sen. Andy Zay	SD 17										F	D	D-

***Received additional points based on support for legislation not voted upon.
Extra Credit only reflected in "Overall Environmental Grade"**

Conservation Policy

Bill Summaries

2015 - SJR 12 - Right to Farm and Ranch

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Would have enshrined the right to engage in harmful agricultural practices in the State Constitution.

2016 - HB 1082 - No More Stringent Than

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Would have made it impossible for the Indiana Dept of Environmental Management and the Department of Natural Resources to create rules more stringent than those set by the EPA.

2017 - HB 1494 - Regulation of Confined Feeding Operations

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Would have made it impossible for the Indiana Dept of Environmental Management and the Department of Natural Resources to create rules more stringent than those set by the EPA.

2021 - SB 389 - Repeal of Wetlands Protections

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Eliminated protection for Class I wetlands and significantly reduced protection for Class II wetlands.

2021 - SB 141 - Public Transit

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Would have prevented IndyGo from moving forward with two new bus rapid transit routes.

2022 - HB 1100 - No More Stringent Than

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Would have made it impossible for state regulators to create rules more stringent than those set at the federal level.

Sustainable Energy Policy

Bill Summaries

2014 - SB 340 - Energizing Indiana Repeal

Sierra Club position: Opposed

In 2014, the Indiana General Assembly repealed Energizing Indiana, an energy efficiency program that created jobs, reduced energy consumption and saved customers money on their energy bills.

2017 - SB 309 - Rooftop Solar Repeal

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Monopoly utility effort to steal the economic benefits of solar energy from customers who are generating it and make rooftop solar unaffordable.

2019 - SB 472 Amendment 1 - Renewable Energy Ban

Sierra Club position: Supported

Removed the language establishing a "renewable energy ban" or moratorium on new power plants, power contracts and changes to fuel sources.

2019 - HB 1470 - Blank Check

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Monopoly utility effort to pass along their costs to consumers with little to no oversight. Undermines the longstanding system where utilities must justify their rate increases in a public forum with a chance for consumers to speak up and push back.

2022 - SB 271 - Small Modular Nuclear Reactors

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Forces everyday Hoosiers to pay for construction of unproven, risky small modular nuclear reactors, even if they never go online.

2022 - HB 1209 - Carbon Capture and Sequestration

Sierra Club position: Opposed

Opens the state of Indiana to the development of CO2 pipelines and storage wells and encourages the continued burning of coal when we need to be eliminating emissions. Shifts liability for any accidents to Hoosier tax payers rather than companies.

Extra Credit Legislation

2022 - SB 255/HB 1287 - Climate Task Force

Sierra Club position: Supported

Bills that would have established a Climate Task Force to study climate change and produce a report to guide Indiana's response to climate change.

Bill Authors/Co-Authors: Sen Ron Alting, Rep Carey Hamilton, Sen Timothy Lanane, Sen J.D Ford, Sen Shelli Yoder, Sen Fady Qaddoura, Sen Vaneta Becker, Sen Mike Bohacek, Sen Jon Ford.

Representatives Chris Campbell and Mike Aylesworth joined a public coalition supporting climate legislation organized by Confront the Climate Crisis (www.confronttheclimatecrisis.com).

2022 - SB 248/HB 1304 - Rooftop Solar Incentive Calculation

Sierra Club position: Supported

Bills that would have restored fair credit for extra electricity generated by Hoosier's own rooftop solar panels.

Bill Authors/Co-Authors: Sen Liz Brown, Sen J.D. Ford, and Rep Alan Morrison

2022 - SB314, HB1136 - Rooftop Solar Incentives

Sierra Club position: Supported

Bills that would have extended net metering for customers who invest in solar panels on their homes and businesses.

Bill Authors/Co-Authors: Rep Tony Cook, Rep Carey Hamilton, Rep Donna Schaibley, Sen J.D. Ford

Extra Credit Legislation

2022 - SB 313 and HB1250 - Community Solar

Sierra Club position: Supported

Would have required monopoly utilities to build and provide access to community solar projects.

Bill Authors/Co-Authors: Rep Sue Errington, Rep Carolyn Jackson, Rep Robin Shackelford, Sen Shelli Yoder, Sen J.D. Ford

2022 - HB 1335/SB 412 - Coal Ash Cleanup

Sierra Club position: Supported

Would have cleaned up toxic coal ash pits that pollute our drinking water and groundwater.

Bill Authors/Co-Authors: Rep Patricia Boy, Rep Maureen Bauer, Sen Sue Glick, Sen Rodney Pol, Sen J.D Ford

Learn more online at
sierraclub.org/indiana/legislative



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About the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter:

The Sierra Club is the oldest, largest, and most influential grassroots environmental organization in the United States with more than three million members and supporters. It was founded in 1892 by the conservationist John Muir. The Sierra Club has hundreds of thousands of members in chapters located throughout the United States.

The Hoosier Chapter has more than 10,000 members. Local Sierra Club groups are active in different parts of the state, working on conservation-related issues, sponsoring outdoor activities, and educating members on issues. Indianapolis (Heartlands), southwest Indiana, Greater Columbus (Winding Waters), and northwest Indiana (Dunelands) have active Sierra Club groups. Visit our website to find your local Indiana group, and be sure to check out our events and outings page for more ways to get involved.