



WEnPAC

Washington Environmental Political Action Committee

1991-92 Legislative Scorecard

How the Environment Fared in the 1991 and 1992 Sessions: Progress and Shoring Up Past Gains

Your legislators' votes on key environmental issues are a very important measure of their concern for the environment. Here is a summary of how the environment fared in the 1991 and 1992 state legislative sessions.

1991 was a year of landmark state environmental legislation: a new state clean air act, an oil spill prevention bill, and growth management legislation. Legislators also enacted a law to develop a state energy policy and an "Energy Partnerships" program that requires conservation and co-generation in public facilities.

The final state operating budget for 1991-92 restored most of the drastic cuts in environmental programs under an earlier Senate version of the state spending plan. Also, the budget included an additional \$50 million for the acquisition of critical wildlife habitat and recreational properties.

In 1992 there was again a major effort in the Legislature to reduce state funding for the environment. The new Growth Management Act was also a target. Fortunately, the Legislature left a lot of very bad environmental bills dead in committee. Legislators even managed one environmental achievement: enactment of a shellfish protection bill.

In addition, the Governor used his veto power to restore some of the money cut by the Legislature from the budget for implementation of the Growth Management Act. He also vetoed two bad environmental bills that the 1992 Legislature passed: one that would have allowed the siting of major industrial developments outside urban growth areas and another that would have hampered local regulation of pesticides.

Legislators receiving 100%

Senators

Mike Kreidler	Ray Moore	Patty Murray
Janice Niemi	Dwight Pelz	Nita Rinehart
Adam Smith	Phil Talmadge	

House

Cal Anderson	Jennifer Belcher	Joanne Brekke
Grace Cole	Ruth Fisher	Rosa Franklin
Karen Fraser	Lorraine Hine	Jeanne Kohl
June Leonard	Gary Locke	Dick Nelson
Larry Phillips	Margarita Prentice	Nancy Rust
Helen Sommers	Harriet Spanel	Arthur Sprenkle
Georgette Valle	Art Wang	Jesse Wineberry

The Legislative Scorecard

A legislator should be evaluated on more than environmental votes. Your legislator's philosophy, hard work, track record and reliability are all important. A voting chart is one useful indicator and reminds our elected officials that they are accountable for their votes. The purpose of this voting chart is to help you learn how your legislators voted on representative environmental issues.

These 20 votes were chosen to reflect a broad range of issues. All votes were close.

Please study this record. Use it to talk to your legislators about their votes and the issues important to you. It is also important to us to hear from you about your perceptions of your legislators. You can use this chart to be a more informed and effective citizen, and we can use your input to serve your district better.

The Senate Score Averaged 38%
The House Score Averaged 52%

