



Rep. Gideon



Rep. Higgins



Rep. McCabe

Environmental Champions pg. 11

Governor LePage

pg. 17

SPECIAL:

Report on



Maine Conservation Voters 2016 Environmental Scorecard

for Members of the 127th Maine Legislature





Maine Conservation Voters

Maine Conservation Voters plays a critical role in turning public support for conservation into new laws to protect our air, land, water and wildlife. As a result of successful campaign strategies, a focused policy agenda, and sharp accountability tools, we are building Maine's environmental movement into a powerful political force.

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Cover photo

Maine North Woods, Photo credit: EPI







Clockwise from top:

People from across the state of Maine came to Augusta to participate in the first annual Conservation Lobby Day at the State House.

Activists wait in the halls of the State House to encourage their elected officials to vote in favor of solar legislation.

President of Unity College, Dr. Melik Khoury, speaks to an audience of students and community members at the Solar Panel, a forum on solar policy in Maine co-sponsored by Unity College and Maine Conservation Voters.

A group of children who support solar power attended the committee hearing on the solar bill.

Welcome

Dear Friend of Maine's Environment,

Votes matter. Whether it's your own vote when you pull back the curtain and enter the polling booth or that of your elected officials under the State House dome, this is where decisions are made about the future of our water, air and land.

Maine Conservation Voters' annual Environmental Scorecard tracks the most significant votes of the legislature. We want you to use it to find out who acts to protect Maine's environment and who just talks a good game.

Did your legislators defend the Land for Maine's Future Program (LMF) against attacks by Governor LePage? Did they vote to grow solar power in Maine? Did they support the creation of a new national monument, or the weakening of rules that protect our clean water?

Over the past several months, we watched Mainers from all walks of life and from every corner of the state join the fight for LMF and for more solar power, contacting their elected officials through meetings, phone calls, emails and letters. This overwhelming support led to a victory on LMF, ensuring that this program will continue conserving working farms and forests, trails, wildlife habitat and pristine waters throughout Maine.

But while LMF was saved for another day, too many of Maine's political leaders turned their backs on solar power. The legislature upheld Governor LePage's veto of a groundbreaking new policy to bring more solar power to Maineand by just two votes. The bill's defeat means that, while other states build their clean energy economies, Maine continues to fall behind.

We are putting a powerful tool in your hands. Please use it. Thank your legislators if they showed courage and took leadership when our environmental protections were most at risk – or express your disappointment if they didn't. The scorecard and an easy way to contact your legislators can be found on our website at www.maineconservation.org/scores.

Thank you for your partnership in this important work. We know that you want to protect all that is most valuable about Maine and pass it down to those who will come after us.

Sincerely,

Maureen Drouin
Executive Director

Roger Berle Board President

2016 Senate Scorecard

DISTRICT	excused absence not in office	127 th Session Score	Lifetime Score	Mining	C Land for Maine's Etuture	진 당 Energy Efficiency	608 Takings	Land for Maine's Future	O National Monument	S Olar
27	Alfond (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	100%	✓	✓	4	✓	4	✓	✓
23	Baker (R - SAGADAHOC)	57 %	57 %	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X
20	Brakey (R - ANDROSCOGGIN)	29%	29%	×	×	✓	X	✓	X	X
25	Breen (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	100%	✓	✓	 	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Burns (R - WASHINGTON)	57 %	34%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	×	×
34	Collins (R - YORK)	57%	27 %	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	×
10	Cushing (R - PENOBSCOT)	29%	25 %	×	×	✓	X	✓	X	X
16	Cyrway (R - KENNEBEC)	57 %	57 %	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X
4	Davis (R - PISCATAQUIS)	57 %	28%	✓	×	✓	X	✓	X	✓
32	Deschambault (D - YORK)	100%	100%					✓	✓	✓
26	Diamond (D - CUMBERLAND)	86%	87 %	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓
5	Dill (D - PENOBSCOT)	86%	75 %	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓
32	Dutremble (D - YORK)	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		•
1	Edgecomb (R - AROOSTOOK)	29%	38%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
24	Gerzofsky (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Gratwick (D - PENOBSCOT)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Hamper (R - OXFORD)	29%	34%	X	X	✓	×	✓	X	X
28	Haskell (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	80%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
35	Hill (D - YORK)	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Johnson (D - LINCOLN)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Katz (R - KENNEBEC)	100%	61%	✓	✓	✓	✓	Ε	✓	✓
7	Langley (R - HANCOCK)	71%	52 %	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	×
21	Libby (D - ANDROSCOGGIN)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Mason (R - ANDROSCOGGIN)	43%	24%	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	×
14	McCormick (R - KENNEBEC)	57 %	55%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X
29	Millett (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Miramant (D - KNOX)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Patrick (D - OXFORD)	100%	81%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Rosen (R - HANCOCK)	43%	44%	✓	×	✓	×	✓	X	×
17	Saviello (R - FRANKLIN)	86%	60%	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Thibodeau (R - WALDO)	29%	30%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	×
31	Valentino (D - YORK)	100%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Volk (R - CUMBERLAND)	40%	43%	E	Ε	4	X	V	X	×
3	Whittemore (R - SOMERSET)	43%	36%	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	×
2	Willette (R - AROOSTOOK)	29%	36%	X	X	4	X	V	X	×
33	Woodsome (R - YORK)	71%	71%	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓

2016 House Scorecard

X A E #	unexcused absence	127th Session Score	Lifetime Score	Mining TD 750	ට සූ Land for Maine's Future	D 5121 522 533 543 543 543 543 543 543 543 543 543	Takings	OT Lest Timber Harvesting	O 454 Land for Maine's Future	O National Monument	Solar	Public Lands
138	Alley (D - BEALS)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
67	Austin (R - GRAY)	22%	36%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	×
8	Babbidge (D - KENNEBUNK)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
35	Bates (D - WESTBROOK)	89%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
33	Battle (R - SOUTH PORTLAND)	56%	56%	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X
2	Beavers (D - SOUTH BERWICK)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Beck (D - WATERVILLE)	100%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Beebe-Center (D - ROCKLAND)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Bickford (R - AUBURN)	44%	28%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X
114	Black (R - WILTON)	56%	53%	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓
3	Blume (D - YORK)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
61	Brooks (D - LEWISTON)	89%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
24	Bryant (D - WINDHAM)	100%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Buckland (R - FARMINGTON)	22%	22%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	×
96	Burstein (D - LINCOLNVILLE)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Campbell (I - NEWFIELD)	100%	66%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
130	Campbell (R - ORRINGTON)	33%	12%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	×
46	Chace (R - DURHAM)	33%	33%	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	×
133	Chapman (D - BROOKSVILLE)	89%	91%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Chenette (D - SACO)	78 %	89%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
40	Chipman (I - PORTLAND)	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Cooper (D - YARMOUTH)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Corey (R - WINDHAM)	78 %	78%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	×
56	Crafts (R - LISBON)	22%	12%	X	A	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	×
49	Daughtry (D - BRUNSWICK)	89%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
101	Davitt (D - HAMPDEN)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
52	DeChant (D - BATH)	100%	100%	V	V	✓	✓	✓	✓	V	✓	V
90	Devin (D - NEWCASTLE)	89%	95%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Dillingham (R - OXFORD)	22%	22%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	A	X
43	Dion (D - PORTLAND)	89%	71%	✓	V	✓	V	V	A	✓	✓.	✓
85	Doore (D - AUGUSTA)	100%	100%	V	V	✓	V	V	V	V	√	V
121	Duchesne (D - HUDSON)	78%	92%	X	✓	A	✓	V	✓	✓	✓	✓
122		56%	32%	V	X	V	V	V	V	X	X	X
118	Dunphy (D - OLD TOWN)	100%	100%	✓	✓	V	✓	V	V	✓	✓	✓
148	Edgecomb (R - FORT FAIRFIELD)	33%	33%	X	X	V	X	X	V	X	X	✓
65	Espling (R - NEW GLOUCESTER)	44%	42%	V	X	V	X	V	V	X	X	X
91	Evangelos (U - FRIENDSHIP)	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓_	✓

2016 House Scorecard (continued)

X X E #	not in office	127 th Session Score	Lifetime Score	Mining	ਹ ਨੂਟ 8 8 Land for Maine's Future	G Energy Efficiency	ov Takings	O 1521 1852 1954 1954 1954 1954 1954 1954 1954 1954	T Tand for Maine's Future	ପ ର National Monument	Solar TD 1649	TD 1629
6	Eves (D - NORTH BERWICK)	100%	93%	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	4
37	Farnsworth (D - PORTLAND)	100%	81%	1	V	V	1	1	1	V	V	V
111	Farrin (R - NORRIDGEWOCK)	33%	33%	X	×	V	X	V	1	X	X	X
11	Fecteau (D - BIDDEFORD)	100%	100%	7	~	V	7	1	1	~	~	7
7	Foley (R - WELLS)	56%	56%	V	V	V	X	×	1	×	V	X
	Fowle (D - VASSALBORO)	100%	100%	V	V	V	~	~	*	~	V	
80							X					,
100	Fredette (R - NEWPORT)	22%	26%	X	×	*		×	*	X	X	X
124	Frey (D - BANGOR)	89%	95%	A	V	V	V	V	*	V	V	V
34	Gattine (D - WESTBROOK)	89%	95%	A	✓	*	✓	✓	*	✓	✓	✓
20	Gerrish (R - LEBANON)	33%	33%	V	X	V	X	X	V	X	X	X
48	Gideon (D - FREEPORT)	100%	100%	V	V	V	✓	V	V	V	✓	✓
74	Gilbert (D - JAY)	100%	100%	4	✓	✓	V	4	V	✓	√	✓
98	Gillway (R - SEARSPORT)	22%	34%	X	X	A	X	X	V	X	✓	X
69	Ginzler (R - BRIDGTON)	33%	33%	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X
60	Golden (D - LEWISTON)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
127	Goode (D - BANGOR)	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Grant (D - GARDINER)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Greenwood (R - WALES)	33%	33%	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X
12	Grohman (D - BIDDEFORD)	100%	100%	4	4	✓	✓	✓	4	✓	✓	✓
102	Guerin (R - GLENBURN)	33%	22%	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X
32	Hamann (D - SOUTH PORTLAND)	100%	100%	V	V	✓	V	V	V	V	V	✓
142	Hanington (R - LINCOLN)	33%	33%	4	X	✓	X	X	4	X	X	×
87	Hanley (R - PITTSTON)	22%	22%	X	X	V	X	X	V	X	X	×
36	Harlow (D - PORTLAND)	89%	91%	V	V	V	4	V	4	×	4	✓
19	Harrington (R - SANFORD)	50%	50%						1	X	1	×
89	Hawke (R - BOOTHBAY HARBOR)	33%	33%	4	×	V	X	×	1	×	X	×
117	Head (R - BETHEL)	22%	22%	X	X	1	X	X	1	X	X	X
97	Herbig (D - BELFAST)	100%	100%	V	4	1	V	V	V	4	4	4
73	Herrick (R - PARIS)	33%	33%	1	A	A	X	X	1	X	1	X
81	Hickman (D - WINTHROP)	100%	100%	1	1	V	1	1	1	1	V	V
120	Higgins (R - DOVER-FOXCROFT)	67%	67%	1	V	V	X	1	A	X	V	1
76	Hilliard (R - BELGRADE)	44%	44%	1	1	V	X	×	1	X	X	X
55	Hobart (R - BOWDOINHAM)	44%	44%	1	V	V	X	X	1	X	A	X
14	Hobbins (D - SACO)	89%	90%	A	V	V	~	~	1	~	→	,
13	Hogan (D - OLD ORCHARD BEACH)	89%	85%	~	V	V	V	*	*	×	V	V
135	Hubbell (D - BAR HARBOR)	100%	100%	V	V	V	V	*	*	^	V	V
		100%	100%	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
4	Hymanson (D - YORK)	100%	100%	V	V	V	V	*	*	*	V	V
41	Jorgensen (D - PORTLAND)											
99	Kinney (R - KNOX)	44%	44%	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	×	A	✓

2016 House Scorecard (continued)

X A E #	pro-environment vote anti-environment vote unexcused absence excused absence not in office	127th Session Score	Lifetime Score	Mining	ರ ಹ Land for Maine's Future	T Energy Efficiency	o Takings	D 1521 1581 1581 1581 1581 1581 1581 1581	진 54 Land for Maine's Future	ପ ର National Monument	TD 1649	TD Hoblic Lands
22	Kinney (R - LIMINGTON)	33%	51%	✓	X	✓	X	X	V	X	×	X
125	Kornfield (D - BANGOR)	100%	96%	1	1	1	V	1	V	V	V	✓
92	Kruger (D - THOMASTON)	100%	100%	✓	4	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	✓
134	Kumiega (D - DEER ISLE)	100%	100%	✓	V	✓	✓	V	✓	V	V	✓
58	Lajoie (D - LEWISTON)	89%	95%	✓	>	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
137	Lockman (R - AMHERST)	22%	23%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	A	A
145	Long (R - SHERMAN)	22%	13%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X
109	Longstaff (D - WATERVILLE)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
132	Luchini (D - ELLSWORTH)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	V	1	✓	V	✓
129	Lyford (R - EDDINGTON)	22%	22%	X	X	✓	X	X	V	X	X	X
	Maker (R - CALAIS)	44%	42%	✓	X	V	X	✓	V	X	X	X
	Malaby (R - HANCOCK)	11%	22%	X	A	A	X	X	V	X	X	X
16	Marean (R - HOLLIS)	56%	56%	✓	V	V	A	A	V	X	V	X
150	Martin (D - EAGLE LAKE)	78%	74%	X	*	*	*	*	*	X	*	*
151	Martin (D - SINCLAIR)	89%	89%	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	*
18	Mastraccio (D - SANFORD)	100%	100%	*	*	*	V	*	*	V	V	*
107	McCabe (D - SKOWHEGAN)	100%	100%	V	✓	V	✓	✓	V	✓	V	V
66	McClellan (R - RAYMOND)	33%	19%	*	X	V	X	X	V	X	X	X
51	McCreight (D - HARPSWELL)	100%	100%	✓	✓	V	×	✓	V	✓	✓	V
149	McElwee (R - CARIBOU)	33 [%]	28 [%]	×	×	V	A	×	✓	×	×	*
27	McLean (D - GORHAM)	100%	100%	V	V	V	✓	V	V	V	V	V
62 30	Melaragno (D - AUBURN)	100%	100%	*	V	V	V	V	V	✓	V	*
38	Monaghan (D - CAPE ELIZABETH) Moonen (D - PORTLAND)	100%	100%	V	V	./	V	V	V	V	V	V
31	Morrison (D - SOUTH PORTLAND)	100%	100%	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	1
78	Nadeau (D - WINSLOW)	89%	95%	V	V	V	V	V	V	×	V	*
19	Noon (Deceased) (D - SANFORD)		100%	V		V	1	V		•		
77	Nutting (R - OAKLAND)	33%	33%	X	X	V	X	V	1	X	X	X
5	O'Connor (R - BERWICK)	44%	22%	V	X	V	X	V	1	×	X	X
23	Ordway (R - STANDISH)	25%	25 [%]						V	X	X	X
10	Parry (R - ARUNDEL)	33%	32%	4	X	1	X	X	V	X	×	X
115	Peterson (D - RUMFORD)	78%	79%	X	V	V	V	X	V	V	V	V
108	Picchiotti (R - FAIRFIELD)	44%	31%	×	V	V	X	X	1	×	A	4
116	Pickett (R - DIXFIELD)	33%	33%	✓	X	1	X	X	V	X	X	X
53	Pierce (R - DRESDEN)	33%	33%	✓	X	✓	×	X	✓	×	X	X
44	Pierce (D - FALMOUTH)	89%	89%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
86	Pouliot (R - AUGUSTA)	44%	53%	A	✓	✓	X	X	✓	×	✓	X
68	Powers (D - NAPLES)	100%	96%	✓	V	✓	✓	V	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Prescott (R - WATERBORO)	22 %	22%	A	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X

2016 House Scorecard (continued)

X A E B DISTRICT	pro-environment vote anti-environment vote unexcused absence excused absence not in office	127th Session Score	Lifetime Score	Mining	ರ ಜ್ಞ Land for Maine's Future	D 5121 Energy Efficiency	ov Takings	OT 1821 Junber Harvesting	고 55 Land for Maine's Future	T National Monument	Solar TD 1649	D 1629
103	Reed (R - CARMEL)	22%	23%	X	X	V	X	X	V	X	X	×
59	Rotundo (D - LEWISTON)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	✓
39	Russell (D - PORTLAND)	100%	98%	4	4	4	✓	V	4	4	✓	✓
1	Rykerson (D - KITTERY)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Sanborn (D - GORHAM)	89%	97%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
88	Sanderson (R - CHELSEA)	33%	30%	✓	X	✓	X	×	✓	X	X	X
147	Saucier (D - PRESQUE ISLE)	89%	87 %	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Sawicki (R - AUBURN)	22%	22%	X	X	✓	X	×	✓	X	X	X
126	Schneck (D - BANGOR)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Seavey (R - KENNEBUNKPORT)	44%	33%	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	×
23	Shaw (D - STANDISH)	100%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
144	Sherman (R - HODGDON)	22%	23%	X	X	V	X	×	✓	X	X	X
106	Short (D - PITTSFIELD)	89%	91%	✓	✓	V	✓	✓	V	X	✓	✓
28	Sirocki (R - SCARBOROUGH)	22%	18%	X	×	V	X	×	V	X	X	×
112	Skolfield (R - WELD)	22%	22%	X	X	V	X	A	✓	X	A	A
143	Stanley (D - MEDWAY)	78%	49%	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	V	✓
119	Stearns (R - GUILFORD)	67%	67%	✓	A	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
105	Stetkis (R - CANAAN)	22%	22%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X
42	Stuckey (D - PORTLAND)	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Sukeforth (U - APPLETON)	100%	57 %	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
54	Tepler (D - TOPSHAM)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
79	Theriault (R - CHINA)	22%	22%	X	X	✓	X	×	✓	X	A	×
75	Timberlake (R - TURNER)	22%	15%	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	×
45	Timmons (R - CUMBERLAND)	33%	33%	✓	X	✓	X	×	✓	X	A	X
123	Tipping-Spitz (D - ORONO)	100%	100%	V	V	V	✓	✓	V	V	✓	✓
50	Tucker (D - BRUNSWICK)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	V	✓	4
139	Tuell (R - EAST MACHIAS)	56%	56%	V	✓	V	X	X	V	X	X	✓
141	Turner (R - BURLINGTON)	33%	25%	V	×	V	X	×	V	X	X	X
29	Vachon (R - SCARBOROUGH)	33%	33%	V	X	V	X	X	V	X	X	X
128	Verow (D - BREWER)	89%	95%	V	✓	V	✓	V	V	X	✓	✓
70	Wadsworth (R - HIRAM)	33%	33%	✓	X	V	X	X	V	X	X	X
	Wallace (R - DEXTER)	22%	15%	X	X	V	X	X	V	×	X	X
131	,	56%	56%	V	V	V	X	X	V	X	X	✓
84	Warren (D - HALLOWELL)	100%	100%	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
94	Welsh (D - ROCKPORT)	100%	98%	4	V	V	V	V	V	✓	✓	✓
	White (R - WASHBURN)	22%	22%	X	X	V	X	X	V	×	X	X
71	Winsor (R - NORWAY)	22%	14%	X	X	*	X	X	V	X	X	X
57	Wood (R - SABATTUS)	33%	27%	A	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓

Scorecard Bill Descriptions



LD 750 (2015)

Metallic Mining Rules Rejected

An Act to Allow Regulated Metal Mining in Maine

Sponsored by Rep. Ralph Chapman

The Legislature defeated metallic mining rules submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection. The same rules were submitted to and rejected by the 126th Legislature. The Environment and Natural Resources Committee spent significant time reworking the rules in the 2015 session and voted 8-5 to approve them. However, the rules still did not adequately protect clean water or taxpayers from paying the cost of cleanup and were rejected by large majorities in the House and Senate. By law, the 1991 metallic mining rules will remain in effect until new rules are approved by the Legislature.

NO IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE IN THE HOUSE • YES IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE IN THE SENATE

- Final Outcome: Rules rejected
- ➤ House Roll Call # 156 (June 4, 2015) Yes 36, No 109
- > Senate Roll Call # 287 (June 17, 2015) Yes 26, No 8



LD 1378 (2015)

Land for Maine's Future (LMF) Bonds Withheld

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Issuance of Bonds and To Effectuate the Issuance of Bonds To Support Maine's Natural Resource-based Economy

Sponsored by Sen. Roger Katz

The governor withheld LMF funding, approved by voters in 2010 and 2012. LMF supports the conservation of farms, forests, waters and recreational access. The governor held the bonds hostage in 2013 until a hospital debt was paid. The debt was paid and the governor promised, in writing, to release the bonds. The governor broke his promise and held the bonds hostage again in 2015, subverting the will of Maine voters. This time, LePage demanded an increase of timber harvesting on public lands above current sustainable levels, to fund unrelated heating programs. Sen. Katz sponsored a bill to require Governor LePage to release the LMF bonds. The Legislature voted to support the bill but the governor vetoed it. On the last day of the 2015 session, the Senate voted to override the veto, but the House failed to override it by five votes. Six representatives switched their votes after receiving intense pressure from the governor's office.

YES IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE

Final Outcome: Bill vetoed by governor; veto override failed

- ➤ House Roll Call #460 (July 16, 2015) Yes 91, No 52
- Senate Roll Call #426 (July 16, 2015) Yes 25, No 9



LD 1215 (2015)

Energy Efficiency Funding Replaced: "AND"

An Act To Provide Lower Energy Costs to Maine Businesses and Residences by Carrying Out the Legislature's Intent Regarding Funding of the Efficiency Maine Trust

Sponsored by Rep. Sara Gideon

The Legislature restored energy efficiency funding to the Efficiency Maine Trust. In March, the Public Utilities Commission slashed \$38 million from energy efficiency programs. The funding cut was the result of a clerical error in the omnibus energy bill of 2013 – the word "AND" had been erroneously omitted. Rep. Gideon sponsored a bill to fix the error and restore the energy efficiency funding. The bill overwhelmingly passed both bodies and was vetoed by Governor LePage. In an act of solidarity and good governance, the Legislature unanimously overrode the governor's veto. This was one of the bills the governor held hostage; offering to sign the bill in exchange for more control over Efficiency Maine. The Legislature did not agree to the governor's terms.

YES IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE

Final Outcome: Bill vetoed by governor; veto override successful

- ➤ House Roll Call # 387 (June 23, 2015) Yes 144, No 0
- ➤ Senate Roll Call # 371 (June 23, 2015) Yes 35, No 0



LD 309 (2015)

Regulatory "Takings" Change Defeated

An Act to Connect the Citizens of the State to the State's Natural Resources by Establishing Standards for Relief from Regulatory Burdens

Sponsored by Sen. Ron Collins

The Legislature defeated regulatory "takings" legislation, which would have required the state to pay landowners if future laws passed by the Legislature arguably reduced their property values significantly. If the state could not afford to pay, the landowner would have been permitted to disregard the law. This legislation threatened to freeze the passage of any future environmental law or regulation because of the potential financial consequences to the state. The Senate passed the "takings" bill and the House rejected it. As a result, the bill died.

YES IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE IN THE HOUSE • NO IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE IN THE SENATE

Final Outcome: Bill died

- ➤ House Roll Call #201 (June 10, 2015) Yes 85, No 64
- > Senate Roll Call #134 (June 3, 2015) Yes 19, No 16



LD 1397 (2015)

Diversion of Increased Timber Harvesting Revenue Thwarted

An Act to Establish the Affordable Heating from Maine's Forests Fund Sponsored by Rep. Jeff Timberlake (Governor's bill)

The Legislature voted against diverting timber harvesting revenue from public land stewardship. One of Governor LePage's priorities has been to increase timber harvesting on public lands and use the revenue to fund unrelated heating programs. The Legislature rejected this proposal, as did the 126th Legislature in 2014 (see LD 1838). The diversion of timber revenue was soundly defeated in the House and unanimously in the Senate. Relatedly, the Legislature established a commission to review the use of revenue generated by harvesting on public lands as well as sustainable harvest levels.

YES IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE

Final Outcome: Bill died

- ➤ House Roll Call #272 (June 16, 2015) Yes 91, No 58
- ➤ No Senate Vote



LD 1454 (2016)

Land for Maine's Future Bonds Released

Resolve, Reauthorizing the Balance of the 2009 Bond Issue for Land Conservation Projects

Amendment sponsored by Rep. Jeff McCabe (Governor's Bill)

Immediately after the failed LD 1378 override vote at the end of the 2015 session, Majority Leader McCabe amended a different bill, LD 1454, to direct the governor to release the LMF bonds. The bill passed with a majority in both chambers and was sent to the governor's desk. At the beginning of the 2016 session, LD 1454 was reconsidered, further amended and passed unanimously in the House and Senate. LD 1454 provides \$6.5 million to protect working farms, forests, and working waterfronts.

YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE

Final Outcome: Bill passed and became law without the governor's signature

- ➤ House Roll Call # 466 (January 12, 2016) Yes 147, No 0
- ➤ Senate Roll Call # 471 (January 21, 2016) Yes 34, No 0



LD 1600 (2016)

National Monument Designation Attacked

An Act Regarding Consent to Land Transfers to the Federal Government

Sponsored by Rep. Stephen Stanley (Governor's Bill)

The governor introduced a bill withdrawing state consent for the federal government to designate a national monument. A national monument is a place protected for its natural, scientific, or cultural significance under authority granted by the federal Antiquities Act. The bill was an attack on a potential monument designation in the Katahdin region. Despite significant constitutional issues raised by Maine's Attorney General, the bill passed by three votes in the House and by one vote in the Senate. The legislation cannot legally prevent the creation of a national monument.

NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE

Final Outcome: Bill passed; signed into law by the governor

- ➤ House Roll Call # 569 (April 7, 2016) Yes 77, No 73
- > Senate Roll Call # 643 (April 14, 2016) Yes 18, No 17



LD 1649 (2016)

Solar Power Defeated

An Act to Modernize Maine's Solar Power Policy and Encourage Economic Development

Sponsored by Rep. Sara Gideon

The governor vetoed a bill enacted by the legislature to expand Maine's solar capacity ten-fold over five years. LD 1649 included provisions to build community solar projects, update net metering, create solar jobs, and reduce electricity costs for all ratepayers. The Senate considered and rejected an undermining amendment that would have given the Public Utilities Commission the authority to decide net metering policy. The vote on the amendment is scored here. The Senate unanimously enacted LD 1649 (without the harmful amendment) and sent it to the House, where it passed with a 91-56 vote. The governor vetoed the bill and the veto override vote fell short by two votes in the House. The subsequent override vote in the House is scored here. Six representatives refused to vote.

NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE IN THE SENATE • YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE IN THE HOUSE

Final Outcome: Bill vetoed by governor, veto override failed

- > Senate Roll Call # 671 (April 14, 2016) Yes 16, No 19
- ➤ House Roll Call # 661 (April 29, 2016) Yes 93, No 50



LD 1629 (2016)

Public Reserved Land Commission Recommendations Ignored

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Study the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund

Reported by Rep. Craig Hickman for the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee

In 2015, the legislature authorized a commission to study the funding structure of Maine's Public Reserved Lands – a network of over a half million acres of public land that includes some of Maine's most outstanding natural features. Public Reserved Lands are managed for a variety of resource values including outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat conservation, and commercial timber harvesting. The study commission developed a set of recommendations for improving access, prioritizing recreation infrastructure projects, and clarifying that timber harvesting revenue should be used by the Bureau of Parks and Lands for stewardship and management. The bill was enacted unanimously in the House and Senate before the governor vetoed it. The House veto override vote, scored here, failed by nine votes.

YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE

Final Outcome: Bill defeated

House Roll Call # 671 (April 29, 2016) Yes 90, No 58

Environmental Champions of the 127th Legislature

The elected officials on the cover of the scorecard were champions of land conservation and solar power during the 127th Legislature. We were honored to work with them.

See *Beyond the Roll Calls* on page 12 for more information.



Sen. Roger Katz (R-Augusta)



Rep. Sara Gideon (D-Freeport)



Rep. Norman Higgins (R-Dover-Foxcroft)



Rep. Jeff McCabe (D-Skowhegan)

Beyond the Roll Calls

Legislative scores tell only part of the story. Here we report the individual actions not reflected in the scores that legislators took on the 2016 scored bills.

LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE



The outcry from Mainers between sessions demanding the release of LMF bonds created enough political pressure to force the governor to release them. Republican lawmakers, hearing from angered constituents, implored the governor

to act quickly to release the bonds. If the governor had vetoed the bill (LD 1454), an override was virtually assured. Legislators from both sides of the aisle remained champions in this two-year battle, most notably **House Majority Leader McCabe** and **Sen. Katz. Rep. Marean** was instrumental in persuading his Republican caucus to unanimously vote to release the bonds. **Rep. Grohman** made the motion to recall the bill from the governor's desk.

SOLAR



Assistant House Majority Leader Gideon provided outstanding leadership in working to expand solar power and create solar jobs in Maine. She worked closely with Sen. Woodsome and Rep. Higgins, courageous freshmen

from the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee, to craft a compromise with bipartisan support. In the end, the solar bill was supported by the House Democrats, three Independents, and Republican Reps. Battle, Bickford, Corey, Foley, Gillway, Harrington, Herrick, Higgins, Marean, Pouliot, Seavey, and Stearns. Rep. Hanington voted to enact the bill but voted to sustain the veto. Despite initially voting to override the veto, the following five legislators faced pressure from the governor's office and did not cast a final vote: Dillingham, Hobart, Maryanne Kinney, Picchiotti, and Timmons. Rep. Theriault neglected to vote on both override votes. House Minority Leader Fredette did all he could to defeat the bill,

including speaking vociferously in opposition on the House floor and only allowing the bill's opponents to speak to the Republican caucus. **Rep. Dion** artfully rebuffed **Rep. Fredette** with his remarks on the floor. Early in the process, **Rep. Wadsworth** introduced an amendment to gut the bill that did not gain traction. In the Senate, four Republicans stood with all Democrats to defeat the amendment: **Davis**, **Katz**, **Saviello**, and **Woodsome**.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS

House Chair of the State and Local Committee

Danny Martin championed the opposition to the constitutionally suspect bill limiting the creation of national monuments. He and other members of the committee spoke in opposition on the House floor: **Bryant, Babbidge**,



Beebe-Center, and Majority Leader McCabe.
Disappointingly, Democratic Reps. Harlow, Hogan,
John Martin, Nadeau, Short, Stanley, and Verow
voted in favor of the bill. In the Senate, Sen. Katz made



an impassioned plea to defeat the bill because of its suspect constitutionality. Republican **Sens. Langley** and **Saviello** voted with **Katz** and almost all of the Democrats to defeat the bill. **Sen. Dill** was the only Democrat

to vote in favor of the bill, which passed by one vote. **Sens. Breen**, **Johnson**, **Libby**, and **Miramant** spoke in opposition to the bill on the Senate floor.

PUBLIC LANDS



Rep. Hickman, Chair of the Agriculture, Forestry, and Conservation Committee, and Sen. Saviello, committee member, co-chaired and championed the Public Lands Commission. They fostered the unanimous

committee report on the recommendations that flowed from the commission's work.

Other Noteworthy Acts in 2016

BILL GRAVEYARD

Stream Crossings (Culverts) Bond. Culverts that are too small or are poorly designed can block fish and wildlife movement and create a public safety hazard. This bond, LD 1069, would have provided funding for a proven program that assists communities across the state in improving their stream crossings. Very few bonds were approved this year, and LD 1069 was not one of them. A new LMF bond (LD 1248) in the amount of \$5 million also died. House Majority Leader McCabe sponsored and championed both bonds.

Flame Retardants. Sen. Baker introduced a bill on behalf of firefighters to phase out flame retardant chemicals in new upholstered furniture (LD 1535). Disappointingly, **Sen. Saviello** tabled the bill, and it remained tabled for all of the 2016 session.

A LOSS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE



Climate Change. The Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee heard and considered a bill to bail out Maine's four remaining inefficient and dirty biomass plants, LD 1676. Biomass electricity generation can emit even more carbon pollution

per unit of electricity than coal generation. It is cleaner and more efficient to burn wood for heat than electricity. **Rep. O'Connor**, who serves on the committee, led the effort to defeat the \$13-million-dollar taxpayer funded bailout. The bill passed by a strong margin: 104-40 in the House and 25-9 in the Senate. Other members of the committee, **Sen. Mason**, and **Reps. Babbidge** and **Grohman** voted against the bill on the floor.

SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE:

Energy Efficiency. The governor introduced a bill that, as originally written, would have slashed Regional

Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) funding for energy efficiency programs and given RGGI dollars directly to corporations. RGGI has proven to be an effective nine-state program that reduces climate change-causing pollution while lowering energy costs



and improving Maine's economy. A compromise was reached on this bill, LD 1398, preserving most of the energy efficiency funding, which will help businesses make capital investments. **Rep. Dion**, Chair of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee, was the architect of the compromise. During committee proceedings, member **Rep. Babbidge** advocated for 100% of RGGI funds to go to energy efficiency.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Senate President Thibodeau introduced a bill (LD 1339) to suspend Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), which has been instrumental in building the state's clean energy economy. Maine's RPS requires that 30% of generated electricity comes from renewable sources. The Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee voted mostly along party lines on the bill with Republicans supporting and Democrats opposing. The exception was Republican Rep. Higgins, who opposed the bill in committee and on the House floor. The bill died in the House, 77-69.

Pesticide Reduction. Rep. Timberlake introduced a harmful bill limiting municipal authority to pass pesticide ordinances (LD 1543). The bill was tabled on the House floor by **House Majority Leader McCabe**, and it remained tabled for all of the 2016 session. Maine has had a 700% increase in the use of pesticides by homeowners and lawn & tree care companies over the past two decades. The right of municipalities to restrict pesticide use in their communities remains intact, for now.

Committee Spotlight 2016

Most of the work on bills occurs in committee. We highlight here the work of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee (ENR) during the 2016 session.

Solid waste. Members of the ENR Committee devoted countless hours to evaluating options to improve Maine's solid waste policies. The committee ended up crafting a bill (LD 313) that creates a new waste disposal goal to reduce per capita generation of solid waste and promote strategies to reduce food waste. The bill authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to adopt fee changes on solid waste disposal and creates a new solid waste diversion grant program for recycling projects. The bill was signed into law by the governor.



Unfortunately, one big portion of the bill became a casualty along the way. As part of the committee process, **Sen. Saviello** proposed to establish a new recycling program for single-use consumer

batteries. This proposal was supported by the battery industry and environmental organizations. The committee did excellent work finalizing the language and voted unanimously to support it, but the battery recycling initiative was removed with an amendment due to pressure from the toy industry.

Water and Wildlife.

The ENR Committee voted 9-4 'Ought Not to Pass' on LD 1478, An Act to Reestablish Recreational Use of a Historic Trolley Line in the Town of Gray. The bill, sponsored by **Sen. Breen**, proposed to



create exemptions in the Natural Resources Protection Act and Shoreland Zoning for the Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad in Gray, weakening important environmental protections. Legislators from both sides of the aisle,

led by Rep. Duchesne and Rep. Dick Campbell, asked questions that guided the committee to a quick vote at the work session. Rep. Dick Campbell moved the 'Ought Not to Pass' motion and Rep. Harlow seconded the motion. Chairwoman Welsh and Reps. Buckland, Chipman, Duchesne, John Martin, Tucker, and White joined the majority report.

The ENR Committee also considered a bill, LD 1494, sponsored by **Rep. Duchesne**, to weaken Maine's oil spill reporting standards. The committee initially voted 8-5 to pass the bill but came to the conclusion that the legislation did not adequately address oil spill reporting issues. They re-voted 11-2 'Ought Not to Pass' out of committee, which ensured the bill's failure on the floor of the House. The committee sent a letter to the DEP asking for input on how to make the reporting process more efficient while maintaining adequate environmental protections.

2015-2016 Honor Roll

SENATE

100%	Justin Alfond (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	Christopher Johnson (D - LINCOLN)
100%	Catherine Breen (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	Roger Katz (R - KENNEBEC)
100%	Susan Deschambeault (D - YORK)	100%	Nathan Libby (D - ANDROSCOGGIN)
100%	David Dutremble (D - YORK)	100%	Rebecca Millett (D - CUMBERLAND)
100%	Stan Gerzofsky (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	David Miramant (D - KNOX)
100%	Geoffrey Gratwick (D - PENOBSCOT)	100%	John Patrick (D - OXFORD)
100%	Anne Haskell (D - CUMBERLAND)	100%	Linda Valentino (D - YORK)
100%	Dawn Hill (D - YORK)		

HOUSE

	<u> </u>		
100%	Robert Alley (D - BEALS)	100%	Joyce McCreight (D - HARPSWELL)
100%	Christopher Babbidge (D - KENNEBUNK)	100%	,
100%	Roberta Beavers (D - SOUTH BERWICK)	100%	Kimberly Monaghan (D - CAPE ELIZABETH)
100%	Henry Beck (D - WATERVILLE)	100%	Matthew Moonen (D - PORTLAND)
100%	Pinny Beebe-Center (D - ROCKLAND)	100%	Terry Morrison (D - SOUTH PORTLAND)
100%	Lydia Blume (D - YORK)	100%	William Noon (Deceased) (D - SANFORD)
100%	Mark Bryant (D - WINDHAM)	100%	Christine Powers (D - NAPLES)
100%	Christine Burstein (D - LINCOLNVILLE)	100%	Margaret Rotundo (D - LEWISTON)
100%	James Campbell (I - NEWFIELD)	100%	Diane Russell (D - PORTLAND)
100%	Benjamin Chipman (I - PORTLAND)	100%	Deane Rykerson (D - KITTERY)
100%	Janice Cooper (D - YARMOUTH)	100%	John Schneck (D - BANGOR)
100%	James Davitt (D - HAMPDEN)	100%	Michael Shaw (D - STANDISH)
100%	Jennifer DeChant (D - BATH)	100%	Peter Stuckey (D - PORTLAND)
100%	Donna Doore (D - AUGUSTA)	100%	Gary Sukeforth (U - APPLETON)
100%	Michelle Dunphy (D - OLD TOWN)	100%	Denise Tepler (D - TOPSHAM)
100%	Jeffrey Evangelos (U - FRIENDSHIP)	100%	Ryan Tipping-Spitz (D - ORONO)
100%	Mark Eves (D - NORTH BERWICK)	100%	Ralph Tucker (D - BRUNSWICK)
100%	Richard Farnsworth (D - PORTLAND)	100%	Charlotte Warren (D - HALLOWELL)
100%	Ryan Fecteau (D - BIDDEFORD)	100%	Joan Welsh (D - ROCKPORT)
100%	Lori Fowle (D - VASSALBORO)	89%	Dillon Bates (D - WESTBROOK)
100%	Sara Gideon (D - FREEPORT)	89%	Heidi Brooks (D - LEWISTON)
100%	Paul Gilbert (D - JAY)	89%	Ralph Chapman (D - BROOKSVILLE)
100%	Jared Golden (D - LEWISTON)	89%	Matthea Daughtry (D - BRUNSWICK)
100%	Adam Goode (D - BANGOR)	89%	Michael Devin (D - NEWCASTLE)
100%	Gay Grant (D - GARDINER)	89%	Mark Dion (D - PORTLAND)
100%	Martin Grohman (D - BIDDEFORD)	89%	Aaron Frey (D - BANGOR)
100%	Scott Hamann (D - SOUTH PORTLAND)	89%	Drew Gattine (D - WESTBROOK)
100%	Erin Herbig (D - BELFAST)	89%	Denise Harlow (D - PORTLAND)
100%	Craig Hickman (D - WINTHROP)	89%	Barry Hobbins (D - SACO)
100%	Brian Hubbell (D - BAR HARBOR)	89%	5 • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
100%	Patricia Hymanson (D - YORK)	89%	Michel Lajoie (D - LEWISTON)
100%	Erik Jorgensen (D - PORTLAND)	89%	Roland Martin (D - SINCLAIR)
100%	Victoria Kornfield (D - BANGOR)	89%	Andrew McLean (D - GORHAM)
100%	Chuck Kruger (D - THOMASTON)	89%	Catherine Nadeau (D - WINSLOW)
100%	Walter Kumiega (D - DEER ISLE)	89%	Teresa Pierce (D - FALMOUTH)
100%	Thomas Longstaff (D - WATERVILLE)	89%	Linda Sanborn (D - GORHAM)
100%	Louis Luchini (D - ELLSWORTH)	89%	Robert Saucier (D - PRESQUE ISLE)
100%	Anne-Marie Mastraccio (D - SANFORD)	89%	Stanley Short (D - PITTSFIELD)
100%	Jeff McCabe (D - SKOWHEGAN)	89%	Arthur Verow (D - BREWER)

HONOR ROLL

Outgoing Champions



SENATE



Justin Alfond 100% lifetime score for 4 terms; champion of clean water



David **Dutremble** 96% lifetime score for less than 2 terms



Stan Gerzofsky 91% lifetime score for 8 terms



Ann Haskell 80% lifetime for 8 terms



Linda Valentino 91% lifetime score for 6 terms

HOUSE



Bobbi **Beavers** 100% lifetime score for 3 terms; clean energy champion on Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee



Henry Beck 89% lifetime score for 4 terms



Chris Burstein 100% one term legislator; introduced a ban on polystyrene



Jim Campbell 100% in 2014 and 2016



Ben Chipman 97% lifetime for 3 terms.



Jeff **Evangelos** 96% lifetime for 2 terms



Speaker **Mark Eves** 93% lifetime score for 4 terms



Paul Gilbert 100% lifetime score for 4 terms



Adam Goode 95% lifetime score for 4 terms. Sponsored a hill to remove toxic chemicals from the workplace



Chuck Kruger 100% lifetime score for 4 terms. Served on Marine Resources Committee; introduced a bill to support offshore wind power



Majority Leader Jeff McCabe 100% lifetime score for 4 terms: uber champion on conservation and water protection



Terry Morrison 100% lifetime score for 4 terms: sponsored clean eneray legislation

Peter

Stuckey

score for

4 terms

95% lifetime



Peggy Rotundo 100% lifetime score for 8 terms!

Champion of funding environmental programs and conservation related bonds as chair or member of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee



Diane Russell 98% lifetime score for 4 terms. Champion of clean renewable energy and energy efficiency; member of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee



Joan Welsh 98% lifetime score for 4 terms. Chair of **Environment and Natural** Resources Committee. Sponsored legislation to increase recycling



Gary Sukeforth 100% score in the 127th. Most improved score. from a 14% in 2004



Mike Shaw 93% lifetime score for 3.5 terms. Served as chair of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee



Mark Dion 71% lifetime score for 3 terms. Chaired the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee.



Mike Lajoie 95% lifetime score for 4 terms



Barry Hobbins 90% lifetime score for 13 terms



Linda Sanborn 97% lifetime score for 4 terms



A Special Report on Governor Lepage and the 127th Legislature

In 2012, Maine Conservation Voters gave Governor LePage a **D grade** for his destructive agenda to weaken Maine's environmental laws and programs. We outlined ways in which he could get his environmental policies back on track, from investing in farmland, timberland, and coastal land to building Maine's clean energy economy.

Unfortunately for the people of Maine, Gov. LePage continues to attack our natural heritage and ignores the many ways in which a clean environment fuels our economy, our identity, and our way of life.

This special report focuses on Governor LePage's actions in the 127th Legislature. As we grade the governor's record, we note the bravery and leadership legislators have shown in defense of Maine's environment. While the governor might be out of step with the conservation values of Maine people, the legislature by and large has listened to countless citizens, businesses, and communities from across the state. This bipartisan coalition has been able to stop many of Gov. LePage's most extreme measures and in many instances, but not all, has overridden his reckless vetoes.

SPECIAL: Report on Governor LePage



Erosion of Maine's Natural Legacy

While the administration made a few pro-environment moves during the 127th Legislature (for example, signing a bill updating the endangered and threatened species list), the governor took an anti-environment stance on almost every bill related to wildlife, water quality, land use, fisheries, lake protection, and ocean acidification, and in many cases worked directly or behind the scenes to defeat the proposals.

Attacks on Land for Maine's Future (LMF): In 2015-16, the standout story has been Governor LePage's obstruction of land conservation. Despite Mainers' overwhelming support for land conservation at the polls, LePage has repeatedly attacked or eroded the conservation of land in Maine.

Governor LePage waged a campaign to impede the operation of LMF, which has protected thousands of acres of working farms, forests, waterfronts, trails, and wildlife habitat throughout Maine since 1987. In 2010 and 2012, 60% of Maine voters approved new bond funding for LMF land acquisitions. LePage promised to issue the bonds in 2013, but he did not keep his word. In 2015, he once again refused to issue the voter-approved LMF bonds, this time using them as a bargaining chip to try to get his way on an unrelated issue.

When the legislature passed a bill requiring Governor LePage to release the 2010 LMF funds (LD 1378) and thereby save dozens of land conservation agreements waiting to receive their LMF funding, the governor vetoed the bill. Only when the legislature looked likely to override a veto on LD 1454 in 2016 by an overwhelming majority, did the governor capitulate and agree to release the bonds.

The governor has also directed his department commissioners who sit on the LMF Board to vote against the LMF projects, even projects their own departments had proposed. LePage directed commissioners not to attend LMF meetings at all, denying the LMF Board a quorum so that it could not function. One of the governor's most recent appointments to the LMF board, Lisa Turner, has been an outspoken critic of the LMF program and local conservation projects.

Increased timber harvesting on public land: Some of the governor's political tactics (withholding LMF funding as leverage to get his way on other issues) were related to his repeated efforts to increase timber harvesting on public land. The legislature rejected this

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attempt in 2015 (LD 1397) but authorized a commission to study public land and determine a path forward. The legislature unanimously passed the resulting recommendations, but the governor vetoed the bill. When the legislature voted to override, several legislators switched their votes, and the bill failed.

Blocking creation of a national monument: In 2016, the governor introduced a bill intended to prevent the Quimby family from donating property in the Katahdin region for a national monument (LD 1600). The bill withdraws state consent to the federal government for designation of property as a national monument. Despite significant constitutional issues raised by Maine's Attorney General, the legislature passed this anticonservation bill by a narrow margin.

Weakening mining rules: Irving Corporation has worked since 2012 to weaken rules for metallic mineral mining in Maine. In 2014 the governor proposed a bill to diminish existing protections. The legislature rejected the bill, and in 2015 the governor re-submitted the same rules. Because the potential threat to Maine's waters from mining pollution is so clear, the legislature again refused to weaken the rules and maintained Maine's environmental protections.

Blocking Maine's Clean Energy Solutions

Reducing energy efficiency investment: The governor seized on a clerical error that left out the word "and" from the previous legislative session's law requiring utilities to invest in energy efficiency. The omission stripped \$38 million from an efficiency investment program. The legislature passed a bill to fix the error and to restore the legislative intent (LD 1215), but the governor vetoed the bill. In this case, the legislature overrode the veto.

Blocking solar energy development: The destructive power of the governor's veto when aided by Republican leaders in the legislature was most evident in the fate of this year's solar power bill. In the previous session, the legislature directed a stakeholder group to determine how best to integrate solar power into Maine's generation mix. The various interests hammered out a bipartisan bill (LD 1649) to increase Maine's solar capacity tenfold over five years - a compromise that satisfied utilities, ratepayer advocates, towns, environmental organizations, and Maine's solar businesses.

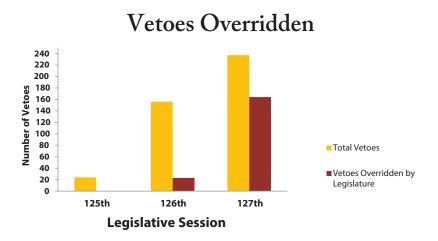
The legislature passed the bill unanimously in the Senate and by a large majority in the House. The governor vetoed it. Under tremendous pressure from House Republican leadership to fall in with LePage's agenda, a few legislators changed their vote, and a few others avoided being in the room during the override vote. The veto override fell short of the two-thirds threshold by an excruciating two votes.

Out-of-control Vetoes Undermine Representative Government

Governor LePage has vetoed more bills than any other governor in Maine's history, and it keeps getting worse. Showing his contempt for bills carefully crafted and passed by a bipartisan majority of legislators, Governor LePage vetoed a record 237 bills in the 127th

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Legislature. But while the veto number has risen, so has the legislature's willingness to override the governor's wishes and do the people's work without him. While the legislature upheld 100% of LePage's vetos in the 125th session (2011-2012), the legislature sustained only 30% of the vetos in the 127th session (2015-2016).



Most significant for the environment, however, was that on several occasions the legislature passed environmental bills by wide margins, but ended up just a few votes shy of the two-thirds needed to override the governor's vetoes. In these cases, intense pressure from Republican legislative leadership and the governor turned just enough legislators to thwart the will of a majority of Mainers.

Moving Forward

A brief report cannot begin to describe all of Governor LePage's opposition to legislative action for environmental protection including solutions to climate change, solid waste disposal, lake protection, regulation of toxic chemicals, promotion of local and healthy food, and many other areas critical to Mainers' healthy way of life.

The record shows that LePage is unwilling to change his unpopular agenda to weaken Maine's environmental protections. He vetoes solutions for a clean and healthy environment favored by a majority Mainers and legislators, and he bullies those who stand in his way.

We cannot have a strong economy without a healthy environment. And we cannot have a healthy environment without a healthy democracy. We are not done fighting for public land, renewable energy, and clean water. The people of Maine deserve legislators who will stand up to the governor and support the solutions they believe in, even when pressured by their party.

Whether it's voting for pro-conservation candidates at the polls, making a call to your elected official on a bill, or working for clean air, water, and land in your communities, thank you for fighting for Maine's environment.



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