



**CONNECTICUT LEAGUE  
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**

# 2016 Environmental Scorecard



## Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

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*Special Thanks to our 2016 Summer Political Interns,  
Emily Agnew and Max Hurwitz!*

The 2016 Scorecard is paid for by the CTLCV Political Action Committee. This message was made independent of any candidate or political party. Contributions to the CTLCV PAC of \$5,000 or more were made by CTLCV, Inc and David Bingham. Additional information about the CTLCV PAC may be found on the State Elections Enforcement Commission's internet website.

### Judi Friedman 1936 - 2016

### Lou Friedman 1935 - 2016

This year's Scorecard is dedicated to the lifelong environmental work of Judi and Lou Friedman. Thoughtful, steadfast, passionate—they were true leaders of minds and hearts. They built a solid foundation of unity among environmental advocates in Connecticut and their accomplishments will continue to inspire future generations.



## HOW TO USE THIS SCORECARD

### How Bills are Selected

Legislation included in this Scorecard represents a diverse set of environmental concerns. Environmental groups from around the state inform us about their priority bills. We consult with advocates throughout the session, lobby lawmakers on important initiatives, and track their votes.

CTLCV sends regular updates to legislators and our members with a "watchlist" of important bills to be sure the pro-environment position is clear before legislators cast their votes.

### How Legislators are Scored

CTLCV grades legislators on a 0%-to-100% scale based on their votes on environmental bills in legislative committees, the House and the Senate.

The final score shown in this document is the average of each legislator's combined votes on specific bills. For example, if a legislator had two chances to vote for a pro-environment bill but only voted the right way once, the score for that bill would be 50%. The 2016 final score is the average of the legislator's scores on all of the bills.

We do not currently score absences or abstentions. A blank space means there was no vote to score for that legislator on that bill.

While the most recent session reflects current positions on specific bills, watching the long-term voting patterns and the LIFETIME AVERAGE of individual lawmakers can give a broader view of their priorities.



# YOU CARE ABOUT CONNECTICUT'S ENVIRONMENT

## Do your legislators?

Connecticut is our home. It's a remarkable place to live, work and play. The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters fights to protect our state's great natural legacy for future generation.

To do this, we must hold our elected officials accountable.

This Environmental Scorecard shows how your legislators voted on critical environmental bills during Connecticut's 2016 Legislative Session.

Together we can protect our home.

- 1 Read this Scorecard
- 2 Stay connected: Follow us on Facebook and Twitter
- 3 Get involved: Sign-up for Action Alerts at [ctlcv.org](http://ctlcv.org)
- 4 Act: Tell your legislators you know their score

... AND ALWAYS VOTE!

Visit [www.ctlcv.org](http://www.ctlcv.org)  
to learn more



## THE SESSION THAT WOULD NOT END...

It took four long months and three Special Sessions for legislators to complete the budget and wrap up for the year.

Two major battles that have been building for years were played out in force at the state capitol this session. Control of our public water supply and protection of our state's open space lands were addressed in two hotly debated bills, Senate Bill 422 and Senate Joint Resolution 36. Throngs of citizens came to the Capitol—many for the first time—fighting for these most basic environmental needs.

**Controversial Budget Negotiations.** The highly controversial budget negotiations made things especially unpredictable. Important core funding for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Community Investment Act, Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, Green Bank, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the Council on Environmental Quality were tossed back and forth between legislative leaders and the Governor like hot potatoes in competing budget proposals. The regular session of the Legislature ended on May 4 without a final vote on the budget. It took three more Special Sessions for legislators to finish their work.

**Mixed Results.** Critical environmental issues were considered by legislators with mixed results. Pesticides, toxic flame retardants, solar energy, electric vehicles, plastic bags, packaging waste, notices of tree cutting, access to water data, and protection of the Housatonic River were just some of the issues on our legislative watchlist this year.

**Anti-environment Attacks.** CTLCV worked with advocates to advance a solid list of pro-environment bills. Individual organizations and coalitions of groups were fighting for specific priorities, but all banded together to defeat anti-environment bills and amendments that surfaced unexpectedly. Six bad initiatives were spotlighted in time to be stopped. The worst were attacks on DEEP's ability to enforce environmental laws for first-time violators and for violators of consent orders.

**Legislative Champions Step Up.** There were some amazing legislative champions who went to bat for the environment. But there were also many legislators who stood in the way of good bills. And still others played politics with the environment or were unwilling to make tough policy decisions for the environmental future of our state.

*"Environmental advocates faced huge challenges in a very contentious legislative session. Considering the budgetary concerns, they did well to advance legislative goals and hold the line on losses."*

–David Bingham  
CTLCV Co-Chair



**Big Threats Looming.** One thing is clear. Battles over our natural resources and protecting our environment have become mainstream at the Legislature. There are big threats looming and

even bigger battles ahead. It matters more than ever to have trusted legislative champions fighting for us at the Capitol.

## 2016 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

### Water

**Many hard-fought wins in the Senate were derailed in the House.**

A bill to prevent our public water supply from being sold off to a private, out-of-state water-bottling corporation was thwarted by a massive lobbying push by water utilities that control our state's water reserves and want to be able to sell it based on "grandfathered" water diversion permits.

The upside is that lawmakers, many for the first time, were made aware of the vulnerability of our state's water supply and had to focus on the bigger issue of planning for Connecticut's future water uses and needs. Of particular concern were the lack of public accountability by the Metropolitan District Commission (a quasi-public/private water utility) and the inability of our state agencies to oversee some of the MDC's practices.

As droughts and impacts of climate change on our water increase, the battles over control of water will continue to intensify.

### Land

**The need to protect open space lands of our state culminated in a showdown in the very last hours of the legislative session.**

Every year, lawmakers give away or sell lands held by the state with little or no public review. This can include lands with important conservation or recreational value that are supposed to be protected in perpetuity. Years of fighting over this practice left advocates no choice but to call for a constitutional amendment to protect these important properties. Legislation calling for a statewide referendum passed both House and Senate but must also be passed in the next legislative session to be included on the ballot and voted on by the public in 2018. This is a huge win for open space.



## Waste

The problem of plastic bags in our environment was not successfully addressed this year, partly for lack of a coordinated advocacy effort.

However, a new initiative to tackle the growing problem of waste from consumer packaging, which will involve industry in designing the program, passed handily.



## Energy

Important progress was made on three key energy programs this session: electric vehicles, virtual net metering, and the shared-solar pilot project.

First, legislation passed that will accelerate Connecticut's transition to zero-emission vehicles and increase infrastructure for electric vehicles, putting us on the path to a green transportation future.

Second, Connecticut's existing virtual net metering laws allow excess clean energy generated in one spot to be used elsewhere. This law was expanded to increase the energy credits available for towns, state agencies, and farms.

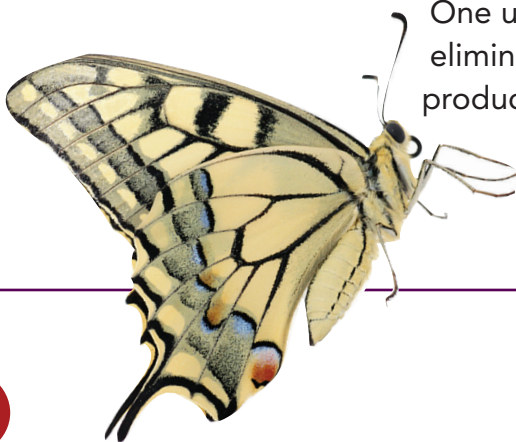
And third, adjustments to the shared solar program will help get a two-year pilot project started to allow people who can't install solar panels on their own homes to subscribe to a larger, shared clean energy facility, like a solar farm. All three of these legislative wins will help Connecticut meet its climate goals.

## TOXIC CHEMICALS

**Restricting the use of pesticides that are particularly devastating to bees and other pollinators was a significant win.**

This new approach will help reduce the spraying of neonicotinoids and will put in place a program to protect and increase habitat that is especially important to pollinators.

One unfortunate loss, a solidly bipartisan bill to eliminate toxic flame-retardant chemicals in children's products, was blocked by a single legislator, Senator Robert Kane, who placed the interests of a chemical company in his district above public health concerns.



# 2016 ENVIRONMENTAL TALLY

## ENVIRONMENTAL WINS

- SJ 36\* Constitutional Amendment
- SB 81 Wild and Scenic Housatonic River Designation
- SB 231 Pollinator Health
- SB 233 Consumer Packaging Waste
- HB 5150 Notice of Tree Removal
- HB 5540 State Water Plan

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- SB 226 Plastic Bags
- SB 328 Transparency on Land Use Permits
- SB 422 Public Water Supply Sales
- HB 5139 Artificial Turf
- HB 5263 Water Planning Data
- HB 5299 Toxic Flame Retardants
- HB 5315 Snapping Turtles

## ANTI-ENVIRONMENTAL BILLS DEFEATED OR FIXED

- SB 87 Regional Water Authority Use of Regulated lands
- SB 300 Mining on Watershed Land
- SB 312 Bottle Bill Fees
- SB 431 Consent Orders
- HB 5500 First-Time Violators
- HB 5619 Land Conveyance\*\*

\* Senate Joint Resolution

\*\*The land conveyance bill was fixed in the regular session, but came back unexpectedly in the May special session without public notice and with new provisions. This is why we need a constitutional amendment to protect our state lands.

## BUDGET COLLAPSE: DEEP

**Despite Crippling Cuts, DEEP Tries to Protect Natural Resources.** CTLCV can rarely score budget votes because so often the vote is on an omnibus bill with many sections, good and bad. Thus, the public may not realize that the annual reductions in DEEP funding have cut the agency to the bone and beyond.

**The agency is woefully understaffed** in programs that are vitally important to the public and the health of our state. Core programs affected include wetlands, pesticides, hazardous waste, remediation, wastewater treatment, industrial

discharges, mitigation plans, gravel mining, state parks, forestry, and more. And, despite additional crippling cuts this year, the legislature transferred stewardship of the Old State House over to DEEP. *(It has since been granted a temporary reprieve urged by the Governor.)*

**Is there any good news?** Yes. The agency keeps trying to improve in some targeted areas. It has elevated the priority given to citizen complaints. It has initiated an outstanding and much-needed program for documenting low-flow rivers and the associated damage to

aquatic life. It is confronting tough issues in the state's comprehensive plan for water.

**Citizens must speak up forcefully.** Legislators must hear from their constituents that a clean and healthy environment in Connecticut depends on how well we can protect our resources. As a state, we must fund these essential DEEP programs that benefit all the residents of Connecticut.



# CTLCV 2016 Legislative Champions

CTLCV commends these lawmakers for their leadership on specific environmental issues during the 2016 legislative session.



**Senator Dante Bartolomeo**  
Leader on  
Toxic Flame  
Retardants



**Senator Beth Bye**  
Leader on Public  
Water Supply



**Senator Bob Duff**  
Leader on  
Bringing Key  
Environmental Bills  
to a Vote



**Senator Tony Hwang**  
Leader on  
Protection of  
Waterways and Long  
Island Sound

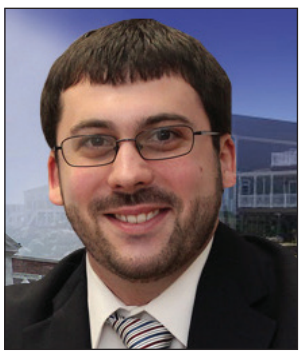


**Senator Ted Kennedy, Jr.**  
Leader on  
Pollinators &  
Consumer  
Packaging Waste



**Senator Kevin Witkos**  
Leader on a  
Constitutional  
Amendment to  
Protect Open Space





**Representative James Albis**  
Leader on Protecting Pollinators



**Representative Gail Lavielle**  
Leader on Public Water Supply



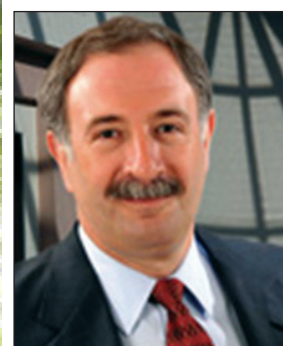
**Representative Matthew Lesser**  
Leader on Land Conveyance, Energy Funding & Snapping Turtles



**Representative Philip Miller**  
Leader on Land Conveyance & Public Water Supply



**Representative Mary Mushinsky**  
Leader on Water Resource Planning and Protection



**Representative Jonathan Steinberg**  
Leader on Solar Power & Constitutional Amendment for Open Space



**Representative Diana Urban**  
Leader on Toxic Flame Retardants



**Representative Roberta Willis**  
Leader on a Constitutional Amendment for Open Space, Housatonic River Wild & Scenic Designation

NA = Not Applicable Blank = No Vote

A breakout of Committee, House and Senate votes for each bill included in this scorecard is posted at [www.ctlcv.org](http://www.ctlcv.org).

<b>SENATE SCORES</b>	<b>PARTY</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>2016 OVERALL SCORE</b>	<b>LIFETIME SCORE (%)</b>	<b>SJ 36 Constitutional Amendment (%)</b>	<b>SB 81 Wild and Scenic (%)</b>	<b>HB 5150 Trees (%)</b>	<b>HB 5315 Snapping Turtles (%)</b>	<b>SB 231 Pollinators (%)</b>
Bartolomeo	D	13	100%	99	100	100	100		100
Boucher	R	26	100%	78	100	100	100		100
Bye	D	5	90%	90	0	100	100		100
Cassano	D	4	100%	84	100	100	100		100
Chapin	R	30	70%	75	100	100	50	0	50
Coleman	D	2	80%	91	0	100	100		100
Crisco	D	17	100%	90	100	100	100		100
Doyle	D	9	90%	87	100	100	100		100
Duff	D	25	100%	92	100	100	100		100
Fasano	R	34	89%	79	100	100	100		100
Flexer	D	29	100%	100	100	100	100		100
Fonfara	D	1	89%	92	100	100	100		100
Formica	R	20	89%	89	100	100	100		100
Frantz	R	36	100%	76	100	100	100		100
Gerratana	D	6	100%	89	100	100	100		100
Gomes	D	23	100%	100	100	100	100		100
Guglielmo	R	35	100%	86	100	100	100		100
Hartley	D	15	78%	86	0	100	100		100
Hwang	R	28	100%	100	100	100	100		100
Kane	R	32	78%	76	100	100	100		100
Kelly	R	21	86%	84	100	100	100		100
Kennedy	D	12	100%	94	100	100	100	100	100
Kissel	R	7	90%	81	100	100	100		100
Larson	D	3	88%	94	100	100	100		100
Leone	D	27	100%	87	100	100	100		100
Linares	R	33	85%	79	100	100	100		100
Looney	D	11	89%	92	0	100	100		100
Markley	R	16	89%	91	100	100	100		100
Martin	R	31	91%	90	100	100	100		100
Maynard	D	18	89%	85	100	100	100		100
McLachlan	R	24	80%	79	100	100	100		100
Moore	D	22	100%	90	100	100	100	100	100
Osten	D	19	100%	93	100	100	100		100
Slossberg	D	14	100%	89	100	100	100		100
Winfield	D	10	80%	84	0	100	100		100
Witkos	R	8	90%	87	100	100	100		100



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HB 5299 Flame Retardants (%)	SB 431 Consent Orders (%)	SB 226 Plastic Bags (%)	SB 233 Consumer Packaging (%)	HB 5139 Artificial Turf (%)	SB 328 Transparency (%)	HB 5540 State Water Plan (%)	SB 422 Water Sales (%)	<b>SENATE SCORES</b>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	Bartolomeo
		100	100		100	100	100	Boucher
100	100		100		100	100	100	Bye
		100	100	100	100	100	100	Cassano
		100	100		100	100	0	Chapin
	0	100	100		100	100	100	Coleman
		100	100		100	100	100	Crisco
	100	100	100		100	100	0	Doyle
		100	100		100	100	100	Duff
		100	100		100	100	0	Fasano
	100	100	100		100	100	100	Flexer
		100	100		100	100	0	Fonfara
		100	100		100	100	0	Formica
		100	100		100	100	100	Frantz
	100		100		100	100	100	Gerratana
		100	100		100	100	100	Gomes
		100	100		100	100	100	Guglielmo
		100	100		100	100	0	Hartley
		100	100		100	100	100	Hwang
		0	100		100	100	0	Kane
			0		100	100		Kelly
		100	100		100	100	100	Kennedy
	0	100	100		100	100	100	Kissel
			100		100	100	0	Larson
		100	100		100	100	100	Leone
	0	100	100		50	100	100	Linares
		100	100		100	100	100	Looney
		0	100		100	100	100	Markley
100		100	100	100	100	100	0	Martin
		100	100		100	100	0	Maynard
	0	100	100		100	100	0	McLachlan
		100	100		100	100	100	Moore
		100	100	100	100	100	100	Osten
			100		100	100	100	Slossberg
	0	100	100		100	100	100	Winfield
	0	100	100		100	100	100	Witkos



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Abercrombie	D	83	89%	89	100	100	100	100	100	100
Ackert	R	8	78%	80	100	100	100	0	100	100
Adams	D	146	89%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Adinolfi	R	103	50%	69	100	100	100	0	100	0
Alberts	R	50	67%	70	0	100	100	100	100	100
Albis	D	99	100%	94	100	100	100	100	100	100
Alexander	D	58	83%	73	50	100	100	100	100	100
Altobello	D	82	89%	85	100	100	100	100	100	100
Aman	R	14	77%	70	100	100	100	100	100	100
Arce	D	4	78%	83	0	100	100	100	100	100
Arconti	D	109	90%	89	100	100	100	100	100	100
Aresimowicz	D	30	89%	89	100	100	100	100	100	100
Baker	D	124	89%	89	100	100	100	100	100	100
Baram	D	15	80%	89	100	100	100	100	100	100
Becker	D	19	72%	86	50	100	100	100	100	100
Belsito	R	53	58%	68	0	100	100	0	100	0
Berger	D	73	89%	81	100	100	100	100	100	100
Berthel	R	68	78%	78	100	100	100	100	100	0
Betts	R	78	56%	61	0	100	100	100	100	0
Bocchino	R	150	83%	81	0	100	100			100
Bolinsky	R	106	67%	72	0	100	100	100	100	0
Boukus	D	22	100%	88	100	100	100	100	100	
Brycki	D	45	89%	86	100	100	100	100	100	100
Buck-Taylor	R	67	43%	63	0	100	100			0
Bumgardner	R	41	89%	89	100	100	100	100	100	100
Butler	D	72	78%	85	0	100	100	100	100	100
Byron	R	27	82%	80	100	100	100	50	67	100
Camillo	R	151	89%	72	100	100	100	100	100	100
Candelaria	D	95	90%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
Candelora	R	86	50%	60	0	100	100	100	100	0
Carney	R	23	87%	84	100	100	100	100	67	100
Carpino	R	32	70%	77	100	100	100	100	100	0
Carter	R	2	75%	71	0	100	100	100	100	100
Case	R	63	67%	68	50	100	100	50	67	0
Conroy	D	105	91%	94	100	A	100	100	100	100



SB = Senate Bill SJ = Senate Joint Resolution HB = House Bill

SB 431 Consent Orders (%)	SB 226 Plastic Bags (%)	SB 233 Consumer Packaging (%)	HB 5139 Artificial Turf (%)	SB 328 Transparency (%)	HB 5500 First Time Violators (%)	HB 5540 State Water Plan (%)	SB 422 Water Sales (%)	HOUSE SCORES
		100			0	100		Abercrombie
		100			0	100		Ackert
		100			0	100		Adams
0		0			0	100		Adinolfi
		0			0	100		Alberts
	100	100			100	100		Albis
		100			0	100		Alexander
		100			0	100		Altobello
0		100	100	100	0	100	0	Aman
		100			0	100		Arce
	100	100			0	100		Arconti
		100			0	100		Aresimowicz
		100			0	100		Baker
0		100			0	100		Baram
		100			0	0		Becker
		0	100	100	0	100	100	Belsito
0		100				100		Berger
		100			0	100		Berthel
		0			0	100		Betts
		100	100					Bocchino
		100			0	100		Bolinsky
		100				100		Boukus
		100			0	100		Brycki
		0			0	100		Buck-Taylor
		100			0	100		Bumgardner
		100			0	100		Butler
	100	100			0	100		Byron
		100			0	100		Camillo
		100	100		0	100		Candelaria
0		0			0	100		Candelora
	100	100			0	100		Carney
0		100			0	100		Carpino
		100			0			Carter
	100	100			0	100		Case
		100	100	100	0	100	100	Conroy



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Cook	D	65	89%	92	100	100	100	100	100	100
Currey	D	11	80%	90	0	100	100	100	100	100
D'Agostino	D	91	91%	86	100	100	100	100	100	100
D'Amelio	R	71	75%	66	0	100	100	100	100	
Dargan	D	115	78%	89	0	100	100	100	100	100
Davis	R	57	89%	71	100	100	100	100	100	100
Demicco	D	21	100%	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Devlin	R	134	83%	81	50	100	100	100	100	100
Dillon	D	92	91%	91	100	100	100	100	100	100
Dubitsky	R	47	55%	54	0	100	100	0	75	100
Esposito	D	116	83%	85	0	100	100	100	100	
Ferraro	R	117	78%	81	100	100	100	100	100	100
Fleischmann	D	18	100%	96	100	100	100	100	100	100
Floren	R	149	86%	78		100	100	100	100	100
Fox	D	148	83%	82	0	100	100	100	100	100
France	R	42	55%	50	50	100	100	0	50	100
Frey	R	111	86%	78	100	100	100	0	100	
Fritz	D	90	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
Genga	D	10	89%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
Gentile	D	104	78%	82	0	100	100	100	100	100
Giegler	R	138	63%	74	0	100	100	100	100	0
Godfrey	D	110	70%	90	0	100	100	100	100	100
Gonzalez	D	3	70%	88	0	100	100	100	100	100
Gresko	D	121	91%	91	100	100	100	100	100	100
Guerrera	D	29	89%	87	100	100	100	100	100	100
Haddad	D	54	94%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Hampton	D	16	92%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Harding	R	107	70%	69	0	100	100	100	100	100
Hennessy	D	127	90%	93	100	100	100	100	100	100
Hewett	D	39	80%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
Hoydick	R	120	89%	78	100	100	100	100	100	100
Janowski	D	56	89%	87	100	100	100	100	100	100
Johnson	D	49	78%	92	0	100	100	100	100	100
Jutila	D	37	89%	86	100	100	100	100	100	100



SB = Senate Bill SJ = Senate Joint Resolution HB = House Bill

SB 431 Consent Orders (%)	SB 226 Plastic Bags (%)	SB 233 Consumer Packaging (%)	HB 5139 Artificial Turf (%)	SB 328 Transparency (%)	HB 5500 First Time Violators (%)	HB 5540 State Water Plan (%)	SB 422 Water Sales (%)	HOUSE SCORES
		100			0	100		Cook
100		100			0	100		Currey
		100		100	0	100	100	D'Agostino
		100			0	100		D'Amelio
		100			0	100		Dargan
		100			0	100		Davis
	100	100				100		Demicco
		100			0	100		Devlin
100	100	100			0	100		Dillon
0	100	100	0	0	0	100	100	Dubitsky
						100		Esposito
		0			0	100		Ferraro
		100			100	100		Fleischmann
					0	100		Floren
100		100		100	0	100	100	Fox
		0		100	0	100	0	France
		100				100		Frey
								Fritz
		100			0	100		Genga
		100			0	100		Gentile
					0	100		Giegler
0		100			0	100		Godfrey
0		100			0	100		Gonzalez
100	100	100			0	100		Gresko
		100			0	100		Guerrera
		100			50	100		Haddad
		100	100	100	0	100	100	Hampton
0		100			0	100		Harding
	100	100			0	100		Hennessy
0		100			0	100		Hewett
		100			0	100		Hoydick
		100			0	100		Janowski
		100			0	100		Johnson
		100			0	100		Jutila



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Kiner	D	59	88%	96	100		100	100	100	100
Klarides	R	114	56%	75	0	100	100	100	100	0
Kokoruda	R	101	80%	79	0	100	100	100	100	100
Kupchick	R	132	78%	86	0	100	100	100	100	100
Labriola	R	131	70%	76	100	100	100	100	100	0
Lavielle	R	143	89%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
LeGeyt	R	17	67%	85	0	100	100	0	100	100
Lemar	D	96	100%	94	100	100	100	100	100	100
Lesser	D	100	100%	98	100	100	100	100	100	100
Lopes	D	24	89%	93	100	100	100	100	100	100
Luxenberg	D	12	90%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
MacLachlan	R	35	56%	73	100	100	100	0	100	0
McCarthy Vahey	D	133	78%	89	0	100	100	100	100	100
McCarty	R	38	78%	89	0	100	100	100	100	100
McCroy	D	7	78%	90	0	100	100	100	100	100
McGee	D	5	89%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
McGorty	R	122	65%	66	50	100	100	0	67	100
Megna	D	97	90%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Miller, P.B.	D	145	89%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
Miller, P.J.	D	36	90%	94	100	100	100	100	67	100
Miner	R	66	58%	57	50	100	67	50	67	0
Morin	D	28	89%	86	0	100	100	100	100	100
Morris	D	140	75%	91	100		100		100	100
Mulligan	R	55	77%	82	50	100	100	0	67	
Mushinsky	D	85	100%	97	100	100	100	100	100	100
Nicastro	D	79	89%	87	100	100	100	100	100	100
Noujaim	R	74	67%	64		100		0	100	
O'Dea	R	125	70%	72	100	100	100	100	100	0
O'Neill	R	69	80%	83	100	100	100	100	100	100
Orange	D	48	89%	91	100	100	100	100	100	100
Pavalock	R	77	78%	79	0	100	100	100	100	100
Perillo	R	113	78%	64	100	100	100	100	100	0
Perone	D	137	89%	87	100	100	100	100	100	100
Piscopo	R	76	32%	38	0	100	0	0	67	0
Porter	D	94	80%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100





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		100			0	100		Kiner
		0			0	100		Klarides
		100	100		0	100		Kokoruda
		100			0	100		Kupchick
0		100			0	100		Labriola
		100			0	100		Lavielle
		100			0	100		LeGeyt
100		100			100	100		Lemar
		100			100	100		Lesser
		100			0	100		Lopes
		100	100		0	100		Luxenberg
		0			0	100		MacLachlan
		100			0	100		McCarthy Vahey
		100			0	100		McCarty
		100			0	100		McCrary
		100			0	100		McGee
0	100	100			0	100		McGorty
	100	100			0	100		Megna
		100			0	100		Miller, P.B.
	100	100	100	100	0	100	100	Miller, P.J.
	100	50			0	100		Miner
		100			100	100		Morin
0		100			0	100		Morris
	100	100				100		Mulligan
	100	100			100	100		Mushinsky
		100			0	100		Nicastro
								Noujaim
0		100			0	100		O'Dea
0		100			0	100		O'Neill
		100			0	100		Orange
		100			0	100		Pavalock
		100			0	100		Perillo
		100			0	100		Perone
	0	50			0	100		Piscopo
0		100			0	100		Porter



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Rebimbas	R	70	55%	72	50	100	100	100	100	0
Reed	D	102	92%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Reyes	D	75	88%	88	100	100	100		100	100
Riley	D	46	67%	81	0		100	100	100	100
Ritter	D	1	92%	88	100	100	100	100	100	100
Rojas	D	9	75%	82	0	100	100	100	100	100
Rosario	D	128	78%	89	0	100	100	100	100	100
Rosati-Randall	D	44	89%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Rose	D	118	100%	92	100	100	100	100	100	100
Rovero	D	51	89%	91	100	100	100	100	100	100
Rutigliano	R	123	56%	68	0	100	100	100	100	0
Ryan	D	139	90%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
Sampson	R	80	44%	60	0	100	100	0	100	
Sanchez	D	25	78%	91	0	100	100	100	100	100
Santiago, E.	D	130	91%	81	100	100	100	100	100	100
Santiago, H.	D	84	89%	88	100	100	100	100	100	100
Sayers	D	60	67%	78	0	100	100	100	100	0
Scanlon	D	98	90%	89	100	100	100	100	100	100
Scott	R	40	44%	65	0	100	100	0	100	0
Serra	D	33	70%	85	0	100	100	100	100	100
Shaban	R	135	70%	71	50	100	100	50	67	100
Sharkey	D	88	78%	92	0	100	100	100	100	100
Simanski	R	62	58%	74	100	100	100	0	100	0
Simmons	D	144	80%	90	100	100	100	100	100	100
Smith	R	108	50%	60	50	100	100	0	100	0
Sredzinski	R	112	44%	72	0	100	100	0	100	0
Srinivasan	R	31	67%	73	0	100	100	0	100	100
Stafstrom	D	129	82%	84	100	100	100	100	100	100
Stallworth	D	126	86%	86	100	100	100	0	100	
Staneski	R	119	70%	73	0	100	100	100	100	100
Steinberg	D	136	89%	93	100	100	100	100	100	100
Tercyak	D	26	78%	93	0	100	100	100	100	100
Tong	D	147	82%	88	100	100	100	100	100	100
Tweedie	R	13	62%	71	50	100	100	50	67	0
Urban	D	43	91%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100



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0		0			0	100		Rebimbas
		100	100	100	0	100	100	Reed
		100			0	100		Reyes
0		100			0	100		Riley
		100	100	100	0	100	100	Ritter
		100	100	100	0	100	0	Rojas
		100			0	100		Rosario
		100			0	100		Rosati-Randall
		100	100		100	100		Rose
		100			0	100		Rovero
		0			0	100		Rutigliano
	100	100			0	100		Ryan
0		0			0	100		Sampson
		100			0	100		Sanchez
		100		100	0	100	100	Santiago, E.
		100			0	100		Santiago, H.
		100			0	100		Sayers
	100	100			0	100		Scanlon
		0			0	100		Scott
0		100			0	100		Serra
0	100	100			0	100		Shaban
		100			0	100		Sharkey
		100	0	100	0	100	0	Simanski
0		100			0	100		Simmons
0					0	100		Smith
		0			0	100		Sredzinski
		0	100	100	0	100	100	Srinivasan
0	100	100			0	100		Stafstrom
		100				100		Stallworth
		0	100		0	100		Staneski
		100			0	100		Steinberg
		100			0	100		Tercyak
0	100	100			0	100		Tong
	100	50			0	100		Tweedie
	100	100	100		0	100		Urban



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Vail	R	52	67%	84	100	100	100	0	100	100
Vargas	D	6	89%	95	100	100	100	100	100	100
Verregia	D	20	70%	83	0	100	100	100	100	100
Walker	D	93	100%	94	100	100	100	100	100	
Willis	D	64	90%	97	100	100	100	100	100	100
Wilms	R	142	67%	74	0	100	100	100	100	0
Wood	R	141	89%	80	100	100	100	100	100	100
Yaccarino	R	87	89%	85	100	100	100	100	100	100
Zawistowski	R	61	58%	67	0	100	100	0	100	0
Ziobron	R	34	70%	74	100	100	100	50	67	50
Zoni	D	81	78%	83	0	100	100	100	100	100
Zupkus	R	89	56%	76	100	100	100	0	100	0



In every session there is back room deal-making which CTLCV can't score. However, this year we are calling out three legislators for working against good environmental legislation, not only in public, but behind the scenes.



**Senator John Fonfara**

Fought against water bottling legislation that would have called for stronger state oversight of our state's public drinking water resources.



**Senator Robert Kane**

Blocked an important bipartisan flame retardant bill that would have protected the health and safety of children and firefighters.

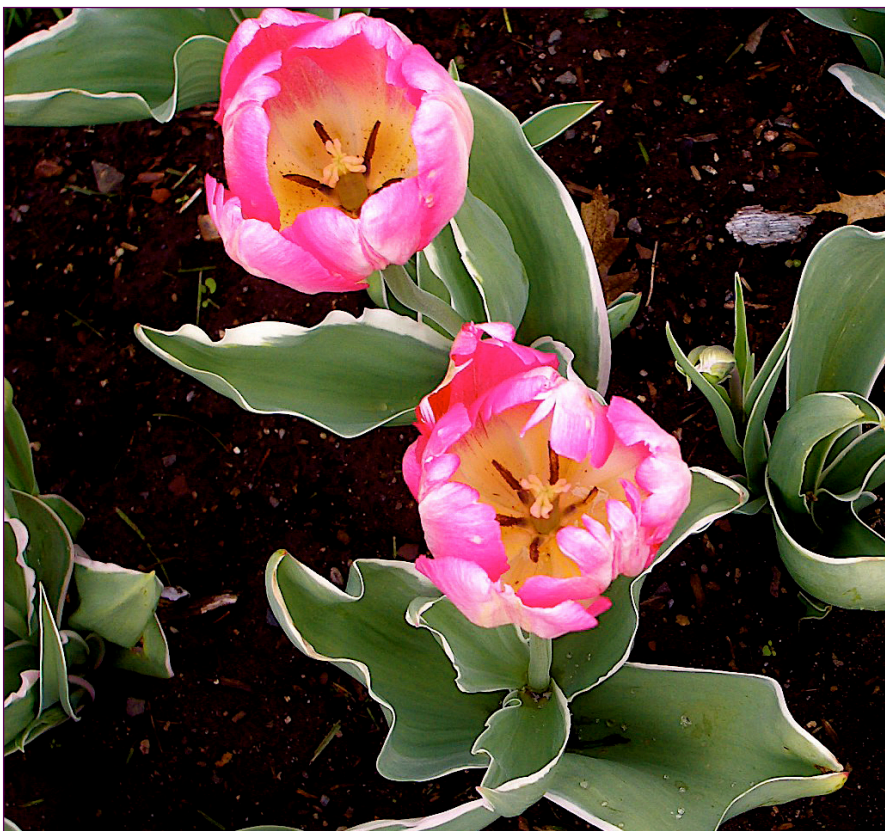


**Representative Craig Miner**

Blocked a good government transparency bill, spoke against a constitutional amendment bill for open space, and tried to kill a bill to protect pollinators.

SB = Senate Bill SJ = Senate Joint Resolution HB = House Bill

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		0			0	100		
		100			0	100		Vargas
0		100			0	100		Verrengia
100						100		Walker
	100	100			0	100		Willis
		100			0	100		Wilms
		100			0	100		Wood
		100			0	100		Yaccarino
		100	0	100	0	100	100	Zawistowski
	100	100	0		0	100		Ziobron
		100			0	100		Zoni
		0			0	100		Zupkus



Scorecards from prior years can be found at [www.ctlcv.org](http://www.ctlcv.org).

Contact CTLCV with questions about a particular vote, bill, or legislator's score.

# BILLS THAT WERE SCORED



## OPEN SPACE

### **SJ 36 - Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the State to Protect Real Property Held or Controlled By The State: SUPPORTED / PASSED**

To place a constitutional amendment measure on the ballot, the General Assembly must pass a joint resolution with a two-thirds majority in both chambers or a simple majority in two consecutive legislative sessions.

Senate Joint Resolution 36, now Resolution Act 16-1, was passed by both chambers in 2016 but with only a simple majority in the House. If passed again in 2017, the public would vote in a referendum in 2018 to amend the State Constitution to better protect state conservation lands from being sold, swapped, or given away without a public hearing and a two-thirds vote by the General Assembly. The bill is scored in the Government Administration & Elections Committee, Environment Committee, House, and Senate.

## RIVERS

### **SB 81 - AAC The Designation of Certain Areas of The Housatonic River As A Wild And Scenic River: SUPPORTED / PASSED**

This bill focused on a 41-mile stretch of the Housatonic river, from the Massachusetts border to New Milford's Boardman Bridge, to be preserved according to the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for its vast recreational and historical significance. Now that the bill is signed into law

as Public Act 16-38, the state can move forward to secure official Wild and Scenic Status from the U.S. Department of the Interior to help protect the river for future generations. The bill is scored in the Environment Committee, House, and Senate.

## TREES

### **SB 5150 - AAC Tree Wardens' Notices on Trees and Shrubs Prior To Removal and Tree Removal and Clean-Up By Public Utility Corporations: SUPPORTED / PASSED**

This bill was part of an ongoing effort to protect against unnecessary tree cutting or clearing of vegetation by utilities along town roads. Signed into law as Public Act 16-86, utilities must give notice every January to municipalities where tree work will be done. Each town must post that information online within 15 days of receiving it.

In addition, utilities are responsible for removing debris after all planned tree work occurs. The bill is scored in the Transportation Committee, Environment Committee, House, and Senate.

Key:

AAC=An Act Concerning...

AA=An Act...

HB = House Bill

SB = Senate Bill

SJ = Senate Joint Resolution

SUPPORTED / OPPOSED =

Environmental Position

PASSED / FAILED =

Legislative Response

## WILDLIFE

### **HB 5315 - AAC The Prevention of the Habituation of Potentially Dangerous Animals and the Status of Snapping Turtles Under State Law: SUPPORTED / Snapping Turtle Provision FAILED**

A provision in this bill would have extended to snapping turtles the same protections afforded all other Connecticut animals in the rules for commercial trade. Snappers alone are excluded from these protections. Despite the important role they play in Connecticut's ecosystems, their value was not considered and the important snapping turtle provision was removed before final passage of the bill. Only the Environment Committee vote is scored when the provision was included.

## PESTICIDES & TOXINS

### **SB 231 - AAC Pollinator Health: SUPPORTED / PASSED**

This legislation, now Public Act 16-17, was a significant win toward reducing the use of pesticides that are particularly harmful for pollinators like bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. The new law restricts the use of neonicotinoids, a category of pesticide that is linked to pollinator die-offs and is also extremely toxic to aquatic organisms. Additionally, a program will be established to expand and protect habitats that are important for pollinators. The bill and one hostile amendment are scored in the Environment Committee, Planning & Development Committee, House, and Senate.

### **HB 5299 - AAC Toxic Flame Retardant Chemicals in Children's Products and Upholstered Residential Furniture: SUPPORTED / FAILED**

This bill sought to protect Connecticut's children from exposure to carcinogens and other harmful chemicals contained in flame retardants. Similar to laws in several other states, it would have banned five chemical flame retardants used in children's products and upholstered residential furniture, and prohibited manufacturers from replacing them with other harmful chemicals. This bill was scored in the Children's Committee and the House, where it gained broad bipartisan support as an important



Public control of our public water supply and protection of our state's open space lands were addressed in two hotly debated bills. Throngs of citizens came to the Capitol to fight for these most basic environmental needs.



measure to protect the health and safety of our youngest citizens, as well as firefighters, who suffer health consequences when they are exposed to these burning chemicals. The bill was blocked in the Senate by one legislator, Senator Robert Kane, putting the interests of a chemical manufacturer in his district above public health concerns.

**HB 5139 - The Use Of Recycled Tire Rubber at Municipal and Public School Playgrounds: SUPPORTED / FAILED**

This bill would have prohibited the use of “crumb rubber” ground cover at public schools and municipal playgrounds. Crumb rubber contains shredded rubber from vehicle tires and contains many carcinogens, toxins, and irritants that are harmful to children. Votes are scored in the Children’s Committee, where it passed unanimously, but the bill died without further action in the Planning & Development Committee.



This bill would have authorized state agencies to suspend civil punishments against businesses for first-time violations. If this bill had been passed, it would have undermined the authority of DEEP to enforce air, water, and waste programs. The bill is scored in the Government Administration & Elections Committee and the House. It died without a vote in the Senate.

**SB 328 - AAC Municipal Applications For Land Use Permits and Tax Abatements (Transparency): SUPPORTED / FAILED**

This bill would have enforced transparency for all applicants regarding local zoning, wetlands, and tax abatement processes by requiring applicants to disclose information about the identity of the property’s developers and the purpose of the application. The bill is scored in the Planning and Development Committee.

It was raised for a vote in the House until a single lawmaker, Representative Craig Miner, filibustered the debate in order to get a hostile amendment added to the bill on an unrelated issue. The bill died without a vote in the House.

**ENFORCEMENT**

**HB 431 - AAC Consent Orders Entered Into by the Department Of Energy And Environmental Protection: OPPOSED / FAILED**

This bill was an effort to stop the DEEP from changing or withdrawing a “Consent Order” against a specific polluter who had violated the consent agreement and was refusing to cooperate. This was another example in a long line of efforts to weaken our state’s ability to enforce existing environmental law. The bill is scored in the Judiciary Committee. It was defeated after a protracted battle without further votes.

**HB 5500 - AA Authorizing The Suspension of Civil Penalties Imposed On Certain Business Entities Pursuant To Regulations (First-time Violators): OPPOSED / FAILED**

**PLASTIC BAGS & PACKAGING WASTE**

**SB 226 - AAC Single-Use Carryout Bags: SUPPORTED / FAILED**

Plastic bags choke marine animals, pollute habitats, and harm wildlife. The chemical pollution generated in the production of plastic bags, the problems they cause in our recycling equipment, and their persistence in the environment underscore an urgent need to address this growing problem. The bill introduced this year fell far short of a solution, requiring only that one-half of the single-use carryout bags that stores provide must be 100% recyclable, have a handle, and be designed for re-use. The Environment Committee vote is being scored as an important effort by legislators to keep the issue on the table.





# Who controls our state's public water supply? How should our state water be managed for the public good and future need?



## **SB 233 - AAC A Reduction of Consumer-Based Packaging Materials: SUPPORTED / PASSED**

Consumer packaging materials, or the materials used in shipping commercial items, are becoming one of the largest sources of waste in our state.

This bill, now Special Act 16-6, establishes a task force to study methods for reducing, through source reduction, reuse and recycling, consumer packaging that generates solid waste in the state.

Although the bill was significantly weakened before final passage, it is the first effort by our state to focus specifically on the problem of consumer packaging. Votes are scored in the Environment Committee, House, and Senate.

## **WATER**

## **HB 5540 - AAC The State Water Plan: SUPPORTED / PASSED**

This bill, now Public Act 16-137, amends an existing law (Public Act 14-163) to make important changes in the approval process for the statewide water plan now underway. The changes help ensure that the water plan legislators vote on reflects the recommendations and decisions of the state Water Planning Council and other stakeholders.

The amended law also guards against unreasonable delays or non-action. If the Legislature fails to act, the plan will go to the Governor for action. If the Legislature rejects the plan, it will

be sent to the Office of Policy and Management, which will determine whether parts of the plan could be adopted as policy or revived in stand-alone legislation. Votes are scored in the Public Health Committee, House, and Senate.

## **SB 422 - AAC Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and Sellers of Bottled Water: SUPPORTED / FAILED**

This legislation addressed the problems of who controls our state's public water supply and how our state water should be managed for the public good and future need. The legislation grew out of a controversial deal between the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC), our state's largest public water authority, and an out-of-state water bottling company.

With passage of this bill, Niagara Water Bottling can now take 1.8 million gallons of water per day from our state's central water supply and truck it out of state. MDC offered Niagara a discount crafted specifically to encourage large-scale extraction while at the same time increasing residential rates.

The legislation attempted several approaches, including a prohibition of the discount. The final bill would have required a state permit when new or existing customers want to increase their water use by 500,000 gallons per day. Votes are scored in the Planning & Development Committee and Senate. The bill died without a vote in the House.

# BILLS THAT WERE NOT SCORED

## **HB 5263 - AAC The Department Of Public Health's Recommendations on Disclosure of Water Plan Information: SUPPORTED / FAILED**

As a result of heightened security against terror attacks, Connecticut water companies several years ago were granted exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act allowing them to withhold information about their operations, locations, reservoirs, interconnections, and plans for future supply. These restrictions have seriously hampered producing an effective statewide water plan. This legislation would have lowered these barriers and provided access to key information without compromising security considerations, but it was blocked by state water utilities. After negotiations that lasted all session, the bill died without a vote.

## **HB 5619 - AA Conveying Certain Parcels of State Land and Requiring a Study of Certain State Real Property: OPPOSED / Controversial Provisions FAILED**

This perennial legislation, known as the "Land Conveyance Bill," seeks to transfer or sell publicly owned land from the state to towns or private developers, often with no public knowledge or review of the land's environmental or recreational value.

The Conveyance Act was originally designed to streamline non-controversial transfers of excess land held by state agencies, not to allow the unchecked giveaway of state land that bypasses the normal review process, which is what this year's Conveyance Bill tried to do. It included the transfer of more than 60 acres from DEEP to the Town of Groton for "economic development, recreational and open space purposes."

Amid outcry over the conveyance process in general, the contested provisions in this year's bill were removed before the first vote of the Government Administration & Elections Committee. However, when the acceptable version of the bill failed to pass in the regular session, it was significantly changed in the May

special session (as Senate Bill 504) and passed with no opportunity for public comment. The impact of those changes is still not clear.

## **SB 87 - AAC The South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority: OPPOSED / FAILED**

Problems with this legislation surfaced at the very end of the session but were discovered in time to stop the bill from final passage in the House. The bill would have granted the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority the ability to invest in unspecified commercial operations. It also would have given them broad and loosely defined authority to use highly regulated land resources for purposes other than protecting public drinking water.

## **SB 312 - AA Requiring The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to Study Bottle Bill Beverage Container Refund Values and Redemption Fees: OPPOSED / FAILED**

This bill started as an effort to repeal Connecticut's bottle redemption law (which incentivizes recycling) and replace it with the beverage industry's preference for litter control. The General Law Committee changed the bill to a study before the initial vote. The Senate amended the study to establish a task force to look at the whole issue of deposits and recycling—something long overdue to update the existing law. But without any clear resolution or agreement on the intent of the bill, the Environment Committee decided not to take action and the bill died.

### **Significant energy legislation passed this session.**

As is the case with so many energy-related initiatives, it was never clear what would be contained in these bills. Advocates did not reach an acceptable agreement until the very end of the session, and so CTLCV was not able to take a position on these bills until after their passage.

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[www.ctlcv.org](http://www.ctlcv.org)



# SPECIAL CONCERN FOR WILDLIFE

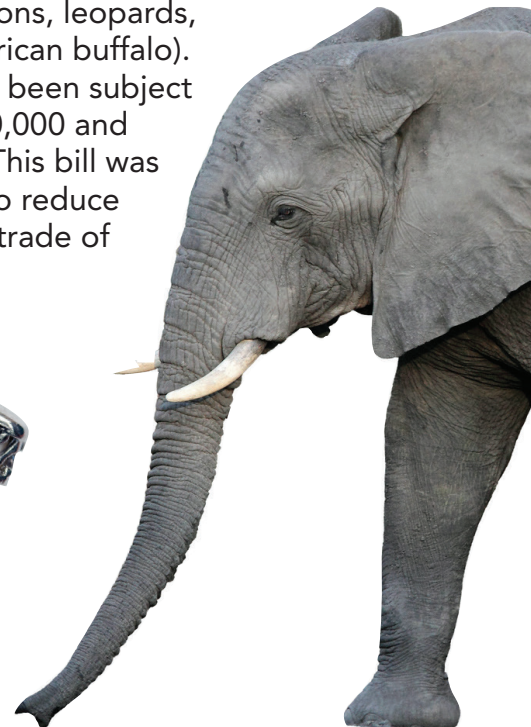
**CTLCV did not score two important bills dealing with endangered species this session.** Trade in ivory and endangered African species are grave international problems that are greatly impacted by how our nation and each state chooses to restrict these activities. While CTLCV has typically not followed these issues in the past, we will make every effort to include important votes by state lawmakers on wildlife trade issues in the future.

## **HB 5578 - AA Prohibiting The Sale and Trade of Ivory and Rhinoceros Horn: SUPPORTED / FAILED**

The commercial demand for ivory has led to the illegal poaching of hundreds of thousands of elephants and rhinoceroses, which are often brutally killed for their tusks and horns. This bill was an effort to ban the sale and resale of ivory in the state. The bill was raised in the Environment Committee and became a huge battle between animal advocates and the antiques industry. Though it did not pass, the bill was an important effort in the mobilization against the ivory trade.

## **SB 227 - AA Concerning Cecil's Law: SUPPORTED / FAILED**

Another important wildlife bill this session would have banned the importation, possession, sale, or transportation in Connecticut of any of the "Big Five" endangered African species (elephants, lions, leopards, rhinoceroses, and African buffalo). Violators would have been subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 and two years in prison. This bill was an important effort to reduce the demand for and trade of endangered species.



## ON THE HORIZON FOR 2017

Advocates are already organizing for next year, when the state Legislature convenes in January 2017. Some of the initiatives listed below will take shape in the months to come:

- Protection of Class I & II Watershed Lands: prevent weakening of existing law
- Constitutional Amendment: protect state conservation lands
- Mining: address the lack of controls and enforcement
- Water Data: allow public access to data needed for statewide water planning
- Public Water Supply: require permits for large-volume users
- Climate Change Action Plan: ensure goals are met for emissions reduction targets
- Solar Power: allow communities to share solar facilities in their neighborhoods
- Plastic Bags: ban single-use plastic bags statewide
- Tire Recycling: require producer responsibility take-back program
- Artificial Turf: discourage use of toxic artificial turf where children play
- Flame Retardants: reduce exposure to toxic chemicals
- Municipal Open Space: enable towns to generate fee funding for purchase and stewardship



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