Oregon Conservation Legions

OREGON LEAGUE OF COLUMNITY OF THE PROPERTY OF



How We Rate the Legislature

We are pleased to bring you the 1989 legislative ratings by the Oregon League of Conservation Voters. This is the ninth time OLCV has rated the Legislature since 1973. We believe this is the most valuable resource available to the general public regarding the environmental performance of our legislators.

The Ratings Process. The OLCV Board selects the bills which best illustrate the Legislature's environmental positions. Our rating system generally does not indicate performance in areas such as leadership, oversight and committee work. (We do include those factors when endorsing candidates.) However, the ratings do give a reasonably accurate description of each legislator's environmental positions, as shown by the consistency of most ratings over the years.

As you can see by looking at the chart, we assign a "correct" (+) or "incorrect" (-) rating for each vote. Absences (A) are noted as well. The final rating is determined by the percentage of correct votes. Under Oregon's legislative rules, absences are allowed only for legislative duties or illness, and we do not deduct them from a legislator's final rating. In addition to the numerical rating, we encourage you to check your legislator's votes on each individual bill. This is very helpful in determining their strengths and weaknesses on the environment.

OLCV applies two principles when determining whether a bill should be included in the ratings. First, we discard bills which pass by near-unanimous votes. Generally, these involve no controversy or a compromise reached before the bill reaches the floor. However, some legislators vote against bills which they know will pass in order to satisfy special interests opposing environmental protection. For instance, SB 5547 establishes the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) budget. Even though it passed by

100% Rated Legislators for 1989

Sen. Jane Cease

Sen. Joyce Cohen

Sen. Shirley Gold

Sen. Bill McCoy

Sen. Frank Roberts

Sen. Bob Shoemaker

Sen. Dick Springer

Sen. Larry Hill

Sen. Grattan Kerans

Sen. John Kitzhaber

Sen. Cliff Trow

Sen. Bill Bradbury

Sen. Wayne Fawbush

Rep. Judy Bauman

Rep. Carl Hosticka

a large margin, some voted against it to satisfy groups opposed to land use planning. Therefore, we included this bill in the ratings.

Second, we make sure that the correct environmental position regarding a bill is clear. This does not necessarily mean that a bill was lobbied by conservationists. It does mean that the position which would protect the environment was reasonably obvious.

Even when these principles are applied, however, the decision regarding particular bills can prove difficult. For instance, HB 2713 allowed the state to site a medium security prison without having to comply with Oregon's land use laws. Conservationists were concerned about exempting these projects from our land use laws. However, most legislators appeared to consider only the bill's effect on crime. In this case, we felt the vote on HB 2713 simply did not provide an accurate assessment of legislators' environmental performance.

1989 Cregon Senat	z																
Portland Metro	1989	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	ł	4	1	J	1981	1983	1985	1987	1981-89
Jane Cease (D-10 Portland) 1	00%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	95%	93%	100%	100%	98%
Jane Cease (B-101 of the land)	00%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	90%	100%	100%	100%	98%
TOYCE CORET (S 10 12	00%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	84%	100%	100%	85%	94%
Similey dold (B) I dimen-	60%	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	,	+	+	+	65%	64%	71%	67%	65%
Bill Kennemer (R-12 Milwaukie)	44%	+	+	•	+	-	•	-		-	A	+				38%	41%
	.00%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	01 15	+	A	+	79%	100%	92%	100%	94%
Glenn Otto (D-11 Troutdale)	70%	+	-	+	+	-	-	+		+	+	+	47%	67%	75%	56%	63%
Paul Phillips (R-4 Tigard)	50%	+	+	-	-	-	•	+		•	+	+			64%	50%	55%
Frank Roberts (D-9 Portland)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	A		+	+	+	100%	83%	100%	100%	97%
Trank Roberts (B)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+					100%
DOD SHOCHWACE (B o : 11-1-1	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Dick Springer (D-6 Portland)	100 /0																
Willamette Valley	1989	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	ì	H	I	J	1981	1983	1985	1987	1981-89
	20%		-	-		-	+			-	-	+					20%
Jim Bunn (R-15 McMinnville)	80%	+	+	+	-	-	+	4	٠	+	+	+		86%	82%	89%	84%
Jim Hill (D-16 Salem)	100%			+	+	+	A	4	+	+	+	+		93%	91%	88%	93%
Larry I mi (D-21 Spinighter)	0%				-		-		-		-	-		47%	14%	0%	15%
Cub Houck (R-17 Salem)	33%	_	-		+	_	+		-	-	A	-	15%	50%	36%	54%	37%
Peg Jolin (D-22 Cottage Grove)	100%	_	_		+	+	+		+	+	+	+	95%	93%		89%	94%
Glatant rectand (5 to 2-6-1)	50%	+	I	_			_		-	_	+	+				22%	36%
Bob Kintigh (R-14 Springfield)		Ţ		_		+			+	+	+	+	95%	93%	100%	100%	98%
Joint Idamader (5 to 11-1-10	100%		100		_	ì			+	+	+	+	90%	87%	100%	89%	93%
Cliff Trow (D-18 Corvallis)	100%	+	•		-	_		8 8		+	+	-	50%	33%	14%	0%	25%
Mae Yih (D-19 Albany)	30%	•	-	-	-	()											
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Oregon Coast	100%	A	+		+	+			+	+	+	+	83%	88%	100%	89%	92%
Bill Bradbury (D-24 Bandon)	20%	^		-	-	_			_	-	+	+			7%	22%	16%
John Brenneman (R-2 Newport)	89%		-		+	+			+	+	+	+				89%	89%
Joan Dukes (D-1 Astoria)	0770	^		350 T 355	•	- 60.0											
Southern Oregon	1989	A	В	С	D	Е		F	G	н	I	J	1981	1983	1985	1987	1981-89
	40%	+			+	_		+	-	-	-	+					40%
Ron Grensky (R-25 Medford)	10%		-		_			-	_	+	-	-	10%	77	6 02	112	8%
Lenn Hannon (R-26 Ashland)	1070																
Contral Oragon	1989	Δ	R	c	D	E	E	F	G	Н	Ī	J	1981	198	1985	1987	1981-89
Central Oregon	0%			-	_		_	•	-	-	Α	-			7	132	7%
Peter Brockman (R-27 Sisters)	100%	_	Δ	+			+	+	+	+	+	+	95%	94	% 100	\$ 95%	97%
Wayne Fawbush (D-28 Hood River)	100 /6	•	^														
Cachania Oragona	1000		P	٦	n	, 1	Ε	F	G	н	I	J	1981	198	3 198	5 1987	1981-89
Eastern Oregon	1989	A			-		-	•	+	+	A	-	137		% 0	% 0:	10%
Mike Thorne (D-29 Pendleton)	25%	-	-	A						-	-		0.50	00000	13	z 0:	4%
Gene Timms (R-30 Burns)	0%	-	•	•		363	198										
VOTE KEY: + Correct - Incor A: SB 156 WRC Drought Managem B: SB 261 Protect Spring Wate C: SB 264 Fees for Fill and R D: SB 425 Reduce Field Burnin E: SB 816 Protect Exclusive F See bill descriptions on page	ent r Rights emoval g arm Use				G: S H: S I: H	B 5!	546	DL La Re	CD nd por	Bud Use	Boar n For	rd of	Appeal Land Us of Lea	e		eries	

1989	Oregon	House	of	Representatives	=
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Portland Metro	1989		A B	C) E	F	G	н	IJ	K	L	M I	N C) P	Q	R S		1981	1983	1985	1987	1981-89	
Judy Bauman (D-13 Portland)	100%	1.5	+ +	+ -	+ +	+	+	+ -	+ +	+	+	+ -	+ +	+	+	+ A					92%	96%	
Tom Brian (D-9 Tigard)	68%		+ +	+ -	+ -		-	- ;	+ +	+	+	+	+ -	+	+	+ -						68%	
Mike Burton (D-17 Portland)	88%		+ A																	56%	69%	71%	
Ted Calouri (R-7 Beaverton)	61%		+ +	+ ,	Α -		-	-	- +	+	+	+	+ -	+	+	+ -			60%	55%	50%	57%	
Margaret Carter (D-18 Portland)	94%		+ +	A	+ +	- A	+	+	+ +	+	+	+	+ -	- +	+	+ +	•			91%	85%	90%	
Ron Cease (D-19 Portland)	94%		+ +																	100%	100%	98%	
Kelly Clark (R-27 West Linn)	35%		- +	Α.	A +		•	-	+ -		+	-			+	+ -						35%	
Mary Alice Ford (R-8 Portland)	47%		+ +	+	+ -	-	-	-	+ +	-	-	•	+ -		+	+ -	•	45%	56%	45%	50%	49%	
Bruce Hugo (D-1 Scappoose)	78%		+ +	+ ,	A +	+ +		+	+ +	+	+	+	+ •		+	+ -	•		88%	82%	63%	78%	
Delna Jones (R-6 Aloha)	56%		+ +																38%	9%	36%	35%	
Vera Katz (D-10 Portland)	94%		+ +	A	+ -	+ +	+	+	+ +	. +	+	+	+	- +	+	A +	۲	95%	100%	91%	92%	94%	
Phil Keisling (D-12 Portland)	94%		+ +	+	Α -	+ +	+	+	+ +	+	+	+	+	- +	+	+ +	-					94%	
Rick Kotulski (D-22 Corbett)	74%		+ +	+	+ -	+ -	+	+	+ -	+	+	+	+		+	+ -	-			70%	82%	75%	
Tom Mason (D-11 Portland)	88%		+ +	A	Α ·	+ +	+ +	+	+ 4	+ +	+	+	+		· A	+ -	+	85%	100%	50%	83%	81%	
Dave McTeague (D-25 Milwaukie)	83%		+ +	+	+ -	+ -	+	+	A 4	+ +	+	+	+	- 1	+	+ -	-			100%	100%	94%	
Randy Miller (R-24 Lake Oswego)	37%		- +	+	-		-	+		- +		-	+		+	+	-		50%	0%	25%	28%	
John Minnis (R-20 Portland)	26%		- +	+	-	٠.		- 0	-				+		+	+	-			0%	46%	24%	
Lonnie Roberts (D-21 Portland)	53%		+ +	+	-	<u>.</u> .		+	+ •	- 4	+	A	+		. +	A	-	39%	50%	27%	50%	44%	
Gene Sayler (R-15 Portland)	53%		+ +	+	A			-	A -	+ +		+	+	٠.	+	+	-				65%	59%	
Bob Shiprack (D-23 Beavercreek)	41%		- +	A	+	+		-		- 4	+ +	-	A		- +	+	-		56%	55%	58%	53%	
Larry Sowa (D-26 Oregon City)	81%		+ +	+	Α	+ ,	۹ -	+	+ -	+ +	+ +	+	+		+ +	A	-				100%	91%	
Beverly Stein (D-14 Portland)	95%		+ +	+	+	+	+ +	+	+ •	+ -	+ +	+	+		+ +	+	+					95%	
Rodger Wehage (R-16 Portland)	58%		- 4	+	+	-		+	+		+	+	+		+ +	+	-					58%	
Al Young (D-5 Hillsboro)	47%			+	+			+	-		+ +	-	+	-	- +	+	-		73%	27%	58%	51%	
8																							
Willamette Valley	1989		A	C	D	Ε	F G	Н	I	J	K L	. М	N	0	PC	R	S	1981	1983	1985		1981-89	
Stan Bunn (R-29 Dayton)	32%			-	+			-	•		+ -	-	+	•	- +	+	-			9%			
Larry Campbell (R-43 Eugene)	26%		•											-	- 4		-	30%	44%	9%	0%		
Peter Courtney (D-33 Keizer)	76%		+ ,	٠ +	A	+	+ -	+	+	+	+ +	+	+	-	- 1	+ +	-	85%	86%			82%	
Gene Derfler (R-31 Salem)	33%		-	+ +	+	•		=	A	+		-	+	•	- 1		-					33%	
David Dix (D-41 Eugene)	84%		+	+ +	+	+	+ +	+	+	+	+ +	+	+	•	- 4	+ +	-				80%		
Sam Dominy (D-44 Cottage Grove)	74%		+	+ +	+	+	- +	+	+	+	+ +		+	-	- +	+ +	-					74%	
Bill Dwyer (D-42 Springfield)	83%		+	+ +	A	+	- +	+	+	+	+ +	+ +	+	+		+ +	-				83%		
Jim Edmunson (D-39 Eugene)	69%		+	+ A	+	-	- +	+	+	•	+ +	+ +	A	-		+ +	A					69%	
Norm Gershon (D-45 Roseburg)	56%								2000						•	- +	-					56%	
Jeff Gilmour (D-30 Jefferson)	41%															+ +		28%	47%				
Cedric Hayden (R-38 Fall Creek)	28%	,														- +				10%			
Carl Hosticka (D-40 Eugene)	100%	,	+	+ +	A	+	+ +	+ +	+	+	+ +	+ +	+	+	+	+ +	A		100%	100%	927		
Kevin Mannix (D-32 Salem)	88%	,	+	+ +	+	+		+ +	+	+	+ +	+ +	- A	-	+ -	+ +	A					88%	
Carolyn Oakley (R-36 Albany)	21%	,	+	- +	-	-	•		•	+	•	+ -	• •	=	-		٠			. 20		21%	
Fred Parkinson (R-28 Silverton)	33%	,	•	- +	A	-	•		+	-	+	- 4	+	•	-	- +	-	15%	19%	97	23:	20%	0

1989 Отгдоп Нои	se o	f I	Re	pi	re.	se	n	t	a	ti	U	es	5_							
Willamette Valley	1989	A R	CI	n F	F	сн	ī	1.1	e 1	м	u	n 1	, 0	D	c 10	281	1983	1985	1987	1981-89
John Schoon (R-34 Rickreall)	61%															55%	44%	45%	33%	50%
Tony Van Vliet (R-35 Corvallis)	79%															30%	73%	64%	75%	74%
Liz VanLeeuwen (R-37 Halsey)	33%															25%	25%	0%	25%	22%
- Control of the Cont																				,
Oregon Coast	1989	A R	CI) F	F	G H	ī	J)	C L	м	N	0 6	۰ ۵	R	s 19	281	1983	1985	1987	1981-89
Tom Hanlon (D-2 Cannon Beach)	69%		. +														81%	91%	90%	83%
Paul Hanneman (R-3 Cloverdale)	19%		Α.													5%	44%	36%	42%	31%
Hedy Rijken (D-4 Newport)	61%		+															0.2.0		61%
Walt Schroeder (R-48 Gold Beach)	42%		+ -															0%	23%	21%
Jim Whitty (D-47 Coos Bay)	53%	- +	+ -	+ -		- +	+	- 4	+ +		+		+	+				55%	50%	53%
																			20.0	00.0
Southern Oregon	1989	АВ	C) E	F	G H	1	Jk	(L	М	N (O F	Q	R	S 19	81	1983	1985	1987	1981-89
Bernie Agrons (D-53 Klamath Falls)	50%	- +	+ -	٠-			+	- 4		+	+		+	+	A		38%	18%	46%	38%
Ernie Calhoon (D-50 Medford)	63%	+ +	-	- +		+ +	+	- 4	+ +	+	+		+	+	-					63%
Eldon Johnson (R-51 Medford)	44%	- +	+ -	+ -	-		+	- 4	+	+	A ·		+		- 2	1%	21%	0%	25%	22%
Bill Markham (R-46 Riddle)	11%									-			_	+	- 2	6%	25%	9%	23%	19%
Nancy Peterson (D-52 Ashland)	89%	+ +	+ -	+ +	+	+ +	+ -	+ +	+ +	+	+	- +	٠+	+	-			91%	92%	91%
Bob Repine (R-49 Grants Pass)	37%	- +					+		. +	-	+ .		+	+				10 1000	7 (1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	37%
Central Oregon Beverly Clarno (R-55 Bend) Bob Pickard (R-54 Bend) Greg Walden (R-56 Hood River)	1989 37% 84% 42%	- + + +	C C C + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	+ - + +	+ +	 + +	+ -	+ +		- +	+ -		+	- +	-	81	1983	1985	1987	1981-89 37% 73% 42%
Eastern Oregon	1989	АВ	CD) E	FC	н	ı.	JK	: L	м	N C) P	q	R:	s 19	81	1983	1985	1987	1981-89
Ray Baum (R-58 La Grande)	21%		- 4				+ -		+	•				+		ve Tilla				21%
Denny Jones (R-60 Ontario)	17%		+ -					+ +		-			-	- /	a 1	1%	13%	10%	17%	14%
Michael Nelson (D-59 Baker)	39%		- 4	-		+	Α -	- +	+	-	+ -	- +	-	+						39%
Chuck Norris (R-57 Hermiston)	53%	+ +	+ +				+ -	- +	+	+	+ -	-	-	+ -					46%	50%
VOTE KEY: + Correct - Incorr	ect A	Abser	nt																	
A: SB 89 Joint Committee on		olicy			K :			7												
B: SB 156 WRC Drought Managem C: SB 261 Protect Spring Wate					L: M:	SJR HB		12							Amendin t Land		a			
D: SB 264 Fees for Fill and R		•			M:										Recre			artmeni	t	
E: SB 425 Reduce Field Burnin	ng				0:	HB	318	35	Co	חרום	ora	nt	На	zir	g				100	
F: SB 816 Protect Exclusive F	arm Use	Zonir	ng								-				r Qual	- 5			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
G: SB 1092 Ban Chlordane H: SB 1100 Ban or Recycle CFCs	ŧ				Q: R:	HB HB									al of vation				ries	
I: SB 1152 Prohibit Offshore O		oratio	n		S:										ocation		ast FUI	~4		
J: SB 5546 DLCD Budget																				
See bill descriptions on pages	6 and 7																			

Senate Votes

- A. SB 156: Grants emergency powers to the Water Resources Commission for management of waters during a drought, and requires governor to declare a severe and continuing drought condition before local governments can be required to submit water curtailment plans. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 20-8. Passed House and became Oregon law.
- B. SB 261: Allows spring owners to file registration claims to water based on original date of use and requires users to obtain permits when land is divided or water otherwise leaves the property. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 16-13. Passed House and became Oregon law.
- C. SB 264: Increases fees for permits to help cover actual costs of Dept. of State Lands fill and removal program, which protects waterways and water quality. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 16-13. Passed House and became Oregon law.
- D. SB 425: Proposed reduction in field burning acreage from 150,000 to 50,000 acres west of the Cascades and 12,500 acres east of the Cascades by 1993, with option for further reductions as alternatives are developed. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 19-11. In House committee upon adjournment.
- E. SB 816: Provided a majority of the land in a parcel zoned for exclusive farm use must be unsuitable for farming before a non-farm dwelling on the parcel can be approved. Also created a presumption that the best agricultural soils are suitable for farm use. Correct vote "Aye." Failed 13-17. Bill passed on reconsideration 23-5, but failed in the House.
- F. SB 1092: Would have followed the lead of other states to ban chlordane and related cyclodiene insecticides based on toxicity and environmental persistence. Correct vote "Nay" on a motion to rerefer to committee, which failed 11-18. The bill then passed 20-9. Failed in the House.
- G. SB 5546: Budget of the Dept. of Land Conservation and Development. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 19-10. Passed House and became Oregon law.
- H. SB 5547: Budget of the Land Use Board of Appeals. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 20-10. Passed House and became Oregon law.
- I. HB 2202: Requires counties and DLCD to report to Joint Committee on Land Use the number of dwellings and land divisions allowed on lands for forest use. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 19-5. Became Oregon law.
- J. HB 3305: Prohibits disposal of lead acid batteries in solid waste landfills or incinerators and requires retailers to accept these batteries for recycling. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 23-7. Became Oregon law.

House Votes

- A. SB 89: Repealed the sunset of the Joint Committee on Water Policy. Failure to achieve passage of this bill would have disbanded the committee and thrown water and fisheries issues into the House Committee on Agriculture, traditionally dominated by agriculture and timber interests. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 34-26. Became Oregon law.
- B. SB 156: Grants emergency powers to the Water Resources Commission for management of waters during a drought, and requires governor to declare a severe and continuing drought condition before local governments can be required to submit water curtailment plans. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 47-10. Became Oregon law.
- C. SB 261: Allows spring owners to file registration claims to water based on original date of use and requires users to obtain permits when land is divided or water otherwise leaves the property. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 43-10. Became Oregon law.
- D. SB 264: Increases fees for permits to help cover actual costs of Dept. of State Lands fill and removal program, which protects waterways and water quality. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 37-10. Became Oregon law.
- E. SB 425: Proposed reduction in field burning acreage from 150,000 to 50,000 acres west of the Cascades and 12,500 acres east of the Cascades by 1993, with option for further reductions as alternatives are developed. Correct vote "Aye." Failed 25-35. In committee upon adjournment.
- F. SB 816: Provided a majority of the land in a parcel zoned for exclusive farm use must be unsuitable for farming before a non-farm dwelling on the parcel can be approved. Also created a presumption that the best agricultural soils are suitable for farm use. Correct vote "Aye." Failed 13-43.
- G. SB 1092: Would have followed the lead of other states to ban chlordane and related cyclodiene insecticides based on toxicity and environmental persistence. Correct vote "Aye." Failed 23-37.
- H. SB 1100: Bans certain chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) products and requires recycling of CFCs in automobile air conditioners. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 36-26. Passed House and became Oregon law.
- I. SB 1152: Prohibits exploration, development or production of oil, gas and sulfur in Oregon's territorial waters until July 1995, except for academic research and geologic survey. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 38-15. Became Oregon law.

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House Votes

- J. SB 5546: Budget of the Dept. of Land Conservation and Development. This version was \$100,000 less than the governor's requested amount and eliminated two positions from the current staff. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 35-25. Became Oregon law.
- K. SB 5547: Budget of the Land Use Board of Appeals. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 47-13. Became Oregon law.
- L. SJR 8: Minority report removing an exemption for 15 timber counties from a proposed Oregon constitutional referendum prohibiting the sale or export of unprocessed timber from state lands. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 42-17. Ballot measure passed House and became Oregon constitutional amendment, which voters approved in June.
- M. HB 2202: Requires counties and DLCD to report to Joint Committee on Land Use the number of dwellings and land divisions allowed on lands for forest use. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 33-25. Passed Senate and became Oregon law.
- N. HB 2704: Establishes a new State Parks and Recreation Department and Commission, separate from the Department of Transportation. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 50-6. Passed Senate and became Oregon law.
- O. HB 3185: Would have authorized the hazing of cormorants on coastal rivers to keep them from eating salmon smolts. Correct vote "Nay." Passed 56-4. In Senate committee upon adjournment.
- P. HB 3244: Establishes task force to study indoor air quality and recommend standards and rules, including labeling. Correct vote "Aye" on the rated vote, a motion to refuse the Senate's amendments. Failed 20-40.
- Q. HB 3305: Prohibits disposal of lead acid batteries in solid waste landfills or incinerators and requires retailers to accept these batteries for recycling. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 48-11. Passed Senate and became Oregon law.
- R. HB 3482: Establishes Resource Conservation Trust Fund to finance wildlife habitat, parks and recycling. Funding mechanisms will be considered by the 1991 Legislature. Correct vote "Aye." Passed 48-7. Passed Senate and became Oregon law.
- S. HB 3491: Initially a bill to provide a bounty for capturing spotted owls. Later version exempted private lands from state endangered species protection for spotted owl. Correct vote "Nay." Passed 45-5. In Senate committee upon adjournment.

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Passing Environmental Legislation. The 1989 session passed some good environmental legislation, but we also saw some common patterns continue. It is still difficult to consistently find the 31 votes in the House and 16 votes in the Senate needed to pass good environmental legislation. A lot of work still must be done to address basic environmental issues in Oregon.

For instance, Senate Bill 89 repealed the sunset provision for the Joint Committee on Water Policy. This was necessary to keep water and fishery bills out of the House Agriculture Committee which was dominated by interests opposed to environmental protection. SB 89 was initially rejected, and then passed with just 34 votes after conservationists made a strenuous effort for reconsideration.

On the Senate side, SB 816 would have put some teeth into restrictions on local government approval of non-farm dwellings in areas zoned for exclusive farm use. Only 13 senators voted for this critically important bill to strengthen our land use system. A weaker version of the bill eventually passed the Senate, but even that watered down version gained support from only 13 representatives in the House.

How the Parties Performed. Even though a fair number of Republican legislators supported the environment in the 1970s, support declined dramatically in the 1980s. But most registered Republicans are ardent supporters of a clean, healthy environment, and the percentage of Republican contributors to OLCV is about the same as the proportion of Republican voters in the population as a whole. Yet many Republican legislators refuse to vote for good environmental bills.

For example, Sen. Paul Phillips represents an area in Washington County with strong support for conservation issues. With OLCV support, he ran a campaign in 1988 which emphasized his advocacy for the environment in contrast to the incumbent. Yet Sen. Phillips had only a 50% rating in 1989, voting against such important legislation as a reduction in field burning, a ban on use of the most dangerous pesticides and the Land Use Board of Appeals

(LUBA) budget. We think Sen. Phillips could be a better legislator and we encourage him to improve his environmental record.

There is some good news, however. We were especially pleased to see Rep. Bob Pickard of Bend improve his rating to 84% to lead all Republican legislators. And veteran Rep. Tony Van Vliet of Corvallis continued his consistent support of environmental legislation with a 79% rating. We also found some improvement among a few other Republican legislators. We hope this means that they are responding to their constituents' support for the environment.

Democrats had higher ratings than their Republican counterparts, a trend that has persisted for more than a decade. The difficulty that conservationists are having with legislators in both parties, however, is that there is not enough leadership. Few legislators are willing to shepherd environmental bills through the intricate process involved in passing legislation. Some legislators who vote right when an environmental bill reaches the floor are reluctant to provide the leadership necessary to get strong bills to the floor. Even worse, legislators with good ratings actually obstructed some environmental bills behind the scenes.

Financing Environmental Programs. There is no question that good environmental legislation means little if it does not get necessary funding. For this reason, the Joint Ways and Means Committee is perhaps the most important committee in the legislature for conservation legislation. All bills which require funding must go through this committee.

Unfortunately, the co-chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee, Senator Mike Thorne (with a 10% OLCV rating in the 1980s) and Representative Jeff Gilmour (37%), both have turned a deaf ear to legitimate funding needs. Their hostility to environmental issues prevented good bills from being enacted.

For example, an integrated pest management bill unanimously passed the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. It was then referred to the Ways and Means Committee because it required funding. The bill was not even referred to the appropriate subcommittee, effectively killing it.

Support for the Environment. Fortunately, there are also many strong environmental legislators, including both newcomers and those in leadership positions. Three new members of the House, Rep. Bev Stein (95%), Rep. Phil Keisling (94%) and Rep. Kevin Mannix (88%), all had excellent ratings for their first sessions. We believe all have the potential to have 100% ratings in the future. Sen. Dick Springer, who moved up from the House this session, had another 100% rating, giving him five perfect ratings in a row.

We also commend the leaders of both houses for their excellent environmental records. Oregon is fortunate to have Sen. John Kitzhaber as Senate President with a 100% OLCV rating, and House Speaker Vera Katz with a 94% rating. The importance of their positions, especially with such a closely divided House, cannot be underestimated.

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

The Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV) is a not-for-profit, non-partisan statewide political committee registered with the Oregon Secretary of State and the Federal Elections Commission. OLCV is dedicated to the election of candidates for public office who support conservation policies and programs. Every two years, the OLCV publishes ratings of the performance of state legislators based on their votes on environmental legislation. In addition, the OLCV publishes biennial ratings of the Governor and annual ratings of Portland city commissioners. OLCV Chair: Scott Pratt OLCV Administrative Director: Jay Martineau OLCV Legislative Ratings Committee Chair: Dale Pearson 1989 Legislative Ratings Design & Production: Fred Heutte Cover photo: Chanticleer Point, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (courtesy of Friends of the Columbia Gorge).

506 S.W. 6th Avenue ~ Portland, Oregon 97204 ~ 224-4011