



SIERRA CLUB

GRAND CANYON

2023 Environmental Report Card for Arizona Legislature and Governor



August 2023

2023 Environmental Report Card

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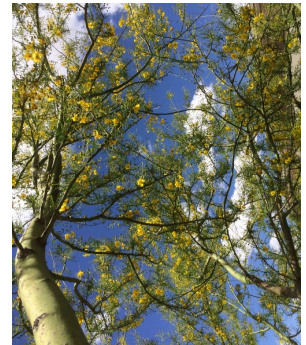
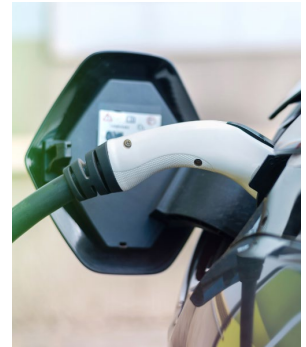
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2023 Legislative Session Overview

The 2023 Legislative Session was the longest session on record, officially spanning 204 days and finally wrapping up on July 31st. The session included significant breaks as there were vacancies, negotiations, and reluctance by some in the majority to adjourn as they wanted to keep an eye on the Governor. Very little of note was accomplished, however, and **Governor Hobbs'** veto stamp got a workout as legislators sent up a slew of bad ideas, some repeatedly.

Highlights of the session included some important provisions in the budget, [SB1720](#), including the following:

- Economic Transition Resources for capital projects, economic sustainability developments, renewable energy projects and broadband projects located within twenty miles of the Kayenta Coal Mine - \$9 million
- Electric Charging/Advanced Fuel Infrastructure Administration and Transportation - \$12.5 million
- Solar Sunshade Structures Parks appropriation to State Parks for solar sunshade structures to provide shade and electricity to parks - \$2.2 million
- State Parks Heritage Fund - \$6 million
- Upper Verde State Park - \$7 million
- Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund - \$15 million
- Water Quality Fee Fund Deposit - \$9.5 million
- Arizona Trail Fund Deposit - \$500,000
- Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) known as "Forever Chemicals" Mitigation (Non-Lapsing) - \$5 million
- Glassford Dells Regional Park Development - \$3.5 million
- Statewide Water Resources Planning Program - \$5 million
- Passenger Rail Service Planning (Phoenix to Tucson) - \$3.5 million
- Trees for schools - \$300,000



We still have a long way to go to adequately fund environmental protection in Arizona and these dollars are small compared to many programs in which the Legislature invests, but it was nice to see some funding go toward protecting land and water.

The attacks on democratic processes this session were again significant and frequent with more than 200 bills introduced seeking to limit early voting, make voting more difficult, and limit the initiative and referendum process, and other efforts to hinder democracy. A measure to require a proportionate number of signatures from each legislative district for initiatives and referenda, [SCR1015](#), was referred and will be on the ballot in 2024. If passed, it would make it extremely difficult to qualify a measure for the ballot. The respective elections committees in the House and Senate were some of the most unfriendly spaces in the Arizona Legislature with certain members of those committees attacking advocates for better voter access and ease of voting. This session, they even went after the League of Women Voters!

Last session, we began to see bills prohibiting any programs to consider Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) relative to investments, but for 2023, opponents of environmental protection and climate action really ramped it up, introducing six bills. Luckily, all bills were either defeated in the House or vetoed by Governor Hobbs, including [SB1500](#). We are likely to see more of this in 2024 nonetheless.

2023 brought new attacks on transportation as the majority in the Arizona Legislature sought to put a stop to light rail expansion and really any substantial funding for transit, bicycle and pedestrian safety or anything that did not involve concrete or asphalt. **Senator Jake Hoffman** led the way in introducing anti-transit, anti-bike measures with five bills – [SB1312](#), [SB1313](#), [SB1314](#), [SB1697](#), and [SCR1018](#) specifically targeting multi-modal transportation. All of these bills died in either the Senate or House. He and others did leave their mark on the bill to allow Maricopa County to vote on a transportation sales tax, however. [SB1102](#) says none of transportation sales tax dollars can be used for light rail expansion and that the Capitol light rail route cannot go forward, plus it limits the use of dollars for lane reductions, and includes a provision to limit clean car programs.



Not surprisingly, but still disappointing, the Arizona Legislature refused to even consider the major environmental issues facing our state; there was no action on climate or climate resiliency, no action on environmental justice, and no real actions to address groundwater pumping or protection of rivers and streams. In fact quite the opposite as they sought to limit protections for desert washes and arroyos with [HB2056](#).

Unfortunately, nearly all of the Republican caucus earned an “F” on the Environmental Report Card this session as they pushed and supported bills to limit transit, consideration of ESG, and to hinder voting. It was another session of missed opportunities to act on climate, better protect our waters, advance environmental justice, and improve air quality. There were no “A+” grades, but there were 32 senators and representatives who earned an “A.” House members were graded on 18 bills, one referendum, and two memorials (messages). Senators were graded on 23 bills, one referendum, and two memorials (messages). **Governor Katie Hobbs** was graded on 13 bills and earned an “A” on the report card for her significant defensive actions to veto 11 of the 13 bills we considered.

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT CARD

A	Governor Hobbs
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SENATE GRADES

HOUSE GRADES

A+	
A	Alston, Bravo, Burch, E. Diaz, Epstein, Gonzales, Hatathlie, Anna Hernandez, Marsh, Mendez, Sundareshan, Terán
B	Fernandez, Miranda ¹
C	
D	
F	Bennett, Borrelli, Carroll, Farnsworth, Gowan, Hoffman, Kaiser, Kavanagh, Kerr, Kern, Mesnard, Petersen, Rogers, Shamp, Shope, Wadsack
No Grade	Bolick, Gabaldón

A+	
A	Austin, Cano, L. Contreras, P. Contreras, De Los Santos, Gutierrez, L. Hernandez, M. Hernandez, Longdon, Mathis, Ortiz, Peshlakai, Quiñonez, Salman, Schwiebert, Seaman, Stahl Hamilton, Sun, Travers, Tsosie
B	Aguilar, Blattman, C. Hernandez, Alma Hernandez, Pawlik, Shah, Terech
C	Sandoval ²
D	
F	Biasiucci, Bliss, Carbone, Carter, Chaplik, Cook, L. Diaz, Dunn, Gillette, Grantham, Gress, Griffin, Heap, Hendrix, Jones, Kolodin, Livingston, Marshall, Martinez, McGarr, Montenegro, Nguyen, B. Parker, J. Parker, Payne, Peña, Pingerelli, Smith, Toma, Wilmeth
No Grade	Crews, Harris, Villegas, Willoughby

¹ Note that this is a lower grade due to absences, not due to harmful votes.

² Note that this is a lower grade due to absences, not due to harmful votes.



Earth Protectors



Sen. Lela Alston
(D-5)



Rep. Lorena Austin
(D-9)



Sen. Flavio Bravo
(D-26)



Sen. Eva Burch
(D-9)



Rep. Andres Cano
(D-20)



Rep. Lupe Contreras
(D-22)



Rep. Patricia
Contreras (D-12)



Rep. Oscar de los
Santos (D-11)



Sen. Eva Diaz
(D-22)



Sen. Mitzi Epstein
(D-12)



Sen. Sally Ann
Gonzales (D-20)



Rep. Nancy Gutierrez
(D-18)



Sen. Theresa
Hatathlie (D-6)



Sen. Anna Hernandez
(D-24)



Rep. Lydia
Hernandez (D-24)



Rep. Melody
Hernandez (D-8)



Rep. Jennifer
Longdon (D-5)



Sen. Christine Marsh
(D-4)



Rep. Christopher
Mathis (D-18)



Sen. Juan Mendez
(D-8)



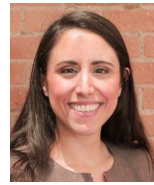
Rep. Analise Ortiz
(D-24)



Rep. Mae Peshlakai
(D-6)



Rep. Marcelino
Quiñonez (D-11)



Rep Athena Salman
(D-8)



Rep. Judy Schwiebert
(D-2)



Rep. Keith Seaman
(D-16)



Rep. Stephanie Stahl
Hamilton (D-21)



Rep. Leezah Sun
(D-22)



Sen. Priya
Sundareshan (D-18)



Sen. Raquel Terán
(D-26)



Rep. Stacey Travers
(D-12)



Rep. Myron Tsosie
(D-6)

But for the vote on the last transportation bill, there would have been at least some “A+ grades, but as Sierra Club saw this bill as including considerable anti-environmental provisions—prohibitions on light rail, preemption on clean cars, limits on reducing lanes, and overwhelming funding for roads and freeways—we counted a yes vote on [SB1102](#) as zero. There were 32 legislators who earned an “A,” however. These legislators voted against the anti-democracy, anti-clean energy, and harmful water bills, as well as several transportation bills intended to discourage accommodating bicycles, pedestrians, and transit. **This year there were 12 Senators and 20 Representatives who earned an “A” on the Environmental Report Card.**

Democracy Destroyers & Anti-Environmental Toxic Team



Unfortunately, most of the votes on environmental and democracy issues were again partisan, so the entire Republican caucus was back to receiving an “F” on the Environmental Report Card. These legislators failed to oppose and often sponsored bills that chip away at our democracy by limiting voting and ballot measures, harm our environment, including our rivers and streams, and hinder clean energy. These legislators earned their “F” and include Senators **Bennett, Borrelli, Carroll, Farnsworth, Gowan, Hoffman, Kaiser, Kavanah, Kerr, Kern, Mesnard, Petersen, Rogers, Shamp, Shope, and Wadsack** and Representatives **Biasiucci, Bliss, Carbone, Carter, Chaplik, Cook, L. Diaz, Dunn, Gillette, Grantham, Gress, Griffin, Heap, Hendrix, Jones, Kolodin, Livingston, Marshall, Martinez, McGarr, Montenegro, Nguyen, B. Parker, J. Parker, Payne, Peña, Pingerelli, Smith, Toma, and Wilmeth.**

2023 Environmental Report Card

Bill Summaries



SB1095 early ballot envelope; notice (Carroll: Gowan: Livingston) required an early ballot envelope to include a statement that said the election results could be delayed if an individual returned their ballot after the Friday before the election. We were concerned that this would discourage people from returning ballots if for some reason they could not do so by that Friday.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 2

This passed out of the Senate on Final Read 16-12-2 and passed on Third Read in the House 33-25-1-0-1. It was vetoed by the Governor.

SB1100 all-terrain vehicles; definition (Carroll, Gowan, Shamp, et al) increased, from 2,500 to 3,500 pounds or less, the maximum weight of an all-terrain vehicle. The bigger vehicles do even more harm to trails and the land and kick up more dust, which is increasingly a problem in many communities.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

This passed out of the Senate on Third Read 19-10-1 and in the House on Third Read 43-15-1-0-1. It was vetoed by the Governor.

SB1102 (Now: transportation excise tax; Maricopa county)

(Carroll: Livingston, Shamp) authorizes Maricopa County to refer to the ballot a transportation tax that will primarily fund roads and freeways, but does allow up to 37 percent of the dollars for transit. It prohibits the use of these dollars to extend the light rail and it prohibits a light rail line that would have gone to the Capitol. It also prohibits using the dollars for lane reductions and mandates that all highways will have a minimum speed limit of 65 miles per hour unless there is a study to justify a lower speed limit. Tacked on to the bill is language to prohibit restricting the use or sale of a vehicle based on its energy source—this does not apply to government fleet vehicles. Sierra Club opposed this bill due to these anti-transit and anti-vehicle electrification provisions. Unfortunately, there was no opportunity to speak to the bill or advocate for amendments as it was rushed through on the last day of the session.



Sierra Club opposed this bill

Points: Yes 0, No 2

This passed out of the Senate on Final Read 19-7-4, in the House on Third Read 43-14-3, and was signed by the Governor.

[SB1139 government investments; products; fiduciaries; plans](#) (Hoffman) required a fiduciary to take into account only pecuniary factors when evaluating an investment and it prescribed requirements and prohibited consideration of social factors by the State Treasurer for any investments. This bill is part of a coordinated and politically motivated effort to restrict the use of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investment criteria to the detriment of environmental protection, taxpayers and retirees. These changes to state investment and contract laws have not been developed by financial experts or pension fund managers. An initial study from [Wharton](#) demonstrated that following adoption of this type of law in Texas, “municipal borrowers have been hit with as much as \$532 million of extra debt costs,” due to certain financial institutions’ removal from bond markets.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

This passed out of the Senate on Third Read 16-12-2 and failed in the House on Third Read 28-30-2. Despite several motions to do so, it was not reconsidered.



[SB1141 early ballot drop off; identification](#) (Hoffman: Borrelli, Farnsworth, et al.) required additional voter identification to drop off an early ballot. This is unnecessary as they already have the signature verification and would ensure longer lines, making it more challenging for more people to vote..

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

This passed out of the Senate on Third Read 16-14 and failed on Third Read in the House 29-28-2-0-1.

[SB1170 \(NOW: ballot drop boxes; requirements; appropriation](#) (Hoffman: Borrelli, Farnsworth, et al.) erected numerous obstacles and conditions to having ballot drop boxes, including that they must be located inside a polling place or county facility or have the drop box monitored. These provisions would have disadvantaged rural and Tribal communities, as drop boxes are an important part of facilitating early voting.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

This passed out of the Senate 16-14 and was never brought to the floor of the House.



[SB1224 state parks; lottery; heritage fund](#) (Shope) would have restored the \$10 million annual allocation from lottery dollars for the State Parks Heritage Fund for trails, protecting cultural sites, education, etc. in an ongoing way, so it would not have to be added as a special provision in the budget each year. While the State Parks Heritage Fund did receive \$6 million in the FY2024 Budget, it was a one-time appropriation and not for the full \$10 million that the voters had originally approved for this program.

Sierra Club supported this bill.

Points: Yes 4, No 0

The bill passed in the Senate on Third Read 24-5-1. The House never brought it to the Floor, so the bill died. As noted above, the budget did include \$6 million for the State Parks Heritage Fund, but it was a one-time appropriation.

[SB1257 water resources; assistant director](#) (Petersen) required the Department of Water Resources director to appoint an assistant director that would have only worked with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority on augmentation and instate storage of water. This would put even more resources into augmentation versus conservation. There are other significant programs that need the agency's focus, including surface water adjudication, establishing additional active management areas (AMA) or irrigation non-expansion areas (INA), establishing instream flows for wildlife, or any of the myriad of water measures that would help us be better prepared and help address our water shortages. This bill had no additional funding for this position, so was also an unfunded mandate to the agency.



Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

The bill passed the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1 and the House on Third Read 31-26-3. It was vetoed by the Governor.

[SB1312 vehicle mileage; tracking; tax; prohibitions](#) (Hoffman) prohibited the state or any political subdivisions from developing land use or transportation plans that would have included vehicle miles traveled reductions, prohibited any tracking of vehicle miles traveled, and prohibited any per mile fees. This last item is being looked at as an alternative to the gas tax. The bill also ran counter to state implementation plans for reducing air pollution.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

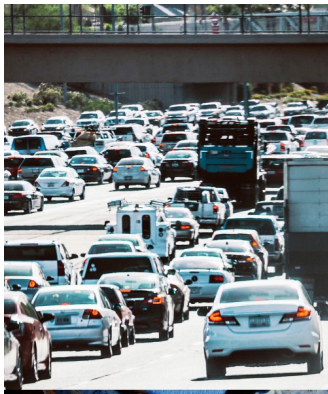
The bill passed in the Senate on Third Read 16-12-2 and the House never brought the bill to the floor for a Third Read, so it died.

[SB1313 general plan; transportation; independent study](#) (Hoffman) prohibited city general plans from including policies or projects that reduce vehicle traffic and the bill removed the element from the general plan regarding multimodal transportation. This was another anti-transit, anti-traffic reduction bill.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

The bill passed in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1 and failed in the House on Third Read 30-28-1-0-1.



[SB1314 transportation system performance; ADOT](#) (Hoffman) changed performance factors to de-emphasize congestion relief and connecting with multi-modal transportation, plus prohibited adopting a motor vehicle miles travel reduction target or any other demand-management policy or project related to vehicles.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

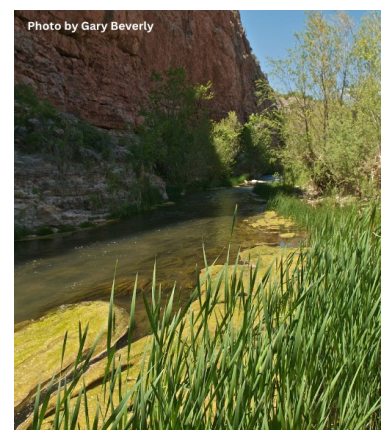
The bill passed in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1 and failed in the House on Third Read 30-28-1-0-1.

[SB1392 appropriation; state park; Verde River](#) (Kerr) appropriated \$10 million for a state park at the headwaters of the Verde River. It was good to see legislators supporting parks again and while this bill did not pass, the budget did include some funding for this proposed park.

Sierra Club supported this bill.

Points: Yes 4, No 0

The bill passed the Senate 23-5-2 and was never brought to the Floor of the House, so it died. The budget did include \$7 million for this, however.



[SB1500 government investments; fiduciaries; pecuniary benefit](#) (Carroll) required a fiduciary to take into account only pecuniary factors when evaluating an investment, so they could not

consider environmental, social, or governance (ESG) factors. The bill also prescribed requirements and prohibitions relating to the State Treasurer's investments, again prohibiting consideration of anything social or environmental. This is both unwise from a financial perspective, but also would have resulted in our state helping to continue the harm that is contributing to poor air quality and climate change.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

The bill passed the Senate on Third Read 16-14 and in the House on Third Read 31-27-1-0-1. It was vetoed by the Governor.

[SB1502 corporation commission; electric generation resources](#) (Carroll: Kerr, Griffin) sought to pre-empt the renewable energy standard or any subsequent clean energy standard at the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) by codifying a weak standard. We opposed this because the ACC is the proper venue for establishing a clean energy standard as what is required or allowed has a significant impact on rates and ratemaking is within the exclusive purview of the ACC. Even if it was appropriate, the Legislature is ill-prepared for addressing anything that requires this much technical expertise and stakeholder engagement.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

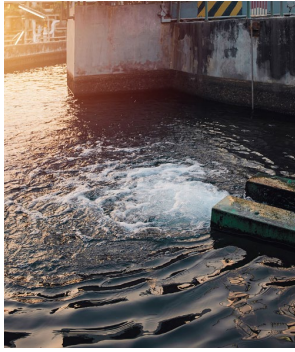
The bill failed in the Senate on Third Read 14-15-1.

[SB1595 early ballots; identification; tabulation](#) (Mesnard: Bennett, Carroll, et al.) required voters to present valid identification after an election for a ballot that was delivered by a voter's agents or a voter who does not provide sufficient identification. It included additional burdensome requirements for drop boxes as well.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

The bill passed in the Senate on Final Read 16-12-2 and in the House on Third Read 31-27-1-0-1. It was vetoed by the Governor.



[SB1660 NOW: water; storage; effluent; credits](#) (Kerr: Kaiser, Dunn) allowed certain industrial facilities to construct and operate on-site wastewater treatment facilities for wastewater and to store the water underground. Sierra Club supported this bill as we think we need to do more to ensure that water is recharged in the area where it is being pumped. SB1660 required that the water be recharged and any storage credits be used onsite. The credits could not be sold or traded. There was also a 25 percent cut to the aquifer for any stored water. Nowhere else is there a requirement even close to this. With reclaimed water, there is a zero cut to the aquifer and for most recharge projects, it is just 5 percent. Requiring a 25 percent cut to the aquifer can help to set a positive precedent and perhaps we can see an even bigger cut to the aquifer in the future. Any entity that used this program must obtain an aquifer protection permit (APP) and treat the water to drinking water standards. Reclaimed water is otherwise exempt from getting an APP.

SB1660 was not a big picture solution to our water issues, but we thought it could provide a way to start looking differently at what happens with our water in the Active Management Areas (AMAs).

Sierra Club supported this bill.

Points: Yes 3, No 0

The bill passed in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1 and was never brought to the House floor, so it died.

[SB1697 highways; bicycle paths; walkways; prohibition](#)

(Hoffman) prohibited the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) from planning, designing, or constructing bicycle paths or pedestrian walkways and accepting federal monies conditioned on the design and construction of a bicycle path or pedestrian walkway.



Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

The bill failed in the Senate on Third Read 15-3-2.

[SCR1015 initiative; referendum; signatures; legislative districts](#) (Mesnard: Bennett, Kaiser, et al.) refers to the ballot a measure that if passed by the voters would require a proportionate percentage of petition signatures from each legislative district to put a measure on the ballot, including any statutory or constitutional initiative or a referendum to stop a legislative action.

This would make ballot measures extremely difficult and expensive to put on the ballot and also put them more in the hands of the wealthy.

Sierra Club opposed this referral.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

The bill passed in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1 and in the House on Third Read 31-29 and was transmitted to the Secretary of State. It will appear on the ballot in 2024.



[HB2056 dry washes; permit program exemption](#) (Diaz: Carbone, Dunn, et al.) stated that dry washes, arroyos, swales, etc. and other similar features are not considered a Water of the United States (would exempt them from Clean Water Act protections), exempt from state permitting relative to dredge and fill, and are not considered protected surface waters. While the state does not currently have a dredge and fill program for washes, prohibiting these ephemeral waters from being protected is a bad idea as it could send a confusing message to those with washes through their property and it sends a very bad message about desert washes, failing to recognize their significant values, especially here in the

Desert Southwest. Further, we should be protecting the water in these washes and Arizona cannot unilaterally exempt these waters from the Clean Water Act.

Washes that do not contain water year-round provide important benefits to our rivers and streams, recharge groundwater, provide flood protection, and limit sediments downstream. All of these benefits are critically important, especially now that we are getting more precipitation in a single storm event and that we are in an extended drought.

The benefits of these washes or ephemeral streams are significant. During flood events, especially those that occur during the monsoons, surface flows in ephemeral streams play a crucial role in maintaining downstream waters. Desert washes also provide important habitat and wildlife corridors. Much of the wildlife in our deserts are associated with desert washes.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

This passed out of the House on Third Read 31-26-3 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1. It was vetoed by the Governor.

HB2411 Now: grazing operations; energy projects;

compensation (Cook: Martinez, Toma, Wilmeth) prohibited any business, including solar and wind companies, from contracting or subcontracting with a resident or a business in Arizona to construct a project that reduces the size of a grazing lessee's grazing operation, unless the business compensates the grazing lessee at fair market value for the grazing lessee's loss of profits through the end of the lease term or for five years after the size of the grazing lessee's grazing operation is reduced, whichever is less; loss in value of the grazing lessee's grazing operation (really subjective); cost to relocate the grazing lessee's grazing operation; and cost to mitigate losses due to the reduction of the grazing lessee's grazing operation (again, very subjective). This would have had a chilling effect on solar and wind and on commercial leases on state trust lands.



Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

This passed out of the House on Third Read reconsideration 31-29 and then failed in the Senate Natural Resources, Energy, and Water Committee 2-5.

HB2415 active early voting lists; removal (Biasiucci: Bliss, Carbone) removed voters from the active early voting list if they failed to vote early in one election cycle, instead of two. This would have resulted in a significant purge of this list and ultimately in fewer people voting.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

This passed out of the House on Third Read 31-29 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-14, and was vetoed by the Governor.



HB2437 transmission lines; applications; exceptions

(Griffin) would have exempted a transmission line that is entirely on private land from being required to obtain a certificate of environmental compatibility from the Arizona Power Plant and Line Siting Committee. This would mean we would have less information about the impacts of the line and have little opportunity to request a re-siting.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

This passed out of the House on Third Read 36-24 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1, and was vetoed by the Governor.

HB2440 electric energy; power companies; priorities (Griffin) required electric utilities (both public service companies such as Arizona Public Service and Tucson Electric Power and public power entities such as Salt River Project) to prioritize grid reliability and affordability in planning, procurement, etc. It required that they provide electric service at just and reasonable rates. The latter requirement is unnecessary for public service corporations and also may create constitutional conflicts as the Arizona Constitution in Article 15, section 3, requires the Arizona Corporation Commission to establish just and reasonable rates. There is no reason to limit planning and procurement to just these two factors as there are significant other issues to be considered in planning, including sustainability. The ACC also has extensive integrated resource plan rules with which this provision may have conflicted and certainly would have created confusion.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

This passed out of the House on Third Read 31-29 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1, and was vetoed by the Governor.

HB2442 temporary non-expansion area (Griffin) allowed for establishment of temporary non-expansion areas that would limit new irrigated agriculture, but that would expire after five years. The conditions for establishing them were also extremely difficult to put in place. We don't need temporary measures that create the illusion that we are really doing something to address the serious groundwater issues we have.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 4

This passed out of the House on Third Read 31-29 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-14, and was vetoed by the Governor.

[HB2496 transmission lines; definition](#) (Griffin) changes the definition of a transmission line to include lines that are more than one mile long or less and have five or more above ground structures. This would exempt these lines from being required to obtain a certificate of environmental compatibility from the Arizona Power Plant and Line Siting Committee, effectively eliminating any kind of environmental review. It is inappropriate to exempt these lines without some way to trigger a full review as one mile of transmission line sited in the wrong place can do a lot of harm, including destruction of cultural resources that cannot be replaced, harm to imperiled plants or animals, and interference with another business. Sometimes, minor adjustments to the line location can address the concern, but as drafted, there would be no opportunity to even raise concerns and they would be bulldozed under before anyone even found out about the line. Sierra Club participated in a discussion about a possible amendment to provide a trigger, a means for requiring these shorter lines to go through the process, but the bill sponsor was not interested in addressing any concerns or contemplating any changes.

Sierra Club opposed this bill.

Points: Yes 0, No 3

This passed out of the House on Third Read 38-22 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1, and was signed by the Governor.

[HB2806 state parks heritage fund; appropriation](#) (Carbone: Biasiucci, Blattman, et al.) would have made a one-time appropriation of \$10 million to the State Parks Heritage Fund from the general fund. While we supported this, we wanted to see SB1224 adopted as well, as it included ongoing funding for the State Parks Heritage Fund from the lottery. As noted with the SB1224 information, there was \$6 million in the budget for the State Parks Heritage Fund.

Sierra Club supported this bill.

Points: Yes 3, No 0

This passed out of the House on Third Read 38-22 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-13-1, and was signed by the Governor.



[HCM2003 Now: critical minerals; copper; urging inclusion](#) (Griffin) asks the US Geological Survey to include copper on the list of critical minerals. This is part of an effort to bump up the price of copper and promote harmful projects like Resolution Copper's proposal to destroy Oak Flat—it would create a two-mile wide, one thousand feet deep crater where Oak Flat Campground is now. Pushing for this critical mineral status will likely result in harm to these

sensitive and culturally significant areas. Besides, copper production in the U.S. is up. This [USGS report on mineral production](#) highlights barriers to production at some mines; they include worker shortages, technical issues, and lower grade ores, not permits or environmental protections.

Sierra Club opposed this memorial.

Points: Yes 0, No 1

This passed out of the House on Third Read 31-28-1 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-14, and was transmitted to the Secretary of State.



[HCM2008 air quality; ozone standards; opposing](#) (Carbone) asks Congress and the Biden administration to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from imposing any sanctions on Arizona for not meeting clean air requirements. Rather than sending postcards to Congress and the Biden administration, the Arizona Legislature should be taking additional measures to improve air quality. Ozone is a serious public health issue and our air is not healthy. The American Lung Association gives Phoenix an “F” for ozone pollution. Children, elderly people, and people with asthma or other respiratory diseases are most vulnerable to ozone pollution. Breathing ozone can trigger health problems such as chest pain, coughing, throat irritation, and congestion. Chronic exposure to ozone can reduce lung function, irritate and inflame the lining of our

lungs, and permanently scar our lung tissue.

Sierra Club opposed this memorial.

Points: Yes 0, No 1

This passed out of the House on Third Read 31-28-1 and in the Senate on Third Read 16-14 and was transmitted to the Secretary of State.

Resources

For more information on the legislation contained in this report card or on other bills, please go to <http://www.azleg.gov/bills>.

The Arizona Legislature's main website is <http://www.azleg.gov>. For a complete list of Arizona legislators, go to <https://www.azleg.gov/MemberRoster/>.

If you do not have access to the Internet and would like more information, you can call the House and Senate information desks. Outside the Phoenix area, you can call toll free at 1-800-352-8404. In the Phoenix area, call 602-926-3559 (Senate) or 602-926-4221 (House). All correspondence should be sent to 1700 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007-2890.

The Governor's website is <http://azgovernor.gov>. You can call her office at 602-542-4331 or toll free at 1-800-253-0883. To email her, go to <https://azgovernor.gov/office-arizona-governor/form/contact-governor-hobbs> and type or paste in your message.

For more information on Sierra Club's Grand Canyon Chapter and our conservation and legislative programs, please visit our website at <http://www.sierraclub.org/arizona> or call our office at 602-253-8633.

You can find out more information about some of the bills we tracked this session by viewing our legislative tracker at <https://www.sierraclub.org/arizona/legislative-tracker> and reading this year's legislative [updates](#). You can also sign up for legislative updates at <https://bit.ly/2IYBf8>.

To view past Environmental Report Cards and updates, go to <http://www.sierraclub.org/arizona/legislative-archive>.

For information on how to get involved in Sierra Club's legislative work in Arizona, please contact Sandy Bahr at 602-253-8633 or sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org.

Appendix A - 2023 Environmental Report Card Governor Actions

Governor Katie Hobbs	2	3	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	0	35	A
	SB1095 (early ballot envelope; notice)															
	SB1100 (all-terrain vehicles; definition)															
	SB1102 (Now: transportation excise tax; Maricopa County)															
	SB1246 (Now: election; transportation tax; Maricopa County)															
	SB1257 (water resources; assistant director)															
	SB1500 (government investments; fiduciaries; pecuniary benefit)															
	SB1595 (early ballots; identification; tabulation)															
	HB2056 (dry washes; permit program exemption)															
	HB2415 (active early voting lists; removal)															
	HB2437 (transmission lines; applications; exceptions)															
	HB2440 (electric energy; power companies; priorities)															
	HB2442 (temporary non-expansion area)															
	HB2496 (transmission lines; definition)															
	Total															
Grade																

Appendix B - 2023 Environmental Report Card Senate Votes

Member	SB1095 (early ballot envelope; notice)	SB1100 (all-terrain vehicles; notice)	SB1102 (Now: transportation excise tax; Maricopa county)	SB1139 (government investments; products; fiduciaries; plans)	SB1141 (early ballot drop off; identification)	SB1170 (ballot drop boxes; requirements; appropriation)	SB1224 (state parks; lottery; requirements; SB1257 (water resources; heritage fund)	SB1312 (vehicle mileage; assistant director) prohibitions)	SB1313 (general plan; tracking; tax; independent study)	SB1314 (transportation; transportation; performance; ADOT)	SB1392 (appropriation; state park; Verde River)	SB1500 (government investments; fiduciaries; pecuniary benefit)	SB1502 (corporation benefit; generation resources)	SB1595 (early ballots; electric tabulation)	SB1660 (water; storage; identification; SB1697 (highways; effluent; credits) prohibition)	SCR1015 (initiative; referendum; walkways; legislative districts)	HB2056 (dry washes; permit; signatures; exemption)	HB2415 (active early voting list; permit program)	HB2437 (transmission lines; removal) exceptions)	HB2440 (electric energy; applications; priorities)	HB2442 (temporary non-expansion area)	HB2496 (transmission lines; definition)	HCM2003 (critical minerals; inclusion)	HCM2008 (air quality; copper; urging opposing)	Total	Grade		
Alston, Lela (LD 5)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	78	A
Epstein, Denise "Mitzi" (LD 12)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	78	A
Hatathlie, Theresa (LD 6)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	78	A
Hernandez, Anna (LD 24)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	78	A
Mendez, Juan (LD 8)	2	3	NV	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	78	A
Sundareshan, Priya (LD 18)	NV	3	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	NV	3	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	76	A
Marsh, Christine (LD 4)	2	0	NV	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	75	A
Terán, Raquel (LD 26)		3		3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1		75	A
Diaz, Eva (LD 22)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	0	NV	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	74	A
Gonzales, Sally Ann (LD 20)	2	3	2	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	NV	3	4	3	0	NV	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	72	A
Burch, Eva (LD 9)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	NV	3	4	3	NV	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	71	A
Bravo, Flavio (LD 26)	2		0																							1	3	A
Fernandez, Brian (LD 23)	NV	0	0	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	NV	0	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	70	B
Miranda, Catherine (LD 11)	2	3	0	NV	3	3	4	3	NV	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	4	4	NV	4	NV	NV	4	NV	1	1	61	B
Gabalón, Rosanna (LD 21)	2	NV	0	NV	3	3	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	4	3	NV	3	3	4	NV	3	4	3	4	4	3	1	1	48	I
Carroll, Frank (LD 28)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	F
Mesnard, J.D. (LD 13)	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	F
Rogers, Wendy (LD 7)	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	F
Bennett, Ken (LD 1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Borrelli, Sonny (LD 30)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Gowan, David (LD 19)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Kaiser, Steve (LD 2)	0	0		0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Kavanagh, John (LD 3)	0	0		0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Kerr, Sine (LD 25)	0	0		0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Shamp, Janae (LD 29)	0	0	NV	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Shope, Thomas "T.J." (LD 16)	0	0	NV	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	F
Farnsworth, David C. (LD 10)	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	F
Hoffman, Jake (LD 15)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	F
Wadsack, Justine (LD 17)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	F
Kern, Anthony (LD 27)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Petersen, Warren (LD 14)	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	F
Bolick, Shawna (LD 2)			2																								2	NG

Appendix C - 2023 Environmental Report Card House Votes

Member	SB1095 (early ballot envelope; notice)	SB1100 (all-terrain vehicles; definition)	SB1102 (Now: transportation excise tax; Maricopa county)	SB1139 (government investments; fiduciaries; plans)	SB1141 (early ballot drop off; products; products)	SB1257 (water resources; identification)	SB1313 (general plan; assistant director independent study)	SB1314 (transportation; ADOT)	SB1500 (government system performance; pecuniary benefit)	SB1595 (early ballots; identification; fiduciaries)	SCR1015 (initiative; referendum; tabulation) legislative districts)	HB2056 (dry washes; permit program; signatures; exemption)	HB2411 (grazing operations; energy projects; compensation)	HB2415 (active early voting lists; removal) exceptions)	HB2440 (electric energy; applications; applications)	HB2442 (temporary non-expansion area)	HB2496 (transmission lines; definition) appropriation)	HCM2003 (critical minerals; copper; urging inclusion)	HCM2008 (air quality; ozone standards; opposing)	Total	Grade		
Cano, Andrés (LD 20)	2	3		3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Contreras, Lupe (LD 22)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Contreras, Patricia (LD 12)	2	3	NV	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Gutierrez, Nancy (LD 18)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Hernandez, Melody (LD 8)	2	3	NV	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Mathis, Christopher (LD 18)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Quiñonez, Marcelino (LD 11)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Salman, Athena (LD 8)	2	3	NV	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Schwibert, Judy (LD 2)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Seaman, Keith (LD 16)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Stahl Hamilton, Stephanie (LD 21)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Sun, Leezah (LD 22)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	62	A
Austin, Lorena (LD 9)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	59	A
De Los Santos, Oscar (LD 11)	2	3	0	NV	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	59	A
Hernandez, Lydia (LD 24)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	59	A
Ortiz, Analise (LD 24)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	59	A
Peshlakai, Mae (LD 6)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	59	A
Travers, Stacey (LD 12)	2	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	NV	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	59	A
Tsosie, Myron (LD 6)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	59	A
Longdon, Jennifer L (LD 5)	0	3	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	0	3	1	1	57	A
Bravo, Flavio (LD 26)				3		3						3	4	4	3	4	4	0	3	1	1	33	A
Aguilar, Cesar (LD 26)	2	0	0	NV	3	NV	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	53	B
Elsa Terech, Laura (LD 4)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	0	4	4	0	3	1	1	53	B
Pawlik, Jennifer (LD 13)	0	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	0	4	4	0	3	1	1	51	B
Shah, Amish (LD 5)	2	0	0	3	NV	3	4	4	3	3	4	NV	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	NV	NV	51	B
Blattman, Seth (LD 9)	2	0	0	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	NV	4	4	0	4	4	0	3	1	1	50	B
Hernandez, Consuelo (LD 21)	2	0	0	3	3	NV	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	0	4	4	0	3	1	1	50	B
Hernandez, Alma (LD 20)	2	0	0	3	3	NV	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	0	4	4	0	NV	1	1	47	B
Sandoval, Mariana (LD 23)	NV	NV	0	3	NV	3	NV	NV	NV	NV	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	40	C
Cook, David L (LD 7)	0	0	0	3	3	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	17	F
Gress, Matt (LD 4)	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	6	F
Livingston, David (LD 28)	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	6	F

Appendix C - 2023 Environmental Report Card House Votes

Member	SB1095 (early ballot envelope, notice)	SB1100 (all-terrain vehicles; definition)	SB1102 (Now: transportation excise tax; Maricopa county)	SB1129 (government investments; Maricopa fiduciaries; plans)	SB1141 (early ballot drop off; identification)	SB1257 (water resources; assistant director)	SB1313 (general plan; transportation; independent study)	SB1314 (transportation; independent ADOT)	SB1500 (government system performance; pecuniary benefit)	SB1595 (early ballots; identification; fiduciaries)	SCR1015 (initiative; referendum; tabulation)	HB2056 (dry washes; permit program; signatures; compensation)	HB2411 (grazing operations; energy projects; exemption)	HB2437 (transmission lines; removal) exceptions	HB2440 (electric energy; applications; priorities)	HB2442 (temporary non-expansion area)	HB2496 (transmission lines; definition)	HB2806 (state parks heritage fund; appropriation)	HCM2003 (critical minerals; copper; urging inclusion)	HCM2008 (air quality; ozone standards; opposing)	Total	Grade
Martinez, Teresa (LD 16)	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	6	F
Peña, Michele (LD 23)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	5	F
Pingerelli, Beverly (LD 28)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	5	F
Biasiucci, Leo (LD 30)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Bliss, Selina (LD 1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Carbone, Michael (LD 25)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Dunn, Timothy M (LD 25)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Gillette, John (LD 30)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Grantham, Travis (LD 14)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Nguyen, Quang H (LD 1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Toma, Ben (LD 27)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Wilmeth, Justin (LD 2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	F
Carter, Neal (LD 15)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Chaplik, Joseph (LD 3)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Heap, Justin (LD 10)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Hendrix, Laurin (LD 14)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Jones, Rachel (LD 17)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Kolodin, Alexander (LD 3)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Marshall, David Sr. (LD 7)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
McGarr, Cory (LD 17)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Montenegro, Steve (LD 29)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NV	0	0	2	F
Parker, Barbara (LD 10)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Parker, Jacqueline (LD 15)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Smith, Austin (LD 29)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	F
Diaz, Lupe (LD 19)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	F
Griffin, Gail (LD 19)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	F
Payne, Kevin (LD 27)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	F
Crews, Quantá (LD 26)			0								4										4	NG
Harris, Liz (LD 13)				0		0						0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	NG
Villegas, Betty (LD 20)			0																		0	NG
Willoughby, Julie (LD 13)	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0										0	NG



Sierra Club Mission

“To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of earth’s ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.”