ENVIRONMENTAL VOTING RECORD

1991

87TH ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Prepared by the Illinois Environmental Council Springfield, Illinois

October, 1991

FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT: 1991 IEC LEGISLATIVE AWARDS

ILLINOIS SENATE

ILLINOIS HOUSE

For initiative, advocacy, and sponsorship of bills:

Sen. Jerome J. Joyce Sen. Patrick Welch

Rep. Clem Balanoff Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie

Rep. John Matijevich

Rookies of the Year:

Sen. John Cullerton Sen. Alice Palmer

Rep. Janice Schakowsky Rep. Jeffrey Schoenberg

Rep. Ann Stepan

Honorable Mention, based on high percentage of pro-environmental votes:

Sen. Art Berman Sen. William Marovitz Rep. Louis Lang Rep. Ellis Levin Rep. Monique Davis

About the Illinois Environmental Council

The Illinois Environmental Council is a not-for-profit coalition of individuals and organizations committed to a healthful environment, stewardship of natural resources, and public participation in the decision-making processes of the state. Founded in 1975, the IEC currently includes more than 70 affiliated organizations. The IEC staff serves its membership through lobbying on state issues, informative publications, and networking assistance.

Individuals, as well as organizations, belong to the Illinois Environmental Council. Memberships are available at the rate of \$40 for households, \$25 for individuals, \$12.50 for students and limited income.

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1991 President, Board of Directors, Kimberly Majerus, Champaign Executive Director, Virginia Scott, Springfield

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The IEC staff welcomes your inquiries. If you would like additional copies of the Environmental Voting Record or wish to receive membership information, please write or call the office.

SYNOPSIS OF BILLS USED FOR VOTING RECORD

During 1991 the Illinois Environmental Council tracked many bills in the General Assembly and actively opposed or supported a number of them. The following bills were chosen for the Environmental Voting Record because they represent a wide range of issues and because the roll calls for these bills indicate both support and opposition. Other bills that IEC considered important achieved near-unanimous support and thus were not useful in establishing a profile of legislative response.

A hyphen between names of legislative sponsors indicates joint sponsorship.

HOUSE BILLS

HB 114 - TIPPING FEE Sponsors: House, Novak; Senate, J. J. Joyce

As originally introduced, HB 114 required the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to present a pilot plan for the collection of household hazardous waste by March 1, 1992, and authorized matching grants to local governments. The bill was amended four times in the House and passed 69-42, with 3 voting present.

The focus changed in the Senate: the bill was amended by Sen. Jerome Joyce so that the State would continue to receive the current 60-cent landfill tipping fee (due in 1992 to be reduced) and thus ensure funding for recycling programs. On third reading it passed the Senate 38-16; 3 voted present. This is the Senate roll call used by IEC. The pro-environmental vote was "ves."

The House, however, would not concur with the Senate amendment and refused it 32-70, with 7 voting present. This concurrence motion vote is the one used by IEC; the proenvironmental vote is "yes." The issue was later resolved in a conference committee report.

HB 477 - INCINERATOR MORATORIUM Sponsors: House, McAfee-Madigan-Balanoff-Obrzut-Curran; Senate, Savickas-Raica

Winning this bill was one of the highlights of the 1991 session. HB 477 extended the current 18-month moratorium on new hazardous waste incinerators (due to expire at the end of this year) to December 31, 1996. Despite intense lobbying by industry, the environmental community got the bill through both houses by narrow margins.

IEC is using three key House votes:

- April 16; an amendment (Rep. Wennlund) to cut the moratorium from five years to one was defeated 45-61-4. The proenvironmental vote was "no."
- May 22, third reading; the bill passed 66-44 The pro-environmental vote was "yes."
- June 28, concurrence with Senate amendment #1, requiring hospital waste reduction plans; #2, adding a 5-year moratorium on incinerators that burn fuel oil (cement kilns); and #3, exempting research facilities from the moratorium. The House concurred, 63-40-10; the pro-environmental vote was "yes."

The Senate roll call used in the *Environmental Voting Record* is a verification tally, taken to make sure that the 30 "yes" voters (a bare majority) were actually in the chamber at the time the vote was recorded. The proenvironmental vote was "yes."

Governor Edgar later reduced the moratorium to two years through an amendatory veto.

HB 687 - LIABILITY OF BANKS Hicks-Curran-Granberg/Philip-Rock

Environmentalists opposed this bill, which exempts financial institutions from virtually any liability or cleanup responsibility associated with ownership of property contaminated with hazardous waste. The bill was challenged as unnecessary, redundant, and likely to reduce a bank's incentive to require an environmental audit before financing property acquisitions.

HB 687 passed the House by a vote of 83-15-13 and the Senate 54-1-1. It is now law. The pro-environmental vote in both cases was "no" because this bill diminishes the accountability of banks as property owners.

Senate Amendment #2 (Sens. Philip & Cullerton) to HB 803 - FOREST PRESERVE LANDFILLS - Sponsors: House, Steczo; Senate, Cullerton

Senate Amendment #2 provides that no land owned by a forest preserve or conservation district may be used to develop any new landfill or other pollution control facility. This provision was originally found in SB 504 (Sen. Cullerton/Rep. Kulas), a bill that was defeated in the House Executive Committee. The prohibition was later given new life as a Senate amendment to HB 803.

The amended bill passed the Senate 36-11-2 and is now law. The pro-environmental vote was "yes." The legislation originated with angry citizens of DuPage County who opposed the DuPage County Forest Preserve District's intent to expand the two landfills it operates on its property.

HB 941 - LAKE CALUMET GROUNDWATER House sponsors: Balanoff and Preston

This bill amends the Environmental Protection Act to require that the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources prepare a study of Lake Calumet groundwater. The Lake Calumet area of Chicago has been heavily polluted for many years.

The bill lost on third reading, 54-51-9. The pro-environmental vote was "yes."

HB 1199 - LOCAL SITING REVIEW Sponsors: House, Granberg-Deering-J. Hoffman-Phelps-Flinn; Senate, Jacobs

This bill amends the Environmental Protection Act to require new regional hazardous waste facilities to undergo local siting review by every municipality (other than Chicago) located within five miles of the proposed site. An amendment provides an absolute right for any person to attend and be heard at any hearing of the Pollution Control Board on a regulatory or permit matter. The bill passed the House on a vote of 83-28-1; the proenvironmental vote was "yes."

In the Senate, the bill remained in the Energy and Environment Committee.

House Amendment #3 (Rep. Kulas) to HB 2250 - LANDSCAPE WASTE House sponsors: Kulas-B. Pedersen-Regan-Weller

HB 2250 was introduced as a "shell bill"—a bill with little content, designed to be available as a vehicle for amendments later on. House Amendment #3 would have eroded the existing law that bans landscape waste from landfills (a bill that environmentalists helped pass) by allowing disposal of such waste at landfills that recover methane gas. If passed, the amendment would mainly have benefited Waste Management, which owns four out of the five landfills of this type in Illinois. It lost, 27-78-3; the pro-environmental vote was "no."

HB 2429 - EXOTIC WEEDS House sponsors: Currie-Hultgren

The widespread invasion of non-native species of plants is a problem for stewardship of natural areas and parks in many parts of Illinois. In 1987 environmentalists helped pass the Exotic Weed Act, which bans the sale and possession of species (currently three) placed on a list by the General Assembly. HB 2429 sought to streamline the process of listing by putting it in the hands of the directors of the departments of Conservation and Agriculture and the head of the Natural History Survey.

Members of the nursery owners lobby fought this bill adamantly; it lost by a vote of 30 to 58, with 22 voting present. The proenvironmental vote was "yes."

SENATE BILLS

SB 504 - FOREST PRESERVE LANDFILLS Sponsors: Senate, Cullerton; House, Kulas

Angered that the DuPage County Forest Preserve District has continued to allow expansion of landfills located on its property, DuPage County citizens backed legislation that would prohibit any further expansion of the landfills and ban construction of new ones on district property. SB 504 passed the Senate 36-15-3; the pro-environmental vote was "yes."

In the House, however, DuPage County succeeded in defeating SB 504 in the House

Executive Committee. But Senators Philip and Cullerton had the text of SB 504 adopted as an amendment to HB 803 (Rep. Steczo / Sen. Cullerton), and the measure is now state law.

SB 948 - ENVIRONMENTAL LABELING AND ADVERTISING Senate sponsor: Welch

This bill prohibits the representation of any consumer product as being environmentally beneficial unless certain conditions are met, and it requires written documentation of such claims. The bill lost on third reading by a vote of 25-32. "Yes" was the pro-environmental vote.

SB 989 - SCRAP TIRE DISPOSAL Sponsors: Senate, J. J. Joyce-Welch; House, Kulas-W. Peterson

SB 989 started out as a bill creating the Large Scrap Tire Disposal Program and ended up as a negotiated "Christmas tree" bill. The Environmental Voting Record uses the Senate vote on July 4 concurring in House Amendments #1, 3, and 4. These amendments created an Attorney General's Task Force on Environmental Legal Resources; imposed a \$1 fee on the sale of new tires, to be used for scrap tire recycling; limited the disposal of "white goods" (large appliances) at landfills; and other provisions. The pro-environmental vote was "yes."

Governor Edgar signed SB 989 into law with the understanding that municipal concerns about the disposal of white goods would have to be addressed in 1992.

SB 1001 - ANNEXING LANDFILL SITE Sponsors: Senate, J. J. Joyce; House, Balanoff

This bill was introduced to address siting concerns that first arose in Fulton and Madison counties. In those situations, the county voted to deny the siting of a new landfill, but landfill operators convinced small, economically depressed towns to annex enough land to construct the landfill. Having annexed the land, the towns voted to approve the landfills, despite the disapproval of surrounding areas.

SB 1001 responded to this problem by requiring a countywide referendum to approve a landfill on an annexed site. It passed the Senate

30-17; "yes" was the pro-environmental vote. The bill later lost in the House Energy and Environment Committee.

SB 1349 - INCREASE IN SOLID WASTE FEE Senate sponsors: J. J. Joyce-Severns

The solid waste disposal fee in Illinois is quite low, and SB 1349 authorized an increase from 60¢ per cubic yard (\$1.27 per ton) to 90¢ per cubic yard (\$1.91 per ton) beginning January 1, 1992. The total impact of the fee increase on the average household was estimated at about \$3 a year. The bill lost on third reading in the Senate, 26-22-2. The proenvironmental vote was "yes."

SB 1361 - ETHANOL Sponsors: Senate, J. J. Joyce-Severns-O'Daniel-Demuzio et al.; House, Hartke-Novak-Curran-Walsh

The bill creates the Ethanol Motor Fuel Act to require motor fuels sold in Illinois to contain certain specified percentages of U.S.-produced ethanol. The bill also creates a Commission on Alternative Motor Fuels to oversee the program.

SB 1361 passed the Senate on a vote of 33-21-2; the pro-environmental vote was "yes." In the House, however, it was tabled in the Revenue Committee.

SB 1364 - GASOHOL PROMOTION Sponsors: Senate, J. J. Joyce-O'Daniel-Severns-Demuzio et al.; House, Hartke-Novak et al.

As first introduced, SB 1364 required the State to develop a public education program on the benefits of gasohol. Conference Committee Report No. 1 became the bill on July 1. The report, adopted in the House by a vote of 74-31-10 and in the Senate by 44-11-1, created the Gasohol Fuels Tax Abatement Act, which extends to 1999 the existing 30% sales tax exemption on ethanol and seeks to expand the use of ethanol to 50% of all motor fuel sold in Illinois by 1997. Agricultural and environmental interests supported this bill in intensive negotiations throughout the session.

The Environmental Voting Record lists the House and Senate roll calls on the conference committee report. The pro-environmental vote in both houses was "yes." The bill is now law.

ILLINOIS SENATE

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MCCRACKEN (R-81)	-	P	_		_	-	+	+	_	-	23%	
MCGANN (D-29)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	₹	P	-	63%	
MCGUIRE (D-83)	+	+	+	+	-	+	Α	+	+	+	85%	
MCNAMARA (D-27)	-	+	+	· +	-	+	·. -	EX	EX	+	60%	
MCPIKE (D-112)	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	-	P		70%	
MORROW (D-32)	-	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	Α	83%	
MULCAHEY (D-69)	+	-	+	+	-	P	+	+	- P	+	65%	
MUNIZZI (D-21)	-	+	+	+.		+	, +	-	P	+	63%	
NOLAND (R-102)	-	` -		- .	P	-	-	+	-	+	28%	
NOVAK (D-86)	+	-	P	P	+	+	+	+	-	+	70%	
OBRZUT (D-52)	-	+.	+ .	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	83%	
OLSON, BOB (R-90)	+	<u>.</u> .	-	-	- -	.=	+	+	-	+	40%	
OLSON, MYRON (R-70) -	-		•	-	-	_	EX	.	_	5%	
PARCELLS (R-57)	_	•		-	**	-	-	+ .	-	_	10%	
PARKE (R-49)	-	-	_	+	P	· - ·	_	A	 ' ,	+	33%	
PEDERSEN,B. (R-54)	-	P	- '	-	-	-	- .	-	-	-	3%	
PERSICO (R-39)	+	P	P	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	45%	
PETERSON, W. (R-60)	-	-	-	-	-	_		_	~	_	0%	
PETKA (R-82)	- .	Α	_	+.	-	, -	+	+	-	+	45%	
PHELAN (D-48)	-	+	+	+	_	P ·	+	+	-	+	63%	
PHELPS (D-118)	Α	+	+	+	_	+	+	EX	P	+	73%	
PRESTON (D-3)	Α	+	. +	+	+	+	+	+	+	<u>-</u> .	85%	
PULLEN (R-55)	_	P	_	-	_	-	_		· <u>-</u>	_	3%	
REGAN (R-80)	_	-	***	+	P	-	+	+ -	-	+	48%	
RICE (D-33)	-	+	+	+.	P	+	+	+	+	P	80%	
RICHMOND (D-116)		+	+	+	_	+	+	· +	P	+	73%	
RONAN (D-12)	_	P	+	P	· _	+	+	_	P	+	53%	
ROPP (R-88)	_		- .			· <u>-</u>	+	+,	_	+	30%	
ROTELLO (D-67)	_	+	+	+	_	P	-	+	_	+	53%	
RYDER (R-97)	₩	_	_	_		_	+	+	_	+	30%	
SALTSMAN (D-92)	+	_		+	A	+	+		- А.	. 	50 % 60 %	
SANTIAGO (D-9)	_	+	+	+		P	+	P	P	Ρ'	55%	
SATTERIHWAITE (D-103) +	+	_		_	+	_	<u>.</u>	+	+	50%	
SCHAKOWSKY (D-4)		+	+	+	+	· +	+	+	· +	+	100%	
		-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	100%	

Name & district	TIPPING Yes = +	INCINERATO	INCINERATION SON TO INCINERATION OF THE SON T	INCINER APRIL 16	LABILITY SET	THE 941 OF BAINES	LOCAL STITUS	IB 2250 H. AMENEW	HB 2429 WASTE NO = 4 EXOTIC WEEK = 4	SB 1364 CASOHOL PES = 4	NOLLOWOW
SCHOENBERG (D-56)	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	98%
SHAW (D-34)	+	+	+	+	••	+	· +	-	Α	-	65%
SIEBEN (R-73)	-	-	***	-	•••	-	-	+	. •	+	20%
STANGE (R-44)	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-		0%
STECZO (D-78)	-	+	Α	+	-	+	+	-	P	-	48%
STEPAN (D-7)	+	+	+	+	. +	EX	+	+	+	+	95%
STERN (D-58)	Α	+	+	P	+	+	-	+	+,	P	75%
TENHOUSE (R-96)	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	20%
TROTTER (D-25)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	P	83%
TURNER (D-18)		+	+	\mathbf{A}_{\cdot}	-	+	Α	+	+		60%
WAIT (R-64)	P		•	-		-	-	. +	-	+	23%
WALSH (D-75)	+	+	-	-	· <u>-</u>	4	+	+	-	+	66%
WEAVER (R-106)	P	+	-	-		sm²	+	+	_	,+	43%
WELLER (R-85)	4	P	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	73%
WENNLUND (R-84)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	20%
WHITE (D-8)	P	+	Α	+	-	+	+ .	+	+	+	7,8%
WILLIAMS (D-24)	-	+	+	+	P	+	. +	+	+	P	80%
WOJCIK (R-45)	-	-	-	-	-	- .	+	-	EX	+	25%
WOLF (D-111)	+	+	+	+	-	+.	+	+	P	+	83%
WOOLARD (D-117)		+	+	+	-	+	+	EX	P	+	68%
YOUNG, A. (D-17)	-	+	+	. 1	+	+	-	+	+	-	70%
YOUNGE, W. (D-113)	- •	+	+	A	A	+	+	+	+	+	80%

To communicate with your state legislators

To write to members of the General Assembly in Springfield, use this address:

Hon. (your legislator's name) Illinois House of Representatives or Illinois Senate State House Springfield, Illinois 62706

To communicate by telephone, call the Capitol Complex switchboard at 217/782-2000 and ask for your legislator by name

The Environmental Voting Record 1991 is published by the Illinois Environmental Council for purposes of public education. It is intended to provide an objective analysis of votes on a wide range of bills to help create an informed citizenry.

No endorsement of any party or any legislator is implied in the activities and publications of the Illinois Environmental Council. The IEC does not participate in partisan activity or electoral campaigns, nor does it make financial contributions to any party or candidate.

Explanation of Ratings

A range of points was established for the vote on each bill: +1.0, +.5, 0, -.5, and -1.0. A vote of "yes" on a pro-environmental bill, or a vote of "no" on an anti-environmental bill, was considered a supportive vote and given a score of +1.0.

A nonsupportive vote was given a score of -1.0. A vote of "present" on a pro-environmental bill was construed as a vote denied to the majority needed to pass it and was given a score of -5; a "present" vote on an anti-environmental bill was given a score of +.5. An absence was given a score of 0.0.

The points received for the votes on the bills were added together and a percentage score was derived from each legislator's total.

Acknowledgments

The Illinois Environmental Council is grateful to Kieran Thayer, Springfield, for his time and skill in converting raw information into computerized form and applying the voting record formula to the records of 177 legislators.

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