

Legislative Affairs

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2006 LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD Twenty-Second Annual Edition



Massachusetts
State House



Great horned Owl
Bubo virginianus

YEAL BROWN



Bluets
Houstonia caerulea

TRACY LEE CARROLL

Since 1985, Mass Audubon has reported the environmental voting records of the Massachusetts legislature in order to inform citizens of their state legislators' performance in protecting the nature of Massachusetts.

Purpose: This Report Card is a compilation of the roll call votes by state legislators on environmental bills or budget items. It is not a personal evaluation of legislators. We publish only how each legislator voted on environmental issues when he or she was asked to stand up and be counted during formal debate. A legislator's score does not represent an endorsement, or lack thereof, by Mass Audubon.

Method: To prepare this Report Card, we review all roll call votes on record at the Senate and House Clerks' offices. These are votes that legislators, not Mass Audubon, have chosen to become part of the official record of the session.

Many bills are passed or rejected by 'voice votes' in formal or informal sessions. In these cases, the House Speaker or Senate President judges a motion's outcome based on the members' oral responses in the chamber, or on their written or vocal communications prior to open consideration in the House or Senate chambers. Otherwise, when one-fifth of the legislative body requests a call of the 'yeas' and 'nays' in a formal session, each member's vote is recorded on a roll call, and is printed in the legislative journal.

We evaluate those roll call votes that impact state conservation programs, budgets, policies, statutes, and regulations. A vote supporting the environment is given two points. Zero points are given to a vote against the environment, not voting, or voting as present. The scores of individual legislators are calculated by dividing the total points a legislator earned by the maximum possible score.

Results: In 2006, the House voted on 12 environmental roll call votes (out of a total 600 roll call votes) and the Senate voted on 9 environmental roll call votes (out of a total 464 roll call votes). The average score in the House was 82 percent. The average score in the Senate was 83 percent.

Roll call votes are the single available objective measure to evaluate legislators on their performance. This metric does not enable us to consider other critical subjective environmental leadership qualities, including:

- A legislator's position on an environmental item that was passed or rejected by a 'voice vote';
- Time and energy spent by a legislator advocating for specific district-related environmental bills, projects, or grants;
- Quality of environmental bills filed or co-sponsored by legislators;
- A legislator's personal philosophy, ethic, or affiliation with national, state, regional, or local environmental organizations.

An individual legislator's score may fluctuate from year to year, subject to the nature of the issues before the legislature, political dynamics, or absences due to illnesses or personal commitments, among other variables. Surveying a legislator's scores over the course of his/her tenure in office may produce a more comprehensive view of his/her commitment to environmental protection.

Visit www.massaudubon.org/advocacy to download copies of all past Legislative Report Cards.

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2006 HOUSE VOTES

NO. Date Bill No. Action Enviro.Vote Result
Description

349 2/2 H. 4665 amendment Y 154-0-3
Mercury Reduction

This amendment reduces the amount of mercury going into the environment through automobiles by limiting the sale of mercury vehicle switches and requiring the removal and proper disposal of mercury switches from scrap vehicles.

350 2/2 H. 4665 amendment Y 125-28-4
Mercury Reduction

This amendment limits exemptions to the mercury management bill, including requiring proper disposal of mercury batteries and light bulbs.

351 2/2 H. 4665 engrossment Y 153-0-4
Mercury Reduction

This bill phases out the sale of mercury containing products and requires their proper disposal. Mercury, a naturally occurring element, is a liquid metal that in high concentrations harms the organs, nervous and immune systems of mammals. It is typically used in switches, thermometers, and light bulbs.

409 4/28 H. 4900 amendment Y 151-1-7
Adoption of Budget Amendments

Provides funding for state environmental agencies in the House's fiscal year 2007 budget.

Expedited Permitting, H. 4741: *It remains to be seen how expedited permitting legislation will impact the environment, therefore although there was a roll call on this bill, Mass Audubon did not score the votes. We have scored specific amendments that have clear environmental impacts. There are many ways to improve the environmental permitting process, including better funding for permitting agencies, creating incentives for environmentally savvy design, improving state technical assistance at the local level, and reforming zoning laws. Two regulatory agencies, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (Heritage) are under funded. DEP's budget has been cut by over 40% since the 1990s and Heritage lost all General Fund monies in 2004.*

422 5/17 H. 4741 amendment Y 35-114-10
Expedited Permitting

This amendment would have discouraged sprawl through the inclusion of smart growth principles into expedited permitting by encouraging priority development sites to be close to transportation nodes and on brown-fields.

425 5/17 H. 4741 amendment Y 18-133-8
Expedited Permitting

This amendment would have struck the section of the bill that creates a new land court to review appeals—see vote 426—without resources for this expanded judiciary. That this provision will further slow the review of development projects, rather than expedite permitting.

426 5/17 H. 4741 amendment Y 42-106-11
Expedited Permitting

This amendment would have struck the section of the bill that allows development to continue during the appeals process. This means that inappropriate development may go forward during an appeals process, and once the damage has been done, it cannot be undone, making the appeals process moot. See House 425.

584 7/19 S.2250 engrossment Y 156-0-2
Toxic Use Reduction

This legislation seeks to further reduce the use of toxic chemicals by amending the existing Toxic Use Reduction Act with strengthened definitions, planning and chemical classification mechanisms, and technical assistance.

624 7/20 S.2250 enactment Y 152-0-6
Toxic Use Reduction

See House 584.

630 7/20 H. 5000 veto override Y 134-21-3
MassGIS (EOEA #2000-9900) FY07 General Appropriations

Restores funding for the Office of Geographic and Environmental Information, otherwise known as MassGIS, including \$400,000 for the development of a comprehensive statewide digital data layer of land use/land cover. The digital classification will greatly enhance the ability of state agencies, towns, and non-governmental organizations to make educated decisions about land protection and development.

637 7/20 H. 5000 veto override Y 134-21-3
DCR 2810-0100

Regarding the Department of Conservation and Recreation, restores funding for the operation of state parks—including public parks, heritage state parks, reservations, campgrounds, beaches, pools, and rinks, and to protect and manage the division's lands and natural resources including the forest and parks conservation services and the bureau of forestry development.

638 7/20 H. 5000 veto override Y 135-20-3
DCR 2820-0100

Restores funding for urban parks and recreation, including Department of Conservation and Recreation parkways, boulevards, roadways, and bridges, flood control activities, and funds for crossing guards, supplies and equipment.



Red Fox
Vulpes vulpes

CHRIS BROOKS



2006 SENATE VOTES

236 3/29 S.2250 engrossment Y 38-0-1
Toxic Use Reduction
See House 584.

237 3/29 H.4670 engrossment Y 38-0-1
Mercury Reduction
See House 351.

273 5/24 H.5056 amendment Y 17-22-0
Waiver to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Fund
Overhead charges are assessed against all expenditures made from the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Fund, while a significant portion of the Fund is charitable donations (with a 34.16% indirect cost charge, a \$10 voluntary contribution made to the program is reduced to \$6.58 in direct program services). An assessment of administrative overhead charges on the Fund limits the direct benefits of voluntary contributions made toward Natural Heritage. Citizens who make voluntary donations to Natural Heritage expect that their contributions will directly benefit endangered species recovery. On January 2, 2007, Governor Romney provided an administrative waiver on overhead charges for FY 2007 (retroactively). This waiver should be made permanent.

293 6/15 H.5057 enactment Y 35-1-3
Funding for Repairs to Trilside Museum
This vote grants critical funding to the Blue Hills Trilside Museum for facility repairs. Since 1974, Mass Audubon has managed the publicly owned Trilside Museum as the gateway to the Blue Hills State Reservation. The Trilside Museum provides educational programs to children throughout the Greater Boston area, and thousands of children and adults learn about their environment each year through Trilside's educational programs.

375 7/19 H. 5112 enactment Y 37-0-2
Mercury Reduction
See House 351.



Common Goldeneye
Bucephala clangula

PORT PHOTO

411 7/20 S.2250 enactment Y 36-0-3
Toxic Use Reduction
See House 584.

430 7/24 H.5000 veto override Y 34-3-2
MassGIS (EOEA #2000-9900) FY07 General Appropriations
See House 630.

455 7/25 H.5000 veto override Y 32-6-1
DCR 2810-0100
See House 637.

456 7/25 H.5000 veto override Y 33-5-1
DCR 2820-0100
See house 638.



Flower Longhorn Beetle
Typocerus velutinus

JENN FORMAN ORTH



Red Spotted Newt
Notophthalmus viridescens

ANDY CHASE



2006 HOUSE VOTES

VOTE # >>>	349	350	351	409	422	425	426	584	624	630	637	638	SCORE
DATE	2/2	2/2	2/2	4/28	5/17	5/17	5/17	7/19	7/20	7/20	7/20	7/20	
YEAS	154	125	153	151	35	18	42	156	152	134	134	135	
NAYS	0	28	0	1	114	133	106	0	0	21	21	20	
N-VOTE	3	4	4	7	10	8	11	2	6	3	3	3	
ENVIRO. VOTE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Atkins, C.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Atsalis, D.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Ayers, B.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Balser, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Binienda, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Bosley, D.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Bradley, G.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Broadhurst, A.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Cabral, A.	+	+	+	+	-	-	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Callahan, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Canavan, C.	+	+	+	NV	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Candaras, G.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Canessa, S.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Carron, M.	+	NV	NV	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Casey, P.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Coakley-Rivera, C.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Coppola, V.	*	*	*	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	33%*
Correia, R.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Costello, M.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Coughlin, R.	+	+	+	NV	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Creedon, G.	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Curran, S.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
DeLeo, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
deMacedo, V.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Dempsey, B.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
DiMasi, S.	+	+	+	+	NV	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Donato, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Donelan, C.	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Driscoll, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Eldridge, J.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Evangelidis, L.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	50%
Fagan, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Fallon, C.	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Falzone, M.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Fennell, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Festa, M.	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Finegold, B.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Flanagan, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Flynn, D.	+	+	+	+	-	-	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Forry, D.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Fox, G.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Fresolo, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Frost, P.	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	50%
Galvin, W.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Garry, C.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Gifford, S.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Gobi, A.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Goguen, E.	+	+	+	+	-	-	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Golden, T.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Gomes, S.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Grant, M.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Greene, W.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%



VOTE # >>>	349	350	351	409	422	425	426	584	624	630	637	638	SCORE
Guyer, D.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Haddad, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Hall, G.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Hargraves, R.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Harkins, L.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Hill, B.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Honan, K.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Humason, D.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Hynes, F.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Jones, B.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	50%
Kafka, L.	+	-	+	+	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	25%*
Kane, M.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Kaprielian, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Kaufman, J.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Keenan, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Kennedy, T.	NV	NV	NV	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	50%*
Khan, K.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Kocot, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Koczera, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Koutoujian, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Kujawski, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Kulik, S.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Lantigua, W.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Leary, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
LeDuc, S.	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	NV	NV	NV	NV	42%
Lepper, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	50%
Linsky, D.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
L'Italien, B.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Loscocco, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	58%
Malia, E.	+	+	+	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Mariano, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Marzilli, J.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Miceli, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Moran, M.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Murphy, C.	+	-	+	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Murphy, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Murphy, K.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Nangle, D.	+	+	+	NV	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Natale, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Naughton, H.	NV	NV	NV	NV	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	50%
Nyman, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
O'Brien, T.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
O'Flaherty, E.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Owens-Hicks, S.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Parente, M.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Patrick, M.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Paulsen, A.	+	+	+	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Pedone, V.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	NV	+	+	+	67%
Peisch, A.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Perry, J.	+	-	+	NV	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	33%
Petersen, D.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Peterson, G.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Petrolati, T.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Petrucelli, A.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Pignatelli, S.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Poirier, E.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Polito, K.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	50%
Pope, S.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	50%
Provost, D.	*	*	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%*
Quinn, J.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%

House scoring continued >



VOTE # >>>	349	350	351	409	422	425	426	584	624	630	637	638	SCORE
Reinstein, K.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Rice, R.	*	*	*	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%*
Rodrigues, M.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Rogeness, M.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Rogers, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Ross, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	50%
Rush, M.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Rushing, B.	+	+	+	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Sanchez, J.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Sannicandro, T.	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Scaccia, A.	+	+	+	NV	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Scibak, J.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Sciortino, C.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Smizik, F.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Smola, T.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Speliotis, T.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Spellane, R.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Speranzo, C.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Spiliotis, J.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Stanley, H.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Stanley, T.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
St. Fleur, M.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Story, E.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Straus, W.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Sullivan, D.	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	83%
Swan, B.	+	+	+	+	-	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Teahan, K.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Timilty, W.	+	+	+	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Tobin, S.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Toomey, T.	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Torrisi, D.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Travis, P.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Turkington, E.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Turner, C.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Vallee, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	33%*
Verga, A.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Wagner, J.	+	+	+	NV	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	67%
Wallace, B.	+	+	+	+	NV	-	-	+	NV	+	+	+	67%
Walrath, P.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	NV	+	+	+	67%
Walsh, M.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Walsh, S.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Walz, M.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Webster, D.	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	42%
Welch, J.	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75%
Wolf, A.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%



Milk Snake
Lampropeltis triangulum

ANDY CHASE

House Report Card Scoring Method

A vote supporting environmental protection is (+), a vote against environmental protection is (-), absent or not voting is (nv), and present but not voting is (p).

A (+) vote received two points, and (nv) or (p) or (-) votes received zero points.

Representatives may have missed environmental votes in 2006 due to official business outside of the chamber; previously scheduled personal or family commitments, emergency personal or family commitments, illness, or other medical issues.

* Representatives Deborah Blumer and Joseph Connolly passed away in mid-February.

* Representative Daniel Keenan resigned in February and became vice-president of The Sisters of Providence Health System.

* Representatives Virginia Coppola, Denise Provost, and Robert Rice filled the three above-listed vacancies. Their scores factor in that they were not in the legislature during the first three environmental votes.

* Representative Thomas Kennedy was hospitalized during the early part of the year.

* Representative Louis Kafka had a death in the family.

* Representative James Vallee was on active military duty for 3 months.



2006 SENATE VOTES

VOTE # >>>	236	237	273	293	375	411	430	455	456	SCORE
DATE	3/29	3/29	5/24	6/15	7/19	7/20	7/24	7/25	7/25	
YEAS	38	38	17	35	37	36	34	32	33	
NAYS	0	0	22	1	0	0	3	6	5	
N-VOTE	1	1		3	2	3	2	1	1	
ENVIRO. VOTE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
<hr/>										
Antonioni, R.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Augustus, E.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Baddour, S.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Barrios, J.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Berry, F.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Brewer, S.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Brown, S.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	78%
Buoniconti, S.	+	+	-	+	NV	NV	NV	+	+	56%*
Chandler, H.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Creedon, R.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Creem, C.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Fargo, S.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Hart, J.	NV	NV	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	67%*
Havern, R.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Hedlund, R.	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	44%
Jehlen, P.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Joyce, B.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Knapik, M.	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	56%
Lees, B.	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	56%
McGee, T.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Menard, J.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Montigny, M.	+	+	-	NV	+	+	+	+	+	78%
Moore, R.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Morrissey, M.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Murray, T.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Nuciforo, A.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
O'Leary, R.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Pacheco, M.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Panagiotakos, S.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Resor, P.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Rosenberg, S.	+	+	+	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	33%*
Spilka, K.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Tarr, B.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	78%
Timilty, J.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Tisei, R.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	78%
Tolman, S.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Tucker, S.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Walsh, M.	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	89%
Wilkerson, D.	+	+	-	NV	+	NV	+	+	+	67%



Scarlet Tanager
Piranga olivacea

GEN. PETERSON

Senate Report Card Scoring Method

A vote supporting environmental protection is (+), a vote against environmental protection is (-), absent or not voting is (nv), and present but not voting is (p). This includes votes from senators who may have "paired" their votes, a procedure that allows senators to vote when they are not actually present in the chamber.

A (+) vote received two points, and (nv) or (p) or (-) votes received zero points.

Senators may have missed environmental votes in 2006 due to official business outside of the chamber; previously scheduled personal or family commitments; emergency personal or family commitments; illness, or other medical issues. Senate President Robert Travaglini votes only to break a tie, in keeping with the custom of the Senate.

* Stephen Buoniconti was attending to a close family member after surgery.

* Senator Stanley Rosenberg was out due to illness.

* Senator Hart had a family emergency.





Double-crested Cormorants
Phalacrocorax auritus



Red Tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis



Writing Spider
Argiope aurantia

RESPONSE TO COMMON QUERIES

Over the past 22 years, Mass Audubon has received a series of commonly asked questions about the Report Card.

“Why do Democratic legislators always have higher grades than Republican legislators on your Report Card?”

Overrides of gubernatorial vetoes trigger roll call votes due to their two-third super-majority voting requirements. Frequently, legislators vote along partisan lines to override or sustain the governor's vetoes; this results in higher or lower scores on the Report Card. Mass Audubon believes that environmental protection should transcend political party divisions.

“My legislator is an environmentalist but that isn't reflected in his/her score on your Report Card. Your Report Card is just about overrides of the Governor's vetoes or local earmarked projects, not real environmental issues, like wetlands and forests and clean water. Why did you pick these votes to grade legislators?”

Roll call votes are the single available objective measure to evaluate legislators on their performance; these votes occur when legislators are asked to stand up and be counted during formal debate. Legislators, not Mass Audubon, choose the votes that constitute the official record of the session. Non-governmental organizations do not have the ability to determine the scheduling of votes. Out of a combined 1064

roll call votes in 2006, only 21 were environmental. We include all roll call votes taken to advance an environmental issue through the various parliamentary steps, as legislators can change their positions on an issue between the time of bill filing and passage into law. Every year the legislature fails to bring a host of long overdue environmental bills to the floor for a vote. We encourage legislators to request more roll call votes on environmental issues to elevate overall public dialogue about issues affecting natural resource protection. More roll call votes could also translate into potentially higher scores on the Report Card, increasing a legislator's chances of gaining points for positive votes for environmental protection.

Mass Audubon works to protect the nature of Massachusetts for people and wildlife. Together with more than 100,000 members, we care for 32,000 acres of conservation land, provide educational programs for 200,000 children and adults annually, and advocate for sound environmental policies at local, state, and federal levels. Mass Audubon's mission and actions have expanded since our beginning in 1896 when our founders set out to stop the slaughter of birds for use on women's fashions. Today we are the largest conservation organization in New England. Our statewide network of 43 wildlife sanctuaries welcomes visitors of all ages and serves as the base for our conservation, education, and advocacy work. To support these important efforts, call 800-AUDUBON (283-8266) or visit www.massaudubon.org.

 **Mass Audubon**
Protecting the Nature of Massachusetts

