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Sierra Club Utah Chapter

Utah Senate Scorecard: 2011 General Session

Senate Members HB 88 HB 399 HB 477 HJR 19 SB 20 SB 21 SCR 15 Total Count Av'g O=absent; 1=yea; 2=nay Correct Vote= 1 2 2 2 1 2 2 2 Adams, S 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 2 20% Bramble 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 20% Buttars 0 1
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Urquhart 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 0 29%
Valentine, J 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 0 29%
Van Tassel, K 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 0 29%
Waddoups 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 0 29%
Correct Vote= 1 2 2 1 2 2

HB 88

HB 399

This bill creates the Agriculture Sustainability Task Force with the purpose of studying ways to sustain the agricultural industry. Passed 2nd reading, session ended before 3rd reading. With regard to environmental actions, this bill requires a plaintiff to post a bond before receiving a preliminary injunction or administrative stay, requires an unsuccessful plaintiff to pay damages to defendants who are harmed by a preliminary injunction or administrative stay, and provides for immediate appeal of a court's or agency's refusal to require the bond. Passed & signed.

- This bill amended GRAMA, the Government Records Access and Management Act, to create HB 477 major loopholes in public access, raise costs for users and change the fundamental presumption of openness. Although it was repealed in special session, we include the original votes here to reflect the climate, behavior and opinion of the general session. Passed, signed and then repealed. **HJR 19** Although the US Supreme Court has ruled that the EPA has the authority to regulate greenhouse gasses, this resolution expresses the opinion of the legislature that it should not do so until congress passes legislation. Passed by both houses. **SB 20** In groundwater districts already judged to have a water shortage, this bill changes the definition of beneficial use to allow recharge of the groundwater aquifer. Passed and signed. Although loath to provide any planning & zoning on private land, the legislature saw fit in this SB 221 bill to establish a land use plan for precisely those lands over which it has no authority: federal lands. The bill will be nugatory except for those significant occasions when a presidential administration conspires with state governments to undermine federal law such as FLPMA. Passed & signed. **SRC 15** This resolution expresses the opinion of the legislature and the governor that wolves should be
- exempted from protection under the Endangered Species Act. Passed and signed.