

# The Michigan Environmental Facebook



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## Overview

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into community priorities, and the results of the 2008 elections reflect great progress in that direction. In race after race—for county commission, state House, U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, and the White House—voters elected candidates who will fight for a new energy economy that creates jobs, saves consumers money, and protects the planet.

The *Michigan Environmental Facebook* summarizes the backgrounds and environmental positions of newly elected and re-elected state House candidates who were endorsed by Michigan LCV and/or by our environmental allies, like Sierra Club and Clean Water Action. For a complete list of Michigan LCV endorsements in the 2008 election cycle, please see [www.michiganlcv.org](http://www.michiganlcv.org).

As in past election cycles, this year Michigan LCV endorsed state House (the state Senate was not up for election in 2008) candidates who demonstrated a commitment to promoting clean energy, reducing global warming pollution, protecting natural resources, and ensuring a healthy environment for future generations. In the 2008 election cycle, Michigan LCV endorsed 33 candidates for office, 6 of whom were county commission candidates. Michigan LCV also ran independent campaigns in two key state House races, one on either side of the state.

With Governor Granholm and nine new pro-environment members of the state House in office, Lansing is poised to spearhead the innovative change that Michigan desperately needs. Michigan LCV looks forward to working with the newly elected state House members, as well as those returning to office, to jumpstart our economy by pursuing holistic environmental policies that repower, refuel, and rebuild our magnificent state.

## Icon Key

The newly elected and re-elected officials included in the *Michigan Environmental Facebook* completed a comprehensive questionnaire on a wide variety of energy, environment, and public health issues. The icons on the following pages illustrate each representative's top environmental priorities during the 2009-2010 session. In some cases, omission of a particular icon simply indicates that the candidate's response was too nuanced to warrant an icon.



SUPPORT FOR promotion of clean and renewable energy in Michigan that includes a mandated Renewable Portfolio Standard and a meaningful Energy Efficiency Law



SUPPORT FOR legislation protecting children's health by reducing the use and release of toxic chemicals such as Lindane that expose children to abnormal health risks



SUPPORT FOR state policies that would ensure environmental justice is a component of decision-making processes in all state programs



SUPPORT FOR allowing local communities to vote on instituting a local sales tax to support investment in a quality regional rapid transit system and other transit infrastructure



SUPPORT FOR taking action to help protect Michigan's headwaters and tributaries



SUPPORT FOR no net loss of State Park lands/keeping management decisions regarding Michigan's state forests in the DNR with extensive input from the public



SUPPORT FOR increasing the state's Great Lakes funding to leverage federal funding/passing and utilizing the Great Lakes Compact and implementing legislation to protect the Great Lakes



SUPPORT FOR restoring adequate funding to the DEQ to its 2003 level, bringing it back to a level where it can protect Michigan's natural resources and public health



SUPPORT FOR legislation that would reinstate funding for toxic cleanup/legislation that would prioritize funding for pollution prevention/toxic contamination cleanup efforts with accompanying polluter accountability legislation



SUPPORT FOR standing strong with the environmental and conservation community across Michigan and work in the Legislature to promote a green platform that includes clean water, clean air, and a common sense approach to land use



SUPPORT FOR requiring concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) to meet the same water quality, air quality, and groundwater standards as other Michigan industries

## State House of Representatives

### Tim Bledsoe



**Term:** First

**District:** 1

**Region:** Grosse Pointe Communities, Harper Woods, Northeastern Detroit

Tim Bledsoe represents the Northeast corner of Wayne County. A professor of political science at Wayne State University, Bledsoe will be transferring his teaching skills to leading skills in Lansing. He strongly advocates for the protection of Michigan's environment, especially Lake St. Clair, along with resource conservation and smart growth. Bledsoe will make these top priorities during his time in Lansing.

Bledsoe replaces term-limited Representative Edward Gaffney, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 56%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Lake St. Clair is a valuable but fragile ecosystem. Vigilance against biological and chemical threats to its water quality is critical. The need to guard against accretion of sediment along its shoreline is imperative. Education can guide consumers to share in stewardship of this beautiful resource."*

## State House of Representatives

### Coleman Young II

**Term:** Second

**District:** 4

**Region:** Downtown Detroit



Representing Detroit, where his father was mayor for 20 years, Coleman Young II understands the interconnection between environmental concerns and urban concerns, and how a healthy environment fosters healthy community. Young has a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 100%.

Young is also a student at Wayne State University. Previously, he worked for the Detroit City Council Research & Analysis Division. Young is also the host of "The Young Effect," a weekly talk show, a member of St. Paul Church of God In Christ, and has acted in several plays in churches and at Wayne State University.

### Top environmental priorities



No quote available

## State House of Representatives

### Rashida Tlaib

**Term:** First

**District:** 12

**Region:** Southwest Detroit



Representing Southwest Detroit, Rashida Tlaib understands firsthand the effects of pollution from industrial sites. Growing up in an urban area, Tlaib knows that in places saddled with heavy industry, pollution is not just an environmental issue, but a social justice issue as well. In Lansing, Tlaib intends to restore environmental quality funds, protect our Great Lakes and waterways, and invest in alternative renewable energy. Tlaib has a law degree from Thomas Cooley Law School and has worked for ACCESS, LASED, and State Representative Steve Tobocman.

Rashida replaces term-limited Representative Steve Tobocman, a true environmental champion with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 100%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"I am completely committed in making sure that we have adequate resources to combat [environmental] issues. I believe the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality lacks funding and the tools to enforce current environmental protection laws that protect us. I will support restoring funding to the DEQ and programming that help keep our communities safe."*

## State House of Representatives

### Richard LeBlanc

**Term:** Second

**District:** 18

**Region:** Westland



Richard LeBlanc is entering his second term as a State Representative from Westland. He has made environmental concerns one of his top issues. LeBlanc believes that the Great Lakes are the state's treasure and should be protected, as such. LeBlanc has a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 100%.

LeBlanc served as a city council member in Westland from 1995 to 2001 and from 2003 to 2006. He also served as an officer and trustee for Wayne/Westland Community Schools Board of Education from 1992 to 1995.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Michigan is defined by the Great Lakes, and we must do everything we can to protect them for generations to come. Our waters also are a vital part of our economy here in the Great Lakes State. Tourists, boaters and anglers pump billions of dollars into our economy each year. As we fight to get Michigan back on track, we must ensure that these valuable dollars are protected."*

## State House of Representatives

### Marc Corriveau

**Term:** Second

**District:** 20

**Region:** Northville, Plymouth, Canton, Wayne



Marc Corriveau is a second term Representative. He is a champion for Michigan's Great Lakes and green spaces, and his voting record proves it. Corriveau scored 100% on the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard* in a legislative year that focused on protecting the Great Lakes, stopping out-of-state trash, and investing in renewable energy. Corriveau will surely carry this stalwart support for environmental protection into his second term.

Corriveau earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University. He went on to earn a law degree from the University of Detroit-Mercy School of Law and has been a practicing attorney for six years. Corriveau served in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1994 to 2001.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Michigan's economic health and stability are linked to the health of the Great Lakes. We must do all we can to protect the Great Lakes and our many other waterways."*

## State House of Representatives

### Dian Slavens

**Term:** First

**District:** 21

**Region:** Belleville, Canton, Van Buren Twp



Dian Slavens promises to work to prevent the sale of Michigan water and to secure millions of dollars to devote to cleaning up polluted sites. She also supports investing in alternative energy and an aggressive RPS to combat climate change and create jobs. Slavens is a respiratory therapist at Henry Ford Hospital.

Slavens replaces term-limited Representative Phil LaJoy, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 35%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*“Thousands of workers in our three largest industries – manufacturing, agriculture and tourism – rely on our waters for their livelihoods. Water is our most precious natural resource, and we must ensure that it stays right here in Michigan where it belongs.”*

## State House of Representatives

### Deb Kennedy

**Term:** First

**District:** 23

**Region:** Gibraltar, Brownstown, Flat Rock, Grosse Ile, Downriver  
Wayne County



Prior to her election to Michigan's House of Representatives, Deb Kennedy was a small-business owner and a trustee on the Brownstown-Woodhaven Board of Education. She has taken a strong position in favor of environmental protection and alternative energy development, a position that she has held since the 1970s.

Kennedy was endorsed by her predecessor in the 23<sup>rd</sup> District, Kathleen Law, who scored 100% on the *Michigan LCV Scorecard* for the past three legislative cycles. Kennedy's commitment to environmental protection suggests the 23rd District will remain in good hands.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"Our family has always been environmentally aware, from composting since the 1970s to using cloth diapers in the '80s. We carpool to work, are low consumers and recycle household products, from bread bags and screws to furniture. We volunteer for various community clean up events."*

## State House of Representatives

### Sarah Roberts

**Term:** First

**District:** 24

**Region:** St. Clair Shores, Harrison Twp, eastern Macomb County



Sarah Roberts is a former Macomb County Commissioner and now represents Macomb County's lake communities. A former Clean Water Action staffer, Roberts brings a wealth of knowledge on environmental issues to the Legislature, especially those concerning Lake St. Clair and water pollution, and will work to be a champion for Michigan's environment.

Roberts replaces term-limited Representative Jack Brandenburg, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 49%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"As a State Representative, I will build on my work protecting our water, from forcing the federal government to clean up PCBs to stopping a policy that would have allowed more sewage to pour into our lakes and rivers. We must do all we can to keep Lake St. Clair and our other waterways healthy, to save both our economy and our way of life."*

## State House of Representatives

### Jon Switalski

**Term:** First

**District:** 25

**Region:** Northern Warren



Jon Switalski comes to Lansing with a sound plan for protecting Michigan's environment. His plan —“New Michigan Now”— focuses on ending the importation of garbage into Michigan from Canada and other states along with preventing companies from selling Michigan's water for profit. His plan also focuses on encouraging investment in renewable energy. Switalski is a former Macomb County Commissioner and he authored a living wage policy for Macomb County.

Switalski replaces term-limited Representative Steve Bieda, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 96%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*“As a State Representative, I will continue working hard to keep Michigan beautiful. Having clean, healthy Great Lakes and communities free from hazardous trash is important to our quality of life and our economic growth.”*

## State House of Representatives

### Marie Donigan

**Term:** Third

**District:** 26

**Region:** Royal Oak and Madison Heights



Marie Donigan is in her third term as a Representative of Royal Oak and Madison Heights. During her tenure, she has been extraordinarily supportive of environmental protection, which is evident by her 100% lifetime score on the *Michigan LCV Scorecard*. Donigan helped pass a bi-partisan energy package in 2008, supports increased funding for the DEQ, and has championed mass transit as the 2007-2008 Chair of the House Subcommittee on Public Transportation.

A lifelong resident of Royal Oak, Donigan worked as a landscape architect in private practice for several years before joining the City of Farmington Hills Department of Planning and Community Development.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"Throughout my time in the legislature, I have worked very closely with most environmental organizations on preserving our Great Lakes and Michigan's natural resources. Public transit is my top priority and I will continue to work hard to create new transit options for Michigan residents that will be economically feasible and energy efficient."*

## State House of Representatives

### Ellen Cogen Lipton

**Term:** First

**District:** 27

**Region:** Berkley, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, part of Oak Park



Ellen Cogen Lipton is focused on the transformation and preservation of Michigan through the pursuit of real, renewable energy solutions. Cogen Lipton will work for sustainability through expanded municipal recycling programs, research and development of renewable energy production and technology, and protection of our most valuable resource: the Great Lakes. Cogen Lipton is a patent attorney and president of the Michigan Ambassadors for the Weizmann Institute.

Cogen Lipton replaces term-limited Representative Andy Meisner, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 100%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"We must lead by example by making choices each and every day to reduce the carbon footprint of each person on our planet. Using less energy than we produce, recycling whenever we can must become part of our daily lives. We have a moral obligation to leave a better world for our children than we inherited."*

## State House of Representatives

### Fred Miller

**Term:** Third

**District:** 31

**Region:** Mount Clemens, Clinton Twp, part of Fraser



Fred Miller is in his third term in the Michigan House of Representatives, serving the residents of Mt. Clemens, Clinton Twp. and Fraser. A champion for Michigan's environment, Miller believes that the Great Lakes define our state and should be protected by strong laws. He also believes that Michigan needs to promote and invest in renewable energy. Miller's environmental record, a lifetime score of 100% on the *Michigan LCV Scorecard*, reflects his commitment to Michigan's environment.

Miller previously worked as an aide to U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, U.S. Rep. David Bonior and State Sen. Ken DeBeaussaert. Prior to that he also worked as a substitute teacher in several Macomb County public schools.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"I will continue to work to protect all Michigan's waterways. Lake St. Clair is at the heart of my district and Macomb County, and protecting the Clinton River and other waterways will ensure its health for generations."*

## State House of Representatives

### Jennifer Haase

**Term:** First

**District:** 32

**Region:** Richmond, New Haven, Chesterfield,  
New Baltimore, Armada



Representing a district situated along Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River, Jennifer Haase understands the importance of keeping our Great Lakes and waterways clean and safe. She also believes that this same water should not be sold for profit by bottling companies. Haase intends to work to end importation of trash from Canada and nearby states. She has been a teacher at Warren Woods Public School for 10 years.

Haase unseated one of Michigan's worst environmental lawmakers, Representative Daniel Acciavatti, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 25%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"We are blessed in Michigan with so many great assets: the Great Lakes, agricultural diversity, charming towns, and some of the best hunting and fishing you'll find anywhere. We have a very special way of life in Michigan. To move our state's economy forward, I will do everything I can to protect that way of life as well as the hundreds of thousands of jobs that rely on healthy land and water."*

## State House of Representatives

### Vicki Barnett

**Term:** First

**District:** 37

**Region:** Farmington, Farmington Hills



Vicki Barnett was the Mayor of Farmington Hills from 2003-2007, and was a City Council member from 1995-2003. During that time, Barnett prevented oil drilling underneath residential neighborhoods, held one of the first green homeowners' workshops in the nation, and planted native, sustainable plants in city medians. In Lansing, Barnett will focus on protecting green spaces by creating conservation zones and protecting the Great Lakes. In addition, Barnett will focus on job creation through development of renewable energy production and technology.

Barnett replaces term-limited Representative Aldo Vagnozzi, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 92%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"We cannot afford urban sprawl anymore (with the millions it costs to build roads and sewer systems). We cannot afford to reward township growth and rural city growth at the expense of where half our state's population happen to live. We need to stop encouraging the sprawl and realize what it's actually costing us."*

## State House of Representatives

### Lisa Brown

**Term:** First

**District:** 39

**Region:** West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Hills, central Oakland County



Lisa Brown has put environmental issues on the top of her agenda for Lansing. She will work to protect the Great Lakes by standing up to big businesses looking to divert our water for profit. Brown also opposes the importation of trash from Canada and other neighboring states, seeing it as a threat to Michigan's green spaces. Brown is a Bloomfield Hills realtor and has a law degree from the Detroit College of Law.

Brown replaces Representative David Law, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 47%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"We all need to act as responsible stewards of our great state. I will fight to protect our Great Lakes and beautiful green spaces by standing up to companies who want to ship our water out of state and flood our landfills with trash from Canada and other states. I will push to bring renewable energy to the forefront and fight against the coal rush."*

## State House of Representatives

### **Pam Byrnes** **Speaker Pro Tempore**



**Term:** Third

**District:** 52

**Region:** Chelsea, Dexter, Manchester, parts of Saline and Ann Arbor

Pam Byrnes is entering her third term in the Michigan House of Representatives. Byrnes understands how protecting the environment and growing the economy are inextricably linked and over the course of her prior two terms, she has a 100% lifetime score on the *Michigan LCV Scorecard*.

Before being elected in 2004, Byrnes was appointed to the Washtenaw County Road Commission in 2000, becoming the first female Road Commissioner in Washtenaw County.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"[Environmental leadership] has been part of my campaign position throughout the years. It is essential that we protect our precious natural resources."*

## State House of Representatives

### Rebekah Warren

**Term:** Second

**District:** 53

**Region:** Ann Arbor and Ann Arbor Twp



Rebekah Warren is entering her second term in the Michigan House of Representatives. As chair of the Great Lakes and the Environment Committee for the 2007-2008 legislative session, Warren has sponsored and negotiated passage of Renewable Portfolio Standard legislation and the Great Lakes Compact. As representative of the Ann Arbor area, Warren has championed environmental legislation at a level worthy of the area's environmentally progressive citizens. Warren scored a 100% on the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard*.

Warren has worked in Lansing since 1993, serving for nearly six years as a Legislative Assistant to Democratic State Representatives and then as the Executive Director of MARAL Pro-Choice Michigan, the state's oldest and largest grassroots pro-choice organization, from 1999-2006.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"Environmental protection is not only critical to our citizens' health and that of our natural resources, but also to that of our three biggest industries that rely on the Great Lakes—manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism. By protecting the waters that define us, we are protecting our jobs, our farms and the very features that make Michigan a special and unique place to live."*

## State House of Representatives

### Alma Wheeler Smith

**Term:** Third

**District:** 54

**Region:** Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Twp, Superior Twp, Salem Twp, Augusta Twp



Alma Wheeler Smith is entering her third term in the Michigan House of Representatives. She has been a strong supporter of environmental protection throughout her public career. A former State Senator, Smith advanced amendments promoting conservative timber cuts, wetlands protection, and environmental justice. In the House, Smith has been in favor of a strong Renewable Portfolio Standard, and she has a lifetime score of 100% on the *Michigan LCV Scorecard*.

Smith also served as a Washtenaw County Commissioner and was President of the South Lyon School Board from 1984-1992. Smith was the first African American to run for governor on Michigan's Democratic ticket and the first woman to lead an appropriations caucus in the Legislature.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"It's too late for timid incremental steps in Michigan either on environmental issues or economic policies. I believe achieving 20% renewable energy by 2020 or sooner is essential public policy that will reduce our carbon footprint, shift the state away from coal-fired power plants, reduce air contaminants and create alternatives to fossil fuels more aggressively than currently proposed which in turn protects our public lands from fuel exploitation."*

## State House of Representatives

### Kathy Angerer Majority Floor Leader

**Term:** Third

**District:** 55

**Region:** Dundee, Milan, western Wayne County,  
southeast Washtenaw County



Kathy Angerer is in her third term in the Michigan House of Representatives. Throughout her previous two terms, Angerer has been an ardent supporter of environmental legislation, with a lifetime score of 100% on the *Michigan LCV Scorecard*. Angerer is in favor of investing in renewable energy to create jobs, and she believes that Michigan's lakes, rivers, and streams are our most important and precious resource. For this reason, Angerer also supports banning water-bottling companies from exporting our water.

Angerer was previously the Director of Communications for Dundee Public Schools.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"I support efforts to maintain and improve environmental and public health protections, adequately fund the administration and enforcement of environmental programs, promote the advancement of clean energy and clean technology, and develop more sensible land-use policies that curb sprawl and reinvest in our cities."*

## State House of Representatives

### Kate Ebli

**Term:** Second

**District:** 56

**Region:** Monroe, Monroe County



Kate Ebli is serving her second term in the Michigan House of Representatives. She believes in protecting the entire Great Lakes ecosystem, including all bodies of water that feed into them. In addition, Ebli strongly opposes diversion of Great Lakes water for bottling. Ebli scored a 100% on the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard*, cementing her position as an ardent supporter of legislation that protects Michigan's environment.

Ebli is a retired senior telecommunications executive and an active member of the Monroe community.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"I fought for the water protection plan since my first day as a legislator, and I will continue to stand up to special interests groups and fight to protect our most important natural resource."*

## State House of Representatives

### Robert Jones

**Term:** Second

**District:** 60

**District:** Kalamazoo, Cooper Twp, part of Kalamazoo Twp



Entering his second term in Michigan's House of Representatives, Robert Jones has served Michigan's environment well. On the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard*, Jones scored a perfect 100% in a legislative year marked by high-profile water and energy bills. He is in favor of a stronger Renewable Portfolio Standard and supports increased funding for environmental issues.

Jones was the hugely popular four-term mayor of Kalamazoo before winning election to the Michigan House in 2006.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Other states are already benefiting economically because of strong renewable energy commitments. Michigan needs to show it is seriously committed to becoming a leader in alternative energy and anything short of a 20% by 2020 target would put our state at a competitive disadvantage."*

## State House of Representatives

### Kate Segal

**Term:** First

**District:** 62

**Region:** Battle Creek, Albion, Calhoun County



Kate Segal is the former Chairwoman of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners. With a background in public health, Segal understands that a healthy environment is necessary to have healthy citizens. As a County Commissioner, Segal participated in yearly Watershed Clean-Ups and, being an outdoors enthusiast, she recognizes the need for preservation and protection of Michigan's natural places.

Segal replaces term-limited Representative Mike Nofs, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 37%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*“As a County Commissioner, I have actively participated in our yearly Watershed Clean-Ups and worked with our communities to curtail the use of phosphorus fertilizers. As a State Representative I will continue this work to protect our great state.”*

## State House of Representatives

### Mark Meadows

**Term:** Second

**District:** 69

**Region:** East Lansing, Okemos, part of Ingham County



Mark Meadows is in his second term in the Michigan House of Representatives. He has a history of involvement with the environmental community as a member of Sierra Club and the Michigan Land Use Institute, and community involvement with the East Lansing Commission on the Environment and the East Lansing Planning Commission. Meadows scored a 100% on the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard* and demonstrates a wealth of knowledge and experience on environmental issues. In addition, Meadows served on the Great Lakes and Environment Committee in the State House for the 2007-2008 session.

Meadows is the former East Lansing Mayor and served on the East Lansing City Council from 1995-2006.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Already our state has seen growth in alternative energy sources such as ethanol and biodiesel. We can't stop there. We have the potential to become a leader in alternative energy and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make that possibility a reality."*

## State House of Representatives

### Mike Huckleberry

**Term:** First

**District:** 70

**Region:** Montcalm County, Greenville, Belding, Stanton



Representing a mainly rural and blue-collar district, Mike Huckleberry comes to Lansing with a yeoman's set of values, including a strong environmental streak. Huckleberry has worked to encourage cooperation between the labor community and the environmental community. He recognizes the need for investment in renewable energy and intends to support a stronger Renewable Portfolio Standard. He is the owner of Huckleberry's Restaurant and a former local Chamber of Commerce President.

Huckleberry replaces term-limited Representative Judy Emmons, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 21%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Protecting our important resources is our generation's job to ensure the future for our children and their children. There are many issues related to the environment, but they must be balanced to achieve a future where our air, waters and countryside are clean."*

## State House of Representatives

### Robert Dean

**Term:** Second

**District:** 75

**Region:** Grand Rapids



Robert Dean is in his second term in the Michigan House of Representatives. He has supported plans to prevent diversion of Great Lakes waters, and has fought against the importation of Canadian trash into Michigan. As a State Representative, Dean has also supported a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) which will increase the production of renewable energy in Michigan. In his first term he scored 100% on the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard*.

Dean graduated from Grand Rapids Central High School in 1972. He then went on to work for Interstate Brands Corporation in Grand Rapids, where he was also an AFL-CIO union member for seven years. In 1980, Dean founded the New Life Church of God in Christ and has been its Pastor for 26 years.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Michigan's three biggest industries – tourism, agriculture and manufacturing – depend on healthy Great Lakes water. That's why I supported a plan that effectively bans the diversion of water outside the Great Lakes basin."*

## State House of Representatives

### Roy Schmidt

**Term:** First

**District:** 76

**Region:** Part of Kent County, part of Grand Rapids



Roy Schmidt has served as a Grand Rapids City Commissioner for the past 16 years, and was President of the Commission for six of those years. In addition, he served as the Commission's representative on the Brownfield Redevelopment Council. Now, as a State Representative, Schmidt intends to work to protect our Great Lakes and create jobs.

Schmidt replaces term-limited Representative Mike Sak, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 92%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"Michigan's water is our most valuable natural resource. We must do everything possible to keep Great Lakes water in the Great Lakes basin. Since Michigan's waters are a public resource, any benefit from the sale or taking of water should benefit the citizens of our state."*

## State House of Representatives

### John Espinoza

**Term:** Third

**District:** 83

**Region:** Sanilac County, Port Huron, Fort Gratiot, Croswell



Representing a district situated along Lake Huron and the St. Clair River, John Espinoza understands the importance of clean lakes and rivers to have healthy communities. He was an ardent supporter of the Great Lakes Compact which was passed in July of 2008. On the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard*, Espinoza scored an 86%.

Espinoza grew up in a family of migrant workers working in the sugar beet fields in the Thumb. He went on to become a member of the Croswell Police Department and later a deputy with the Sanilac County Sheriff's Department. Espinoza also worked as a teacher with the Carsonville-Port Sanilac School District.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"As the Great Lakes State, we need to realize that economic growth can be achieved while still protecting our waters and other natural resources. By keeping Great Lakes water clean and right here in Michigan, we are protecting thousands of current jobs in multiple industries – including agriculture and tourism – and clearing the way for the creation of thousands more."*

## State House of Representatives

### Mary Valentine

**Term:** Second

**District:** 91

**Region:** Muskegon County, excluding city of Muskegon



Mary Valentine is serving her second term in the Michigan House of Representatives. She has a 100% Michigan LCV lifetime voting record and is a champion in the protection of Michigan's natural resources, specifically when it comes to the Great Lakes. Valentine has demonstrated — with her pro-water and pro-energy votes -- a true commitment to Michigan's majestic natural resources. She truly understands how to meld both the economic needs with the environmental needs of Michigan.

Valentine spent almost 30 years as a speech and language therapist in Michigan's public schools, retiring in June 2006.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In her words:**

*"Often referred to as our nation's "Third Coast," the Great Lakes are the largest group of freshwater lakes on Earth. My colleagues and I passed a bold, bipartisan plan that will effectively ban the diversion of water outside the Great Lakes basin and will also toughen bottling standards. The plan will protect thousands of jobs and keep Michigan's most precious resource where it belongs. More than 20 percent of the world's fresh water surrounds our state. By passing this plan, we have sent a clear message: Our water is not for sale."*

## State House of Representatives

### Doug Bennett

**Term:** Third

**District:** 92

**Region:** Muskegon County, part of Muskegon City, North Muskegon, Fruitland Twp, Laketon Twp



Doug Bennett is a three term Representative serving the Muskegon area.

Throughout his prior two terms, Bennett has demonstrated strong support for environmental legislation and was an active member of the House Subcommittee on Department of Environmental Quality for the 2007-2008 session. Bennett has a 93% lifetime score on the *Michigan LCV Scorecard*.

Bennett attended Muskegon Community College and served as an apprentice in the United Association Muskegon, Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 154, graduating as a Journeyman Steamfitter in 1971.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*“Michigan residents have every right to expect that we will protect our Great Lakes and our other natural resources.”*

## State House of Representatives

### Dan Scripps

**Term:** First

**District:** 101

**Region:** Manistee, Leelanau, Benzie, Mason Counties



Prior to his election to Michigan's House of Representatives, Dan Scripps practiced environmental law and, between 2006-2008, did extensive work with the Leelanau Conservancy to find creative solutions for farmland preservation. Scripps is passionate about conservation and environmental protection, both critical issues statewide and especially in his district in Northwestern Michigan.

Scripps replaces term-limited Representative David Palsrok, who leaves the Michigan House of Representatives with a Michigan LCV lifetime score of 37%.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"We need to do much more as a state to protect the natural resources that define so much about who we are, and contribute so much to both our economy and our way of life. Michigan is home to one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water and other bountiful natural resources that support sustainable growth in industries such as agriculture, tourism, and forestry, as well as offering the outdoor attractions that are sought after by young mobile professionals and retirees alike."*

## State House of Representatives

### Steve Lindberg

**Term:** Second

**District:** 109

**Region:** Marquette, Marquette County, Alger County, Luce County, Schoolcraft County



Steve Lindberg is serving his second term in the Michigan House of Representatives. He served on the Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources Committee for the 2007-2008 session and is a strong supporter of renewable energy development. As an avid sportsman, Lindberg is a strong supporter of Michigan's great outdoors. Lindberg scored a 100% on the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard*.

After teaching in Wisconsin, Lindberg returned to Marquette in 1968 to teach at the Women's Job Corps Center at Northern Michigan University. He later taught and worked as a guidance counselor in the Marquette Area Public School system, retiring in 1997.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"You only need to look to the cost of your last fill-up at the service station or your last heating bill to know that this is another crisis we face. In the short term we must look at ways to prevent big energy companies from making record profits at the expense of everyday Americans. The longer term answer is to look seriously at ways of conserving energy, and developing clean alternative energy sources."*

## State House of Representatives

### Mike Lahti

**Term:** Second

**District:** 110

**Region:** Counties of Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Ontonagon, and part of Marquette



Mike Lahti is serving his second term in the Michigan House of Representatives. While chair of the Natural Resources Subcommittee in the Appropriations Committee during the 2007-2008 session, Lahti supported a ban on Great Lakes water diversions and advocated for the protection of state forests. Lahti believes that investing in renewable energy is important both for the environment and job creation. Lahti scored a 93% in the *2008 Michigan LCV Scorecard*.

In 1968, Lahti opened the State Farm insurance agency in Hancock, which he still owns today. Lahti is also a real-estate developer and small-business owner, with various residential and commercial properties and businesses in the Keweenaw Peninsula.

### Top environmental priorities



#### **In his words:**

*"I supported a bipartisan, comprehensive plan passed by the House that will crack down on water bottlers and ensure that Michigan's water is not subject to overuse. Michigan is the Great Lakes State and I will work to make sure it stays that way. I will also work to fight against the increasing pollution of our Great Lakes, inland waterways and our land."*

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MICHIGAN'S ENVIRONMENTAL MAJORITY**

Please visit [www.michiganlcv.org](http://www.michiganlcv.org) to view the *Michigan Environmental Facebook* electronically, share it with your friends and family, and learn more about how you can join with other environmental activists around the state who are making their voices heard in Lansing.

To make an additional contribution to Michigan LCV to support our efforts to turn your environmental values into community priorities, please visit [www.michiganlcv.org](http://www.michiganlcv.org).

*Thank you for being a voice for the environment.*

**Produced by** Pam Bierzynski, Justin Gawlik, Bill Kirk, Abby Rubley, and Lisa Wozniak. Design by Abby Rubley.

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213 W. Liberty St., Ste 300  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
Phone: (734)222-9650  
Fax: (734)222-9651  
Email: [info@michiganlcv.org](mailto:info@michiganlcv.org)

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**[www.michiganlcv.org](http://www.michiganlcv.org)**.



**Michigan League of Conservation Voters**

**Ann Arbor Office**

213 W. Liberty St., Ste 300  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
Phone: (734)222-9650  
Fax: (734)222-9651

**Grand Rapids Office**

40 Monroe Center NW, Ste 200  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
Phone: (616)459-6459  
Fax: (616)459-6469

**[www.michiganlcv.org](http://www.michiganlcv.org)**