

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



SIERRA CLUB
LONE STAR CHAPTER

DID YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT?

SEN. JOSÉ MENÉNDEZ SD 26

100%

Though he did vote for HB 5 (an unneeded corporate subsidy), Menéndez was an amazing and successful champion of clean energy and ratepayer interests. He worked hard to pass SB 2453 (a bill that would have made buildings more energy-efficient... but that was vetoed by the Gov.). He also authored and carried a good demand response bill, and was able to pass a couple amendments to improve other bills related to the grid.



Announcing the



2023 TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

sc.org/2023TXScorecard



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SEN. SARAH ECKHARDT - SD 14

99%

Eckhardt was one of the top environmental champions in the Senate again, authoring and spending political capital to fight for SB 258, which would have increased energy efficiency goals for the first time since 2011. The only blemish on her voting record was a Yes vote on HB 5, which offered tax breaks to big polluting companies but expressly excluded wind and solar (though her vote was in return for some changes made by the author).



SEN. CHARLES PERRY SD 28

20%

As Chair of Water, Ag, and Rural Affairs, Perry had considerable power to move positive water legislation this session, but he consciously and deliberately chose not to support (or outright blocked) bills & amendments related to the Economically Distressed Areas Program, which helps residential areas where there is poor or no water & wastewater service. We do credit him for filling and passing one good bill (SB 1289) on reclaimed wastewater.



SEN. NATHAN JOHNSON - SD 16

83%

This session we noticed Johnson seeking out points of leverage to advance good legislation and weaken bad legislation. However, tradeoffs and deals all come with costs. He voted the wrong way three times, but we give him credit for authoring a bill that would have benefited economically distressed areas, carrying a good distributed energy and demand response bill, and offering amendments to improve some bad bills.



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It is an honor and a privilege to have The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club among our roster of GEAA Member Groups!

The Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter, Texas' oldest grassroots environmental organization has been a key player when it comes to shaping legislative policy and priorities.

They committed many hours in the Texas Capitol to gain an in-depth view of important energy and environment bills and an understanding of what was happening both on the floor and behind the scenes during the 88th session so that they could bring us the 2023 Legislative Score Card.

Sierra Club and their allies challenged some of the worst legislation championed by big polluters while making tremendous progress on issues like pollution reduction, making electricity bills more affordable for everyday Texans, and addressing water quality issues on our coastline, rivers, and streams.

We hope you'll take time to see how your representative and senator ranked on the scorecard and then turn this knowledge into power by sharing it with your neighbors, following up with your reps, and letting them know what you thought about their actions and, most importantly, by voting accordingly.

To learn more about The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club click [here](#)

11/16/23