



Vote for the Environment Issues and *Questions?*



US Congress:

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is always on the chopping block at every budget or funding extension. The funds are critical to address problems in Lake Erie like algal blooms, pollution, erosion, and invasive species. It is used to fund cleanups at industrial sites, restore shorelines and natural areas, and construct facilities and infrastructure for shipping and recreation.

Will you support full funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and other programs to fulfill the obligations of the United States included in the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 with Canada?

Over the past decade the EPA has put forward strong standards to protect public health and to regulate pollution, including carbon pollution. This great progress has had a positive impact on the health of our communities and our efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate disruption, yet these standards and our progress on climate are under threat.

Will you support full funding for the Environmental Protection Agency and defend its authority to regulate, monitor, and enforce the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and other longstanding and proven safeguards to public health, safety, and the environment?

For the health of the planet, the public, and our economy, our nation must continue to transition to a clean energy future. Congress must reject an “all of the above” approach to energy development and instead pursue policies and make investments that will create family-sustaining jobs as they unleash America’s clean energy potential. The fossil fuel industry – coal, oil, and natural gas – benefits from numerous direct and indirect subsidies and from loopholes that allow them to avoid complying with laws to protect our air and water.

Will you defend existing clean energy incentives and support and promote legislation that will expand investment and deployment of renewable energy projects, a just transition from dirty fuels, and move the U.S. toward a 100% clean energy economy by 2050?

Will you support proposals to close loopholes that exempt drilling and fracking operations from basic environmental protections provided by laws such as the Clean Water Act or Safe Drinking Water Act?

Sierra Club supports investment in a 21st century climate smart infrastructure plan to prioritize renewable energy projects, grid modernization, updates to critical infrastructure, and electrification of transportation systems. We support smart, integrated land use and repairing our existing infrastructure before building new roads. This will provide Americans with efficient, clean, affordable transportation choices including public transit and safe biking and walking paths.

Will you support and defend federal clean car standards as well as increased federal investment in safe, affordable, and accessible public transportation and electric vehicles to create a 21st century transportation system that reduces oil use and cuts pollution?



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Ohio Executive offices, Senate, and House:

Our standards for renewable energy and conservation passed by the legislature in 2008 have been targeted by a two year hold and ongoing efforts to repeal or make them “voluntary”. Our wind industry has not started a single project since the setback requirement for siting wind turbines were quadrupled in 2015.

Will you take steps to strengthen Ohio’s commitment to expanding the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources for our electric power?

Home Rule has been revoked for the oil and gas industry to “streamline” siting for their wells and pipelines. Now Ohio Senate Bill 210 would halt local governments' efforts to reduce waste and litter associated with disposable food packaging and carryout bags.

Will you oppose bills which take away local governments authority to regulate local activities which impact their environment and quality of life including SB 210 which forbids local rules for single use plastics?

Increased drilling for natural gas in the Utica and Marcellus shale formations threatens our air, water, and land. As we have seen with earthquakes near injection wells, the fire on a well-pad in Monroe County, and massive spills from the Rover Pipeline, all aspects of the fracking industry are dangerous.

Will you support proposals to close loopholes that exempt fracking industries from basic environmental protections provided by laws such as the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Resource Conservation Recovery Act, and other public safeguards?

The facilities at our parks fallen into disrepair and are becoming an embarrassment. We need to fund the Ohio Department Of Natural Resources better so they can make needed repairs and improvements.

Will you support increasing the budget for the Department of Natural Resources?

Will you support strong restrictions on logging, mining, fracking, and pipelines on Ohio’s public lands?

Ohio’s funding for public transportation was 45th in the country in 2017. The Ohio Statewide Transit Needs Study, commissioned by ODOT and on their web page, recommends that the state and ODOT provide \$120 million a year starting in 2015 and rising to \$185 million a year by 2025. The \$40 million provided for 2018 is only a third of what we needed three years ago.

Will you support increasing state funding for public transportation in Ohio?

Many of Ohio’s 21st century cities have 19th century sewer systems that cannot support the growth that suburban development places on them. This results in untreated sewage into our rivers and streams. Updating these sewers could be a powerful job generator, but many localities are struggling financially.

Would you support state assistance to help Ohio’s cities eliminate sewer overflows into homes and rivers and clean up Ohio’s waterways so we reach or exceed clean water standards?