



Bill Summaries

SV 1 **SB 120** would have helped transit in Metro Atlanta by lifting state restrictions on how MARTA can spend money.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Senate 39-9 | DIED IN HOUSE COMMITTEE

SV 2 **HV 2** **SB 164** threatened scenic roadways by allowing billboard companies to clear cut trees on public property along the sides of roads.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Senate 41-7 | FAILED House 74-89

SV 3 **HV 3** **SB 155** threatens clean water by removing certain protective stream buffers. Amendment #1 would have reduced the number of streams affected.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

FAILED Amendment #1 in Senate 23-29

PASSED Senate 35-17 | PASSED House 106-58

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SV 4 **SB 229** would have unfairly tilted the balance of power toward the state's environmental agency and away from citizens and businesses who appeal environmental permit decisions.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

FAILED Senate 26-25

SV 5 **HV 1** **HB 552** protects clean drinking water for coastal plain residents by renewing a moratorium on injecting chemically-treated water into underground aquifers.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED House 149-0 | PASSED Senate 48-0

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SV 6 **HB 529** originally threatened commonsense land use principles by prohibiting local governments from regulating certain agricultural activities. Amendment #1 ensured that local governments would retain the ability to enforce rules regarding zoning or the land application of human waste.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Amendment #1 in Senate 33-22 (3/30/09)

SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

SV 7 **HV 7** **HB 406** undermines existing water service agreements between local governments, primarily to allow the state to permit and fund a reservoir on a tributary to the Chattahoochee River. It passed in 2010.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED House 131-33 (3/3/09) | FAILED Senate 28-26 (4/1/09)

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SV 8 **SB 194** was originally intended to help the state enter into multi-year contracts to save money and use less energy, but it was amended in conference with language that would aggravate water pollution by exempting state agencies from paying local stormwater pollution fees like citizens and businesses must pay where cities and counties that charge them. The version of the bill containing this language was defeated. The language was stripped and only the energy performance contract language ultimately passed.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

FAILED Senate 19-34 (4/3/09)

PASSED Senate 50-1 (4/29/10) | PASSED House 148-2 (4/29/10)

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SV 9 **HV 10** **SB 370** and **HB 1094**, the Governor's identical water conservation bills, comprehensively address water efficiency and conservation by requiring water loss audits, restricting wasteful daytime outdoor watering, requiring high efficiency toilets and fixtures in new buildings and directing new multi-tenant residential and retail buildings to install water meters in each unit and charge based on usage.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

SB 370 PASSED Senate 52-0

HB 1094 PASSED House 166-5

SB 370 SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SV 10 **SB 321** would have threatened years of investment in public water infrastructure by allowing private companies to build and operate private reservoirs with public water supply.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Senate 30-15 | DIED IN HOUSE COMMITTEE

SV 11 **SB 401** would have allowed the Governor to delay implementation of a federal program to regulate greenhouse gases or motor vehicle fuel economy.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Senate 33-16 | DIED IN HOUSE COMMITTEE

SV 12 **HV 12** **SR 1231** helps save energy, water and money by amending the state constitution, if approved by voters, to allow the state to enter into energy performance contracts, a method of financing energy efficiency and water improvement projects at state buildings through the cost savings resulting from the improvements.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Senate 47-3 | PASSED House 154-2

ON NOVEMBER 2010 BALLOT

SV 13 **HV 11** **HB 244** allows the state to siphon money from a state fund that provides water and sewer loans to local governments to help plug the state budget shortfall.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Senate 30-20 | PASSED House 94-60 (4/14/10)

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SV 14 **HV 8** **HB 207** helps protect river and stream beds from damage caused by off-road vehicle riders.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED House 149-14 | PASSED Senate 45-1

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

HV 4 **HB 158** would have helped conserve water by requiring new apartment and condo buildings to install water meters in each unit and charge tenants based on actual water usage. It ultimately passed as part of SB 370 in 2010.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED House 109-53 | DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HV 5 **HB 262** would have helped conserve water by guaranteeing homeowners the option to plant drought-tolerant landscaping even if their covenant specified planting specific types of trees, bushes or grasses.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED House 157-1 | DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HV 6 **SB 39 Amendment** would have continued to harm transit in Metro Atlanta by leaving unacceptable spending restrictions on MARTA.

NO is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED Amendment in House 97-62 (3/3/09)

DIED IN AGREES/DISAGREES

HV 9 **HB 1000** would have made it illegal to export, farm or sell freshwater turtles. It ultimately passed when language was amended onto another bill.

YES is the pro-conservation vote.

PASSED House 156-1 | DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

How Bills Become Georgia's Environmental Laws

Why are there dates next to some of the votes?

For many of the bills scored, there was more than one vote in a chamber because the bill's contents changed. In those cases, the date indicates which vote is scored.

Legislation needs support from a majority of the members in the chamber if it is to pass. That means 29 votes in the Senate and 91 votes in the House. Constitutional amendments require support from two-thirds of each chamber. Occasionally, the exact same bill is introduced in both chambers to increase the chance of passage.