

The League of Conservation Voters (<http://scorecard.lcv.org/moc/tom-reed>) is a watch dog group looking our environment by focusing in the following issues: The Clean Air Act, Clean Energy, Clean Water, Global Warming, Holding Big Oil Accountable, Open Spaces, Toxic Chemicals, Transportation, and Wildlife. In 2014, the League of Conservation Voters focused on 24 legislative acts that related to their list of issues. Rep. Reed voted AGAINST the League's point of view 23 times. The other time he was absent. Here is a sampling of 15 bills and how our congressman voted. You can go to the League's website (<http://scorecard.lcv.org/moc/tom-reed>) to see the other votes and more about this organization.

## Rep. Reed's Votes On Conservation Issues, 2014

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of three bills that would significantly reduce the number of cleanups of toxic waste sites, putting communities and the environment at risk through increased exposure to dangerous pollutants. The bill's proposals **weaken the Superfund law and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)**, the law governing the disposal of hazardous wastes. This reckless legislation would also limit liability for polluters and waste taxpayer dollars by transferring the financial burden of cleaning up Superfund sites from the polluter to the federal government. (H.R. 2279 Roll Call Vote 10 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of bill that would **eliminate state and federal environmental protections of California's rivers, threaten water quality in California's Bay-Delta estuary, and undermine the reliability of the state's water supplies**. This bill derails implementation of a bipartisan package of water policy reform bills adopted in 2009 and would eliminate desperately-needed protections for salmon and native fisheries, putting thousands of fishing jobs at risk. This legislation is an extreme giveaway to large agribusinesses and cynically uses California's current low water supplies as an excuse to weaken federal and state environmental laws, when the real cause of the lack of water is the historic drought afflicting the state. (H.R. 3964 Roll Call Vote 50 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR a bill which would **prevent the Environmental Protection Agency from limiting carbon emissions from power plants**, the nation's largest source of the pollution driving climate change. The devastating impacts of climate change are occurring right outside our windows in the form of more frequent and severe weather events like droughts, wildfires, floods, and storms. Climate change also threatens public health by increasing smog, which triggers asthma attacks and is especially dangerous for children and those with heart or lung disease. The U.S. already places limits on mercury, arsenic,

particulate matter, lead and other pollution from power plants, but this extreme legislation would ensure that power plants remain free to release unlimited amounts of carbon pollution into our air. (H.R. 3826, Roll Call Vote 106 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a bill which would nullify sensible safeguards that prevent the dumping of dangerous mining waste into our waterways. The bill would **eliminate a commonsense Reagan-era rule requiring 100-foot buffer zones to protect waterways from toxic coal mining waste**, and reinstate a 2008 rule that was recently struck down in federal court for violating the Endangered Species Act. The 2008 rule would exempt the most destructive mining practices from the buffer requirement, leaving streams and waterways vulnerable to sludge and other mining debris, especially in the Appalachian region. H.R. 2824 would also prohibit states from taking additional steps to protect their citizens and communities from surface coal mining operations. (H.R. 2641 Roll Call 2824 Vote 141 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a bill that **would prevent the Department of Defense (DoD) from assessing the costs and dangers posed by climate change**. This extreme anti-science amendment would make it more difficult for the DoD to take part in disaster relief response by banning consideration of the increase in extreme weather associated with climate change. It would also block the military from participating in the National Climate Assessment, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and any analysis of the cost of carbon pollution. (H.R. 4435, Roll Call Vote 231 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted AGAINST a bill which **would eliminate up to \$15.5 billion in taxpayer subsidies over the next 10 years by closing a royalty payment loophole for oil companies operating offshore**. At a time when many Americans are struggling to make ends meet, this amendment would prevent some of the world's biggest and most profitable oil companies from drilling for free on publicly-owned resources. (H.R. 4899 Roll Call Vote 364 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a bill which **would prioritize drilling on our public lands and waters over other activities such as hiking, hunting, and fishing**. Such a mandate subverts the multiple uses our public lands have historically been managed for, and it would harm businesses that comprise our nation's \$646 billion outdoor recreation economy. The bill would also put at risk of an oil spill the Atlantic and California coasts by expanding risky offshore drilling to these areas while increasing perverse incentives for more drilling by directing additional

revenue from federally-owned oil resources to coastal states. (H.R. 4899, Roll C all Vote 368 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a bill which would **undermine the Clean Water Act and jeopardize the waters Americans depend on for drinking, swimming, fishing, and flood protection**. This amendment would repeal part of the Clean Water Act that currently provides limited exemptions for normal, on-going farm practices and discharges of dredged or fill material related to the maintenance of drainage ditches, and expand these exemptions in a way that would encourage new wetland and stream destruction. For example, **a highway department cleaning out a maintenance ditch could dump excess material into a pristine lake, filling it in or obstructing its water flow without requiring any review under the law**. (H.R. 4923, Roll Call Vote 394 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a bill which **would prevent federal agencies from assessing the costs and dangers posed by climate change**. This extreme anti-science amendment would make it more difficult for these agencies to take part in studying or planning for the increase in extreme weather associated with climate change. It would also block these agencies from participating in the National Climate Assessment, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and any analysis of the cost of carbon pollution. (H.R. 4923, Roll Call Vote 397 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a bill which moves us backward on energy and environmental policy by **slashing funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency while boosting funding for dirty fossil fuel and nuclear generation technologies**. Although the impacts of climate change are already being felt around the country, climate deniers in Congress added more harmful amendments to the bill which attacked the science of climate change as well as the government's ability to assess the real costs of these impacts and the benefits of improving energy efficiency and limiting carbon pollution. In addition, the bill contains dirty water policy riders that would limit the Army Corps of Engineers' ability to safeguard the waters Americans depend on for drinking, swimming, fishing, and flood protection. (H.R. 4923, Roll Call Vote 402 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a bill which **would severely undermine the Endangered Species Act (ESA)**. Among other things, this bill would jeopardize the

use of legitimate science and undermines public involvement by limiting the ability of American citizens to obtain counsel and challenge illegal government activities. This legislation is part of a broader effort to undermine the ESA, a landmark law that has been responsible for preventing numerous iconic species from going extinct, including the bald eagle. (H.R. 4315, Roll Call Vote 463)

Rep. Reed voted **IN FAVOR** of a bill which **would prevent the EPA from protecting our waterways from the discharge of toxic pesticides that can contaminate drinking water, harm aquatic species, and work their way up the food chain.** This legislation would stop EPA's commonsense permitting practices for applying pesticides directly to waters that fall under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act, and would instead rely on a federal pesticides law that isn't designed to follow individual applications of pesticides. Given that almost 2,000 U.S. waterways are already impaired by pesticides, this legislation would further jeopardize water quality and pose a risk to public health. (H.R. 935, Roll Call Vote 40 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted **IN FAVOR** of a bill which would **allow the continued dumping of pollution into our small streams and wetlands by preventing the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers from moving forward with their proposed Clean Water Rule.** This commonsense rule would clarify Clean Water Act protections for the small streams, wetlands, headwaters, and tributaries that impact the drinking water of over 117 million Americans, support businesses and recreation, and are crucial habitat for wildlife. H.R. 5078 would stop this rule in its tracks, closing the public comment period and ensuring the voices of polluters trump demands for clean water. However, this radical bill goes even further and prohibits the EPA and the Army Corps from ever developing any "substantially similar" rule or guidance to protect these crucial waterways. This extreme language would ensure that these waters remain vulnerable to pollution for the foreseeable future and further undermines the Clean Water Act. (H.R. 5078. Roll Call Vote 489 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted **IN FAVOR** of a radical package of bills that threatens vital health and environmental safeguards and our public lands. This omnibus bill includes several attacks on the regulatory process **that would help empower polluters by delaying or shutting down the implementation of critical public health and environmental safeguards,** which would mean more premature deaths, illnesses, and other health impacts on the American people. This legislation also includes two

bills that would have significant negative impacts on our nation's natural resources by decimating our forests and effectively eliminating public review of hard rock mining activities on public lands. (H.R. 4, Roll Call Vote 513 of 2014)

Rep. Reed voted IN FAVOR of a series of 12 bills which would **gut the EPA's ability to limit carbon pollution from power plants**. It would disregard due process and endanger public health and the environment in order to rush a decision on the dirty and dangerous Keystone XL pipeline. It would also elevate drilling above all other uses on our public lands, including hiking, fishing, and hunting, subverting the multiple uses that have guided public lands management and threatening outdoor recreation-related businesses and the communities that depend on this industry. (H.R. 2, Roll Call 515 of 2014).