

2011 MEIC Legislative Voting Record



MEIC's Legislative Voting Record has been produced after every session of the Montana Legislature since 1974.

MEIC chooses votes that it believes will reasonably reflect how supportive legislators are of MEIC's purpose, which is to protect and restore Montana's natural environment. We encourage you to check on how your legislators voted and to talk to them about those votes. Don't forget to thank them when they voted correctly. But please remember that in order to fully evaluate a legislator, you must also consider committee performance, influence on the floor debates, and responsiveness to constituents.

The plusses and minuses in the Voting Record do not represent "yes" or "no" votes; they indicate whether the vote supported or opposed MEIC's position.

Bill Descriptions and Vote Key

A = SB 104 (Sen. Jason Priest, *R-Red Lodge*).

Would have prohibited the Public Service Commission from adopting "inverted block rates." *See page 9.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 28 to 21.*

Status: *Passed the Senate, tabled in a House committee.*

B = SB 109 (Sen. Debby Barrett, *R-Dillon*).

Would have defined existing hydropower facilities as "renewable resources" for the Renewable Energy Standard. *See page 7.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 33 to 17.*
- *House: 3rd reading, passed 66 to 33.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, vetoed by the governor.*

C = SB 159 (Sen. Jason Priest, *R-Red Lodge*).

Would have prohibited the adoption of energy efficient building codes with payback times greater than 5 years. *See page 9.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 28 to 21.*
- *House: 3rd reading, passed 63 to 35.*

Status: *Passed the Senate, tabled in a House committee.*

D = SB 226 (Sen. Jason Priest, *R-Red Lodge*).

Would have required utilities to charge small-scale generating systems for the costs of transmission. *See page 7.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 26 to 24.*

Status: *Passed the Senate, tabled in a House committee.*

E = SB 233 (Sen. Jim Keane, *D-Butte*).

Prohibits lawsuits under MEPA from affecting the validity of permits. *See page 3.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 32 to 18.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 76 to 24.*

Status: *Law.*

F = SB 253 (Sen. Bob Lake, *R-Hamilton*).

Would have repealed renewable energy and conservation tax. *See page 9.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 28 to 22.*
- *House: Rep. Williams' amendments, failed 36 to 64.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, vetoed by the governor.*

G = SB 254 (Sen. Rowlie Hutton, *R-Havre*).

Attempted to give the State eminent domain authority over federal lands. *See page 23.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *House: 3rd reading, passed 76 to 23.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, vetoed by the governor.*

H = SB 266 (Sen. Alan Olson, *R-Roundup*).

As amended, gives multi-million dollar tax breaks to coal mines. *See page 10.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: Motion to suspend rules to reconsider on 3rd reading, passed 38 to 12.*

Status: *Law.*

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Bill Descriptions and Vote Key

I = SB 306 (Sen. Terry Murphy, *R-Cardwell*).

Would have allowed new open-pit mines to process ore at existing cyanide heap-leach mills. *See page 4.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, passed 29 to 21.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 63 to 37.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, vetoed by the governor.*

J = SB 312 (Sen. Chas Vincent, *R-Libby*).

Weakens DEQ's authority to regulate metal mines. *See page 5.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, do not concur in governor's amendments, passed 36 to 14.*
- *House: 3rd reading, passed 76 to 23.*

Status: *Law.*

K = SB 330 (Sen. Edward Walker, *R-Billings*).

Would have allowed utilities to petition for a waiver from the Renewable Energy Standard. *See page 7.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 28 to 22.*
- *House: 3rd reading, passed 66 to 32.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, vetoed by the governor.*

L = SB 379 (Sen. Alan Olson, *R-Roundup*).

Would have given power over zoning to a minority of landowners. *See page 18.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 28 to 22.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 69 to 31.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, vetoed by the governor.*

M = SJ 10 (Sen. Jason Priest, *R-Red Lodge*).

Urges Congress to revoke the EPA's authority to regulate greenhouse gases. *See page 9.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *House: 2nd reading, passed 68 to 32.*

Status: *Passed.*

N = HB 292 (Sen. Dan Kennedy, *R-Laurel*).

Would have diminished the constitutional right to a clean and healthful environment. *See page 5.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 26 to 24.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 68 to 32.*

Status: *Failed to receive a 100 votes from both the House and Senate combined.*

O = HB 402 (Rep. Matthew Rosendale, *R-Glendive*).

Would have prohibited local governments from excluding sand or gravel mines from many areas zoned as residential. *See page 18.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading, failed 24 to 26.*
- *House: 2nd reading, passed 65 to 35.*

Status: *Passed the House, failed on 2nd reading in the Senate.*

P = HB 542 (Rep. John Esp, *R-Big Timber*).

Would have dramatically weakened the Subdivision and Platting Act. *See page 17.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 3rd reading, passed 26 to 24.*
- *House: 2nd reading with Senate amendments, passed 54 to 46.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, vetoed by the governor.*

Q = HB 550 (Rep. Joe Read, *R-Ronan*).

Attempted to establish State authority over the federal regulation of greenhouse gas emissions. *See page 9.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *House: 2nd reading, passed 67 to 33.*

Status: *Passed the House, tabled a Senate committee.*

R = HB 593 (Rep. Duane Ankney, *R-Colstrip*).

Would have eliminated the State's regulation of mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. *See page 19.*

Position: *Oppose.*

Votes used:

- *Senate: 2nd reading with House amendments, failed 20 to 30.*
- *House: 2nd reading, do not concur in Senate amendments, passed 72 to 28.*

Status: *Passed the House and Senate, failed in conference committee.*

To read the full text of any of these bills, or to see tallies of all the votes taken on them, go to <http://laws.leg.mt.gov/laws11>.

2011 Voting Record: Montana Senate



Senator	Town	Score	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	J	K	L	N	O	P	R
Arthun, Ron	Wilsall	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Augare, Shannon	Browning	80%	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Balyeat, Joe	Bozeman	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Barrett, Debby	Dillon	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blewett, Anders	Great Falls	93%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Branae, Gary	Billings	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Brenden, John	Scobey	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown, Taylor	Huntley	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buttrey, Edward	Great Falls	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cafarro, Mary	Helena	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Erickson, Ron	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Essmann, Jeff	Billings	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Facey, Tom	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gallus, Steve	Butte	53%	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-
Gillan, Kim	Billings	87%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hamlett, Bradley	Cascade	67%	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hawks, Bob	Bozeman	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hinkle, Greg	Thompson Falls	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Hutton, Rowlie	Havre	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Jackson, Verdell	Kalispell	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jent, Larry	Bozeman	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jones, Llew	Conrad	13%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Kaufmann, Christine	Helena	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Keane, Jim	Butte	53%	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-
Lake, Bob	Hamilton	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Larsen, Cliff	Missoula	93%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lewis, Dave	Helena	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moore, Frederick	Miles City	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moss, Lynda	Billings	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mowbray, Carmine	Polson	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
Murphy, Terry	Cardwell	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
Olson, Alan	Roundup	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peterson, Jim	Buffalo	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Priest, Jason	Red Lodge	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Ripley, Rick	Wolf Creek	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shockley, Jim	Victor	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Sonju, Jon	Kalispell	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Steinbeisser, Donald	Sidney	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stewart-Peregoy, Sharon	Crow Agency	87%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tropila, Mitch	Great Falls	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tutvedt, Bruce	Kalispell	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Van Dyk, Kendall	Billings	93%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Vincent, Chas	Libby	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vuckovich, Gene	Anaconda	73%	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Walker, Edward	Billings	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wanzenried, David	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Williams, Carol	Missoula	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Windy Boy, Jonathan	Box Elder	73%	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wittich, Art	Bozeman	27%	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+
Zinke, Ryan	Whitefish	53%	-	-	E	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+

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