



The majority of the Latino members of Congress stood up to the radical efforts in the House and Senate to undermine protections for our air, water, lands, and wildlife and we commend the Obama administration and our Congressional allies for defeating these attacks.

2015 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SCORECARD

FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

LATINO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS



Since 1970, the League of Conservation Voters *National Environmental Scorecard* has been the nationally accepted yardstick used to rate members of Congress on environmental, public health and energy issues. English and Spanish versions of the full *Scorecard* can be found at scorecard.lcv.org.

Without a doubt, 2015 was a historic year for progress on key environment and public health issues, and harmful pollution's impacts on Latino communities are clearer than ever.

President Obama demonstrated incredible leadership on many fronts, especially when it came to confronting the climate crisis. In August, he finalized the Clean Power Plan to cut carbon pollution from power plants—the single largest step our nation has ever taken to address climate change. In September, he welcomed Pope Francis, the first Latin American pontiff, to Washington to deliver powerful remarks on the moral imperative to act on climate change. In November, President Obama rejected the dirty and dangerous Keystone XL tar sands pipeline once and for all. In December, thanks in large part to the president's commitment to addressing the climate crisis at home and abroad, nearly 200 countries came together in Paris to forge a truly game-changing international climate change agreement. President Obama also finalized critical protections

for the drinking water that one in three Americans depend upon, protected treasured landscapes across the West, began to reduce methane pollution from the oil and gas sector, and paused coal-mining leasing on public lands.

What makes all of this administrative progress not just so impressive but also so necessary is that President Obama accomplished it while simultaneously battling the most anti-environmental Congress in our nation's history. The 2015 *National Environmental Scorecard* includes the most votes we have ever scored in a single year.

Both chambers seemingly left no environmental issue untouched in 2015. Attacks on our cornerstone environmental laws included the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Antiquities Act. And despite the fact that 2014 and 2015 were the two hottest years on record and included a wave of climate-change-fueled extreme weather events—including devastating droughts in California, forest fires across the West, and toxic algae blooms—far too many members of Congress continue to deny the basic science of climate change and used every legislative trick in the book

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LATINO MEMBERS' SCORES

Member	District/State	Party	% 2015
Senator Bob Menendez	NJ	D	100
Rep. Linda Sánchez	CA-38	D	100
Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard	CA-40	D	100
Rep. Nydia Velázquez	NY-07	D	100
Rep. José Serrano	NY-15	D	100
Rep. Raúl Grijalva	AZ-03	D	97
Rep. Ruben Gallego	AZ-07	D	97
Rep. Juan Vargas	CA-51	D	97
Rep. Joaquín Castro	TX-20	D	97
Rep. Tony Cardenas	CA-29	D	94
Rep. Pete Aguilar	CA-31	D	94
Rep. Grace Napolitano	CA-32	D	94
Rep. Xavier Becerra	CA-34	D	94
Rep. Raul Ruiz	CA-36	D	94
Rep. Albio Sires	NJ-08	D	94
Rep. Ben Ray Luján	NM-03	D	94
Rep. Norma Torres	CA-35	D	91
Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez	IL-04	D	89
Rep. Loretta Sánchez	CA-46	D	83
Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham	NM-01	D	80
Rep. Filemon Vela, Jr.	TX-34	D	80
Rep. Rubén Hinojosa	TX-15	D	60
Rep. Jim Costa	CA-16	D	43
Rep. Carlos Curbelo	FL-26	R	23
Rep. Henry Cuellar	TX-28	D	20
Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	FL-27	R	14
Rep. Raúl Labrador	ID-01	R	6
Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler	WA-03	R	6
Rep. David Valadao	CA-21	R	3
Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart	FL-25	R	3
Rep. Alex Mooney	WV-02	R	3
Senator Marco Rubio	FL	R	0
Senator Pat Toomey	PA	R	0
Senator Ted Cruz	TX	R	0
Rep. Devin Nunes	CA-22	R	0
Rep. Ron DeSantis	FL-06	R	0
Rep. Bill Flores	TX-17	R	0

to try to block the Clean Power Plan and other climate progress. There were also votes to dramatically increase fossil fuel production at a time when it is clearer than ever that we need to keep dirty fuels in the ground and under the ocean and accelerate our transition to clean energy.

These egregious attacks stand in stark contrast with the Latino community's strong concern about climate change and its impact today and on future generations. Climate change and poor air quality disproportionately affects lower-income, Latino families' health, jobs and neighborhoods. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Latinos are more likely to live in counties frequently in violation of ground-level ozone standards and visit hospitals 30 percent more frequently than whites due to asthma attacks.

In 2013, LCV launched a new program, *Chispa* ("spark" in Spanish) to create opportunities for Latino families and leaders across the country to have a stronger voice in the fight against climate change. From Phoenix to Denver, Baltimore to Las Vegas, Latina moms, youth and others are organizing to ensure that their leaders—local and national—heed their calls for clean air, safe water and a secure future.

Fortunately, the majority of the Latino members of Congress understand the gravity of climate change and have stood up to radical efforts by the current Republican Congressional leadership to undermine protections for our air, water, wildlife, and lands, jeopardizing the health of our communities and future generations. We commend the Obama administration and our allies in Congress, especially the leadership of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Rep. Raúl Grijalva (AZ) as ranking member on the Natural Resources Committee.

To get more information about environmental and climate justice issues impacting Latino communities, please visit lcv.org/Chispa or follow us on Twitter at [@ChispaLCV](https://twitter.com/ChispaLCV) and [@LCVoters](https://twitter.com/LCVoters)

