



“BAD MATH”

VIDEO	AUDIO	FACTS
<p>CG: \$1.3 Million from big polluters [OpenSecrets.org accessed 10/05/2018]</p>	<p>VO: One point three million – that’s Pete Sessions’ campaign haul from big polluters.</p>	<p>Pete Sessions Has Received \$1,276,390 From The Oil And Gas Industry. According to campaign finance records compiled by the Center for Responsive Politics, Pete Sessions has received \$1,276,390 in campaign contributions from the Oil and Gas industry throughout their career. [OpenSecrets.org accessed 10/05/2018]</p>
<p>CG: Pete Sessions. Over 50 Votes to Allow Dangerous Air And Water Pollution</p> <p>[House Vote #99, 3/7/2018; House Vote #101, 3/8/2018; House Vote #488, 09/13/2017; House Vote #391, 7/18/2017; House Vote #73, 02/01/2017; scorecard.lcv.org]</p>	<p>Over fifty votes to allow their dangerous toxins to pollute our air and water</p>	<p>See list of votes below starting on page 7</p>
<p>CG: Asthma Lung disease Cancer [American Lung Association, 6/21/2016]</p>	<p>Which can cause asthma, lung disease, and cancer – all pre-existing conditions.</p>	<p>American Lung Association: Particle Pollution From Vehicle Exhaust And Power Plants Can Cause Lung Cancer, Heart Disease, And Asthma Attacks. According to the American Lung Association: "Lung cancer is the #1 cancer killer of both men and women in the U.S. When you think of risk factors for lung cancer, what comes to mind? Most of us think about the risk associated with smoking cigarettes, but did you know that air pollution can also cause lung cancer? Overwhelming evidence shows that particle pollution in the outdoor air we breathe—like that coming from vehicle exhaust, coal-fired power plants and other industrial sources—can cause lung cancer. Particle pollution increases the risk of dying early, heart disease and asthma attacks, and it can also interfere with the growth and function of the lungs." [American Lung Association, 6/21/2016]</p>

Volatile Organic Compounds Leaking From Natural Gas Wells Alongside Methane Can Cause Serious Health Issues Including Cancer And Birth Defects. In a 2015 story on the health effects of leaking gases in Aztec, NM, The Guardian, citing a study by University of Colorado professor Dr Detlev Helmig. The Guardian pointed out: “And it is not only methane that is leaking out of these gas wells but a host of other dangerous gasses, collectively known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs). They read like a devil’s cookbook of nastiness, for example benzene, which causes leukemia and other health problems; polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons that can cause cancer; and toluene, which is known to cause birth defects at high doses.” [[The Guardian 8/14/2015](#)]

Citing Asthma And Lung Disease Concerns, American Lung Association President Called Repealing Ozone Standard “A Dangerous Step In The Wrong Direction.”

"Delaying the process to clean up ozone pollution harms the health of millions of Americans and puts lives at risk, especially children living with asthma and others with lung disease," said Harold P. Wimmer, National President and CEO of the American Lung Association. "The EPA's job is to implement the Clean Air Act to ensure the air is safe to breathe for all, especially the most vulnerable. Stalling implementation of the 2015 ozone standard is a dangerous step in the wrong direction." [[American Lung Association Press Release, 7/12/2017](#)]

18 National Medical Organizations Criticized Efforts To Repeal The Clean Power Plan, Noting The Plan Would Have Prevented An Estimated 90,000 Pediatric Asthma Attacks And 3,600 Premature Deaths Each Year. In October of 2017, a coalition of 18 national health and medical organizations issued a joint press release, saying: "Today’s proposal to revoke the Clean Power Plan is inconsistent with EPA's core mission of protecting public health and the environment. The Clean Power Plan, adopted in 2015, would have substantially reduced carbon pollution and other emissions from power plants, and prevented an estimated 90,000 pediatric asthma attacks and 3,600 premature deaths each year once fully implemented. Revoking this lifesaving plan denies Americans these health protections and removes crucial tools to reduce pollution that causes climate change." [[American Public Health Association Press Release, 10/10/2017](#)]

Clean Power Plan Would Have Limited Sulfur Dioxide, Which Can Cause



		<p>Respiratory Illnesses, Heart Disease, and Cancer. In November of 2017, The Weather Channel reported: “An Environmental Protection Agency analysis of the Obama-era Clean Power Plan found that even more lives could be saved by the climate rule than the Obama administration predicted, yet efforts to repeal the plan continue to move forward. According to the draft analysis released in October, the Clean Power Plan could, at least in one scenario, prevent up to 4,500 premature deaths per year by 2030. The rule calls for a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from power plants to help reduce global warming. An added benefit of the plan is the elimination of other harmful pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, which can cause a slew of respiratory illnesses, heart disease and cancer.” [The Weather Channel, 11/2/2017]</p>
<p>CG: Another \$925,438 from Health Insurance Industry [Center for Responsive Politics, accessed 9/22/18]</p>	<p>Another million in campaign money from the insurance industry,</p>	<p>Pete Sessions Has Received \$925,438 From The Insurance Industry. According to campaign finance records compiled by the Center for Responsive Politics, Pete Sessions has received \$925,438 in campaign contributions from the insurance industry throughout their career. [OpenSecrets.org accessed 10/05/2018]</p>
<p>CG: Pete Sessions. Against Protections for Pre-Existing Conditions Millions lose coverage 50% Increase in premiums [House Vote 256, 5/4/17; House Vote 699, 12/20/17; San Francisco Chronicle, 3/8/2018; NBC, 12/4/2017]</p>	<p>Sessions’ votes would end protections for those same pre-existing conditions. risking coverage for millions while others could see a fifty percent increase in premiums.</p>	<p><u>PETE SESSIONS VOTED FOR AHCA, WHICH WOULD GUT PROTECTIONS FOR PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS</u> Pete Sessions Voted For The American Health Care Act That Which Would Result In 23 Million Fewer Americans With Health Insurance By 2026. In May 2017, Pete Sessions voted for the American Health Care Act which would have significantly repealed portions of the Affordable Care Act by cutting Medicaid, cutting taxes on the rich, removing safeguard for pre-existing conditions and defunding Planned Parenthood. The overall legislation would have in part, also according to Congressional Quarterly, “ma[d]e extensive changes to the 2010 health care overhaul law, by effectively repealing the individual and employer mandates as well as most of the taxes that finance the current system. It would [have], in 2020, convert[ed] Medicaid into a capped entitlement that would provide[d] fixed federal payments to states and end[ed] additional federal funding</p>



for the 2010 law’s joint federal-state Medicaid expansion. It would prohibit federal funding to any entity, such as Planned Parenthood, that performs abortions and receives more than \$350 million a year in Medicaid funds. [...] It would [have] allow[ed] states to receive waivers to exempt insurers from having to provide certain minimum benefits.” The vote was on passage. The House passed the bill by a vote of 217 to 213. [House Vote 256, [5/4/17](#); Congressional Quarterly, [5/4/17](#); Kaiser Family Foundation, [5/17](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 1628](#)]

Current Law Under The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) Prevents Insurance Companies From Refusing To Cover Patients With Pre-Existing Conditions Such As Asthma, Diabetes, Or Cancer. A website for the Department of Health and Human Services explains: "Under current law, health insurance companies can’t refuse to cover you or charge you more just because you have a “pre-existing condition” — that is, a health problem you had before the date that new health coverage starts. These rules went into effect for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2014." According to the HHS website, "Health insurers can no longer charge more or deny coverage to you or your child because of a pre-existing health condition like asthma, diabetes, or cancer. They cannot limit benefits for that condition either. Once you have insurance, they can't refuse to cover treatment for your pre-existing condition." [[HHS, About the ACA, Pre-Existing Conditions accessed 9/14/2018](#)]

Leading Patient Organizations: “People With Pre-Existing Conditions Could Be Denied Coverage.” A May 1, 2017 joint press release by the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network and 9 other patient advocacy organizations said, “Weakening protections in favor of high-risk pools would also undermine the ban on discrimination based on health status. The individuals and families we represent cannot go back to a time when people with pre-existing conditions could be denied coverage or forced to choose between purchasing basic necessities and affording their health care coverage. Given these factors, we oppose the latest draft of the AHCA. We urge Members of Congress to reject this legislation.” [[American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network joint press release, 5/1/2017](#)]

PETE SESSIONS VOTED FOR A TAX LAW THAT WILL SEND PREMIUMS SKYROCKETING



Pete Sessions Voted For The Final Version Of Trump’s Tax Reform Plan, Which Repealed The Individual Mandate For Health Insurance Coverage. In December 2017, Pete Sessions voted for the Tax Cut and Jobs Act, also known as Trump’s tax reform bill. According to Congressional Quarterly, “The agreement, starting January 2019, effectively repeals the requirement under the 2010 Affordable Care Act that most individuals obtain health insurance or face tax penalties — by setting the penalties for failing to obtain health insurance at \$0. The individual mandate is intended to ensure that almost everyone, including young healthy individuals, purchase health insurance so there is a broad risk pool and the cost of insurance will remain relatively low, since the 2010 law prohibits insurance companies from charging individuals for insurance based on their current health (including by charging more for pre-existing conditions).” The vote was on a motion to concur with the Senate amendment, effectively on passage. The House agreed to the motion, thereby passing the bill by a vote of 224 to 201. President Trump signed the bill into law. [House Vote 699, [12/20/17](#); Congressional Quarterly, [12/18/17](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 1](#)]

GOP Tax Bill Will Result In 13 Million Fewer People With Health Insurance And Premiums Rising 10% A Year. In December of 2017, NBC News reported: “One clear effect of the GOP tax bill is the provision that medical groups object to most: the repeal of the individual mandate to buy health insurance. Both the House and the Senate versions of the bill include a repeal of the mandate, which calls for a tax on people who don’t buy health coverage to help make up the cost of care for the uninsured.” The article went on the point out: “The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that repealing the mandate would result in 13 million fewer people being covered by health insurance and would cause insurance companies to raise premiums by 10 percent a year.” [[NBC, 12/4/2017](#)]

Health Premium Increases Driven By Uncertainty Caused By Congress And By Repeal Of The Individual Mandate In The Republican Tax Law. In March of 2018, the San Francisco Chronicle reported: “The predicted increases are driven by the rising cost of medical care, paired with actions taken by Congress and the White House since 2017 that have injected uncertainty in the insurance market. The individual mandate, the



		<p>requirement under the Affordable Care Act to buy insurance or pay a tax penalty, will no longer be in effect starting in 2019 because Congress repealed the mandate as part of a tax bill passed in December. The elimination of the mandate will drive premiums up between 7 and 15 percent in 2019, according to Covered California’s chief actuary John Bertko, who wrote the analysis. The underlying medical trend rate accounts for another 7 percent increase each year.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 3/8/2018]</p> <p>Health Insurance Premiums Expected To Surge In 2019. On May 7, 2018, Bloomberg reported: “The first glimpse of what health-insurance companies plan to charge for Obamacare plans next year suggests there’s no relief ahead for consumers saddled with high premiums. Several insurers in Maryland and Virginia are seeking double-digit percentage increases in monthly costs for individual medical plans in 2019. The largest increases are being sought by CareFirst, which wants to nearly double the amount it charges on average for one coverage option in Maryland, and raise the cost of another in Virginia by 64 percent.” [Bloomberg, 5/7/2018]</p> <p>Nineteen States Could See Premium Hikes Of 50 Percent By 2021. In March of 2018, the San Francisco Chronicle reported: “Prices for insurance will continue to rise after that, Covered California’s analysis predicts. California is among 15 states that are expected to see premiums jump 35 percent by 2021, compared with current rates. Nineteen states could see premium hikes of 50 percent. And 17 states could see a whopping 90 percent increase in insurance premiums.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 3/8/2018]</p>
<p>CG: Pete Sessions. Bad For Our Families</p> <p>Paid for by LCV Victory Fund, www.lcvvictoryfund.org, and not authorized by any candidate or candidate’s</p>	<p>It all adds up: Pete Sessions is bad for Texas.</p>	



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PETE SESSIONS' PRO-POLLUTER VOTES

(Just a small selection of Pete Sessions' anti-environment voting record viewable at <http://scorecard.lcv.org/moc/pete-sessions>)

Pete Sessions Voted 7 Times To Block The Clean Power Plan

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #477: Anti-Environmental Spending Bill. House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Ken Calvert (R-CA) sponsored H.R. 5538, the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, a spending bill that ought to be about dollars and cents, and yet it contained more than 30 anti-environmental policy riders. The riders included attacks on the federal government's ability to set commonsense limits on carbon pollution from power plants, protect the drinking water of one in three people in the United States, and create new parks. Besides containing ideological, poison-pill riders that simply have no place in a spending bill, this legislation significantly slashed funding for key environmental programs and agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. On July 14, the House approved H.R. 5538 by a vote of 231-196 (House roll call vote 477). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #477, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #477, 07/14/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #431: Carbon Pollution. On behalf of House Energy and Commerce Committee Ranking Member Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Congressman Scott Peters (D-CA) offered an amendment to H.R. 5538, the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, which would have struck damaging language in the bill that blocked implementation of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan, including termination of any assistance to states that have asked for help developing sensible state policies. The Clean Power Plan establishes the first national carbon pollution limits for new and existing power plants and is the single biggest step our country has ever taken to tackle climate change. Communities across the United States are already suffering from the devastating impacts of climate change, such as more frequent and severe weather events like droughts, wildfires, floods, and storms, and unchecked climate change also threatens public health. On July 12, the House rejected the Pallone amendment by a vote of 182-244 (House roll call vote 431). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The House passed H.R. 5538 on July 14, but the Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #431, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #431, 07/12/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #651: Extreme Attack on Carbon Pollution Limits for New Power Plants (CRA). Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) sponsored S.J. Res. 23, the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" that would block the Environmental Protection Agency's carbon pollution standards for new and modified power plants. S.J. Res. 23 is an extreme measure that would permanently block these clean air protections, putting our health at risk and slowing our country's transition to an economy powered by clean energy. Following its passage in the Senate, on December 1, the House approved S.J. Res. 23 by a vote of 235-188 (House roll call vote 651). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. President Obama vetoed S.J. Res. 23 on December 18. ON HOUSE VOTE #651, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #651, 12/01/2015](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #650: Extreme Attack on Carbon Pollution Limits for Existing Power Plants (CRA). Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) sponsored S.J. Res. 24, the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" that would permanently block the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Power Plan. The Clean Power Plan established the first national limits on carbon pollution from existing power



plants""our nation's single largest source of the pollution fueling climate change. S.J. Res. 24 is an extreme measure that would block the biggest step our country has ever taken to address climate change, threatening our health and our future. S.J. Res. 24 would also prohibit the EPA from ever developing "substantially similar" standards in the future. Following its passage in the Senate, on December 1, the House approved S.J. Res. 24. by a vote of 242-180 (House roll call vote 650). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. President Obama vetoed S.J. Res. 24 on December 18. ON HOUSE VOTE #650, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #650, 12/01/2015](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #384: Carbon Pollution Limits for Power Plants. House Energy and Power Subcommittee Chairman Ed Whitfield (R-KY) sponsored H.R. 2042, the Ratepayer Protection Act of 2015, which would undermine action on climate change and strikes at a central tenet of the Clean Air Act. H.R. 2042 would let governors simply opt-out of commonsense carbon pollution standards for power plants. It would also delay implementation of these critical standards until all litigation is resolved, which could last until 2022. On June 24, the House approved H.R. 2042 by a vote of 247-180 (House roll call vote 384). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #384, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #384, 06/24/2015](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2014 House Vote #515: Big Polluter Giveaway. Representative Lee Terry (R-NE) sponsored H.R. 2, the American Energy Solutions for Lower Costs and More American Jobs Act, a package of more than a dozen bills all of which had already passed the House. H.R. 2 amounts to a huge giveaway to big polluters and threatens the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the landscapes that support our outdoor economy. The bill also thwarts progress on climate change and compromises communities' ability to weigh in on projects in their own backyards. HR. 2 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 communities that depend on this industry. On September 18, the House approved H.R. 2 by a vote of 226-191 (House roll call vote 515). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #515, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #515, 09/18/2014](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2014 House Vote #106: Carbon Pollution. House Energy and Power Subcommittee Chairman Ed Whitfield (R-KY) sponsored H.R. 3826, the Electricity Security and Affordability Act, which would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 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. On March 6, the House approved H.R. 3826 by a vote of 229-183 (House roll call vote 106). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #106, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #106, 03/06/2014](#)]



Pete Sessions Voted 6 Times To Block Protections From Mercury and Toxic Air Pollution

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2018 House Vote #101: Undermining Clean Air Standards. Representative Keith Rothfus (R-PA) sponsored H.R. 1119, the Satisfying Energy Needs and Saving the Environment (SENSE) Act, which would permanently exempt waste coal burning power plants from meeting certain clean air standards, including limits on hydrogen chloride and sulfur dioxide, both of which can cause significant respiratory problems. The courts have already ruled on this matter and found that waste coal-burning power plants are already meeting these air quality standards, and there is no evidence that allowing for higher levels of pollutants would do anything but expose our communities to dirtier air. On March 8, the House approved H.R. 1119 by a vote of 215-189 (House roll call vote 101). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #101, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #101, 03/08/2018](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2018 House Vote #99: Delaying Public Health Protections. Representative Bill Johnson (R-OH) sponsored H.R. 1917, the Blocking Regulatory Interference from Closing Kilns (BRICK) Act of 2017, which would delay public health protections, in this case limits on deadly toxic pollution – including mercury, arsenic, and chromium – from brick manufacturing facilities. The BRICK Act was also modified in the Rules Committee to incorporate H.R. 453, the Relief from New Source Performance Standards Act of 2017. This bill (now section 3 of H.R. 1917) would delay stronger emission limits for new woodstoves and boilers, which reduce hazardous and toxic air pollutants – including particulate matter (soot), nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and carcinogens like benzene and formaldehyde. On March 7, the House approved H.R. 1917 by a vote of 234-180 (House roll call vote 99). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #99, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #99, 03/07/2018](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #123: Attack on Clean Air Protections. Representative Keith Rothfus (R-PA) sponsored H.R. 3797, the Satisfying Energy Needs and Saving the Environment (SENSE) Act, which would weaken clean air protections that safeguard our air from coal refuse burned by power plants. The SENSE Act would weaken the Cross State Air Pollution Rule by replacing the state emissions reductions rules with federal rules that allow waste coal burning power plants to pollute in excess of current law, damaging public health in the surrounding area and far downwind. H.R. 3797 would also weaken the Environmental Protection Agency's Mercury and Air Toxics standards, which are successful safeguards that are designed to reduce the pollution associated with dangerous compounds like sulfur dioxide and hydrogen chloride, both of which increase the risk of asthma attacks and other serious health impacts, including premature deaths. On March 15, the House approved H.R. 3797 by a vote of 231-183 (House roll call vote 123). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #123, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #123, 03/15/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2011 House Vote #791: Toxic Air Pollution from Boilers. Representative Morgan Griffith (R-VA) sponsored H.R. 2250, the so-called EPA Regulatory Relief Act of 2011, which would indefinitely delay long-overdue air pollution control standards for industrial boilers and incinerators, which act as small, in-house power plants and emit toxic air pollution including mercury--a potent neurotoxin especially dangerous to pregnant women and children--and cancer-causing dioxins. These facilities are the nation's third largest source of mercury emissions. Every year these standards are delayed would mean up to an additional 8,100 premature deaths, 52,000 asthma attacks, and 5,100 heart attacks. On October 13, the House passed H.R. 2250 by a



vote of 275-142 (House roll call vote 791). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate has taken no action on H.R. 2250, though numerous Senate bills have been introduced containing language attacking toxic air pollution standards for industrial boilers, including S. 1786, which the Senate rejected on November 3 (Senate roll call vote 196). ON HOUSE VOTE #791, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #791, 10/13/2011](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2011 House Vote #764: Toxic Air Pollution from Cement Plants. Representative John Sullivan (R-OK) sponsored H.R. 2681, the so-called Cement Sector Regulatory Relief Act of 2011, which would toss out already-finalized standards to clean up mercury and other toxic air pollution from cement plants, the second largest industrial emitters of mercury pollution, which can impair a child's ability to think, talk, read, write, and learn. The bill would delay a new set of standards for at least four and a half years while eliminating any deadline by which cement plants are required to comply with the standards. Every year the standards are delayed would mean an additional 2,500 premature deaths due to cement plants' harmful emissions. On October 6, the House passed H.R. 2681 by a vote of 262-161 (House roll call vote 764). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate has taken no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #764, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #764, 10/06/2011](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2011 House Vote #741: Assault on the Clean Air Act. Representative John Sullivan (R-OK) introduced H.R. 2401, the deceptively titled Transparency in Regulatory Analysis of Impacts on the Nation Act of 2011 (TRAIN Act), requiring duplicative, biased, and unnecessary analyses of the costs--but not the benefits--of several EPA public health safeguards. Moreover, through last minute amendments adopted in committee and on the House floor, H.R. 2401 grew into the single biggest assault on the Clean Air Act in its more than 40-year history. This bill would allow for the indefinite delay of two life-saving clean air safeguards (the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule and the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards for power plants), meaning tens of thousands of lives would be lost and hundreds of thousands more asthma attacks would occur from increased air pollution. The bill would also require any future standards to be based on the most polluting power plants, and incorporate the Latta amendment (House roll call vote 738) that eliminates the health-based underpinning of the Clean Air Act. On September 23, the House passed H.R. 2401 by a vote of 249-169 (House roll call vote 741). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate has not acted on companion legislation, but on November 10, it rejected a Congressional Review Act resolution of disapproval that would have voided the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, which is one of the two rules targeted by H.R. 2401 (Senate roll call vote 201). ON HOUSE VOTE #741, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #741, 09/23/2011](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted 8 Times To Block Safeguards Against Methane Pollution

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2018 House Vote #390: Minimizing Methane Pollution. Representative Diana DeGette (D-CO) offered an amendment to H.R. 4606, the Ensuring Small Scale LNG Certainty and Access Act, which would require Liquefied Natural Gas export applications to demonstrate that the natural gas was produced in a manner that minimized dangerous methane emissions. Low cost technologies are readily-available and should be used by any energy exporter to reduce methane pollution that threatens public health and the environment and wastes a taxpayer resource. On September 6, the House rejected the DeGette amendment by a vote of 195-210 (House roll call vote 390). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #390, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #390, 09/06/2018](#)]



Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2018 House Vote #346: Methane Pollution Safeguards. Representative Markwayne Mullin (R-OK) offered an amendment to H.R. 6147, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019, which would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from implementing its standards to reduce methane pollution from new and modified sources in the oil and gas industry. The EPA's methane standard requires compliance with low-cost, proven safeguards that are critical to reducing methane's contributions to climate change. The climate benefits are estimated to reach \$170 million by 2025 while also curbing toxic air pollutants that contribute to smog and jeopardize the health of nearby communities. On July 18, the House approved the Mullin amendment by a vote of 215-194 (House Roll call vote 346). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #346, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #346, 07/18/2018](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #488: Methane Pollution Safeguards. Representative Markwayne Mullin (R-OK) offered an amendment to H.R. 3354, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018, which would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from implementing its standards to reduce methane pollution from new and modified sources in the oil and gas industry. The EPA's methane standard requires low-cost, proven safeguards that are critical to reducing methane's contributions to climate change, with estimated climate benefits of \$170 million by 2025, and also curbs toxic air pollutants that contribute to smog and jeopardize the health of nearby communities. On September 13, the House approved the Mullin amendment by a vote of 218-195 (House roll call vote 488). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #488, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #488, 09/13/2017](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #484: Methane Pollution from Drilling on Public Lands. Representative Steve Pearce (R-NM) offered an amendment to H.R. 3354, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018, which would prevent the Bureau of Land Management from implementing its Methane and Waste Prevention Rule. This important, commonsense rule will reduce dangerous methane pollution, a climate super-pollutant that is vented, flared, and leaked from oil and gas industry operations on our public lands. Reducing natural gas waste from public lands will not only benefit the climate, but it will also reduce toxic air pollutants that are jeopardizing the health of nearby communities and ensure taxpayers receive a fair return on their resources. On September 8, the House approved the Pearce amendment by a vote of 216-186 (House roll call vote 484). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #484, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #484, 09/08/2017](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #78: Extreme Assault on Methane and Waste Prevention Rule (CRA). Representative Rob Bishop (R-UT) sponsored H.J. Res. 36, the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" of the Methane and Waste Prevention Rule, which would block efforts to reduce dangerous methane pollution released by the oil and gas industry on our public and tribal lands. The Bureau of Land Management's Methane Rule establishes commonsense standards that require oil and gas companies to deploy readily available, cost-effective measures to reduce methane lost through venting, flaring, and leaks. The rule will help decrease the over \$300 million in natural gas that is wasted each year from our public and tribal lands and provide up to \$800 million in royalty revenues to states, tribes, and federal taxpayers over the next decade. Additionally, the Methane Rule will reduce the methane pollution that contributes to climate change as well as hazardous air pollutants that damage the health of local communities by contributing to increased asthma attacks and other respiratory ailments. The Congressional Review Act, an extreme legislative tool, would not only overturn the current rule, but would prohibit the Bureau of Land Management from ever issuing "substantially similar" regulations in the future to reduce methane pollution from the oil and gas industry on public and tribal lands.



On February 3, the House approved H.R. Res. 36 by a vote of 221-191 (House roll call vote 78). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #78, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #78, 02/03/2017](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #434: Methane Pollution Safeguards. Representative Jared Polis (D-CO) offered an amendment to H.R. 5538, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, which would strike a rider in the underlying bill that prevents the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from implementing its recently finalized methane pollution standards, the first-ever limits on methane pollution from new and modified sources in the oil and gas industry. The EPA's methane standard for new and modified sources requires low-cost, proven safeguards that are critical to reducing methane's contributions to climate change, with climate benefits of \$170 million by 2025, while also curbing toxic air pollutants that contribute to smog and jeopardize the health of nearby communities. On July 13, the House rejected the Polis amendment by a vote of 187-240 (House roll call vote 434). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The House passed H.R. 5538 on July 14, but the Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #434, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #434, 07/13/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #422: Methane Pollution from Drilling on Public Lands. Representative Jared Huffman (D-CA) offered an amendment to H.R. 5538, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, which would remove a provision preventing the Bureau of Land Management from finalizing its Methane and Waste Prevention Rule. This important rule will reduce dangerous methane pollution, a climate super-pollutant that is vented, flared, and leaked from oil and gas industry operations on our public lands. Reducing natural gas waste from public lands will not only benefit the climate, but it will also reduce toxic air pollutants that are jeopardizing the health of nearby communities and ensure taxpayers receive a fair return on their resources. On July 12, the House rejected the Huffman amendment by a vote of 184-240 (House roll call vote 422). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The House passed H.R. 5538 on July 14, but the Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #422, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #422, 07/12/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2013 House Vote #601: Methane Emissions. Representative Rush Holt (D-NJ) offered an amendment to H.R. 2728, the Protecting States' Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act, which would preserve the Department of the Interior's ability to reduce methane emissions from oil and gas drilling operations on public lands. Methane is a super pollutant, a short-lived but potent climate pollutant whose impact, pound-for-pound, is over 20 times greater than carbon dioxide. Methane is also the second most prevalent greenhouse gas emitted by human activities in the United States, and natural gas and petroleum production is the largest industrial source of these emissions. In addition to their role in warming our atmosphere, fugitive methane emissions contribute to smog that threatens public health by triggering asthma attacks and aggravating other respiratory conditions. On November 20, the House rejected the Holt amendment by a vote of 190-230 (House roll call vote 601). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #601, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #601, 11/20/2013](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted 5 Times Against Limiting Ozone Pollution



Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #476: Protecting Strong Ozone Standards. Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) offered an amendment to H.R. 3354, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018, that would strike language in the bill that would needlessly delay until 2025 implementation of the stronger ozone – or smog – standard, which was finalized in October of 2015 and would help clean up the air for millions of Americans currently living in areas with unsafe air quality. On September 8, the House rejected the Ellison amendment by a vote of 194-218 (House roll call vote 476). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #476, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #476, 09/07/2017](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #391: Extreme Attack on Smog Protections & the Clean Air Act. Representative Pete Olson (R-TX) sponsored H.R. 806, the Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2017, which would delay the EPA’s recently-updated standards for ozone pollution and eviscerate a central pillar of the Clean Air Act. H.R. 806 would allow the EPA to consider factors unrelated to health, like technical feasibility, in the initial standard setting process. H.R. 806 would delay EPA’s ozone standards by at least ten years and double the law’s current five-year review periods for updating ozone and all national air quality standards, allowing unhealthy air to persist even longer. On July 18, the House approved H.R. 806 by a vote of 229-199 (House roll call vote 391). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #391, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #391, 07/18/2017](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #282: Attack on the Clean Air Act and Smog Protections. Representative Pete Olson (R-TX) sponsored H.R. 4775, the Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2016, which would jeopardize the health of people in the United States by undermining the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA)'s recently-updated standards for ozone pollution, also known as smog. This legislation would delay the implementation of these vital health protections by at least ten years and double the Clean Air Act's current five-year review periods for updating all national air quality standards, thereby allowing unhealthy air to persist even longer. H.R. 4775 would also eviscerate a central pillar of the Clean Air Act that requires the EPA to rely solely on the best-available health science when setting air quality standards, forcing the agency to consider factors unrelated to health, like technical feasibility, in the initial standard setting process. On June 8, the House passed H.R. 4775 by a vote of 234-177 (House roll call vote 282). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #282, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #282, 06/08/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #401: Smog Pollution. Representative Donna Edwards (D-MD) offered an amendment to H.R. 2822, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016, which would remove a rider from the bill preventing the Environmental Protection Agency from issuing updated ozone standards. Ozone ““ more commonly known as smog ““ is a dangerous pollutant that causes serious health problems, including asthma attacks and premature death. Public health science demonstrates the need to update national smog standards to adequately protect our health, especially those of vulnerable populations like children. On July 8, the House rejected the Edwards amendment by a vote of 180-249 (House roll call vote 401). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #401, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #401, 07/08/2015](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2003 House Vote #598: Ozone Pollution. Some 175 million Americans live in areas where ground-level ozone, or "smog," levels are high enough to cause serious health problems. Smog triggers asthma attacks and exacerbates chronic respiratory disease, sending more than



150,000 people to hospital emergency rooms each year. Even some of America's priceless national parks, such as Great Smoky Mountains and Yosemite, suffer from dramatically unhealthy levels of ozone pollution. Under the Clean Air Act, areas with unhealthy air are required to reduce ozone pollution by strict statutory deadlines. If these areas fail to meet their deadlines, they are given more time to meet their target, but in return, they must adopt more rigorous air pollution control measures. During the fall 2003 House-Senate conference on the energy bill, Representative Joe Barton (R-TX) succeeded in inserting language that would give polluted areas more time to clean up without having to implement stronger air pollution controls. This would delay the adoption of urgently needed anti-pollution measures in communities throughout the country and would harm areas downwind of those communities as well. The Barton provision was included in the energy conference report even though it had not passed either the House or Senate. In response, Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) offered a motion to instruct conference committee members to drop the Barton language. On October 30, 2003, the House defeated the motion by a 182-232 vote (House roll call vote 598). YES is the pro-environment vote. The conference report, which was later passed by the House, still contains the Barton provision. The Senate has not yet passed the bill. ON HOUSE VOTE #598, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #598, 10/30/2003](#)]

Pete Session Voted 20 Times Against Protecting Drinking Water Sources From Coal Mining Waste Runoff

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2018 House Vote #203: Eliminating Clean Water Safeguards. Representative Jim Banks (R-IN) offered an amendment to the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, also known as the Farm Bill, which would repeal the clean water safeguards established by 2015 Clean Water Rule. This Rule protects the waters that feed the drinking water of over 117 million people as well as the streams, headwaters, wetlands and other water bodies that serve as habitat for wildlife, reduce flooding risk, and naturally filter pollution. The Banks amendment would subvert the entire rulemaking process by disregarding public input, ignore the Rule's strong scientific foundation, and return Clean Water Act jurisdiction to an inconsistent and uncertain regulatory scheme. Eliminating the Clean Water Rule would disproportionately impact low-income communities and communities of color and would jeopardize the clean water families, communities, and economies depend on. On May 18, 2018, the House approved the Banks amendment by a vote of 238-173 (House roll call vote 203). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #203, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #203, 05/18/2018](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #435: Assault on Clean Energy & Clean Water. Representative Kay Granger (R-TX) introduced H.R. 3219, the Defense, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, Legislative Branch, and Energy and Water Development National Security Appropriations Act, which includes dangerous public health and environmental policy riders while also cutting critical investments in our renewable energy future. This bill attacks the government's ability to assess the real costs of climate change impacts, slashes funding for clean energy and energy efficiency, and includes a radical provision that would exempt the administration's repeal of the Clean Water Rule from long-standing requirements under the law. It also contains a rider that would stop the implementation of the beneficial National Ocean Policy, which allows agencies at all levels to coordinate ocean development activities. On July 27, the House approved H.R. 3219 by a vote of 235-192 (House roll call vote 435). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #435, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #435, 07/27/2017](#)]



Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #73: Extreme Assault on Stream Protection Rule (CRA). Representative Bill Johnson (R-OH) sponsored H.J. Res. 38, the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" of the Stream Protection Rule, which would threaten the drinking water and public health of communities living near coal mining operations by permanently blocking the Department of Interior's recently finalized Stream Protection Rule. This important rule sets out commonsense requirements for coal mining that will better protect ground water, surface water, and ecosystems from toxic coal mining waste, which has been linked to increased rates of cancer, birth defects, and other health problems in nearby communities. The rule will protect 6,000 miles of streams and 52,000 acres of forests, sets up new requirements for water quality monitoring and restoration, and generally compels coal mining companies to reduce their impact on the surrounding environment. The Congressional Review Act, an extreme legislative tool, would not only overturn the current rule, but would prohibit the Department of Interior from ever issuing "substantially similar" regulations in the future that reduce the harmful impacts of coal mining, decimating the health and environment of everyone who lives near or downstream from these operations. On February 1, the House approved H.R. Res. 38 by a vote of 228-194 (House roll call vote 73). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #73, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #73, 02/01/2017](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #468: Blocking Protections for Clean Water. Representative Don Beyer (D-VA) offered an amendment to H.R. 5538, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, which would strike four anti-clean water provisions in the underlying bill. These riders attack fundamental pollution safeguards for our waterways, including blocking the Department of the Interior's final Stream Protection Rule, which will better protect the drinking water of communities living in the shadows of coal mining operations, preventing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from updating the definition of "fill material" under the Clean Water Act, which would prevent mountaintop mining operators from filling valley streams with mining waste, expanding exemptions under the Clean Water Act that would allow more dumping of pollution into waterways, and blocking the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers' Clean Water Rule, which protects the small streams and wetlands that feed into the drinking water of one in three people in the United States. On July 14, the House rejected the Beyer amendment by a vote of 178-246 (House roll call vote 468). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The House passed H.R. 5538 on July 14, but the Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #468, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #468, 07/14/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #45: Extreme Attack on Clean Water Protections (CRA). Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA) sponsored S.J. Res. 22, a Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval," which would void the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Clean Water Rule that protects the small streams and wetlands that feed into the drinking water of 117 million people in this country. Not only would this obscure and radical legislative tool vacate the current rule, it would also prohibit the agencies from developing any "substantially similar" rule in the future, keeping the unworkable status quo in place. This could prevent the agencies from ever issuing rules that establish Clean Water Act protections for the waters covered by the Clean Water Rule, leaving our streams, wetlands, lakes, and rivers vulnerable to pollution for generations to come. On January 13, the House approved S.J. Res. 22 by a vote of 253-166 (House roll call vote 45). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. S.J. Res. 22 was vetoed by President Obama on January 20. ON HOUSE VOTE #45, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #45, 01/13/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #397: Stream Buffer Zone. House Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) offered an amendment to H.R. 2822, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016, which would



strike a provision preventing the Department of the Interior from revising regulations to better protect streams from mining waste. Prior to 2008, no surface mining could be permitted within 100 feet of a stream unless it would cause no adverse effect on water quality or quantity. The 2008 Stream Buffer Zone Rule essentially removed this buffer, allowing mining companies to dump rubble and waste, particularly from mountaintop removal mining, into valleys and streams, jeopardizing the water resources and health of mining communities. On July 8, the House rejected the Grijalva amendment by a vote of 189-239 (House roll call vote 397). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #397, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #397, 07/08/2015](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #219: Undermining Clean Water Protections. Representative Bill Shuster (R-PA) sponsored H.R. 1732, the Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015, which attempts to undermine the Clean Water Rule proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers. The Clean Water Rule will protect the small streams and wetlands that contribute to the drinking water of one in three Americans from pollutions, but H.R. 1732 would stop the process in its tracks, withdrawing the proposed rule and delaying these long-overdue protections by forcing the agencies to unnecessarily repeat analysis and outreach they have already done. On May 12, the House approved H.R. 1732 by a vote of 261-155 (House roll call vote 219). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #219, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #219, 05/12/2015](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #215: Assault on Clean Energy and Clean Water. House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Michael Simpson (R-ID) sponsored H.R. 2028, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016, which moves us backward on energy policy by slashing funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency while boosting funding for dirty fossil fuels. Although the impacts of climate change are already being felt around the country, this bill's report language attacks the government's ability to assess the real costs of climate change impacts and the benefits of improving energy efficiency and limiting carbon pollution. In addition, the bill contains a number of damaging policy riders, including ones that would limit the Army Corps of Engineers' ability to safeguard waters that feed the public drinking water systems of one in three Americans as well as prevent the implementation of the National Ocean Policy to more efficiently coordinate the many government agencies involved in managing our ocean resources. On May 1, the House approved H.R. 2028 by a vote of 240-177 (House roll call vote 215). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #215, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #215, 05/01/2015](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2015 House Vote #212: Attack On Clean Water Protections. Representative Doug LaMalfa (R-CA) offered an amendment to H.R. 2028, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016, which would undermine the Clean Water Act and jeopardize the waters Americans depend on for drinking, swimming, fishing, and flood protection. The LaMalfa amendment would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers from enforcing provisions meant to provide oversight of discharges of dredged or fill material, expanding exemptions in a way that would encourage new wetland and stream destruction. On May 1, the House approved the LaMalfa amendment by a vote of 239-174 (House roll call vote 212). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. A modified version of the LaMalfa amendment was included in H.R. 2029, the FY 16 spending deal, which President Obama signed into law on December 18. ON HOUSE VOTE #212, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #212, 05/01/2015](#)]



Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2014 House Vote #489: Assault on the Clean Water Rule. Representative Steve Southerland (R-FL) sponsored H.R. 5078, the Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act of 2014, 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. H.R. 5078 also prohibits the EPA and the Army Corps from ever developing any "substantially similar" rule or guidance to protect these crucial waterways. On September 9, the House approved H.R. 5078 by a vote of 262-152 (House roll call vote 489). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #489, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #489, 09/09/2014](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2014 House Vote #402: Assault on Clean Energy and Clean Water. House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Michael Simpson (R-ID) introduced H.R. 4923, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, 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, this bill attacks the science of climate change as well as the government's ability to assess the real costs of climate change impacts and the benefits of improving energy efficiency and limiting carbon pollution. In addition, the bill contains damaging 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. On July 10, the House approved H.R. 4923 by a vote of 253-170 (House roll call vote 402). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. H.R. 83, the FY 15 spending deal (also referred to as the CROmnibus), which was signed into law by President Obama on December 16, included higher funding levels for renewable energy and energy efficiency; however, it also included several harmful policy riders. ON HOUSE VOTE #402, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #402, 07/10/2014](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2014 House Vote #394: Attack on Clean Water. Representative Doug LaMalfa (R-CA) offered an amendment to H.R. 4923, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, 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. On July 10, the House approved the LaMalfa amendment by a vote of 239-182 (House roll call vote 394). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. A modified version of the LaMalfa amendment was included in H.R. 83, the FY 15 spending deal (also referred to as the CROmnibus) signed into law by President Obama on December 16. ON HOUSE VOTE #394, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #394, 07/10/2014](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2013 House Vote #345: Assault on Clean Energy and Clean Water. Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) sponsored H.R. 2609, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014, which would continue to subsidize dirty fossil fuels while cutting funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency and would threaten America's streams and wetlands by undermining the Clean Water Act. H.R.



2609 would cut funding for renewable energy projects and research at the Department of Energy by 50 percent, including an 81 percent cut to the ARPA-E program and a \$220 million cut to the Office of Science. The bill also includes damaging policy riders that would lock in antiquated definitions of "fill material" and what constitutes "waters of the United States," endangering streams and wetlands that Americans rely on for drinking water and flood prevention. On July 10, the House approved H.R. 2609 by a vote of 227-198 (House roll call vote 345). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The FY14 omnibus appropriations funding bill signed into law by President Obama on January 17, 2014 included greater funding levels for renewable energy and energy efficiency; however, it also included the harmful policy rider relating to the definition of "fill material." ON HOUSE VOTE #345, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #345, 07/10/2013](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2013 House Vote #312: Water Pollution from Mountaintop Removal. Representative Jim Moran (D-VA) offered an amendment to H.R. 2609, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014, which would remove a dirty water policy rider from the bill that undermines the Clean Water Act by preventing the Army Corps of Engineers from updating the definition of "fill material." By freezing in place an outdated definition of fill material, the rider would allow mining companies to continue polluting mountain streams with toxic waste from mountaintop removal activities. On July 9, the House rejected the Moran amendment by a vote of 188-226 (House roll call vote 312). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The harmful language relating to the definition of "fill material" was included in the FY14 omnibus funding bill signed into law by President Obama on January 17, 2014. ON HOUSE VOTE #312, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #312, 07/09/2013](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2013 House Vote #311: Clean Water Protections. Representative Jim Moran (D-VA) offered an amendment to H.R. 2609, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014, which would re a dirty water policy rider from the bill that threatens waters Americans depend on for drinking, swimming, and fishing. The rider would bar the Army Corps of Engineers from restoring longstanding Clean Water Act protections to critical streams and wetlands across the nation. It would prohibit the Army Corps from limiting pollution in waterways that supply public drinking water for 117 million Americans and block the Army Corps' efforts to protect wetlands that are critical for flood protection. On July 9, the House rejected the Moran amendment by a vote of 177-236 (House roll call vote 311). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The harmful language relating to clean water protections was not included in the FY14 omnibus funding bill signed into law by President Obama on January 17, 2014. ON HOUSE VOTE #311, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #311, 07/09/2013](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2012 House Vote #597: Clean Water Safeguards. Representative David McKinley (R-WV) offered an amendment to H.R. 3409, the so-called Stop the War on Coal Act of 2012, to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency from using its authority under the Clean Water Act to prohibit or restrict projects that would have an "unacceptable adverse effect" on water, fish, and wildlife after they have been permitted by the Army Corps of Engineers. The EPA has reserved its veto authority for extraordinarily environmentally-destructive projects, using it only 13 times in the entire 40-year history of the Clean Water Act. On September 21, the House approved the McKinley amendment by a vote of 247-163 (House roll call vote 597). NO IS THE PROENVIRONMENT VOTE. H.R. 3409 subsequently passed the House, but the Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #597, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #597, 09/21/2012](#)]



Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2012 House Vote #308: Clean Water Protections. Representative Jim Moran (D-VA) offered an amendment to H.R. 5325, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013, which would remove a dirty water policy rider from the bill that threatens waters Americans depend on for drinking, swimming, and fishing. The rider would bar the Army Corps of Engineers from restoring longstanding Clean Water Act protections to critical streams and wetlands across the nation. It would prohibit the Army Corps from limiting pollution in waterways that supply public drinking water for 117 million Americans and block the Army Corps' efforts to protect wetlands that are critical for flood protection. On June 1, the House rejected the Moran amendment by a vote of 152-237 (House roll call vote 308). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. H.R. 5325 subsequently passed the House, but the Senate took no action on this legislation and thankfully the dirty water policy rider was not included in the spending measure maintaining current funding levels for the federal government through March 27, 2013, which President Obama signed into law on September 28. ON HOUSE VOTE #308, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #308, 06/01/2012](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2011 House Vote #540: Clean Water Protections. Representative Jim Moran (D-VA) offered this amendment to H.R. 2354, the FY12 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, to strike a provision in the underlying bill prohibiting the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from restoring longstanding Clean Water Act protections for small streams, headwaters, and wetlands that Americans depend on for swimming, fishing, and drinking, as well as for protection against flooding. On July 12, the House rejected the Moran amendment by a vote of 170-250 (House roll call vote 540). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. While the Moran amendment was defeated, the anti-environmental provision it sought to strike was fortunately not included in the compromise FY12 omnibus appropriations bill, H.R. 2055, which the president signed into law on December 23. ON HOUSE VOTE #540, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #540, 07/12/2011](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2011 House Vote #135: Clean Water Safeguards. Representative David McKinley (R-WV) offered this amendment to H.R. 1, the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act of 2011, to prevent the EPA from continuing to use its authority under the Clean Water Act to prohibit or restrict projects that would have an "unacceptable adverse effect" on water, fish, and wildlife. The EPA has reserved this authority for extraordinarily environmentally-destructive projects, using it only 13 times in the entire 39-year history of the Clean Water Act. On February 19, the House adopted the McKinley amendment by a vote of 240-182 (House roll call vote 135). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. Fortunately, the language in this amendment was not included in the compromise appropriations bill that funded the government through the end of FY11, H.R. 1473, which the President signed into law on April 15. ON HOUSE VOTE #135, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #135, 02/19/2011](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2006 House Vote #169: Clean Water. For more than thirty years, the Clean Water Act has protected the nation's lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands from unregulated pollution, filling and destruction. However, since a Supreme Court ruling in 2001, polluters have argued that the law no longer applies to many small bodies of water around the country. In 2003, the Bush administration issued a directive requiring EPA staff to get permission from headquarters before protecting "isolated" water bodies like vernal pools, prairie potholes, playa lakes, and bogs. In reality, these waters provide critical wildlife habitat, store flood water and protect drinking water supplies. During House consideration of H.R. 5386, the Interior-Environment Appropriations bill, Representatives James Oberstar (D-MN), Jim Leach (R-IA), and John Dingell (D-MI) introduced an amendment that would force the EPA to rescind its directive and reaffirm a broad application of Clean Water Act protections. On May 18, 2006, House Amendment 854 was approved by a 222-198 vote (House roll call vote 169). YES is the pro-environment vote. ON HOUSE VOTE #169, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #169, 05/18/2006](#)]



Pete Sessions Voted Three Other times Against Clean Water Protections

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2007 House Vote #135: Clean Water. An estimated 850 billion gallons of untreated or partially treated sewage are discharged annually from our sewer systems. These overflows contaminate water supplies with sewage, pathogens, solids, debris, and toxic pollutants. By 2016, the EPA estimates our nation's wastewater treatment plants may discharge pollutants at levels similar to those that existed in the mid-1970s, only a few years after the enactment of the Clean Water Act. By 2025, without significant new treatment capacity, pollution could exceed 1968 levels, the highest ever recorded. H.R. 720, the Water Quality Financing Act, authorizes \$14 billion for a new revolving fund to support states' water infrastructure projects. It also provides an additional \$2 billion for three existing clean water programs at the EPA. On March 9, 2007, the House voted 303-108 to pass the bill (House roll call vote 135). YES is the pro-environment vote. ON HOUSE VOTE #135, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #135, 03/09/2007](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2003 House Vote #618: Clean Water Act Exemptions. Left unchecked, the runoff from oil and gas construction sites pollutes lakes, rivers, and streams with sediment and other contaminants, killing fish and other aquatic life. Runoff from oil and gas sites can even contaminate drinking water supplies with benzene, toluene and heavy metals. Nevertheless, oil and gas companies lobbied for a special exemption from Clean Water Act requirements that limit the stormwater pollution (rain and snow runoff) caused by the construction of pipelines, drilling sites, roads and other infrastructure used in drilling--requirements all other industries must follow. That exemption was duly included in the House energy bill (H.R. 6). Opponents of the exemptions were denied opportunities in committee and on the House floor to remove it, but when the energy bill went to conference committee, Representative Bob Filner (D-CA) offered a motion instructing House conferees to reject Clean Water Act exemptions for the oil and gas industry. On November 7, 2003, the House rejected the Filner motion by a 188-210 vote (House roll call vote 618). YES is the pro-environment vote. The exemptions remained in the final conference report, which was passed by the House but not yet passed by the Senate. ON HOUSE VOTE #618, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard](#); [House Vote #618, 11/07/2003](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2000 House Vote #304: Clean Water. The Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act give the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) authority to protect the nation's water supplies. Since 1972, EPA has used that authority to double the percentage of the nation's water that is safe for swimming and fishing and to increase the number of people served by sewage treatment plants from 85 million in 1972 to 173 million today. One of the most important weapons in the EPA arsenal is its ability to regulate drinking-water levels of toxic chemicals such as arsenic, which the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) recently affirmed as a potential cause of lung, bladder, and skin cancer. The NAS also noted that EPA's current arsenic standard, first established in 1942, is outdated and unsafe. EPA missed the last three statutory deadlines to update its arsenic standards; however, the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require that they set a new standard by January 1, 2001. A rider attached to H.R. 4635, the FY 2001 VA-HUD appropriations bill, would impede EPA from substantially reducing permissible levels of arsenic in tap water and even prohibit EPA from enforcing the current arsenic standard. In addition the bill contained a rider that would halt EPA's clean up of contaminated sediments in U.S. waterways pending completion of an NAS study. Toxic chemicals, such as PCBs, in river, lake, and harbor sediments can contaminate fish and pose a serious threat to public health. A previous NAS study and research by EPA and independent scientists all indicate that removal of toxic sediments from waterways is the safest and best course of action to protect the environment and the public's



health. The broad language of this provision would interfere with clean up of at least 28 sites in 15 states. This provision could prevent not only clean up of toxic sediments but also clean up planning and negotiations. During consideration of H.R. 4635, Representatives Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Henry Waxman (D-CA) introduced an amendment to strike these anti-environment provisions from the appropriations bill. On June 21, 2000, the House rejected the Hinchey-Waxman amendment, 208-216 (House roll call vote 304). YES is the pro-environment vote. In October, the Senate also passed a VA-HUD appropriations bill that included restrictions on new arsenic standards and on the removal of toxics from lakes and rivers. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) offered amendments to strip these riders from the bill on the Senate floor; however, her amendments failed to pass. ON HOUSE VOTE #304, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard; House Vote #304, 06/21/2000](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Three Times Against Safeguards From Pesticides

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2017 House Vote #282: Pesticides Pollution. Rep. Gibbs (R-OH) introduced H.R. 953, the “Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017,” which would eliminate Clean Water Act safeguards protecting communities from toxic pesticides and result in pesticides being discharged directly into water bodies without any meaningful oversight or public transparency. H.R. 953 is unnecessary to address the Zika virus or other mosquito-borne health threats and is simply a handout to pesticide manufacturers and other corporate interests. On May 24, the House passed H.R. 953 (House roll call vote 282) by a vote of 256-165. NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. ON HOUSE VOTE #282, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard; House Vote #282, 05/24/2017](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #433: Protecting Farmworkers from Dangerous Pesticides. Representative Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) offered an amendment to H.R. 5538, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, which would strike a rider in the bill preventing the Environmental Protection Agency from enforcing the recently updated Agricultural Worker Protection Standard. This important set of revisions will finally give farmworkers the same protections as workers in other industries and better protect them from pesticide poisoning while ensuring their right to a designated representative to request information. The health of farmworkers, their families, and their communities are disproportionately jeopardized and impacted by toxic pesticides, and these critical new safeguards are long overdue. On July 13, the House rejected the Grijalva amendment by a vote of 177-249 (House roll call vote 433). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The House passed H.R. 5538 on July 14, but the Senate took no action on this legislation. ON HOUSE VOTE #433, PETE SESSIONS VOTED NO. [[LCV Scorecard; House Vote #433, 07/13/2016](#)]

Pete Sessions Voted Anti-Environment On 2016 House Vote #199: Pesticides Pollution. Representative Bob Gibbs (R-OH) sponsored H.R. 897, the Zika Vector Control Act, which would undermine the Clean Water Act by preventing the Environmental Protection Agency from protecting waterways from the direct application of pesticides that can contaminate drinking water, harm aquatic species, and negatively impact the food chain. H.R. 199 would render ineffective the Clean Water Act pesticide general permit, which took effect in 2011 and laid out commonsense practices for applying pesticides directly to waterways. Additionally, the permit already allows for emergency spraying to combat vector-borne diseases such as Zika. On May 17, the House rejected H.R. 897 under suspension of the rules by a vote of 262-159 (A 2/3 vote was needed for passage; House roll call vote 199). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. H.R. 897 passed the House on May 24. ON HOUSE VOTE #199, PETE SESSIONS VOTED YES. [[LCV Scorecard; House Vote #199, 05/17/2016](#)]