

DESCRIPTION OF VOTES

Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (HR 11896). This bill as reported by the House Public Works Committee was very weak. More than 25 citizens groups and over 40 Congressmen led by Reuss, Dingell and Saylor sponsored a Clean Water Package of amendments (votes 1, 2, 3, and 5 below). These were opposed by the White House and by most industry groups.

HR 11896. The vote is on the Reuss amendment to set deadlines requiring industries to use the "best available pollution control technology" by 1981, and reaffirming the goal of "zero discharge" of pollutants by 1985. The Committee bill required a two-year study by the National Academy of Sciences before Congressional enactment of these standards at some uncertain future date. (Rejected 160-269; March 28, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)

2 HR 11896. The bill set up a permit program for industries that discharge pollution. But it weakened the National Environmental Policy Act by saying that the Act did not apply to regulatory decisions regarding the granting of permits to industries. The vote is on Rep. Bella Abzug's amendment to delete the provisions weakening NEPA. (Rejected 125-276; March 28, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)

3 HR 11896. The vote is on the Reuss amendment to allow the Environmental Protection Agency to veto individual permits issued by the state governments, which are usually more vulnerable to industry pressure. This amendment would have helped establish minimum federal standards to prevent industries from shipping around and playing one state off against another to find the weakest standards. (Rejected 154-251; March 28, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)

4 HR 11896. The bill gives the Environmental Protection Agency contract authority to spend \$18.5 billion over three years in federal grants for waste water treatment plants. The vote is on Rep. Maher's amendment to require annual Congressional appropriations instead of using contract authority. This would make EPA's future levels of funding uncertain, and discourage long-range efforts by cities and states who depend on the federal government to pay its share. The Nixon Administration supported the amendment. (Rejected 151-222; March 28, 1972; "NO" is the correct vote.)

5 HR 11896. The vote is on Rep. William Ferg's amendment to require public hearings to investigate industry claims that factories must close down or lay off workers because of pollution control costs. This would help to protect workers and communities from economic dislocation and environmental blackmail by industries. (Adopted 274-118; March 29, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)

6 HR 11896. The vote is on Rep. Vandenberg's amendment requiring EPA when making grants to encourage recycling and land-based water treatment systems. Sewage can be sprayed on cropland as irrigation and fertilizer, using the land as a natural filter. Such alternative systems are often cheaper and must be considered if the goal of zero discharge of pollutants by 1985 is to be reached. The Nixon Administration opposed the amendment. (Adopted 250-130; March 29, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)

7 Cyclamate Compensation (HR 13366). The bill permits food growers, manufacturers and distributors to sue the federal government for losses incurred as a result of the 1969 government ban on cyclamates. The bill sets a bad precedent that could be extended to other toxic substances, making the government liable for damages every time it ordered one of them off the market. Later the same year Congress approved similar indemnities for pesticide users and manufacturers. This violates federal regulation, and makes production of untested, potentially dangerous substances unnecessarily profitable for the manufacturer and hazardous for the consumer and the environment. The Nixon Administration supported the bill. (Passed 177-170; July 26, 1972; "NO" is the correct vote.)

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8 Labor-HEW Appropriations for fiscal 1973 (HR 15417). The vote is on the Dennis amendment to delete \$20 million for programs in the Occupational Safety and Health Act. The Act gave the Secretary of Labor authority to set standards to protect the workplace environment of industrial, farm and construction workers. The cut in appropriations would mean a reduction in enforcement personnel at a time when the number of safety inspectors is already infinitesimal compared to the number of workers. This would defeat the entire purpose of the Act. The Nixon Administration took no position. (Rejected 160-206; June 13, 1972; "NO" is the correct vote.)

9 HR 15417. The vote is on Rep. Findley's amendment to exempt firms employing 25 or fewer persons from complying with the Occupational Safety and Health Act. The amendment gave a year's moratorium to small firms so that Congress could propose more specific regulations for small businesses that claim to be harassed under the Act. But environmentalists point out that an overwhelming number of accidents occur in small plants which don't have the health and safety crews that large firms provide. Officially the Nixon Administration took no position, but some Administration officials quietly supported the amendment. (Adopted 213-154; June 13, 1972; "NO" is the correct vote.)

10 Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1972 (HR 16636) authorizing \$15.5 billion exclusively for highways. The vote is on whether to consider the Anderson amendment to permit cities to use up to \$100 million in Highway Trust Fund money for rail and bus transit. The Nixon Administration supported the amendment. The highway lobby wanted to give the bill a rule that would prevent a direct vote on the Anderson amendment, and this is a vote in whether to adopt that rule. (Adopted 211-1; October 3, 1972; "NO" is the correct vote, indicating support for the Anderson amendment.)

11 Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1972 (HR 16636). The bill mandated construction of the Three Sisters Bridge in Washington, D.C. and prohibited any further judicial review that could delay the bridge. Environmentalists had earlier obtained a court injunction stopping construction of the bridge, largely because highway officials had violated law forbidding the unnecessary construction of roads through parks and historical sites. The vote is on Rep. Abzug's amendment to delete the provisions forcing construction of the bridge. The Nixon Administration supported the amendment. (Rejected 125-173; October 3, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)

12 Coal Mine Surface Area Protection Act of 1972 (HR 6182). The vote is on final passage of the bill under suspension of rules, which requires a two-thirds majority. Although it failed to ban strip mining for coal, the bill did impose fairly strict regulations and specific reclamation requirements, especially on slopes greater than 20 degrees. It set up a permit program that required public hearings before each permit approval, but unfortunately gave federal jurisdiction to the Interior Department rather than the Environmental Protection Agency. The bill was supported by the COALition Against Strip Mining, and opposed by the National Coal Association and the American Mining Congress. The Nixon Administration took no official position, but lobbied quietly against the bill. (Passed 265-75; October 11, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)

13 Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (S 2770). The vote is on whether to override President Nixon's veto of the bill, which authorizes \$26.7 billion over three years to reach the goal of eliminating all discharges of pollutants by 1985 and making waters safe for fish, wildlife and recreation by 1983. The President felt this was too much to spend on clean water, and after Congress overrode his veto he still refused to spend most of the money authorized. (Passed 247-2; October 18, 1972; "YES" is the correct vote.)









	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	CURRENT SCORE	PREVIOUS SCORE
MYERS, John T. (IN)	n	n	n	y	y	n	y	y	y	n	p	y	y	23	20
MATCHER, William H. (KY)	n	n	n	y	y	n	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	38	13
NEDZI, Lucien N. (MI)	y	n	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	98	67
NELSEN, Anchur (MN)	n	n	n	n	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	40	6
NICHOLS, Bill (AL)	n	n	n	n	n	n	y	y	y	n	a	y	y	14	13
NIX, Robert N.C. (PA)	y	y	y	n	y	y	n	n	n	n	y	y	y	85	47
OBEY, David R. (WI)	yy	yy	yy	n	yy	98	90								
O'HARA, James G. (MI)	yy	yy	yy	n	yy	98	60								
O'KONSKI, Alvin E. (WI)	ay	an	ay	n	yy	53	40								
O'NEILL, Thomas P. (MA)	y	n	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	87	53
PASSMAN, Otto E. (LA)	n	n	n	a	a	a	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	5	7
PATMAN, Wright (TX)	ay	an	an	a	a	a	an	an	an	an	ay	ay	ay	28	19
PATTEN, Edward J. (NJ)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	54	47
PELLY, Thomas M. (WA)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	60	41
PEPPER, Claude (FL)	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	87	26
PERKINS, Carl D. (KY)	n	n	n	n	y	y	n	n	a	y	y	y	y	41	20
PETTIS, Jerry L. (CA)	ay	yy	yy	n	yy	yy	n	n	ay	yy	yy	yy	yy	60	17
PEYSER, Peter A. (NY)	ny	yy	yy	n	yy	yy	n	n	yy	yy	yy	yy	yy	96	43
PICKLE, J.J. (TX)	ny	yy	yy	n	yy	yy	n	n	yy	yy	yy	yy	yy	31	26
PIKE, Otis G. (NY)	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	92	87
PIRNIE, Alexander (NY)	n	n	n	n	y	y	y	y	py	y	y	y	y	14	18
POAGE, W.R. (TX)	ny	yy	yy	n	yy	yy	n	n	ay	y	y	y	y	23	0
PODELL, Bertram L. (NY)	ny	yy	yy	n	yy	yy	n	n	ay	y	y	y	y	98	79
POPF, Richard H. (VA)	ny	yy	yy	n	yy	yy	n	n	ay	y	y	y	y	22	25
POWELL, Walter E. (OH)	n	n	n	n	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	14	0
PREYER, Richardson (NC)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	py	y	y	y	y	69	54
PRICE, Melvin (IL)	ny	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	py	y	y	y	y	92	47
PRICE, Robert (TX)	ny	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	py	y	y	y	y	5	11
PRYOR, David (AR)	ay	ay	ay	y	y	y	y	y	py	y	y	y	y	82	61
PUCINSKI, Roman C. (IL)	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	py	y	y	y	y	92	63
PURCELL, Graham (TX)	n	n	a	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	3	0
QUIE, Albert H. (MN)	na	ya	an	o	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	56	67
QUILLE, James H. (TN)	na	an	an	o	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	4	42
RAILSBACK, Tom (IL)	an	an	an	o	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	40	27
RANDALL, William J. (MO)	n	n	n	o	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	94	89
RANGEL, Charles B. (NY)	y	y	y	a	a	a	a	a	n	n	y	y	y	94	7
RARICK, John R. (LA)	ny	yy	yy	a	a	a	a	a	n	n	y	y	y	69	79
REES, Thomas M. (CA)	yy	yy	yy	a	a	a	a	a	n	n	y	y	y	84	90
REID, Ogden R. (NY)	ay	ay	ay	a	a	a	a	a	n	n	y	y	y	100	83
REUSS, Henry S. (WI)	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	15	25
RHODES, John J. (AZ)	ny	yy	yy	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	94	83
RIEGLE, Donald W. Jr. (MI)	ny	yy	yy	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	23	11
ROBERTS, Ray (TX)	ny	yy	yy	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	15	7
ROBINSON, J. Kenneth (VA)	ny	yy	yy	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	56	47
ROBISON, Howard W. (NY)	n	n	n	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	81	70
ROCINO, Peter W. Jr. (NJ)	y	y	y	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	77	60
ROE, Robert A. (NJ)	ny	yy	yy	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	69	53
ROGERS, Paul G. (FL)	yy	yy	yy	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	15	79
RONCALIO, Tino (WY)	ny	yy	yy	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	74	68
ROONEY, Fred B. (PA)	y	y	y	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	y	y	y	y	-	4
ROONEY, John J. (NY)	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	yy	a	a	a	a	53	87
ROSENTHAL, Benjamin S. (NY)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	a	a	a	a	96	56
ROSTENKOWSKI, Dan (IL)	ay	ay	ay	y	y	y	y	y	yy	a	a	a	a	73	64
ROUSH, J. Edward (IN)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	a	a	a	a	24	18
ROUSSELOT, John H. (CA)	n	n	n	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	a	a	a	a	69	57
ROY, William R. (KS)	ny	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	90	79
ROYBAL, Edward R. (CA)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	31	77
RUNNELS, Harold (NM)	ny	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	65	54
RUPPE, Philip E. (MI)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	23	20
RUTH, Earl B. (NC)	n	n	n	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	-	-
RYAN, William F. (NY)	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	98	87
ST. GERMAIN, Fernand J. (RI)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	73	61
SANDMAN, Charles W. Jr. (NJ)	ny	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	2	11
SARBANES, Paul S. (MD)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	100	93
SATTERFIELD, David E. III (VA)	n	n	n	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	23	13
SAYLOR, John P. (PA)	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	64	77
SHERLE, William J. (IA)	ay	ay	ay	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	44	27
SHEWTER, James M. (NY)	yy	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	92	93
SCHMITZ, John G. (CA)	ny	yy	yy	y	y	y	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	3	13
SCHNEEBELI, Herman T. (PA)	n	n	n	o	yy	yy	y	y	yy	n	n	y	y	23	40

