



MICHIGAN LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS
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 Earthscape Resources Management

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 National Wildlife Federation

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 PIRGIM

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 Sierra Club

Joan Wolfe
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Organizations are listed for identification purposes only.

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2003

Michigan Legislative Scorecard

Michigan League of Conservation Voters



- 1** Imported Trash Reduced (SB 498, passed Senate)
 SB 498 was part of a package of bills introduced to stem the flow of trash into Michigan. A "Yes" vote on SB 498 sponsored by Sen. Birkholz, would ban beverage containers from Michigan's landfills. Passed 36-0.
- 2** Great Lakes Coastline Damaged (HB 4257, PA 14 of 2003)
 Recent drops in water levels have exposed coastal wetlands along the Great Lakes shoreline. These wetlands are an important spawning habitat and are essential to controlling erosion. HB 4257, allows property owners to mow, level, and remove vegetation in these emerging coastal wetlands. A "No" vote on this bill would have protected these natural, sensitive areas, owned by the people of Michigan. However, the bill passed 38-0 and was signed into law by Governor Granholm.
- 3** Water Use Regulation Weakened (SB 289, PA 148 of 2003)
 This bill seeks to monitor and regulate water use in Michigan for the first time. Unfortunately, special interests won exemptions from the law and weakened the reporting requirements for agri-business, one of the largest water users in Michigan. In an effort to fix the legislation, Sen. Brater offered an amendment to require agriculture to report their water use. A "Yes" vote on this amendment would have strengthened weak reporting requirements for agriculture and protected the public's right to know. Defeated 16-22.
- 4** Joint Planning Commissions Enabled (HB 4284, Sent to Governor)
 The Joint Planning Act, recently signed into law by Gov. Granholm is the first step that the legislature has taken to enact the recommendations of the Land Use Leadership Council. In order to develop cooperative solutions to regional land use issues, a "Yes" vote on HB 4284 enables multiple units of government to create joint planning commissions. Passed 38-0.
- 5** Sunday Hunting on Public Land Restored (HB 4599, PA 224 of 2003)
 HB 4599 repeals local acts restricting hunting on Sundays in Tuscola, Lenawee, Hillsdale and St. Clair counties. Hunters deserve full access to enjoy state land reasonably and this access should be protected against local rules seeking to exclude. A "Yes" vote on this bill increased access to public land for hunters on Sunday. Passed 33-5.
- 6** Environmental Dispute Resolution Unfunded (HB 4087, PA 177 of 2003)
 Similar to SB 289, HB 4087 would set rules to resolve disputes over groundwater uses. Unfortunately, the bill contained no funding to allow the DEQ to fairly resolve disputes over the use of groundwater. Sen. Brater introduced an amendment to provide the DEQ with the resources necessary to carry out the intent of the new law. A "Yes" vote would make groundwater dispute resolution a real alternative to expensive and lengthy court battles. Defeated 17-21.
- 7** Polluter Permit Fees Partially Funded (SB 252, in conference)
 The state requires a permit to dump wastewater into Michigan lakes and rivers. Currently, the state charges nothing for these permits, meaning that taxpayers foot the bill for polluters and enforcement is lax. Major municipal and industrial dischargers are only inspected once every four to five years. Moreover, almost every state in the nation charges a fee for dumping in public waterways and Michigan is the only Great Lakes state that continues to subsidize polluters. A "Yes" vote would be a step towards holding polluters accountable, by ending the practice of free permits to pollute in Michigan.

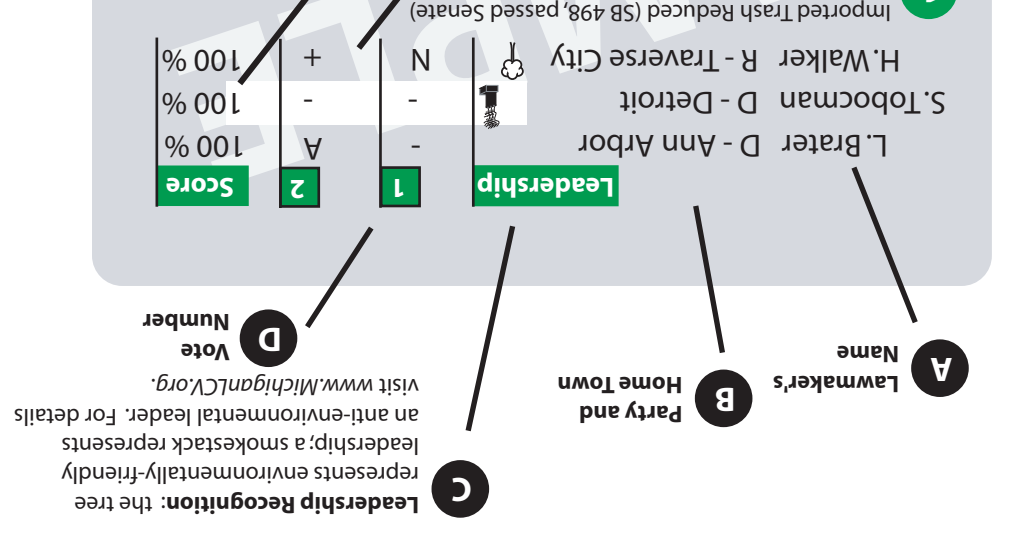
State Senators in Michigan serve four-year terms. This scorecard reflects votes for the Senate term beginning in January 2003. Not voting counts as a negative in the score. If you do not know who your senator is, you can find him or her at the Michigan Senate website: www.senate.mi.gov. For fuller details on the Leadership rankings, visit the Michigan LCV website at www.michiganlcv.org.

Leadership	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Score
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	A	-	+	+	+	+	+	71%
	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	86%
	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	86%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	86%
	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	71%
	A	-	+	+	+	+	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	43%
	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	86%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	43%
	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	43%
	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	86%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	71%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	43%
	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	86%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	86%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%
	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	57%

- J. Allen
- J. Barcia
- R. Basham
- V. Bernero
- P. Birkholz
- M. Bishop
- L. Brater
- C. Brown
- N. Cassis
- D. Cherry
- I. Clark-Coleman
- H. Clarke
- A. Cropsey
- R. Emerson
- V. Garcia
- T. George
- J. Gilbert
- M. Goshcka
- B. Hammerstrom
- B. Hardiman
- G. Jacobs
- R. Jelinek
- S. Johnson
- W. Kuipers
- B. Leland
- M. McManus
- D. Olshove
- B. Patterson
- M. Prusi
- A. Sanborn
- M. Schauer
- M. Scott
- K. Sikkema
- T. Stamas
- M. Switalski
- S. Thomas
- L. Toy
- G. VanWoerkom
- R - Traverse City
- D - Bay City
- D - Taylor
- D - Lansing
- R - Saugatuck
- R - Rochester
- D - Ann Arbor
- R - Sturgis
- R - Novi
- R - Cass
- D - Burton
- D - Detroit
- D - Detroit
- R - DeWitt
- D - Flint
- R - Howell
- R - Kalamazoo
- R - Algonac
- R - Brant
- R - Temperance
- R - Kentwood
- D - Huntington Woods
- R - Three Oaks
- R - Royal Oak
- R - Holland
- D - Detroit
- R - Leelanau
- D - Warren
- R - Canton
- D - Ishpeming
- R - Richmond Township
- D - Battle Creek
- D - Detroit
- R - Wyoming
- R - Midland
- D - Roseville
- D - Detroit
- R - Livonia
- R - Norton Shores

The Michigan Senate

How to Use This Scorecard



1 SB 498 was part of a package of bills introduced to stem the flow of trash into Michigan. A "Yes" vote on SB 498 sponsored by Sen. Birkholz, would ban beverage containers from Michigan's landfills. Passed 36-0.

2 SB 502 was part of a large package of bills introduced regarding the importation and regulation of fish in Michigan. A "Yes" vote on SB 502 prohibits any waste into Michigan's landfills that does not meet Michigan's public health standards. Passed 103-3.

G **Vote Description:** This brief text describes what this particular vote was about and why it is important to environmentalists and conservationists. It corresponds to the Vote Number (see item D). Votes results are listed with Yes votes followed by No votes.

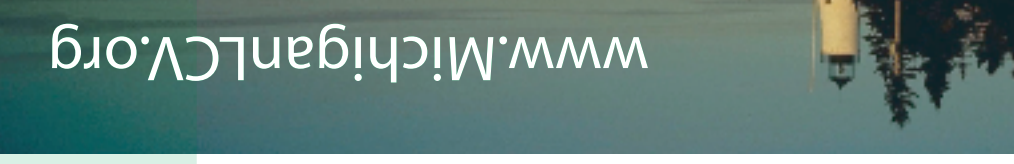
Why the Scorecard?

Michigan is a special place with tremendous natural resources that are unique worldwide, including the Great Lakes - an expense of freshwater unrivaled on this planet. Along these Great Lakes stretches the world's largest draw in thousands of and a variety of world-class fisheries that draw in thousands of sightseers and sport fishers. Michigan is also home to three National Parks, the largest state forest and park system east of the nation. Michigan is a paradise for boaters, hunters, campers, and nature lovers! We all have a responsibility to protect these valuable elements that make Michigan a unique and special nexus of natural wonders. Each of us must stand up for clean water, clean air, and healthy, livable communities.

As citizens of Michigan, we elect Senators and Representatives to speak on our behalf, to act in our best interests in Lansing. We trust these legislators to protect the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the communities where we live and raise our children. Unfortunately, at times politics, lobbyists, and "deals" win over our best interest. The goal of this scorecard is to educate Michigan's citizens how their lawmakers are acting on environmental issues. The scorecard provides information to help voters decide if their elected official is acting in the interest of clean air, clean water, and their community.

In addition to including key votes on environmental issues, this scorecard takes into consideration the leadership of individuals in the House and Senate. The leadership category offers a "behind the scenes" approach to those individuals who have either taken a stand for the environment in controversial times, or have gone out of their way to destroy environmental protection and enforcement. To get detailed information on these leadership scores, visit www.MichiganLCV.org and click on "Scorecard."

Michigan League of Conservation Voters is dedicated to the principle that protection of public health and conservation of our natural resources by bi-partisan leadership is a top priority. We hope that you will join us - with renewed vigor - so that a collection of well-meaning and well-informed citizens can make a positive difference for Michigan.



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 - Bill Bobler
 - Dalia Garcia
 - Maricia Gershenson
 - Mike Griffin
 - Tony Infante
 - Dan Luria
 - Jim Olson
 - Lana Pollack
 - Bill Rustem
 - Bill Stough
 - Joan Wolfe
- Staff**
- Jeff Irwin - Executive Director
 - Becky Vogt - Program Manager

The Michigan House of Representatives

		Leadership	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Score
F. Accavitti	D - Eastpointe		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88%
D. Acciavatti	R - Chesterfield		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
S. Adamini	D - Marquette		-	+	+	-	-	A	+	+	50%
F. Amos	R - Waterford		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
G. Anderson	D - Westland		+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	75%
S. Bieda	D - Warren		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
C. Bisbee	R - Jackson		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
K. Bradstreet	R - Gaylord		-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	25%
J. Brandenburg	R - Harrison Township		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
R. Brown	D - Bessemer		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	50%
D. Byrum	D - Onondaga		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
T. Caspersen	R - Escanaba		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
B. Caswell	R - Hillsdale		-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	25%
S. Caul	R - Mt. Pleasant		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
M. Cheeks	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
B. Clack	D - Flint		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
P. Condino	D - Southfield		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
K. Daniels	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	88%
J. Dennis	D - Muskegon		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
C. DeRoche	R - Novi		-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	25%
G. DeRossett	R - Manchester		-	A	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
L. Drolet	R - Clinton Township		-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	25%
S. Ehardt	R - Lexington		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Elkins	D - Lake		+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	75%
J. Emmons	R - Sheridan		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
D. Farhat	R - Muskegon		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
B. Farrah	D - Southgate		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
E. Gaffney	R - Grosse Pointe Farms		-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	50%
J. Garfield	R - Rochester Hills		-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	25%
P. Gielegem	D - Clinton Township		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
M. Gillard	D - Alpena		+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	100%
J. Gleason	D - Flushing		+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	88%
L. Hager	R - Port Huron		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
A. Tinsley Hardman	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	75%
D. Hart	R - Rockford		-	-	A	+	A	A	+	-	25%
M. Hood	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
J. Hoogendyk	R - Kalamazoo		-	-	+	-	-	A	-	-	13%
H. Hopgood	D - Taylor		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88%
J. Howell	R - St. Charles		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
B. Huizenga	R - Zeeland		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
S. Hummel	R - DeWitt		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Hune	R - Fowlerville		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
T. Hunter	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
R. Jamnick	D - Ypsilanti		+	+	+	A	+	-	+	+	75%
Rick Johnson	R - Leroy		-	-	A	-	-	+	+	-	25%
Ruth Johnson	R - Holly		-	-	+	+	-	A	+	+	50%
L. Julian	R - Lennon		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Koetje	R - Walker		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
C. Kolb	D - Ann Arbor		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88%
J. Kooiman	R - Grand Rapids		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
P. LaJoy	R - Canton		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
C. LaSata	R - St. Joseph		+	+	+	A	-	+	A	+	63%
K. Law	D - Gibraltar		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
A. Lipsey	D - Kalamazoo		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88%
B. McConico	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
A. Meisner	D - Ferndale		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
T. Meyer	R - Bad Axe		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
M. Middaugh	R - Paw Paw		-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	25%
M. Milosch	R - Lambertville		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Minore	D - Flint		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
J. Moolenaar	R - Midland		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
M. Mortimer	R - Horton		-	A	+	-	-	+	+	A	38%
M. Murphy	D - Lansing		+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	88%
G. Newell	R - Saranac		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
N. Nitz	R - Baroda		-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	25%
M. Nofs	R - Battle Creek		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
W. O'Neil	D - Allen Park		+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	88%
D. Paletko	D - Dearborn Heights		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

		Leadership	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Score
B. Palmer	R - Romeo		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
D. Palsrok	R - Manistee		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Pappageorge	R - Troy		-	-	A	-	A	+	+	-	25%
J. Pastor	R - Livonia		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
C. Phillips	D - Pontiac		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
J. Plakas	D - Garden City		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
M. Pumford	R - Newaygo		-	-	A	+	-	+	+	-	38%
T. Reeves	D - Detroit		+	+	-	A	+	+	+	+	75%
R. Richardville	R - Monroe		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Rivet	D - Bay City		+	+	+	A	-	+	+	+	75%
D. Robertson	R - Grand Blanc		-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	25%
S. Rocca	R - Sterling Heights		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
M. Sak	D - Grand Rapids		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
S. Shackleton	R - Sault Ste. Marie		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
R. Shaffer	R - Three Rivers		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
F. Sheen	R - Plainwell		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
D. Sheltrown	D - Gladwin		-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	50%
M. Shulman	R - West Bloomfield		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
V. Smith	D - Detroit		+	+	+	-	+	A	+	+	75%
D. Spade	D - Adrian		-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	50%
J. Stahl	R - North Branch		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Stakoe	R - Highland		-	-	+	-	-	+	A	-	25%
A. Stallworth	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	88%
G. Steil	R - Grand Rapids		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
J. Stewart	R - Plymouth		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
S. Tabor	R - Eaton County		-	A	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
S. Taub	R - Bloomfield Hills		-	-	+	A	-	A	+	-	25%
S. Tobocman	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88%
A. Vagnozzi	D - Farmington Hills		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88%
B. Vander Veen	R - Allendale		-	-	A	+	A	+	+	-	38%
W. VanRegenmorter	R - Georgetown Twp		-	-	-	A	-	-	+	-	13%
J. Voorhees	R - Wyoming		-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	13%
H. Walker	R - Traverse City		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
C. Ward	R - Brighton		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
M. Waters	D - Detroit		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
L. Wenke	R - Richland		-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	38%
G. Whitmer	D - East Lansing		+	+	+	+	+	-	A	+	75%
C. Williams	D - Saginaw		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
L. Wojno	D - Warren		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
D. Woodward	D - Royal Oak		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88%
G. Woronochak	R - Dearborn		-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	50%
P. Zalenko	D - Burton		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	75%

Members of the Michigan House of Representatives serve two-year terms. The following votes took place during the 2003 legislative session. Not voting counts as a negative in the score. Representative Mortimer was elected mid-term. Those votes taken before his election to the House do not count against him in his Overall Score. If you do not know who your representative is, you can find him or her at the Michigan House website: www.house.michigan.gov. For fuller details on the Leadership rankings, visit the Michigan LCV website at www.michiganlcv.org.

- 1** Natural Rivers Act Weakened (HB 4641, passed House)
The Natural Rivers Act of 1970 allowed local and state cooperation to protect designated rivers from overdevelopment and preserved valuable river aesthetics. HB 4641, introduced by Rep. Bradstreet, allows local governments to remove the designations for the Pine and Manistee rivers in addition to all future designations set by the state. A "No" vote on this bill would have protected the environment and ensured continued enjoyment of these public rivers. Passed 66-44.
- 2** Great Lakes Coastline Damaged (HB 4257, PA 14 of 2003)
Recent drops in water levels have exposed coastal wetlands along the Great Lakes shoreline. These wetlands are an important spawning habitat and are essential to controlling erosion. HB 4257, allows property owners to mow, level, and remove vegetation in these emerging coastal wetlands. A "No" vote on this bill meant that protections for these public, natural and sensitive areas would not be weakened. Passed 64-43 and signed into law by Governor Granholm.
- 3** Joint Planning Commissions Enabled (HB 4284, PA 226 of 2003)
Introduced by Rep. Kolb, The Joint Planning Act was the first step that the legislature has taken to enact the recommendations of the Land Use Leadership Council. In order to facilitate cooperative solutions to regional land use issues, a "Yes" vote on HB 4284 enables multiple units of government to create joint planning commissions. Passed 97-8 and signed into law by Governor Granholm.
- 4** Enforcement Against Major Water Polluters Weakened (SB 252, in conference)
SB 252 began in the Senate as a polluter permit fee designed to charge polluters instead of taxpayers for enforcement and processing costs for permits to pollute. The original bill was stripped of funding and enforcement provisions and eventually passed after numerous attempts to improve the bill through amendments. A "Yes" vote on this amendment offered by Rep. Brandenburg would have increased enforcement by requiring yearly inspections of some of the worst polluters. Amendment defeated 51-52.
- 5** Water Use Regulation Weakened (SB 289; RC 465, PA 148 of 2003)
This bill, designed to regulate groundwater use in Michigan, was weakened by special interests that saddled the new law with exemptions and exceptions. In an effort to fix the bill, Rep. Dennis offered an amendment to enforce permit fees for everyone who draws large quantities of groundwater. A "Yes" vote on this bill would have enforced permit fees fairly. Defeated 40-67.
- 6** Sunday Hunting on Public Land Restored (HB 4599, PA 224 of 2003)
HB 4599 repeals local acts restricting hunting on Sundays in Tuscola, Lenawee, Hillsdale and St. Clair counties. Hunters deserve full access to enjoy state land reasonably and this access should be protected against local rules seeking to exclude. A "Yes" vote on this bill offered by Rep. Richardville increased access to public land for hunters on Sunday. Passed 88-15.
- 7** Imported Trash Regulated (SB 502, passed House and Senate)
SB 502 was part of a large package of bills introduced regarding the importation and regulation of trash in Michigan. A "Yes" vote on SB 502 prohibits any waste into Michigan's landfills that does not meet Michigan's public health standards. Passed 103-3.
- 8** DEQ Budget Slashed (HB 4393, PA 171 of 2003)
Michigan is in financial difficulty, so budget cuts are necessary. HB 4393; however, authorized severe cuts for an already under-funded DEQ. This means even fewer inspections and cleanups of the sources of pollution that threaten our communities. In addition, all proposed polluter-pay fees - which could have covered the costs of inspections and cleanups - were removed from the budget. A "No" vote on this bill would have protected public health by implementing fees on polluters to pay for some enforcement costs. Passed 60-48.