



Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Senator Mary Jo White
Chairman

Patrick Henderson, Executive Director

Room 168 • State Capitol Building
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To: All Republican Senators

From: Senator Mary Jo White, Chairman
Senate Environmental Resources & Energy Committee

Date: September 18, 2008

Re: Environmental Scorecards

You recently received a letter (attached) from PennFuture concerning an apparent identity crisis between itself and PennEnvironment. In the letter, PennFuture states that it “*does not publish ratings of lawmakers or their voting records*”.

Technically, this may be true.

However, PennFuture oversees the PA League of Conservation Voters (PALCV), which does in fact issue an environmental scorecard each legislative session. In 2006, PALCV was chaired by Jan Jarrett, currently the President and CEO of PennFuture. John Hanger, former director of PennFuture and Governor Rendell’s nominee for DEP Secretary, is a past board member. PennFuture provides technical and financial support to PALCV. Even the group’s tax-exempt financial papers are kept and signed by PennFuture staff.

PALCV’s partisan bias in preparing its scorecard is well documented. For example, in its most recent scorecard, only 4 of the 68 legislators praised as “environmental champions” were Republicans. Conversely, 40 of the 44 legislators branded “worst offenders” were Republicans.

PALCV also operates a political action committee, which has historically contributed heavily to non-Republican candidates.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future
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September 15, 2008

Dear Senator:

On behalf of Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture), I hope you had a good and productive summer. This fall we look forward to continuing our work with the General Assembly to pass vital energy conservation legislation in the form of House Bill 2200.

Occasionally PennFuture is confused with another environmental organization, PennEnvironment, because of the similar name. PennEnvironment publishes ratings of the environmental voting records of the members of the General Assembly the summer before each election, and this year is endorsing candidates for federal office. PennFuture is not affiliated with PennEnvironment.

Just so there is no confusion, you should know that PennFuture does not publish ratings of lawmakers or their voting records. PennFuture does not make endorsements of political candidates, nor does it make campaign contributions or engage in election activity.

We are a statewide, non-profit public interest membership organization that is pleased to work with any and all members of the General Assembly who share our goals of protecting Pennsylvania's environment and economy.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you need information, have ideas or wish to discuss legislation and policy, or if we can otherwise be of service to you.

Sincerely,

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