

Pinellas Republicans continue anti-environment ways

The 2019 Florida Sierra Club Legislative scorecard is out and 100% of the Pinellas County Republican legislators voted against the recommendations of the Club. Sierra Club tracked 7 separate pieces of legislation and in every case the Pinellas Republicans opposed the environmentally endorsed position. The legislators involved include:

Senator Ed Hooper

Senator Jeff Brandes

Representative Chris Latvala

Representative Chris Spowls

Representative Ed Diceglie

Representative Jamie Grant

Go to the following site for full details:

<https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce/florida-chapter/documents/legislative/2019/Legislative%20Scorecard2019.pdf>

2019 Florida Environmental Legislation

Update on May 9, 2019

FRACKING (FAILED): Bans fracking, a process where water, sand and chemicals are injected underground to loosen, or fracture, rock layers in the crust to release trapped natural gas and oil. ([HB 239](#) / [SB 146](#))

PLASTIC BAGS (FAILED): Authorizes coastal municipalities to establish pilot programs to regulate or ban disposable plastic bags; collect data and complete a report by April 1, 2022 about the effectiveness of the ban. ([SB 694](#))

PLASTIC STRAWS (PASSED): Prohibits local government entities from adopting or enforcing ordinances and regulations relating to single-use plastic straws. ([HB 771](#)) *Senate split down party lines. House Newton joins R's*

RECYCLABLE MATERIALS (PASSED): Require municipalities to address contamination of recyclable materials. ([HB 771](#))

RED TIDE (PASSED): Investments of \$3 million per year for six years in red tide mitigation. ([SB 1552](#))

SUNSCREEN (FAILED): Prohibits local governments from banning the sale of certain sunscreens. Government entities that violate the moratorium would face fines. ([HB 1299](#) / [SB 588](#))

WASTEWATER (FAILED): Prohibiting the construction of new deep injection wells for domestic wastewater discharge or the expansion of existing wells. ([SB 1568](#))

WELLS (FAILED): Allow anyone fearing contamination to request the health department test their water source, requires samples be analyzed no more than three business days later. ([SB 1100](#))

Update on February 9, 2019

This is a website to visit monitor legislation on conservation and transportation bills with recommendations on whether to support or oppose the bill.

<http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org/2019-florida-legislative-session/>

<https://www.sierraclub.org/florida/suncoast/political-team>