

NEWS RELEASE

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2006 CONSERVATION PRIORITIES ANNOUNCED

Richmond, VA The Virginia League of Conservation Voters, the nonpartisan political arm of Virginia's conservation community, today announced its legislative priorities for the 2006 General Assembly Session.

VALCV has taken initial positions on the anticipated issues for the upcoming session that could have an impact on conservation. As the statewide, nonpartisan political voice for Virginia's conservation community, VALCV's purpose is to serve as an umbrella organization representing the legislative goals of the greater conservation community regarding a diverse range of issues such as water and air quality, energy, land conservation, natural resources funding, transportation and smart growth.

The 2006 Legislative Positions include:

- Support for additional funding for air quality programs and legislation to implement statewide adequate, secure, dedicated funding for water resource protection.
- Support for the development of a responsible energy policy for Virginia that protects natural resources and human health; including a Renewable Portfolio Standards bill.
- Support for legislation requiring that state transportation funding be tied to measurable performance criteria.
- Support for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) position on the cap on menhaden harvest.

During session the status of VALCV's priority legislation can be followed online using the Virginia Legislative Action Center at <http://capwiz.com/valcvef/state/main/?state=VA>. Positions and bill status are updated weekly throughout the session. Additional background information from lead organizations on some of these conservation issues is also provided in the 2006 Conservation Briefing Book. VALCV will work to inform legislators and the public of our positions on priority issues. Many of the priority bills will ultimately land on the VALCV annual Conservation Scorecard evaluating legislators.

A complete list of *VALCV Statements of Legislative Position, 2006 Conservation Briefing Book* and past editions of the *Conservation Scorecard* are available online at www.valcv.org.

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