VOTING FOR
This year, the environmental community stepped up like never before. In the majority of races where LCV Victory Fund and partners invested, climate voters showed up to help protect and elect pro-environment, pro-democracy candidates — and defeat candidates who denied climate science and the 2020 election results. In fact, voters rejected 10 of 12 of the worst anti-environment candidates on our 2022 federal Dirty Dozen list.

With so many close races, we are confident that our work to mobilize climate voters, support climate champions, and highlight the extreme records of their opponents played a decisive role in the election.

In congressional races, LCV Victory Fund and partners worked to turn out millions of climate voters in key states to support pro-environment U.S. Senate and House candidates. While anti-environment and anti-democracy Republicans will now control the U.S. House, tight election results are a far cry from the “red wave” that pundits had predicted, and the U.S. Senate will remain under pro-climate leadership, now expanded to a more functional pro-climate majority with 51 senators. Overall, voters turned out in force for candidates who passed or supported the Inflation Reduction Act, making it clear that addressing climate pollution, saving families money, and creating jobs is popular and laid the groundwork for electoral success.

At the state level, the Conservation Voter Movement (CVM) helped mobilize a “green wave” of voters to turn out for critical gubernatorial and other state and local races across the country. Similar to our federal Dirty Dozen program, our affiliates’ Dirty Dozen in the States program saw the defeat of 10 of 12 of the worst anti-environment candidates in the nation at the state and local level — a success rate of more than 83%.

Among other highlights, our state affiliates helped protect and elect 13 pro-climate, pro-democracy governors and establish two new pro-climate majorities in state legislatures in Michigan and Minnesota. Both states will now have pro-environment, pro-democracy trifectas — governor, state Senate, and state House — beginning in 2023. And thanks to gubernatorial wins in Maryland and Massachusetts, two additional pro-climate, pro-democracy state trifectas were newly established.

Now, with these electoral wins secured, we expect to see renewed urgency for clean energy and climate policy in 2023 at the state level. Critically, governors will be at the helm of ensuring that the federal investments in the Inflation Reduction Act are implemented equitably to benefit communities hardest hit by pollution and environmental injustice. They will also play a vital role in protecting our democracy and safeguarding voting rights through 2026.

At the federal level, our movement will continue to push the Biden-Harris administration to use its full authority to deliver on its commitments to act on climate, advance environmental justice, create good jobs, and lower costs as quickly as possible.

Our Earth is worth voting for,

Gene Karpinski | LCV Victory Fund President
MIDTERM ELECTIONS BY THE NUMBERS

130 FEDERAL CANDIDATES
975 PRO-ENVIRONMENT STATE CANDIDATES
✓ ELECTED

$100+ MILLION INVESTED BY LCV VICTORY FUND & AFFILIATED ENTITIES

INVESTMENT BREAKDOWN

$28.6 million in 8 SENATE RACES
$9.2 million in 41 HOUSE RACES
$19.5 million in 19 GOVERNORIAL RACES
$8.8 million in STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES
$7.6 million in OTHER STATE & LOCAL RACES
$27.1 million raised for candidates through GIVEGREEN
$2 million in member mobilization through GREENROOTS

1Nonfederal work was conducted by the appropriate legal entities of our state affiliates.
2GiveGreen is a joint project between LCV Victory Fund and NRDC Action Votes.
3GreenRoots is a program of the League of Conservation Voters.
LCV VICTORY FUND AND PARTNERS’ TACTICS BY THE NUMBERS

2+ MILLION VOTERS CONTACTED

6 MILLION PIECES OF MAIL
2.4+ MILLION DOORS KNOCKED
800,000+ PHONE CALLS
200 TV, DIGITAL & RADIO ADS

LCV VICTORY FUND ACHIEVED ALL THREE OF OUR PRIORITIES THIS CYCLE

✓ Held pro-environment leadership and elected a new champion in the U.S. Senate
✓ Defended and elected pro-environment governors
✓ Protected incumbents and elected new champions (and beat expectations) in the U.S. House
LCV Victory Fund could not have achieved these successes alone. We collaborated with our 30+ state affiliates, who have unparalleled knowledge of their state and local political landscapes. And, we joined partners in the progressive community to find the most powerful and effective ways to reach voters.

**STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS**

30+ STATE AFFILIATES IN THE CONSERVATION VOTER MOVEMENT
LCV Victory Fund, working with allies and our state affiliates, concentrated the bulk of our campaign resources this year in seven key states — Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin — where the voters we persuaded and mobilized would cast votes in the most competitive federal and state elections of the cycle. These seven states provided an opportunity to maximize our resources, impact races up and down the ballot, and help shape the political context for 2024.

Within these seven states, LCV Victory Fund and affiliated entities targeted six of the most competitive U.S. Senate seats, six competitive gubernatorial races, 11 U.S. House seats, eight competitive state legislative chambers, and four key secretary of state races.
LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

In 2022, LCV Victory Fund prioritized our efforts in states that will have a critical impact on 2024 and beyond. The seven states where we worked comprise much of the next presidential election battleground, representing 81 of the most competitive Electoral College votes in 2024. To secure free and fair elections, we placed special focus on states like Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, where pro-democracy governors have been the backstop against anti-democracy politicians who are working to make it harder for people to vote, or even make it legally possible to overturn the will of the voters if they do not agree with the outcome.

IDENTIFYING AND TURNING OUT VOTERS
THE CLIMATE VOTERS MOBILIZATION PROGRAM

Going into the 2022 election cycle, LCV Victory Fund knew that pro-climate and pro-democracy candidates would face stiff headwinds. Historically, the president’s party loses seats in the midterms, and anti-democracy politicians in state legislatures have been implementing targeted voting restrictions designed to suppress participation of voters who turned out at record rates in 2020. Additionally, voters of all political persuasions were concerned with a range of economic issues, including inflation and gas prices. Fossil fuel interests and their allies were using these concerns to inundate voters with messaging that sought to blame global inflationary trends on President Biden and climate champions in Congress.

LCV Victory Fund considered these realities when designing an electoral strategy. From experience, we knew that we were the best messengers for a subset of voters who care deeply about the environment and climate change and who could be moved to vote on these issues. Additionally, for the first time in LCV Victory Fund history, we had a transformational climate law to campaign on — so we did, and it worked.

Using one of the most sophisticated and multifaceted election models developed to date, we identified individuals who we had the best chance of motivating to turn out, a pool of about two million *climate voters* in battleground states and districts across the country. We then talked to these voters repeatedly through direct mail and digital ads, and we have every indication that they received the message and turned out to the polls this fall.
REACHING VOTERS WHERE THEY LIVE
OUR UNIQUE, BEST-IN-CLASS CANVASSING PROGRAMS

In addition to mobilizing climate voters, we went door-to-door to speak directly with key blocs of voters who research told us could be persuaded and turned out to vote for pro-environment candidates. Our field canvass is one of the largest and most effective in the nation. **In total, LCV Victory Fund, our state affiliates, and partners knocked on more than 2.4 million doors this year across seven states.**

When engaged in **persuasion conversations**, our highly-trained organizers connected with voters using a customizable script that allowed canvassers to deliver a tailored message in real time while at the voter’s door. When engaged in **turnout conversations**, our organizers educated voters on the process of requesting and returning a vote-by-mail ballot. They also helped voters make a voting plan by providing state-specific information on voting options, including mail-in ballots, early in-person voting, and Election Day voting.

To complement our canvassing efforts, we also launched **social pressure campaigns** and **voter education** digital ads and mail pieces. The program also included **ballot-chase efforts**, including making over 400,000 phone calls to voters who had requested mail ballots and walking them through the steps of returning their ballots via postal service or in person. And on Election Day, our organizers engaged in **“vote tripling” tactics** at targeted polling locations, wherein organizers asked voters exiting the polls to text three friends and remind them to vote, thus “tripling” the voter’s electoral impact.

**RELAUNCHING IN-PERSON CANVASSING**

In 2020, LCV Victory Fund was unable to knock on voters’ doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, we were able to safely relaunch our unique, best-in-class canvassing programs — a mix of persuasion and turnout efforts with particular focus on young people and communities of color — to help deliver decisive margins in close races.
INTENTIONALLY CONFRONTING RACISM

Beginning in the 2019-2020 election cycle, we adjusted our electoral strategies to intentionally confront racism, a shift that meant we engaged more young voters and voters of color and further increased the racial and gender diversity of endorsed candidates. In 2021-2022, LCV Victory Fund and our state affiliated entities worked jointly with or supported work by organizations led by people of color including Advance Carolina, Asian Pacific Islander Political Alliance (API PA), BlackPAC, Black Leaders Organizing for Communities (BLOC), Somos PAC, and others.

BRINGING OUR MESSAGE TO THE MASSES

LCV VICTORY FUND ON THE AIRWAVES

LCV Victory Fund invested in paid mass communications — including digital, mail, radio, and, importantly, television advertisements, one of the most effective and powerful means of mass communication — in states and districts where climate and environmental messaging would resonate with voters and our issues had the best chance of shaping public debate. The broad reach of our mass communications gets significant attention from voters, candidates, and elected officials, helping to demonstrate the power of the environmental community in influencing elections and supporting leaders who champion pro-climate and environmental justice policies.
Retaining pro-environment and pro-democracy control of the U.S. Senate was LCV Victory Fund’s number one priority this cycle. We successfully protected five incumbent climate champions, including Senator Raphael Warnock, who won Georgia’s December 6 runoff, and we helped elect a new champion, Senator-elect John Fetterman, in Pennsylvania.

Now, with the U.S. Senate’s pro-climate, pro-democracy leadership maintained, the U.S. House’s anti-environment, anti-democracy majority is limited in the damage it can do. Additionally, the Senate can continue approving President Biden’s federal judicial nominees, which is critical to strengthening our nation’s democracy and upholding environmental laws.

To help our priority Senate candidates win, LCV Victory Fund invested strategically in races where we knew we could deliver winning margins, executing our best-in-class canvassing program and launching mass communication efforts to persuade and mobilize voters to support pro-climate, pro-democracy candidates. We also engaged in a surround-sound communications campaign that targeted a universe of climate voters who care deeply about the environment yet were less likely to turn out without our efforts. In total, LCV Victory Fund spent $28.6 million on eight competitive Senate seats, with an additional $8.4 million raised directly for Senate candidates through GiveGreen.

“I’m so grateful for LCV Victory Fund’s support, and for all of the work that you’ve done to help me and other climate and democracy champions beat expectations and win this year.”

— Maggie Hassan, U.S. Senator, New Hampshire
NEW AND RETURNING PRO-ENVIRONMENT, PRO-DEMOCRACY SENATORS

ARIZONA

After winning a special election in 2020, pro-climate action, pro-democracy incumbent Senator Mark Kelly was up for reelection this year in Arizona, a state that has only recently started to swing pro-environment. Anti-environment interests set their sights on this race as a “legacy seat” that could help them swing the Senate back to an anti-environment majority. Arizona has some of the worst air pollution in the country, and voters definitively rejected Senate candidate and member of LCV Victory Fund’s Dirty Dozen, Blake Masters, who tied himself to Big Oil, questioned climate science, ignored the devastating impacts of climate change in Arizona, and called efforts to confront the climate crisis “stupid.” He also aggressively pushed the “Big Lie” that Donald Trump won the 2020 election, was endorsed by Trump, and campaigned with him prior to the Arizona Senate primary. Arizona voters chose a full term for Kelly, who will now continue as a pro-climate, pro-democracy voice in the Senate through 2028.

COLORADO

With the backdrop of sustained water shortages and massive wildfires, Colorado voters faced a clear choice between incumbent Senator Michael Bennet — a climate champion and clean energy proponent — or climate denier, Big Oil lackey, and Dirty Dozen member Joe O’Dea. Bennet campaigned on the climate provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act and his work to ensure that Colorado’s burgeoning solar power industry continues to expand and create good-paying jobs. In contrast, O’Dea said that the climate crisis doesn’t require “urgent” action and that he’d default to the “oil and gas people” on environmental regulations. O’Dea also came out against the Colorado Outdoor Recreation Economy (CORE) Act, which would provide additional protection for tens of thousands of acres in federal land, while Bennet vocally advocated for permanent protection of the Camp Hale-Continental Divide area, which was recently designated a national monument by President Biden. Ultimately, Coloradans voted for a healthier environment and brighter clean energy future with Bennet, decisively reelecting him to represent them for another six years.

THE LCV VICTORY FUND DIFFERENCE

ARIZONA

INCUMBENT CHAMPION PROTECTED

COLORADO

INCUMBENT CHAMPION PROTECTED

THE LCV VICTORY FUND DIFFERENCE

$7.3 MILLION INVESTMENT

Mass Media

Climate Voters Mobilization in partnership with Climate Power Action

8 flights of direct mail
10 weeks of digital ads

$4.4 MILLION INVESTMENT

Door-to-Door Canvass

LCV VF canvass program
3 field offices
340,000 doors knocked
48,000 conversations with voters
Supported Somos PAC’s canvass program to engage Latino voters

Climate Voters Mobilization in partnership with Climate Power Action

8 flights of direct mail
10 weeks of digital ads

Climate Voters Mobilization in partnership with Climate Power Action

8 flights of direct mail
10 weeks of digital ads

Climate Voters Mobilization in partnership with Climate Power Action

8 flights of direct mail
10 weeks of digital ads
In a state where flooding and extreme weather have devastated coastal communities, and where the 2020 presidential election was at risk of being overturned by a president who asked state elected officials to “just find 11,000 votes,” climate and democracy were both at stake in the Georgia Senate race. Incumbent Senator Raphael Warnock, a vocal advocate for climate action, climate justice, and voting rights, won a special election in 2020 to serve a two-year term and was required to run again in 2022 for a full six-year term. Senator Warnock regularly talked about climate, clean energy, and the Inflation Reduction Act on the campaign trail and ran an ad highlighting the Clean Commute for Kids Act, which he introduced in the Senate to help school districts transition to clean, electric buses and create good-paying clean energy jobs in Georgia. In November’s general election, Senator Warnock faced former professional football player and Trump-endorsee Herschel Walker. Though Warnock won around 36,000 more votes than Walker, neither candidate received 50% of the vote, sending them to a runoff. On December 6, Georgia voters quickly returned a result in favor of returning Warnock to the Senate for a full six-year term.

Amid a crushing drought that has dropped Lake Mead — an important water reservoir along the Colorado River — to historically low levels, voters faced a stark choice for the Senate in Nevada. Incumbent Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, a staunch climate and clean energy champion, was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 2016 in a tight race that LCV Victory Fund played a key role in delivering. In 2022, Cortez Masto campaigned for reelection on a provision in the Inflation Reduction Act that will send $4 billion in relief funding to drought-stricken states, including Nevada. She also supported investments to spur the state’s solar power industry and addressed voters’ concerns about high gas prices by squarely pinning the blame on price gouging by Big Oil. In doing so, she defeated her opponent, former Nevada Attorney General Adam Laxalt, who had opposed efforts to grow Nevada’s clean energy economy while taking hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from Big Oil. By reelecting Cortez Masto for another six-year term, voters in Nevada chose a healthier, more just, and prosperous climate and clean energy future.
In New Hampshire, climate change looms large as small businesses and homeowners along the state’s coast are experiencing increased sea level rise and resulting flood risk. Businesses and homeowners are also facing higher heating costs thanks to Big Oil. Climate champion and incumbent Senator Maggie Hassan campaigned on the climate and clean energy provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act and how its investments could lower energy and fuel costs for Granite Staters. In contrast, her opponent, Trump-backed candidate Don Bolduc, pledged to “get rid” of the Environmental Protection Agency and deprioritize climate action. In 2016, then-governor Maggie Hassan won her seat in the U.S. Senate by a mere 1,017 votes — a margin of 0.14%. In 2022, facing yet another close race, Senator Hassan increased her margin — with the help of climate voters — to beat Bolduc by roughly 57,000 votes. By electing Hassan for a second term, New Hampshire voters chose a more efficient and affordable clean energy future.

In Pennsylvania, the retirement of Republican Senator Pat Toomey — who has an abysmal 7% lifetime score on the LCV National Environmental Scorecard — created an opportunity to fill this seat in a critical swing state with a climate and democracy champion. Pennsylvania native Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman won the Democratic nomination and campaigned on harnessing the clean energy economy to revitalize former steel towns using the climate investments in the Inflation Reduction Act. Running against Fetterman was TV personality and New Jersey transplant Dr. Mehmet Oz, who clinched the Republican ticket after an endorsement by Donald Trump. Oz pushed classic climate denial talking points, supported reopening federal lands to oil and gas drilling, and parroted the debunked conspiracy theory that “much of the woke green movement was funded by Putin.” Pennsylvanians knew that their state’s clean energy economy was at stake in this election and voted to send Fetterman to the Senate to advocate for a cleaner, healthier, more just and prosperous climate future.
For more than 25 years, LCV Victory Fund’s Dirty Dozen program has targeted candidates—regardless of party affiliation—who consistently side against the environment and are running in races in which LCV Victory Fund has a serious chance to affect the outcome.

This year’s Dirty Dozen list spotlighted the worst anti-environment candidates for Congress, as well as some of the most radical, ultra-MAGA election deniers who put party before country as they spread the Big Lie—that President Biden did not freely and fairly win the 2020 presidential election—during their election bids. Even in the face of a tough reelection map, LCV Victory Fund helped defeat 10 Dirty Dozen candidates in 2022.

**BLAKE MASTERS**  
AZ | U.S. Senate

**JOE O’DEA**  
CO | U.S. Senate

**GEORGE LOGAN**  
CT-05

**HERSCHEL WALKER**  
GA | U.S. Senate

**AMANDA ADKINS**  
KS-03

**ADAM LAXALT**  
NV | U.S. Senate

**KAROLINE LEAVITT**  
NH-01

**YVETTE HERRELL**  
NM-02

**TED BUDD**  
NC | U.S. Senate

**MEHMET OZ**  
PA | U.S. Senate

** TIFFANY SMILEY**  
WA | U.S. Senate

**RON JOHNSON**  
WI | U.S. Senate
Heading into the 2022 elections, LCV Victory Fund anticipated an especially challenging political landscape for U.S. House races, given partisan gerrymandering, member retirements, and historically unfavorable midterm trends. Although we were narrowly unable to hold the pro-environment majority that we helped establish in 2018, we successfully helped many climate and democracy champions overcome these challenges, as well as an inflationary economy, to win tough races this year. In addition to minimizing the margin of the pro-polluter majority set to take control of the U.S. House in January 2023, our work has helped put climate and democracy champions in the best position to retake the majority in 2024.

To help our endorsed incumbents retain their seats — as well as flip a few seats to pro-environment control — LCV Victory Fund invested strategically in races where we knew we could deliver winning margins by targeting a universe of climate voters who care deeply about the environment and who just needed a push to turn out to vote. In total, LCV Victory Fund spent $9.2 million to impact 41 competitive House races, with an additional $9.8 million raised directly for House candidates through GiveGreen.

“LCV Victory Fund made a significant impact in my primary and general election races — both of which were some of the most competitive contests in the country. They don’t just talk about advocating for a better future for our planet, they invest in climate champions to make it happen.”

— Andrea Salinas, U.S. Representative-elect, OR-06
SPOTLIGHT
FOUR HOUSE RACES WHERE CLIMATE & DEMOCRACY MADE THE DIFFERENCE

CA-49

In California’s 49th Congressional District, incumbent Mike Levin campaigned to continue his work as a staunch climate champion in Congress, where he has led the charge to deliver historic cost-saving, job-creating climate and clean energy legislation for Californians. Meanwhile, his challenger, Brian Maryott, praised a plan that would raise taxes on middle-class families and cost Californians more than $1 billion in higher taxes. Ultimately, voters chose to give Levin, who has an impressive lifetime score of 99% in LCV’s National Environmental Scorecard, another term.

$735,000 INVESTMENT
Climate Voters Mobilization in partnership with Climate Power Action
9 flights of direct mail
10 weeks of digital ads
Mass Media
TV ads in partnership with EDF Action Votes
Digital ads

MI-03

The race for Michigan’s 3rd Congressional District was an opportunity to flip a seat from anti-environment to pro-environment. In this critical district, Hillary Scholten, a fierce advocate for climate action and clean energy, was running to advance policies that address the climate crisis, lower costs for working families, and create clean energy jobs for Michiganders. She beat her opponent by campaigning on issues of clean water, including the need to remove PFAS, also known as “forever chemicals,” from drinking water.

$440,000 INVESTMENT
Mass Media
TV ads
**NM-02**

Climate justice advocate and passionate conservationist **Gabe Vasquez** flipped a seat previously held by Dirty Dozen candidate Yvette Herrell by a razor-thin margin of roughly 1,300 votes. Herrell is one of the top 10 recipients of oil and gas contributions in the House, and she voted against legislation to crack down on price gouging by the fossil fuel industry. To defeat her, Vasquez ran on the health and economic benefits of clean energy, directly taking on the oil and gas industry and putting the needs of New Mexico residents first.

**THE LCV VICTORY FUND DIFFERENCE**

$660,000 INVESTMENT

- Climate Voters Mobilization in partnership with Climate Power Action
  - 5 flights of direct mail
  - Digital ads
- Mass Media
  - TV ads
  - Digital ads

**VA-07**

Climate and clean energy champion **Abigail Spanberger**, who earned an impressive lifetime score of 96% in LCV’s National Environmental Scorecard, won reelection in a race seen as a national bellwether. She beat her opponent — far-right extremist Yesli Vega — by touting her efforts to grow Virginia’s clean energy economy, bring good-paying jobs to all communities, and lower energy costs for consumers.

**THE LCV VICTORY FUND DIFFERENCE**

$400,000 INVESTMENT

- Climate Voters Mobilization in partnership with Climate Power Action
  - 9 flights of direct mail
  - 10 weeks of digital ads
- Mass Media in partnership with EDF Action Votes
  - TV ads
  - Digital ads
NEW PRO-ENVIRONMENT, PRO-DEMOCRACY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

SYDNEY KAMLAGER  
CA-37

ROBERT GARCIA  
CA-42

BRITTANY PETTersen  
CO-07

YADIRA CARAVEO  
CO-08

MAXWELL FROST  
FL-10

JARED MOSKOWITZ  
FL-23

JILL TOKUDA  
HI-02

ROBERT GARCIA  
CA-42

BRITTANY PETTersen  
CO-07

MAXWELL FROST  
FL-10

JARED MOSKOWITZ  
FL-23

JILL TOKUDA  
HI-02

SYDNEY KAMLAGER  
CA-37

ROBERT GARCIA  
CA-42

BRITTANY PETTersen  
CO-07

YADIRA CARAVEO  
CO-08

MAXWELL FROST  
FL-10

JARED MOSKOWITZ  
FL-23

JILL TOKUDA  
HI-02

ROBERT GARCIA  
CA-42

BRITTANY PETTersen  
CO-07

MAXWELL FROST  
FL-10

JARED MOSKOWITZ  
FL-23

JILL TOKUDA  
HI-02

SYDNEY KAMLAGER  
CA-37

ROBERT GARCIA  
CA-42

BRITTANY PETTersen  
CO-07

YADIRA CARAVEO  
CO-08

MAXWELL FROST  
FL-10

JARED MOSKOWITZ  
FL-23

JILL TOKUDA  
HI-02

ROBERT GARCIA  
CA-42

BRITTANY PETTersen  
CO-07

MAXWELL FROST  
FL-10

JARED MOSKOWITZ  
FL-23

JILL TOKUDA  
HI-02

SYDNEY KAMLAGER  
CA-37
This election cycle, candidates for state and local office who ran on climate and clean energy won, ushering in a Green Wave of environmental champions across the country. Nearly all of the pro-environment governors who LCV Victory Fund’s state affiliates\(^1\) helped elect in 2018 won reelection, while dozens more state and local climate and democracy champions were elected to office.

Until 2022, when the Inflation Reduction Act was enacted at the federal level, nearly all major progress on climate and clean energy came from state and local leaders who tackled the climate crisis head-on. As a result of their leadership, more than 40% of people in the United States now live in places committed to 100% clean energy. Now, state and local leaders will be tasked with the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act, ensuring that their states effectively use these investments to cut greenhouse gas emissions, build a stronger clean energy economy, and equitably address environmental injustice. With this year’s Green Wave election results, communities across the nation now have leaders who will build on past policy progress and advance even bolder state-level environmental policies.

In addition, LCV Victory Fund’s state affiliates helped elect pro-democracy leaders up and down the ballot, because we cannot have a healthy environment without a functioning democracy. Candidates who pledged to uphold voting rights and protect free and fair elections defeated election deniers in key races for attorney general and secretary of state, and voters chose to support voting rights initiatives on the ballot.

> The Oregon League of Conservation Voters PAC was instrumental to our campaign’s success. OLCV’s staff and supporters showed up again and again to volunteer, donate, and help our campaign win.

— Tina Kotek, Governor-elect, Oregon

\(^1\)Nonfederal work was conducted by the appropriate legal entities of our state affiliates.
NEW AND RETURNING PRO-ENVIRONMENT, PRO-DEMOCRACY GOVERNORS

ELECTING GOVERNORS WHO WILL CHAMPION CLIMATE ACTION AND PROTECT DEMOCRACY

ELECTING governors who will champion climate action and protect democracy was a priority for LCV Victory Fund’s state affiliates in this cycle. They invested $19.5 million to engage voters to support pro-environment, pro-democracy governors in critical races, with $3.3 million specifically spent on turning out voters who care about climate change.

Along with expanding state progress and ensuring that the federal investments in the Inflation Reduction Act are implemented equitably, these governors will play a vital role in safeguarding voting rights and protecting state electoral systems through 2026.

In addition to the races highlighted below, LCV Victory Fund’s affiliates in the Conservation Voter Movement, or CVM, played a key role in electing climate and democracy champions to governors’ mansions in multiple states, including California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey (2021), and New York.

ARIZONA

Governor-elect Katie Hobbs flipped this highly competitive open governor’s seat against opponent Kari Lake, an extreme MAGA Republican and election denier. During outgoing Governor Doug Ducey’s administration, Arizona has fallen behind neighboring states in climate policy and taken actions to limit local mitigation efforts. Governor-elect Hobbs now has the opportunity to reinstate the state’s energy office, eliminated by the Ducey administration, and join a regional clean energy transmission organization that Nevada and Colorado have moved to create.

MAINE

Since her first election in 2018, Governor Janet Mills has taken a proactive approach to addressing climate change, accelerating the state’s transition to 100% clean renewable energy while reducing its dependence on oil and protecting its waters, wildlife, and way of life. Governor Mills’ challenger — former governor and extreme anti-environment candidate Paul LePage, who was among the 2022 Dirty Dozen in the States — repeatedly attacked her for her support of offshore wind and clean energy. Ultimately, voters agreed with Mills’ climate and clean energy policies and rewarded her with a second term.

THE CVM DIFFERENCE

CHISPA ARIZONA

KATIE HOBBS
FOR GOVERNOR

$325,000 INVESTMENT

Door-to-door canvass
Digital ads

THE CVM DIFFERENCE

MAINE CONSERVATION VOTERS ACTION FUND

Janet Mills for Governor

$600,000 INVESTMENT

Direct mail
Digital ads
CLIMATE VOTERS MOBILIZATION IN SUPPORT OF GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES

To frame the environmental stakes of key governors races, our state affiliates ran ads on cable, digital, and direct mail to highlight major contrasts between pro-climate gubernatorial candidates and their anti-environment opponents. In Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, this work targeted voters who turned out in 2020 but were in jeopardy of not showing up for pro-climate gubernatorial candidates and, based on research and modeling, were found to be uniquely motivated by climate and environmental issues. These climate voters were key to protecting and electing governors who have strong climate records and campaigned on climate and clean energy action. In total, LCV Victory Fund’s state affiliates invested $3.3 million to mobilize climate voters for gubernatorial candidates.

MICHIGAN

Governor Gretchen Whitmer is a proven champion for climate action and clean water for all Michiganders. She made a historic commitment to 100% clean energy and created thousands of clean energy jobs across the state. The governor’s Clean Water Plan was the largest investment to protect the Great Lakes and drinking water in the state’s history, and she worked to shut down the Line 5 oil pipeline that threatened drinking water across the region. These achievements were under threat from her opponent, Tudor Dixon, who pledged to protect Line 5 and threw doubt on the 2020 election result. By a resounding margin — 55% to 44% — voters gave Whitmer another four-year term and chose to defend their state’s environment and our nation’s democracy.

NEW MEXICO

During Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham’s first term, New Mexico secured more pro-climate and conservation executive action and legislation than at any time in its history. All of these accomplishments were under threat from Lujan Grisham’s opponent, Mark Ronchetti, a television weatherman who has made climate-denying statements and accepted over $900,000 in contributions directly tied to the oil and gas industry. Ronchetti was named to the 2022 Dirty Dozen in the States, reflecting the assessment of Conservation Voters of New Mexico (CVNM) that this race was the most consequential for the state’s future in a generation. New Mexico voters delivered a second term to Lujan Grisham by an impressive margin of more than six percentage points.

THE CVM DIFFERENCE
CONSERVATION VOTERS OF MICHIGAN PAC

$2.9 MILLION INVESTMENT
- Door-to-door canvass
- Direct mail
- Digital ads

THE CVM DIFFERENCE
CVNM VERDE VOTERS FUND

$600,000 INVESTMENT
- TV ad
- Direct mail
- Digital ads
Pennsylvania

Governor-elect Josh Shapiro kept this battleground governor’s mansion in pro-environment hands while highlighting his record of holding polluters accountable for water and public safety violations and fighting Trump-era efforts to weaken federal protections. Shapiro’s opponent, Doug Mastriano, earned a 0% score on the 2019/2020 Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard, opposed the state joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and introduced a bill calling for unfettered fracking, pipeline expansion, and looser oversight of drilling activities. Disturbingly, Mastriano was directly involved in trying to overturn the 2020 election result in Pennsylvania; he was also among those who crossed police barriers during the U.S. Capitol insurrection and was later subpoenaed by the January 6th Committee. Ultimately, Pennsylvania voters chose to send Shapiro to their governor’s mansion to protect our nation’s democracy and ensure their state continues to grow its clean energy economy.

Wisconsin

Governor Tony Evers was first elected in 2018 and has since championed several major climate initiatives, including releasing Wisconsin’s first-ever Clean Energy Plan, committing the state to 100% renewable energy, and creating the Office of Environmental Justice to put marginalized voices front and center in state climate solutions. Evers’ opponent, Tim Michels — a businessman and 2022 Dirty Dozen in the States member — is head of the Michels Corporation, which builds pipelines for major oil companies, including the controversial Dakota Access Pipeline. His company faced violations and decades of allegations of ignoring unsafe working conditions that range from harassment to a death on the job. Voters chose to reelect Evers to ensure that Wisconsin stays a climate leader, continues to expand clean energy, and has an environmental justice champion at its helm.
Modeled after LCV Victory Fund’s federal *Dirty Dozen*, the *Dirty Dozen in the States* highlights 12 of the worst anti-environment candidates in the nation at the state and local level.

Members of the *Dirty Dozen in the States* have consistently sided against the environment and are a danger to our democracy. These candidates were chosen regardless of party affiliation and ran in races prioritized by LCV Victory Fund state affiliates in the Conservation Voter Movement.

- **KEVIN THOMPSON**
  - AZ | Corporation Commission

- **BOB STEFANOWSKI**
  - CT | Governor

- **PAUL LEPAGE**
  - ME | Governor

- **DAN COX**
  - MD | Governor

- **MATTHEW DEPERNO**
  - MI | Attorney General

- **JIM MARCHANT**
  - NV | Secretary of State

- **MARK RONCHETTI**
  - NM | Governor

- **PAT DEWINE**
  - OH | Supreme Court Justice

- **BETSY JOHNSON**
  - OR | Governor

- **CHRISTINE DRAZAN**
  - OR | Governor

- **DOUG MASTRIANO**
  - PA | Governor

- **TIM MICHELS**
  - WI | Governor
STATE AND LOCAL PROGRESS

NEW PRO-CLIMATE, PRO-DEMOCRACY TRIFECTAS

✔️ Maryland  ✔️ Massachusetts  ✔️ Michigan  ✔️ Minnesota

This year, voters in Minnesota and Michigan elected new pro-environment legislative majorities who we expect to hit the ground running with major climate and clean water bills. At the same time, Maryland and Massachusetts elected new governors who championed 100% clean energy with major plans for their first year in office. As a result, all four of these states will now have trifectas in which the governor’s mansion, state Senate, and state House will be controlled by pro-climate, pro-democracy leaders.

ANTI-ENVIRONMENT SUPERMAJORITY PREVENTED

✔️ North Carolina  ✔️ Wisconsin

In North Carolina and Wisconsin, where pro-environment Governors Roy Cooper and Tony Evers, respectively, have launched their states’ first-ever climate plans, it was critical that anti-environment supermajorities did not take hold of state legislatures. If they had, these supermajorities could have severely limited the governors’ powers and overrode their vetoes of legislation that would undercut efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or make it harder to vote and easier to overturn free and fair elections.

LEGISLATURES TURN ENVIRONMENTAL SUCCESSES INTO ELECTORAL WINS

✔️ Colorado  ✔️ Maine  ✔️ New Mexico

In 2022, Colorado passed a bill in the state legislature to better regulate toxic air pollution. Many of the state elected officials who voted for — and candidates who supported — this legislation campaigned on its benefits and won their elections. As a result, we expect Colorado to continue making major investments in clean air and clean energy, as well as in clean water and protecting the Colorado River.

Likewise, in Maine, the legislature passed major climate and clean energy legislation over the last two years. State House and Senate candidates ran on this progress to help secure their reelectios. Moreover, Maine’s constitutional officers — including secretary of state, a position currently held by voting rights champion Shenna Bellows — are elected by the legislature, which can now continue to choose environment and democracy champions to fill key positions.

In New Mexico, the state has enacted more pro-climate and conservation legislation over the last four years than at any time in its history. Just last year, New Mexico joined ranks with 16 other states that have adopted clean car standards to increase the number of electric vehicles on the road. This success is in addition to earlier passage of a zero-carbon electricity mandate and nation-leading methane rules. In 2022, climate and conservation champions protected their majorities in the legislature, so they can continue making clean energy progress in the years ahead.
OTHER KEY STATE-LEVEL WINS

ATTORNEYS GENERAL

✓ Colorado  ✓ Michigan  ✓ Minnesota  ✓ Nevada  ✓ Wisconsin

State attorneys general are vital to enforcing environmental regulations, pushing back against utility rate hikes, and pursuing legal action against corporate polluters. Moreover, the devastating impacts of pollution and toxic chemicals — including lead poisoning, asthma, and cancer — disproportionately burden communities of color and low-wealth communities, making state attorneys general crucial to advancing environmental justice. In 2022, attorney general candidates who ran on environmental protections, such as clean water, and pro-democracy issues, such as stronger voting rights, were reelected by voters.

SUPREME COURTS

✓ Michigan  ✓ Montana

As the country makes historic investments in clean energy and climate action through new laws like the Inflation Reduction Act, state Supreme Courts will make crucial decisions on how these projects are implemented and cited throughout the country. Likewise, as we continue to see unprecedented attacks on our democracy, decisions by state justices will impact voting rights, congressional maps, and even whether or not election results will be upheld. In Michigan and Montana, voters chose to preserve majorities of pro-environment, pro-democracy justices on their states’ Supreme Court benches.
OTHER KEY STATE-LEVEL WINS

SECRETARIES OF STATE

- Arizona
- Colorado
- Michigan
- Nevada

In order to ensure all voters have an equal voice in choosing leaders who best represent them, we must have a free, fair, and secure democracy, which is why secretary of state races were a high priority for our state affiliates in 2022. Secretaries of state often serve as “chief elections officers,” with responsibilities such as maintaining voter databases, registering voters, and overseeing the administration of elections. Importantly, they also serve as a backstop to the right-wing controlled state legislatures that have introduced more than 400 anti-voting rights bills since January 2021.

LAND COMMISSIONER

- New Mexico

The race for New Mexico’s Office of Land Commissioner is often overlooked during election season, but it has an outsized impact on climate and clean energy policies. For this reason, CVNM Verde Voters Fund has recognized and prioritized this “small” race as a large opportunity.

In New Mexico, first-term Commissioner of Public Lands Stephanie Garcia Richard has been a staunch climate and conservation champion. She has helped drive royalty rate reform, ensuring that big oil companies pay their fair share for drilling, and she has fought to protect large swaths of public land. In 2022, she turned her support for strong climate and clean energy policies into a win for a second term in this critical office.
BALLOT INITIATIVES

Separate from important candidate races across the country, state ballot initiatives to secure funding for critical climate and environmental initiatives and protect voting rights were major priorities for our state affiliates. In three states, voters stepped up to protect the environment and strengthen our nation’s democracy.

MICHIGAN

By a 20-percentage point margin (60%-40%), Michiganders chose to pass Ballot Proposal 2, the Right to Voting Policies Amendment, a constitutional amendment that will significantly reform voting policies to be more equitable for Michigan voters. Our state affiliate, Michigan LCV, worked with the Promote the Vote 2022 campaign to turn voters out for the ballot amendment, which expands access to absentee voting and pushes back on the efforts of election deniers to enact more stringent voter identification rules. The initiative’s additional reforms include:

✓ Nine days for early in-person voting
✓ Implementation of state-funded absentee-ballot drop boxes
✓ Recognizing the fundamental right to vote safely without harassing conduct
✓ Military or overseas ballots to be counted if postmarked by Election Day
✓ Election result certification to be based only on the official records of votes cast

NEW YORK

Earlier this year, New York passed the $4.2 billion Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act. In April, our state affiliate, New York LCV (NYLCV), and its allies helped secure additions to the Bond Act via New York Ballot Proposal 1. Over the course of the election, NYLCV worked with a broad coalition to pass this initiative that will invest $650 million in clean water infrastructure, including funds to replace lead pipes, and $1.5 billion in climate mitigation, including $500 million for schools to purchase electric school buses and $400 million to green schools and public buildings. This is one of New York’s largest single investments in environmental programs in a decade.

OREGON

Oregon voters overwhelmingly approved the ballot initiative known as Measure 113, which will hold politicians accountable for their unexcused absences from the state Capitol. Over the last several legislative sessions, anti-environment legislators have left the Capitol to prevent a caucus so that voting cannot occur when a bill they oppose is up for debate. This tactic has been used to kill and delay a number of bills, including major climate legislation. Now, thanks to Oregon voters, this obstructionist tactic will be harder to implement, allowing the state legislature to continue to advance legislation on climate and other priorities.
GiveGreen — a project of LCV Victory Fund and NRDC Action Votes — is the largest single-issue fundraising platform in the progressive community. Through GiveGreen, $27.1 million was raised or contributed to federal and state candidates this election cycle.

GiveGreen provides donors with a strategic way to support candidates who will act on climate change, invest in environmental justice, protect our democracy, and make lasting change in the political system. This cycle was fueled by grassroots donors from across the country who were energized to support climate champions up and down the ballot.

“The support GiveGreen gave me in 2022 was pivotal in my campaign. Not only did this incredible team help raise national awareness about the unique importance of the New Mexico Land Commission for bold climate action, they provided real-time support with events and fundraising that helped ensure I had the resources needed to win.”

— Stephanie Garcia Richard, New Mexico Land Commissioner
GIVEGREEN
SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2009

$111.7 MILLION RAISED

71% OF CANDIDATES WON

50,000+ COMMUNITY MEMBERS

“With a race as close as ours, every dollar was critical and GiveGreen supporters were a huge part of our victory. I can’t thank them enough for their support.”

— Gabe Vasquez, U.S. Representative-elect, NM-02
In every election since 2012, the GreenRoots program has mobilized LCV members to volunteer on behalf of LCV Action Fund-endorsed candidates. GreenRoots is one of the largest coordinated field programs in progressive politics.

This year, GreenRoots ran its largest program ever, investing $2 million to recruit LCV members with 100 organizers on the ground in 15 states and our first-ever national recruitment team, enabling us to recruit more members across the country. More than 8,500 LCV members took action to help elect 50 LCV Action Fund-endorsed federal candidates, including 13 U.S. Senate candidates.

“I have always worked to protect Nevada’s public lands and expand clean energy, and I’m so grateful for the support of all the LCV members who helped my reelection campaign. Together, we will keep fighting to safeguard our environment and combat climate change.”

— Catherine Cortez Masto, U.S. Senator, Nevada
This year, LCV’s GreenRoots was part of a larger coalition of seven major national environmental organizations working together to activate millions of members across the country and help get out the vote for pro-environment candidates.

The other participating groups included Clean Energy for America, EDF Action, the NRDC Action Fund, National Wildlife Federation Action Fund, Sierra Club, and The Wilderness Society Action Fund.
GREENROOTS STORIES FROM THE FIELD

In Arizona, LCV members joined Senator Mark Kelly in Phoenix on the Northern Arizona University campus for a get-out-the-vote event where he spoke about his continued commitment to addressing climate change.

In New Hampshire, the GreenRoots team partnered with the NH Chapter of the Sierra Club and EDF Action for a Green Canvass Launch in Concord, which featured special guests U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan and former U.S. Senator Doug Jones. Following the event, LCV members knocked on doors to talk with voters about voting for climate champion Senator Hassan.

In California, LCV members gathered for a Day of Action where they met with U.S. Representative Katie Porter (CA-47), who spoke about the value of peer-to-peer conversations. Representatives Porter and Mike Levin (CA-49) also joined over 5,000 LCV members from across the country on a tele-town hall to talk about the stakes for climate action in this election.

In Pennsylvania, the GreenRoots team recruited LCV members for an event called Turning Anger Into Action, which featured U.S. Representative Mary Gay Scanlon (PA-5) and other candidates for office.
GREENROOTS
THE PEOPLE WHO POWER THE MOVEMENT

“I’ve never volunteered before, but I decided that I need to do everything I can to make sure that this election goes in our favor. I’m very surprised; I actually really enjoy it.”
— Cynthia V., LCV member in Arizona

“My favorite part of volunteering is that I get to talk to people and work with young people. I think that for all of us, the environment must be the number one priority. Like the movement says, there is no Planet B.”
— Magali, LCV member in Pennsylvania

“I could turn and say, ‘Hey, I’ve made my money, I did my thing, I voted; I don’t want to get involved.’ But I couldn’t sleep at night if I didn’t try to help save our nation. There’s no way I’m going to walk away into the dark and leave my country behind. It’s too vital for us.”
— Bob M., LCV member in Florida
The League of Conservation Voters Action Fund’s (LCV Action Fund) endorsement program seeks to elect environmental champions who will address the climate crisis and advance a more equitable clean energy future. The LCV Action Fund team evaluates candidates’ policy positions to endorse candidates who can win and who will work to protect our air, water, and health.

LCV Action Fund understands the critical importance of a representative democracy and is committed to endorsing candidates who are reflective of the diverse communities and identities across the country. As people of color, women, LGBTQ+-identifying people, and Indigenous communities are vastly underrepresented at all levels of government, LCV Action Fund is committed to working alongside diverse environmental champions to elevate these leaders to elected office to invest in clean energy, strengthen clean air and water safeguards, protect our public lands, and more.

“...The League of Conservation Voters has been a leader in environmental progress through action — holding elected officials accountable and fighting back against corporate fossil fuel interests — and I couldn’t be prouder to have had their support in this congressional race.”

— Summer Lee, U.S. Representative-elect, PA-12
LCV ACTION FUND’S ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE 2021-2022 ELECTION CYCLE

181 ENDORSED CANDIDATES

48% WOMEN

38% CANDIDATES OF COLOR

6% LGBTQ+

HISTORY-MAKING CANDIDATES

Among LCV Action Fund’s 181 endorsed candidates were winners whose victories were historic firsts. They include:

BECCA BALINT
VT-AL
First woman and openly LGBTQ+ member of Congress from Vermont

YADIRA CARAVEO
CO-08
First Latina member of Congress from Colorado

MAXWELL FROST
FL-10
First Gen-Z and Afro-Cuban member of Congress

ROBERT GARCIA
CA-42
First LGBTQ+ immigrant member of Congress

SUMMER LEE
PA-12
First Black woman member of Congress from Pennsylvania

DELIA RAMIREZ
IL-03
First Latina member of Congress from Illinois

ANDREA SALINAS
OR-06
First Latina member of Congress from Oregon

SHRI THANEDAR
MI-13
First Indian-American member of Congress from Michigan
Our country and movement urgently need more leaders who recognize the challenges ahead as an opportunity to do better than the environmental movement has historically done to include the most impacted communities among our leaders.

To meet that need, in 2020, LCV launched its first-ever Candidate Academy for 20 leaders in states across the Conservation Voter Movement. LCV’s Candidate Academy is unique in its charge — it is the only program focused on training prospective pro-environment candidates with a focus on racial justice and equity.

In 2022, our program trained 15 prospective candidates, including Priya Sundareshan, who ultimately ran and won her race for Arizona state Senate (LD-18). However, not all candidates will run the same year as their training — Class of 2020 alum Lisa Diaz-Nash won her race for San Mateo City Council in California in 2022, after running a second time.

“The Candidate Academy helped me to deliver and test my environmental messaging with a group of other environmental candidates. It really helped to have other people to workshop my ideas with.”

— Priya Sundareshan, Arizona State Senator-elect & LCV Candidate Academy Alum
New Democratic US state trifectas seen as chance to speed, codify climate goals

15 state AG races to watch on the environment

**FiveThirtyEight**
Can Focusing on Climate Change Help Win Elections?

**Axios**
First look: Dems’ climate ad blitz

**The Washington Post**
Major green group on track to spend record $100M in midterms

**CNN**
First on CNN: Climate groups join for first-of-its-kind, $100 million push to mobilize midterm voters

**The New York Times**
Climate Activists Flex Their Political Muscle

**E&E News**
How beating up Big Oil helped Dems hold the Senate

**salon**
These 3 governor’s races could determine whether the Midwest reaches its climate goals

**E&E News**
First look: Dems’ climate ad blitz

**Popular Science**
The 2022 midterm elections could shake the course of environmental action in the US

**The Washington Post**
Leading climate group endorses six Democrats running for Senate

**E&E News**
Enviros pounce on wish lists post midterm ‘green wave’

**Inside Climate News**
In Nevada’s Senate Race, Energy Policy Is a Stark Divide Between Cortez Masto and Laxalt

**The New York Times**
Bold new climate policies could advance in some states

**S&P Global**
New Democratic US state trifectas seen as chance to speed, codify climate goals
For more information or to get involved, visit lcvvictoryfund.org

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