

Group says Mike's the man in the Green Old Party (NJ- Delaware Dialogue)

Rep. Mike Castle was identified among the greenest Republicans in Congress in a report released today by the group Republicans for Environmental Protection.

Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, Rep. Dave Reichert of Washington, and Rep. Chris Shays of Connecticut, all received the title "Greenest Republican in Congress" because they each had perfect voting records and received additional credit for environmental leadership, according to the moderate, pro-environment group.

Castle was among four other Republican lawmakers, including Michael Ferguson and Christopher Smith, both of New Jersey, and Mark Kirk of Illinois who had perfect scores of 100 for their 2007 voting records.

The scorecard is available [here](#).

Senate Republicans' average score improved from 13 percent in both 2005 and 2006, to 27 percent in 2007, while the House Republican average fell from 30 percent in 2006 to 21 percent in 2007, according to the group.

The House decline, in large part, reflected the electoral loss in 2006 of eight of the 109th Congress' top-scoring, pro-conservation Republicans, the group stated.

-- Nicole Gaudiano