



# Russell Bedsole

House of Representatives District  
HD-049

Republican

Contact: (334) 261-0491  
Alabaster, AL



View Online

This legislator voted constitutionally on **67%** of the votes shown below.

★ Pro-liberty      ✗ Anti-liberty      ? Did not Vote      **Vote**

**1. SB330 Ban on Central Bank Digital Currency** (passed 103 to 0 on 6/6/2023). Bans state government agencies from accepting a payment using a Central Bank Digital Currency, and from participating in any test of this type of currency by the Federal Reserve. **Yes**

**2. SB261 Prohibiting ESG-Based Public Contracts** (passed 74 to 27 on 5/31/2023). Prohibits governmental entities from entering into certain contracts with companies that “boycott businesses because the business engages in certain sectors or does not meet certain environmental or corporate governance standards does not facilitate certain activities.” **Yes**

**3. HB6 Parental Rights** (passed 87 to 8 on 5/31/2023). Recognizes that the government may not burden certain fundamental rights of parents. **Yes**

**4. HB392 Incorporation of Federal Firearms Laws** (passed 64 to 36 on 5/17/2023). Would provide that “a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under federal law is prohibited from possessing a firearm under state law.” **Yes**

**5. HB209 Restricting Ballot Harvesting** (passed 76 to 28 on 5/4/2023). Would restrict a person from engaging or assisting in any way with the absentee ballot application or absentee ballot of another person, with certain exceptions. **Yes**

**6. HB43 State-Mandated Kindergarten** (passed 87 to 12 on 4/18/2023). Would require a child to complete kindergarten or demonstrate first grade readiness before entering the first grade. **Yes**

**ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE**  
**SCORECARD**  
**BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION**

**Rep. Russell Bedsole**      **AL Scorecard 2023**  
**Lifetime Score: 75%**      **2023 Regular Session Score 67%**

The Legislative Scorecard is a nationwide educational program of The John Birch Society. Its purpose is to create an informed electorate on how state legislators are voting. The Scorecard is nonpartisan; it does not promote any candidate or political party. Bills are selected for their constitutional implications and cost to the taxpayers.  
**Please share this Scorecard in your district to inform people about your legislator's record on key votes.**  
U.S. Constitution, Amendment I --- 11 C.F.R. §114(4)(c)(4) --- 616 F.2d 45 (2d Cir. 1980)

The following scorecard lists several key votes in the Alabama Legislature in 2023 and ranks state representatives and senators based on their fidelity to (U.S.) constitutional and limited-government principles.  
This is our second state-level Scorecard; the selected votes may not be reflective of legislators' overall records. Their cumulative scores will change as we add more votes. Please check regularly for updates.

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# Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

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## 1. Ban on Central Bank Digital Currency

SB330 bans state government agencies from accepting a payment using a Central Bank Digital Currency, and from participating in any test of this type of currency by the Federal Reserve.

A Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) would be an unconstitutional and intolerable expansion of tyranny under the Federal Reserve—presenting a significant danger to Americans' civil liberties. According to Article 1, Section 10, of the U.S. Constitution, “No State shall...make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts.” States can and must act now to avow their adherence to constitutionally sound money.

## 2. Prohibiting ESG-Based Public Contracts

SB261 prohibits governmental entities from entering into certain contracts with companies that “boycott businesses because the business engages in certain sectors or does not meet certain environmental or corporate governance standards does not facilitate certain activities.”

The government does not have the constitutional authority to use public funds to compel private businesses to engage in ‘woke’ environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) investment scheme initiatives. As a part of a ‘social credit’ rating system that seeks to further the United Nations' Agenda 2030, ESG denies the property rights of American citizens, preventing both companies and individuals from entering into contracts voluntarily according to their own social, political, or ideological interests. The Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment were intended to protect against undue deprivations or disparagements of a person’s “property.”

## 3. Parental Rights

HB6 recognizes that the government may not burden certain fundamental rights of parents.

The upbringing, care, and control of children belongs to—and is a fundamental right of—parents, not the government. Parental rights, as with all other fundamental rights, are protected by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

## 4. Incorporation of Federal Firearms Laws

HB392 would provide that “a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under federal law is prohibited from possessing a firearm under state law.”

Federal gun control laws are blatantly unconstitutional. The Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees that the right of the American people “to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

## 5. Restricting Ballot Harvesting

HB209 would restrict a person from engaging or assisting in any way with the absentee ballot application or absentee ballot of another person, with certain exceptions.

Ballot harvesting—as with mass voting by mail in general—enables electoral fraud, disenfranchising eligible voters. States should exercise their authority, under Article 1, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, to implement free, fair, and secure elections, providing equal protection of the right of American citizens to vote.

## 6. State-Mandated Kindergarten

HB43 would require a child to complete kindergarten or demonstrate first grade readiness before entering the first grade.

Education is not the role of government. A child's education is the responsibility of—and a fundamental right of choice retained by—his or her parents. Forcing the citizens of Alabama to furnish taxpayer money to expand a compulsory, failing, and government-run K-12 school system violates their individual liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.