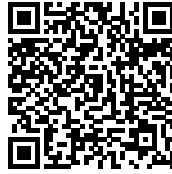


Rodger M. Smitherman

Senate District SD-018
Democrat

Contact: (334) 261-0870 | (205) 396-3213



View Online

This legislator voted constitutionally on **60%** of the votes shown below.

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

1. SB158 Firearm Prohibited Person Database (passed 29 to 0 on 6/1/2023). Provides that the Alabama Firearm Prohibited Person database include "mentally ill persons" involuntary committed for "outpatient treatment." **Yes** ✗

2. HB175 State Income Tax Rebate (passed 25 to 5 on 6/1/2023). Offers a "one-time refundable income tax credit to qualified taxpayers to partially offset the amount of sales taxes paid on groceries throughout the tax year." **Yes** ★

3. SB330 Ban on Central Bank Digital Currency (passed 32 to 0 on 5/24/2023). 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** ★

4. SB263 Expanding Refundable Tax-Credit "Scholarships" (passed 26 to 7 on 5/24/2023). Amends the Alabama Accountability Act to expand refundable tax-credit "scholarships" by raising the poverty threshold for lower-income parents and replacing the term "failing school" with "priority school." **No** ★

5. SB261 Prohibiting ESG-Based Public Contracts (passed 27 to 8 on 5/18/2023). 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." **No** ✗

6. HB261 Protecting Student Athletes from Transgenderism (passed 26 to 4 on 5/3/2023). Prevents male and female students from participating on athletic teams or sports designated for the opposite sex in public K-12 schools, colleges, and universities. **None** ?

ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE
SCORECARD
BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Sen. Rodger M. Smitherman

AL Scorecard 2023

Lifetime Score: 30%

2023 Regular Session Score 60%

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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The Constitution

Learn more about the U.S. Constitution and our founding principles.



Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

1. Firearm Prohibited Person Database

SB158 provides that the Alabama Firearm Prohibited Person database include “mentally ill persons” involuntarily committed for “outpatient treatment.”

This is a ‘red flag’ law that will further enlarge the unconstitutional state firearms prohibited person database, which had already included “mentally ill persons” involuntarily committed for “inpatient treatment.” ‘Red flag’ laws are the latest gun control effort to permanently confiscate firearms from American citizens who have not even been charged with a crime—let alone found guilty. In conjunction with “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms,” the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment guarantee that no person shall be deprived of their liberty or property without due process.

2. State Income Tax Rebate

HB175 offers a “one-time refundable income tax credit to qualified taxpayers to partially offset the amount of sales taxes paid on groceries throughout the tax year.”

The income tax is an immoral, anti-constitutional act of government-imposed theft that takes from citizens the wages they have rightfully earned. It disparages the principles of both the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment, which were intended to safeguard “private property” and guarantee “equal protection of the laws” for all Americans.

3. 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.

4. Expanding Refundable Tax-Credit "Scholarships"

SB263 amends the Alabama Accountability Act to expand refundable tax-credit “scholarships” by raising the poverty threshold for lower-income parents and replacing the term “failing school” with “priority school.”

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. Moreover, refundable tax credits mean that “eligible” families in Alabama with little or no tax liability are given government funds to pay for their child’s education. Educational freedom cannot be achieved by forcing other citizens to furnish their hard-earned taxpayer dollars for a compulsory, failing, and government-run K-12 school system.

5. 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.

6. Protecting Student Athletes from Transgenderism

HB261 prevents male and female students from participating on athletic teams or sports designated for the opposite sex in public K-12 schools, colleges, and universities.

Not only does transgenderism absurdly attempt to erase biological “sex” with fictional “gender” constructs, but it also increases the risk of serious physical injury as well as emotional harm to female athletes by either permitting or forcing them to compete against males. According to the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, the States have a duty to protect the humanity of all persons—male and female—who, as the Declaration of Independence affirms, are created by God and form the basis of individual and family self-government.