



John Payton


Senate District SD-022
Republican
Contact: (501) 362-5815





View Online


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


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


1. HB1718 Sound Money (Passed 32 to 0 on 4/5/2023). Reaffirms gold and silver coins as legal tender in the state, exempting them from taxation as personal property. **Yes** 

2. HB1748 Article V "Limitations" (Passed 20 to 12 on 4/7/2023). Provides false assurance by stating it "regulates" the state's participation in an Article V Convention as per the U.S. Constitution. **No** 

3. HB1737 Gun & Property Rights (Passed 28 to 3 on 4/7/2023). Specifies that a property owner who permits all nonemployees to carry loaded firearms on their property will not be held liable for any resulting damage, injury, or death caused by such firearms use. **Yes** 

4. HB1307 ESG (Passed 23 to 9 on 3/13/2023). Permits the Arkansas Treasurer to divest state investments based on environmental, social justice, or governance (ESG) criteria. **Yes** 

5. SB258 Drop Box Ban (Passed 29 to 6 on 3/15/2023). Prohibits the use of absentee ballot drop boxes during elections. **Yes** 

6. SB306 Food Stamps (Passed 24 to 7 on 4/4/2023). Increases food stamp eligibility in the state and increases SNAP amounts. **No** 



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

Sen. John Payton
Lifetime Score: 64%

AR Scorecard 2023
2023 Regular Session Score

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 Florida 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.



Get Alerts

Scan to view and subscribe to legislative action alerts.

The Constitution

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



Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

1. Sound Money

HB1718 reaffirms gold and silver coins as legal tender in the state, exempting them from taxation as personal property.

The Arkansas State Senate passed HB1718 on April 5, 2023 by a vote of 32 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this bill is a strong step toward restoring constitutional money and the gold standard.

2. Article V "Limitations"

HB1748 "regulates" the state's participation in an Article V Convention as per the U.S. Constitution. It defines terms, outlines delegate appointments, mandates an oath, sets instructions, and establishes a Delegate Advisory Group for guidance and oversight, all of which are simply false assurances.

The Arkansas State Senate passed HB1748 on April 7, 2024 by a vote of 20 to 12. We have assigned pluses to the nays because a so-called "Convention of the States" would not be of "limited" purpose. This bill is deceitful and is a hollow promise to make people try to feel better about a potential disastrous convention. Article V of the U.S. Constitution was designed to correct structural deficiencies in the federal government, not the behavior of its elected officials.

3. Gun & Property Rights

HB1737 specifies that a property owner who permits all nonemployees to carry loaded firearms on their property will not be held liable for any resulting damage, injury, or death caused by such firearms use. It also protects property owners from liability being inferred or imputed based solely on their allowance of firearm possession by nonemployees, except in cases of intentional or reckless conduct by the property owner.

The Arkansas State Senate passed HB1737 on April 7, 2023 by a vote of 28 to 3. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the fundamental right of the American people to keep and bear arms is protected by the U.S. Constitution, particularly in the 2nd, 9th, and 10th Amendments, and should not be infringed in any situation.

4. ESG

HB1307 permits the Arkansas Treasurer to divest state investments based on environmental, social justice, or governance criteria. It clarifies terms related to industry discrimination and sets procedures for maintaining lists of financial service providers engaging in such practices. The bill requires divestment from listed providers within set deadlines and forms an oversight committee for supervision.

The Arkansas State Senate passed HB1307 on March 13, 2023 by a vote of 23 to 9. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the government has a duty to protect its citizens' individual liberties from the all-encompassing 'woke' environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) movement. As a political scam that seeks to proliferate worldwide and implement the United Nations' Agenda 2030, ESG denies the property rights of American citizens by restricting their access to financial services, among others, preventing both companies and individuals from entering into contracts voluntarily based on their own interests with freedom of association. The Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment were written to protect against undue deprivations or disparagements of a person's "property," and this bill is a great first step in pushing back.

5. Drop Box Ban

SB258 prohibits the use of absentee ballot drop boxes during elections.

The Arkansas Senate passed SB258 on March 15, 2023 by a vote of 29 to 6. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because drop boxes compromise the integrity of our elections, opening the door to fraudulent behavior, which ultimately drives people to lose faith in the election process. We must continue to push back against measures such as drop boxes and early voting.

6. Food Stamps

SB306 increases food stamp eligibility in the state and increases SNAP amounts.

The Arkansas State Senate passed SB306 on April 4, 2023 by a vote of 24 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the U.S. constitution does not permit federal social-welfare programs and propping people up via government support. This expands the size of government and promotes socialist ideologies. Arkansas and other states should not implement these federal programs.