



Dave Cortese

Senate District SD-015
Democrat

Contact: (916) 651-4015
2105 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 154, Campbell,
CA 95008, (408) 558-1295



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This legislator voted constitutionally on **0%** of the votes shown below.

CPH: Estimated cost per household.

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

1. SB628 Right to "Food Security" (passed 36 to 3 on 9/14/2023). **Yes**
Declares that "it is the established policy of this state that every human being has the right to access sufficient affordable and healthy food," and requires "all relevant state agencies to consider this state policy...pertinent to the distribution of sufficient food." **✗**

2. AB449 "Hate Crimes" Policy by Law Enforcement (passed 39 to 0 on 9/11/2023). Makes the adoption of a "hate crimes" policy by a state and local law enforcement agency mandatory by July 1, 2024. **Yes** **✗**

3. AB957 "Gender Identity" Affirmation for Child Custody (passed 30 to 9 on 9/6/2023). Would include a parent's affirmation of the child's "gender identity or gender expression" as part of the "health, safety, and welfare" factors used to determine the "best interests of the child" for the purposes of deciding custody. **Yes** **✗**

4. SJR7 Article V Convention: Gun Control (passed 24 to 11 on 9/6/2023). Applies to Congress to call an Article V convention for the purpose of proposing a constitutional amendment on "firearms regulations and prohibitions." **Yes** **✗**

5. AB1089 State-Licensing of Homemade Firearms (passed 32 to 6 on 9/6/2023). Requires anybody who uses a three-dimensional (3D) printer or computer numerical control (CNC) milling machine to make a firearm to be a state-licensed manufacturer. **Yes** **✗**

6. SCR41 Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Day (passed 39 to 0 on 3/23/2023). Proclaims March 15, 2023, as "Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Day, a day of remembrance and education to ensure that all Californians always honor and remember a vibrant guardian of equality for all." **Yes** **✗**



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

Sen. Dave Cortese
Lifetime Score: 0%

CA 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 California State Legislature in 2023 and ranks state assemblymen 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

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Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

1. Right to “Food Security”

SB628 declares that “it is the established policy of this state that every human being has the right to access sufficient affordable and healthy food.”

There exists no right to food apart from a person earning it themselves or having received it privately, voluntarily, or charitably from someone else. Hence, California has no business promising the “distribution of sufficient food” to any of its residents at the expense of other hard-working citizens. State legislators must firmly reject the notion of “food security,” which the United Nations, as part of its Agenda 2030 “Zero Hunger” initiative, describes as a “precondition for the full enjoyment of the right to food,” based on Article 25 of the anti-constitutional and socialist Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2. “Hate Crimes” Policy by Law Enforcement

AB449 makes the adoption of a “hate crimes” policy by a state and local law enforcement agency mandatory by July 1, 2024.

“Hate crimes” legislation is a farce being promoted by those who falsely believe it is the duty of government to right every wrong. This concept is not only impossible, but dangerous and antithetical to the U.S. Constitution. The legitimate powers of government extend only to acts that are injurious to others, regardless of the perpetrator’s motivations or the victim’s identity. The power to arrest, prosecute, or retry a person based on allegations of “hate” is not one that should be granted. The Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment require an “impartial jury,” prevent double jeopardy, and guarantee “equal protection of the laws.”

3. "Gender Identity" Affirmation for Child Custody

AB957 would include a parent’s affirmation of the child’s “gender identity” as part of the “health, safety, and welfare” factors used to determine the “best interests of the child” in custody cases.

No person has a right to abuse a child using the pretext of LGBTQ+ ideology, nor should any parent ever be compelled to acquiesce to it under the threat of losing custody. ‘Child grooming’—whether it involves “gender identity” indoctrination or sex mutilation—should be considered illegal in California and be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The U.S. Constitution’s Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment protect both the basic humanity of children and the fundamental rights of parents.

4. Article V Convention: Gun Control

SJR7 applies to Congress to call an Article V convention for the purpose of proposing a constitutional amendment on “firearms regulations and prohibitions.”

Article V of the U.S. Constitution was designed to correct potential errors or defects in the Constitution—not to misconstrue or abuse its powers. The Second Amendment protects an individual’s God-given and unalienable right to self-defense, which is not subject to redefinition or a vote from government. Instead of failing to uphold their oath of office, legislators in California should “support and defend the Constitution” by acting to immediately nullify all unconstitutional federal laws, including those on firearms.

5. State-Licensing of Homemade Firearms

AB1089 requires “anybody” who uses a three-dimensional (3D) printer or computer numerical control (CNC) milling machine to make a firearm to be a “state-licensed manufacturer.”

This blatantly unconstitutional law seeks to eliminate so-called ‘ghost guns,’ which do not have a state or federally traceable serial number. Yet, the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment protect the rights of Californians to sell, purchase, or possess their own “private property,” such as homemade firearms created for the purpose of self-defense, without needing to be “licensed” by the government. Besides, the Second Amendment specifically guarantees that “the right of people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

6. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Day

SCR41 proclaims March 15, 2023, as “Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Day, a day of remembrance and education to ensure that all Californians always honor and remember a vibrant guardian of equality for all.”

Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg ought not to be celebrated, especially as a “champion for gender justice, abortion rights...and the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals.” Ginsburg’s disgraceful “legacy” involved her fiercely defending the mass killing of babies and the widespread practice of sexual perversion. Yet, despite her infamous tenure and death, the radical Left has continued with their propagandist efforts to make Ginsburg into an idolatrous feminist icon to be worshiped in American popular culture—most notably by erecting sculptures and monuments that pay tribute to her, like the bizarre and surrealistically satanic 8-foot golden statue outside a New York City courthouse. It is repugnant that members of the California State Legislature have consecrated Ginsburg’s birthday for public “honor” and “remembrance” rather than, for example, proclaiming it as a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer.