



# Ruth Ann Gaines

House of Representatives District HD-032

Democrat

Contact: (515) 281-3221

1007 E Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50319



View Online

This legislator voted constitutionally on **17%** of the votes shown below.

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

**1. HF565 Carbon-Capture Pipelines (Passed 73 to 20 on 3/22/2023).** Required companies seeking to build carbon-capture pipelines to secure voluntary easements for 90 percent of the needed land before eminent domain could be used for the remainder. **No** ✗

**2. HF68 Private-school Funding (Passed 55 to 45 on 1/23/2023).** Creates education programs and funding by establishing an education savings account program. **No** ★

**3. SF538 Sex Changes for Minors (Passed 58 to 39 on 3/8/2023).** Prohibits activities regarding gender transition procedures relative to minors. **No** ✗

**SF496 School Transparency (Passed 57 to 38 on 4/20/2023).** Mandates the Department of Education (DE) to oversee the review of library materials for explicit content in schools, requiring parental consent for access to certain books, introducing curriculum changes, including restrictions on gender identity and sexuality instruction before grade five, removing specific sexual education content, and implementing a civics test requirement. **No** ✗

**5. SF315 Raw Milk (Passed 64 to 35 on 4/12/2023).** Allows raw milk dairies that comply with safety standards to sell raw milk and products derived from raw milk directly to consumers. **No** ✗

**6. HF654 Gun Rights (Passed 62 to 37 on 4/12/2023).** Allows guns to be in vehicles in school parking lots. **No** ✗



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

## Rep. Ruth Ann Gaines IA Scorecard 2023

Lifetime Score: 22%      2023-2024 Regular Session Score 17%

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 Iowa Legislature in 2023 and ranks state representatives and senators based on their fidelity to (U.S.) constitutional and limited-government principles.



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# Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

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## 1. Carbon-Capture Pipelines

HF565 required companies seeking to build carbon-capture pipelines to secure voluntary easements for 90 percent of the needed land before eminent domain could be used for the remainder.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HF565 on March 22, 2023 by a vote of 73 to 20. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this legislation would have taken a big step to protect property rights and landowners' constitutional rights, specifically the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments.

## 2. Private-school Funding

HF68 creates education programs and funding by establishing an education savings account program, modifying certain school district categorical funding supplements and supplementary weighting, and making appropriations. It provides a new standing unlimited General Fund appropriation for an Education Savings Account (ESA) Fund under the control of the Department of Education.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HF68 on January 23, 2023 by a vote of 55 to 45. We have assigned pluses to the nays because all government money comes with strings attached. ESAs might sound good in theory, but they expand government involvement into all aspects of education — including homeschools and religious schools — and can potentially affect rules and curriculum. We encourage all parents to get their children out of the government school system and instead pursue sound alternatives such as homeschooling and patriotic private schools, where government funds are not involved.

## 3. Sex Changes for Minors

SF538 prohibits activities regarding gender transition procedures relative to minors.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed SF538 on March 8, 2023 by a vote of 58 to 29. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because Marxists and Leftists are pushing their woke agenda — telling everyone that one can choose their own gender and decide what their pronouns are. They are pushing this on younger generations, which is pure indoctrination.

## 4. School Transparency

SF496 mandates the Department of Education (DE) to establish rules necessitating periodic reviews of library materials in school districts, charter schools, and innovation zone schools, with a focus on identifying obscene or sexually explicit content. School districts must inform the DE when removing such books, and the DE maintains a list of these titles. Access to these books by students requires prior parental or guardian consent. The bill introduces curriculum changes, including a prohibition on gender identity or human sexuality instruction before grade five (or six for elementary schools teaching grade six). It also eliminates content related to certain sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and requires students to pass the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services civics test in their United States government classes.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed SF496 on April 20, 2023 by a vote of 57 to 38. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because protecting our children from obscene images in school and woke curriculum is of the utmost importance. The woke leftist agenda seeks to indoctrinate children with this disgusting material, and it must be reined in.

## 5. Raw Milk

SF315 allows raw milk dairies that comply with the requirements outlined in the bill to sell raw milk and products derived from raw milk directly to consumers. These products cannot be intended for resale and are exempt from regulation by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship or the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed SF315 on April 12, 2023 by a vote of 64 to 35. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the prohibition on the sale of raw milk is in violation of the First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution. These bans violate the principles of the free market, as the government should not interfere in commerce. This legislation is a great step in the right direction.

## 6. Gun Rights

HF654 allows guns to be in vehicles in school parking lots.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HF654 on April 12, 2023 by a vote of 62 to 37. We have assigned pluses to the yeas this bill is a win for gun rights and is a step in the right direction. The right to own, possess, and carry a firearm is enshrined absolutely in the 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and there are no limits on that.