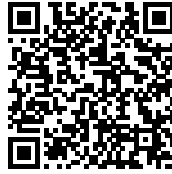




# Paul Utke

**Senate** District SD-002  
**Republican**

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View Online

This legislator voted constitutionally on **83%** of the votes shown below.

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

**1. SF40 Unemployment Expansion (Passed 56 to 10 on 1/12/23).** **Yes**  
Makes additional unemployment benefits available from the Minnesota  
unemployment insurance trust fund for miners. **✗**

**2. HF7 Renewable Energy (Passed 34 to 33 on 2/2/23).** Sets **No**  
unreasonable Renewable Energy Standards (RES) modifications. **★**

**3. HF5 Free School Meals (Passed 38 to 26 on 3/14/23).** Enacts **No**  
that the department is required to allocate state funding to every  
Minnesota school enrolled in the free school meals program. **★**

**4. HF146 Sex Changes for Minors (Passed 34 to 30 on 4/21/23).** **No**  
Prohibits the enforcement or application of a law from another state  
that allows a state agency to remove a child from their parent or  
guardian for permitting the child to undergo sex-change surgery. **★**

**5. HF3 Voting Changes (Passed 34 to 33 on 4/26/23).** Establishes **No**  
automatic voter registration and allows voters to receive ballots  
automatically for each election. **★**

**6. HF197 Equal Rights Amendment (Passed 42 to 25 on 5/17/23).** **No**  
Urges Congress to recognize the ratification of the Equal  
Rights Amendment (ERA). **★**



## MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE **SCORECARD** BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

### Sen. Paul Utke

### MN Scorecard 2023

**Lifetime Score: 50%**

**2023-2024 Regular Session Score 83%**

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 Minnesota 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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#### The Constitution

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U.S. Constitution and our  
founding principles.



# Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

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## 1. Unemployment Expansion

SF40 makes additional unemployment benefits available from the Minnesota unemployment insurance trust fund. These benefits are specifically for applicants who were laid off due to lack of work between April 3, 2022, and March 4, 2023 and worked in the mining industry.

The Minnesota State Senate passed SF40 on January 12, 2023 by a vote of 56 to 10. We have assigned pluses to the nays because it is not the government's responsibility under the constitution to provide safety nets for those who are struggling. Even so, providing additional unemployment benefits exclusively to individuals who were laid off from the mining industry during a specific timeframe discriminates against other unemployed individuals.

## 2. Renewable Energy

HF7 sets Renewable Energy Standards (RES) modifications, increases the proportion of a utility's retail electric sales that are to be generated from renewable energy to 55 percent in 2035. The bill establishes a carbon-free resource standard for all covered electric utilities that starts at 80% in 2030 and increases by steps to 100 percent by 2040.

The Minnesota State Senate passed HF7 on February 2, 2023 by a vote of 34 to 33. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this expands government by pushing for interventions infringing on individual freedoms and economic liberties. Tax dollars should not go toward complying with any aspect of Agenda 2030. This legislation creates more government interference in the free-market economy and advances the climate change agenda.

## 3. Free School Meals

HF5 allocates state funding to every Minnesota school enrolled in the free school meals program for each student's lunch and breakfast served, capped at one breakfast and one lunch per student per school day.

The Minnesota State Senate passed HF5 on March 14, 2023 by a vote of 38 to 26. We have assigned pluses to the nays because taxpayers should not be funding meals for all public-school students. This bill increases government spending and expands the role of government. Providing free meals to all students, regardless of need, removes the personal responsibility of parents and guardians to provide for their children's meals.

## 4. Sex Changes for Minors

HF146 prohibits the enforcement or application of a law from another state that allows a state agency to remove a child from their parent or guardian for permitting the child to undergo sex-change surgery. Similarly, any court order from another state to remove a child because the parent or guardian facilitated gender-affirming care in this state cannot be enforced here.

The Minnesota State Senate passed HF146 on April 21, 2023 by a vote of 34 to 30. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the Left has been promoting radical Marxist ideas like this for years. The indoctrination that leads people to believe that they can choose their pronouns and identify as a different gender is immoral. Scientifically and biblically, there are only two genders.

## 5. Voting Changes

HF3 establishes automatic voter registration for eligible individuals when they apply for or renew a Minnesota driver's license, medical assistance, or other benefits through designated agencies. Additionally, it enables individuals aged 16 or 17 to submit voter registration applications. Furthermore, it introduces a permanent absentee ballot request list, allowing voters to receive ballots automatically for each election, replacing the need for repeated absentee ballot applications.

The Minnesota State Senate passed HF3 on April 26, 2023 by a vote of 34 to 33. We have assigned pluses to the nays because automatic voter registration may increase the risk of voter fraud and compromise the integrity of elections. Individuals should take the initiative to register to vote, as it is a civic responsibility. Additionally, having ballots sent in the mail for every election opens the door for even more fraud.

## 6. Equal Rights Amendment

HF197 urges Congress to recognize the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), renaming it the Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. It highlights the historical context and significance of the ERA, emphasizing its role in advancing gender equality and addressing existing disparities. It urges Congress to acknowledge the ERA's ratification and transmit the resolution to relevant federal authorities for official recognition and incorporation into the Constitution.

The Minnesota State Senate passed HF197 on May 17, 2023 by a vote of 42 to 25. We have assigned pluses to the nays because "gender equality" is a left-wing talking point used to divide Americans when we are already created equally by God and under the U.S. Constitution.