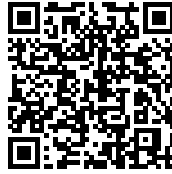




Jay Costa

Senate District SD-043
Democrat

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View Online

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

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

1. SB7 Parental Control (Passed 29 to 21 on 10/24/23). Requires school entities' governing bodies to develop a parental control policy for instructional materials and books containing sexually explicit content. **No** ✗

2. SB248 Government Loans (Passed 50 to 0 on 5/8/23). Establishes the Veteran-owned Business Loan Guarantee Program. **Yes** ✗

3. SB750 Forced Student Loans (Passed 46 to 4 on 6/28/23). Introduces a new section in the Public School Code, requiring all students to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before completing high school. **Yes** ✗

4. SB456 Constitution Display (Passed 42 to 8 on 10/23/23). Requires the governing board of a school entity to display the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States at the entrance of each school building. **Yes** ★

5. SB746 Dog Licenses (Passed 43 to 7 on 6/20/23). Makes changes to the Dog Law, notably to dog and kennel licensing, advertising the sale of dogs, strengthen penalties for Dog Law violations, and improve customer service, public safety, and animal welfare. **Yes** ✗

6. SB721 WIC Advisory Board (Passed 50 to 0 on 12/12/23). Establishes a Women, Infants, and Children State Advisory Board to advise the Department of Health on the Pennsylvania Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. **Yes** ✗



PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE

SCORECARD

BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Sen. Jay Costa

Lifetime Score: 17%

PA Scorecard 2023

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

This is our third 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. Parental Control

SB7 introduces a new section in the Public School Code, requiring school entities' governing bodies to develop a parental control policy for instructional materials and books containing sexually explicit content. The policy must identify such materials, implement an opt-in form for parental permission, and allow parents to review the content upon request. If permission is not granted, alternative, nonexplicit materials must be provided.

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed SB7 on October 24, 2023 by a vote of 29 to 21. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this bill ensures that parents have a say in their children's education. Schools are being exposed for indoctrinating and exposing students to inappropriate books and content in their curriculum. This is a step in the right direction for taking back our schools and restoring parents' rights.

2. Government Loans

SB248 establishes the Veteran-owned Business Loan Guarantee Program, which allocates \$5 million from the Second Stage Loan Program within the CFA for use in the Veteran-Owned Business Loan Guarantee Program.

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed SB238 on May 8, 2023 by a vote of 50 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because government should not subsidize, issuing taxpayer funded loans, and interfere with private enterprise. This expands the size of government, and subsidies make businesses more reliant on government assistance. When the government meddles in areas they shouldn't, individuals and businesses lose more control and freedom, especially when they end up owing money back to government.

3. Forced Student Loans

SB750 introduces a new section in the Public School Code, requiring all students to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before completing high school starting in the 2024-2025 school year.

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed SB750 on June 28, 2023 by a vote of 46 to 4. We have assigned pluses to the nays because requiring mandatory completion of the FAFSA infringes on individuals' autonomy and personal financial choices. This bill establishes an overreaching precedent where the state dictates personal decisions and forces citizens to engage in a federal financial aid process, potentially compromising their privacy and freedom of

4. Constitution Display

SB456 requires the governing board of a school entity to display the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States at the entrance of each school building.

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed SB456 on October 24, 2023 by a vote of 42 to 8. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because we need to ensure that our education system is teaching and emphasizing our nation's guiding rules and principles. The *Freedom Index* is created to let people know which elected officials are following the Constitution, and which are not. We need the next generations to know their rights, and hopefully, they will step up to be leaders who adhere to the Constitution.

5. Dog Licenses

SB746 makes changes to the Dog Law, notably to dog and kennel licensing, advertising the sale of dogs, strengthen penalties for Dog Law violations, and improve customer service, public safety, and animal welfare. Specifically, the bill creates a statewide dog licensing platform, increases annual and lifetime dog license fees, increases kennel fees, adds additional penalties and fines and increases violation fees.

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed SB746 on June 20, 2023 by a vote of 43 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the law significantly expands government intervention, where Big Brother is watching. The creation of a statewide dog licensing platform, along with increased license fees for both individual dog owners and kennels, demonstrates a broader reach of government oversight. Moreover, the additional penalties, fines, and violation fees strengthens the government's role. This expansion raises concerns about individual freedoms, placing an undue burden on responsible dog owners and kennels, and infringing on their constitutional rights.

6. WIC Advisory Board

SB721 establishes a Women, Infants, and Children State Advisory Board to advise the Department of Health on the Pennsylvania Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, also known as the WIC program. This board is to advise the Department of Health on ways to increase enrollment and participation in the WIC program.

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed SB721 on December 12, 2023 by a vote of 50 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the USDA's WIC program is unconstitutional, and this bill works to expand its enrollment. WIC selectively benefits specific members of society, effectively picking winners and losers. The U.S. Constitution does not authorize social welfare programs and states should not be buying into it.

choice.