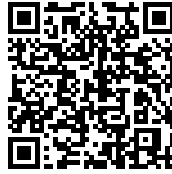




Jay Costa

Senate District SD-043
Democrat

Contact: (717) 787-7683
501 N 3rd St, Harrisburg, PA 17120



View Online

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. SB1026 No Wages by Cash or Check (passed 44 to 5 on 7/11/2024). Would permit employers to eliminate wages by cash or check. **Yes** ✗

2. SB831 Carbon Capture and Sequestration Act (passed 37 to 12 on 7/11/2024). Authorizes carbon sequestration projects to reduce "greenhouse gas emissions" and empowers the state Department of Environmental Protection to designate "environmental justice" areas based on "demographic, economic, health and environmental data." **Yes** ✗

3. HB1993 Federal Drug Pricing (passed 48 to 1 on 7/10/2024). Requires pharmacy benefit managers to comply with the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program. **Yes** ✗

4. HB613 Funding State-Aided Universities (passed 44 to 6 on 7/3/2024). Provides funding for several state-related universities (Penn State, Pitt, Temple, and Lincoln) and a private Ivy League university (Penn). **\$123** **Yes** ✗

5. SB913 Parental Consent for Mental Health Services (passed 28 to 21 on 6/27/2024). Would require parental consent to virtual mental health services provided by or in coordination with a school entity. **No** ✗

6. SR251 States' Powers to Combat Illegal Migration (passed 27 to 22 on 3/19/2024). Urges the Governor to offer the services of the Pennsylvania National Guard to the State of Texas in support of Operation Lone Star. **No** ✗



PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE

SCORECARD

BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Sen. Jay Costa

Lifetime Score: **11%**

PA Scorecard 2024

2023-2024 Regular Session Score **8%**

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 General Assembly in 2024 and ranks state representatives and senators based on their fidelity to (U.S.) constitutional and limited-government principles.



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. No Wages by Cash or Check

SB1026 would permit employers to eliminate wages by cash or check.

This bill would effectively ban most payments by cash or check, paving the way toward an exclusively government-controlled Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). A CBDC would be an unconstitutional and intolerable expansion of tyranny under the Federal Reserve—presenting a significant danger to Americans' personal privacy by allowing for a full-fledged surveillance state. Article 1, Section 10, of the U.S. Constitution says, "No State shall...make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts." The States must act now to thwart plans to impose a CBDC.

2. Carbon Capture and Sequestration Act

SB831 authorizes carbon sequestration and empowers state government to designate "environmental justice" areas.

The expansion of carbon capture storage systems in the United States is closely connected to the UN's 2030 Agenda for "sustainable development," which seeks to codify extreme "environmental justice" measures into state law. Its push for a "decarbonized" economy on behalf of "vulnerable populations" is nothing other than a fanatical attempt by globalist elites to expand their taxing power and authority. The abuse of eminent domain for these carbon dioxide pipelines encroaches upon the constitutionally protected property rights of Pennsylvanians. The States ought to reject the hoax of "climate change" and put an end to the global war on farmers.

3. Federal Drug Pricing

HB1993 requires pharmacy benefit managers to comply with the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program.

Section 340B of the Public Health Service Act, which requires pharmaceutical manufacturers participating in Medicaid to sell outpatient drugs at discounted prices, is unconstitutional. Medicaid, along with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is not authorized under Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution, as health care is not the legitimate object of government. Government-subsidized health care or drug pricing is financed by immoral and anti-constitutional forms of taxation (e.g., income taxes). It violates the Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment by taking from citizens the wages they have rightfully earned. The General Assembly should act instead to nullify all unconstitutional federal laws and cease reckless social welfare initiatives.

4. Funding State-Aided Universities

HB613 provides funding for several state-related universities (Penn State, Pitt, Temple, and Lincoln) and a private Ivy League university (Penn).

Funding institutes of higher education is not the role of government. This bill only extends the state's monopoly over K-12 education and beyond. Its exchange of public subsidies for postsecondary curriculum and other regulatory controls effectively turns every university student or employee into a government-school student or employee. Besides, state-sponsored higher education acts as an unnecessary drain on the treasury. Public colleges and universities can and should at least be privatized, without the need to rely on state appropriations. Neither academic nor financial freedom can be achieved by forcing other citizens to furnish their hard-earned tax dollars to fund all that now entails a failing and government-run education system.

5. Parental Consent for Mental Health Services

SB913 would require parental consent to virtual mental health services provided by or in coordination with a school entity.

The upbringing, education, care, and control of children belongs to—and is a fundamental right of—parents, not the government. Parental rights, as with all other fundamental rights, are protected by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

6. States' Powers to Combat Illegal Migration

SR251 urges the Governor to offer the services of the Pennsylvania National Guard to the State of Texas in support of Operation Lone Star.

Persons who enter the United States illegally—which, by definition, is a crime under federal law—should not be permitted sanctuary in Texas, Pennsylvania, or any other state. Article IV, Section 4, requires the federal government to protect each of the several States "against Invasion;" however, Article 1, Section 10, of the U.S. Constitution allows the States to enter into agreements if "actually invaded." Rather than pursue blatantly anti-American policies that undermine the rule of law and erode the value of citizenship, the States should exercise their sovereign powers under the 10th Amendment to stop illegal migration and provide for the public safety.