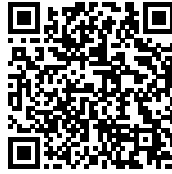




# Paul Bettencourt

**Senate** District SD-007  
**Republican**

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This legislator voted constitutionally on **50%** of the votes shown below.

## CPH: Estimated cost per household.

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

**1. SJR52 Con-Con Extension (Passed 19 to 12 on 3/21/2023).** **Yes**  
Extends the deadline for the automatic rescission of certain applications made by the Texas Legislature to the United States Congress to call a national convention under Article V of the United States Constitution **✗**

**2. SB990 Countywide Polling Place Program (Passed 17 to 12 on 4/20/2023).** Eliminates of the countywide polling place program. **Yes** ★

**3. HB1243 Illegal Voting Penalty (Passed 19 to 11 on 5/24/2023).** Would increase the criminal penalty for illegal voting from a Class A misdemeanor to either a state jail felony for attempted illegal voting or second-degree felony for illegal voting. **Yes** ★

**4. SB17 DEI Ban (Passed 19 to 12 on 4/19/2023).** Bans diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives at colleges and public institutions of higher education. **Yes** ★

**5. HB1058 Subsidized Housing (Passed 26 to 5 on 5/22/2023).** Enacts an insurance premium tax credit for certain housing developments. **Yes** ✗ **-\$2.06**

**6. HB4363 Future Texas Teacher Scholarship (Passed 25 to 6 on 5/21/2023).** Establishes the Future Texas Teachers Scholarship Program for certain students at public institutions of higher education. **Yes** ✗



# TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

**Sen. Paul Bettencourt**

**Lifetime Score: 72%**

**TX Scorecard 2023**

**2023 Regular Session Score 50%**

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 Texas 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

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## 1. Con-Con Extension

SJR52 extends the deadline for the automatic rescission of certain applications made by the Texas Legislature to the United States Congress to call a national constitutional convention under Article V of the United States Constitution for proposing any amendment to that constitution.

The Texas State Senate passed SJR52 on March 21, 2023 by a vote of 19 to 12. We have assigned pluses to the nays because a so-called “Convention of the States” would not be of “limited” purpose. The vague and contradictory text contained in this joint resolution dangerously permits what Article V of the U.S. Constitution describes as a “Convention for proposing Amendments” or second constitutional convention. Notably, Article V of the U.S. Constitution was designed to correct structural deficiencies in the federal government, not the behavior of its elected officials. SJR52 should be opposed in favor of less risky, more precise, and immediate solutions that would restore power back to the states and to the people, such as clear-cut proposals in Congress to repeal bad amendments or state nullification of specific unauthorized federal laws.

## 2. Countywide Polling Place Program

SB990 eliminates the countywide polling place program.

The Texas State Senate passed SB990 on April 20, 2023 by a vote of 17 to 12. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because allowing Texans to vote in centralized polling places under the countywide polling place program undermines the precinct. Countywide polling places increase the risk of fraud, compromising even more votes.

## 3. Illegal Voting Penalty

HB1243 would increase the criminal penalty for illegal voting from a Class A misdemeanor to either a state jail felony for attempted illegal voting or second-degree felony for illegal voting.

The Texas State Senate passed HB1243 on May 24, 2023 by a vote of 19 to 11. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because increasing the penalty for voter fraud is a step in protecting election integrity. States should do all they can to protect the ballot box.

## 4. DEI Ban

SB17 bans diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives at colleges and public institutions of higher education.

The Texas State Senate passed SB17 on April 19, 2023 by a vote of 19 to 12. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the goal of DEI is to pit Americans against each other. Reverse racism is still racism. Instead of pushing for equality, which is what the Constitution stands for, DEI programs in school push for equity, which is rooted in communism and is part of the Marxist agenda.

## 5. Subsidized Housing

HB1058 enacts an insurance premium tax credit for certain housing developments. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) would grant credits to eligible developments according to department-set criteria. The credits for a development must not surpass the total federal tax credit received by the development's owner over ten years. The annual credit limit is \$25 million, including unallocated prior-year credits and any recaptured or returned credits.

The Texas State Senate passed HB1058 on May 22, 2023 by a vote of 25 to 6. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this is government interfering in the free market, and this government subsidized housing benefits only a specific part of the population. This is also another step towards socialism as subsidized housing is a misuse of taxpayer dollars.

## 6. Future Texas Teachers Scholarship

HB4363 establishes the Future Texas Teachers Scholarship Program for certain students at public institutions of higher education.

The Texas State Senate passed HB4263 on May 21, 2023 by a vote of 25 to 6. We have assigned pluses to the nays because taxpayers should not be on the hook for funding an individual's education or providing scholarships. Government should not interfere in personal matters such as education, and allocating funds based on certain criteria infringes upon personal freedom and violates the 14th Amendment.