



# Phil Fortunato

Senate District SD-031  
Republican


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


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


**1. HB1240 Gun Control (Passed 28 to 21 on 4/18/2023).** Imposes strict regulations on assault weapons, defining them as specific types of firearms with particular features. **No** 

**2. HB1736 Odometer Readings (Passed 28 to 20 on 4/10/2023).** Requires the Department of Licensing (DOL) to request odometer readings when registering or renewing a motor vehicle. **No** 

**3. SB5112 Automatic Voter Registration (Passed 33 to 13 on 4/14/2023).** Automatically registers enhanced driver's license or identocard applicants to vote. **No** 

**4. HB1756 Clean Energy Tax Changes (Passed 33 to 15 on 4/19/2023).** Provides that all qualified personal property used for generating renewable energy owned by eligible taxpayers will be exempt from Washington state property taxes. **No** 

**5. HB1238 Free School Meals (Passed 44 to 5 on 4/11/2023).** Mandates that all schools offer free breakfast and lunch to any student who asks for it, regardless of their eligibility for free or reduced-price meals. **Yes** 

**6. HB1170 Climate Change Response (Passed 34 to 14 on 4/8/2023).** Requires the Washington Department of Ecology to update its Climate Change Response Strategy. **No** 



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

**Sen. Phil Fortunato**

**WA Scorecard 2023**

**Lifetime Score: 83%**

**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 Washington 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. Gun Control

HB1240 imposes strict regulations on assault weapons, defining them as specific types of firearms with particular features. These rules prohibit the manufacture, importation, distribution, sale, or offer for sale of assault weapons, except for specific exceptions like sales to law enforcement agencies, the armed forces, and out-of-state individuals. Inherited assault weapons can be kept under certain conditions. Violations of these regulations are considered gross misdemeanors under the Consumer Protection Act. The Attorney General can issue investigative demands for potential violations, and recipients can request extensions or modifications. The Attorney General is restricted from sharing investigation information with criminal law enforcement agencies unless a search warrant requires it.

The Washington State Senate passed HB1240 on April 18, 2023 by a vote of 28 to 21. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the fundamental right of the American people to keep and bear arms is protected by the U.S. Constitution, particularly in the 2nd, 9th, and 10th Amendments, and should not be infringed. HB1240 is a gross infringement on that right.

## 2. Odometer Readings

HB1736 requires the Department of Licensing (DOL) to request odometer readings when registering or renewing a motor vehicle.

The Washington State Senate passed HB1736 on April 10, 2023 by a vote of 28 to 20. We have assigned pluses to the nays because mandatory odometer readings constitute a form of warrantless search or surveillance and violates the Fourth Amendment. Requiring individuals to provide specific information about their vehicle, like the odometer reading, is a violation of this protection against unreasonable searches.

## 3. Automatic Voter Registration

SB5112 automatically registers enhanced driver's license or identocard applicants to vote.

The Washington State Senate passed SB5112 on April 14, 2023 by a vote of 33 to 13. 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, but automatic registration can lead to inaccuracies in voter

## 4. Clean Energy Tax Changes

HB1756 provides that all qualified personal property used for generating renewable energy owned by eligible taxpayers will be exempt from Washington state property taxes.

The Washington State Senate passed HB1756 on April 19, 2023 by a vote of 33 to 15. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation creates more government interference in the free-market economy and advances the Marxist climate-change agenda while propping up certain people over others.

## 5. Free School Meals

HB1238 mandates that all schools offer free breakfast and lunch to any student who asks for it, regardless of their eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

The Washington State Senate passed HB1238 on April 11, 2023 by a vote of 44 to 5. 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.

## 6. Climate Change Response

HB1170 requires the Washington Department of Ecology to update its Climate Change Response Strategy by September 30, 2024, with a focus on preparing for, addressing, and adapting to climate change impacts. It mandates reporting, collaboration with other state agencies and stakeholders, and guidance on climate resilience actions. The updated strategy will be implemented by various state agencies, with no new regulatory authority, and will involve coordination for federal funding opportunities.

The Washington State Senate passed HB1170 on April 8, 2023 by a vote of 34 to 14. We have assigned pluses to the nays because investing taxpayer dollars in creating a climate change response strategy is a complete waste of money. States should not be buying into the climate-change agenda.

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