

FREEDOM INDEX.US

LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD BASED ON THE THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

The Legislative Scorecard is a nationwide, nonpartisan educational program of The John Birch Society intended to inform voters about legislators' voting records. It does not promote any candidate or political party. Bills are chosen for their constitutional implications and taxpayer costs.



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Harvey T. Smith

Vermont

Representative, HD-ADD5 (R)

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50

Lifetime
Freedom
Score

VT Legislative Scorecard 2021-2022

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote	Vote
			NO
			★
1. S15 Vote by Mail (Passed 119 to 30 on 5/12/2021). Requires the Secretary of State to mail every active voter a postage-paid ballot for each general election.			
			YES
			✗
2. H360 Broadband Expansion (Passed 145 to 1 on 3/23/2021). Provides government funding for broadband expansion under the Vermont Community Broadband Authority.			
			YES
			✗
3. HJR6 Racism Health Emergency (Passed 135 to 8 on 5/20/2021). Declares racism as a public health emergency.			
			NO
			★
4. H715 Clean Heat Standard (Failed Veto Override 99-51 on 5/10/2022). Establishes the Clean Heat Standard to reduce Vermont's greenhouse gas emissions from the thermal (heating) sector.			
			NO
			★
5. S226 Affordable Housing (Passed 103 to 42 on 5/6/2022). Introduces new programs with the goal of increasing access to housing, primarily by increasing the housing stock and making existing homes more affordable to homebuyers.			
			YES
			✗
6. SJR53 Trans Youth (Passed 134 to 5 on 5/12/2022). Supports transgender youth and their parents who seek essential medical care for the treatment of gender dysphoria.			

Scorecard Votes: 50%

Why do these votes matter?

1. Vote by Mail

S15 requires the Secretary of State to mail every active voter a postage-paid ballot for each general election.

The Vermont State Assembly passed S15 on May 12, 2021 by a vote of 119 to 30. We have assigned pluses to the nays because sending a ballot to every active voter compromises the integrity of the election. This may lead to illegal voting and the system could easily be taken advantage of. Article IV, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution provides that citizens of the United States “shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities,” such as the “right of citizens of the United States” to vote as prescribed in the 26th Amendment.

2. Broadband Expansion

H360 provides government funding for broadband expansion under the Vermont Community Broadband Authority.

The Vermont State Assembly passed H360 on March 23, 2021 by a vote of 145 to 1. We have assigned pluses to the nays because government subsidized internet benefits only a specific part of the population. This is also another step towards socialism and government interference in the free market.

3. Racism Health Emergency

HJR6 declares racism as a public health emergency.

The Vermont State Assembly passed HJR6 on May 20, 2021 by a vote of 135 to 8. We have assigned pluses to the nays because racism is not a public health crisis, and this resolution embraces the Left’s woke Marxist agenda.

4. Clean Heat Standard

H715 establishes the Clean Heat Standard to reduce Vermont’s greenhouse gas emissions from the thermal (heating) sector. parties must reduce greenhouse gas emissions attributable to the Vermont thermal sector by retiring required amounts of clean heat credits to meet the thermal sector portion of the greenhouse gas emission reduction obligations of the Global Warming Solutions Act.

The Vermont State Assembly failed to override the Governor's veto for H715 on May 10, 2022 by a vote of 99-51. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this narrative seems to play right into the UN's agenda 2030. this legislation creates more government interference and advances the Marxist climate change agenda.

5. Affordable Housing

S226 introduces new programs with the goal of increasing access to housing, primarily by increasing the housing stock and making existing homes more affordable to homebuyers.

The Vermont State Assembly Passed S226 on May 6, 2022 by a vote of 103 to 42. 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. Trans Youth

SJR53 supports transgender youth and their parents who seek essential medical care for the treatment of gender dysphoria.

The Vermont State Assembly passed SJR53 on May 12, 2022 by a vote of 134 to 5. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the left has been promoting the radical Marxist idea that people can be transgender and choose which sex they want to identify as. Scientifically and biblically, there are two genders.