

# 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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## Jesse M. Sumner

Alaska

Representative, HD-028 (R)

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Lifetime  
Freedom  
Score

## AK Legislative Scorecard 2024

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote	Vote
1. <b>SB22 Juneteenth (Passed 37 to 3 on 5/15/2024).</b>	Establishes Juneteenth Day as a legal holiday.		YES ✗
2. <b>HB345 Disaster Relief Grants (Passed 30 to 8 on 5/15/2024).</b>	Creates disaster relief grants for Alaska unit owners to cover common disaster-related expenses.		NONE ?
3. <b>HB17 Forced Contraceptives Coverage (Passed 29 to 10 on 5/10/2024).</b>	Requires insurance in Alaska to cover contraceptives and related services without cost-sharing. It mandates 12-month prescriptions and ensures coverage for switching methods. The state's medical assistance program will also cover these services.		YES ✗
4. <b>HB50 Carbon Storage (Passed 37 to 3 on 5/15/2024).</b>	Creates a regulatory framework for underground carbon storage under the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.		YES ✗
5. <b>HB375 Energy Sources of Motor Vehicles (Passed 23 to 17 on 5/1/2024).</b>	Prohibits state agencies and local governments in Alaska from restricting the use or sale of motor vehicles based on their energy sources, such as gasoline, diesel, electricity, or hydrogen.		YES ★
6. <b>HB183 Fairness in Women's Sports (Passed 22 to 18 on 5/12/2024).</b>	Requires that all school-sponsored athletic teams be designated as either male, female, or coeducational, with female teams restricted to participants identified as female at birth.		YES ★

Scorecard Votes: 40%

# Why do these votes matter?

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## 1. Juneteenth

SB22 establishes Juneteenth Day as a legal holiday.

The Alaska State House of Representatives passed SB22 on May 15, 2024 by a vote of 37 to 3. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the United States already observed 10 federal holidays and the state of Alaska observed 11. At the federal level, Juneteenth was designated as "National Independence Day", falsely implying differing independence days based on race. This aligns with divisive strategies, akin to communist tactics of "dividing the people."

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## 2. Disaster Relief Grants

HB345 creates disaster relief grants for Alaska unit owners to cover common disaster-related expenses. It also sets requirements for municipalities and regional housing authorities to apply for harbor facility grants for construction, expansion, or repairs. Applicants must show a capital improvement project, provide matching funds, have insurance, follow a maintenance plan, and ensure safety ladders are installed.

The Alaska State House of Representatives passed HB345 on May 15, 2024 by a vote of 30 to 8. We have assigned pluses to the nays because government should neither issue unconstitutional taxpayer-funded grants nor replace public charity. This bill expands government, picks winners and losers, and fosters dependence on government assistance. When the government intervenes in areas outside its proper role, it erodes individual and business autonomy, especially since government aid often comes with strings attached.

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## 3. Forced Contraceptives Coverage

HB17 requires insurance in Alaska to cover contraceptives and related services without cost-sharing. It mandates 12-month prescriptions and ensures coverage for switching methods. The state's medical assistance program will also cover these services.

The Alaska State House of Representatives passed HB17 on May 10, 2024 by a vote of 29 to 10. We have assigned pluses to the nays because taxpayers should not fund contraceptives, and mandating insurance companies to cover something that potentially violates their beliefs is a gross government overreach. Additionally, healthcare and social welfare should not be government obligations. This bill is not authorized under Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution.

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## 4. Carbon Storage

HB50 creates a regulatory framework for underground carbon storage under the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. It establishes funds like the Carbon Storage Closure Trust and regulates storage leases and exploration licenses. The main incentive for companies is the federal 45Q tax credit. While it also addresses geothermal resources and gas storage, the bill primarily adds regulations for carbon capture and includes provisions for Cook Inlet oil and gas projects.

The Alaska State House of Representatives passed HB50 on May 15, 2024 by a vote of 37 to 3. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill expands government by introducing regulations that infringe on individual freedom and economic liberty. Taxpayer funds should not be used to support compliance with Agenda 2030, as it is unconstitutional. Additionally, this regulatory framework prioritizes international agendas over U.S. sovereignty and control, further increasing government intervention in private sector activities.

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## 5. Energy Sources of Motor Vehicles

HB375 prohibits state agencies and local governments in Alaska from restricting the use or sale of motor vehicles based on their energy sources, such as gasoline, diesel, electricity, or hydrogen.

The Alaska State House of Representatives passed HB375 on May 1, 2024 by a vote of 23 to 17. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this legislation supports individual choice in the vehicle market for both producers and consumers, free from government interference. States have a responsibility to protect their citizens from government overreach and the global push to combat so-called "climate change."

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## 6. Fairness in Women's Sports

HB183 requires that all school-sponsored athletic teams be designated as either male, female, or coeducational, with female teams restricted to participants identified as female at birth.

The Alaska State House of Representatives passed HB183 on May 12, 2024 by a vote of 22 to 18. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the Left has been promoting radical Marxist notions that someone can self-identify as any gender they choose, leading to situations that allow biological males to compete in women's sports. This bill rightfully protects the integrity of female sports by ensuring fairness and safety for women and girls. The indoctrination behind choosing pronouns and gender identity is both scientifically unsound and immoral. Biblically and biologically, there are only two genders.