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LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

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Kelvin Datcher

Alabama

State Representative, HD-052 (D)

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Lifetime
Freedom
Score

AL Legislative Scorecard 2025

✓ Pro-Freedom ✗ Anti-Freedom — Did not Vote

Vote

1. Creates a felony crime under state law for possessing, obtaining, receiving, selling, or using parts designed or intended to convert a pistol into a machine gun, commonly known as "Glock switches."



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SB116 · 03/06/2025

2. Authorizes refined gold and silver bullion, specie, or coins that are stamped with their weight and purity to be recognized as legal tender in Alabama.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **Yes** · SB130 · 04/01/2025

3. Expands consumer-protection laws during declared states of emergency.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · HB528 · 04/09/2025

4. Expands the state's "Don't Say Gay" restrictions to cover pre-K through 12th grade.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · HB244 · 04/17/2025

5. Directs the Alabama Commission on Higher Education to create a designation for qualified public two- and four-year institutions as "hunger-free campuses."



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · HB273 · 04/22/2025

6. Stipulates that driver's licenses issued to foreign nationals (i.e., non-U.S. citizens) may not be used as photo identification for voting purposes.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **Yes** · SB158 · 05/07/2025

Scorecard Votes: 40%

Why do these votes matter?

1. Machine-gun Conversion Ban

SB116 makes it a Class C felony under Alabama law to possess, obtain, receive, sell, or use any part or combination of parts designed or intended to convert a pistol into a machine gun, commonly known as "Glock switches." It defines a machine gun as any firearm that can fire more than one shot automatically with a single trigger function, including conversion parts or kits. While such devices are already illegal under federal law, SB116 creates a state-level ban that empowers local law enforcement to prosecute offenders directly without relying on federal jurisdiction.

The Alabama State House of Representatives passed SB116 on March 6, 2025 by a vote of 77 to 23. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill mirrors and reinforces an unconstitutional federal gun-control law, undermining state sovereignty. Furthermore, by criminalizing firearm components at the state level, SB116 infringes on the Second Amendment, which clearly states that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

2. Real Money

SB130 authorizes refined gold and silver bullion, specie, or coins that are stamped with their weight and purity to be recognized as legal tender.

The Alabama State House of Representatives passed SB130 on April 1, 2025 by a vote of 102 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this bill is an important step toward restoring sound, constitutional money and reestablishing the role of gold and silver as legal tender, in accordance with Article I, Section 10 of the U.S. Constitution.

3. Consumer Protection

HB528 expands consumer-protection laws during declared states of emergency. Previously, it was unlawful to impose unconscionable prices only for the sale or rental of commodities or facilities during such emergencies. This bill, however, also prohibits imposing unconscionable prices for the provision of any service during a declared state of emergency.

The Alabama State House of Representatives passed HB528 on April 9, 2025 by a vote of 96 to 1. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill expands government intervention in the economy under the guise of consumer protection. By expanding price-gouging laws to include services during declared emergencies, HB528 imposes arbitrary limits on what businesses can charge—undermining the market's ability to respond to shifting supply and demand. Government-imposed price controls during emergencies risk creating service shortages, discourage entrepreneurship, and set a dangerous precedent for broader economic regulation during crises.

4. Don't Say Gay

HB244 expands "Don't Say Gay" restrictions to all K–12 grades, banning instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity deemed age-inappropriate. It also prohibits public-school staff from displaying LGBTQ+ symbols and using pronouns or titles that don't align with a student's biological sex.

The Alabama State House of Representatives passed HB244 on April 17, 2025 by a vote of 74 to 15. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because parents have the right—which the government has a duty to uphold—to protect their children from obscene, indecent, or profane activity, including LGBT+ gender-ideology-related content in the classroom. This right is retained under and guaranteed by the ninth and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

5. Hunger-free Campuses

HB273 creates a "hunger-free campus" designation for qualifying public colleges. To qualify, schools must form a hunger task force, provide food resources, assist with SNAP, raise awareness, survey students biennially, and offer meal donation or voucher programs.

The Alabama State House of Representatives passed HB273 on April 22, 2025 by a vote of 96 to 2. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill expands the role of government in higher education and encourages government dependency. While promoting charitable organizations such as food pantries is commendable, using taxpayer dollars through government grants and helping students apply for an unconstitutional programs shifts the burden from individuals to the state.

6. Illegal Migrant ID Prohibition

SB158 stipulates that driver's licenses issued to non-U.S. citizens may not be used as photo ID for voting purposes.

The Alabama State House of Representatives passed SB158 on May 7, 2025 by a vote of 83 to 13. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this legislation helps safeguard election integrity by ensuring that only U.S. citizens may use valid photo identification to vote. By clearly distinguishing licenses issued to non-citizens and restricting their use for voting helps prevent potential fraud or confusion at the polls.