

FREEDOMINDEX.US

LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION



View the Freedom Toolbox

Scan to learn more about the Freedom Index, view legislative alerts, and deepen your understanding of the U.S. Constitution and America's founding principles. Visit <https://freedomindex.us/tools/>



Kevin Payne

Arizona Senator, SD-027 (R)

Website: azleg.gov/emailazleg/?legislatorId=2387

freedomindex.us/2472/



2026 AZ Legislative Scorecard: 50%

✓ Constitutional ✗ Unconstitutional — Did not Vote Vote

1. Secure Voter ID Requirements: Would amend the Arizona Constitution to require that all voters show valid government-issued proof of identity before casting a ballot in an election.



Constitutional: **Yes** · Cast: **Yes** · HCR2001 · Passed 16–12 · 06/12/2026

2. Article V Convention: Term Limits: Applies to Congress to "call a convention" under Article V of the U.S. Constitution for the purpose of proposing an amendment to set term limits on members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate.



Constitutional: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · HCR2043 · Passed 16–13 · 04/21/2026

3. Concealed Carry in Restaurants: Would have repealed Arizona's ban on carrying a concealed handgun in a restaurant.



Constitutional: **Yes** · Cast: **Yes** · SB1012 · Passed 16–13 · 03/09/2026

4. Equal Shared Parenting: Creates a rebuttable presumption in child-custody cases that "equal parenting time is in the best interest of the child."



Constitutional: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SB1720 · Passed 19–11 · 03/04/2026

5. "Fertility Preservation" Coverage Mandate: Directs a health insurer to provide coverage for "standard fertility preservation services" to a subscriber who is within reproductive age, who is diagnosed with cancer, and whose medically necessary treatment is likely to cause infertility.



Constitutional: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SB1347 · Passed 27–2 · 03/02/2026

6. Ban on Central Bank Digital Currency: Would ban the use of a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in Arizona.



Constitutional: **Yes** · Cast: **Yes** · SB1432 · Passed 16–11 · 02/25/2026

Why do these votes matter?

1. Secure Voter ID Requirements

HCR2001 would amend the Arizona Constitution to require that all voters show valid government-issued proof of identity before casting a ballot in an election.

This bill would improve Arizona's voter ID requirements by closing a significant loophole that risks electoral fraud. Article 7, Section 2 of the Arizona Constitution clearly says that "No person shall be entitled to vote ... unless such a person be a citizen of the United States." In addition, Article 7, Section 12 of the Arizona Constitution provides that "There shall be enacted registration and other laws to secure the purity of elections and guard against abuses of the elective franchise." The American people alone retain the "right of Representation in the Legislature," and qualified U.S.-citizen voters in Arizona should not be disenfranchised. Arizona lawmakers need to perform their duty, by exercising the full extent of their authority under Article I, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution, in conjunction with the 14th and 26th Amendments, to implement free, fair, and secure elections, thereby ensuring "the right of citizens of the United States to vote."

2. Article V Convention: Term Limits

HCR2043 applies to Congress to "call a convention" under Article V of the U.S. Constitution for the purpose of proposing an amendment to set term limits on members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate.

Term limits conflict with the right of the American people to choose their representatives. Moreover, efforts to call an Article V convention must be resisted. A constitutional convention (Con-Con) would have the ability to make major changes to the U.S. Constitution, or even completely rewrite it. Instead of risking the danger of a "runaway convention," which could act as a "Trojan horse" to destroy many of the Constitution's limitations on government power, state legislators should uphold their oath of office. In other words, the problem is not the Constitution, but lawmakers' failure to follow it. Article VI requires that all state legislators "shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution." Article V, however, was designed to correct potential errors or defects in the Constitution, not to "misconstrue or abuse its powers." State legislators should use Article VI to enforce the Constitution, rather than use Article V to alter or abolish it.

3. Concealed Carry in Restaurants

SB1012 would have repealed Arizona's ban on carrying a concealed handgun in a restaurant.

This bill would have removed Arizona's blatantly unconstitutional prohibition against carrying a handgun in a restaurant. "Gun-free zones" are demonstrably unsafe. Every person has a natural, individual right to self-defense, irrespective of their location, which is why the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution expressly declares, without qualification, that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Lastly, the Fifth and 14th Amendments prevent "any State" from depriving or denying "any person" of their "life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

4. Equal Shared Parenting

SB1720 creates a rebuttable presumption in child-custody cases that "equal parenting time is in the best interest of the child."

"Equal shared parenting," also known as the 50/50 custody regime, is detrimental to both children and families. It is the rotten fruit of "no-fault divorce," which only incentivizes the breaking of the marital covenant by allowing persons to commit serious acts of injury against their spouses and children (e.g., adultery or abandonment) with impunity. "Equal shared parenting," another deceptive misnomer, proceeds from the same false premise that innocent parties have no right to their day in court, further denying victims due process of law. Besides, it is part of the "best interest of the child" legislation that seeks to rewrite U.S. family law based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Nevertheless, no child should have to suffer the mental, emotional, and physical effects of being forced to live two separate lives in two separate homes. Marriage is-and will always be-the God-ordained arrangement for "co-parenting." Indeed, the Judgment of Solomon testifies to the wisdom and precedent of awarding sole custody to the true parent who justly refuses to "divide" the child.

5. "Fertility Preservation" Coverage Mandate

SB1347 directs a health insurer to provide coverage for "standard fertility preservation services" to a subscriber who is within reproductive age, who is diagnosed with cancer, and whose medically necessary treatment is likely to cause infertility.

"Standard fertility preservation services" involve "oocyte and sperm preservation procedures," including ovarian tissue, sperm, and oocyte "cryopreservation." They are simply the first steps of the exact same process used during the life-destroying practices of in vitro fertilization (IVF) and other assisted reproductive technologies, through which the vast majority of embryos conceived outside the womb are aborted or indefinitely frozen, resulting in the killing or cryo-incarceration of millions of preborn children. Since the care of human life-not its destruction-is the greatest responsibility of government, IVF must not be viewed as the solution to infertility. Arizona ought to abolish abortion and cryo-orphaning entirely, upholding the sanctity of life for every person. The right to life is the most fundamental God-given, "unalienable" right asserted in the Declaration of Independence, and it is protected by the Fifth and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

6. Ban on Central Bank Digital Currency

SB1432 would ban the use of a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in Arizona.

A Central Bank Digital Currency would be an unconstitutional and intolerable expansion of tyranny under the Federal Reserve-presenting a significant danger to Americans' civil liberties by decimating personal privacy and enabling a full-fledged surveillance state. According to Article I, Section 10 of the U.S. Constitution, "No State shall...make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts." The States can and must act now to avow their adherence to constitutionally sound money.