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LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

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Kelly J. Townsend

Arizona

State Senator, SD-016 (R)

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67

Lifetime
Freedom
Score

AZ Legislative Scorecard 2021-2022

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

Vote

1. Contains provisions for health care-related budget appropriations for FY 2023, including the expansion of Medicaid eligibility in Arizona.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · HB2863 · 06/23/2022

2. Requires the collection of DNA from a person that is arrested for any felony offense, rather than a person convicted of a felony offense or arrested for a specific felony offense.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **No** · HB2102 · 06/08/2022

3. Applies to Congress "to call a convention for proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to set term limits for United States representatives and United States senators."



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SCR1048 · 02/23/2022

4. Directs the Governor during a state of emergency to call the Legislature into a special session within 10 days to determine whether to terminate or modify the state of emergency.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **Yes** · SCR1003 · 06/30/2021

5. Specifies that early ballot affidavits must require a voter to provide voter information, including the voter's date of birth and an acceptable form of government-issued identification number.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **Yes** · SB1713 · 03/08/2021

6. Uses the power of referendum to make students without lawful immigration status eligible for in-state tuition and financial aid at public colleges and universities in Arizona.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **No** · SCR1044 · 03/04/2021

Scorecard Votes: 67%

Why do these votes matter?

1. Budget: Health Care

HB2863 contains provisions for health care-related budget appropriations for FY 2023, including the expansion of Medicaid eligibility in Arizona.

This budget bill involves substantial amounts of unconstitutional federal funding for health care. States should oppose the use of federal taxpayer money for purposes not authorized under Article 1, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution.

2. DNA Collection for All Felony Arrests

HB2102 requires the collection of DNA from a person that is arrested for any felony offense, rather than a person convicted of a felony offense or arrested for a specific felony offense.

Collection of a person's DNA merely due to an arrest is dangerous and a direct violation of the 4th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

3. Article V Convention: Term Limits

SCR1048 applies to Congress “to call a convention for proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to set term limits for United States representatives and United States senators.”

Term limits conflict with the right of the American people to choose their representatives. Moreover, states should act immediately to nullify all unconstitutional federal laws, rather than risk an Article V or second constitutional convention. Article V of the U.S. Constitution was designed to correct structural deficiencies in the federal government, not the failure of elected officials to uphold their oath of office.

4. Oversight of Executive Emergency Powers

SCR1003 directs the Governor during a state of emergency to call the Legislature into a special session within 10 days to determine whether to terminate or modify the state of emergency. It also prohibits the Governor from proclaiming a new state of emergency arising out of the same conditions.

Oversight of executive emergency powers belongs to the legislative branch of government. Each state, under Article IV, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, is guaranteed a republican form of government, which requires a limitation and separation of powers.

5. Voter Identification

SB1713 specifies that early ballot affidavits must require a voter to provide voter information, including the voter's date of birth and an acceptable form of government-issued identification number.

States should exercise their authority, under Article 1, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, to implement free, fair, and secure elections, guaranteeing equal protection of the right of citizens of the United States to vote.

6. In-State Tuition and Financial Aid for Illegal Aliens

SCR1044 uses the power of referendum to make students without lawful immigration status eligible for in-state tuition and financial aid at public colleges and universities in Arizona. It allows voters to approve amending and repealing sections of Arizona law that prohibit non-U.S. citizens from accessing state or local public benefits.

This resolution abuses taxpayer funds taken from American citizens to subsidize illegal aliens at government-run institutions of higher education. Moreover, the rights of Arizonans should not be subject to popular votes by statewide ballot measures--or other majoritarian democratic initiatives--that undermine Article IV, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees each state a republican form of government limited to the rule of law.