



Ernesto B. Lopez

Delaware

State Senator, SD-006 (R)

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33

Lifetime
Freedom
Score

DE Legislative Scorecard 2021-2022

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

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

Vote

1. Establishes the Racial Equity Consortium for the purposes of studying and making recommendations to address the disparities and inequities faced by persons of color in Delaware.

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · HB375 · 06/29/2022



2. Establishes an automated voter registration system at the Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **No** · SB5 · 03/30/2021



3. Assess state equity in compensation and salary, particularly in the context of race and gender, by focusing on starting rates for initial appointment and the advanced starting salary procedure.

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SCR43 · 05/13/2021



4. Establishes a fund to support economic growth and stability by providing grants, loans, or other aid to businesses and public entities that invest in constructing, renovating, or improving infrastructure for commercial or industrial sites.

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SB127 · 07/27/2021



5. Introduces the Grow Your Own Educator Program to enhance the hiring, retention, and diversity of educators in Delaware public schools.

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · HB430 · 07/01/2022



6. Requires a handgun qualified purchaser card required to purchase handguns.

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **No** · SB3 · 04/01/2021



Scorecard Votes: 33%



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\$295,579

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of July 30, 2026

Why do these votes matter?

1. Racial Equity Consortium

HB375 establishes the Racial Equity Consortium for the purposes of studying and making recommendations to address the disparities and inequities faced by persons of color in Delaware.

The Delaware State Senate passed HB375 on June 29, 2022 by a vote of 21. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this is a gross waste of taxpayer dollars. This consortium's goal is to identify and remove systemic inequities that impact people of color, which is a liberal talking point that embraces Marxism and the woke culture.

2. Automatic Voter Registration

SB5 establishes an automated voter registration system at the Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and confers upon the State Election Commissioner the power to execute automatic voter registration at other agencies within the state.

The Delaware State Senate passed SB5 on March 30, 2021 by a vote of 14 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the nays because automatic voter registration could lead to the automatic registration of non-citizens or others who are not permitted to vote. This compromises election integrity, opening the door for voter manipulation.

3. Equity

SCR43 instructs the Department of Human Resources Secretary to leverage the Merit Rules and State Budget Act to centralize efforts across state executive branch agencies. The objective is to assess equity in compensation and salary, particularly in the context of race and gender, by focusing on starting rates for initial appointment and the advanced starting salary procedure.

The Delaware State Senate passed SCR43 on May 13, 2021 by a vote of 21 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the Declaration of Independence states, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Equity is not one of our founding principles. Equity is rooted in communism and is part of the Marxist agenda. The goal is to pit Americans of different races and religions against each other, a catalyst for more racism.

4. Economic Development

SB127 establishes a fund to support economic growth and stability by providing grants, loans, or other aid to businesses and public entities that invest in constructing, renovating, or improving infrastructure for commercial or industrial sites. This will attract new businesses, expand existing businesses, and create permanent full-time jobs. The competition between states to attract and retain businesses requires sustained economic growth, which depends on readily available sites for commercial and industrial development. The Site Readiness Fund will provide assistance to qualified businesses or public entities to develop such sites and retain economic opportunities.

The Delaware State Senate passed SB127 on May 20, 2021 by a vote of 21 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because government should not subsidize and interfere with private enterprise. This expands the size of government, and subsidies make businesses more reliant on government assistance. When the government meddles in areas they shouldn't, individuals and businesses lose more control and freedom.

5. Grow Your Own Educator Program

HB430 introduces the Grow Your Own Educator Program to enhance the hiring, retention, and diversity of educators in Delaware public schools. The Program has a grant process, led by the Department of Education and any Delaware school district or charter school is eligible to apply for the grant to create their customized program.

The Delaware State Senate passed HB430 on July 1, 2022 by a vote of 21 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this program grows the size of government by creating a new program, subsidizing a profession by propping one field up over the rest. Like most government programs, when money is involved, stings are attached and this is a bad precedent to set.

6. Gun Owner Rights

SB3 requires a handgun qualified purchaser card required to purchase handguns.

The Delaware State Senate passed SB3 on April 1, 2021 by a vote of 13 to 8. We have assigned pluses to the nays because background checks and purchaser cards, in general, are a severe violation of our God-given right to self-defense, as enumerated in the 2nd Amendment, and that shall not be infringed.