



Houston Gaines

Georgia

Representative, HD-120 (R)

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50

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2026 GA Legislative Scorecard

Based on the Principles of 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.

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote		Vote
			1. HB980 Georgia-Ireland Trade Commission (Passed 164 to 2 on 2/6/2026). Would create the Georgia-Ireland Trade Commission.	YES ✗
			2. HB1001 Income-tax Cut (Passed 106 to 66 on 2/25/2026). Would reduce Georgia's income-tax rate from 5.19 percent to 4.99 percent.	YES ★
			3. HB1272 Regulating Stablecoins (Passed 154 to 16 on 3/4/2026). Establishes a state licensing-and-regulatory system for payment-stablecoin issuers.	YES ✗
			4. SB442 Migrant Driver's Licenses (Passed 98 to 59 on 3/27/2026). Would require a noncitizen's commercial driver's license to be revoked either when the person's visa expires or after five years, whichever comes first.	YES ★
			5. SB175 Ranked-choice-voting Ban (Passed 89 to 73 on 3/31/2026). Would prohibit the use of ranked-choice voting (RCV) in Georgia elections.	YES ★
			6. HB295 Property Rights (Passed 93 to 76 on 4/2/2026). Allows property owners to seek compensation from local governments when public nuisances or nonenforcement of laws harms their property value or causes related expenses.	YES ★

Scorecard Votes: 67%



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\$294,361

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of July 23, 2026

Why do these votes matter?

1. Georgia-Ireland Trade Commission

HB980 would create the Georgia-Ireland Trade Commission that intends to strengthen trade, investment, cultural, and governmental ties between Georgia and Ireland.

The Georgia State House of Representatives passed HB980 on February 6, 2026 by a vote of 164 to 2. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this trade commission between Georgia and Ireland undermines state and national sovereignty. "Free trade" necessitates "open borders," which is why Article I of the U.S. Constitution gives Congress the power to "regulate Commerce with foreign Nations" and specifies that "No State shall, without the Consent of Congress ... enter into any Agreement or Compact with ... a foreign Power." The political and economic integration involving the U.S. and EU threatens to end American independence—the penultimate step to building a totalitarian one-world state.

2. Income-tax Cut

HB1001 would reduce Georgia's income-tax rate from 5.19 percent to 4.99 percent. The bill applies to Georgia's income-tax provisions and removes some of the conditional phase-down language tied to future rate reductions.

The Georgia State House of Representatives passed HB1001 on February 25, 2026 by a vote of 106 to 66. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because cutting the income tax is a crucial first step toward restoring economic liberty and limiting government overreach. The income tax is an immoral, anti-constitutional form of government-imposed theft that seizes wages rightfully earned by individuals. This manifestly socialist wealth-redistribution scheme funds "nanny-state" policies that only breed more debt, dependency, and poverty. Georgians must continue to reject tyrannical big government by upholding the Bill of Rights and the Fourteenth Amendment, which declare that no state shall deprive any person of "liberty, or property" and guarantee "equal protection of the laws."

3. Regulating Stablecoins

HB1272 establishes a state licensing-and-regulatory system for payment-stablecoin issuers. The bill requires issuers to be licensed, follow restrictions on advertising and business terminology, submit to examinations or investigations, pay related fees and costs, and comply with enforcement actions such as cease-and-desist orders, license suspension or revocation, and removal of certain officers or members.

The Georgia State House of Representatives passed HB1272 on March 4, 2026 by a vote of 154 to 16. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill expands government regulation, surveillance, and control over private financial activity under the guise of regulating stablecoins. By creating a state licensing scheme, imposing compliance requirements, and subjecting issuers to investigations, fees, and enforcement actions, HB1272 moves digital assets further under government control and helps normalize the infrastructure for programmable, surveillable money. This threatens financial privacy and free-market innovation while raising serious constitutional concerns under the Fourth Amendment's protections against unreasonable searches and unwarranted government surveillance.

4. Migrant Driver's Licenses

SB442 would require a noncitizen's commercial driver's license to be revoked either when the person's visa expires or after five years, whichever comes first, and would require noncitizens to pass the required knowledge and skills tests when renewing a commercial driver's license.

The Georgia State House of Representatives passed SB442 on March 27, 2026 by a vote of 98 to 59. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this bill reinforces the rule of law, strengthens public safety, and helps ensure that noncitizens holding commercial driver's licenses remain legally authorized and properly qualified. By tying the validity of a commercial driver's license to a noncitizen's visa status and requiring renewed testing, SB442 helps prevent expired or improperly renewed licenses from being used to operate commercial vehicles. This protects Georgia drivers, upholds lawful standards for licensure, and affirms the state's responsibility to ensure that those operating large commercial vehicles meet both legal and safety requirements.

5. Ranked-choice-voting Ban

SB175 would prohibit the use of ranked-choice voting (RCV) in Georgia elections. The bill defines ranked-choice voting and bars state and local elections from using a system in which voters rank candidates by preference and votes are redistributed through multiple counting rounds.

The Georgia State House of Representatives passed SB175 on March 31, 2026 by a vote of 89 to 73. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because RCV undermines election integrity and the electorate's ability to choose the best candidate. By design, RCV favors moderate-to-leftist candidates who often fail to uphold the Constitution. This complex, multi-round system can result in winners who lack true plurality support, and imposes ballot-marking requirements that may pressure voters to act against their conscience. States should firmly reject all attempts to implement this unconstitutional voting method.

6. Property Rights

HB295 allows real property owners to file claims for compensation against local governments for loss of property value or expenses tied to a local government's failure to enforce certain laws, ordinances, or resolutions, or for maintaining a public nuisance. The bill is aimed at holding local governments accountable for nonenforcement involving issues such as public camping, homelessness, and sanctuary-style policies.

The Georgia State House of Representatives passed HB295 on April 2, 2026 by a vote of 93 to 76. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this bill strengthens private-property rights and helps hold local governments accountable when their failure to enforce the law harms property owners. By allowing owners to seek compensation for losses caused by nonenforcement or government-enabled nuisances, HB295 reinforces the principle that government exists to protect life,

liberty, and property—not ignore lawlessness at the expense of citizens. This upholds the Fifth and 14th Amendments, which prohibit government from depriving individuals of life, liberty, or property without due process of law and require just compensation for takings.