



## Ross C. Paustian

Iowa  
Representative, HD-092 (R)

[freedomindex.us/4107/](https://freedomindex.us/4107/)

**67**  
Lifetime  
Freedom  
Score

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## IA Legislative Scorecard 2021-2022

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. <b>HF2355 Unemployment Reduction (Passed 58 to 37 on 3/23/2022).</b> Reduces unemployment benefits in the state by 10 weeks, reducing the number of weeks from 26 to 16. <b>Estimated benefit per household: +\$54.00/year.</b>			<b>YES</b> ★
2. <b>HF2298 Vaccine Mandate Ban (Passed 57 to 36 on 2/28/2022).</b> Ensures that K-12 students cannot be forced into receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.			<b>YES</b> ★
3. <b>HF2416 Athletics Based on Sex (Passed 55 to 39 on 2/21/2022).</b> Requires that student athletes in public schools, private schools, and universities can only play on sports teams of the gender that is stated on their birth certificate.			<b>YES</b> ★
4. <b>HF756 Constitutional Carry (Passed 60 to 37 on 3/17/2021).</b> Removes the requirement for a permit to acquire or carry a handgun or when selling a firearm to another private person.			<b>YES</b> ★
5. <b>HF2556 Solar Energy Tax Credit (Passed 94 to 0 on 3/30/2022).</b> Provides a tax credit for putting in place and having a solar energy system.			<b>YES</b> ✗
6. <b>SF2296 Garbage Search (Passed 58 to 36 on 3/22/2022).</b> Allows that no search warrant is needed for a peace officer to look through a person's garbage placed outside of someone's residence.			<b>YES</b> ✗

**Scorecard Votes: 67%**



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# \$290,968

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of June 5, 2026

# Why do these votes matter?

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## 1. Unemployment Reduction

HF2355 reduces unemployment benefits in the state by 10 weeks, reducing the number of weeks from 26 to 16.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HF2355 on March 23, 2022 by a vote of 58 to 37. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because unemployment benefits and the welfare system are a socialist government program that make people more reliant on the government. The more people on government assistance, the greater the size of government. This legislation shrinks the time people can rely on the government to live.

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## 2. Vaccine Mandate Ban

HF2298 ensures that K-12 students cannot be forced into receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HF2298 on February 28, 2022 by a vote of 57 to 36. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because an individual's personal health care decisions should not be the object of government, nor be under its federal, state, or local jurisdictions in the United States. Forcing an individual to produce their vaccination status would be a violation of their fundamental rights, freedoms, privileges, or immunities protected by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

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## 3. Athletics Based on Sex

HF2416 requires that student athletes in public schools, private schools, and universities can only play on sports teams of the gender that is stated on their birth certificate.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HF2416 on February 21, 2022 by a vote of 55 to 39. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the left has been promoting radical Marxist ideas for years. This indoctrination is letting people believe that they can choose their pronouns and that they can be transgender. Scientifically and biblically, there are two genders. Taxpayers fund sports programs in schools, so this legislation ensures that taxpayer dollars will not be going to athletic programs that embrace the woke culture.

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## 4. Constitutional Carry

HF756 removes the requirement for a permit to acquire or carry a handgun. A permit is also no longer required when selling a firearm to another private person.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HF756 on March 17, 2021 by a vote of 60 to 37. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the fundamental right of the American people to keep and bear arms is protected by the U.S. Constitution, particularly in the 2nd, 9th, and 10th Amendments, and should not be infringed. The Constitution does not limit where a gun or firearm can or cannot be used.

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## 5. Solar Energy Tax Credit

HF2556 provides a tax credit for putting in place and having a solar energy system.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed HB2556 on March 30, 2022 by a vote of 94 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation creates more government interference in the free market economy. It also advances the deceptive push for green energy and the Marxist climate change agenda.

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## 6. Garbage Search

SF2296 allows that no search warrant is needed for a peace officer to look through a person's garbage placed outside of someone's residence in a publicly accessible area.

The Iowa State House of Representatives passed SF2296 on March 22, 2022 by a vote of 58 to 36. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill is a direct violation to the 4th amendment, which give people the right to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures without a warrant with probable cause.