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LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

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Terri Jo Austin

Indiana

State Representative, HD-036 (D)

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17

Lifetime
Freedom
Score

IN Legislative Scorecard 2021-2022

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

Vote

1. Would amend SB0001, which terminates the licensure of abortion clinics, to protect an unborn child's life from the moment of conception.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **No** · HA76 (SB0001) · 08/04/2022

2. Allows permitless carry of a handgun for certain persons who are not otherwise prohibited from carrying or possessing a handgun in Indiana.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **No** · HB1296 · 03/08/2022

3. Would amend HB1001, which prohibits COVID-19 passports and allows employee exemptions from COVID-19 vaccination, by eliminating provisions that permit the use of federal COVID-19 funds for social services and authorization of vaccine administration for children less than 11 years old.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **No** · HA14 (HB1001) · 01/13/2022

4. Provides the biennial budget for the State of Indiana, as passed by the General Assembly, which appropriates approximately \$92.2 billion for FY 22-23.



Estimated cost per household: -\$35,405.00/year.

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · HB1001 · 04/22/2021

5. Provides that a local order may not be more stringent or broader in aspect than an executive order issued by the state during a declared emergency without the approval of the local legislative body.



Pro-Freedom: **Yes** · Cast: **No** · SB0005 · 04/06/2021

6. Establishes a Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council (JRAC) for each county in Indiana, consisting of leadership within the respective executive and judicial branches of government, whose purpose is to review local or regional criminal justice systems, policies, and procedures.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **No** · HB1068 · 03/25/2021

Scorecard Votes: 17%

Why do these votes matter?

1. Right to Life from the Moment of Conception

HA76 would amend SB0001, which terminates the licensure of abortion clinics, to protect an unborn child's life from the moment of conception. It further declares that "any act, law, treaty, order, rule, or regulation of the United States government that fails to protect a person's inalienable right to life is null, void, and unenforceable in Indiana." This amendment would also treat a fetus born alive as a person under Indiana law.

States should act to ban abortion and secure the right to life for all persons. The right to life is the most fundamental God-given and unalienable right asserted in the Declaration of Independence, and is guaranteed by the 5th and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

2. Permitless Firearm Carry

HB1296 allows permitless carry of a handgun for certain persons who are not otherwise prohibited from carrying or possessing a handgun in Indiana.

The fundamental right of the American people to keep and bear arms should not be infringed, as guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

3. Prohibiting COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates

HA14 would amend HB1001, which prohibits COVID-19 vaccine passports and requires employers to allow individual exemptions from COVID-19 vaccination, by eliminating provisions that provide for: the use of federal COVID-19 funds for social services; public health orders authorizing the administration of vaccines for children less than 11 years old; and immunity from civil liability related to the issuance of public health protocols. Both government control over health care, including mandatory vaccination, and the use of unconstitutional federal funds should be opposed. To compel American citizens to receive medical treatment would be to violate their fundamental rights protected by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment, whereas the spending of federal taxpayer money ought to be limited for purposes authorized under Article 1, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution.

4. Budget

HB1001 (2021) is the biennial budget for the State of Indiana, as passed by the General Assembly. It appropriates approximately \$92.2 billion for FY 22-23. The spending plan passed by the General Assembly includes \$42.1 billion of mostly unconstitutional federal funds, representing 45.7% of the state's entire budget. It not only increases funding for Medicaid, but also appropriates over \$3.1 billion from the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. States should reject the use of federal taxpayer money for purposes not authorized under Article 1, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution.

5. Oversight of Local Emergency Powers

SB0005 provides that a local order may not be more stringent or broader in aspect than an executive order issued by the state during a declared emergency without the approval of the local legislative body. It also allows a local order to be less stringent than an executive order issued by the state to the extent permitted by the executive order.

Oversight of state and local emergency powers is a proper function of the respective legislative bodies of government within a system of checks and balances. 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.

6. Justice Reinvestment Advisory Councils

HB1068 establishes a local or regional Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council (JRAC) for each county in Indiana, consisting of leadership within the respective executive and judicial branches of government, whose purpose is to review local or regional criminal justice systems, policies, and procedures. Justice reinvestment is a nationwide 'civil justice corps' initiative that involves the reallocation of federal, state, and local funds from the criminal justice system to community-based social services programs (e.g., housing, healthcare, jobs, etc.). It entails the creation of 'advisory councils,' which like 'civilian review boards,' seek to redefine public safety in America by exerting control over the policymaking process apart from the constitutionally-authorized legislative bodies of government.