

# FREEDOM INDEX.US

## LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD BASED ON THE 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.



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## Jared K. Carpenter

Kentucky  
Senator, SD-034 (R)

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70

Lifetime  
Freedom  
Score

## KY Legislative Scorecard 2025

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote	Vote
1. <b>HB664 Automated Speed Enforcement (Passed 29 to 7 on 3/28/2025).</b> Establishes a pilot program for automated speed enforcement in highway work zones by issuing civil citations to drivers exceeding the speed limit by more than 10 miles per hour when workers are present.			YES ✗
2. <b>HB2 Real Money (Passed 30 to 6 on 3/14/2025).</b> Prohibits the state from charging sales or use tax on gold, silver, and platinum bullion.			NONE ?
3. <b>SB75 Concealed-carry Age Reduction (Passed 26 to 11 on 3/11/2025).</b> Lowers the legal age for carrying a concealed weapon from 21 to 18.			YES ★
4. <b>SB151 No Tax Dollars on Illegal Migrants (Passed 29 to 4 on 2/28/2025).</b> Prohibits the use of state tax dollars to pay illegal aliens for any goods or services provided to government entities			YES ★
5. <b>SB14 Government Mandate (Passed 33 to 4 on 2/13/2025).</b> Prohibits pharmaceutical manufacturers from discriminating against 340B-covered entities.			YES ✗
6. <b>HB1 Income-tax Cut (Passed 90 to 7 on 2/4/2025).</b> Cuts the state's individual income-tax rate from 4% to 3.5%, starting with the 2026 tax year.			YES ★

Estimated benefit per household: **+\$401.00/year.**

**Scorecard Votes: 60%**

# Why do these votes matter?

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## 1. Automated Speed Enforcement

HB664 establishes a pilot program for automated speed enforcement in highway work zones by issuing civil citations to drivers exceeding the speed limit by more than 10 miles per hour when workers are present. The Transportation Cabinet is tasked with implementing the program, which includes installing signage indicating active enforcement and issuing courtesy warnings during the first 30 days of operation.

The Kentucky State Senate passed HB664 on March 28, 2025 by a vote of 29 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the nays because traffic cameras undermine due process by removing human interaction and presuming guilt before innocence—principles protected by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution. Additionally, these cameras infringe upon the Fourth Amendment, which protects individuals from unreasonable searches and seizures by the government, and they unfairly grant leniency to some while denying it to others—contradicting the American principle that “all men are created equal.”

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## 2. Real Money

HB2 prohibits the state from charging sales or use taxes on gold, silver, and platinum bullion. It also allows individuals who paid these taxes since August 2024 to apply for refunds, including interest and damages.

The Kentucky State Senate passed HB2 on March 14, 2025 by a vote of 30 to 6. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this is a step toward restoring sound, constitutional money and reestablishing the role of gold and silver as legal tender, in accordance with Article I, Section 10 of the Constitution.

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## 3. Concealed-carry Age Reduction

SB75 lowers the legal age for carrying a concealed weapon from 21 to 18, permitting any adult legally allowed to possess a firearm to carry one without a separate conceal-and-carry license.

The Kentucky State Senate passed SB75 on March 11, 2025 by a vote of 26 to 11. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the state’s minimum age requirement that prevents a person younger than 21 from carrying a firearm, is unconstitutional. The Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution assures that the right of the American people “to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

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## 4. No Tax Dollars on Illegal Migrants

SB151 prohibits the use of state tax dollars to pay anyone unlawfully present in the United States for goods or services provided to government entities. The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security is responsible for enforcement. The law defines “illegal alien” as a foreign national unlawfully present under federal immigration law.

The Kentucky State Senate passed SB151 on February 28, 2025 by a vote of 29 to 4. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because this bill defends the rule of law and protects taxpayers from footing the bill for illegal aliens. Persons who enter the United States illegally—which, by definition, is a crime—ought not to be rewarded with public funds, let alone be paid for providing goods or services to government entities. Doing so not only incentivizes illegal immigration, but undermines national sovereignty. Moreover, neither social welfare nor the redistribution of taxpayer dollars is a legitimate function of government. Programs that fund or compensate illegal aliens with state revenue violate the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment.

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## 5. Government Mandate

SB14 prohibits pharmaceutical manufacturers from discriminating against 340B-covered entities by denying them access to discounted drug pricing. If a manufacturer offers a drug at a 340B price in any other state, it must do the same in Kentucky.

The Kentucky State Senate passed SB14 on February 13, 2025 by a vote of 33 to 4. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill imposes government mandates on private businesses, compelling them to comply with regulations that interfere with their freedom to contract and operate according to their own principles—violating the First Amendment and Article I, Section 10, of the U.S. Constitution. The federal 340B drug discount program lacks constitutional authorization under Article I, Section 8.

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## 6. Income-tax Cut

HB1 cuts the state’s individual income-tax rate from 4% to 3.5%.

The Kentucky State Senate passed HB1 on February 4, 2025 by a vote of 34 to 3. 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. Kentuckians 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.”