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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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Sara Norris Love

Maryland
Senator, SD-016 (D)

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MD Legislative Scorecard 2025

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote	Vote
			YES ✗
1. SB361 “Synthetic” Media Ban (Passed 39 to 8 on 4/7/2025). Prohibits influencing or attempting to influence a voter’s decision to cast a vote for a candidate or ballot issue with “synthetic media,” to falsely depict a person with “false intent.”			
			YES ✗
2. SB683 Federal Employee Assistance Fund (Passed 35 to 11 on 4/7/2025). Establishes the Federal Government Employee Assistance Loan Fund, expanding it to provide no-interest loans to federal employees unpaid due to a government shutdown, terminated due to closures, relocations, layoffs, or financial hardship.			
			YES ✗
3. HB991 Minority Business Enterprise Program (Passed 47 to 0 on 4/2/2025). Extends the Minority Business Enterprise Program’s termination date, while postponing deadlines for reports evaluating “compliance with federal and constitutional” requirements, and mandating “race and gender-neutral” approaches to support minority and women-owned businesses.			
			YES ✗
4. HB930 Abortion Grant Program (Passed 31 to 15 on 4/2/2025). Establishes the Public Health Abortion Grant Program to provide funds for health care practitioners and organizations to provide access to abortion services.			
			YES ✗
5. SB587 Reparations Bill (Passed 32 to 13 on 3/14/2025). Establishes the Maryland Reparations Commission to study and recommend benefits for descendants of individuals enslaved in Maryland or impacted by inequitable government policies.			
			YES ✗
6. SB444 Gun Buyback Expansion (Passed 33 to 12 on 2/28/2025). Requires federal firearms licensees or law enforcement agencies operating gun buyback programs to destroy all firearms, ensuring they are permanently inoperable and unrepairable, with the intent to reduce the number of firearms owned in a community.			
			YES ✗

Scorecard Votes: 0%

Why do these votes matter?

1. “Synthetic” Media Ban

SB361 prohibits influencing or attempting to influence a voter’s decision to cast a vote for a candidate or ballot issue with “synthetic media,” created or altered using artificial intelligence to falsely depict a person with “false intent.” Violations are punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000, imprisonment of up to 5 years, or both.

This legislation imposes restrictions on speech in violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. It infringes on individual liberty by restricting free expression and enabling selective enforcement against political speech, expanding government overreach in regulating digital content creation and dissemination.

2. Federal Employee Assistance Fund

SB683 establishes the Federal Government Employee Assistance Loan Fund, expanding it to provide no-interest loans to federal employees. It also establishes the Expedited Hiring Program to prioritize former federal employees for state positions, authorizes the Attorney General to pursue legal action.

This legislation violates equal-protection principles. It prioritizes certain residents over others, diverting taxpayer resources to financial and employment assistance, and expands bureaucratic overreach in state hiring processes.

3. Minority Business Enterprise Program

HB991 extends the Minority Business Enterprise Program’s termination date, while postponing deadlines for reports evaluating “compliance with federal and constitutional requirements”, and mandating “race and gender-neutral” approaches to support minority and women-owned businesses.

This legislation expands government authority and perpetuates race and gender-based discrimination, violating equal protection principles. This legislation prioritizes certain groups over others, and mandates discriminatory practices in state procurement processes.

4. Abortion Grant Program

HB930 establishes the Public Health Abortion Grant Program to provide state budget appropriation funds for authorized health care practitioners, and eligible organizations, to provide access to abortion services for uninsured, “underinsured”, or “at-risk” individuals.

This legislation creates a state-funded program to subsidize abortion services. Maryland should act to ban abortion, which violates the unalienable right to life endowed by God to every person, as guaranteed by both the 5th and 14th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution.

5. Reparations Bill

SB587 establishes the Maryland Reparations Commission to study and recommend benefits for descendants of individuals enslaved in Maryland or impacted by inequitable government policies from 1877 to 1965, such as housing segregation and redlining. The commission, composed of legislative members, state officials, and representatives from various organizations, will examine reparations models, eligibility criteria, and funding sources.

This legislation expands government authority beyond its proper constitutional bounds, creating a commission to study and recommend reparations for “historical inequities.” Such measures promote race-based policies that favor certain groups, undermining individual liberty and equal protection under the law.

6. Gun Buyback Expansion

SB444 requires federal firearms licensees or law enforcement agencies operating gun buyback programs to destroy all firearms, with the intent to reduce the number of firearms owned in a community. It requires law enforcement to check if a firearm is stolen or crime-related before destruction, prohibits non-compliant buyback programs, and revokes a firearm dealer’s license for violations, with non-compliance a classified as a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000.

This legislation infringes on the constitutionally protected rights guaranteed by the Second Amendment. It also undermines individual liberty by funding and promoting state-sponsored firearm reduction programs, discouraging lawful firearm ownership, and expanding bureaucratic overreach in regulating private property.