FREEDOMINDEX.US

Ruth A. Johnson

Michigan

Senator, SD-024 (R)

freedomindex.us/6512/

64
Lifetime Freedom Score

Scan to view vote history

2025 MI 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

	$/Year	Vote
1. SB51 Black Leadership Advisory Council (Passed 29 to 7 on 3/19/2025). Would codify a state advisory council to recommend policies to the governor and state agencies aimed at addressing alleged discrimination and racial inequities.	-$0.10	NO ★
2. SB34 Woke Discrimination Protections (Passed 22 to 14 on 4/17/2025). Broadens the definition of "sex" to explicitly include pregnancy, childbirth, lactation, and related medical conditions, ensuring these are protected under anti-discrimination law.		NONE ?
3. SB134 Consumer Protection (Passed 19 to 18 on 6/10/2025). Expands the state's ability to investigate and penalize deceptive or fraudulent business practices.		NO ★
4. SB224 Bump-stock Ban (Passed 22 to 14 on 6/25/2025). Prohibits the manufacture, sale, transfer, or possession of bump stocks and multiburst trigger activators.		NO ★
5. SB396 Carbon Sequestration (Passed 29 to 7 on 9/4/2025). Regulates carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) in Michigan.	-$0.04	YES ✗
6. SB166 Education Funding (Passed 31 to 5 on 10/3/2025). Sets the 2025-2026 school-aid budget, appropriating about $22.3 billion for K-12 public education.	-$5,222.00	YES ✗

Scorecard Votes: 60%

View the Freedom Toolbox

Scan to learn more about the Freedom Index, view legislative alerts, and deepen your understanding of the U.S. Constitution and America's founding principles. Visit **freedomindex.us/tools**

$294,361

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

Why do these votes matter?

1. Black Leadership Advisory Council

SB51, titled the Black Leadership Advisory Council Act, would codify a state advisory council to recommend policies to the governor and state agencies aimed at addressing alleged discrimination and racial inequities in areas such as housing, education, healthcare, employment, and economic opportunity.

The Michigan State Senate passed SB51 on March 19, 2025 by a vote of 29 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill expands government bureaucracy by directing yet another state commission to study supposed discrimination and racial inequities—an exercise that assumes inequality and invites policymakers to engineer outcomes through further regulation. As the Declaration of Independence affirms, "all men are created equal" and endowed with God-given rights; government's role is to secure those rights, not divide people into categories or use data studies to justify more interference in the market.

2. Woke Discrimination Protections

SB34 clarifies and expands key definitions related to employment and public accommodations. It broadens the definition of "sex" to explicitly include pregnancy, childbirth, lactation, and related medical conditions, ensuring these are protected under anti-discrimination law. The bill also updates definitions of employers, labor organizations, and public accommodations—including certain private clubs—while clarifying what qualifies as a public service.

The Michigan State Senate passed SB34 on April 17, 2025 by a vote of 22 to 14. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation expands government regulation on businesses. It also replaces clear language, such as "women," with woke terms, such as "lactating status." Expanding these mandates forces private businesses to comply with additional government requirements in hiring and public accommodations. Such laws divide Americans, pit them against each other, and increase government interference in private business, which government has no legitimate authority to do.

3. Consumer Protection

SB134 expands the state's ability to investigate and penalize deceptive or fraudulent business practices. The bill removes certain exemptions from Michigan's existing consumer-protection law, and gives the Michigan attorney general greater authority to pursue complaints and enforce penalties. It also strengthens protections for "vulnerable consumers," and supports enforcement efforts.

The Michigan State Senate passed SB134 on June 10, 2025 by a vote of 19 to 18. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the bill expands government control over private commerce. By removing exemptions and broadening enforcement authority, it subjects more businesses to regulatory scrutiny and discretionary enforcement by the state. Such measures interfere with voluntary exchange and the free market, exceeding the proper role of government, which is to protect property rights and enforce contracts—not regulate prices, terms, or private business activity.

4. Bump-stock Ban

SB224 prohibits the manufacture, sale, transfer, or possession of bump stocks and multiburst trigger activators—devices that allow a semiautomatic firearm to fire more rapidly, similar to an automatic weapon. Violating the law could result in felony penalties, including possible prison time and fines.

The Michigan State Senate passed SB224 on June 25, 2025 by a vote of 22 to 14. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill mirrors and reinforces an unconstitutional federal gun-control law, undermining state sovereignty. Furthermore, by criminalizing firearm components at the state level, SB224 infringes on the Second Amendment, which clearly states that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." This legislation empowers the state to further erode God-given rights under the guise of public safety.

5. Carbon Sequestration

SB396 creates a legal framework for capturing carbon emissions and storing them underground. It allows the state to permit and oversee carbon sequestration wells, establishes rules for ownership and monitoring of underground storage sites, and authorizes environmental regulators to manage the process.

The Michigan State Senate passed SB396 on September 4, 2025 by a vote of 29 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the recent and dangerous expansion of carbon-capture storage systems in the United States is closely connected to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for "sustainable development," which seeks to codify extreme "environmental justice" measures into state law. Its push for a "green" or "decarbonized" economy on behalf of "vulnerable populations" is nothing other than a fanatical attempt by globalist elites to increase their taxing power and authority. The abuse of eminent domain for these carbon-capture pipelines encroaches upon the constitutionally protected property rights of Michiganders. If America is to truly remain the "land of the free," then the states and the people must reject the hoax of "climate change" and put an end to the global war on farmers and ranchers.

6. Education Funding

SB166 sets the 2025-2026 school-aid budget, appropriating about $22.3 billion for K-12 public education, including increases to the per-pupil funding amount and additional funding for programs such as at-risk student support, school safety, and mental-health services.

The Michigan State Senate passed SB166 on October 3, 2025 by a vote of 31 to 5. We have assigned pluses to the nays because education is not the role of government—it is the responsibility of a child's parents. Schools can and should be privatized, without any need for public funding that steals from taxpayers (e.g., property taxes) and drains the treasury. If not dismantled, the government's monopoly on preK-12 education will continue to displace traditional private schools and homeschooling in favor of universal state-sponsored schooling. The best "school choice," by far, is for parents to choose not

to place their child's education in the hands of the state. Educational and economic freedom cannot be achieved by forcing other citizens to give up their hard-earned tax dollars for all that now entails a compulsory, failing, and government-run school system.