

**Mike Bernskoetter**

Missouri

Senator, SD-006 (R)

freedomindex.us/7100/**43**Lifetime
Freedom
ScoreScan to view
vote history**MO Legislative Scorecard 2025****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. HJR3 "Protect Missouri Voters" Amendment (adopted 21 to 11 on 9/12/2025). Would require a majority of voters in each congressional district to approve initiative petitions to amend the Missouri Constitution.

NONE

?

2. SB3 Taxpayer Money for Sports Stadiums (passed 19 to 13 on 6/5/2025). Authorizes tax credits for "sporting events" and the expenditure of state funds for "athletic and entertainment" facilities.

YES

Estimated cost per household: -\$22.00/year.

✗

3. HB567 Ending Mandatory Paid Sick Leave (passed 22 to 11 on 5/14/2025). Eliminates the obligation for all Missouri employers to provide paid sick time.

YES

★

4. HB2 Government-school Budget (passed 26 to 8 on 5/9/2025). Appropriates \$8.7 billion for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

YES

Estimated cost per household: -\$3,378.00/year.

✗

5. HB225 Interstate Policing (emergency clause adopted 32 to 2 on 5/7/2025). Permits any chief law-enforcement official to request assistance from a law-enforcement agency outside the State of Missouri.

YES

✗

6. SB79 Year-round "Contraceptive" Coverage (passed 24 to 6 on 3/27/2025). Directs health benefit plans that offer coverage for FDA-approved "contraceptives" to cover no less than an initial three-month supply.

YES

✗

Scorecard Votes: 20%**View the Freedom Toolbox**

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\$293,703

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of July 20, 2026

Why do these votes matter?

1. Protect Missouri Voters Amendment

HJR3 would require a majority of voters in each congressional district to approve initiative petitions to amend the Missouri Constitution.

Initiative and referendum powers ought to be repealed. These illegitimate populist loopholes relegate the lawmaking duties of the General Assembly to the will of the masses, causing chaos and instability. The Missouri Constitution should not be subject to change as a result of a simple majority vote, whether by both houses of the General Assembly and/or electors statewide. The current threshold of 50% + 1 is an insufficient safeguard for protecting Missourians from the “tyranny of the majority.” Instead, a “constitutional majority” of two-thirds, if not three-fourths, must be required. Article IV, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution guarantees “a Republican Form of Government,” which means government limited to the “rule of law,” not mere “majority rule.”

2. Taxpayer Money for Sports Stadiums

SB3 authorizes the expenditure of state funds for “athletic and entertainment” facilities.

Government has no business subsidizing professional sports. Privately-owned billion-dollar organizations, such as the Kansas City Chiefs, can afford to build their own stadiums. “Economic development” is nothing other than a cliché used by corporatist cronies to finance their corrupt “pork-barrel” projects. In addition, this bill conflicts with the Missouri Constitution's provisions against grants of public money to private persons, special law, and multiple subjects. Nevertheless, the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment were written to “promote the general Welfare,” not to pick economic “winners” and “losers.”

3. Ending Mandatory Paid Sick Leave

HB567 eliminates the obligation for employers to provide paid sick time.

Mandatory paid sick leave denies businesses and workers the ability to make their own compensation decisions. There is no right to receive nor duty to provide paid sick leave apart from the terms of a lawful voluntary employment contract. Mandatory paid sick leave infringes upon freedom of contract and forces private employers to shoulder onerous and unjustified costs. It undermines work ethic and profit incentive, hindering the best workers from getting the best benefits from the best employers.

4. Government school-Budget

HB2 appropriates \$8.7 billion for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Education is not the role of government—it is the responsibility of a child's parents or family. 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.

5. Interstate Policing

HB225 permits any chief law-enforcement official to request assistance from a law-enforcement agency outside the State of Missouri.

This bill gives out-of-state police unwarranted power to engage in law enforcement in Missouri. Interstate policing is blatantly unconstitutional—a dangerous violation of state sovereignty that is designed to lead to the creation of a national police force. Law enforcement-officers are commissioned “To Protect and to Serve” their own communities, not to intervene in other jurisdictions. Keeping police independent at the state, county, and municipal levels is crucial to preserving the separation of powers that exists “in every State” under our federal and “Republican Form of Government,” as guaranteed by Article IV, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution. It's why The John Birch Society has consistently called for Missourians and all freedom-loving Americans to “Support Your Local Police.”

6. Year-round "Contraceptive" Coverage

SB79 directs health benefit plans that offer coverage for FDA-approved “contraceptives” to cover no less than an initial three-month supply.

This bill enables health insurers to provide year-round coverage for at-home abortions. Hormonal birth-control drugs, let alone “emergency contraception,” such as the “morning-after” pill (e.g., Plan B), function not only as “contraceptives,” but as abortifacients. Abortion is murder, and no person has a right to kill a preborn child. Since the care of human life—not its destruction—is the greatest responsibility of government, Missouri ought to abolish abortion entirely. The right to life is the most fundamental, God-given, and “unalienable” right mentioned in the Declaration of Independence and secured by the Fifth and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.