



## Edward Blackmon

Mississippi

Representative, HD-057 (D)

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17

Lifetime  
Freedom  
Score

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## 2024 MS 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

Vote

1. **HB539 Medicaid Expansion (Passed 117 to 5 on 1/31/2024).** Expands presumptive Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women with a net family income at or below 194% of the federal poverty level.

NONE

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2. **HB728 Federal Program Acceptance (Passed 83 to 31 on 3/14/2024).** Prohibits health insurance companies, pharmacy benefit manager, drug manufacturers, and distributors from discriminating against entities participating in the federal 340B drug discount program.

NONE

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3. **SB2425 Ballot Harvesting Restrictions (Passed 80 to 41 on 4/4/2024).** Specifies that only election officials, postal workers, individuals authorized by federal law, or a voter's family member, household member, or caregiver may collect and transmit a voter's mail-in ballot.

NONE

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4. **SB2776 Eminent Domain (Passed 87 to 28 on 4/10/2024).** Grants certain public agencies the authority to take immediate possession of property easements or rights-of-way when needed for public road construction and utility projects related to specific economic-development initiatives.

NONE

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5. **HB349 Vehicle Modification Restrictions (Passed 100 to 7 on 4/17/2024).** Prohibits vehicle modifications that raise the front fender four or more inches higher than the rear fender, commonly known as "squatted vehicles."

NONE

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6. **HB903 Anti-2nd Amendment Bill (Passed 94 to 12 on 4/25/2024).** Criminalizes the manufacture, possession, and use of machine-gun-conversion devices, such as "Glock switches" or "auto-sears," which transform semiautomatic firearms into fully automatic weapons.

NONE

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Scorecard Votes: %



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# \$290,986

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of June 2, 2026

# Why do these votes matter?

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## 1. Medicaid Expansion

HB539 expands presumptive Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women with a net family income at or below 194% of the federal poverty level. This allows them to receive immediate prenatal care for up to 60 days while their formal Medicaid application is processed.

The Mississippi State House of Representatives passed HB539 on January 31, 2024 by a vote of 117 to 5. We have assigned pluses to the nays because Medicaid, as with many other "entitlement programs," discriminatorily and unjustly provides "eligible" low-income persons, who have little or no tax liability, with government funds at the expense of other hard-working citizens. Mississippi must reject the use of taxpayer dollars for this ever-expanding and unsustainable federal-state program that is not authorized under the U.S. Constitution.

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## 2. Federal Program Acceptance

HB728 prohibits health insurance companies, pharmacy benefit managers, drug manufacturers, and distributors from discriminating against entities participating in the federal 340B drug discount program.

The Mississippi State House of Representatives passed HB728 on March 14, 2024 by a vote of 83 to 31. 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. Constitutions.

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## 3. Ballot Harvesting Restrictions

SB2425 specifies that only election officials, postal workers, individuals authorized by federal law, or a voter's family member, household member, or caregiver may collect and transmit a voter's mail-in ballot.

The Mississippi State House of Representatives passed SB2425 on April 4, 2024 by a vote of 80 to 41. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because ballot harvesting—as with mass voting by mail in general—enables electoral fraud, disenfranchising eligible voters. States should exercise their authority, under Article 1, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, to implement free, fair, and secure elections, providing equal protection of the right of American citizens to vote.

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## 4. Eminent Domain

SB2776 grants certain public agencies the authority to take immediate possession of property easements or rights-of-way when needed for public road construction and utility projects related to specific economic-development initiatives.

The Mississippi State House of Representatives passed SB2776 on April 10, 2024 by a vote of 87 to 28. We have assigned pluses to the nays because eminent domain for private corporations violates the U.S. Constitution, specifically the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments. Furthermore, the Fourteenth Amendment declares, "nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

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## 5. Vehicle Modification Restrictions

HB349 prohibits vehicle modifications that raise the front fender four or more inches higher than the rear fender, commonly known as "squatted vehicles." Violators face escalating fines: \$100 for a first offense, \$200 for a second, and \$300 plus a one-year license suspension for a third offense within five years.

The Mississippi State House of Representatives passed HB349 on April 17, 2024 by a vote of 100 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill is an overreach of government authority into property rights and individual vehicle preferences. While framed as a safety measure, HB349 imposes escalating penalties—including fines and license suspension—for vehicle modifications that are a matter of personal choice. Such heavy-handed regulation sets a troubling precedent for excessive government control over how individuals may customize their own property.

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## 6. Anti-2nd Amendment Bill

HB903 known as the "Jeremy Todd Malone Law," criminalizes the manufacture, possession, and use of machine-gun-conversion devices, such as "Glock switches" or "auto-sears," which transform semiautomatic firearms into fully automatic weapons. A first offense is classified as a felony, punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$3,000. Subsequent offenses carry increased penalties, with a second conviction resulting in up to 15 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$20,000.

The Mississippi State House of Representatives passed HB903 on April 25, 2024 by a vote of 94 to 12. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill undermines the Second Amendment, which protects the God-given right of individuals to keep and bear arms—a right that "shall not be infringed." Criminalizing the mere possession of conversion devices, regardless of intent or use, expands state power in a way that violates this fundamental liberty.