

# FREEDOMINDEX.US

## LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

BASED ON THE THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

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# Tammy Felder Witherspoon

Mississippi

Senator, SD-038 (D)

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Lifetime  
Freedom  
Score

## 2022 MS Legislative Scorecard

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

| ★ Constitutional                                                                   | ✗ Unconstitutional                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ? Did not Vote | Vote |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------|
| 1. <b>SB2822 Establishes Grant (Passed 52 to 0 on 2/8/2022).</b>                   | Administers Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds under the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to the Department of Environmental Quality to create a grant to help government comply with regulations and environmental policy.        | NONE           | ?    |
| 2. <b>SB2077 Healthy Food &amp; Families Program (Passed 47 to 5 on 2/9/2022).</b> | Permits the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce to increase the purchasing power of Mississippi residents with limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables and support local farmers by providing matching dollar incentives. | NONE           | ?    |
| 3. <b>SB2831 Tech Tax (Passed 52 to 0 on 2/9/2022).</b>                            | Creates the taxation of remote and internet-based computer software products and creates a service study commission to recommend how products should be taxed.                                                                                 | NONE           | ?    |
| 4. <b>SB3062 ARPA Funds (Passed 51 to 0 on 2/17/2022).</b>                         | Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Department of Finance and Administration Bureau of Building, Grounds, and Real Property Management.                                                                                             | NONE           | ?    |
| 5. <b>HB1509 Vaccine Mandate (Passed 36 to 15 on 3/9/2022).</b>                    | Prohibits any state or local official, school or university from refusing services, health care access or employment opportunities to a person based on their Covid-19 vaccination status.                                                     | NONE           | ?    |
| 6. <b>HB770 Equal Pay for Equal Work (Passed 49 to 9 on 3/9/2022).</b>             | Requires that no employer shall pay an employee a wage at a rate less than the rate of an employee of the opposite sex.                                                                                                                        | NONE           | ?    |

Scorecard Votes: %

# Why do these votes matter?

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## 1. Establishes Grant

SB2822 administers Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds under the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to the Department of Environmental Quality to create a grant to help government comply with regulations and environmental policy.

The Mississippi State Senate passed SB2822 on February 8, 2022 by a vote of 52 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the spending of taxpayer money for purposes not authorized under Art. 1 Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution tightens the federal-state lockstep on redistribution of income. Additionally, this distributes federal taxpayer dollars into a department that follows unconstitutional federal environmental policy.

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## 2. Healthy Food & Families Program

SB2077 permits the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce to increase the purchasing power of Mississippi residents with limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables and support local farmers by providing matching dollar incentives for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits redeemed at farmers markets and retailers.

The Mississippi State Senate passed SB2077 on February 9, 2022 by a vote of 47 to 5. We have assigned the pluses to the nays because government subsidies are a way government interferes in the free market economy. Subsidies make individuals more reliable on government assistance and when the government has their hand in things they shouldn't, the people lose more control and freedom.

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## 3. Tech Tax

SB2831 creates the taxation of remote and internet-based computer software products and creates a service study commission to recommend how products should be taxed.

The Mississippi State Senate passed SB2831 on February 9, 2022 by a vote of 52 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the government should be looking for ways to ease tax burdens and not find ways to increase taxes.

## 4. ARPA Funds

SB3062 administers \$217,250,000 coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Department of Finance and Administration Bureau of Building, Grounds, and Real Property Management.

The Mississippi State Senate passed SB3062 on February 17, 2022 by a vote of 51 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the spending of taxpayer money for purposes not authorized under Art. 1 Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution tightens the federal-state lockstep on redistribution of income. Additionally, distribution of federal taxpayer dollars comes with contingencies and requirements, forcing states into situations that violate the U.S. Constitution.

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## 5. Vaccine Mandate

HB1509 prohibits any state or local official, school or university from refusing services, health care access or employment opportunities to a person based on their Covid-19 vaccination status.

The Mississippi State Senate passed HB1509 on March 9, 2022 by a vote of 36 to 15. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because an individual's personal health care decisions should not be the object of government, nor be under its federal, state, or local jurisdictions in the United States. Forcing an individual to receive a vaccination or partake in any medical procedure would be a violation of their fundamental rights, freedoms, privileges, or immunities protected by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

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## 6. Equal Pay for Equal Work

HB770 requires that no employer shall pay an employee a wage at a rate less than the rate of an employee of the opposite sex.

The Mississippi State Senate passed HB770 on March 9, 2022 by a vote of 42 to 9. We have assigned pluses to the nays because equal pay for equal work is a liberal talking point and businesses should be paying their employees based on experience and performance or however they see fit. The government should not be telling businesses how they should be compensating their employees. That is done naturally by the free market.