



Paul A. Lowe

North Carolina
Senator, SD-032 (D)

freedomindex.us/7790/

13

Lifetime
Freedom
Score

Scan to view
vote history



NC 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. S50 Permitless Firearm Carry (motion to override veto passed 30 to 19 on 7/29/2025). Would have allowed U.S. citizens who are at least 18 years of age to carry a concealed handgun without a permit.

NO



2. S153 North Carolina Border Protection Act (motion to override veto passed 30 to 19 on 7/29/2025). Would have required state law enforcement to cooperate with federal immigration officials, prevented state-funded benefits from being provided to non-citizens residing in the United States illegally, and prohibited sanctuary policies at the University of North Carolina.

NO



3. H192 Defunding Planned Parenthood (passed 28 to 20 on 9/22/2025). Would disenroll Planned Parenthood from Medicaid, and terminate all Medicaid contracts with Planned Parenthood.

NO



4. H307 Iryna's Law (passed 28 to 8 on 9/22/2025). Eliminates cashless bail for criminal defendants charged with a "violent offense," and expedites the process for implementing the death penalty.

NO



5. S405 Increasing Medicaid Funding (passed 47 to 0 on 9/22/2025). Would appropriate at least \$690 million in Medicaid funding for each year of the FY 2025-2027 biennium, among other provisions.

YES

Estimated cost per household: **-\$191.87/year.**



6. H56 Government-run Education (passed 48 to 0 on 4/22/2025). Would appropriate \$46,375,508 to the University of North Carolina for each year of the FY 2025-2027 biennium to address growth in student enrollment.

YES

Estimated cost per household: **-\$10.31/year.**



Scorecard Votes: 0%



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

\$294,238

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of July 21, 2026

Why do these votes matter?

1. Permitless Firearm Carry

S50 would have allowed U.S. citizens who are at least 18 years of age to carry a concealed handgun without a permit.

This bill would have removed North Carolina's blatantly unconstitutional requirement that a person have a "valid permit" to carry a concealed weapon. The Second Amendment-protected rights of law-abiding citizens are not subject to a government-approved license. In fact, the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution expressly declares, without qualification, that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Additionally, the Fifth and 14th Amendments prevent "any State" from depriving or denying "any person" of their "life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

2. North Carolina Border Protection Act

S153 would have required state law enforcement to cooperate with federal immigration officials, prevented state-funded benefits from being provided to non-citizens residing in the United States illegally, and prohibited sanctuary policies at the University of North Carolina.

Illegal aliens ought to be deported from the United States. They should not be granted sanctuary or residency in North Carolina. Unlawful presence in the United States is, at the very least, a civil violation, whereas illegal entry is a crime. Moreover, mass migration, which is no less an "Invasion," as per the U.S. Constitution, has become the most immediate and serious threat to our country. It is an anti-American policy designed to destroy national unity, allegiance, and sovereignty, through an undermining of the rule of law and an erosion of the value of citizenship. To save our Republic, "We the People" need to demand secure borders, the deportation of every illegal, and a moratorium on all immigration until the crisis ends.

3. Defunding Planned Parenthood

H192 would disenroll Planned Parenthood from Medicaid, and terminate all Medicaid contracts with Planned Parenthood.

Taxpayer dollars should not be used to subsidize abortion centers, such as Planned Parenthood. 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, North Carolina 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.

4. Iryna's Law

H307 eliminates cashless bail for criminal defendants charged with a "violent offense," and expedites the process for implementing the death penalty.

Denying cashless bail to violent or repeat offenders reduces crime. Violent criminals must be kept off the streets, and most crimes are committed by those with a previous criminal record. No criminal should ever walk out of court as a free person when he should be placed under restraint or even executed. As justice is the overall purpose of government, the State of North Carolina has a duty to uphold the rights of victims and protect the public. Also, the U.S. Constitution's Fifth Amendment addresses "capital" crimes. Criminal codes before and during the time of the American Founding, such as the 1641 Laws of New England, confirm that certain offenses demand the death penalty. The "due process" and "equal protection" requirements in the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment follow the Common Law retributive principle that "the punishment should fit the crime."

5. Increasing Medicaid Funding

S405 would appropriate at least \$690 million in Medicaid funding for each year of the FY 2025-2027 biennium, among other provisions.

Neither healthcare nor "social welfare" is the legitimate object of government. Medicaid is a joint federal and state "entitlement" scheme that is not authorized according to Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. It relies on discriminatory and unjust forms of taxation (e.g., personal or corporate income taxes) that provide "Medical Assistance benefits" to "eligible persons," who have little or no tax liability, at the expense of others—resulting in more debt, dependency, and poverty. The Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment were written to prevent such "nanny state" policies

6. Government-run Education

H56 would appropriate \$46,375,508 to the University of North Carolina for each year of the FY 2025-2027 biennium to address growth in student enrollment.

Education is not the role of government. The University of North Carolina can and should be, at the very least, privatized, without the need to rely on state appropriations that steal from taxpayers and drain the treasury. Public colleges and universities are nothing but government colleges and universities. Neither academic nor financial freedom can be achieved by forcing other citizens to furnish their hard-earned tax dollars to fund all that now entails a failing, government-run K-12-and-beyond education system.