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LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

BASED ON THE THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

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Randall T. Pettigrew

New Mexico

Representative, HD-061 (R)

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Lifetime
Freedom
Score

NM Legislative Scorecard 2025

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote	Vote
1. SB364 Illegal Aliens as Law Enforcement Officers (passed 38 to 20 on 3/21/2025). Amends New Mexico law to expand eligibility for law-enforcement-officer appointments to noncitizens. The bill allows illegal aliens to serve as law-enforcement officers in New Mexico.			NO ★
2. HB518 LGBTQ+ Public Holiday (passed 41 to 11 on 3/13/2025). Designates the fourth Tuesday of January of each odd-numbered year as "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Expansive Day" in New Mexico.			NO ★
3. HB458 Carbon-Capture Stewardship (passed 51 to 11 on 3/11/2025). Enacts the Geologic Carbon Dioxide Storage Stewardship Act, which authorizes the transfer of carbon-capture sequestration facilities, and long-term storage responsibilities to the state, and creates a long-term storage fund.			YES ✗
4. HB453 Housing Assistance Program (passed 47 to 16 on 3/10/2025). Amends the Affordable Housing Act to establish a program providing grants to cover unpaid rent and damages to rented residential properties, land, buildings, or infrastructure to support affordable housing.			NO ★
5. HB12 "Extreme Risk" Firearm Confiscation (passed 41 to 27 on 2/25/2025). Amends the Extreme Risk Firearm Protection Order Act to allow law-enforcement officers to file petitions for firearm protection orders, requiring respondents to surrender all firearms immediately.			NO ★
6. HB77 SNAP Expansion (passed 62 to 0 on 2/21/2025). Enacts a new section of the Public Assistance Act requiring the New Mexico Health Care Authority to develop annual state outreach plans, and seek maximum matching funds from the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).			YES ✗

Scorecard Votes: 67%

Why do these votes matter?

1. Illegal Aliens as Law-Enforcement Officers

SB364 amends New Mexico law to expand eligibility for law-enforcement-officer appointments to noncitizens. The bill allows DACA recipients and noncitizens authorized to work by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to serve as law-enforcement officers in New Mexico, provided they meet other existing qualifications.

We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation undermines public safety and national security by expanding law-enforcement eligibility to noncitizens. While the 10th Amendment reserves to the states the authority to regulate law enforcement qualifications, this power should be exercised in a manner that upholds the integrity of law enforcement. Allowing noncitizens to exercise police power and authority over citizens as law-enforcement officers undermines public trust in law enforcement and raises concerns about allegiance and accountability.

2. LGBTQ+ Public Holiday

HB518 designates the fourth Tuesday of January of each odd-numbered year as "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Expansive Day" in New Mexico to recognize the supposed cultural, economic, and historic contributions of individuals identifying as "lesbian," "gay," "bisexual," "transgender," "queer," or "expansive."

We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation promotes "woke" LGBTQ+ identity-based recognition, which fosters division and sanctions grossly illicit acts of sexual perversion. Homosexual behavior is contrary to the "Laws of Nature and of Nature's God," undermining self-government and the family. It attacks the very foundations of a free society. Nothing in the U.S. Constitution can be used to support homosexuality.

3. Carbon-Capture Stewardship

HB458 enacts the Geologic Carbon Dioxide Storage Stewardship Act, which authorizes the transfer of carbon-capture sequestration facilities, and long-term storage responsibilities to the state, and creates a long-term storage fund.

We have assigned pluses to the nays because carbon capture programs intended to combat "climate change" align closely with the UN's Agenda 2030, undermining national sovereignty and individual liberty. States should reject UN environmental agendas that erode U.S. sovereignty.

4. Housing Assistance Program

HB453 amends the Affordable Housing Act to establish a creditworthiness assistance program administered by the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority, providing grants to cover unpaid rent and damages to rented residential properties. The bill allows grants for land, buildings, or infrastructure to support affordable housing. It also sets requirements for local governments to enact housing-assistance grants, and mandates long-term affordability for housing projects.

We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation increases government spending and involvement in housing and financial assistance, burdening taxpayers and undermining the free market. HB453's expansion of state-funded grants and acceptance of federal funds infringes on state sovereignty and encourages dependency on government assistance.

5. "Extreme Risk" Firearm Confiscation

HB12 amends the Extreme Risk Firearm Protection Order Act to allow law-enforcement officers to file petitions for firearm protection orders based on information collected during official duties, and from reporting parties. Respondents are required to surrender all firearms immediately upon service of a extreme-risk firearm protection order.

We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation allows law enforcement to confiscate firearms without due process, violating the Second Amendment and undermining individual liberty by allowing subjective assessments of "imminent danger" to authorize firearm confiscations. The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution explicitly protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms. State governments must reject laws that infringe on God-given, constitutionally protected rights.

6. SNAP Expansion

HB77 enacts a new section of the Public Assistance Act requiring the New Mexico Health Care Authority to develop annual state outreach plans for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The authority must submit these plans to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service, and seek maximum federal matching funds.

We have assigned pluses to the nays because this legislation increases state acceptance of the federal SNAP program. Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution does not authorize the federal government to create food assistance programs. By aligning with federal SNAP requirements and relying on federal matching funds, HB77 entangles New Mexico in federal regulations and undermines state authority over public policy.