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LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD BASED ON THE 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.



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James Leewright

Oklahoma
Senator, SD-012 (R)

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67

Lifetime
Freedom
Score

OK Legislative Scorecard 2021-2022

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote	Vote
1. HB3046 Prohibit the Private Funding of Elections Act (Passed 37 to 9 on 4/27/2022).			YES
Prohibits governments from accepting funds to be used for conducting elections.			★
2. HB4473 State Budget (Passed 33 to 10 on 5/20/2022).			YES
Creates an Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund in the state budget and would appropriate temporary rebates to taxpayers.			✗
Estimated cost per household: -\$121.00/year.			
3. SB615 Bathroom Bill (Passed 38 to 7 on 5/19/2022).			YES
Requires individuals to use restrooms or changing areas based on their sex.			★
4. HB1775 Critical Race Theory Ban (Passed 38 to 9 on 4/29/2021).			YES
Prohibits the teaching of Critical Race Theory and certain race based concepts.			★
5. SB368 Religious Freedom Act (Passed 37 to 9 on 3/11/2021).			YES
Prohibits governmental declaration of religious institutions as nonessential.			★
6. SJR23 Con-Con (Passed 37 to 10 on 3/2/2021).			YES
Applies for a Convention of States under Article V for proposing amendments to U.S. Constitution.			✗

Scorecard Votes: 67%

Why do these votes matter?

1. Prohibit the Private Funding of Elections Act

HB3046 prohibits governments from accepting funds to be used for conducting elections in the state and requires elections be paid for with public funds.

The Oklahoma State Senate passed HB3046 on April 27, 2022 by a vote of 37 to 9. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because strengthening our election laws are crucial in the preservation of our election process and election integrity. Article IV, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution provides that “citizens” of the United States “shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities,” such as the “right of citizens of the United States” to vote as prescribed in the 26th Amendment. Tightening election laws preserve the integrity of the election process and keeping outside money out of elections will prevent outside influence of outcomes.

2. State Budget

HB4473 creates an Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund in the state budget and would appropriate \$75 per individual tax filer and \$150 for couples who joint file. This would total \$181 million dollars.

The Oklahoma State Senate passed HB4473 on May 20, 2022 by a vote of 33 to 10. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this Inflation Relief Stimulus Fund is only temporary relief. The state government should look for a more permanent solution, such as tax decreases which shrink the size of government and hopefully the legislature will act on that soon.

3. Bathroom Bill

SB615 requires individuals to use restrooms or changing areas based on their sex.

The Oklahoma State Senate passed SB615 on May 19, 2022 by a vote of 38 to 7. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because the left has been promoting woke radical Marxist ideas for years; that you can decide to be any gender you want to be. They believe that people can choose their pronouns and that they can be transgender. Scientifically and biblically, there are two genders and we should not conform to the woke culture of the radical left.

4. Critical Race Theory Ban

HB1775 prohibits the teaching of curriculum like Critical Race Theory to students and prohibits courses from including certain race based concepts.

The Oklahoma State Senate passed HB1775 on April 29, 2021 by a vote of 38 to 9. We have assigned pluses to the ayes because our government is pushing schools to teach racism with Critical Race Theory, which is rooted in communism and is part of the Marxist agenda. The goal is to pit Americans of different races and religions against each other, essentially become a catalyst for more racism. Our education system is broken and corrupt and it is funded by the taxpayers. This legislation is a good step in taking back our schools and protecting our kids.

5. Religious Freedom Act

SB368 prohibits governmental declaration of religious institutions as nonessential.

The Oklahoma State Senate passed SB368 on March 11, 2021 by a vote of 37 to 9. We have assigned the pluses to the ayes because no law shall prohibit free exercise of religion and the right to peacefully assemble. These rights are protected by both the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and no situation or event in the United States shall lead to the suspension of those rights.

6. Con-Con

SJR23 applies for a Convention of States under Article V for proposing amendments to U.S. Constitution.

The Oklahoma State Senate passed SJR23 on March 2, 2021 by a vote of 37 to 10. We have assigned pluses to the nays because a so-called “Convention of the States” would not be of “limited” purpose. This dangerously permits what Article V of the U.S. Constitution describes as a “Convention for proposing Amendments” or second constitutional convention. Notably, Article V of the U.S. Constitution was designed to correct structural deficiencies in the federal government, not the behavior of its elected officials. SJR23 should be opposed in favor of less risky, more precise, and immediate solutions that would restore power back to the states and to the people, such as clear-cut proposals in Congress to repeal bad amendments or state nullification of specific unauthorized federal laws.