The Freedom Index

A Congressional Scorecard Based on the U.S. Constitution

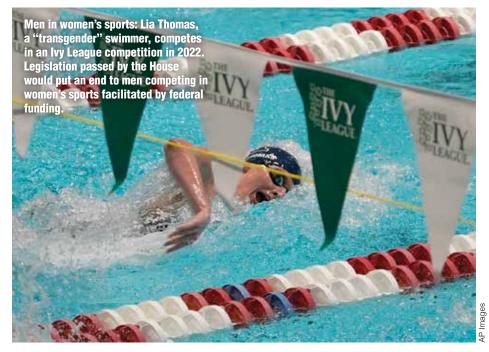
Our first look at the 119th Congress shows how every member of the House and Senate voted on key issues such as federal spending, men in women's sports, USAID funding (Senate only), and sanctuary cities (House only).

House Vote Descriptions

Protecting Women's Sports.
H.R. 28, the "Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2025," would ensure that only real (i.e., biological) women and girls compete in women's sports that are operated, sponsored, or facilitated by federal funding. "Transgender" women and girls — i.e., biological males who "identify," or pose, as females — would be prohibited from competing.

The House passed H.R. 28 on January 14, 2025 by a vote of 218 to 206 (Roll Call 12). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the federal government should not use taxpayer money to facilitate biological males competing against real women and girls.

Medical Care for Abortion Survivors. H.R. 21, the "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act,"



would establish criminal penalties for healthcare practitioners who intentionally kill or harm an infant born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion.

The House passed H.R. 21 on January 23, 2025 by a vote of 217 to 204 (Roll Call 27). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the U.S. Constitution does

not grant a right to abortion. Abortion is not healthcare, it is the ending of innocent human life, and the Declaration of Independence affirms the right to life as a fundamental, God-given, and inherent right.

Conservation Programs. Representative Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.)

About This Index

he Freedom Index: A Congressional Scorecard Based on the U.S. Constitution" rates members of Congress based on their adherence to constitutional principles of limited government, fiscal responsibility, national sovereignty, and a traditional foreign policy of avoiding foreign entanglements. To learn how any representative or senator voted on the key measures described herein, look him or her up in the vote charts.

The scores are derived by dividing a congressman's constitutional votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100. The average House score for this index is 36 percent (69 percent for the Republicans and two percent for the Democrats), and the average Senate score is 42

percent (79 percent for the Republicans and one percent for the Democrats). Fourteen representatives and three senators earned 100 percent. We encourage readers to examine how their own legislators voted on each of the 10 key measures. We also encourage readers to commend legislators for their constitutional votes, and to urge improvement where needed.

This is our first index for the 119th Congress, which began on January 3 of this year. An online version of the Freedom Index is also available (click on Freedom Index at TheNewAmerican. com), as are Congressional Scorecards on individual members of the House and Senate and Legislative Scorecards on state legislators (see ad on page 12). ■

House Vote Scores /

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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2 Figures (D)		0%		Ė	Ė	-	Ė		_	Ė	Ė	Ė	34 Gon		0%	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_
3 Rogers (R)		60%	+	+	-	+	+	_	_	_	+	+	35 Torn		0%	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
4 Aderholt (R)		60%	+	+	_	+	+	_			+	+	36 Lieu		0%		_	_		_					_
5 Strong (R)		60%	+	+	_	+	+	_			+	+		nlager-Dove (D)	0%										
6 Palmer (R)		70%	+	+	_	+	+	+		_	+	+		chez (D)	0%			_		-	_				
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		070											40 Kim		60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
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2 Crane (R)		100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		ragán (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-
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6 Ciscomani (F	3)	56%	+	+	-	?	+		-		+	+	48 Issa	* *	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
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2 Hill (R)		67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	+		use (D)	0%	_		_		_	_				_
3 Womack (R)		60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	3 Hur		67%	+	+	-	+	+			2	+	+
4 Westerman (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+		bert (R)	90%				-			-		-	
CALIFORNIA														. ,	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
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4 Thompson (1		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CONNE	CTICUT											
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8 Garamendi (D)	0%	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?		ies (D)	0%	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
9 Harder (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 Hay		0%	_	-	_	_	-	_	_	-	-	-
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5 Mullin (D)		0%	-	-	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	2 Dun	ın (R)	56%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	?
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17 Khanna (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 Bea	n (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
8 Lofgren (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-		nerford (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
9 Panetta (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 Fine									-	+	+	+
20 Fong (R)		67%	+	+	-	+	+	?	-	-	+	+	7 Mill	* /	70%	+	+	-	+	+	+	_	-		+
1 Costa (D)		10%	÷	-	-	+	-	-	-	_	-	-		idopolos (R)	70%	+	+	-	+	+	+	_	_	+	+
2 Valadao (R)		60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	9 Soto		0%		-	_		-		_	_	-	-
3 Obernolte (R	3)	60%	+	+	_	+	+	_	_	_	+	+	10 Fros		0%		-			-		-	-	-	-
4 Carbajal (D)	*	0%	- -		-	-	-			_	-	-		oster (R)	60%	-		-				-	-		
5 Ruiz (D)		0%	-		-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-				+	+	-		+	-	-			+
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8 Chu (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15 Lee		50%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	?	?
29 Rivas (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		hanan (R)	63%	+	+	-	?	+	-	-	?	+	+
30 Friedman (D		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17 Steu	. ,	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
31 Cisneros (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18 Frai	ıklin (R)	78%	+	+	+	+	+	-	?	-	+	+

The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and minuses and multiplying by 100. (A "?" means a representative did not vote. If a representative cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 1, 3, and 5.

made a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 776, which would reauthorize the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003 through fiscal 2030. This law enables the U.S. Department of the Interior to provide funding to states in order to eradicate nutria — large, invasive, semiaquatic rodents native to South America — and restore wetlands damaged by them.

The House agreed to Westerman's motion on February 4, 2025 by a vote of 361 to 56 (Roll Call 29). We have assigned pluses to the nays because Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution does not authorize Congress to establish or fund conservation programs. The 10th Amendment reserves any such powers to "the States respectively, or to the people."

4 Fracking. H.R. 26, the "Protecting American Energy Production Act," would prohibit the president from declaring a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) unless authorized by an act of Congress. The bill also declares, "States should maintain primacy for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing for oil and natural gas production on state and private lands."

The House passed H.R. 26 on February 7, 2025 by a vote of 226 to 188 (Roll Call 35). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the federal government should not interfere with oil and naturalgas production. Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution does not authorize Congress to regulate energy production; this is reserved to the states, as the 10th Amendment affirms. Allowing the United States to fully utilize its energy resources would make the country more self-sufficient and potentially create millions of jobs.

EPA Emissions Rule. H. J. Res. 35 would overturn the Environmental Protection Agency's 2024 "Waste Emissions Charge" rule, which imposed annual fees on oil and gas facilities that emit methane above certain thresholds. The resolution blocks the EPA from imposing this rule — intended to curb greenhousegas emissions — on petroleum and natural-gas systems.

The House passed H. J. Res. 35 on February 26, 2025 by a vote of 220 to 206 (Roll Call 52). We have assigned

pluses to the yeas because neither the EPA nor its methane emissions-fee rule are authorized under the Constitution. Moreover, the rule was driven by the false climate-change narrative that serves as a pretext for implementing the UN's Agenda 2030, which undermines national sovereignty and promotes centralized, global control.

Emissions Research. Representative Brian Babin (R-Texas) made a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1534, the "Innovative Mitigation Partnerships for Asphalt and Concrete Technologies (IMPACT) Act," which would authorize the Department of Energy to fund research and development partnerships focused on reducing greenhousegas emissions from asphalt and concrete production.

The House agreed to Babin's motion on March 25, 2025 by a vote of 350 to 73 (Roll Call 74). We have assigned pluses to the nays because the Constitu-

tion does not authorize the federal government to fund or facilitate emissions research. Moreover, this bill feeds into the climate-change hoax and would align federal laws more closely with the UN's Agenda 2030. By funding "green" construction initiatives, it would distort the free market, misallocate taxpayer funds, and raise costs for businesses, homeowners, and other taxpayers.

Tevent-ticket Pricing. Representative Gus Bilirakis (R-Fla.) made a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1402, the "Transparency In Charges for Key Events Ticketing (TICKET) Act," which would require ticket sellers, including those in the secondary market, to clearly display the total ticket price, including all fees. The bill mandates an itemized breakdown of the base ticket price and additional fees before purchase completion, bans speculative ticketing, and requires refunds for canceled or significantly postponed events.



Black gold: Allowing unhindered energy production, including via fracking, would ensure U.S. energy independence and encourage economic growth. The House passed a bill to prevent the president from unilaterally imposing a moratorium on fracking.



,	Votes: 1-10		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3 9	9	10	Votes	s: 1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
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19 Donalds (R)	80%		+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	3 Nunn (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	!	+	+
20 Cherfilus-McC			-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	4 Feenstra (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
21 Mast (R) 22 Frankel (D)	67% 0%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	KANSAS											
23 Moskowitz (D			-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	1 Mann (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	
24 Wilson (D)	0%		-	-	?	?	-	-	-			-	-	2 Schmidt (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	
25 Wasserman Sc			-	-			-	-	-			-	-	3 Davids (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
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`	R) 60% 56%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	KENTUCKY											
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1 Carter (R)	60%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	4 Massie (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	
2 Bishop (D)	10%	,	-	-	-	+	-	-	-		-	-	-	5 Rogers (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
3 Jack (R)	70%		+	+	-	+	+	+	-			+	+	6 Barr (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
4 Johnson (D)	0%	,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	LOUISIANA			•		•						
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7 McCormick (I	R) 80%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-			+	+	2 Carter (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
8 Scott (R)	60%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	3 Higgins (R)	89%	+	+	!	+	+	+	-	+	+	
9 Clyde (R)	100%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	4 Johnson (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	
10 Collins (R)	80%		+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+		+	+	5 Letlow (R)	78%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	?	+	
1 Loudermilk (I	R) 60%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	6 Fields (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2 Allen (R)	60%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	MAINE											
3 Scott (D)	0%	,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	1 Pingree (D)	0%	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	
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2 Simpson (R)	63%		+	+	?	+	+	-	-			+	?	5 Hoyer (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	7	•	-	-	
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1 Jackson (D)	0%		-	-	-	-	-	_	-			-	-	7 Mfume (D)	0%	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	?	-	
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6 Casten (D)	0%		-	-	-	-		_	-				-	3 Trahan (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
7 Davis (D)	0%		-		-	-	-		_		•		-	4 Auchincloss (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
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9 Schakowsky (-	-	-	-	-	-	-		•	-	-	7 Pressley (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
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1 Foster (D)	0%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-		•	-	-	9 Keating (D)	0%	_	_	_	-	-	_	-	_	-	
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4 Underwood (I			-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	1 Bergman (R)	56%	+	+	-	?	+	-	-	-	+	
5 Miller (R)	90%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	2 Moolenaar (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
6 LaHood (R)	60%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	3 Scholten (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
7 Sorensen (D)	0%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	4 Huizenga (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
NDIANA														5 Walberg (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
1 Mrvan (D)	0%	,	_	?	_	_	-	_	_			_	-	6 Dingell (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2 Yakym (R)	60%		+	+	-	+	+	_	-			+	+	7 Barrett (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
3 Stutzman (R)	70%		+	+	-	+	+	_	-	4		+	+	8 McDonald Rivet (D) 20%	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	
Baird (R)	60%		+	+	-	+	+	_	_			+	+	9 McClain (R)	56%	?	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
5 Spartz (R)	89%		+	+	+	+	+	4	-			+	+	10 James (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
6 Shreve (R)	60%		+	+	т	+	+					+	+	11 Stevens (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
7 Carson (D)	0%		+	т		+	-	-	-			+	-	12 Tlaib (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	
8 Messmer (R)			-	-	-				_					13 Thanedar (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	60%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	MINNESOTA											
9 Houchin (R)	60%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-			+	+	1 Finstad (R)	63%	+	+	_	+	+	+			?	
OWA														2 Craig (D)	05%	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	1	
1 Miller-Meeks	(R) 67%		+	+	-	+	+	-	-		? -	+	+		0%		-	-		-	-	-	-	-	
1 MINICI-MICCES							+							3 Morrison (D)	U%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and minuses and multiplying by 100. (A "?" means a representative did not vote. If a representative cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 1, 3, and 5.

The House agreed to Bilirakis' motion on April 29, 2025 by a vote of 409 to 15 (Roll Call 107). We have assigned pluses to the nays because the Constitution does not authorize the federal government to regulate private industries such as ticketing. This legislation imposes unnecessary federal mandates, duplicating existing, market-driven industry practices. Such regulations would likely increase operational costs for ticket sellers, leading to higher ticket prices for consumers and placing undue burdens on smaller vendors.

Quad Countries. Representative Bill Huizenga (R-Mich.) made a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1263, the "Strengthening the Quad Act," which would, in part, direct the U.S. secretary of state to "enter into negotiations with the Governments of Australia, India, and Japan (collectively, with the United States, known as the 'Quad') with the goal of reaching a written agreement to establish a Quad Inter-Parliamentary Working Group to facilitate closer cooperation on shared interests and values."

The House agreed to Huizenga's motion on May 19, 2025 by a vote of 334 to 51 (Roll Call 132). We have assigned pluses to the nays because establishing a Quad Inter-Parliamentary Working Group risks creating a permanent framework that deepens U.S. political and military entanglements in the Indo-Pacific, similar to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. This would contravene the Founders' original intent of avoiding entangling alliances and risk undermining Congress' constitutional powers by gradually committing the nation to collective-security obligations without proper debate or a declaration of war. Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution grants Congress — not the executive branch or a regional international body — the power to declare war and regulate foreign affairs.

9 Fiscal 2025 Rescissions. H.R. 4, the "Rescissions Act of 2025," would rescind \$9.4 billion in funding previously appropriated by Congress for fiscal 2025, including \$8.3 billion in foreign aid and \$1.1 billion for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The foreign-aid

America First? Representative Bill
Huizenga (R-Mich.) successfully
motioned to pass a bill to strengthen
cooperation among members of the
Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or
Quad. Although portrayed as a means to
counter China, the bill risks deepening
U.S. entanglements in the Indo-Pacific.

rescissions include \$800 million for migration and refugee assistance, \$361 million for international peacekeeping operations, and \$169 million for international organizations such as the United Nations and World Health Organization.

The House passed H.R. 4 on June 12, 2025 by a vote of 214 to 212 (Roll Call 168). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution authorizes Congress to neither establish or fund public media nor send financial aid to foreign countries. Although \$9.4 billion is a small number compared to the total amount of federal expenditures, it is a good first step toward reining in unconstitutional, reckless spending.

1 OWashington, D.C., "Sanctuary City" Law. H.R. 2056, the "District of Columbia Federal Immigration Compliance Act of 2025," would prohibit the District of Columbia from limiting its cooperation with federal immigration enforcement, effectively repealing the "Sanctuary Values Amendment Act of 2020."

The House passed H.R. 2056 on June 12, 2025 by a vote of 224 to 194 (Roll Call 171). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because illegal aliens are, by definition, criminals who ought to be deported from the United States. They should not be permitted sanctuary in our nation's capital or anywhere else in the country. Persons who enter the United States unlawfully are "deportable" under existing federal law, as Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution grants Congress the power to not only "establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization," but provide for the execution of the "Laws of this Union" and protection against "Invasion." Moreover, Clause 17 of Article I, Section 8 gives Congress the ability to "exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever" involving Washington, D.C. Rather than pursue policies that undermine the rule of law and erode the privileges of citizenship, federal, state, and local authorities should end the existential crisis of mass migration.



Votes:	1-10	_1	2	_3	_4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4 McCollum (D)	0%	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	10 Goldman (D)	0%	_	_	_	?	_	_	_	7	_	_
5 Omar (D)	0%	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	7	_	_	11 Malliotakis (R)	56%	+	+	_	+	+	_	_	,	_	+
6 Emmer (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	12 Nadler (D)	0%		-		-	-		-	-	-	-
7 Fischbach (R)	78%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	?	+	+	13 Espaillat (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
8 Stauber (R)	70%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	14 Ocasio-Cortez (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MISSISSIPPI	, . , .	•			•		•					15 Torres (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 Kelly (R)	60%			_								16 Latimer (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2 Thompson (D)	0%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	17 Lawler (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
3 Guest (R)	70%		-	-	-		-	-	-	-		18 Ryan (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
- ' '		+	+	-	+	+	+	-	?	+	+	19 Riley (D)	0%	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
4 Ezell (R)	78%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	!	+	+	20 Tonko (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MISSOURI												21 Stefanik (R)	50%	?	+	-	+	?	-	-	-	+	
1 Bell (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22 Mannion (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	?	-	
2 Wagner (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	+	23 Langworthy (R)	60%	+	+	_	+	+	-	-	-	+	
3 Onder (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	24 Tenney (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-		-	+	
4 Alford (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	25 Morelle (D)	0%	-	-	_	-	_	-	-	-	-	
5 Cleaver (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	26 Kennedy (D)	0%		-	-			-	-	-	-	
6 Graves (R)	67%	+	+	?	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	• • •	3,0										
7 Burlison (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NORTH CAROLINA	110/	0									
8 Smith (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	1 Davis (D)	11%	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MONTANA												2 Ross (D)	0% 60%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 Zinke (R)	70%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	3 Murphy (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
2 Downing (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	4 Foushee (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
EBRASKA	,				•		•					5 Foxx (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	
	600/											6 McDowell (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
1 Flood (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	7 Rouzer (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
2 Bacon (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	8 Harris (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
3 Smith (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	+	9 Hudson (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
EVADA												10 Harrigan (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
1 Titus (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11 Edwards (R)	70%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	
2 Amodei (R)	50%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	12 Adams (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
3 Lee (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13 Knott (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
4 Horsford (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14 Moore (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
EW HAMPSHIRE												NORTH DAKOTA											
1 Pappas (D)	0%	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	AL Fedorchak (R)	70%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	
2 Goodlander (D)	0%	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	оню											
	070											1 Landsman (D)	10%	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	
EW JERSEY	001							,		,		2 Taylor (R)	60%	+	+		+	+	-		-	+	
1 Norcross (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	3 Beatty (D)	0%	+	т .		+	?	-			?	
2 Van Drew (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	4 Jordan (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	· +	-	-	-	· +	
3 Conaway (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		60%			+			-	-	-		
4 Smith (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	5 Latta (R)	60%	+	+		+	+	-		-	+	
5 Gottheimer (D)	0%	-	-	?	-	-	?	?	?	-	-	6 Rulli (R)		+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
6 Pallone (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 Miller (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
7 Kean (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	8 Davidson (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
8 Menendez (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9 Kaptur (D)	10%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	
9 Pou (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10 Turner (R)	56%	+	+	!	+	+	-	-	-	-	
0 McIver (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11 Brown (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 Sherrill (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	12 Balderson (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
2 Watson Coleman (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13 Sykes (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
EW MEXICO												14 Joyce (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
1 Stansbury (D)	0%	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	15 Carey (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
2 Vasquez (D)	11%	-	-	-	+	-	?	-	-	-	-	OKLAHOMA											
3 Leger Fernandez (D)		-	-	-	?	-	_	-	-	-	_	1 Hern (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
	070				•							2 Brecheen (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
EW YORK	(00)											3 Lucas (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
1 LaLota (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	4 Cole (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
2 Garbarino (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	+	5 Bice (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	
3 Suozzi (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+		2,70										
4 Gillen (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	OREGON	00/										
5 Meeks (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 Bonamici (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
6 Meng (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	2 Bentz (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	
7 Velázquez (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 Dexter (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
8 Jeffries (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 Hoyle (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
9 Clarke (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 Bynum (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
												6 Salinas (D)	0%		-	_	-	-			-	_	

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	<u>1-10</u>	_1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
NSYLVANIA											
zpatrick (R)	40%	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
oyle (D) ans (D)	0% 0%	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dean (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-
canlon (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Houlahan (D)	11%	-	-	?	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mackenzie (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Bresnahan (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Meuser (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	+
Perry (R) Smucker (R)	90% 60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Lee (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B Joyce (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
4 Reschenthaler (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
5 Thompson (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
6 Kelly (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	?	+	+
Deluzio (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ODE ISLAND											
Amo (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Magaziner (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TH CAROLINA											
Mace (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Wilson (R)	67%	+	?	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Biggs (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Timmons (R) Norman (R)	70%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Norman (R) Clyburn (D)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Fry (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+
UTH DAKOTA	10070	·		·		•	•	•		·	•
Johnson (R)	60%	_	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	_
	0070	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
NNESSEE Harshbarger (R)	89%	2	+			+			_1	+	+
Burchett (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+
Fleischmann (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
DesJarlais (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	?
Ogles (R)	89%	+	+	+	?	+	+	-	+	+	+
Rose (R)	63%	+	+	-	?	?	+	-	-	+	+
Green (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Kustoff (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Cohen (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-
XAS	_										
Moran (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Crenshaw (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Self (R) Fallon (R)	100% 80%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gooden (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+	+		-	+	+
Ellzey (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Fletcher (D)	10%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luttrell (R)	80%	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Green (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
McCaul (R)	75%	+	+	-	+	+	?	-	?	+	+
Pfluger (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Goldman (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Jackson (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
Weber (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
De La Cruz (R)	67%	+	+	-	+	+	-	?	-	+	+
Escobar (D) Sessions (R)	0% 60%	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
Turner (D)	20%	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Arrington (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	_	-	-	+	+
	0%	т -	T -	-	т	-	-	-	_	т	-
Castro (D)					_			_	_	_	_

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Senate Vote Descriptions

Medical Care for Abortion Survivors. S. 6, the "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act," would establish criminal penalties for healthcare practitioners who intentionally kill or harm an infant born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion.

The Senate did not vote directly on S. 6, but on a motion to invoke cloture (and thus limit debate) so the bill could be voted on. The motion to invoke cloture was rejected on January 22, 2025 by a vote of 52 to 47 (Roll Call 11; a three-fifths majority of the entire Senate is required to invoke cloture). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the U.S. Constitution does not grant a right to abortion. Abortion is not healthcare, it is the ending of innocent human life, and the Declaration of Independence affirms the right to life as a fundamental, Godgiven, and inherent right.

Deficit Reduction. During consideration of a budget resolution "setting forth the congressional budget for the United States government for fiscal year 2025" (Senate Concurrent Resolution 7), Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) submitted an amendment to have House and Senate committees recommend changes in law within their jurisdictions that would collectively reduce the deficit by approximately \$1.4 trillion through fiscal 2034.

The Senate rejected Paul's amendment on February 21, 2025 by a vote of 24 to 76 (Roll Call 77). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because trillion-dollar annual deficits and the ballooning national debt are not sustainable. For fiscal year 2024 alone, which ended on September 30, 2024, the federal deficit was \$1.8 trillion, which was added to the national debt. Most of the spending fueling runaway deficits and debt is unconstitutional. Paul's defeated amendment fell far short of the cuts needed to eliminate deficit spending, but it would at least have been a step in the right direction.



Keep them independent: Federal funding of local law enforcement is unconstitutional and threatens the latter's independence. The Senate rejected an amendment to increase funding via the COPS Hiring Program.

Federal Funding for Law Enforcement. During consideration of a budget resolution for fiscal 2025 (Senate Concurrent Resolution 7), Senator Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.) offered an amendment to provide increased resources for local law enforcement by funding the COPS Hiring Program, a federal grant program administered by the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). It provides funding to state, local, and tribal law-enforcement agencies to hire or rehire career law-enforcement officers.

The Senate rejected Luján's amendment on February 21, 2025 by a vote of 48 to 52 (Roll Call 81). We have assigned pluses to the nays because the Constitution does not authorize federal involvement in domestic law enforcement, as affirmed by the 10th Amendment. The COPS Hiring Program undermines the decentralized structure of the U.S. federalist system, inserting federal influence into state and local policing and creating dependence on federal funding.

In Vitro Fertilization. During consideration of a budget resolution for

Senate Vote Scores ✓

Votes	: 1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
ALABAMA												
Tuberville (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	_	+	+	
Britt (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
ALASKA												
Murkowski (R)	60%	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Sullivan (R)	60%	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
ARIZONA												
Kelly (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gallego (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ARKANSAS												
Boozman (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Cotton (R)	80%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
CALIFORNIA												
Padilla (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Schiff (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
COLORADO												
Bennet (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Hickenlooper (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CONNECTICUT												
Blumenthal (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Murphy (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DELAWARE												
Coons (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Blunt Rochester (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
FLORIDA												
Scott (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
Moody (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
GEORGIA												
Ossoff (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	
Warnock (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	
HAWAII												
Schatz (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Hirono (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
IDAHO												
Crapo (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Risch (R)	89%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	?	
ILLINOIS												
Durbin (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Duckworth (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
INDIANA												
Young (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Banks (R)	80%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
IOWA												
Grassley (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Ernst (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
KANSAS												
Moran (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Marshall (R)	80%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
KENTUCKY												
McConnell (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Paul (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
LOUISIANA	0											
Cassidy (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Kennedy (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	

Vote	s: <u>1-10</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
MAINE											
Collins (R)	60%	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
King (I)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MARYLAND											
Van Hollen (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Alsobrooks (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MASSACHUSETTS											
Warren (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Markey (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MICHIGAN											
Peters (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slotkin (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-
MINNESOTA											
Klobuchar (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smith (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISSISSIPPI											
Wicker (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Hyde-Smith (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
MISSOURI											
Hawley (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
Schmitt (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
MONTANA											
Daines (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Sheehy (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
NEBRASKA											
Fischer (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Ricketts (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
NEVADA											
Cortez Masto (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rosen (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE											
Shaheen (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hassan (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW JERSEY											
Booker (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kim (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW MEXICO											
Heinrich (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luján (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW YORK											
Schumer (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gillibrand (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NORTH CAROLINA											
Tillis (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Budd (R)	80%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
NORTH DAKOTA											
Hoeven (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Cramer (R)	67%	+	-	+	+	?	+	-	-	+	+
оню											
Moreno (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Husted (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
OKLAHOMA											
Lankford (R)	70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Mullin (R)	67%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	?

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
OREGON													
Wyden (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Merkley (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PENNSYLVANIA													
Fetterman (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
McCormick (R)		80%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
RHODE ISLAND													
Reed (D)		0%	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	_	_	-	
Whitehouse (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SOUTH CAROLI	NA												
Graham (R)	1111	70%	+	_	+	+	+	+	_	_	+	+	
Scott (R)		70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
SOUTH DAKOTA													
Thune (R)	1	70%	+	_	+	+	+	+	_	_	+	+	
Rounds (R)		70%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
TENNESSEE													
Blackburn (R)		80%	+	_	+	+	+	+	+	_	_	+	
Hagerty (R)		89%	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	_	+	+	
		-,,,,	•	•	•		•				- 1	•	
TEXAS		80%											
Cornyn (R) Cruz (R)		90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
Gruz (K)		90/0	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
UTAH													
Lee (R)		100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Curtis (R)		100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
VERMONT													
Sanders (I)		11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	?	
Welch (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	
VIRGINIA													
Warner (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Kaine (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WASHINGTON													
Murray (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	?	?	-	
Cantwell (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WEST VIRGINIA	4												
Capito (R)		67%	+	-	+	+	+	?	-	-	+	+	
Justice (R)		90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
WISCONSIN													
Johnson (R)		90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	
Baldwin (D)		0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WYOMING													
Barrasso (R)		80%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Lummis (R)		89%	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	-	+	+	

The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and multiplying by 100. (A "?" means a senator did not vote. If a senator cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to Senate vote descriptions on pages 9, 11, and 12.

fiscal 2025 (Senate Concurrent Resolution 7), Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) offered an amendment to protect access to "reproductive healthcare," including "fertility treatment services" such as in vitro fertilization (IVF).

The Senate rejected Duckworth's amendment on February 21, 2025 by a vote of 49 to 51 (Roll Call 82). We have assigned pluses to the nays because healthcare is not the role of government, and neither abortion nor IVF is healthcare. Despite healthcare not being one of the powers enumerated to Congress in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, the term "reproductive health services" has been codified into federal law. It encompasses the life-destroying practices of IVF and other assisted reproductive technologies, through which most embryos conceived outside the womb are aborted or indefinitely frozen. If Congress, as affirmed in the Declaration of Independence, holds that all people are "created equal" and "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights," then it should secure the first of those rights — the right to life — by rejecting any federal protections or support for abortion and cryo-orphaning entirely. **EPA Emissions Rule.** H. J. Res. 35 would overturn the Environmental Protection Agency's 2024 "Waste Emissions Charge" rule, which imposed annual fees on oil and gas facilities that emit methane above certain thresholds. The resolution blocks the EPA from imposing this rule — intended to curb greenhouse-gas emissions — on petroleum and natural-gas systems.

The Senate passed H. J. Res. 35 on February 27, 2025 by a vote of 52 to 47 (Roll Call 97). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because neither the EPA nor its methane-emissions-fee rule are authorized under the Constitution. Moreover, the rule was driven by the false climate-change narrative that serves as a pretext for implementing the UN's Agenda 2030, which undermines national sovereignty and promotes centralized, global control.

Protecting Women's Sports. S. 9, the "Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2025," would ensure that only real (i.e., biological) women and girls compete in women's sports that are operated, sponsored, or facilitated by federal funding. "Transgender" women and girls—i.e., biological males who "identify," or

pose, as females — would be prohibited from competing.

The Senate did not vote directly on S. 9, but on a motion to invoke cloture (and thus limit debate) so the bill could be voted on. The motion to invoke cloture was rejected on March 3, 2025 by a vote of 51 to 45 (Roll Call 100; a three-fifths majority of the entire Senate is required to invoke cloture). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the federal government should not use taxpayer money to facilitate biological males competing against real women and girls.

7 USAID Funding Cuts. During consideration of a continuing appropriations bill to fund the federal government through the end of fiscal 2025 (H.R. 1968), Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) offered an amendment to reduce funding levels for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). A press release from Paul's office after the vote explained that the amendment would have codified "Secretary of State Rubio and DOGE's cuts to foreign aid" and would have cut "most of the waste, fraud, and abuse that has plagued USAID for decades."

The Senate rejected Paul's amendment

on March 14, 2024 by a vote of 27 to 73 (Roll Call 132). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because foreign aid, not being one of the enumerated powers granted to the federal government by the U.S. Constitution, is unconstitutional. In fact, foreign aid should be not just reduced, but eliminated entirely.

Debt Ceiling. During consideration of a budget resolution to establish "the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025" (House Concurrent Resolution 14), Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) offered an amendment to reduce the increase in the national debt limit in the bill from \$4 trillion to \$500 billion. The debt limit is the maximum amount the federal government is allowed to borrow.

The Senate rejected Paul's amendment on April 4, 2025 by a vote of 5 to 94 (Roll Call 179). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because Congress should cut spending rather than raise the national debt limit, which was \$36.1 trillion at the time of this vote. Of course, though raising the

debt limit \$500 billion is better than raising it \$4 trillion, it should not be raised at all. In fact, by restoring constitutional government, spending would be reduced to the point that the U.S. government once again could operate on a surplus and the national debt would be reduced.

Minimum-wage Increase. During consideration of a budget resolution for fiscal 2025 (House Concurrent Resolution 14), Senator Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) offered an amendment to increase the federal minimum wage to at least \$17 an hour over five years.

The Senate rejected Sanders' amendment on April 5, 2025 by a vote of 47 to 52 (Roll Call 184). We have assigned pluses to the nays because the "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," which mandates a federal minimum wage for nearly every employee in the United States, is unconstitutional. Nothing in the Constitution authorizes Congress to set the wages of non-federal or private employees. In fact, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution limits Congress to regulating

"Commerce ... among the several States," preventing interference by the federal government in intrastate economic matters. The 10th Amendment reinforces that all powers not delegated to the federal government are reserved "to the States respectively, or to the people."

10Water-heater Rule. H. J. Res. 20 would overturn a 2024 Department of Energy rule, titled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Gas-fired Instantaneous Water Heaters," that imposed new requirements on gas-fired instantaneous water heaters and effectively banned the sale of non-condensing models.

The Senate passed H. J. Res. 20 on April 10, 2025 by a vote of 53 to 44 (Roll Call 207). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the federal government should not impose regulatory standards on consumer products. Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution does not authorize Congress to regulate consumer products; this is reserved to the states, as the 10th Amendment affirms. ■

