



2021

Alabama State Legislative Scorecard

See how Members of Alabama's General Assembly are voting on economic growth issues.



Club for Growth Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on educating the public about the value of free markets, pro-growth policies, and economic prosperity.

State Legislative and Missed Votes Scorecards are created by the Club for Growth Foundation to educate the public about the voting records of legislators who serve in state legislatures and to bring awareness to lawmakers. The Foundation's State Legislative Scorecards, such as this scorecard, specifically inform the public about the positions taken by legislators in a particular state on economic growth issues.

Our Mission

THE FOUNDATION
EDUCATES THE
PUBLIC ABOUT PRO-
GROWTH POLICIES.

THE FOUNDATION
CONDUCTS
COMPREHENSIVE
EXAMINATIONS OF
VOTING RECORDS.

THE FOUNDATION'S
GOAL IS TO INFORM
THE PUBLIC AND
BRING AWARENESS
TO LAWMAKERS.

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Club for Growth Foundation publishes the scorecard study so the public can monitor the actions and the voting behavior of Alabama's elected state lawmakers on economic growth issues.

The Foundation conducted a comprehensive examination of each lawmaker's record on votes related to pro-growth policies and computed an Economic Growth Score on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 100 indicates the highest support for pro-growth policies.

The Foundation examined legislative votes related to the Foundation's immediate pro-economic growth policy goals, including:

- Reducing or eliminating tax rates and enacting tax reform
- Limited government through limited spending and budget reform
- Regulatory reform and deregulation
- Ending abusive lawsuits through medical malpractice and tort reform
- Expanding school choice
- Implementing term limits

Not all of these policy goals will come up for a vote in each legislative session.

The Foundation also examined votes on bills that would directly harm these goals.

This scorecard is based on selected votes of importance to the Foundation, and does not include the complete voting record of any legislator. There are inherent limitations in judging the overall qualifications of any legislator based on a selected voting record, and the Foundation does not endorse or oppose any legislator for public office.

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2021 LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED IN ALABAMA

The Foundation’s study examined over 2,500 floor votes and, in the end, included 21 Alabama House votes and 20 Alabama Senate votes.

COMPUTATION

Scores are computed on a scale of 0 to 100. Each vote or action in the rating is assigned a certain number of points depending on its relative importance. If a lawmaker casts a correct vote, the scorecard will denote it with that number. If a lawmaker casts an incorrect vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with a hyphen (-). Absences are not counted – signified as an “X” on the scorecard – though the Foundation reserves the right to do so if, in its judgment, a lawmaker’s position was otherwise discernible. If a lawmaker was not officially sworn into office at the time of a vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with an “I”.

To provide some additional guidance concerning the scores, each lawmaker was ranked. Aside from ties, lawmakers with 0%

scores are, by default, ranked #99 in the House and #33 in the Senate if all lawmakers are present. Scores and ranks cannot be directly compared between the House and Senate, as different votes were taken in each chamber. If applicable, the study also records a “Lifetime Score” for each lawmaker. This is a simple average of the scores from 2021 and all previous years where the lawmaker earned a score.

In some cases, a lawmaker was not present for enough votes for a meaningful score or ranking to be computed. In such cases “n.a.” for “not applicable” appears. In computing lifetime scores, years with “n.a.” listed instead of a score are not included. Comparing such scores to other members without “n.a.” years may be misleading.

ADDITIONAL FACTORS

A study of roll call votes on the floor of the Alabama House and Alabama Senate and legislative actions is just that. It cannot account for a lawmaker’s work in committee, advocacy in his party’s caucus meetings, and effectiveness as a leader in advocating pro-growth policies.

“Through the release of this series, the Club for Growth Foundation is looking at how state legislatures perform in terms of pro-growth policies. We believe that this scorecard will help inform citizens and entrepreneurs about who supports the policies that are good for economic prosperity.”

- DAVID McINTOSH
PRESIDENT, CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

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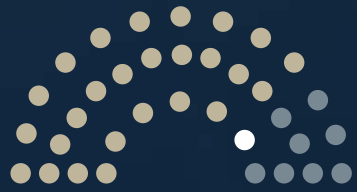
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35 MEMBERS

Alabama Senate Snapshot



27 Republicans

8 Democrats

1 Vacancy

Average Republican Score: 27%

(Up from 21% in 2020)

Average Democrat Score: 11%

(Up from 6% in 2020)



HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Senator David Sessions (SD-35) | 35%



LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Senator Larry Stutts (SD-6) | 16%



HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Senator William Beasley (SD-28) | 30%



LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Senator Kirk Hatcher (SD-26) | 0%

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N		
POINTS					5	2	1	1	4	4	11	6	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	3	5	13	3		
Albritton, Greg	SD-22	R	28%	22%	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	7	
Allen, Gerald	SD-21	R	19%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	X	-	3	-	-	-	26	
Barfoot, Will	SD-25	R	28%	29%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	X	-	-	7	
Beasley, William	SD-28	D	30%	19%	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	X	-	-	-	4	
Butler, Tom	SD-02	R	30%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	7	7	10	X	3	-	-	-	4	
Chambliss, Clyde	SD-30	R	27%	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13	
Chesteen, Donnie	SD-29	R	27%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13	
Coleman-Madison, Linda	SD-20	D	13%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	X	X	X	-	28	
Dunn, Priscilla	SD-19	D	n/a	n/a	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Elliott, Chris	SD-32	R	27%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13	
Figures, Vivian	SD-33	D	5%	19%	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	3	X	X	-	31	
Givhan, Sam	SD-07	R	27%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13	
Gudger, Garlan	SD-04	R	27%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13	
Hatcher, Kirk	SD-26	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	I	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	I	-	I	-	-	-	32	
Holley, Jimmy	SD-31	R	27%	23%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13	
Jones, Andrew	SD-10	R	28%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	X	-	-	7	
Livingston, Steve	SD-08	R	27%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13	
Marsh, Del	SD-12	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	X	-	-	-	23	
McClendon, Jim	SD-11	R	22%	23%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	X	10	-	3	-	-	-	24	
Melson, Tim	SD-01	R	28%	24%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	7	

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
POINTS					5	2	1	1	4	4	11	6	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	3	5	13	3	
Orr, Arthur	SD-03	R	32%	24%	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	3
Price, Randy	SD-13	R	28%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	7
Reed, Greg	SD-05	R	27%	22%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13
Roberts, Dan	SD-15	R	27%	27%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13
Sanders-Fortier, Malika	SD-23	D	n/a	11%	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Scofield, Clay	SD-09	R	27%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	13
Sessions, David	SD-35	R	35%	25%	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	3	X	X	-	1
Shelnutt, Shay	SD-17	R	30%	34%	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	X	3	-	-	-	4
Singleton, Bobby	SD-24	D	6%	11%	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	3	X	-	-	30
Smitherman, Rodger	SD-18	D	13%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	3	-	-	-	28
Stutts, Larry	SD-06	R	16%	24%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	X	3	-	-	-	27
Waggoner, J. T.	SD-16	R	28%	19%	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	7	7	10	-	3	-	-	-	7
Weaver, April	SD-14	R	n/a	18%	-	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	7	7	I	I	I	I	I	I	
Whatley, Tom	SD-27	R	22%	13%	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	10	-	3	-	-	-	24
Williams, Jack	SD-34	R	34%	20%	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	X	-	-	-	2

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HB 54

EXTEND ATHLETIC TRAINER BOARD

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the authorization of the State Board of Athletic Trainers through 2025. Such boards only serve to create onerous government-imposed licensing schemes on various industries and professions, creating barriers to entry in fields that disproportionately impact those in lower income brackets. The Board should be repealed altogether. The Alabama House passed the bill, 95-1, on February 25, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 32-0, on March 4, 2021.

HB 175

STUDENT LOAN SUBSIDY EXPANSION

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a taxpayer-funded subsidy scheme for STEM teachers that would pay for up to \$4000 in additional federal student loan repayments for those who teach in so-called “hard-to-staff” or failing schools. Federal student loan debt currently stands at an astounding \$1.7

trillion. Policies that utilize state tax dollars to pay for taxpayer-funded federal loans exacerbate our debt crisis and forces Alabamans into endless tax-and-spend cycles. The answer to failing schools is not spending more taxpayer money, but focusing on students by expanding school choice and opportunities to move kids out of failing schools. The Alabama House passed the bill, 96-0, on April 1, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 178

NEW LOCAL TAX HIKE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill places a proposed constitutional amendment on the 2022 ballot to authorize municipalities to levy and collect ad valorem taxes to pay off their debt. This widespread taxation authority will encourage local governments to continue wasteful and ill-advised spending knowing that they can service any mounting debt by imposing greater taxation on their constituents. The answer to paying down debt

at any level of government is simple: spend less money. Crafting a ballot initiative to amend the state constitution is an irresponsible attempt by lawmakers to raise taxes across Alabama without shouldering the blame. The Alabama House passed the bill, 98-0, on February 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 192

CRONYISM CREDIT PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a business “incentive” program to new types of businesses--including pharmaceuticals, biomedical, and medical supply manufacturers-- while also providing them a subsidy (in the form of a tax credit) for offsetting a portion of their utility costs up to 10 years. Remarkably, the legislation even allows the credit to carry forward to offset future year utility costs. This type of cronyism is nothing short of the government selecting which businesses win and which businesses

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lose. This is the opposite of a free market approach, pits businesses against one another and puts lawmakers in the back pockets of well-connected lobbyists at the expense of small business owners. The Alabama House passed this bill, 94-1, on February 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 28-0, on February 10, 2021.

HB 219

EXTENDS COAL TAX

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the coal severance tax until 2031. While this tax has been around since 1971 and serves as a source of revenue for several counties in the central and western part of the state, the coal industry tax also props up wasteful and inefficient economic development councils that serve as little more than nexuses for bureaucratically-administered cronyism at the county and local level. Lawmakers should not enact a decade-long autopilot to tax one particular industry to benefit other hand-selected industries, especially as they continue to spend record amounts of money in the state

capitol. The Alabama House passed the bill, 97-1, on February 9, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on March 11, 2021.

HB 309

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates \$2.48 billion in spending for the State General Fund. This is a 3.7 percent increase from last year's budget and makes this the largest general fund budget in Alabama history. A common benchmark to grade spending increases is the growth rate in population plus inflation, which stood at 3.2 percent year-over-year. Since this bill grows beyond that, it forces an extra burden on Alabama taxpayers that they shouldn't have to carry. Furthermore, this comes on the heels of a 7 percent year-over-year spending increase in the 2020 general fund budget. The Alabama House passed the bill, 101-1, on March 9, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 320

MERITLESS GOVERNMENT WORKER RAISE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides a 2 percent across-the-board salary increase for all state government employees. This includes both classified and unclassified employees who may or may not be subject to the State Merit System. At a time when the private sector continues to struggle from job losses, wage losses, and collapsed small businesses due to heavy-handed government handling of the pandemic, state employees should not be rewarded with pay raises from the very taxpayers who have borne the brunt of the pandemic's pain. The Alabama House passed the bill, 100-1, on March 9, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 28-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 372

TAX EXEMPTION ON VIRTUAL CURRENCIES

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill adds virtual currency, such as Bitcoin, to the exemption list for the state's ad valorem taxation scheme. While Alabama law does not currently tax virtual currencies, this legislation is

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designed to preemptively guard against future efforts from lawmakers to try to collect revenue from the emerging cryptocurrency sector. The Alabama House failed to pass the bill, 37-44, on March 11, 2021.

HB 453

GENERAL FUND SUPPLEMENTAL

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates a total of \$32.1 million to various state entities in addition to the \$2.48 billion in record spending for the State General Fund budget. This supplemental also allocates an additional \$8 million from the Litigation Support Fund to the Attorney General’s office for grant programs ostensibly designed to mitigate the opioid crisis. Such spending decisions should be confined within the state’s budget process, not outside of existing authorization levels. Alabama’s bifurcated state budget structure and opaque process at times make it easier for lawmakers to simply appropriate new or additional money for governmental entities outside of the confines of the state’s budget. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 29-0, on

April 29, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 98-1, on March 9, 2021.

HB 540

NEW CRONYISM PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new permanent entity called the Alabama Innovation Corporation with the authority to dole out taxpayer-funded grants to various businesses selected by its board in an effort to “entice” interests to move to the state. These grants will go through the Alabama Innovation Fund program, funded by appropriations and any other source the legislature deems appropriate. This is poorly-disguised cronyism masquerading as a pro-economic development effort and will benefit well-connected industries on the backs of hardworking small business owners and employees across the state. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 30-0, on May 4, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 102-1, on April 22, 2021.

HB 573

NEW BOND CAP FOR STATE PARKS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides bonding authorization for new legislation raising the bond “cap” to \$85 million for the Department of Conservation and parks under the purview of the Alabama Historical Commission. The previous cap was set at \$80 million. This new authority also specifically allows for revenue in excess of the cap to transfer over to the Alabama Forestry Commission for use in managing state forests. In effect, this means that the supposed “cap” is essentially fake and Alabamans face the prospect of even further taxation than what is outlined in the legislation. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 29-0, on April 29, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 98-1, on April 13, 2021.

HB 609

NEW MATCHING CRONYISM PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes the Alabama Innovation Fund grants to be utilized under the new Alabama Innovation Corporation. Incredibly, the legislation

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specifically states that its aim is to induce more businesses in Alabama to take out more federal taxpayer-funded small business grants by using state taxpayer-funded matching grants of up to \$250,000. This is precisely the type of reckless tax-and-spend pilfering enriching special interests that has the United States approaching nearly \$30 trillion in national debt. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 30-0, on May 4, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 97-1, on April 22, 2021.

SB 30

COVID-19 LEGAL LIABILITY

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill provides civil immunity to businesses, churches, health care providers, and other entities from individual claims that they contracted or were exposed to COVID-19 at these locations. The bill makes an exception if an individual can prove wanton or reckless behavior that flaunts public health guidelines, but otherwise protects business owners and civil institutions from lawsuits. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 28-1, on February 4, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 86-4, on February 11, 2021.

SB 55

HIGHER FEES AND REGULATIONS FOR FIREWORKS RETAILERS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements an across-the-board increase on annual permit fees for fireworks manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and wholesalers. For both manufacturers and distributors, the legislation imposes a 50 percent permit fee increase, from \$2,000 to \$3,000. This 50 percent fee increase also extends to application fees for events that use fireworks. Additionally, the bill grants the State Fire Marshal authority to unilaterally increase these permit and application fees as a percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) every five years. Such policies serve as needless barriers-to-entry for entrepreneurs and smaller retailers, while simultaneously increasing costs on consumers and Alabama citizens. The Alabama Senate passed this bill, 28-0, on April 27, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 86-10, on April 29, 2021.

SB 160

LOOSEN RESTRICTIONS ON COTTAGE FOOD

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill rolls back regulations on the cottage food industry in a welcome change from the previous session. The bill eliminates the \$20,000 annual cap on cottage food sales and allows for online sales, opening up a new avenue for growth for cottage food entrepreneurs. This type of deregulation, wherein individuals are empowered to contribute and grow their businesses, is precisely the approach that should be taken throughout policymaking. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 27-0, on March 2, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 97-0, on May 6, 2021.

SB 188

MERITLESS SALARY INCREASE FOR TEACHERS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides a 2 percent across-the-board pay raise for all certified K-12 teachers and administrative personnel in the Alabama public school system. This spending does not

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take into account the performance of teachers and administrative personnel and follows three straight years of pay raises--including a 4 percent raise last year. Despite ranking near the bottom in education quality, Alabama teachers are in the top half of the nation when it comes to overall pay. Such lazy policies contribute both to the unhealthy long-term fiscal outlook and stagnation in education outcomes. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 26-0, on March 18, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 100-1, on April 27, 2021.

SB 189

EDUCATION FUND BUDGET

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates \$7.7 billion in spending to the Education Trust Fund. This is the largest education fund budget in Alabama history. This is a \$452 million increase--roughly 6.5 percent--over 2020 Education Trust Fund spending. A common benchmark to grade spending increases is the growth rate in population plus inflation, which stood at 3.2 percent year-over-year. Since this bill grows beyond that, it forces an extra

burden on Alabama taxpayers that they shouldn't have to carry. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 29-0, on March 18, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 101-1, on April 27, 2021.

SB 215

NEW DIGITAL CRONYISM PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates yet another new government entity known as the Alabama Digital Expansion Authority. This new agency will ostensibly be charged with expanding high-speed broadband in rural and low-population areas through a new taxpayer-funded grant program known as the Connect Alabama Fund. Ratcheting up government involvement with new agencies and programs to essentially subsidize the development of otherwise financially-dubious ventures is not sound public policy and sets Alabama taxpayers up for future fiscal burdens they should not have to shoulder. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 32-0, on March 3, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 95-0, on April 22, 2021.

HB 4

EXORBITANT STATE PRISON TAX BOND

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill served as the centerpiece legislative item in the 1st Special Session in 2021. The bill authorizes the Alabama Corrections Institution Finance Authority to issue \$785 million in new bonds for the construction of three new state prisons and modernizing existing facilities. While it is well within a state's constitutional prerogatives to build new facilities and update antiquated detention centers holding dangerous criminals, the exorbitant price tag serves as a significant tax increase on hard-working Alabamans. The legislature should have dealt with this issue in the regular session with appropriate spending offsets to reduce the overall burden on taxpayers. The Alabama House passed the bill, 74-27, on September 29, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-2, on October 1, 2021.

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SB 9

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY EXEMPTION FOR VACCINE MANDATES

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill requires employers to allow their employees to claim a medical or religious exemption from a COVID-19 vaccination and prohibits employers from requiring vaccination as a condition of employment for anyone who has filed a medical or religious exemption. Furthermore, the legislation provides for an appeals process if an employer denies an employee a requested exemption and prevents employers from withholding compensation during the appeals process. Employers do not have the authority to trample workers' fundamental civil liberties. The Alabama House passed the bill, 67-23, on November 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 26-5, on November 2, 2021.

SB 15

VACCINE PRIVACY PROTECTION FOR MINORS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This legislation, passed during the 2nd Special Session, prohibits education institutions in Alabama from inquiring about a student's vaccination status unless an institution has received consent from a parent or guardian. Furthermore, the bill prohibits the vaccination of a minor without parental or guardian consent and empowers the Attorney General to bring a civil action to enjoin any institution that violates these protocols. With COVID-19 vaccine mandates used throughout the nation, this legislation provides important privacy protections for minors from non-parent adults seeking to pressure students and children into providing sensitive medical information. The Alabama House passed the bill, 65-23, on November 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 26-4, on November 2, 2021.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2021 ALABAMA

ALABAMA SENATE SNAPSHOT

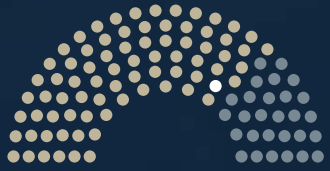
ALABAMA SENATE VOTES

ALABAMA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

ALABAMA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

ALABAMA HOUSE VOTES

ALABAMA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS



105 MEMBERS

Alabama House Snapshot



76 Republicans

28 Democrats

1 Vacancy

Average Republican Score: 28%

(Up from 15% in 2020)

Average Democrat Score: 12%

(Up from 0% in 2020)



HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Rep. Andrew Sorrell (HD-03) | 95%



LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Rep. Dickie Drake (HD-45) | 14%



HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Rep. Dexter Grimsley (HD-85) | 20%



LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

Several with | 6%

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2021 ALABAMA

ALABAMA SENATE SNAPSHOT

ALABAMA SENATE VOTES

ALABAMA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

ALABAMA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

ALABAMA HOUSE VOTES

ALABAMA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Alabama 2021 | House Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifescore	HB4	HB54	HB175	HB178	HB192	HB219	HB309	HB320	HB372	HB453	HB540	HB573	HB609	SB9	SB15	SB30	SB55	SB160	SB188	SB189	SB215	Rank
					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N		
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
POINTS					4	2	1	1	4	4	10	6	5	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	2	5	11	3	
Alexander, Louise	HD-056	D	14%	13%	4	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	86
Allen, Wes	HD-089	R	38%	26%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	-	4
Almond, Cynthia	HD-063	R	n/a	n/a	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	7	7	I	I	I	I	I	I	
Baker, Alan	HD-066	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Ball, Mike	HD-010	R	27%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	X	X	X	7	10	-	X	-	-	X	31
Bedsole, Russell	HD-049	R	31%	31%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Blackshear, Chris	HD-080	R	20%	15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	66
Boyd, Barbara	HD-032	D	6%	8%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	100
Bracy, Napoleon	HD-098	D	16%	12%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	2	-	-	-	77
Brown, Chip	HD-105	R	31%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Brown, K.L.	HD-040	R	27%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Carns, Jim	HD-048	R	31%	32%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Chestnut, Prince	HD-067	D	7%	11%	4	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	96
Clarke, Adline	HD-097	D	17%	13%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	10	-	2	-	-	-	73
Clouse, Steve	HD-093	R	31%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Coleman, Merika	HD-057	D	6%	8%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	100
Collins, Terri	HD-008	R	26%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Crawford, Danny	HD-005	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Daniels, Anthony	HD-053	D	17%	12%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	2	-	X	-	73
Dismukes, Will	HD-088	R	19%	30%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	X	-	2	-	-	-	71

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2021 ALABAMA

ALABAMA SENATE SNAPSHOT

ALABAMA SENATE VOTES

ALABAMA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

ALABAMA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

ALABAMA HOUSE VOTES

ALABAMA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Alabama 2021 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifescore	HB4	HB54	HB175	HB178	HB192	HB219	HB309	HB320	HB372	HB453	HB540	HB573	HB609	SB9	SB15	SB30	SB55	SB160	SB188	SB189	SB215	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
POINTS					4	2	1	1	4	4	10	6	5	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	2	5	11	3	
Drake, Dickie	HD-045	R	14%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	86
Drummond, Barbara	HD-103	D	16%	12%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	2	-	-	-	77
Easterbrook, Brett	HD-065	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Ellis, Corley	HD-041	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
England, Christopher	HD-070	D	6%	8%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	100
Estes, Tracy	HD-017	R	30%	22%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	27
Farley, Allen	HD-015	R	31%	25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Faulkner, David	HD-046	R	30%	19%	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	X	-	-	-	27
Faust, Joe	HD-094	R	26%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Fincher, Bob	HD-037	R	32%	27%	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	11
Forte, Berry	HD-084	D	19%	15%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	71
Garrett, Danny	HD-044	R	31%	25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Gaston, Victor	HD-100	R	20%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	66
Givan, Juandalynn	HD-060	D	7%	8%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	2	-	-	-	96
Gray, Jeremy	HD-083	D	12%	11%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	92
Greer, Lynn	HD-002	R	23%	17%	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	7	X	10	-	2	-	-	X	63
Grimsley, Dexter	HD-085	D	20%	16%	4	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	X	-	-	-	66
Hall, Laura	HD-019	D	17%	16%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	7	-	X	X	2	-	-	-	73
Hanes, Tommy	HD-023	R	34%	43%	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	-	7
Harbison, Corey	HD-012	R	29%	27%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	X	2	-	-	-	29

Alabama 2021 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifescore	HB4	HB54	HB175	HB178	HB192	HB219	HB309	HB320	HB372	HB453	HB540	HB573	HB609	SB9	SB15	SB30	SB55	SB160	SB188	SB189	SB215	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
POINTS					4	2	1	1	4	4	10	6	5	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	2	5	11	3	
Hassell, Kenyatte	HD-078	D	n/a	n/a	4	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	-	-	I	I	I	I	I	I	
Hatcher, Kirk	HD-078	D	n/a	10%	I	-	I	-	-	-	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	10	I	I	I	I	I	
Hill, Jim	HD-050	R	16%	15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	77
Hollis, Rolanda	HD-058	D	17%	12%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	2	-	-	-	73
Holmes, Mike	HD-031	R	51%	41%	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	5	X	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	X	2
Howard, Ralph	HD-072	D	6%	8%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	100
Hurst, Stephen	HD-035	R	26%	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Ingram, Reed	HD-075	R	27%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Isbell, Gil	HD-028	R	27%	18%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Jackson, Thomas	HD-068	D	7%	10%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	96
Jones, Mike	HD-092	R	27%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	X	2	-	-	-	31
Jones, Sam	HD-099	D	12%	10%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	92
Kiel, Jamie	HD-018	R	31%	29%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	-	14
Kitchens, Wes	HD-027	R	27%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Lawrence, Kelvin	HD-069	D	13%	11%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	89
Ledbetter, Nathaniel	HD-024	R	27%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	X	X	-	-	-	31
Lee, Paul	HD-086	R	26%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Lipscomb, Craig	HD-030	R	26%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Lovvorn, Joe	HD-079	R	15%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	82
Marques, Rhett	HD-091	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43

Alabama 2021 | House Scorecard (Continued)

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
POINTS					4	2	1	1	4	4	10	6	5	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	2	5	11	3	
McC Campbell, Artis	HD-071	D	14%	11%	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	86
McClammy, Thad	HD-076	D	13%	10%	I	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	I	I	10	-	X	-	-	-	89
McCUTCHEON, Mac	HD-025	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
McMillan, Steve	HD-095	R	31%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Meadows, Charlotte	HD-074	R	20%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	66
Mooney, Arnold	HD-043	R	39%	41%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	5	-	-	-	X	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	-	3
Moore, Mary	HD-059	D	8%	24%	4	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	95
Moore, Parker	HD-004	R	28%	22%	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	X	-	-	30
Morris, TaShina	HD-077	D	7%	9%	4	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	96
Nordgren, Becky	HD-029	R	15%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	I	I	10	-	2	-	-	-	82
Oliver, Ed	HD-081	R	31%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Paschal, Kenneth	HD-073	R	n/a	n/a	-	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	7	7	I	I	I	I	I	I	
Pettus, Phillip	HD-001	R	27%	20%	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Poole, William	HD-063	R	16%	15%	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	I	I	10	-	2	-	-	-	77
Pringle, Chris	HD-101	R	27%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Rafferty, Neil	HD-054	D	10%	10%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	94
Reynolds, Rex	HD-021	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Rich, Kerry	HD-026	R	32%	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	X	11
Robbins, Ben	HD-033	R	34%	34%	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	X	-	-	7
Robertson, Proncey	HD-007	R	31%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14

Alabama 2021 | House Scorecard (Continued)

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
POINTS					4	2	1	1	4	4	10	6	5	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	2	5	11	3	
Rogers, John	HD-052	D	15%	27%	4	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	5	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	2	-	-	-	82
Rowe, Connie	HD-013	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Sanderford, Howard	HD-020	R	22%	19%	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	X	64
Scott, Roderick	HD-055	D	13%	10%	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	X	2	-	-	-	89
Sells, Chris	HD-090	R	26%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Shaver, Ginny	HD-039	R	15%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	82
Shedd, Randall	HD-011	R	31%	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	-	14
Shiver, Harry	HD-064	R	26%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Simpson, Matt	HD-096	R	32%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	11
Smith, Ivan	HD-042	R	27%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	X	7	10	X	2	-	-	-	31
Sorrell, Andrew	HD-003	R	95%	68%	4	2	-	-	4	4	10	6	5	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	2	5	11	-	1
Sorrells, Jeff	HD-087	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
South, Kyle	HD-016	R	27%	18%	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Stadthagen, Scott	HD-009	R	31%	24%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Standridge, David	HD-034	R	33%	26%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	X	2	-	-	-	10
Stringer, Shane	HD-102	R	31%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	14
Sullivan, Rodney	HD-061	R	21%	16%	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	X	X	10	-	2	-	-	X	65
Treadaway, Allen	HD-051	R	26%	23%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Wadsworth, Timothy	HD-014	R	34%	25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	X	7
Warren, Pebblin	HD-082	D	16%	12%	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	2	-	-	-	77

Alabama 2021 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifescore	HB4	HB54	HB175	HB178	HB192	HB219	HB309	HB320	HB372	HB453	HB540	HB573	HB609	SB9	SB15	SB30	SB55	SB160	SB188	SB189	SB215	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
POINTS					4	2	1	1	4	4	10	6	5	4	4	3	2	7	7	10	5	2	5	11	3	
Wheeler, David	HD-047	R	26%	30%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Whitt, Andy	HD-006	R	27%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	31
Whorton, Ritchie	HD-022	R	37%	28%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	X	5
Wilcox, Margie	HD-104	R	26%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Wingo, Rich	HD-062	R	36%	26%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	5	2	-	-	-	6
Wood, Debbie	HD-038	R	26%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	10	-	2	-	-	-	43
Wood, Randy	HD-036	R	20%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	X	10	-	2	-	-	-	66

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HB 54

EXTEND ATHLETIC TRAINER BOARD

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the authorization of the State Board of Athletic Trainers through 2025. Such boards only serve to create onerous government-imposed licensing schemes on various industries and professions, creating barriers to entry in fields that disproportionately impact those in lower income brackets. The Board should be repealed altogether. The Alabama House passed the bill, 95-1, on February 25, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 32-0, on March 4, 2021.

HB 175

STUDENT LOAN SUBSIDY EXPANSION

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a taxpayer-funded subsidy scheme for STEM teachers that would pay for up to \$4000 in additional federal student loan repayments for those who teach in so-called “hard-to-staff” or failing schools. Federal student loan debt currently stands at an astounding \$1.7

trillion. Policies that utilize state tax dollars to pay for taxpayer-funded federal loans exacerbate our debt crisis and forces Alabamans into endless tax-and-spend cycles. The answer to failing schools is not spending more taxpayer money, but focusing on students by expanding school choice and opportunities to move kids out of failing schools. The Alabama House passed the bill, 96-0, on April 1, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 178

NEW LOCAL TAX HIKE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill places a proposed constitutional amendment on the 2022 ballot to authorize municipalities to levy and collect ad valorem taxes to pay off their debt. This widespread taxation authority will encourage local governments to continue wasteful and ill-advised spending knowing that they can service any mounting debt by imposing greater taxation on their constituents. The answer to paying down debt

at any level of government is simple: spend less money. Crafting a ballot initiative to amend the state constitution is an irresponsible attempt by lawmakers to raise taxes across Alabama without shouldering the blame. The Alabama House passed the bill, 98-0, on February 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 192

CRONYISM CREDIT PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a business “incentive” program to new types of businesses--including pharmaceuticals, biomedical, and medical supply manufacturers-- while also providing them a subsidy (in the form of a tax credit) for offsetting a portion of their utility costs up to 10 years. Remarkably, the legislation even allows the credit to carry forward to offset future year utility costs. This type of cronyism is nothing short of the government selecting which businesses win and which businesses

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lose. This is the opposite of a free market approach, pits businesses against one another and puts lawmakers in the back pockets of well-connected lobbyists at the expense of small business owners. The Alabama House passed this bill, 94-1, on February 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 28-0, on February 10, 2021.

HB 219

EXTENDS COAL TAX

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the coal severance tax until 2031. While this tax has been around since 1971 and serves as a source of revenue for several counties in the central and western part of the state, the coal industry tax also props up wasteful and inefficient economic development councils that serve as little more than nexuses for bureaucratically-administered cronyism at the county and local level. Lawmakers should not enact a decade-long autopilot to tax one particular industry to benefit other hand-selected industries, especially as they continue to spend record amounts of money in the state

capitol. The Alabama House passed the bill, 97-1, on February 9, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on March 11, 2021.

HB 309

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates \$2.48 billion in spending for the State General Fund. This is a 3.7 percent increase from last year's budget and makes this the largest general fund budget in Alabama history. A common benchmark to grade spending increases is the growth rate in population plus inflation, which stood at 3.2 percent year-over-year. Since this bill grows beyond that, it forces an extra burden on Alabama taxpayers that they shouldn't have to carry. Furthermore, this comes on the heels of a 7 percent year-over-year spending increase in the 2020 general fund budget. The Alabama House passed the bill, 101-1, on March 9, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 320

MERITLESS GOVERNMENT WORKER RAISE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides a 2 percent across-the-board salary increase for all state government employees. This includes both classified and unclassified employees who may or may not be subject to the State Merit System. At a time when the private sector continues to struggle from job losses, wage losses, and collapsed small businesses due to heavy-handed government handling of the pandemic, state employees should not be rewarded with pay raises from the very taxpayers who have borne the brunt of the pandemic's pain. The Alabama House passed the bill, 100-1, on March 9, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 28-0, on April 29, 2021.

HB 372

TAX EXEMPTION ON VIRTUAL CURRENCIES

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill adds virtual currency, such as Bitcoin, to the exemption list for the state's ad valorem taxation scheme. While Alabama law does not currently tax virtual currencies, this legislation is

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designed to preemptively guard against future efforts from lawmakers to try to collect revenue from the emerging cryptocurrency sector. The Alabama House failed to pass the bill, 37-44, on March 11, 2021.

HB 453

GENERAL FUND SUPPLEMENTAL

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates a total of \$32.1 million to various state entities in addition to the \$2.48 billion in record spending for the State General Fund budget. This supplemental also allocates an additional \$8 million from the Litigation Support Fund to the Attorney General’s office for grant programs ostensibly designed to mitigate the opioid crisis. Such spending decisions should be confined within the state’s budget process, not outside of existing authorization levels. Alabama’s bifurcated state budget structure and opaque process at times make it easier for lawmakers to simply appropriate new or additional money for governmental entities outside of the confines of the state’s budget. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 29-0, on

April 29, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 98-1, on March 9, 2021.

HB 540

NEW CRONYISM PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new permanent entity called the Alabama Innovation Corporation with the authority to dole out taxpayer-funded grants to various businesses selected by its board in an effort to “entice” interests to move to the state. These grants will go through the Alabama Innovation Fund program, funded by appropriations and any other source the legislature deems appropriate. This is poorly-disguised cronyism masquerading as a pro-economic development effort and will benefit well-connected industries on the backs of hardworking small business owners and employees across the state. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 30-0, on May 4, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 102-1, on April 22, 2021.

HB 573

NEW BOND CAP FOR STATE PARKS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides bonding authorization for new legislation raising the bond “cap” to \$85 million for the Department of Conservation and parks under the purview of the Alabama Historical Commission. The previous cap was set at \$80 million. This new authority also specifically allows for revenue in excess of the cap to transfer over to the Alabama Forestry Commission for use in managing state forests. In effect, this means that the supposed “cap” is essentially fake and Alabamans face the prospect of even further taxation than what is outlined in the legislation. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 29-0, on April 29, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 98-1, on April 13, 2021.

HB 609

NEW MATCHING CRONYISM PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes the Alabama Innovation Fund grants to be utilized under the new Alabama Innovation Corporation. Incredibly, the legislation

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specifically states that its aim is to induce more businesses in Alabama to take out more federal taxpayer-funded small business grants by using state taxpayer-funded matching grants of up to \$250,000. This is precisely the type of reckless tax-and-spend pilfering enriching special interests that has the United States approaching nearly \$30 trillion in national debt. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 30-0, on May 4, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 97-1, on April 22, 2021.

SB 30

COVID-19 LEGAL LIABILITY

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill provides civil immunity to businesses, churches, health care providers, and other entities from individual claims that they contracted or were exposed to COVID-19 at these locations. The bill makes an exception if an individual can prove wanton or reckless behavior that flaunts public health guidelines, but otherwise protects business owners and civil institutions from lawsuits. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 28-1, on February 4, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 86-4, on February 11, 2021.

SB 55

HIGHER FEES AND REGULATIONS FOR FIREWORKS RETAILERS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements an across-the-board increase on annual permit fees for fireworks manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and wholesalers. For both manufacturers and distributors, the legislation imposes a 50 percent permit fee increase, from \$2,000 to \$3,000. This 50 percent fee increase also extends to application fees for events that use fireworks. Additionally, the bill grants the State Fire Marshal authority to unilaterally increase these permit and application fees as a percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) every five years. Such policies serve as needless barriers-to-entry for entrepreneurs and smaller retailers, while simultaneously increasing costs on consumers and Alabama citizens. The Alabama Senate passed this bill, 28-0, on April 27, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 86-10, on April 29, 2021.

SB 160

LOOSEN RESTRICTIONS ON COTTAGE FOOD

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill rolls back regulations on the cottage food industry in a welcome change from the previous session. The bill eliminates the \$20,000 annual cap on cottage food sales and allows for online sales, opening up a new avenue for growth for cottage food entrepreneurs. This type of deregulation, wherein individuals are empowered to contribute and grow their businesses, is precisely the approach that should be taken throughout policymaking. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 27-0, on March 2, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 97-0, on May 6, 2021.

SB 188

MERITLESS SALARY INCREASE FOR TEACHERS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides a 2 percent across-the-board pay raise for all certified K-12 teachers and administrative personnel in the Alabama public school system. This spending does not

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take into account the performance of teachers and administrative personnel and follows three straight years of pay raises--including a 4 percent raise last year. Despite ranking near the bottom in education quality, Alabama teachers are in the top half of the nation when it comes to overall pay. Such lazy policies contribute both to the unhealthy long-term fiscal outlook and stagnation in education outcomes. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 26-0, on March 18, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 100-1, on April 27, 2021.

SB 189

EDUCATION FUND BUDGET

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates \$7.7 billion in spending to the Education Trust Fund. This is the largest education fund budget in Alabama history. This is a \$452 million increase--roughly 6.5 percent--over 2020 Education Trust Fund spending. A common benchmark to grade spending increases is the growth rate in population plus inflation, which stood at 3.2 percent year-over-year. Since this bill grows beyond that, it forces an extra

burden on Alabama taxpayers that they shouldn't have to carry. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 29-0, on March 18, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 101-1, on April 27, 2021.

SB 215

NEW DIGITAL CRONYISM PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates yet another new government entity known as the Alabama Digital Expansion Authority. This new agency will ostensibly be charged with expanding high-speed broadband in rural and low-population areas through a new taxpayer-funded grant program known as the Connect Alabama Fund. Ratcheting up government involvement with new agencies and programs to essentially subsidize the development of otherwise financially-dubious ventures is not sound public policy and sets Alabama taxpayers up for future fiscal burdens they should not have to shoulder. The Alabama Senate passed the bill, 32-0, on March 3, 2021. The Alabama House passed it, 95-0, on April 22, 2021.

HB 4

EXORBITANT STATE PRISON TAX BOND

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill served as the centerpiece legislative item in the 1st Special Session in 2021. The bill authorizes the Alabama Corrections Institution Finance Authority to issue \$785 million in new bonds for the construction of three new state prisons and modernizing existing facilities. While it is well within a state's constitutional prerogatives to build new facilities and update antiquated detention centers holding dangerous criminals, the exorbitant price tag serves as a significant tax increase on hard-working Alabamans. The legislature should have dealt with this issue in the regular session with appropriate spending offsets to reduce the overall burden on taxpayers. The Alabama House passed the bill, 74-27, on September 29, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 29-2, on October 1, 2021.

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SB 9

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY EXEMPTION FOR VACCINE MANDATES

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill requires employers to allow their employees to claim a medical or religious exemption from a COVID-19 vaccination and prohibits employers from requiring vaccination as a condition of employment for anyone who has filed a medical or religious exemption. Furthermore, the legislation provides for an appeals process if an employer denies an employee a requested exemption and prevents employers from withholding compensation during the appeals process. Employers do not have the authority to trample workers' fundamental civil liberties. The Alabama House passed the bill, 67-23, on November 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 26-5, on November 2, 2021.

SB 15

VACCINE PRIVACY PROTECTION FOR MINORS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This legislation, passed during the 2nd Special Session, prohibits education institutions in Alabama from inquiring about a student's vaccination status unless an institution has received consent from a parent or guardian. Furthermore, the bill prohibits the vaccination of a minor without parental or guardian consent and empowers the Attorney General to bring a civil action to enjoin any institution that violates these protocols. With COVID-19 vaccine mandates used throughout the nation, this legislation provides important privacy protections for minors from non-parent adults seeking to pressure students and children into providing sensitive medical information. The Alabama House passed the bill, 65-23, on November 4, 2021. The Alabama Senate passed it, 26-4, on November 2, 2021.

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