



2021

Mississippi State Legislative Scorecard

See how Members of Mississippi'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.

Methodology | Mississippi 2021

Club for Growth Foundation publishes the scorecard study so the public can monitor the actions and the voting behavior of Mississippi'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 MISSISSIPPI

The Foundation’s study examined over 1,545 floor votes and, in the end, included 20 Mississippi House votes and 21 Mississippi 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 Mississippi House and Mississippi 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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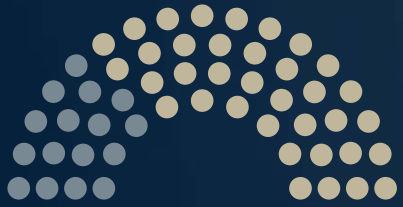
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52 MEMBERS

Mississippi Senate Snapshot



36 Republicans

16 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 28%

Average Democrat Score: 16%



HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Senator Chris McDaniel (SD-42) | 58%



LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Several members had a score of 21%



HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Senator Juan Barnett (SD-34) | 27%



LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

Senator Sollie Norwood (SD-28) | 6%

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	6	5	4	2	8	2	6	4	4	6	4	3	6	6	6	4	4	4	4	2	
Barnett, Juan	SD-34	D	24%	24%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	4	-	16
Barrett, Jason	SD-39	R	26%	26%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Blackmon, Barbara	SD-21	D	15%	15%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	42
Blackwell, Kevin	SD-19	R	21%	21%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	25
Blount, David	SD-29	D	18%	18%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	38
Boyd, Nicole	SD-09	R	21%	21%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	25
Branning, Jenifer	SD-18	R	28%	28%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bryan, Hob	SD-07	D	18%	18%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	38
Butler, Albert	SD-36	D	15%	15%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	42
Carter, Joel	SD-49	R	22%	22%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	23
Caughman, Chris	SD-35	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Chassaniol, Lydia	SD-14	R	27%	27%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	X	-	-	-	-	8
Chism, Kathy	SD-03	R	50%	50%	-	6	-	4	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	X	-	6	6	6	X	-	-	4	-	2
DeBar, Dennis	SD-43	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
DeLano, Scott	SD-50	R	22%	22%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	23
England, Jeremy	SD-51	R	24%	24%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	16
Fillingane, Joey	SD-41	R	31%	31%	-	6	-	X	-	8	-	6	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	5
Frazier, Hillman	SD-27	D	16%	16%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	40
Harkins, Josh	SD-20	R	24%	24%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	16
Hill, Angela Burks	SD-40	R	37%	37%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	X	X	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	X	-	4

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	6	5	4	2	8	2	6	4	4	6	4	3	6	6	6	4	4	4	4	2	
Hopson, W. Briggs	SD-23	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	4	-	30
Horhn, John	SD-26	D	16%	16%	-	6	-	-	X	8	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	40
Jackson, Robert	SD-11	D	14%	14%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
Jackson, Sampson	SD-32	D	14%	14%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
Johnson, Chris	SD-45	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Jordan, David	SD-24	D	15%	15%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	42
Kirby, Dean	SD-30	R	21%	21%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	25
McCaughn, Tyler	SD-31	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
McDaniel, Chris	SD-42	R	53%	53%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	4	-	-	X	3	6	6	6	X	-	-	4	-	1
McLendon, Michael	SD-01	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
McMahan, Chad	SD-06	R	21%	21%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Michel, Walter	SD-25	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Moran, Philip	SD-46	R	21%	21%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	25
Norwood, Sollie	SD-28	D	6%	6%	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
Parker, David	SD-02	R	20%	20%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Parks, Rita Potts	SD-04	R	25%	25%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	4	-	15
Polk, John	SD-44	R	29%	29%	X	6	-	-	-	8	X	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	4	-	6
Seymour, Joseph	SD-47	R	26%	26%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Simmons, Derrick	SD-12	D	9%	9%	-	X	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	51
Simmons, Sarita	SD-13	D	15%	15%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	42

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	6	5	4	2	8	2	6	4	4	6	4	3	6	6	6	4	4	4	4	2	
Sojourner, Melanie	SD-37	R	49%	49%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	X	3	6	6	6	X	-	-	4	-	3
Sparks, Daniel	SD-05	R	24%	24%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	16
Suber, Benjamin	SD-08	R	27%	27%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	8
Tate, Jeff	SD-33	R	26%	26%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Thomas, Joseph	SD-22	D	14%	14%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
Thompson, Mike	SD-48	R	24%	24%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	16
Turner-Ford, Angela	SD-16	D	15%	15%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	42
Whaley, Neil	SD-10	R	24%	24%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	16
Wiggins, Brice	SD-52	R	24%	24%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	16
Williams, Bart	SD-15	R	26%	26%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Witherspoon, Tammy	SD-38	D	15%	15%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	42
Younger, Charles	SD-17	R	27%	27%	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	X	-	-	-	-	8

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HB 109

FY 2022 STATE BUDGET

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes \$6.6 billion in spending. This includes a 2.6 percent increase in public education spending over FY2021 levels and a 3.8 percent increase in agency spending compared to last year's budget. In total, eighty percent of state agencies received spending increases in year-over-year authorizations. A common benchmark to grade spending increases is the growth rate in population plus inflation, which stood at 1.1 percent year-over-year when the bill was considered. Since this bill grows beyond that, it forces an extra burden on Mississippi taxpayers that they shouldn't have to carry. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 117-4, on March 30, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, the same day.

HB 632

ALL FUELS ACT

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill ensures that reliable sources of energy necessary for the usage, expansion, connection, or reconnection of services cannot be prohibited by political subdivisions in the state of Mississippi. This bill will protect citizens from having their critical services interrupted or lost due to politically-propped up "green energy" initiatives that are both costly and unreliable. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 117-0, on February 4, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on March 9, 2021.

HB 852

NON-PERFORMANCE BASED TEACHER RAISES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill spends a total of \$51 million in meritless teacher pay raises, accounting for roughly \$1,000 in additional salary benefits for all certified K-12

teachers in the Mississippi public school system. Mississippi ranks near the very bottom when it comes to overall student outcomes. This pay increase comes at a time when millions of parents are pulling their children out of public schools across the country. Pouring more money into a failing public school system only doubles down on a dismal status quo when lawmakers should be focused on policy reforms that put the needs of students first. The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 52-0, on March 4, 2021. The Mississippi House passed it, 119-2, on March 18, 2021.

HB 1179

EXPANDS TEACHER LOAN SUBSIDY PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new teacher loan repayment program that essentially serves as a double subsidy paid for by Mississippi taxpayers. The program uses taxpayer money to pay off taxpayer-subsidized loans held by eligible

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teachers. For teachers in non-critical shortage areas, they receive \$1,500 in loan repayment money the first year, \$2,500 the second year, and \$3,500 the third year. In critical shortage areas, eligible teachers receive \$4,000 the first year, \$5,000 the second year, and \$6,000 the third year. 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 force Mississippians into endless tax-and-spend cycles. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 114-6, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 50-1, on the same day.

HB 1231

SLUSH FUND FOR CONSERVATION

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded slush fund known as the Mississippi Outdoor Stewardship Fund. Empowered with grant-making authority, this new entity is designed to award taxpayer money to counties, municipalities, and state agencies for various

conservation initiatives. The spending levels in this new program ratchet up each year: starting at \$833,000 per month through July 2022, \$1 million per month through July 2023, and \$1.25 million each month after July 2023 in perpetuity. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 117-2, on February 10, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on March 10, 2021.

HB 1263

PRO-GROWTH OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING REFORM

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill creates a wide-ranging occupational licensing reciprocity approach. This legislation would ensure that if a resident holds a license in good standing from another state, then Mississippi will recognize that license as valid. For professions that are only licensed in Mississippi, a new resident just has to show three years of prior experience in the specific occupation to be certified. This is the kind of legislation that empowers workers, employers, and ensures arbitrary barriers do not prevent

people from contributing to the state economy. The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 51-1, on March 9, 2021. The Mississippi House passed it, 115-1, on March 16, 2021.

HB 1312

EXTEND COSMETOLOGY LICENSING BOARD

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the authorization of the State Board of Cosmetology through 2024. 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 and the fact that lawmakers extended this silly licensing regime after passing strong reciprocity legislation is all the more ridiculous. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 108-9, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on March 30, 2021.

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HB 1326

EXTEND CALL FOR BALANCED BUDGET (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill extends the state of Mississippi's compact through 2031 calling for an Article V Convention regarding a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution. The United States is nearly \$30 trillion in debt. It is clear that federal lawmakers remain unserious about our nation's fiscal outlook. Therefore, efforts from the states to rein in Washington, D.C. are important tools in the fight to end reckless spending. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 75-44, on February 11, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 35-14, on March 10, 2021.

HB 1388

FUNDING FOR PUBLIC TELEVISION (CFGF OPPOSES)

This appropriation bill increases taxpayer funding for public television by 35 percent over last year's spending levels. Total spending for FY2022 comes out to \$8.1 million. Government funded television should not exist and this program should be zeroed

out. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 96-23, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 50-1, on the same day.

HB 1389

FUNDING FOR ARTS COMMISSION (CFGF OPPOSES)

This appropriation bill increases taxpayer funding for the Mississippi Arts Commission by 10 percent over last year's spending levels. Total spending for FY2022 comes out to \$1.66 million. Government funding for the arts should not exist and this program should be zeroed out. Private funding and philanthropy are more than sufficient to maintain the arts. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 112-9, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on the same day.

HB 1487

THAD COCHRAN CORPORATE WELFARE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes an annual \$300,000 taxpayer funded transfer from the Vicksburg Warren

Economic Development Foundation to the Thad Cochran Mississippi Center for Innovation and Technology. Taxpayers should not fund so-called "economic development" schemes which utilize public funding to pick winners and losers in private industry. They certainly should not have their tax dollars authorized through statute to be wastefully thrown from one crony entity to another. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 110-10, on March 11, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 50-0, on March 24, 2021.

SB 2631

TELEMEDICINE MANDATE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill requires telemedicine services to be regulated into the existing health insurance racket, which is heavily subsidized and distorted due to onerous government mandates and cronyism. Specifically, it requires insurers and employee benefit plans to reimburse providers for telemedicine services akin to in person visits. Telemedicine is an innovative health care solution for millions of Americans. Subjecting this service

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to the destructive regulatory regime that has imposed high costs and diminished quality of care on patients is extremely poor policy. The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 47-0, on February 9, 2021. The Mississippi House passed it, 112-4, on March 9, 2021.

SB 2751

NEW MASSAGE THERAPY REGULATIONS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill sets up new regulations on massage therapists, specifically empowering the state board to maintain a registry of all massage therapy establishments. Additionally, it sets up hundreds of hours of instruction requirements before certification and extends the authorization for the Board of Massage Therapy through 2025. Continuing these types of regulatory schemes impose economic barriers on those seeking employment in various occupations while empowering bureaucrats. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 107-12, on March 8, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 49-2, on March 18, 2021.

SB 2759

TANF INCREASE WITH NO OFFSET

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases spending in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program from \$170 per household per month to \$260 per month. This is an increase of more than 50 percent and includes no spending offsets. Increasing spending in this program, especially when categorical eligibility for other welfare programs remains in effect, only ensures more dependency at a time when unfilled job openings outnumber unemployed Americans. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 112-9, on March 8, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 40-9, on March 17, 2021.

SB 2799

MEDICAID EXPANSION FOR DENTISTRY

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill attempts to expand existing Medicaid welfare by explicitly incentivizing dentists to accept more Medicaid recipients through higher reimbursement rates. The legislation provides a 5

percent increase each year in reimbursement rates for diagnostic and preventative dentistry for three years. While not as destructive as expanding the Medicaid program to able-bodied adults under Obamacare, these incremental efforts to prop up a program responsible for bankrupting state budgets, fueling our debt crisis, and delivering poor health outcomes makes future needed reforms more difficult. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 96-24, on March 30, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 47-4, on the same day.

SB 2820

NEW TOURISM DEPARTMENT

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new Department of Tourism in the state of Mississippi and empowers this new department with broad grant-making authority. This department utilizes taxpayer-funded grants to ostensibly promote tourism throughout the state. These types of agencies at both the federal and state level needlessly waste taxpayer money under the guise of promoting increased economic activity. In reality, such departments

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and programs are designed to employ and enrich the bureaucracy and do little to improve tourist activity. Mississippi, just like the United States, sells itself. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 43-7, on February 11, 2021. The Mississippi House did not take it up.

SB 2822

NEW CORPORATE WELFARE TAX CREDIT

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a massive new tax credit scheme to incentivize business development from select business interests. These hand-picked industries include manufacturers, telecommunication firms, the tech industry, distribution businesses, and headquarters for large corporations. The total amount of the tax credit varies depending on the size of the business, number of employees, and wages of the employees. Such special tax treatment for large business interests is little more than the government choosing to weigh the scales in favor of corporate America over small business owners. The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 39-0, on February 18, 2021. The

Mississippi House passed it, 117-3, on March 16, 2021.

SB 2839

NEW TAXPAYER-FUNDED GRANTS FOR GOVERNMENT-OWNED IP

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded grant program in coordination with universities and research entities for the explicit purpose of developing “state-owned” intellectual property. Lawmakers should not use taxpayer resources to develop new technologies and properties owned by the state government. The free market should be the leading driver of innovation and new ideas. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 115-3, on March 29, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on the same day.

SB 2972

NEW BONDS FOR CORPORATE WELFARE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes some \$61 million in new general

obligation bonds on the backs of Mississippi taxpayers. These increased tax liabilities range from crony “economic development” initiatives in the ACE program at the municipal level to industry “incentive” programs designed to handpick businesses to benefit from taxpayer-backed largesse. These policies are little more than corporate welfare, managed by bureaucrats, masquerading as an economic boon to the state. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 52-0, on February 24, 2021. The Mississippi House did not take it up.

SB 3091

TAX HIKE FOR MUNICIPAL PROJECTS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes a percent sales and gross income tax increase on residents of Lee County for the purpose of funding future projects funded by the county commission. These broad tax increases targeted at citizens for general projects only increase the burden on residents and taxpayers and empower municipalities to spend hard-earned tax dollars wastefully. Lawmakers should be reducing the tax burden, not increasing it. The

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Mississippi Senate passed it, 23-15, on March 24, 2021. The Mississippi House did not take it up.

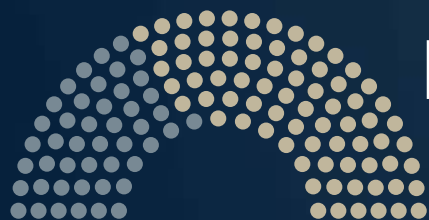
SR 25

COMMEND JONES ACT

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This resolution expresses support for the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, better known as the Jones Act. Contrary to its supporters, the Jones Act is not a boon to our national security or domestic shipping. As of 2016, only 91 vessels met the criteria of an American-flagged vessel crewed only by Americans. The onerous burden this law puts on shipping companies when it comes to hiring, combined with the needless barriers it imposes during crises to deliver relief and supplies, far outweighs the dubious benefits posited by outdated protectionist policies. The Mississippi Senate adopted it, 52-0, on March 4, 2021. The Mississippi House did not take it up.

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122 MEMBERS

Mississippi House Snapshot

76 Republicans

46 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 34%

Average Democrat Score: 17%



HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Rep. Joel Bomgar (HD-58) | 100%



LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Rep. Robin Robinson (HD-88) | 10%

Rep. Tom Weathersby (HD-62) | 10%



HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Rep. Zakiya Summers (HD-68) | 33%



LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Rep. Percy Watson (HD-103) | 5%

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	5	6	5	4	2	8	2	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	4	4	
Aguirre, Shane	HD-017	R	31%	31%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Anderson, Brent	HD-122	R	32%	32%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	30
Anderson, Jeramey	HD-110	D	17%	17%	-	-	X	-	-	X	8	2	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	92
Anthony, Otis	HD-031	D	21%	21%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Arnold, William	HD-003	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Bailey, Willie	HD-049	D	20%	20%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	84
Bain, Nick	HD-002	R	20%	20%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
Banks, Earle	HD-067	D	20%	20%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	5	-	-	84
Barnett, Shane	HD-086	R	34%	34%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	X	6	-	-	-	18
Barton, Manly	HD-109	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Beckett, Charles	HD-023	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Bell, Christopher	HD-065	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Bell, Donnie	HD-021	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Bennett, Richard	HD-120	R	21%	21%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	6	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Blackmon, Edward	HD-057	D	16%	16%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94
Bomgar, Joel	HD-058	R	100%	100%	10	5	6	5	4	2	8	2	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	4	4	1
Bounds, C. Scott	HD-044	R	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	6	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
Boyd, Randy	HD-019	R	43%	43%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	4	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Brown, Chris	HD-020	R	86%	86%	10	5	6	-	4	-	8	-	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	-	X	4
Brown, William	HD-070	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	5	6	5	4	2	8	2	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	4	4	
Burnett, Cedric	HD-009	D	15%	15%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98
Busby, Charles	HD-111	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Byrd, Larry	HD-104	R	29%	29%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	37
Calvert, Billy	HD-083	R	31%	31%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Carpenter, Lester	HD-001	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Clark, Bryant	HD-047	D	9%	9%	-	-	6	-	-	-	X	2	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
Clarke, Alyce	HD-069	D	19%	19%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	90
Cockerham, Angela	HD-096	D	15%	15%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98
Crawford, Carolyn	HD-121	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Creekmore, Sam	HD-014	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Criswell, Dana	HD-006	R	90%	90%	10	5	6	5	4	-	8	-	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	-	5	4	4	2
Crudup, Ronnie	HD-071	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Currie, Becky	HD-092	R	45%	45%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	6	-	-	3	-	5	-	-	10
Darnell, Jerry	HD-028	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Denton, Oscar	HD-055	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Deweese, Clay	HD-012	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Eubanks, Dan	HD-025	R	64%	64%	-	5	6	-	4	-	8	-	7	6	4	4	6	6	-	3	-	5	-	-	6
Eure, Casey	HD-116	R	20%	20%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
Evans, Bob	HD-091	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Evans, Michael	HD-045	D	28%	28%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	41
Faulkner, John	HD-005	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	5	6	5	4	2	8	2	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	4	4	
Felsher, Kevin	HD-117	R	29%	29%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Ford, Jill	HD-073	R	37%	37%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Ford, Kevin	HD-054	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Foster, Stephanie	HD-063	D	15%	15%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98
Gibbs, Debra	HD-072	D	15%	15%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	98
Gibbs, Karl	HD-036	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Goodin, Dale	HD-105	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Guice, Jeffrey	HD-114	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	X	-	8	X	7	6	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	19
Gunn, Philip	HD-056	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Hale, Jeff	HD-024	R	37%	37%	X	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Haney, Greg	HD-118	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Harness, Jeffery	HD-085	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Hines, John	HD-050	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	103
Hobgood Wilkes, Stacey	HD-108	R	56%	56%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	6	4	-	6	6	X	3	6	5	-	-	7
Holloway, Gregory	HD-076	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Hood, Joey	HD-035	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Hopkins, Steve	HD-007	R	87%	87%	10	5	6	-	4	-	8	-	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	-	4	3
Horan, Kevin	HD-034	R	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
Horne, Stephen	HD-081	R	31%	31%	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	X	-	6	X	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	-	-	31
Huddleston, Mac	HD-015	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Hudson, Abe	HD-029	D	29%	29%	-	-	6	-	-	-	X	-	7	-	-	-	X	-	-	3	-	5	4	-	37

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	5	6	5	4	2	8	2	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	4	4	
Jackson, Lataisha	HD-011	D	21%	21%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Jackson-McCray, Hester	HD-040	D	19%	19%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	90
Johnson, Robert	HD-094	D	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	71
Karriem, Kabir	HD-041	D	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	71
Kinkade, Bill	HD-052	R	31%	31%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Ladner, Timmy	HD-093	R	56%	56%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	6	6	-	-	6	5	-	X	7
Lamar, John	HD-008	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Lancaster, Jon	HD-022	D	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
Mangold, Vince	HD-053	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Massengill, Steve	HD-013	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
McCarty, Kent	HD-101	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
McKnight, Jay	HD-095	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
McLean, Dana	HD-039	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
McLeod, Doug	HD-107	R	33%	33%	-	X	6	-	-	2	8	-	-	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	19
Mickens, Carl	HD-042	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	103
Miles, Tom	HD-075	D	15%	15%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98
Mims, Sam	HD-097	R	28%	28%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	41
Morgan, Ken	HD-100	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Newman, Gene	HD-061	R	25%	25%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
Oliver, Karl	HD-046	R	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
Osborne, Solomon	HD-032	D	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	X	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	71

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	5	6	5	4	2	8	2	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	4	4	
Owen, Jansen	HD-106	R	49%	49%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	4	6	-	-	3	-	5	-	-	9
Paden, Orlando	HD-026	D	13%	13%	-	X	X	-	X	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	118
Patterson, Randall	HD-115	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Pigott, Bill	HD-099	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Porter, Daryl	HD-098	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Powell, Brent	HD-059	R	31%	31%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Read, John	HD-112	R	20%	20%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
Reynolds, Thomas	HD-033	D	21%	21%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Roberson, Rob	HD-043	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Robinson, Robin	HD-088	R	9%	9%	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	X	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	120
Rosebud, Tracey	HD-030	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Rushing, Randy	HD-078	R	36%	36%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	X	6	4	-	6	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	16
Sanford, Noah	HD-090	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Scoggin, Donnie	HD-089	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	19
Scott, Omeria	HD-080	D	16%	16%	-	-	6	-	-	-	X	2	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	94
Shanks, Fred	HD-060	R	31%	31%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Smith, Troy	HD-084	R	43%	43%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	6	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	11
Stamps, De'Keither	HD-066	D	28%	28%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	X	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
Steverson, Jody	HD-004	R	28%	28%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	41
Straughter, Rufus	HD-051	D	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Summers, Zakiya	HD-068	D	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	X	7	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	19

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	5	6	5	4	2	8	2	7	6	4	4	6	6	3	3	6	5	4	4	
Taylor, Cheikh	HD-038	D	28%	28%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	41
Thompson, Rickey	HD-016	D	16%	16%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94
Tubb, Joseph	HD-087	R	20%	20%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
Tullos, Mark	HD-079	R	33%	33%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Turner, Jerry	HD-018	R	37%	37%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Walker, Kenneth	HD-027	D	17%	17%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	92
Wallace, Price	HD-077	R	35%	35%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Warren McGee, Missy	HD-102	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Watson, Percy	HD-103	D	7%	7%	-	-	6	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122
Weathersby, Tom	HD-062	R	11%	11%	-	X	X	-	-	X	8	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119
White, Jason	HD-048	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Williams-Barnes, Sonya	HD-119	D	22%	22%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
Williamson, Brady	HD-010	R	65%	65%	-	-	6	-	4	-	8	-	7	6	4	4	6	6	-	3	6	5	-	-	5
Wright, Lynn	HD-037	R	14%	14%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Yancey, Lee	HD-074	R	27%	27%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Yates, Shanda	HD-064	D	21%	21%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Young, Charles	HD-082	D	16%	16%	-	-	X	-	-	X	8	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	5	-	-	94
Zuber, Henry	HD-113	R	29%	29%	-	-	6	-	-	-	8	-	7	6	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37

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HB 109

FY 2022 STATE BUDGET

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes \$6.6 billion in spending. This includes a 2.6 percent increase in public education spending over FY2021 levels and a 3.8 percent increase in agency spending compared to last year's budget. In total, eighty percent of state agencies received spending increases in year-over-year authorizations. A common benchmark to grade spending increases is the growth rate in population plus inflation, which stood at 1.1 percent year-over-year when the bill was considered. Since this bill grows beyond that, it forces an extra burden on Mississippi taxpayers that they shouldn't have to carry. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 117-4, on March 30, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, the same day.

HB 505

BROADBAND SUBSIDY PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded grant program to expand high-speed internet into rural and underserved communities throughout the state. The grants, overseen by the Mississippi Public Utilities Staff, can total up to \$1.5 million for each project. Additionally, the legislation specifically calls for those administering the program to put a special emphasis on racial and gender disparities when determining grant awardees. This type of niche subsidy program, is an abuse of the Mississippi taxpayers and pits citizens against one another predicated along racial and gender differences. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 114-5, on February 9, 2021. The Mississippi Senate did not take it up.

HB 632

ALL FUELS ACT

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill ensures that reliable sources of energy necessary for the usage, expansion, connection, or reconnection of services cannot be prohibited by political subdivisions in the state of Mississippi. This bill will protect citizens from having their critical services interrupted or lost due to politically-propped up "green energy" initiatives that are both costly and unreliable. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 117-0, on February 4, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on March 9, 2021.

HB 852

NON-PERFORMANCE BASED TEACHER

RAISES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill spends a total of \$51 million in meritless teacher pay raises, accounting for roughly \$1,000 in additional salary benefits

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for all certified K-12 teachers in the Mississippi public school system. Mississippi ranks near the very bottom when it comes to overall student outcomes. This pay increase comes at a time when millions of parents are pulling their children out of public schools across the country. Pouring more money into a failing public school system only doubles down on a dismal status quo when lawmakers should be focused on policy reforms that put the needs of students first. The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 52-0, on March 4, 2021. The Mississippi House passed it, 119-2, on March 18, 2021.

HB 1179

EXPANDS TEACHER LOAN SUBSIDY PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new teacher loan repayment program that essentially serves as a double subsidy paid for by Mississippi taxpayers. The program uses taxpayer money to pay off taxpayer-subsidized loans held by eligible teachers. For teachers in non-critical shortage

areas, they receive \$1,500 in loan repayment money the first year, \$2,500 the second year, and \$3,500 the third year. In critical shortage areas, eligible teachers receive \$4,000 the first year, \$5,000 the second year, and \$6,000 the third year. 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 force Mississippians into endless tax-and-spend cycles. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 114-6, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 50-1, on the same day.

HB 1231

SLUSH FUND FOR CONSERVATION

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded slush fund known as the Mississippi Outdoor Stewardship Fund. Empowered with grant-making authority, this new entity is designed to award taxpayer money to counties, municipalities, and state agencies for various conservation initiatives. The spending levels in

this new program ratchet up each year: starting at \$833,000 per month through July 2022, \$1 million per month through July 2023, and \$1.25 million each month after July 2023 in perpetuity. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 117-2, on February 10, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on March 10, 2021.

HB 1263

PRO-GROWTH OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING REFORM

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill creates a wide-ranging occupational licensing reciprocity approach. This legislation would ensure that if a resident holds a license in good standing from another state, then Mississippi will recognize that license as valid. For professions that are only licensed in Mississippi, a new resident just has to show three years of prior experience in the specific occupation to be certified. This is the kind of legislation that empowers workers, employers, and ensures arbitrary barriers do not prevent people from contributing to the state economy.

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The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 51-1, on March 9, 2021. The Mississippi House passed it, 115-1, on March 16, 2021.

HB 1312

EXTEND COSMETOLOGY LICENSING BOARD

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the authorization of the State Board of Cosmetology through 2024. 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 and the fact that lawmakers extended this silly licensing regime after passing strong reciprocity legislation is all the more ridiculous. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 108-9, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on March 30, 2021.

HB 1315

REPEAL OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING BOARDS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill repeals existing state boards and licensing schemes for a variety of occupations. Among those occupations are massage therapists, auctioneers, interior designers, wig makers, and art therapists. This legislation shows that many state lawmakers in Mississippi understand the importance of removing barriers to entry in fields that disproportionately impact those in lower income brackets. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 74-36, on February 3, 2021. The Mississippi Senate did not take it up.

HB 1326

EXTEND CALL FOR BALANCED BUDGET

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill extends the state of Mississippi's compact through 2031 calling for an Article V Convention regarding a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution. The United States is nearly \$30 trillion in

debt. It is clear that federal lawmakers remain unserious about our nation's fiscal outlook. Therefore, efforts from the states to rein in Washington, D.C. are important tools in the fight to end reckless spending. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 75-44, on February 11, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 35-14, on March 10, 2021.

HB 1388

FUNDING FOR PUBLIC TELEVISION

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This appropriation bill increases taxpayer funding for public television by 35 percent over last year's spending levels. Total spending for FY2022 comes out to \$8.1 million. Government funded television should not exist and this program should be zeroed out. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 96-23, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 50-1, on the same day.

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HB 1389
FUNDING FOR ARTS COMMISSION
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This appropriation bill increases taxpayer funding for the Mississippi Arts Commission by 10 percent over last year’s spending levels. Total spending for FY2022 comes out to \$1.66 million. Government funding for the arts should not exist and this program should be zeroed out. Private funding and philanthropy are more than sufficient to maintain the arts. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 112-9, on March 28, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on the same day.

HB 1441
SUBSIDY FOR EV CHARGING STATION
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill sets up a destructive subsidy scheme in the form of a tax credit to incentivize the implementation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in the state of Mississippi. The credit amounts to 75 percent of the cost of an EV

charging station and can be carried forward five years. Over 50 percent of the nation’s electric vehicles are in the state of California. Fewer than 2 percent of all motor vehicles in the United States are electrically powered. This type of blatant cronyism only serves special interests at the expense of taxpayers and motorists. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 89-25, on February 24, 2021. The Mississippi Senate did not take it up.

HB 1487
THAD COCHRAN CORPORATE WELFARE
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes an annual \$300,000 taxpayer funded transfer from the Vicksburg Warren Economic Development Foundation to the Thad Cochran Mississippi Center for Innovation and Technology. Taxpayers should not fund so-called “economic development” schemes which utilize public funding to pick winners and losers in private industry. They certainly should not have their tax dollars authorized through statute to be wastefully thrown from one crony entity

to another. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 110-10, on March 11, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 50-0, on March 24, 2021.

SB 2631
TELEMEDICINE MANDATE
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill requires telemedicine services to be regulated into the existing health insurance racket, which is heavily subsidized and distorted due to onerous government mandates and cronyism. Specifically, it requires insurers and employee benefit plans to reimburse providers for telemedicine services akin to in person visits. Telemedicine is an innovative health care solution for millions of Americans. Subjecting this service to the destructive regulatory regime that has imposed high costs and diminished quality of care on patients is extremely poor policy. The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 47-0, on February 9, 2021. The Mississippi House passed it, 112-4, on March 9, 2021.

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SB 2751

NEW MESSAGE THERAPY REGULATIONS (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill sets up new regulations on massage therapists, specifically empowering the state board to maintain a registry of all massage therapy establishments. Additionally, it sets up hundreds of hours of instruction requirements before certification and extends the authorization for the Board of Massage Therapy through 2025. Continuing these types of regulatory schemes impose economic barriers on those seeking employment in various occupations while empowering bureaucrats. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 107-12, on March 8, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 49-2, on March 18, 2021.

SB 2759

TANF INCREASE WITH NO OFFSET (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases spending in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program

from \$170 per household per month to \$260 per month. This is an increase of more than 50 percent and includes no spending offsets. Increasing spending in this program, especially when categorical eligibility for other welfare programs remains in effect, only ensures more dependency at a time when unfilled job openings outnumber unemployed Americans. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 112-9, on March 8, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 40-9, on March 17, 2021.

SB 2799

MEDICAID EXPANSION FOR DENTISTRY (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill attempts to expand existing Medicaid welfare by explicitly incentivizing dentists to accept more Medicaid recipients through higher reimbursement rates. The legislation provides a 5 percent increase each year in reimbursement rates for diagnostic and preventative dentistry for three years. While not as destructive as expanding the Medicaid program to able-bodied adults under Obamacare, these incremental

efforts to prop up a program responsible for bankrupting state budgets, fueling our debt crisis, and delivering poor health outcomes makes future needed reforms more difficult. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 96-24, on March 30, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 47-4, on the same day.

SB 2822

NEW CORPORATE WELFARE TAX CREDIT (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a massive new tax credit scheme to incentivize business development from select business interests. These hand-picked industries include manufacturers, telecommunication firms, the tech industry, distribution businesses, and headquarters for large corporations. The total amount of the tax credit varies depending on the size of the business, number of employees, and wages of the employees. Such special tax treatment for large business interests is little more than the government choosing to weigh the scales in favor of corporate America over small business

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owners. The Mississippi Senate passed the bill, 39-0, on February 18, 2021. The Mississippi House passed it, 117-3, on March 16, 2021.

SB 2839

NEW TAXPAYER-FUNDED GRANTS FOR GOVERNMENT-OWNED IP

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded grant program in coordination with universities and research entities for the explicit purpose of developing “state-owned” intellectual property. Lawmakers should not use taxpayer resources to develop new technologies and properties owned by the state government. The free market should be the leading driver of innovation and new ideas. The Mississippi House passed the bill, 115-3, on March 29, 2021. The Mississippi Senate passed it, 51-0, on the same day.

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