



**AMERICANS FOR  
PROSPERITY®**

**ARKANSAS**

# 2017 ARKANSAS SCORECARD



## SCORING METHODOLOGY

AFP-AR awarded points based on how members voted throughout the entirety of the 2017 legislative session. One point was awarded for every vote that aligned with AFP's position on a key issue. If AFP's position was in opposition to a bill, we scored anything that was contrary to a "Yea" vote as consistent with our position (Nay, Not Voting, or Present). If AFP's position was in support of a bill, anything other than a "Yea"

vote counted as a "Nay," including Not Voting or Present. If the official vote record lists an absence as "Excused," those votes were not counted against legislators. This scorecard includes 12 key bills and 1 key amendment. All 13 of those votes were taken on the House side, but only 7 of them were taken on the Senate side. This scorecard only covers bills that AFP Arkansas key voted and is intended only to reflect votes taken during the 91st General Assembly, not the entirety of a legislator's career voting record.

## GRADING SCALE

<b>A+</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>90-99</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>80-89</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>70-79</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>60-69</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>59-Below</b>

# LEGISLATIVE VOTES: SENATE

SENATORS	DISTRICT	SB 140	HB 1388	HB 1726	SJR 8 AMENDMENT	HB 1161	SB 723	SB 746	HB 1222	SJR 8	SB 601	HB 1465	SB 362	SB 115	GRADE
Cecile Bledsoe	3	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+
Will Bond	32	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✗	-	✓	✓	F
Ron Caldwell	23	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✓	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓	F
Eddie Cheatham	26	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	F
Linda Chesterfield	30	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✓	F
Alan Clark	13	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Linda Collins-Smith	19	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	B
John Cooper	21	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	C
Jonathan Dismang	28	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Lance Eads	7	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	C
Joyce Elliott	31	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✗	-	✓	✓	F
Jane English	34	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Jake Files	8	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Scott Flippo	17	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+
Stephanie Flowers	25	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✗	-	✓	✓	F
Trent Garner	27	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+
Jim Hendren	2	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Bart Hester	1	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+

SENATORS	DISTRICT	SB 140	HB 1388	HB 1726	SJR 8 AMENDMENT	HB 1161	SB 723	SB 746	HB 1222	SJR 8	SB 601	HB 1465	SB 362	SB 115	GRADE
Jimmy Hickey	11	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	F
Jeremy Hutchinson	33	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	C
Keith Ingram	24	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✗	-	✓	✓	F
Missy Irvin	18	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+
Blake Johnson	20	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+
Bryan King	5	-	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	-	✓	-	✓	✗	F
Uvalde Lindsey	4	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✓	✗	-	✓	✓	F
Bruce Maloch	12	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	F
Jason Rapert	35	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+
Terry Rice	9	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✗	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	F
Bill Sample	14	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	F
David Sanders	15	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Greg Standridge	16	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	A+
Gary Stubblefield	6	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Larry Teague	10	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	F
David Wallace	22	✗	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	B
Eddie Joe Williams	29	✗	-	-	-	-	✗	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	C

**VOTE KEY:**

✗ Voted Against AFP Position    ✓ Voted With AFP Position    - No Vote Possible

# LEGISLATIVE VOTES: HOUSE

REPRESENTATIVE	DISTRICT	SB 140	HB 1388	HB 1726	SJR 8 AMENDMENT	HB 1161	SB 723	SB 746	HB 1222	SJR 8	SB 601	HB 1465	SB 362	SB 115	GRADE
Fred Allen	30	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
Eddie Armstrong	37	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Bob Ballinger	97	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+
Scott Baltz	61	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Sonia Barker	7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+
Rick Beck	65	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	C
Mary Bentley	73	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
Charles Blake	36	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	F
Justin Boyd	77	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Ken Bragg	15	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
David Branscum	83	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Karilyn Brown	41	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C
LeAnn Burch	9	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Sarah Capp	82	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	F
Frances Cavanaugh	60	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C
Bruce Coleman	81	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	F
Charlie Collins	84	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	D
Bruce Cozart	24	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Carol Dalby	1	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
Andy Davis	31	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Gary Deffenbaugh	79	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
Jana Della Rosa	90	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
Jim Dotson	93	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Charlotte Douglas	75	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
Dan Douglas	91	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	F

REPRESENTATIVE	DISTRICT	SB 140	HB 1388	HB 1726	SJR 8 AMENDMENT	HB 1161	SB 723	SB 746	HB 1222	SJR 8	SB 601	HB 1465	SB 362	SB 115	GRADE
Trevor Drown	68	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C
Les Eaves	46	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
Jon Eubanks	74	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
Joe Farrer	44	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	C
Deborah Ferguson	51	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
Kenneth Ferguson	16	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
David Fielding	5	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Charlene Fite	80	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	C
Lanny Fite	23	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	D
Vivian Flowers	17	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
Jack Fortner	99	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Mickey Gates	22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+
Jimmy Gazaway	57	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Jeremy Gillam	45	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	N/A
Justin Gonzales	19	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Michael John Gray	47	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
Michelle Gray	62	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C
Kim Hammer	28	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	D
Ken Henderson	71	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	D
Kim Hendren	92	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
David Hillman	13	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
Grant Hodges	96	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Monte Hodges	55	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Mike Holcomb	10	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Steve Hollowell	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C

**VOTE KEY:**

✗ Voted Against AFP Position    ✓ Voted With AFP Position    - No Vote Possible

\*Originally voted for SB 723 but, due to sound the ballot procedural move, his vote was stricken.

# LEGISLATIVE VOTES: HOUSE

REPRESENTATIVE	DISTRICT	SB 140	HB 1388	HB 1726	SJR 8 AMENDMENT	HB 1161	SB 723	SB 746	HB 1222	SJR 8	SB 601	HB 1465	SB 362	SB 115	GRADE
Doug House	40	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	D
Lane Jean	2	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Joe Jett	56	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Bob Johnson	42	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
Jack Ladyman	59	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	B
Greg Leding	86	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Tim Lemons	43	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Fred Love	29	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
Mark Lowery	39	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Robin Lundstrum	87	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+
Roger Lynch	14	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	D
John Maddox	20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C
Stephen Magie	72	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Andy Mayberry	27	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
Austin McCollum	95	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+
Mark McElroy	11	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
George McGill	78	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Ron McNair	98	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	F
David Meeks	70	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	B
Stephen Meeks	67	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Josh Miller	66	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	D
Reginald Murdock	48	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	F
Milton Nicks Jr.	50	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
John Payton	64	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+
Clint Penzo	88	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	B

REPRESENTATIVE	DISTRICT	SB 140	HB 1388	HB 1726	SJR 8 AMENDMENT	HB 1161	SB 723	SB 746	HB 1222	SJR 8	SB 601	HB 1465	SB 362	SB 115	GRADE
Rebecca Petty	94	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	D
Aaron Pilkington	69	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+
Mathew Pitsch	76	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C
Chris Richey	12	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Marcus Richmond	21	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
Laurie Rushing	26	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	D
Johnny Rye	54	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	B
Warwick Sabin	33	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
Matthew Shepherd	6	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Brandt Smith	58	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Jim Sorvillo	32	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	C
Nelda Speaks	100	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
James Sturch	63	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗*	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	F
Dan Sullivan	53	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Dwight Tosh	52	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
Clarke Tucker	35	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
DeAnn Vaught	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C
John Walker	34	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	F
Jeff Wardlaw	8	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	D
Les Warren	25	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
Danny Watson	3	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	F
David Whitaker	85	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	F
Jeff Williams	89	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	B
Carlton Wing	38	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	C
Richard Womack	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	A

**VOTE KEY:**

✗ Voted Against AFP Position    ✓ Voted With AFP Position    - No Vote Possible

\*Originally voted for SB 723 but, due to sound the ballot procedural move, his vote was stricken.

## BILLS AFP AR OPPOSED

### **SB 140 - INTERNET SALES TAX**

This bill attempts to force companies in other states to collect and remit sales taxes for Arkansas. The Supreme Court ruled in *Quill Corp v. North Dakota* (1992) that states cannot take this action under the U.S. Constitution absent Congressional action. Supporters claim this bill would increase tax revenues by \$100-150 million per year.

### **HB 1388 - INTERNET SALES TAX REPORTING MANDATES**

This bill imposes burdensome regulatory mandates on remote online businesses and would limit the choices of Arkansans by leading out-of-state small businesses to stop offering us their products and services due to the cost of navigating the more than 350 tax jurisdictions in our state.

### **HB 1726 - GAS TAX INCREASE**

This bill would place a bond issue on the 2018 General Election ballot that (if passed) would trigger a 6.5% sales tax on the wholesale price of all motor fuels. This tax would be paid in addition to the 40 cents per gallon Arkansans already pay at the pump, raising taxes by at least 10 cents per gallon and over \$200 million per year.

### **SJR 8 H2 - TORT REFORM CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

This amendment attempted to substantially weaken the tort reform bill by raising the caps on non-economic damages to \$1 million. This amendment was intended to give cover to legislators who don't support real tort reform, while doing very little to reduce the number of frivolous lawsuits.

### **HB 1161 - EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT**

This bill would create an Earned Income Tax Credit, which is a "refundable" tax credit for individuals with little tax liability. It is a wealth redistribution program, and the federal version of this program experiences fraud rates in excess of 25 percent.

## BILLS AFP AR SUPPORTED

### **SB 723 - SPECIAL ELECTION REFORM**

This bill would standardize the election calendar so that special elections that increase taxes must be held in conjunction with the preferential primary or general election. This will promote voter turnout and protect taxpayers from tax increase elections on irregular or unpredictable dates.

### **SB 746 - EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (SENATE VERSION)**

This bill would establish a four-year pilot program to allow nonprofits to establish education savings accounts that would be funded by tax credit scholarships. It will allow parents more choices and flexibility in how they educate their children and move Arkansas in the direction of more school choice.

### **HB 1222 - EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (HOUSE VERSION)**

This bill would establish a four-year pilot program to allow nonprofits to establish education savings accounts that would be funded by tax credit scholarships. It will allow parents more choices and flexibility in how they educate their children and move Arkansas in the direction of more school choice.

### **SJR 8 - TORT REFORM CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

This bill would place a Constitutional amendment on the 2018 General Election ballot concerning tort reform. This bill would curb frivolous lawsuits by capping non-economic damages at \$500,000, capping punitive damages at \$500,000 or 3 times the amount of the compensatory damages, whichever is greater, capping contingency fees in civil actions at 33 1/3 of the recovery; and allowing the legislature to adopt rules of pleading, practice and procedure.

### **SB 601 - PREVAILING WAGE REPEAL**

This bill would repeal Arkansas's costly "prevailing wage" mandate, which unnecessarily drives up the cost of construction on public works projects by creating a wage floor. Repealing the state's "prevailing wage" mandates would result in significant savings to taxpayers, lead to more job creation, and create a freer and fairer market. Wages for public projects should be set by the marketplace, not by government agencies or bureaucrats.

### **HB 1465 - MEDICAID EXPANSION ENROLLMENT FREEZE**

This bill would require DHS to seek a waiver from the Trump administration to freeze enrollment in the state's Medicaid expansion program, which has significantly exceeded enrollment projections. While original state projections claimed Medicaid expansion would never surpass 215,000 enrollees, the program's enrollment had surpassed 330,000 by December of 2016.

### **SB 362 - INVESTARK PHASE-OUT**

This bill would phase out the InvestArk tax credit, which is the state's largest corporate welfare tax credit and only benefits a handful of large corporations. This credit will be replaced with an exemption on the partial repair and replacement of manufacturing machinery, which should be exempted as a business input. This bill significantly improves Arkansas's tax code.

### **SB 115 - INCOME TAX RELIEF**

This bill would provide income tax relief to Arkansans making less than \$21,000 per year by reducing the income tax rates on the state's lowest bracket. It also creates a Tax Reform Task Force charged with finding ways to further reduce income taxes on Arkansans and improve the state's tax code in the 2019 session.