

Liberty Index 2023

U.S. Senate

Legislative scorecard for the U.S. Senate during the 2023 calendar year

Liberty Index Overview

Created by the Republican Liberty Caucus, the 2023 Liberty Index is a liberty-focused legislative scorecard for the U.S. Senate. The Liberty Index scores Republican Senators on 20 pivotal bills/votes from 2023 that either advance liberty or diminish liberty. Green bills are pro-liberty bills supported by the RLC. Red bills are anti-liberty bills opposed by the RLC. For information on the bills we selected, see the bill explanations on pages three and four of this document.

A high score on this scorecard does not equate to an endorsement from the RLC. This scorecard simply evaluates the voting record of each Republican Senator.

Scoring Guide

A green number one indicates that the Senator voted with the RLC on that bill. A red number zero indicates the Senator voted against the RLC position on that bill. “NV” means the Senator was absent and did not vote. Absences are scored the same as a vote against the RLC position. “NA” means the Senator was not yet sworn into office.

The Liberty Score is obtained by calculating the percentage that a Senator votes in line with the RLC. For example, the highest possible Liberty Score is 100. This is achieved if a Senator voted with the RLC 100% of the time.

About the Republican Liberty Caucus:

The Republican Liberty Caucus is a 527 voluntary grassroots membership organization dedicated to working within the Republican Party to advance the principles of individual rights, limited government and free markets. Founded in 1991, it is the oldest continuously-operating organization within the Liberty Republican movement. Website: [RLC.org](https://www.RLC.org)



Top Defenders of Liberty 2023

U.S. Senate



KY

Rand Paul

100



IN

Mike Braun

95



UT

Mike Lee

90



OH

J.D. Vance

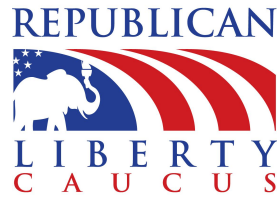
85

Average Republican Score: 45

Lowest Scoring
Republicans:

Mitt Romney: 20
Susan Collins: 25
Mitch McConnell: 25

Mike Rounds: 25
Tim Scott: 25
Thom Tillis: 25



Liberty Index 2023 - U.S. Senate - List of Bills

Bill	RLC Position	Description
S.316 Paul Amendment #2	Support	The Paul amendment #2 to S.316 would have repealed the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force. <i>(Failed Senate 9-85 on 3/22/23)</i>
S.316	Support	This bill would have repealed the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq. <i>(Passed Senate 66-30, but failed to advance in the House)</i>
H.J.Res.7	Support	This joint resolution terminated the national emergency concerning COVID-19 declared by the President on March 13, 2020. <i>(Passed House 229-197 on 2/1/23, Passed Senate 68-23 on 3/29/23, Signed by President)</i>
S.J.Res.10	Support	This joint resolution would have repealed President Biden's rule that currently allows the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide taxpayer funded abortions. <i>(Failed Senate 48-51)</i>
S.870	Oppose	The Fire Grants and Safety Act appropriates an additional \$95 million annually through 2030 for the U.S. Fire Administration. Per the 10th Amendment, this issue should be left to states. With a \$34 trillion national debt, spending increases like this are irresponsible. <i>(Passed Senate 95-2, but failed to advance in the House)</i>
H.J.Res.44	Support	This joint resolution would repeal the unconstitutional rule issued by the ATF that currently bans pistol braces. <i>(Passed House 219-210 on 6/13/23, Failed Senate 49-50 on 6/22/23)</i>
S.2226 Paul Amendment #222	Support	The Paul amendment #222 to S.2226 declared that Article 5 of the NATO treaty does not supersede the constitutional requirement that Congress declare war before the United States engages in war. <i>(Failed Senate 16-83 on 7/19/23)</i>
S.2226 Cruz Amendment #421	Support	The Cruz amendment #421 to S.2226 would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from issuing a COVID-19 vaccine mandate without congressional approval. It would also reinstate any servicemembers fired over the COVID-19 vaccine mandate and restore the ranks of service members demoted due to the vaccine mandate. <i>(Failed Senate 46-53 on 7/26/23)</i>
S.2226	Oppose	The Senate's first version of the 2023 NDAA. This bill appropriated \$886 billion for military spending, a \$23 billion increase from the prior year. Adjusted for inflation, this is the largest military budget since World War II. With a \$34 trillion national debt, this much spending is irresponsible. The bill also would have permanently reauthorized the Undetectable Firearms Act, an unconstitutional statute which bans firearms that can go through metal detectors undetected. <i>(Passed Senate 86-11 on 7/27/23, but failed to advance in the House)</i>
H.R.3935 Cloture	Oppose	This continuing resolution would have funded the federal government from 9/30/23 through 11/17/23, at current funding levels. It bypassed the formal budgeting process without any significant spending cuts, kicking the can down the road for another month and a half. <i>(Cloture Motion Passed Senate 77-19 on 9/26/23. The bill passed the Senate, but failed to advance in the House)</i>
H.R.5860	Oppose	This continuing resolution approved 45 days of federal funding. It bypassed the formal budgeting process without any significant spending cuts, kicking the can down the road for another 45 days. <i>(Passed House 335-91 on 9/30/23, Passed Senate 88-9 on 9/30/23, Signed by President)</i>
S.J.Res.44	Support	Approximately 1,000 U.S. servicemembers are currently deployed in Niger without congressional approval. This joint resolution would force President Biden to remove those troops from hostilities in Niger. <i>(Failed Senate 11-86 on 10/26/23)</i>
H.R.4366 Paul Amendment #1217	Support	The Paul amendment #1217 to H.R.4366 would require a full audit of the Federal Reserve system and the Federal Reserve banks. <i>(Failed Senate 46-51 on 11/1/23)</i>
H.R.4366	Oppose	After Senate leadership amended the House version, the Consolidated Appropriations Act approves federal funding for numerous departments and agencies, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Many of these departments are unconstitutional, per the 10th Amendment. With a \$34 trillion national debt, it is irresponsible to continue funding these departments without any significant budget cuts. <i>(Passed Senate 82-15 on 11/1/23)</i>
H.R.6363 Paul Amendment #1366	Support	The Paul amendment #1366 to H.R.6363 would have required the federal government to enact a 15% budget cut, with exception to the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. The amendment would also rescind \$30 million in unspent tax enforcement funds from the IRS. <i>(Failed Senate 32-65 on 11/15/23)</i>



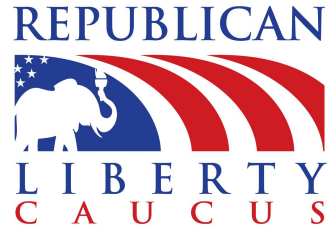
Liberty Index 2023 - U.S. Senate - List of Bills

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H.R.6363	Oppose	This continuing resolution approved another two and a half months of federal funding. It bypassed the formal budgeting process without any significant spending cuts, kicking the can down the road for another two and a half months. <i>(Passed House 336-95 on 11/14/23, Passed Senate 87-11 on 11/15/23, Signed by President)</i>
H.R.815 Cloture	Oppose	The Cloture Motion to H.R.815 would have allowed the Senate to bring this bill to the floor for consideration. Senate leadership planned to use H.R.815 as a vehicle to pass \$110.5 billion in new spending, including \$66 billion of foreign aid for Ukraine and \$14 billion of foreign aid for Israel. With a \$34 trillion national debt, these spending increases are irresponsible. <i>(Cloture Motion Failed Senate 49-51 on 12/6/23)</i>
H.R.2670	Oppose	The final version of the 2023 NDAA. This 3,000 page bill appropriated \$886 billion for military spending, a \$23 billion increase from the prior year. Adjusted for inflation, this is the largest military budget since World War II. With a \$34 trillion national debt, this much spending is irresponsible. The bill also extended the unconstitutional FISA program to 2025, which was inserted in conference committee, violating congressional rules. The bill also funds abortion services for military service members. <i>(Passed Senate 87-13 on 12/13/23, Passed House 310-118 on 12/14/23, Signed by President)</i>
H.R.2670 Cloture	Oppose	The Cloture Motion allowed the Senate to bring H.R.2670 to the floor for consideration. It has a 60 vote threshold, which means Republicans could have stopped the bill if they remained unified in opposition to cloture. <i>(Cloture Motion Passed Senate 85-15 on 12/13/23)</i>
H.R.2670 Motion to Waive Rules	Oppose	H.R.2670 was amended in conference committee to include an extension of the FISA program. This language inserted into the NDAA violated Senate rules because it was not germane to the bill. To get around this, the Senate passed this motion to waive the rules, allowing adoption of the conference committee amendment. In short, Senators could have blocked the FISA extension had they defeated this motion. <i>(Motion Passed 65-35 on 12/13/23)</i>



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Senator	State	S.316 Paul Amendment #2	S.316	H.J.Res.7	S.J.Res.10	S.870	H.J.Res.44	S.2226 Paul Amendment #222	S.2226 Cruz Amendment #421	S.2226	H.R.3935 Cloture	H.R.5860	S.J.Res.44	H.R.4366 Paul Amendment #1217	H.R.4366	H.R.6363 Paul Amendment #1366	H.R.6363	H.R.815 Cloture	H.R.2670	H.R.2670 Cloture	H.R.2670 Motion to Waive Rules	Total votes with RLC / 20	Liberty Score
John Barrasso	WY	0	0	NV	1	0	1	NV	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	7	35
Marsha Blackburn	TN	0	0	NV	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	10	50
John Boozman	AR	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	30
Mike Braun	IN	1	1	1	1	NV	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19	95
Katie Britt	AL	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	40
Ted Budd	NC	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	10	50
Shelley Capito	WV	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	30
Bill Cassidy	LA	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	7	35
Susan Collins	MN	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	25
John Cornyn	TX	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	NV	NV	1	0	0	0	6	30
Tom Cotton	AR	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	7	35
Kevin Cramer	ND	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	9	45
Mike Crapo	ID	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	9	45
Ted Cruz	TX	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	11	55
Steve Daines	MT	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	11	55
Joni Ernst	IA	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	40
Deb Fischer	NE	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	40



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Lindsey Graham	SC	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	30
Chuck Grassley	IA	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	9	45
Bill Hagerty	TN	0	0	NV	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	10	50
Josh Hawley	MO	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	14	70
John Hoeven	ND	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	9	45
Cindy Hyde-Smith	MS	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	30
Ron Johnson	WI	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	11	55
John Kennedy	LA	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	9	45
James Lankford	OK	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	40
Mike Lee	UT	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	NV	NV	1	1	1	1	1	1	18	90
Cynthia Lummis	WY	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	14	70
Roger Marshall	KS	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	13	65
Mitch McConnell	KY	NV	NV	NV	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	25
Jerry Moran	KS	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	35
Markwayne Mullin	OK	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	7	35
Lisa Murkowski	AK	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	30
Rand Paul	KY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	100



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Pete Ricketts	NE	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	40
James Risch	ID	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	NV	0	0	1	1	NV	1	1	0	0	0	8	40
Mitt Romney	UT	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	20
Mike Rounds	SD	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	25
Marco Rubio	FL	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	8	40
Eric Schmitt	MO	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	14	70
Rick Scott	FL	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	11	55
Tim Scott	SC	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	1	0	0	0	5	25
Dan Sullivan	AK	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	7	35
John Thune	SD	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	7	35
Thom Tillis	NC	0	0	1	1	NV	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	NV	NV	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	25
Tommy Tuberville	AL	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	13	65
J.D. Vance	OH	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	17	85
Roger Wicker	MS	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	30
Todd Young	IN	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	35