

Liberty Index 2026

U.S. Senate

Legislative scorecard for the U.S. Senate during the 2025 calendar year

Liberty Index Overview

Created by the Republican Liberty Caucus, the 2026 Liberty Index is a liberty-focused legislative scorecard for the U.S. Senate. The Liberty Index scores Republican Senators on 20 key votes from 2025 that either advanced or undermined core RLC principles: individual liberty, limited government, free markets, fiscal responsibility, and an America First, non-interventionist foreign policy. 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. Senators with more than three absences are penalized, starting with their fourth absence. “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. Bonus points are awarded for cosponsoring certain bills that never received a floor vote. After factoring in the bonus points, it is possible for some Senators to score above 100.

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 2026

U.S. Senate



KY

Rand Paul

99



UT

Mike Lee

65



TX

Ted Cruz

62

Average Republican Score: 45

**Lowest Scoring
Republicans:**

Lisa Murkowski: 30

Dan Sullivan: 30

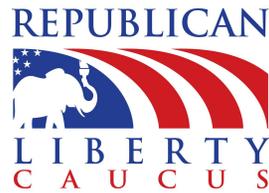
Kevin Cramer: 32

Markwayne Mullin: 32



Liberty Index 2026 - U.S. Senate - List of Bills

Bill	RLC Position	Description
1 Paul Amendment 999 to S.Con.Res.7	Support	The Paul Amendment #999 to S. Con. Res. 7 would have reduced the deficit by \$1.4 trillion over the next eight years. <i>(Failed Senate 24-76 on 2/21/25)</i>
2 H.J. Res 35	Support	This joint resolution nullifies an EPA rule from 2024 which imposed a fee/tax on methane and other emissions from the oil/gas industry. H.J.Res 35 is a good bill to repeal an unnecessary tax. <i>(Passed House 220-206 on 2/26/25, Passed Senate 52-47 on 2/27/25, Signed by President)</i>
3 Paul Amendment 1266 to H.R. 1968	Support	The Paul Amendment #1266 to H.R. 1968 would have cut funding to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), eliminating \$16 billion in foreign aid as proposed by DOGE. <i>(Failed Senate 27-73 on 3/14/25)</i>
4 H.R. 1968 Cloture	Oppose	The Cloture Motion to H.R. 1968 allowed the Senate to bring this bill to the floor for consideration. H.R. 1968 is the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, which approves \$1.6 trillion in spending, funding the federal government from March 15, 2025 through September 30, 2025. This bill continues funding the federal government at the same levels approved by President Biden during the prior year. With a \$38 trillion debt, this bloated spending bill is irresponsible and reckless. <i>(Passed House 217-213 on 3/11/25, Passed Senate Cloture 62-38 on 3/14/25, Passed Senate 54-46 on 3/14/25, Signed by President)</i>
5 H.R. 1968	Oppose	The Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, which approves \$1.6 trillion in spending, funding the federal government from March 15, 2025 through September 30, 2025. This bill continues funding the federal government at the same levels approved by President Biden during the prior year. With a \$38 trillion debt, this bloated spending bill is irresponsible and reckless. <i>(Passed House 217-213 on 3/11/25, Passed Senate 54-46 on 3/14/25, Signed by President)</i>
6 Paul Amendment 1760 to H.Con.Res.14	Support	The Paul Amendment #1760 to H. Con. Res. 14 would have reduced the debt ceiling increase from \$4 trillion to \$500 billion. With \$38 trillion in debt, Congress continues to kick the can down the road with reckless spending increases. Raising the debt ceiling by \$4 trillion only enables Congress to continue this careless pattern. This amendment would have been a step in the right direction, slowing down the debt increases. <i>(Failed Senate 5-94 on 4/4/25)</i>
7 H.J. Res. 20	Support	This joint resolution nullifies a rule imposed by the Department of Energy in 2024 which imposed onerous requirements on gas-fired water heaters, essentially banning them. H.J. Res. 20 is a good bill to restore economic freedom by repealing unnecessary and excessive regulations. <i>(Passed House 221-198 on 2/27/25, Passed Senate 53-44 on 4/10/25, Signed by President)</i>
8 H.J. Res. 87	Support	This joint resolution nullifies an EPA waiver that allowed California to mandate the sale of zero-emission trucks. In short, H.J. Res. 87 repealed California's mandate that required car manufacturers to sell zero-emission trucks. <i>(Passed House 231-191 on 4/30/25, Passed Senate 51-45 on 5/22/25, Signed by President)</i>
9 H.R. 1	Oppose	H.R. 1 appropriates \$320 billion in new spending, while increasing the debt ceiling by \$5 trillion. It increases the budget deficit by \$270 billion. The bill does do some good things: it extends the 2017 tax cuts, increases certain tax deductions and eliminates taxes on tips and overtime. While we support tax cuts, overall, this legislation is fiscally irresponsible. It significantly increases the size of the federal government while further adding to the \$38 trillion national debt. <i>(Passed House 218-214 on 7/3/25, Passed Senate 51-50 on 7/1/25, Signed by President)</i>
10 H.R. 4	Support	The Rescissions Act of 2025, which rescinds \$9.4 billion in federal funding for various agencies, including the Department of State, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and the US Agency for International Development. H.R. 4 is a good bill that cuts wasteful, unnecessary spending. <i>(Passed House 214-212 on 6/12/25, Passed Senate 51-48 on 7/17/25, Signed by President)</i>
11 S. Con. Res. 22	Support	Sen. Rand Paul's "Penny Plan," which balances the budget in five years by enacting a 6% spending cut across the board each year. <i>(Failed Senate 36-62 on 9/16/25)</i>
12 S. 2882	Oppose	The Continuing Appropriations and Extensions and Other Matters Act. This bill continues funding the federal government for one month, while enacting multiple spending increases. The bill would have appropriated an additional \$491 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and an additional \$238 million for Congressional security. With a \$38 trillion debt, this bloated spending bill is irresponsible and reckless. <i>(Failed Senate Cloture 47-53 on 9/30/25)</i>
13 H.R. 4016 Cloture	Oppose	The Cloture Motion to H.R. 4016 would have allowed the Senate to bring this bill to the floor for consideration. H.R. 4016 is the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, which appropriates \$831.5 billion for the Department of Defense budget for FY2026. This pushes total 2026 military spending above \$1 trillion, a 13% increase from the prior year. While we support a strong military, it is fiscally irresponsible to give this much taxpayer money to a department that has failed its audit eight years in a row, especially when factoring in the \$38 trillion national debt. <i>(Passed House 221-209 on 7/18/25, Senate Cloture Motion Failed 50-44 on 10/16/25)</i>



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Bill	RLC Position	Description
14 S. J. Res. 88	Support	This joint resolution would terminate the national emergency declared by the President on April 2, 2025 which imposed a 10% tariff on most imports to the United States. Tariffs are a tax passed down to American consumers, raising prices while violating free market principles. <i>(Passed Senate 51-47 on 10/30/25, Held in House)</i>
15 Motion to Table Amendment 3941 to H.R. 5371	Oppose	This motion tabled the Paul Amendment #3941 to H.R. 5371, preventing the amendment from getting a vote. This amendment would have repealed the provision in H.R. 5371 that bans hemp nationwide. <i>(Motion to Table Passed Senate 76-24 on 11/10/25)</i>
16 H.R. 5371 Cloture	Oppose	The Cloture Motion to H.R. 5371 allowed the Senate to bring this bill to the floor for consideration. H.R. 5371 is The Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, which funds the federal government from November 12th, 2025 through January 30th, 2026, at the same spending levels approved by President Biden during the prior year. The bill also includes a full year of funding for the Department of Agriculture, the FDA, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Congress. The bill also bans hemp nationwide and allows eight Senators to seek up to \$500,000 in damages from the government accessing their phone records. With a \$38 trillion debt, this bloated spending bill is irresponsible and reckless. <i>(Passed House 222-209 on 11/12/25, Passed Senate Cloture 60-40 on 11/9/25, Passed Senate 60-40 on 11/10/25, Signed by President)</i>
17 H.R. 4405	Support	The Epstein Files Transparency Act, which orders the Department of Justice to publish all the Epstein Files within 30 days of its passage. <i>(Passed House 427-1 on 11/18/25, Passed Senate 100-0 on 11/18/25, Signed by President)</i>
18 S. 3385	Oppose	The Lower Healthcare Costs Act, which would have extended the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) tax credits for three years. <i>(Failed Senate Cloture 51-48 on 12/11/25)</i>
19 S. 1071 Cloture	Oppose	The Cloture Motion to S. 1071 allowed the Senate to bring this bill to the floor for consideration. S. 1071 is the final version of the 2025 National Defense Authorization Act. This 3,086 page bill appropriates \$900.6 billion in military spending for FY2026, which is \$8 billion more than the President's budget request. Adding to the \$156 billion previously allocated in H.R. 1, this pushes the defense budget over \$1 trillion; over \$100 billion more than the previous year. The bill allocates an extensive amount of foreign aid: \$1 billion for Taiwan, \$2.5 billion for the Philippines, \$685 million for Israel, \$800 million for Ukraine, and \$175 million for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. While we support a strong military, it is fiscally irresponsible to give this much taxpayer money to a department that has failed its audit eight years in a row, especially when factoring in the \$38 trillion national debt. <i>(Passed House 312-212 on 12/10/25, Passed Senate Cloture 76-20 on 12/15/25, Passed Senate 77-20 on 12/17/25, Signed by President)</i>
20 S. 1071	Oppose	The final version of the 2025 National Defense Authorization Act. This 3,086 page bill appropriates \$900.6 billion in military spending for FY2026, which is \$8 billion more than the President's budget request. Adding to the \$156 billion previously allocated in H.R. 1, this pushes the defense budget over \$1 trillion; over \$100 billion more than the previous year. The bill allocates an extensive amount of foreign aid: \$1 billion for Taiwan, \$2.5 billion for the Philippines, \$685 million for Israel, \$800 million for Ukraine, and \$175 million for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. While we support a strong military, it is fiscally irresponsible to give this much taxpayer money to a department that has failed its audit eight years in a row, especially when factoring in the \$38 trillion national debt. <i>(Passed House 312-212 on 12/10/25, Passed Senate Cloture 76-20 on 12/15/25, Passed Senate 77-20 on 12/17/25, Signed by President)</i>
B S. 2327	Support	The Federal Reserve Transparency Act, which would audit the Federal Reserve.
B S. 1148	Support	This bill would terminate the Department of Education on December 31, 2026.



Liberty Index 2026 - U.S. Senate

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Bonus				
Senator	State	Paul Amdt. 999 to S.Con.Res.7	H.J.Res. 35	Paul Amdt. 1266 to H.R. 1968	H.R. 1968 Cloture	H.R. 1968	Paul Amdt. 1760 to H.Con.Res.14	H.J.Res. 20	H.J. Res. 87	H.R. 1	H.R. 4	S.Con.Res. 22	S. 2882	H.R. 4016 Cloture	S.J.Res. 88	Mot. to Table Amdt. 3941 to H.R. 5371	H.R. 5371 Cloture	H.R. 4405	S. 3385	S. 1071 Cloture	S. 1071	Total votes with RLC / 20	% of votes with RLC	S. 2327	S. 1148	Liberty Score (% + Bonus)
Jim Banks	IN	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.45			45
John Barrasso	WY	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.45	2		47
Marsha Blackburn	TN	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	NV	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.42	2		44
John Boozman	AR	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	7	0.35			35
Katie Britt	AL	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50
Ted Budd	NC	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	NV	0	1	1	1	NV	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.44			44
Shelley Capito	WV	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	7	0.35			35
Bill Cassidy	LA	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	NV	1	NV	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.44			44
Susan Collins	MN	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	0.35			35
John Cornyn	TX	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	NV	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.47			47
Tom Cotton	AR	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Kevin Cramer	ND	0	NV	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	6	0.32			32
Mike Crapo	ID	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Ted Cruz	TX	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	12	0.60	2		62
John Curtis	UT	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	11	0.55			55
Steve Daines	MT	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	NV	0	0	9	0.47			47
Joni Ernst	IA	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	NV	NV	10	0.56			56
Deb Fischer	NE	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Lindsey Graham	SC	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	7	0.35			35
Chuck Grassley	IA	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	NV	8	0.42			42
Bill Hagerty	TN	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50



Liberty Index 2026 - U.S. Senate

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Bonus				
Senator	State	Paul Amdt. 999 to S.Con.Res.7	H.J.Res. 35	Paul Amdt. 1266 to H.R. 1968	H.R. 1968 Cloture	H.R. 1968	Paul Amdt. 1760 to H.Con.Res.14	H.J.Res. 20	H.J. Res. 87	H.R. 1	H.R. 4	S.Con.Res. 22	S. 2882	H.R. 4016 Cloture	S.J.Res. 88	Mot. to Table Amdt. 3941 to H.R. 5371	H.R. 5371 Cloture	H.R. 4405	S. 3385	S. 1071 Cloture	S. 1071	Total votes with RLC / 20	% of votes with RLC	S. 2327	S. 1148	Liberty Score (% + Bonus)
Josh Hawley	MO	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	0.35			35
John Hoeven	ND	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Jon Husted	OH	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50
Cindy Hyde-Smith	MS	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Ron Johnson	WI	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50
Jim Justice	WV	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.45			45
John Kennedy	LA	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50
James Lankford	OK	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Mike Lee	UT	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	NV	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	12	0.63		2	65
Cynthia Lummis	WY	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50
Roger Marshall	KS	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.45			45
Mitch McConnell	KY	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Dave McCormick	PA	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.45			45
Ashley Moody	FL	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50
Jerry Moran	KS	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	NV	0	8	0.42			42
Bernie Moreno	OH	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50		2	52
Markwayne Mullin	OK	0	1	0	0	0	0	NV	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	6	0.32			32
Lisa Murkowski	AK	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	0.30			30
Rand Paul	KY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19	0.95	2	2	99
Pete Ricketts	NE	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
James Risch	ID	1	1	1	0	0	0	NV	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.47	2		49



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Mike Rounds	SD	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	7	0.35			35
Eric Schmitt	MO	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	NV	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.53			53
Rick Scott	FL	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50	2		52
Tim Scott	SC	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40			40
Tim Sheehy	MT	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.50			50
Dan Sullivan	AK	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	0.30			30
John Thune	SD	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.45			45
Thom Tillis	NC	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	NV	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9	0.47			47
Tommy Tuberville	AL	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	NV	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10	0.53			53
Roger Wicker	MS	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	NV	0	0	1	1	0	0	7	0.37			37
Todd Young	IN	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	0.40	2		42