



News

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Taxpayer Group's Nonpartisan Scorecard Shows Highest-Ever Number of "Big Spenders" in Congress

(Alexandria, Va.) – Growing along with the nation's federal deficit is the number of Members of Congress receiving the lowest pro-taxpayer scores, according to the National Taxpayers Union's (NTU) 30th annual Rating of Congress. The scorecard, the only one to utilize *every* roll call vote affecting tax, spending, and regulatory issues, was based on 286 votes – 182 in the House and 104 in the Senate – in the second session of the 110th Congress (all of 2008).

"As Democrats move further to the left and Republicans move increasingly toward a mushy center, taxpayers suffer," NTU President Duane Parde said. "Our 2008 Rating shows both a declining number of Representatives and Senators receiving high pro-taxpayer scores and a record number of lawmakers earning failing grades."

In 2008, only 48 lawmakers attained scores sufficient for a significantly "curved" grade of "A" (at least 80 percent in the House and 76 percent in the Senate) and hence were eligible for the "Taxpayers' Friend Award" – a drop from the 52 who earned top grades in 2007. Meanwhile, a record 267 Senators and Representatives captured the title of "Big Spender" for posting "F" grades (even more heavily curved at 25 percent or less in the House and 15 percent or less in the Senate). This tops the 2007 Rating's 266 biggest spenders and is an even more significant jump from the 224 biggest spenders in 2006.

Between 2007 and 2008, the average "Taxpayer Score" in the House rose slightly from 35 percent to 36 percent. The Senate's average dropped by five points, from 37 percent to 32 percent. This brings Senate scores closer to the all-time low (in 1988) of 28 percent (the House's all-time low was 27 percent that same year). The highest marks were reached in 1995, when House and Senate averages were 58 percent and 57 percent, respectively.

Unlike those of other organizations, NTU's annual Rating does not simplistically focus on a handful of equally weighted "key votes," but every roll call vote affecting fiscal policy – appropriations, authorization, and tax bills; budget target resolutions; amendments; and certain procedural votes that could affect the burden on taxpayers. For this reason, it has received praise from lawmakers on both sides of the aisle, including the late Sen. William Proxmire (D-WI), creator of the "Golden Fleece Award." A Member of Congress's "Taxpayer Score" reflects his or her commitment to reducing or controlling federal spending, taxes, debt, and regulation.

For the sixth consecutive year, Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) was the top scorer in the House with a 98 percent rating – tying Rep. Ron Paul’s (R-TX) record of six first-place finishes from 1979 through 1984. Sen. Jim DeMint (R-SC) captured first place in the Senate for the third year in a row with a 96 percent rating. Rep. John Larson (D-CT) received the lowest score in the House with a 2 percent rating. Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) was the biggest spender in the Senate, also with a 2 percent rating.

The NTU scorecard can also be used to show which Democratic and Republican Members of Congress fell the furthest in their relative rankings from 2007 to 2008. Among Democrats, they are Rep. John Tanner (TN), who dropped 201 slots in the House ranking, and Sen. Frank Lautenberg (NJ), who declined 35 steps in Senate rank. Rep. John Kline (MN) slipped the most among GOP House Members (80 places), while Sen. Mel Martinez (FL) lost 21 steps in Senate Republican rank.

The Rating also indicated how the lessons of the 2006 election began fading for House GOP Members. That contest was widely seen as a referendum on their declining fiscal discipline. While the average pro-taxpayer score among House Republicans rose nine points to 69 percent in the 2007 Rating, it dropped four points to 65 percent in 2008. Senate Republicans’ average score plummeted nine points from 66 percent in 2007 to 57 percent in 2008. House Democrats actually saw a gain in average scores from 6 percent in 2007 to 11 percent in 2008. The average Senate Democrat score was static from 2007 to 2008 at 8 percent.

Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME) became the first Republican Senator to receive an “F” grade since NTU began issuing letter grades in 1992, with a Taxpayer Score of 12 percent. In the House, former Reps. Ray LaHood (R-IL) and Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD) were the first GOP Members to receive “F” grades in a decade.

Neither Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) nor then-Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL), both Presidential candidates for the majority of 2008, were issued scores because they voted on less than half of the weighted total of votes cast. In 2007, Obama received a 5 percent score and McCain did not receive a score for attendance reasons. Sen. Hillary Clinton, also a former Presidential candidate, received a score of 4 percent and the title of “Big Spender” in 2008 – a slight increase from her 2007 rating of 3 percent.

Among state delegations, Nebraska Representatives turned in the highest average score (67 percent), while Oklahoma and Wyoming both topped out in the Senate at 80 percent. On the other end of the scale, New Jersey posted the worst average in the Senate with 2 percent. Rhode Island bottomed out in the House with a state average of 7 percent.

“It remains to be seen whether Members of the 111th Congress will continue the downward spending spiral begun by their predecessors,” Parde concluded. “Many principled, pro-taxpayer allies remain in office, and they hopefully will steer this wayward ship back toward fiscal discipline.”

The 362,000-member NTU is a nonpartisan, nonprofit citizen group founded in 1969 to work for lower taxes, smaller government, and economic freedom at all levels. *Note: The 2008 Rating and a searchable Rating database from 1992-2008 is available at www.ntu.org.*

National Taxpayers Union Rates Congress

110th Congress • 2nd Session 2008

Every year National Taxpayers Union (NTU) rates U.S. Representatives and Senators on their actual votes—every vote that significantly affects taxes, spending, debt, and regulatory burdens on consumers and taxpayers. Unlike most organizations that publish ratings, we refuse to play the “rating game” of focusing on only a handful of Congressional votes on selected issues. The NTU voting study is the fairest and most accurate guide available on Congressional fiscal policies. It is a completely unbiased accounting of votes.

NTU assigned weights to the votes, reflecting the importance of each vote’s effect.*

NTU has no partisan axe to grind. All Members of Congress are treated the same regardless of political affiliation. Our only constituency is the overburdened American taxpayer. Grades are given impartially, based on the Taxpayer Score.

TAXPAYER SCORE

The Taxpayer Score measures the strength of support for reducing spending and regulation and opposing higher taxes. In general, a higher score is better because it means a Member of Congress voted to lessen or limit the burden on taxpayers. The Taxpayer Score can range between 0 and 100. We do not expect anyone to score a 100, nor has any legislator ever achieved a 100 in the multi-year history of the comprehensive NTU scoring system. A high score does not mean that the Member of Congress was opposed to all spending or all programs. High-scoring Members have indicated that they would vote for many programs if the amount of spending were lower. A Member who wants to increase spending on some programs can achieve a high score if he or she votes for offsetting cuts in other programs. A zero score would indicate that the Member of Congress approved every spending proposal and opposed every pro-taxpayer reform.

NTU believes a score qualifying for a grade of “A” indicates the Member is one of the strongest supporters of responsible tax and spending policies. We are pleased to give these Members of Congress our “Taxpayers’ Friend Award” (subject to attendance criteria).

A score qualifying for a grade of “B” represents a “good” voting record on controlling spending and taxes. A “B” grade indicates that the Member voted for taxpayers most of the time, but slightly less than those who attained the grade of “A.”

A score qualifying for a grade of “C” represents a minimally acceptable voting record on controlling taxes and spending. To qualify for a grade of “C” a Member must have a Taxpayer Score of at least 50 percent. While such a score may be “satisfactory,” there is clearly room for improvement.

We are also issuing pluses and minuses for the grades of “B” and “C” in order to better recognize the differences in the voting records of Members with these grades.

A score qualifying for a grade of “D” indicates the Member has a “poor” voting record on controlling taxes and spending.

A score significantly below average qualifies for a grade of “F.” This failing grade places the Member into the “Big Spender” category.

VOTE SELECTION

We analyzed every roll call vote taken during 2008 (2nd Session of the 110th Congress) and selected all votes that could significantly affect the amounts of federal taxes, spending, debt, or regulatory impact. A total of 182 House and 104 Senate roll call votes were selected. We included votes cast on appropriations bills, authorization bills, budget target resolutions, tax bills, amendments, and certain procedural votes that could affect the burden on taxpayers. Votes that simply shifted equal amounts of spending from one area to another were excluded. Also excluded were votes where there was a significant difference of opinion on how to vote to reduce or control government and unanimous votes.

We believe the number of votes used in the analysis, the objective and nonpartisan weighting of the votes, computerized calculations, and many error checks all combine to ensure the highest possible standards of accuracy.

OTHER FACTORS

Although we believe this voting analysis is the most accurate guide available on Congressional fiscal performance, no

study of roll call votes can fully evaluate a Member’s overall record. A Member’s committee work, leadership, and effectiveness with other Members also affect his or her influence on the amount of federal spending, taxes, debt, and regulatory impact. Because of the complexity of the calculations and the number of votes involved, we do not have space to reprint the votes of each Representative and Senator here. A list of the votes used in the study, including the weight assigned to each vote, is available on request.

* Computation

NTU’s federal budget experts assigned a weight to each vote ranging from 0 to 100. A low weight was assigned to votes that had relatively little effect, while a high weight was assigned to votes with the most significant effect on federal spending, taxes, debt, and regulation.

Weights were based solely on the relative effect of each vote on the total amount of federal spending, taxes, debt, or regulatory impact. Consideration was given to the long-term effect of a vote, even though relatively little might be immediately at issue. A vote with average importance should have a weight close to 10.

Scores were computed by dividing the weighted total of votes cast *against* higher spending, taxes, or regulation or *for* lower spending, taxes, or regulation, by the weighted total number of fiscal issues on which the Member of Congress voted. Average state scores were also computed, using the weighted total of votes cast by each delegation.

In computing these scores, we included only those votes on which the Member actually voted for or against a bill, resolution, or amendment. Paired votes, announced positions, and absences were excluded. Because some Members were absent frequently (or otherwise failed to vote yes or no), their scores and grades, based on relatively few votes, may not accurately reflect fiscal attitudes. The Members falling into this category are noted.

TAXPAYER SCORES

SENATE		HOUSE	
32%	Average	36%	
23%	Median	22%	
96%	High	98%	
2%	Low	2%	
Party Scores			
8%	Democratic Average	11%	
5%	Democratic Median	9%	
57%	Republican Average	65%	
55%	Republican Median	66%	

U.S. HOUSE OF R

GRADE	SCORE
ALABAMA	
Aderholt, R.	B .....65%
Bachus, S.	C+ .....56%
Bonner, J.	B- .....60%
Cramer, R.	F .....8%
Davis, A.	F .....9%
Everett, T.	C+ .....56%
Rogers, M.	C .....38%
State Average	42%
ALASKA	
Young, D.	C .....50%
ARIZONA	
Flake, J.	A .....98%
Franks, T.	A .....93%
Giffords, G.	F .....19%
Grijalva, R.	F .....15%
Mitchell, H.	D .....31%
Pastor, E.	F .....10%
Renzi, R.	C .....50%
Shadegg, J.	A .....84%
State Average	50%
ARKANSAS	
Berry, M.	F .....6%
Boozman, J.	C .....53%
Ross, M.	F .....7%
Snyder, V.	F .....7%
State Average	18%
CALIFORNIA	
Baca, J.	F .....11%
Becerra, X.	F .....13%
Berman, H.	F .....7%
Bilbray, B.	B .....73%
Bono, M.	C .....44%
Calvert, K.	B .....66%
Campbell, J.	A .....81%
Capps, L.	F .....6%
Cardoza, D.	F .....9%
Costa, J.	F .....7%
Davis, S.	F .....6%
Doolittle, J.	B .....74%
Dreier, D.	B- .....63%
Eshoo, A.	F .....8%
Farr, S.	F .....5%
Filner, B.	F .....22%
Galleghy, E.	B .....67%
Harman, J.	F .....13%
Herger, W.	B .....67%
Honda, M.	F .....5%
Hunter, D.	B .....71%
Issa, D.	A .....81%
Lantos, T.	[Deceased]...N.A.
Lee, B.	F .....14%
Lewis, J.	B- .....63%
Lofgren, Z.	F .....5%
Lungren, D.	B .....65%
Matsui, D.	F .....6%
McCarthy, K.	B+ .....77%
McKeon, H.	B .....67%
McNerney, J.	F .....9%
Miller, Gary	B .....65%
Miller, George	F .....6%
Napolitano, G.	F .....15%
Nunes, D.	A .....80%
Pelosi, N.	N.A. ...N.A.**
Radanovich, G.	B- .....64%
Richardson, L.	F .....6%
Rohrabacher, D.	A .....82%
Roybal-Allard, L.	F .....15%
Royce, E.	A .....88%

GRADE	SCORE
Sánchez, Linda	F .....15%
Sanchez, Loretta	F .....19%
Schiff, A.	F .....13%
Sherman, B.	F .....17%
Solis, H.	F .....10%
Speier, J.	F .....7%*
Stark, P.	D .....27%
Tauscher, E.	F .....9%
Thompson, M.	F .....13%
Waters, M.	F .....7%
Watson, D.	F .....12%
Waxman, H.	F .....11%
Woolsey, L.	F .....16%
State Average	32%
COLORADO	
DeGette, D.	F .....7%
Lamborn, D.	A .....90%
Musgrave, M.	B .....70%
Perlmutter, E.	F .....7%
Salazar, J.	F .....14%
Tancredo, T.	B+ .....77%
Udall, M.	F .....17%
State Average	39%
CONNECTICUT	
Courtney, J.	F .....17%
DeLauro, R.	F .....6%
Larson, J.	F .....2%
Murphy, C.	F .....9%
Shays, C.	D .....34%
State Average	14%
DELAWARE	
Castle, M.	D .....34%
FLORIDA	
Bilirakis, G.	B- .....63%
Boyd, A.	F .....13%
Brown, C.	F .....5%
Brown-Waite, G.	B- .....62%
Buchanan, V.	C .....43%
Castor, K.	F .....16%
Crenshaw, A.	B- .....64%
Diaz-Balart, L.	C .....49%
Diaz-Balart, M.	C .....49%
Feeney, T.	A .....84%
Hastings, A.	F .....5%
Keller, R.	B .....69%
Klein, R.	F .....8%
Mack, C.	A .....83%
Mahoney, T.	F .....10%
Meek, K.	F .....5%
Mica, J.	B+ .....79%
Miller, J.	A .....86%
Putnam, A.	C+ .....59%
Ros-Lehtinen, I.	D .....34%
Stearns, C.	A .....82%
Wasserman Schultz, D.	F .....5%
Weldon, D.	B .....71%
Wexler, R.	F .....6%
Young, B.	B .....69%
State Average	45%
GEORGIA	
Barrow, J.	D .....28%
Bishop, S.	F .....5%
Broun, P.	A .....93%
Deal, N.	A .....83%
Gingrey, P.	B+ .....77%
Johnson, H.	F .....15%
Kingston, J.	B+ .....79%
Lewis, J.	F .....13%
Linder, J.	A .....87%

GRADE	SCORE
Marshall, J.	F .....22%
Price, T.	A .....85%
Scott, D.	F .....9%
Westmoreland, L.	A .....84%
State Average	52%
HAWAII	
Abercrombie, N.	F .....9%
Hirono, M.	F .....10%
State Average	9%
IDAHO	
Sali, W.	A .....80%
Simpson, M.	C .....51%
State Average	65%
ILLINOIS	
Bean, M.	F .....25%
Biggert, J.	B- .....63%
Costello, J.	F .....15%
Davis, D.	F .....8%
Emanuel, R.	F .....5%
Foster, B.	F .....14%
Gutierrez, L.	F .....6%
Hare, P.	F .....5%
Jackson Jr., J.	F .....12%
Johnson, T.	C .....52%
Kirk, M.	C .....43%
LaHood, R.	F .....25%
Lipinski, D.	F .....17%
Manzullo, D.	B .....68%
Roskam, P.	B+ .....78%
Rush, B.	N.A. N.A.**
Schakowsky, J.	F .....7%
Shimkus, J.	B .....68%
Weller, J.	C .....51%*
State Average	31%
INDIANA	
Burton, D.	A .....82%
Buyer, S.	B- .....64%
Carson, A.	F .....12%
Donnelly, J.	F .....16%
Ellsworth, B.	F .....15%
Hill, B.	F .....22%
Pence, M.	A .....88%
Souder, M.	C .....51%
Visclosky, P.	F .....16%
State Average	41%
IOWA	
Boswell, L.	F .....6%
Braley, B.	F .....12%
King, S.	B+ .....79%
Latham, T.	B .....60%
Loebach, D.	F .....6%
State Average	33%
KANSAS	
Boyd, N.	F .....18%
Moore, D.	F .....6%
Moran, J.	B .....72%
Tiahrt, T.	B .....71%
State Average	41%
KENTUCKY	
Chandler, B.	F .....15%
Davis, G.	B .....70%
Lewis, R.	C+ .....59%
Rogers, H.	B- .....60%
Whitfield, E.	B .....61%
Yarmuth, J.	F .....13%
State Average	46%
LOUISIANA	
Alexander, R.	B .....62%
Baker, R.	[Resigned]...N.A.

GRADE	SCORE
Boustany, C.	C+ .....55%
Cazayoux, D.	F .....24%*
Jefferson, W.	F .....16%
Jindal, B.	[Resigned]...N.A.
McCrary, J.	B .....65%
Melancon, C.	F .....8%
Scalise, S.	B+ .....79%*
State Average	43%
MAINE	
Allen, T.	F .....8%
Michaud, M.	F .....20%
State Average	14%
MARYLAND	
Bartlett, R.	B .....72%
Cummings, E.	F .....10%
Edwards, D.	N.A. N.A.**
Gilchrest, W.	F .....25%
Hoyer, S.	F .....4%
Ruppersberger, C.	F .....5%
Sarbanes, J.	F .....6%
Van Hollen, C.	F .....7%
Wynn, W.	[Resigned]...N.A.
State Average	18%
MASSACHUSETTS	
Capuano, M.	F .....13%
Delahunt, W.	F .....16%
Frank, B.	F .....6%
Lynch, S.	F .....15%
Markey, E.	F .....7%
McGovern, J.	F .....6%
Neal, R.	F .....4%
Olver, J.	F .....6%
Tierney, J.	F .....13%
Tsongas, N.	F .....5%
State Average	9%
MICHIGAN	
Camp, D.	C+ .....56%
Conyers, J.	F .....17%
Dingell, J.	F .....7%
Ehlers, V.	C .....51%
Hockstra, P.	B .....65%
Kildee, D.	F .....5%
Kilpatrick, C.	F .....10%
Knollenberg, J.	C .....54%
Levin, S.	F .....4%
McCotter, T.	C+ .....56%
Miller, C.	C .....46%
Rogers, M.	B .....63%
Stupak, B.	F .....17%
Upton, F.	C .....38%
Walberg, T.	B .....67%
State Average	37%
MINNESOTA	
Bachmann, M.	A .....81%
Ellison, K.	F .....8%
Kline, J.	B- .....61%
McCollum, B.	F .....5%
Oberstar, J.	F .....6%
Peterson, C.	F .....21%
Ramstad, J.	C .....43%
Walz, T.	F .....20%
State Average	31%
MISSISSIPPI	
Childers, T.	D .....31%*
Pickering, C.	C .....52%
Taylor, G.	F .....20%
Thompson, B.	F .....15%

EPRESENTATIVES

	GRADE	SCORE
Wicker, R. ....[Resigned].....	N.A.	
State Average	29%	
MISSOURI		
Akin, T.	A	84%
Blunt, R.	B	66%
Carnahan, R.	F	7%
Clay, W.	F	15%
Cleaver, E.	F	9%
Emerson, J.	C	37%
Graves, S.	B	61%
Hulshof, K.	B	71%*
Skelton, I.	F	6%
State Average	39%	
MONTANA		
Rehberg, D.	B	60%
NEBRASKA		
Fortenberry, J.	C+	57%
Smith, A.	B+	75%
Terry, L.	B	69%
State Average	67%	
NEVADA		
Berkley, S.	F	12%
Heller, D.	B	67%
Porter, J.	D	26%
State Average	35%	
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
Hodes, P.	F	18%
Shea-Porter, C.	F	18%
State Average	18%	
NEW JERSEY		
Andrews, R.	F	6%
Ferguson, M.	C	53%
Frelinghuysen, R.	C+	59%
Garrett, S.	A	85%
Holt, R.	F	8%
LoBiondo, F.	C	48%
Pallone, F.	F	7%
Pascarell, B.	F	12%
Payne, D.	F	17%
Rothman, S.	F	17%
Saxton, J.	C+	57%
Sires, A.	F	5%
Smith, C.	C	39%
State Average	32%	
NEW MEXICO		
Pearce, S.	B	68%
Udall, T.	F	17%
Wilson, H.	C+	59%
State Average	48%	
NEW YORK		
Ackerman, G.	F	5%
Arcuri, M.	F	8%
Bishop, T.	F	7%
Clarke, Y.	F	8%
Crowley, J.	F	6%
Engel, E.	F	5%
Fossella, V.	C+	56%
Gillibrand, K.	F	21%
Hall, J.	F	8%
Higgins, B.	F	7%
Hinchey, M.	F	15%
Israel, S.	F	7%
King, P.	C	43%
Kuhl, R.	C	50%
Lowey, N.	F	6%
Maloney, C.	F	6%
McCarthy, C.	F	7%

	GRADE	SCORE
McHugh, J.	D	30%
McNulty, M.	F	4%
Meeks, G.	F	6%
Nadler, J.	F	4%
Rangel, C.	F	5%
Reynolds, T.	C+	56%
Serrano, J.	F	17%
Slaughter, L.	F	5%
Towns, E.	F	6%
Velazquez, N.	F	7%
Walsh, J.	D	33%
Weiner, A.	F	5%
State Average	15%	
NORTH CAROLINA		
Butterfield, G.	F	18%
Coble, H.	B	65%
Etheridge, B.	F	6%
Foxx, V.	A	89%
Hayes, R.	C	50%
Jones, W.	C	54%
McHenry, P.	A	83%
McIntyre, M.	D	29%
Miller, B.	F	6%
Myrick, S.	B	72%
Price, D.	F	6%
Shuler, H.	D	26%
Watt, M.	F	5%
State Average	39%	
NORTH DAKOTA		
Pomeroy, E.	F	6%
OHIO		
Boehner, J.	B+	76%
Chabot, S.	B+	76%
Fudge, M.	N.A.	N.A.**
Hobson, D.	C	54%
Jones, S. ....[Deceased].....	N.A.	
Jordan, J.	A	89%
Kaptur, M.	F	17%
Kucinich, D.	F	25%
LaTourette, S.	C	40%
Latta, B.	B	73%
Pryce, D.	C	49%
Regula, R.	C	40%
Ryan, T.	F	4%
Schmidt, J.	B	64%
Space, Z.	F	5%
Sutton, B.	F	11%
Tiberi, P.	B	62%
Turner, M.	C	48%
Wilson, C.	F	6%
State Average	42%	
OKLAHOMA		
Boren, D.	F	16%
Cole, T.	C+	57%
Fallin, M.	B	60%
Lucas, F.	B	65%
Sullivan, J.	B	68%
State Average	53%	
OREGON		
Blumenauer, E.	F	24%
DeFazio, P.	F	22%
Hooley, D.	F	4%
Walden, G.	C	53%
Wu, D.	F	13%
State Average	23%	
PENNSYLVANIA		
Altmire, J.	F	21%
Brady, R.	F	5%
Carney, C.	F	18%

	GRADE	SCORE
Dent, C.	C	48%
Doyle, M.	F	5%
English, P.	C	42%
Fattah, C.	F	6%
Gerlach, J.	C	41%
Holden, T.	F	18%
Kanjorski, P.	F	7%
Murphy, P.	F	12%
Murphy, T.	C	39%
Murtha, J.	F	7%
Peterson, J.	C+	56%
Pitts, J.	A	84%
Platts, T.	C	51%
Schwartz, A.	F	7%
Sestak, J.	F	7%
Shuster, B.	B	62%
State Average	28%	
RHODE ISLAND		
Kennedy, P.	F	6%
Langevin, J.	F	7%
State Average	7%	
SOUTH CAROLINA		
Barrett, G.	A	82%
Brown, H.	C+	56%
Clyburn, J.	F	4%
Inglis, B.	B	69%
Spratt, J.	F	6%
Wilson, J.	B	68%
State Average	48%	
SOUTH DAKOTA		
Herseth Sandlin, S.	F	22%
TENNESSEE		
Blackburn, M.	A	80%
Cohen, S.	F	5%
Cooper, J.	D	26%
Davis, D.	B	74%
Davis, L.	F	16%
Duncan, J.	A	87%
Gordon, B.	F	6%
Tanner, J.	F	5%
Wamp, Z.	B	72%
State Average	42%	
TEXAS		
Barton, J.	B	74%
Brady, K.	B	66%
Burgess, M.	A	80%
Carter, J.	B+	79%
Conaway, M.	B	71%
Cueellar, H.	F	14%
Culberson, J.	A	83%
Doggett, L.	F	18%
Edwards, C.	F	6%
Gohmert, L.	B	69%
Gonzalez, C.	F	8%
Granger, K.	B	67%
Green, A.	F	10%
Green, G.	F	20%
Hall, R.	B	66%
Hensarling, J.	A	91%
Hinojosa, R.	F	9%
Jackson-Lee, S.	F	12%
Johnson, E.	F	5%
Johnson, S.	A	86%
Lampson, N.	C	44%
Marchant, K.	A	85%
McCaul, M.	B	68%
Neugebauer, R.	B+	78%
Ortiz, S.	F	16%
Paul, R.	A	96%

	GRADE	SCORE
Poe, T.	B+	78%
Reyes, S.	F	8%
Rodriguez, C.	F	22%
Sessions, P.	B	72%
Smith, L.	B	62%
Thornberry, M.	B	71%
State Average	51%	
UTAH		
Bishop, R.	B+	79%
Cannon, C.	A	80%
Matheson, J.	C	40%
State Average	64%	
VERMONT		
Welch, P.	F	13%
VIRGINIA		
Boucher, R.	F	7%
Cantor, E.	B	73%
Davis, T.	C+	55%
Drake, T.	B	67%
Forbes, J.	B	66%
Goode, V.	B	71%
Goodlatte, B.	B	69%
Moran, J.	F	7%
Scott, B.	F	15%
Wittman, R.	B	65%
Wolf, F.	C	52%
State Average	50%	
WASHINGTON		
Baird, B.	F	7%
Dicks, N.	F	6%
Hastings, D.	B	74%
Inslce, J.	F	22%
Larsen, R.	F	7%
McDermott, J.	F	19%
McMorris Rodgers, C.	B	65%
Reichert, D.	C	52%
Smith, A.	F	16%
State Average	30%	
WEST VIRGINIA		
Capito, S.	C	41%
Mollohan, A.	F	6%
Rahall, N.	F	11%
State Average	19%	
WISCONSIN		
Baldwin, T.	F	7%
Kagen, S.	F	20%
Kind, R.	F	16%
Moore, G.	F	16%
Obey, D.	F	6%
Petri, T.	B	72%
Ryan, P.	B	71%
Sensenbrenner, J.	A	87%
State Average	36%	
WYOMING		
Cubin, B.	B	62%*

House Key		
SCORE	GRADE	COMMENTS
80% or more	A	Taxpayers' Friend
75%-79%	B+	
65%-74%	B	Good
60%-64%	B-	
55%-59%	C+	
50%-54%	C	Satisfactory
36%-49%	C-	
26%-35%	D	Poor
25% or less	F	Big Spender

* Score based on less than 75%, but more than 50%, of weighted total of votes cast.
 ** Voted on 50% or less of weighted total of votes cast; score and grade not issued.

United States Senate

GRADE	SCORE
ALABAMA	
Sessions, J.	B+ .....74%
Shelby, R.	B.....63%
State Average	.....69%
ALASKA	
Murkowski, L.	C.....50%
Stevens, T.	D.....37%
State Average	.....43%
ARIZONA	
Kyl, J.	A.....79%
McCain, J.	N.A. ....N.A.**
State Average	.....79%
ARKANSAS	
Lincoln, B.	F.....13%
Pryor, M.	F.....6%
State Average	.....9%
CALIFORNIA	
Boxer, B.	F.....3%
Feinstein, D.	F.....3%
State Average	.....3%
COLORADO	
Allard, W.	A.....79%
Salazar, K.	F.....5%
State Average	.....41%
CONNECTICUT	
Dodd, C.	F.....4%
Lieberman, J.	F.....6%
State Average	.....5%
DELAWARE	
Biden, J.	F.....2%
Carper, T.	F.....8%
State Average	.....5%
FLORIDA	
Martinez, M.	C-.....40%
Nelson, B.	F.....15%
State Average	.....27%
GEORGIA	
Chambliss, S.	C+ .....53%
Isakson, J.	C.....50%
State Average	.....52%
HAWAII	
Akaka, D.	F.....3%
Inouye, D.	F.....3%
State Average	.....3%
IDAHO	
Craig, L.	C.....52%
Crapo, M.	B+ .....73%
State Average	.....63%

GRADE	SCORE
ILLINOIS	
Durbin, R.	F.....4%
Obama, B.	N.A. ....N.A.**
State Average	.....4%
INDIANA	
Bayh, E.	F.....15%
Lugar, R.	C.....51%
State Average	.....33%
IOWA	
Grassley, C.	B-.....56%
Harkin, T.	F.....4%
State Average	.....31%
KANSAS	
Brownback, S.	B.....65%
Roberts, P.	B.....60%
State Average	.....63%
KENTUCKY	
Bunning, J.	A.....79%
McConnell, M.	B-.....55%
State Average	.....67%
LOUISIANA	
Landrieu, M.	D.....26%
Vitter, D.	A.....77%
State Average	.....52%
MAINE	
Collins, S.	D.....26%
Snowe, O.	F.....12%
State Average	.....19%
MARYLAND	
Cardin, B.	F.....4%
Mikulski, B.	F.....2%
State Average	.....3%
MASSACHUSETTS	
Kennedy, E.	N.A. ....N.A.**
Kerry, J.	F.....4%
State Average	.....4%
MICHIGAN	
Levin, C.	F.....3%
Stabenow, D.	F.....15%
State Average	.....9%
MINNESOTA	
Coleman, N.	D.....31%
Klobuchar, A.	F.....4%
State Average	.....17%
MISSISSIPPI	
Cochran, T.	B-.....58%
Wicker, R.	B.....62%
State Average	.....60%
MISSOURI	
Bond, C.	C.....51%
McCaskill, C.	F.....11%
State Average	.....31%
MONTANA	
Baucus, M.	F.....11%
Tester, J.	D.....23%
State Average	.....17%
NEBRASKA	
Hagel, C.	C+ .....54%
Nelson, B.	F.....9%
State Average	.....30%

GRADE	SCORE
NEVADA	
Ensign, J.	B+ .....74%
Reid, H.	F.....15%
State Average	.....44%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	
Gregg, J.	B.....64%
Sununu, J.	C.....52%
State Average	.....58%
NEW JERSEY	
Lautenberg, F.	F.....2%
Menendez, R.	F.....2%
State Average	.....2%
NEW MEXICO	
Bingaman, J.	F.....4%
Domenici, P.	C-.....46%
State Average	.....24%
NEW YORK	
Clinton, H.	F.....4%*
Schumer, C.	F.....2%
State Average	.....3%
NORTH CAROLINA	
Burr, R.	B.....64%
Dole, E.	C-.....47%
State Average	.....55%
NORTH DAKOTA	
Conrad, K.	F.....5%
Dorgan, B.	D.....20%
State Average	.....13%
OHIO	
Brown, S.	F.....8%
Voinovich, G.	C-.....44%
State Average	.....26%
OKLAHOMA	
Coburn, T.	A.....81%
Inhofe, J.	A.....80%
State Average	.....80%
OREGON	
Smith, G.	D.....24%
Wyden, R.	D.....18%
State Average	.....21%
PENNSYLVANIA	
Casey, B.	F.....3%
Specter, A.	D.....34%
State Average	.....18%
RHODE ISLAND	
Reed, J.	F.....11%
Whitehouse, S.	F.....10%
State Average	.....10%
SOUTH CAROLINA	
DeMint, J.	A.....96%
Graham, L.	C.....52%
State Average	.....75%
SOUTH DAKOTA	
Johnson, T.	D.....21%
Thune, J.	B.....61%
State Average	.....41%
TENNESSEE	
Alexander, L.	C.....50%
Corker, B.	B-.....56%
State Average	.....53%

GRADE	SCORE
TEXAS	
Cornyn, J.	B-.....56%
Hutchison, K.	C+ .....54%
State Average	.....55%
UTAH	
Bennett, R.	C+ .....54%
Hatch, O.	B-.....56%
State Average	.....55%
VERMONT	
Leahy, P.	F.....4%
Sanders, B.	D.....18%
State Average	.....11%
VIRGINIA	
Warner, J.	D.....34%
Webb, J.	F.....3%
State Average	.....18%
WASHINGTON	
Cantwell, M.	D.....18%
Murray, P.	F.....3%
State Average	.....11%
WEST VIRGINIA	
Byrd, R.	F.....9%
Rockefeller, J.	F.....3%
State Average	.....6%
WISCONSIN	
Feingold, R.	D.....21%
Kohl, H.	F.....5%
State Average	.....13%
WYOMING	
Barrasso, J.	A.....81%*
Enzi, M.	A.....80%
State Average	.....80%

Senate Key

SCORE	GRADE	COMMENTS
76% or more	A	Taxpayers' Friend
70%-75%	B+	
60%-69%	B	Good
55%-59%	B-	
53%-54%	C+	
50%-52%	C	Satisfactory
40%-49%	C-	
16%-39%	D	Poor
15% or less	F	Big Spender

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