



Wisconsin – CPAC Scorecard

Center for Legislative Analysis

11th Edition – 2024

Summary

The latest edition of the Wisconsin CPAC Scorecard assesses 16 votes in the Wisconsin Assembly and 19 votes in the Wisconsin Senate. Wisconsin Republicans earned an average score of 89% which is very high compared to most other states but slightly lower than the Wisconsin Republican average score in 2023 which was 93%. Democrats received an average score of 1% in both 2024 and 2023.

Wisconsin Republicans earned their high scores by advancing some of the strongest conservative state legislation in the country. The Wisconsin Legislature passed a Second Amendment Financial privacy act, cracked down on DEI, passed measures to secure election integrity, and promoted school choice. Unfortunately nearly all of this legislation was vetoed by Democrat Governor Tony Evers. If Republicans retake the Governor's mansion in 2026, they will be able to make huge reforms.

Key Takeaways

The Legislature Passed Constitutional Amendments to Rein in Executive Power

In response to Governor Evers' use of the partial veto and executive emergency powers, lawmakers advanced several constitutional amendments. **AJR 112** aims to bar the governor from raising taxes via partial vetoes, while **SJR 54** would prevent the government from closing houses of worship during emergencies. These resolutions don't require the governor's signature and could go to voters if passed again in the next session. CPAC supported both efforts as checks on executive overreach. These moves signal growing concern among conservatives about the scope of gubernatorial power.

Strong Support for Immigration Control and Cooperation with Texas

Wisconsin lawmakers passed multiple measures aimed at supporting tougher immigration policies. **SJR 117** urges the governor to send resources to Texas in support of border security efforts, while **SB 916** requires local consultation before resettling refugees. CPAC supported both measures, which reflect the nationalization of immigration concerns in state legislatures. However, Governor Evers vetoed **SB 916**, continuing the trend of resistance to GOP

immigration policy within the executive branch. These actions reveal Wisconsin Republicans' desire to align with states like Texas in opposing federal immigration practices.

School Choice and Parental Rights Remained Central Policy Themes

School choice was prominently championed through **AJR 105**, which established “School Choice Week,” and **SB 335**, which removed burdensome licensing requirements which had allowed cronies of the teachers union to dominate school district administration positions. The legislature also passed AB 510, a Parents’ Bill of Rights affirming parents’ control over their children’s education. CPAC supported these measures, viewing them as part of a broader effort to reduce state control over education. While the School Choice Week resolution passed, Evers vetoed the more substantial bills. Nonetheless, these initiatives reflect conservatives’ continued prioritization of educational freedom. CPAC congratulates Wisconsin Republicans for passing these bills because it is important to keep these crucial issues in the spotlight.

Highlighted Votes Analyzed

SB 436 Offering More Employment Opportunities for Youth in Wisconsin.

This bill eliminates a requirement that employers obtain work permits in order to hire 14 and 15-year olds. CPAC supports efforts to improve opportunities for youth to find the joy of self-sufficiency and supported this bill. The Assembly passed this bill on February 13, 2024 by a vote of 62-34 but Governor Evers vetoed the bill.

SB 466 Wisconsin’s Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act.

This bill prohibits the government from maintaining lists documenting individuals who own firearms or from requiring the usage of separate merchant category codes for firearms merchants. CPAC supports efforts to protect the privacy of law-abiding gun owners and supported this bill. The House passed this bill on January 18, 2024 by a vote of 62-35 but Governor Evers vetoed the bill.

AJR 112 Preventing the Governor from Occasioning Tax Increases.

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment that would prohibit the governor from raising taxes or creating new fees through a partial veto. CPAC supports efforts to pare down tax and fee increases and supported this resolution. The House adopted this resolution on February 20, 2024 by a vote of 64-34.

Trends and Observations

Wisconsin Republicans Passed Very Strong Legislation, But It Was Vetoed By The Democrat Governor

Wisconsin is considered a swing state in national elections, but the Republican majorities in the State Assembly and Senate are staunchly committed to conservative priorities. Despite significant legislative momentum in both chambers, many conservative-backed bills were ultimately vetoed by Governor Tony Evers. These included bills pushing back on mass lawless

immigration (**SB 916**), supporting gun rights (**SB 466, SB 641**), allowing individuals to make their own vaccination decisions (**SB 933, AB 610**), and opening up employment opportunities for youth (**SB 436**).

The Legislature Tried to Push Back Against DEI and Affirmative Action

A notable trend this session was the legislature's attempt to dismantle diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) mandates. **AJR 109** proposes a constitutional amendment banning government discrimination based on sex or race, and **AB 1065** bars public universities from requiring DEI loyalty oaths. As with other legislation passed in this session, both the resolution and the bill passed the legislature but the bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Election Integrity Measures Received Strong Support In The Legislature

Election Integrity was a recurring theme with **AB 543** and **AB 570** which aimed to improve access for observers and secure absentee voting. **AB 570** would have prevented employees of political pressure groups from acting as election officials. Both passed with solid majorities and were supported by CPAC, which emphasizes fairness and transparency in voting. Governor Evers vetoed both bills, showing Democrats' blatant attempts to rig voting rules in their favor.

An Attempt At Securing Youth Employment And Dignity

SB 436 would have eliminated the work permit requirement for 14 and 15 year olds, easing barriers for teens to find employment. CPAC strongly supports the legalization of teen employment so that youth will be allowed to find the joy of self-sufficiency and the dignity of honest work. Democrat Governor Tony Evers vetoed the measure; yet another example of the Left's sadistic nanny-state war against young people.

Conservative Excellence - Senate

Robert Cowles - 95%
Chris Kapenga - 95%

Stephen Nass - 100%

Duey Stroebel - 95%

Conservative Excellence - House

Scott Allen - 100%
Barbara Ditttrich - 94%

Shae Sortwell - 94%

Shannon Zimmerman - 92%

Conservative Achievement - Senate

Julian Bradley - 89%
Rachael Cabral-Guevara - 89%

John Jagler - 89%
Jesse L. James - 89%
Daniel Knodl - 89%

Rob Stafsholt - 89%
Patrick Testin - 89%
Cory Tomczyk - 84%

Mary Felzkowski - 89%
Dan Feyen - 89%
Rob Hutton - 89%
André Jacque - 89%

Devin LeMahieu - 89%
Howard Marklein - 89%
Romaine Quinn - 84%

Van Wanggaard - 89%
Eric Wimberger - 89%

Conservative Achievement - House

David Armstrong - 88%
Tyler August - 88%
Elijah Behnke - 88%
Amy Binsfield - 88%
Ty Bodden - 88%
Mark Born - 87%
Janel Brandtjen - 88%
Robert Brooks - 88%
Calvin Callahan - 87%
Alex Dallman - 88%
Bob Donovan - 88%
Cindi Duchow - 88%
James Edming - 88%
Joy Goeben - 88%
Chanz Green - 88%
Rick Gundrum - 88%
Nate Gustafson - 88%
Karen Hurd - 88%
Scott Johnson - 88%
Terry Katsma - 88%

Joel Kitchens - 88%
Scott Krug - 88%
Tony Kurtz - 88%
John Macco - 87%
Gae Magnafici - 85%
Dave Maxey - 88%
Paul Melotik - 88%
Tom Michalski - 88%
Clint Moses - 88%
David Murphy - 88%
Jeffrey Mursau - 88%
Amanda Nedweski - 88%
Adam Neylon - 88%
Todd Novak - 88%
Jerry O'Connor - 88%
Loren Oldenburg - 85%
William Penterman - 88%
Kevin Petersen - 88%
Warren Petryk - 88%
Jon Plumer - 85%

Treig Pronschinske - 88%
Nik Rettinger - 88%
Jessie Rodriguez - 88%
Donna Rozar - 88%
Peter Schmidt - 88%
Michael Schraa - 88%
Ellen Schutt - 88%
Patrick Snyder - 88%
John Spiros - 88%
David Steffen - 88%
Rob Summerfield - 88%
Rob Swearingen - 88%
Paul Tittl - 88%
Travis Tranel - 86%
Ron Tusler - 88%
Nancy VanderMeer - 88%
Robin Vos - 88%
Chuck Wichgers - 88%
Robert Wittke - 88%