



Michigan – CPAC Scorecard

Center for Legislative Analysis

11th Edition – 2024

Summary

The latest edition of the Michigan CPAC Scorecard assesses 20 votes in the Michigan State Senate and 11 votes in the Michigan State House from the 2024 session. Michigan Republicans earned an average conservative rating of 76% while Democrats averaged 0%. The average score for Republicans was lower than 2023 when Republicans averaged 87%.

The Radical Left Democrats in the Michigan Senate expanded the bureaucracy by creating a new government department and imposing burdensome new regulations on Michigan businesses. They created race-based voting rules and expanded DEI. The Michigan Senate passed bills that infringed on Second Amendment rights. Since Democrats hold a trifecta in Michigan, they were able to pass many radical Left policies.

Key Takeaways

Business regulations expanded, creating new licensing and bureaucratic hurdles.

Multiple bills added or increased licensing requirements. **HB 4608** created a new department to license and regulate dietitians. **SB 702** increased the licensing requirements to become a cosmetologist and **SB 225** mandated background checks for asbestos contractors. Another bill would have created a state-based health exchange modeled on Obamacare but the bill stalled in the House. CPAC opposed these bills as barriers to entry and business growth.

Election law changes reduced ballot security and added barriers to challengers.

HB 4698 expanded acceptable voter ID, weakening election security. Other bills imposed stricter legal hurdles on election challengers (**SB 1068**) and created race-based voter laws (**SB 401**). CPAC believes that voters must be able to have confidence that elections are conducted fairly and opposed these efforts to undermine election integrity.

DEI and left-wing cultural mandates infiltrated education and licensing.

DEI mandates were woven into education and even occupational licensing laws. **SB 752** linked higher education funding to board-approved DEI policies and restricted state-supported scholarships for students in religious programs. **SB 769** imposed more DEI training requirements, reinforcing the ideological belief in implicit bias across workplaces. **HB 5786**,

while primarily about barber licensing, also changed pronoun usage to remove “him” and “her” in favor of leftist gender-neutral language. CPAC opposed these measures as ideological indoctrination disguised as policy, warning that they suppress freedom of thought, erode religious liberty, and impose cultural conformity through government power.

Highlighted Votes Analyzed

SB 752 Conforming Education Funds to Leftist Requirements.

This appropriations bill for higher education adds Senate language that restricts state-supported scholarships if a student is enrolled in a religious program and requires a board-approved DEI policy. CPAC opposes this leftist mantra that has been added to many programs and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on May 9, 2024 by a vote of 20-16 but the bill was not given final approval.

SB 1149 Finding Ways to Implement Gun Control.

This bill purports to ban firearms without serial numbers but it includes a ban on unspecified “ghost guns” and sets up the confiscation of firearms after 18 months. CPAC strongly supports the Second Amendments, views this bill as a roundabout implementation of gun control and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on December 12, 2024 but the bill was not taken up by the House.

SB 1068 Establishing Roadblocks for Election Challengers.

This bill requires election challengers to be credentialed in order to challenge any voters or irregularities. It also requires legal documents to be filed if there is a challenge. It does establish the rights of election challengers to question a voter’s registration. CPAC supports expanding the challenge process and opening up challengers to other voters and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on December 10, 2024 by a vote of 20-17 but the bill was not taken up in the House.

Trends and Observations

Some of the most radical Left bills passed the Senate but stalled in the House.

Despite the Democratic majority in both chambers, a number of controversial Senate bills failed to advance in the House. **SB 401** (race-based voting oversight), **SB 447** (aviation fuel subsidies), **SB 633** (state health exchange), **SB 858** and **SB 942** (gun control measures), and **SB 973** (contraceptive mandates) all passed the Senate but were not taken up by the House. This suggests that while the Senate caucus pushed an aggressive progressive agenda, the House exercised more political caution, likely due to electoral considerations in competitive districts. Nonetheless, enough bills—including **HB 4343** (loan price controls), **SB 571** (project labor mandates), and **SB 791** (unionizing home health workers)—cleared both chambers and became law, signaling a significant policy shift despite some internal Democratic restraint.

Health insurance mandates expanded significantly.

Several bills added new mandates on health insurance coverage. **HB 4963** required insurers to cover hearing aids and related services, while **HB 5013** mandated that insurers dispense a full 12-month supply of birth control at once. **SB 973** further required contraceptive coverage at in-network pharmacies without exemptions. These mandates may seem beneficial to some, but CPAC warned they would drive up the cost of health insurance for everyone, reduce consumer choice, and further entrench government control of private health plans. These bills also mirrored Obamacare-style regulatory expansions (similar to **SB 633's** health exchange), signaling an ongoing Democratic push to expand state control over health care markets.

Environmental and green energy subsidies were prioritized.

Democrats advanced a number of bills that favored environmental regulation and green energy subsidies. **SB 447** created a tax credit for “sustainable” aviation fuel produced in Michigan, a targeted benefit for politically favored industries. **SB 571** tied union labor mandates to wind and solar construction, ensuring renewable projects would align with labor union priorities. **SB 225** expanded environmental oversight by requiring background checks on companies seeking asbestos abatement contracts, effectively giving regulators another tool to deny business participation. CPAC opposed these bills as creating unfair advantages for politically connected companies, raising construction costs, and using environmental policy as a pretext for government micromanagement of the economy.

Conservative Excellence - Senate

Joseph Bellino - 90%

Jonathan Lindsey - 90%

Ed McBroom - 90%

Conservative Excellence - House

Andrew Beeler - 91%

Neil Friske - 91%

Josh Schriver - 91%

Steve Carra - 91%

Matt Maddock - 100%

Rachelle Smit - 91%

Andrew Fink - 91%

Luke Meerman - 91%

Donni Steele - 90%

Joseph Fox - 91%

Brad Paquette - 91%

Conservative Achievement - Senate

Jon Bumstead - 80%

Michele Hoytenga - 85%

Rick Outman - 89%

Kevin Daley - 89%

Ruth Johnson - 83%

Jim Runestad - 88%

John Damoose - 88%

Aric Nesbitt - 85%

Conservative Achievement - House

Ann Bollin - 82%

Cameron Cavitt - 82%

Jay DeBoyer - 82%

James DeSana - 88%

Matt Hall - 82%

Gina Johnsen - 82%

Bryan Posthumus - 82%

Angela Rigas - 82%