



Alabama – CPAC Scorecard

Center for Legislative Analysis

12th Edition – 2025

Summary

The latest edition of the Alabama CPAC Scorecard assesses 16 votes in the State Senate and 18 bills in the State House from the 2025 legislative session. Alabama Republicans earned an average score of 78%, a 1% decrease from the 79% average score they earned in 2024. Democrats earned an average score of 39%, down from 53% in 2024. Alabama's Democrats are much more conservative than Democrats in most other states, but still lag far behind Republicans.

In 2025, Alabama lawmakers advanced a strong agenda focused on protecting families, public safety, and individual freedom. New laws like **SB 79** and **SB 101** reinforced biological reality and parental rights, while measures such as **SB 63**, **SB 53**, and **SB 158** strengthened border security and election integrity. Economic freedom was emphasized through the legalization of gold and silver as currency (**SB 130**). Across the session, Alabama positioned itself as a leader in preserving traditional values, limiting government power.

Key Takeaways

Defending Biological Reality and Common Sense in Law

SB 79, the “What is a Woman” Act, restores clarity to Alabama’s legal code by defining gendered terms according to biological sex. This protects the integrity of sex-specific spaces such as restrooms, locker rooms, and athletic programs. The bill ensures that public policy reflects scientific and biological truth, not subjective ideology. It also directs agencies to collect data on the basis of biological sex, ensuring reliable statistics and accountability. By codifying these principles, the state resists the spread of government-endorsed gender ideology. This marks a crucial reaffirmation that law should reflect reality, not fantasy.

Preserving Fiscal Responsibility Against Growing State Debt

SB 60 expands the Alabama Corrections Institution Finance Authority’s bond limit, allowing it to incur significant new debt. While framed as a means to improve corrections facilities, it undermines the state’s long-standing tradition of fiscal prudence. Governments that continually raise borrowing limits often set dangerous precedents for future overspending. Alabama taxpayers ultimately bear the burden of this expanding debt, which may crowd out other priorities or force future tax hikes. Responsible governance demands balanced budgets, not

perpetual borrowing. Lawmakers must resist the temptation to treat debt as a long-term substitute for discipline.

Expanding Economic Freedom Through Sound Money

SB 130 recognizes gold and silver as legal tender, giving citizens the option to transact in precious metals without government interference. The bill promotes financial autonomy and provides a hedge against inflation or currency manipulation. It empowers individuals and businesses to choose mediums of exchange that best suit their interests. Importantly, it doesn't force anyone to use gold or silver, preserving free-market principles. By reasserting the legitimacy of hard currency, Alabama sends a clear message that it values monetary independence. This law stands as a model for how states can protect economic freedom in an era of federal fiscal irresponsibility.

Defending Faith, Family, and Historical Integrity

Bills like **SB 85**, **SB 278**, **SB 5**, and **HB 244** reflect Alabama's effort to preserve its cultural foundations. Allowing religious exemptions from vaccine mandates and promoting released-time religious instruction reaffirm freedom of conscience. Empowering elected officials to oversee the state's historical institutions ensures accountability and prevents ideological rewriting of history. Meanwhile, banning the teaching of gender ideology and pride symbolism in classrooms shields children from politicized instruction. These initiatives champion the right of families and communities to uphold moral and historical truth. Alabama continues to stand for the timeless principles that make self-government possible.

Highlighted Votes Analyzed

SB 186 - Mandating Obscenity Filters on Digital Devices for Alabama Minors

SB 186 requires digital-device manufacturers to include a content filter if a device is activated by a minor in Alabama, which would stop minors from seeing pornographic material without parental consent. CPAC believes it is laudable to protect children from accidental exposure to pornography, and it supports this bill. SB 186 was passed by the Alabama House of Representatives in a 103-0 vote on April 29, 2025, and it was signed into law by Governor Kay Ivey.

HB 29 - Prioritizing Accountability and Work Ethic in Public Benefits

HB 29 increases the number of employers an individual claiming unemployment benefits must contact each week. CPAC believes that this bill will provide additional positive accountability to those seeking benefits, so it supports this bill. HB 29 passed the Alabama House of Representatives in a 76-25 vote on February 11, 2025, but the Senate failed to take up the legislation.

HB 244 - Prohibiting the Teaching of Gender Ideology in Schools

HB 244 prohibits the following in Alabama public PreK-12 schools: teaching gender ideology to students, referring to students by a pronoun other than the one associated with their biological sex, and school employees displaying pride flags or insignia. CPAC believes that minors should

be shielded from gender ideology and supports this bill. HB 244 passed the Alabama House of Representatives in a 74-15 vote on April 17, 2025, but the Senate failed to take up the bill.

Trends and Observations

Strengthening Law and Order Through Common-Sense Bail Reform

SB 118 expands the list of offenses ineligible for bail to include attempted murder and discharging a firearm in an occupied space. This ensures that individuals charged with serious violent crimes cannot immediately return to the streets. The measure enhances public safety while reinforcing judicial discretion in high-risk cases. It also respects the rights of law-abiding citizens who deserve protection from repeat offenders. By targeting violent crime specifically, this reform upholds the principle that freedom is safeguarded through justice. Alabama continues to show that protecting communities need not come at the expense of fairness.

Protecting Citizens from Illegal Immigrant Crime

A trio of bills—**SB 63**, **SB 53**, and **SB 158**—represent Alabama’s renewed effort to confront illegal immigration. Collecting DNA and fingerprints from illegal immigrants in custody enhances law enforcement’s ability to track criminal activity. Criminalizing the transportation of illegal aliens deters human smuggling networks that exploit weak border enforcement. Barring foreign driver licenses from use as voter ID protects election integrity and prevents potential noncitizen voting. Together, these measures secure both public safety and democratic legitimacy. They affirm that immigration laws mean little if not actively enforced at every level of government.

Upholding Parental Rights in Health and Education

SB 101 and **HB 2** both reinforce the authority of parents over their children’s medical and educational decisions. By raising the age of medical consent to 16 and requiring parental approval for vaccinations, these bills restore family decision-making where bureaucrats and schools have overreached. Parents—not state agencies—should determine what healthcare or ideological content their children receive. These measures respond to a growing trend of sidelining parents in favor of activist educators and administrators. They place the family, not government institutions, at the center of child welfare policy. Alabama sets an example for how states can reassert parental primacy in law.

Conservative Excellence - House

None

Conservative Excellence - Senate

Arthur Orr - 92%

Conservative Achievement - House

Bryan Brinyark - 83%

Chip Brown - 83%

Mack Butler - 83%

Brock Colvin - 83%

Susan DuBose - 82%

Brett Easterbrook - 81%

Matthew Hammett - 83%

Ben Harrison - 88%

Stephen Hurst - 83%

Jamie Kiel - 83%

Craig Lipscomb - 83%

Joe Lovvorn - 81%

Rhett Marques - 82%

Arnold Mooney - 88%

Parker Moore - 83%

Kenneth Paschal - 82%

Rick Rehm - 82%

Chad Robertson - 83%

Mike Shaw - 82%

Scott Stadthagen - 83%

David Standridge - 82%

Kerry Underwood - 83%

Timothy Wadsworth - 83%

Ritchie Whorton - 83%

Matt Woods - 83%

Ernie Yarbrough - 88%

Conservative Achievement - Senate

Greg Albritton - 80%

Gerald Allen - 80%

Joshua Carnley - 80%

Andrew Jones - 80%

Tim Melson - 80%

Dan Roberts - 80%