

BRIEF



Washington – CPAC Scorecard

Center for Legislative Analysis

12th Edition – 2025

Summary

The latest edition of the Washington CPAC Scorecard assesses 20 votes in the Washington State House and 20 votes in the Washington State Senate from the 2025 session. In 2025, Washington Republicans earned an average conservative rating of 70%, while Washington Democrats averaged a dismal 7%. This represents a decline from 2024, when Washington Republicans scored 80% and Democrats averaged just 1%. These scores demonstrate Washington's continued position as one of America's most leftist state legislatures, with Democrats consistently advancing radical progressive policies that undermine constitutional freedoms.

The 2025 legislative session saw Democrats once again push an aggressive leftist agenda through both chambers of the legislature. From expanding government control over education and child care to imposing new restrictions on Second Amendment rights, raising taxes on investment and job creators, embedding DEI ideology into core government functions, and weakening election integrity through mass registration schemes, Washington lawmakers enacted a sweeping slate of policies opposed by CPAC. With Democrats controlling every lever of power in Olympia, the legislature continued its transformation of the state into a laboratory for progressive extremism.

Key Takeaways

Attacking Second Amendment Rights

Washington's war on gun rights continued in 2025. **HB 1163** imposed additional requirements on the purchase, transfer, and possession of firearms, layering new delays and compliance burdens on law-abiding citizens while doing little to deter criminals. CPAC opposed this bill as an infringement on constitutional rights. The legislation passed both chambers and became law, further restricting the ability of Washington residents to exercise their Second Amendment freedoms.

Raising Taxes on Investment and Job Creators

Democrats advanced a series of tax increases targeting businesses, investors, and successful families. **HB 2081** restructured business and occupation taxes while imposing a new surcharge

on large employers, and **SB 5813** increased the burden of capital gains and estate taxes to fund expanded government spending. CPAC opposed these measures, warning that higher taxes discourage investment and drive jobs and capital out of the state. Both bills passed the legislature and were enacted into law.

Embedding DEI Ideology into State Government

The 2025 session saw a major push to institutionalize so-called “equity” mandates across Washington state government. **SB 5414** requires social equity impact analyses as part of audits and legislative hearings, embedding ideological criteria into oversight processes that should focus on efficiency and accountability. CPAC opposed this bill as a step toward politicizing core government functions. The measure passed and became law.

Weakening Election Integrity and Immigration Enforcement

Washington lawmakers also moved to weaken election integrity and undermine immigration enforcement. **SB 5077** expanded government-run voter registration services, pushing the state closer to automatic registration systems that increase the risk of inaccurate voter rolls. **SB 5104** and **SB 5714** used labor and licensing rules to chill cooperation with immigration enforcement. CPAC opposed these bills as threats to election security and the rule of law. Each of these measures passed and was signed into law.

Highlighted Votes Analyzed

HB 1163 – Installing Further Barriers to the Exercise of Second Amendment Freedoms

This bill tightened requirements for the purchase, transfer, and possession of firearms, adding new delays and compliance hurdles for law-abiding gun owners. CPAC opposed this bill as another incremental infringement on the Second Amendment that does nothing to stop violent criminals, who already ignore firearms laws. The House passed **HB 1163** by a vote of 58–38, and the Senate passed the bill 29–19. The bill later became law.

SB 5813 – Raising Capital Gains and Estate Taxes

This bill increased funding for government programs by making Washington’s capital gains and estate taxes more progressive, placing a heavier burden on investors, entrepreneurs, and successful families. CPAC opposed this bill, warning that higher taxes on savings and investment discourage economic growth and drive capital out of the state. The House passed **SB 5813** by a vote of 53–45, and the Senate passed the bill 27–21. The bill later became law.

SB 5077 – Expanding Government-Controlled Voter Registration

This bill expanded voter registration services across additional government agencies, pushing Washington closer to de facto automatic voter registration. CPAC opposed this bill as a threat to election integrity, arguing that mass registration systems increase the risk of bloated and inaccurate voter rolls. The House passed **SB 5077** by a vote of 59–37, and the Senate passed the bill 30–19. The bill later became law.

Trends & Observations

Republicans Weakened in 2025

Washington Republicans declined in their average conservative rating from 80% in 2024 to 70% in 2025. While Republicans continued to provide the only meaningful resistance to the leftist agenda in Olympia, the 2025 scores reflect a weaker performance overall, particularly in the Senate. These results show that even as the minority party, Republicans must remain unified and consistent in opposing progressive legislation across both social and economic issues.

Progressive Policies Continued to Become Law

Unlike in some other states where radical legislation stalls before final passage, Washington Democrats repeatedly succeeded in enacting their agenda into law. Major bills restricting gun rights, raising taxes, expanding government entitlements, and embedding ideological mandates into state oversight processes all passed through both chambers. Washington remains a laboratory for progressive extremism, where Democrat majorities face few institutional obstacles.

Government Expansion Through Regulation and Subsidies

The 2025 session featured continued growth of state control through new subsidies, bureaucratic mandates, and regulatory schemes. Bills such as **SB 5785** expanded taxpayer-backed higher education entitlements, while other measures increased state involvement in child care and workforce rules. Rather than pursuing affordability through market reforms or deregulation, lawmakers doubled down on centralized government solutions.

Election Integrity and Rule of Law Eroded Further

Democrats also advanced measures that weaken election integrity and undermine cooperation with immigration enforcement. **SB 5077** expanded government-managed voter registration systems, increasing the risk of inaccurate voter rolls. Meanwhile, legislation such as **SB 5104** and **SB 5714** used labor and licensing rules to discourage collaboration with federal immigration enforcement. These bills reflect a broader trend of progressive governance that prioritizes bureaucratic expansion over secure elections and the rule of law.

Conservative Excellence - House

Jeremie Dufault - 100%

Gloria Mendoza - 93%

Jim Walsh - 100%

Conservative Excellence - Senate

NONE

Conservative Achievement - House

Hunter Abell - 80%

Michelle Caldier - 80%

Chris Corry - 85%

Travis Couture - 80%

Andrew Engell - 85%

Jenny Graham - 83%

Dan Griffey - 80%

Cyndy Jacobsen - 80%

Deb Manjarrez - 80%

Matt Marshall - 80%

Joel McEntire - 81%

Ed Orcutt - 80%

Skyler Rude - 80%

Mike Volz - 84%

Conservative Achievement - Senate

Leonard Christian - 85%

Drew MacEwen - 80%

Jim McCune - 80%