

1997 Texas Conservative Report

Ratings for Senators and Representatives serving in the 1997 Texas Legislature

1997 Texas Ten

The Ten Percent Most Conservative Legislators of the 1997 Texas Legislature



Senator Jane Nelson
Flower Mound—84%



Senator Michael Galloway
The Woodlands—73%



Senator Steve Ogden
Bryan—73%



Rep. Talmadge Heflin
Houston—98%



Rep. Carl Isett
Lubbock—94%



Rep. John Shields
San Antonio—94%



Rep. Tommy Williams
The Woodlands—94%



Rep. Will Hartnett
Dallas—92%



Rep. Robert Talton
Pasadena—92%



Rep. Arlene Wohlgemuth
Burleson—92%



Rep. Kent Grusendorf
Arlington—90%



Rep. Gary Elkins
Houston—89%



Rep. Charlie Howard
Sugar Land—89%



Rep. Joe Nixon
Houston—89%



Rep. Joe Crabb
Humble—88%



Rep. Suzanna Hupp
Lampasas—88%



Rep. Frank Corte
San Antonio—87%



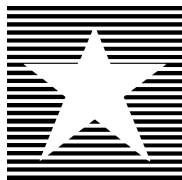
Rep. Jim Horn
Denton—87%



Rep. Gene Seaman
Corpus Christi—87%



FREE ENTERPRISE PAC



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Campaign Director

Albert L. Cheng

Texas Conservative Report

Research

Albert L. Cheng
Kim Roberts

Graphic Design

Kathryn Wilson

Free Enterprise PAC
P.O. Box 741777
Dallas, TX 75374-1777
(214) 348-2801
Fax: (214) 348-6725

The Free Enterprise PAC is a political action committee comprised of individuals who support the philosophy of free enterprise, limited government, private property rights, limited taxation and traditional values. The Free Enterprise PAC supports only non-incumbent candidates to the state legislature.

Introduction

One of the best ways to ensure proper representation by our state legislators is through tracking their voting records. Since 1985, the Free Enterprise PAC has published a voting record, *The Texas Conservative Report*, after each legislative session. Unlike other voting records that judge only a handful of votes, the *Texas Conservative Report* reviews every recorded vote in both the Senate and House for its conservative or liberal implication. This thorough analysis gives concerned citizens a report that most accurately reflects their legislators' true philosophical perspective and commitment to conservative principles.

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How To Use This Guide

There are many facts and figures in this guide. We suggest the following steps to help you identify the information that is most pertinent to you.

- 1. Determine who is your state senator and representative.**
Check your voter registration card or call your party's county headquarters.
- 2. Find your legislators' ratings.**
These ratings reflect how conservative your legislators' voted during the 1997 legislative session. (See page 4 for state senators and pages 7-9 for state representatives.)
- 3. Look for your legislators' overall ranking.**
This ranking gives a broad picture of how your legislator ranks among others in the legislature. (See page 3 for state senators and page 6 for state representatives.)
- 4. Look for how your legislators' voted on selected issues.**
These specific votes cover the four basic categories of economic, social, government, and education issues. (See page 4 for state senators and pages 7-9 for state representatives.)
- 5. Make your conclusions on how well you feel that you were represented.**
Also, take action on your observations. Two suggested actions are writing your legislator and/or supporting a more conservative candidate in the upcoming elections.

Texas Senators
The Honorable (name)
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, TX 78711-2068

Texas Representatives
The Honorable (name)
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768-2910

The Capitol switchboard number is (512) 463-4630

Research Guidelines—Record Vote Selection Process

1. Every record vote in both the Senate and House Journals was reviewed and the votes that showed signs of a liberal or conservative philosophy were selected.
2. To ensure objectivity, these preliminary record votes were reviewed “**blindly**” without looking at any particular legislator’s votes. This review was conducted by a **non-partisan**, six-person panel consisting of two PAC staffers and four former state legislators, two Democratic and two Republican.
3. The panel then determined which votes should be included in the report, and what they felt the conservative position on each vote should be.
4. Each legislator was then given one point for each conservative vote. If a legislator was absent, whether excused or unexcused, they received a zero. Exception was given for extended medically related excused absences and for conference committee excused absences.
5. Votes were then calculated and the legislators were given a percentage or “rating” based on the number of times they voted with the conservative position on the record votes selected.

The panel selected 73 votes in the Senate and 83 votes in the House. No one issue is given more weight than any other issue; however, if an issue was voted on several times, it may carry a heavier weight. This report only reflects the philosophical aspect of each legislator.

1997 Conservative Ranking of State Senators

<p>84% Nelson, Jane 73% Galloway, Michael 73% Ogden, Steve 68% Fraser, Troy 68% Shapiro, Florence 63% Haywood, Tom 59% Carona, John 59% Duncan, Robert 56% Lindsay, John 55% Harris, Chris 55% Nixon, Drew 53% Patterson, Jerry 52% Ratliff, Bill 51% Sibley, David 49% Bivins, Teel 48% Wentworth, Jeff 47% Brown, Buster 40% Cain, David</p>	<p>38% Armbrister, Ken 34% Whitmire, John 34% Zaffirini, Judith 32% Lucio, Eddie 30% Madla, Frank 30% Moncrief, Mike 26% Ellis, Rodney 23% Gallegos, Mario 18% Shapleigh, Eliot 18% West, Royce 12% Truan, Carlos 11% Luna, Greg 5% Barrientos, Gonzalo</p>
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Senators Average %

44%

*These ratings are based on 73 votes taken on economic, social, governmental and education issues.
 Higher scores indicate a more conservative rating.*

How State Senators Voted on Selected Issues

SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION of SENATE RECORD VOTES in columns 1-12 (For more explanation, see page 5)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. HB 4—Property Tax Bill | 5. SB 86—Family Planning Funds | 9. SB 1534—Legal Services |
| 2. HB 4—Cut State Spending | 6. HB 3—Taxpayer Funded Abortions | 10. HB 318—Charter Schools |
| 3. HB 92—Taxpayer Funded Stadiums | 7. HB 3—Healthy Kids | 11. SB 1356—Reports to TEA |
| 4. SB 86—Parental Notification | 8. SB 1706—Amtrak's Texas Eagle | 12. HJR 8—Texas Tomorrow Fund |

Dist.	Name	City	1997	1995	1993	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
18	Armbrister (D-Victoria) C		38%	72%	33%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	A	A	-
14	Barrientos (D-Austin) C,VC		5%	35%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Bivins (R-Amarillo) C		49%	88%	51%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-
17	Brown (R-Lake Jackson) C		47%	86%	43%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	A	-
2	Cain (D-Dallas) VC		40%	67%	17%	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	A	-
16	Carona (R-Dallas) VC		59%	83%	71%	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	E	-	+	+	+
28	Duncan (R-Lubbock)		59%	89%	68%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-
13	Ellis (D-Houston) C		26%	44%	16%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
24	Fraser (R-Horseshoe Bay)		68%	*	*	-	+	-	+	A	+	+	A	+	+	A	+
6	Gallegos (D-Houston) VC		23%	41%	11%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Galloway (R-Woodlands)C,VC		73%	93%	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+
10	Harris (R-Arlington) C		55%	87%	50%	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	A	-
30	Haywood (R-Wichita Falls)		63%	91%	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	A	-
7	Lindsay (R-Houston)		56%	*	*	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	A
27	Lucio (D-Brownsville) C,VC		32%	58%	24%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Luna (D-San Antonio) VC		11%	36%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	E	E	-	-	-	-	-
19	Madla (D-San Antonio) C		30%	56%	20%	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Moncrief (D-Fort Worth) C		30%	66%	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
9	Nelson (R-Flower Mound) VC		84%	95%	64%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
3	Nixon (R-Carthage) VC		55%	88%		-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+
5	Ogden (R-Bryan)		73%	85%	68%	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
11	Patterson (R-Houston) C		53%	84%	44%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-
1	Ratliff (R-Mt. Pleasant) C		52%	87%	30%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+
8	Shapiro (R-Plano) VC		68%	91%	58%	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	E	+	+
29	Shapleigh (D-Ei Paso)		18%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Sibley (R-Waco) C		51%	97%	41%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-
20	Truan (D-Corpus Christi) C		12%	37%	18%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Wentworth (R-San Antonio)		48%	76%	43%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	P
23	West (D-Dallas)		18%	46%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
15	Whitmire (D-Houston) C		34%	61%	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
21	Zaffirini (D-Laredo) C		34%	57%	24%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-

The 1997 conservative rating is based on 73 roll call votes.

Key

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|----|---|
| + | = Conservative Vote | C | = Committee Chairman |
| - | = Voted against conservative position | VC | = Committee Vice-Chairman |
| P | = Present but not voting | D | = Democrat |
| A | = Absent | R | = Republican |
| E | = Excused absence | * | = Not in office |
| | | § | = Conservative rating as a House Member |

Summary of Senate Votes Selected

Economic

1. HB 4—Property Tax Bill 23 Y; 8 N

Vote to suspend the regular order of business to consider on second reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would expand the franchise tax (a corporate income tax) to personal partnerships (individuals). This would be the first step towards a state income tax. A whole host of other taxes and fees were increased to “pay” for the property tax reductions.

2. HB 4—Cut State Spending 27 Y; 4 N

Vote on Armbrister motion to table (kill) Haywood amendment

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This amendment would delete the expansion of the franchise tax in the Tax Bill and replace revenue for a property tax cut with an across the board spending cut of 5% allowing the Legislative Budget Board to spend 2% for programs they deem necessary. This would result in a net spending cut of 3%.

3. HB 92—Taxpayer Funded Stadiums 26 Y; 5 N

Vote to suspend the regular order of business to consider on second reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would allow taxpayer funding for sports stadiums and other community venues. While many public works projects could be built under this bill, it was primarily designed to allow the construction of sports stadiums for professional teams. This is corporate welfare at its worst.

Social

4. SB 86—Parental Notification 22 Y; 9 N

Vote to suspend the regular order of business to consider on second reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Yea

The bill would require at least one parent to be notified before an abortion could be performed on their minor child. The bill also allows for a judicial bypass.

5. SB 86—Family Planning Funds 20 Y; 10 N

Vote on adoption of Sibley amendment

Amendment adopted

Conservative Vote: Yea

This amendment to the Parental Notification Bill would use funds from family planning appropriations to pay for court appointed guardians for the judicial bypass. Opponents to the Parental Notification Bill were using the funding issue to defeat the bill.

6. HB 3—Taxpayer Funded Abortions 10 Y; 20 N

Vote on Moncrief motion to table (kill) Patterson amendment

Motion lost

Conservative Vote: Nay

This amendment would prohibit family planning services and elective abortions to be provided under the Texas Healthy Kids program, a state subsidized plan, to provide health insurance for children of the working poor.

Government

7. HB 3—Healthy Kids 24 Y; 6 N

Vote to suspend three-day rule to consider on third reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would create the Texas Healthy Kids Corporation, a state subsidized corporation to provide health insurance for children of the working poor. This is the first step towards state run health care.

8. SB 1706—Amtrak’s Texas Eagle 26 Y; 3 N

Vote to suspend the regular order of business to consider on second reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would loan Amtrak \$5.6 million to continue service of the “Texas Eagle.” Amtrak intended to eliminate service due to funding shortfalls. This is another example of how hard it is to eliminate a government program or service that is no longer widely needed.

9. SB 1534—Legal Services 25 Y; 6 N

Vote to suspend three-day rule to consider on third reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would increase the funds available for legal services to the poor and increase existing civil lawsuit filing fees. Legal services have been used to promote liberal public policy issues at the expense of taxpayers and the poor.

Education

10. HB 318—Charter Schools 22 Y; 7 N

Vote on adoption of conference committee report

Report adopted

Conservative Vote: Yea

This bill will allow the creation of 100 new charter schools and an unlimited number for schools that serve “at-risk” students. Charter schools allow maximum local control and increases competition in the education system.

11. SB 1356—Reports to TEA 20 Y; N 5

Vote to suspend the regular order of business to consider on second reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would require each school district to annually report information related to, but not be limited to, students in alternative education programs to the Texas Education Agency. This is another unfunded mandate and bureaucratic burden on local school districts imposed by the state.

12. HJR 8—Texas Tomorrow Fund 21 Y; 8 N

Vote to suspend the regular order of business to consider on second reading (2/3 vote required)

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would constitutionally extend the full faith and credit of the state to support the Texas Tomorrow Fund, the prepaid higher education program. Taxpayer dollars should not be used to protect an independent investment fund.

1997 Conservative Ranking of State Representatives

98%	Heflin, Talmadge	70%	Driver, Joe	16%	Dutton, Harold
94%	Isett, Carl	70%	Pitts, Jim	16%	Gray, Patricia
94%	Shields, John	70%	Smithee, John	16%	Pickett, Joe
94%	Williams, Tommy	70%	Walker, Gary	16%	Yarbrough, Ken
92%	Hartnett, Will	69%	Mowery, Anna	14%	Flores, Kino
92%	Talton, Robert	67%	Chisum, Warren	14%	Gutierrez, Roberto
92%	Wohlgemuth, Arlene	67%	Roman, Bill	14%	Hernandez, Christine
90%	Grusendorf, Kent	65%	Keel, Terry	14%	Hightower, Allen
89%	Elkins, Gary	65%	Solomons, Burt	14%	Hinojosa, Juan
89%	Howard, Charlie	64%	Swinford, David	14%	Rangel, Irma
89%	Nixon, Joe	60%	Goolsby, Tony	14%	Hochberg, Scott
88%	Crabb, Joe	60%	Jones, Delwin	14%	Coleman, Garnet
88%	Hupp, Suzanna	59%	Kamel, Ted	13%	Berlanga, Hugo
87%	Corte, Frank	59%	Williamson, Ric	13%	Davis, Yvonne
87%	Horn, Jim	57%	Brimer, Kenneth	13%	Ehrhardt, Harryette
87%	Seaman, Gene	54%	Kubiak, Dan	13%	Garcia, Domingo
86%	Reyna, Elvira	49%	Goodman, Toby	13%	Hodge, Terri
85%	Madden, Jerry	48%	Haggerty, Pat	13%	Jones, Jesse
85%	Craddick, Tom	46%	Uher, Tom	13%	Longoria, John
84%	Culberson, John	43%	Hawley, Judy	13%	McClendon, Ruth
84%	Hill, Fred	42%	Ramsay, Tom	13%	Serna, Gilberto
84%	Keffer, Jim	39%	Patterson, Pete	12%	Chavez, Norma
83%	Hamric, Peggy	39%	Turner, Bob	12%	Danburg, Debra
83%	Siebert, Bill	37%	Cook, Robert	12%	Luna, Vilma
82%	Christian, Wayne	36%	Rhodes, Alec	12%	Maxey, Glen
82%	Denny, Mary	35%	Counts, David	12%	Turner, Sylvester
82%	Galloway, Carolyn	29%	King, Tracy	12%	Van de Putte, Leticia
81%	Krusee, Mike	27%	Alexander, Clyde	12%	Wise, Miguel
80%	Jackson, Mike	26%	Junell, Robert	11%	Burnam, Lon
80%	Janek, Kyle	25%	Place, Allen	11%	Farrar, Jessica
80%	Marchant, Ken	25%	Cuellar, Henry	11%	Olivo, Dora
80%	Palmer, Sue	23%	Tillery, Dale	10%	Naishtat, Elliott
80%	Rabuck, Bob	23%	Zbranek, Zeb	10%	Alvarado, Leo
80%	West, Buddy	23%	Stiles, Mark	10%	Bailey, Kevin
78%	Staples, Todd	22%	Oakley, Keith	10%	Dukes, Dawnna
78%	Hilderbran, Harvey	21%	Lewis, Ron	10%	Giddings, Helen
77%	Hunter, Bob	21%	McReynolds, Jim	10%	Price, Al
76%	Clark, Ron	20%	Glaze, Bob	10%	Thompson, Senfronia
76%	Finnell, Charles	20%	Hirschi, John	8%	Edwards, Al
75%	Allen, Ray	20%	Eiland, Craig	8%	Reyna, Art
73%	Averitt, Kip	19%	Telford, Barry	8%	Solis, Jim
73%	Holzheuser, Steve	19%	Wolens, Steve	8%	Wilson, Ron
73%	Kuempel, Edmund	18%	Davila, Diana	7%	Oliveira, Rene
73%	Woolley, Beverly	18%	Dunnam, Jim	6%	Moreno, Paul
72%	Hilbert, Paul	18%	Greenberg, Sherri		Rodriguez- Elected to Congress
72%	McCall, Brian	18%	Lewis, Glenn		
72%	Moffat, Nancy	17%	Raymond, Richard		
72%	Smith, Todd	17%	Torres, Gerard		
72%	Delisi, Dianne	17%	Sadler, Paul		
71%	Bonnen, Dennis	16%	Gallego, Pete		
71%	Merritt, Tommy	16%	Puente, Robert		
70%	Carter, Bill	16%	Bosse, Fred		

Representatives Average %

46%

*These ratings are based on 83 roll call votes taken on economic, social, governmental and educational issues.
Higher scores indicate a more conservative rating.*

How State Representatives Voted on Selected Issues

SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION of HOUSE RECORD VOTES in columns 1-12 (For more explanation, see page 10)

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. HB 4—Property Tax Bill | 5. HB 449—Gambling Cruises | 9. HJR 8—Texas Tomorrow Fund |
| 2. HB 4—Abolish Property Taxes | 6. HB 92—Taxpayer Funded Stadiums | 10. HB 318—School Choice |
| 3. HJR 4—Grace Commission | 7. SB 1706—Amtrak's Texas Eagle | 11. HB 4—State Board of Education |
| 4. SB 1699—Parental Notification | 8. HB 331—Military Voter Rights | 12. HB 858—Open Enrollment |

Dist.	Name	City	1997	1995	1993	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
85	Laney (D-Hale Center)	(Speaker)				P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
12	Alexander (D-Athens)C		27%	66%	45%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
106	Allen (R-Grand Prairie) VC		75%	90%	76%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
116	Alvarado (R-San Antonio)		10%	23%	13%	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	Averitt (R-Waco)		73%	95%	75%	-	+	-	+	A	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
140	Bailey (D-Houston) VC		10%	28%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Berlanga (D-Corpus Christi) C		13%	20%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-
25	Bonnen (R-Angelton)		71%	*	*	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	A
128	Bosse (D-Houston) C		16%	43%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-
96	Brimer (R-Arlington) C		57%	86%	70%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
90	Burnam (D-Fort Worth)		11%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
91	Carter (R-Fort Worth) VC		70%	89%	62%	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
76	Chavez (D-EI Paso)		12%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	-
88	Chisum (R-Pampa) C		67%	98%	73%	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
9	Christian (R-Center)		82%	*	*	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
62	Clark (R-Sherman)		76%	*	*	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
147	Coleman (D-Houston)		14%	26%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CM	-	CM	-	-
28	Cook (D-Eagle Lake)		37%	*	*	-	-	-	CM	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
123	Corte (R-San Antonio)		87%	98%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
70	Counts (D-Knox City) C		35%	63%	34%	-	-	-	CM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
127	Crabb (R-Humble) VC		88%	98%	91%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+
82	Craddick (R-Midland) C		85%	93%	87%	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
42	Cuellar (D-Laredo)		25%	48%	32%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
130	Culberson (R-Houston)		84%	85%	74%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+
137	Danburg (D-Houston) C		12%	34%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
145	Davila (D-Houston)		18%	15%	7%	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
111	Davis (D-Dallas) VC		13%	14%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
55	Delisi (R-Temple)		72%	88%	75%	-	+	+	+	+	CM	-	CM	-	CM	+	+
63	Denny (R-Aubrey)		82%	97%	82%	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	A	+	+	+	+
113	Driver (R-Garland) VC		70%	88%	74%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+
50	Dukes (D-Austin)		10%	13%	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-
57	Dunnam (D-Moody)		18%	*	*	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
142	Dutton (D-Houston) VC		16%	16%	11%	+	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
146	Edwards (D-Houston) C		8%	15%	13%	-	-	-	+	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
107	Ehrhardt (D-Dallas)		13%	16%	*	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Eiland (D-Galveston)		20%	56%	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-
135	Elkins (R-Houston)		89%	99%	*	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
148	Farrar (D-Houston)		11%	13%	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
68	Finnell (D-Holliday)		76%	90%	56%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
36	Flores (D-Mission)		14%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
74	Gallego (D-Alpine) C		16%	37%	20%	-	-	-	-	-	CM	-	CM	-	CM	-	-
108	Galloway (R-Dallas)		82%	*	*	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	A	-
104	Garcia (D-Dallas)		13%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	+	A	-	E	+	-	-
109	Giddings (D-Dallas)		10%	21%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Glaze (D-Gilmer) VC		20%	49%	23%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	E	-	-
93	Goodman (R-Arlington) C		49%	78%	60%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	A	+
102	Goolsby (R-Dallas) C		60%	85%	70%	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	P	-	-	+	-
23	Gray (D-Galveston) C		16%	33%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
48	Greenberg (D-Austin)		18%	31%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
94	Grusendorf (R-Arlington)		90%	90%	73%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+

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The 1997 conservative rating is based on 83 roll call votes.

How State Representatives Voted on Selected Issues

SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION of HOUSE RECORD VOTES in columns 1-12 (For more explanation, see page 10)

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. HB 4—Property Tax Bill | 5. HB 449—Gambling Cruises | 9. HJR 8—Texas Tomorrow Fund |
| 2. HB 4—Abolish Property Taxes | 6. HB 92—Taxpayer Funded Stadiums | 10. HB 318—School Choice |
| 3. HJR 4—Grace Commission | 7. SB 1706—Amtrak's Texas Eagle | 11. HB 4—State Board of Education |
| 4. SB 1699—Parental Notification | 8. HB 331—Military Voter Rights | 12. HB 858—Open Enrollment |

Dist.	Name	City	1997	1995	1993	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
41	Gutierrez (D-Mc Allen)	VC	14%	34%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
78	Haggerty (R-El Paso)		48%	84%	72%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-
126	Hamric (R-Houston)		83%	89%	68%	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
114	Hartnett (R-Dallas)	C	92%	91%	90%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
31	Hawley (D-Portland)	VC	43%	58%	*	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
149	Heflin (R-Houston)		98%	98%	96%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
124	Hernandez (D-San Antonio)		14%	26%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Hightower (D-Huntsville)	C	14%	53%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
150	Hilbert (R-Spring)	VC	72%	88%	73%	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
53	Hilderbran (R-Kerrville)	C	78%	86%	78%	-	A	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
112	Hill (R-Richardson)	C	84%	81%	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
40	Hinojosa (D-Mc Allen)		14%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
69	Hirschi (D-Wichita Falls)	VC	20%	31%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
132	Hochberg (D-Houston)		14%	35%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100	Hodge (D-Dallas)		13%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Holzhauser (R-Victoria)	C	73%	90%	70%	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-
64	Horn (R-Denton)		87%	91%	92%	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+
26	Howard (R-Sugar Land)	C	89%	99%	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
71	Hunter (R-Abilene)		77%	93%	63%	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
54	Hupp (R-Lampasas)		88%	*	*	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
84	Isett (R-Lubbock)		94%	*	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
129	Jackson (R-La Porte)	VC	80%	91%	72%	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
134	Janek (R-Houston)		80%	91%	*	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
83	Jones, D. (R-Lubbock)	C	60%	55%	42%	+	+	+	+	A	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
110	Jones, J. (D-Dallas)	VC	13%	14%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
72	Junell (D-San Angelo)	C	26%	58%	33%	-	-	-	-	-	CM	-	CM	-	CM	-	-
6	Kamel (R-Tyler)	VC	59%	88%	76%	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-
47	Keel (R-Austin)		65%	*	*	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
60	Keffer (R-Eastland)		84%	*	*	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
43	King (D-Uvalde)		29%	51%	*	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
52	Krusee (R-Round Rock)		81%	96%	90%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
13	Kubiak (D-Rockdale)	VC	54%	68%	56%	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	E	+	+
45	Kuempel (R-Seguin)	C	73%	94%	74%	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
95	Lewis, G. (D-Fort Worth)		18%	24%	*	-	-	-	CM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Lewis, R. (D-Mauriceville)	C	21%	66%	44%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
117	Longoria (D-San Antonio)		13%	11%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
33	Luna (D-Corpus Christi)	VC	12%	16%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
67	Madden (R-Richardson)		85%	96%	84%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
99	Marchant (R-Coppell)	C	80%	75%	69%	-	+	+	+	A	A	-	+	-	+	+	+
51	Maxey (D-Austin)		12%	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
66	McCall (R-Plano)	VC	72%	74%	67%	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-
120	McClendon (D-San Antonio)		13%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	McReynolds (D-Lufkin)		21%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Merritt (R-Longview)		71%	*	*	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
98	Moffat (R-Southlake)		72%	91%	68%	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
77	Moreno (D-El Paso)	VC	6%	11%	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
97	Mowery (R-Fort Worth)		69%	84%	81%	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	E
49	Naishtat (D-Austin)	VC	10%	21%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
133	Nixon (R-Houston)		89%	90%	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+
4	Oakley (D-Terrell)	C	22%	73%	40%	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	-	-	-	-	-

The 1997 conservative rating is based on 83 roll call votes.

Key: + = Conservative Vote, - = Non-conservative vote, P = Present Not Voting, A = Absent, E = Excused absence, CM = Committee Meeting excused absence, • = Legislator stated he/she meant to vote differently, C = Committee Chairman, VC = Committee Vice-Chairman, * = Not in office that year

How State Representatives Voted on Selected Issues

SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION of HOUSE RECORD VOTES in columns 1-12 (For more explanation, see page 10)

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. HB 4—Property Tax Bill | 5. HB 449—Gambling Cruises | 9. HJR 8—Texas Tomorrow Fund |
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| 3. HJR 4—Grace Commission | 7. SB 1706—Amtrak's Texas Eagle | 11. HB 4—State Board of Education |
| 4. SB 1699—Parental Notification | 8. HB 331—Military Voter Rights | 12. HB 858—Open Enrollment |

Dist.	Name	City	1997	1995	1993	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
37	Oliveira (D-Brownsville)	C	7%	29%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-
27	Olivo (D-Rosenberg)		11%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
89	Palmer (R-Fort Worth)		80%	*	*	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
3	Patterson (D-Brookston)	C	39%	77%	47%	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
79	Pickett (D-El Paso)		16%	33%	*	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Pitts (R-Waxahachie)		70%	90%	73%	-	-	-	+	A	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
59	Place (D-Gatesville)	C	25%	51%	23%	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
22	Price (D-Beaumont)		10%	11%	15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
119	Puente (D-San Antonio)		16%	23%	11%	-	-	-	CM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Rabuck (R-Conroe)		80%	75%	68%	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	-	+	+	-
2	Ramsay (D-Mt. Vernon)	VC	42%	78%	46%	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
35	Rangel (D-Kingsville)	C	14%	14%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
44	Raymond (D-Benavides)		17%	44%	22%	+	-	-	-	+	A	-	-	-	-	-	-
125	Reyna, A. (D-San Antonio)		8%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
101	Reyna, E. (R-Mesquite)		86%	91%	*	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-
46	Rhodes (D-Dripping Springs)	VC	36%	56%	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+
118	Rodriguez (D-San Antonio)	C	-	21%	11%	Elected to the United States Congress											
14	Roman (R-College Station)		67%	*	*	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
8	Sadler (D-Henderson)	C	17%	41%	22%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
32	Seaman (R-Corpus Christi)		87%	*	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
75	Serna (D-El Paso)		13%	23%	*	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
122	Shields (R-San Antonio)		94%	98%	83%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
121	Siebert (R-San Antonio)	VC	83%	94%	89%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
92	Smith (R-Eules)		72%	*	*	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
86	Smithee (R-Amarillo)	C	70%	65%	66%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	E	+	+	+
38	Solis (D-Harlingen)	VC	8%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	Solomons (R-Carrollton)		65%	89%	*	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
11	Staples (R-Palestine)	VC	78%	95%	*	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
21	Stiles (D-Beaumont)	C	23%	69%	25%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
87	Swinford (R-Dumas)	VC	64%	94%	71%	-	A	-	+	+	CM	+	A	-	CM	-	+
144	Talton (R-Pasadena)	VC	92%	95%	86%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1	Telford (D-Dekalb)	C	19%	61%	32%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
141	Thompson (D-Houston)	C	10%	20%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
105	Tillery (D-Dekalb)		23%	33%	*	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
143	Torres (D-Houston)	VC	17%	21%	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A
73	Turner, R. (D-Voss)	VC	39%	80%	41%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
139	Turner, S. (D-Houston)	VC	12%	10%	12%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Uher (D-Bay City)		46%	49%	42%	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	P
115	Van de Putte (D-San Antonio)	VC	12%	30%	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
80	Walker (R-Plains)	VC	70%	91%	*	+	-	+	CM	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
81	West (R-Odessa)		80%	89%	70%	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	E	+	+
15	Williams (R-The Woodlands)		94%	*	*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
61	Williamson (R-Weatherford)		59%	76%	68%	-	-	-	A	+	-	-	+	A	+	-	+
131	Wilson (D-Houston)	C	8%	40%	26%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
39	Wise (D-Weslaco)		12%	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
58	Wohlgemuth (R-Burleson)		92%	96%	*	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
103	Wolens (D-Dallas)	C	19%	51%	27%	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
136	Woolley (R-Houston)	VC	73%	94%	*	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	E	-	+	+	+
138	Yarbrough (D-Houston)	VC	16%	44%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-
20	Zbraneck (D-Winnie)		23%	40%	28%	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-

Key: + = Conservative Vote, - = Non-conservative vote, P = Present Not Voting, A = Absent, E = Excused absence, CM = Committee Meeting excused absence, * = Legislator stated he/she meant to vote differently, C = Committee Chairman, VC = Committee Vice-Chairman, * = Not in office that year

The 1997 conservative rating is based on 83 roll call votes.

Summary of House Votes Selected

Economic

1. HJR 4—Property Tax Bill 114 Y; 35 N

Vote on passage to engrossment

Passed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would expand the franchise tax (a corporate income tax) to personal partnerships (individuals). This would be the first step towards a state income tax. A whole host of other taxes and fees were increased to “pay” for the property tax reductions.

2. HJR 4—Abolish Property Taxes 101 Y; 44 N

Vote on Stiles motion to table (kill) Heflin amendment

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

The Heflin amendment would entirely replace the Property Tax Bill. It would constitutionally abolish all property taxes and the franchise tax replacing revenue with an average 3/4% increase in the sales tax rate raising it to 9% and expanding the tax base. In addition the maximum the sales tax could ever be raised would be an additional 2% since it would constitutionally be capped at 11%.

3. HJR 4—Grace Commission 52 Y; 96 N

Vote on adoption of Shields/Culberson amendment

Adoption failed

Conservative Vote: Yea

This amendment would replace the Tax Bill by dedicating lottery revenues, budget surpluses, and savings from a Texas Grace Commission that would study state agencies and programs and recommend the abolishment or reduction of those institutions based on ineffectiveness or waste.

Social*

4. SB 1699—Parental Notification 78 Y; 63 N

Vote on Heflin motion to suspend all rules to reconsider the vote by which the bill was tabled (2/3 vote required)

Motion failed

Conservative Vote: Yea

This vote would allow a bill to be brought up and used as the vehicle to amend the Parental Notification Bill after it had been killed. The bill would require at least one parent to be notified before an abortion could be performed on their minor child.

5. HB 449—Gambling Cruises 95 Y; 47 N

Vote on passage to engrossment

Passed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would relax current regulations on gambling cruises. It would allow smaller boats to be used for gambling cruises removing the restriction on not allowing passengers to be in the same room as the gambling devices until out of state waters.

Government

6. HB 92—Taxpayer Funded Stadiums 54 Y; 87 N

Vote on Wolens motion to table (kill) bill

Motion lost

Conservative Vote: Yea

This bill would allow taxpayer funding for sports stadiums and other community venues. While many public works projects could be built under this bill, it was primarily designed to allow the construction of sports stadiums for professional teams. This is corporate welfare at its worst.

7. SB 1706—Amtrak’s Texas Eagle 107 Y; 34 N

Vote on passage to third reading

Passed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would loan Amtrak \$5.6 million to continue service of the “Texas Eagle.” Amtrak intended to eliminate service due to funding shortfalls. This is another example of how hard it is to eliminate a government program or service that is no longer widely needed.

8. HB 331—Military Voter Rights 62 Y; 75 N

Vote on Madden motion to table (kill) Berlanga amendment

Motion lost

Conservative Vote: Yea

This amendment would make changes to the rights of citizens abroad and allow their absentee vote to count in only federal races. This amendment is aimed at military voters who tend to vote more conservatively.

9. HJR 8—Texas Tomorrow Fund 120 Y; 24 N

Vote on passage to engrossment

Passed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would constitutionally extend the full faith and credit of the state to support the Texas Tomorrow Fund, the prepaid higher education program. Taxpayer dollars should not be used to protect an independent investment fund.

Education

10. HB 318—School Choice 68 Y; 68 N

Vote on Hochberg motion to table (kill) Wilson amendment

Motion lost

Conservative Vote: Nay

This amendment would allow a student who was trapped in a low performing school, who tried to transfer to another public school and was rejected, the recourse to attend a private school.

11. HB 4—State Board of Education 78 Y; 68 N

Vote on Williamson motion to table (kill) Grusendorf amendment

Motion prevailed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This amendment to the Property Tax Bill would delete provisions put in the bill to give the Commissioner more powers and weaken the powers of the elected State Board of Education.

12. HB 858—Open Enrollment 83 Y; 62 N

Vote on passage to engrossment

Passed

Conservative Vote: Nay

This bill would require universities to admit a portion of their undergraduate students through an open enrollment policy. The open enrollment policy would allow students to attend a university by bypassing the academic requirements and standards that all students currently must meet to gain admission. This mandate on universities establishes quotas for students that are not up to par academically.

* Note on Social Issues-

The leadership of the House prevented record votes to be taken on social issues, even bills that had a majority of support like the same-sex marriage bill and the parental notification bill.

1997 Leaders of Excellence

The twenty percent most conservative legislators of the 1997 Texas Legislature

SENATORS

Troy Fraser
Michael Galloway
Tom Haywood
Jane Nelson
Steve Ogden
Florence Shapiro

Wayne Christian
Frank Corte
Joe Crabb
Tom Craddick
John Culberson
Mary Denny
Gary Elkins
Carolyn Galloway
Kent Grusendorf
Peggy Hamric
Will Hartnett

REPRESENTATIVES

Talmadge Heflin
Fred Hill
Jim Horn
Charlie Howard
Suzanna Hupp
Carl Isett
Mike Jackson
Kyle Janek
Jim Keffer
Mike Krusee
Jerry Madden

Ken Marchant
Joe Nixon
Sue Palmer
Bob Rabuck
Elvira Reyna
Gene Seaman
John Shields
Bill Siebert
Robert Talton
Buddy West
Thomas Williams
Arlene Wohlgenuth

Do You Want to Help Elect a Conservative Majority for 1999?

Here's How

The Free Enterprise PAC is a non-partisan, state-level political action committee dedicated to electing and maintaining a conservative majority of legislators in the Texas Senate and House of Representatives.

You Can Join The Team

The numbers speak loud and clear. By changing as few as **two seats in the Texas Senate** and **twelve to fifteen seats in the Texas House of Representatives**, the 1999 Texas Legislature could have a true, conservative majority.

When you join the Free Enterprise PAC, you join a *dedicated team* of Texas conservatives in a coordinated effort to replace liberal incumbents in the state legislature.

Remember, you are affected not only by the actions of your own senator and representative, but by the collective result of all members elected across the state. The time has come to complete the task of changing the government in Austin!

For any candidate to win an election, money is one of the most important factors.

The Free Enterprise PAC's goal of electing a conservative majority can be accomplished by raising desperately needed money for solid, conservative candidates. Unlike most PAC's, FEP members can contribute directly to the candidate. Members make checks payable to the candidate of their choice and then send the checks to FEP for delivery to the campaign.

How You Benefit

The Free Enterprise PAC will do the following for you as a member: 1) Identify and recruit conservative candidates, 2) Conduct extensive research on each candidate's stand on economic, social, and education issues, 3) Evaluate district demographics and winability of campaigns, 4) Provide assistance to candidates to build a true grassroots organization.

You will receive detailed evaluations on target candidates, invitations to regional briefings with legislators, and an endorsement list for elections.

Free Enterprise PAC Membership Form

Yes! I want to be a part of the Free Enterprise PAC team that brings a conservative majority to the legislature.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____

Occupation _____

*Please make checks payable to "Free Enterprise PAC."
Corporate checks cannot be accepted; donations are not tax-deductible.*

Please return form to: FREEPAC; P.O. Box 741777; Dallas, TX 75374

Do your State Legislators vote in Austin the way they talk at home?

Where does your State Senator rank among the 31 Senators?

(Based on 73 record votes, see page 3)

Did your State Senator vote the way you would have voted?

(See page 4 for 12 critical issues)

Where does your State Representative rank among the 150 Representatives?

(Based on 83 record votes, see page 6)

Did your State Representative vote the way you would have voted?

(See pages 7-9 for 12 critical issues)



FREE ENTERPRISE PAC

P.O. Box 741777 Dallas TX 75374