



# 2011 Utah Taxpayers Association Legislative Scorecard

The Utah Taxpayers Association annually issues legislative report cards to its members and the public. The 2011 scorecard rates Utah's 104 legislators on fourteen key taxpayer related bills. Since one of the most prominent issues of the 2011 legislative session was education reform, the 2011 Taxpayers Association Legislative Scorecard includes an unusually high number of education related bills. Education spending accounts for over half of the Utah state budget, therefore efficient use of taxpayer dollars in education is an important taxpayer issue.

In the House, one bill supported by the Taxpayers Association received no dissenting votes therefore the lowest possible score for a Utah Representative (unless there were absences) is 9.0 percent. In the Senate, five bills passed without a dissenting vote meaning the lowest possible Senate score (unless there were absences) is 38 percent. In the Senate, one bill opposed by the Taxpayers Association received no dissenting votes meaning the highest possible Senate score is 92 percent.

### House Summary

The average score in the House is 68 percent. Five representatives receive a perfect, 100 percent score: David Clark, Keith Grover, Val Peterson, Brad Wilson and Carl Wimmer. Mark Wheatly (45%), Patrice Arent (40%), David Litvack (40%) and Christine Watkins (40%) are the highest scoring Democrats.

The Representatives scoring less than 50% are Rebecca Edwards (45%), Kay McIff (45%), Lee Perry (45%), Douglas Sagers (45%), Mark Wheatley (45%), Patrice Arent (40%), David Litvack (40%), Christine Watkins (40%), Jim Bird (36%), Jackie Biskupski (36%), Joel Briscoe (36%), Susan Duckworth (36%), Neal Hendrickson (36%), Carol Spackman Moss (36%), Marie Poulson (36%), Jennifer Seelig (36%), Larry Wiley (33%), Janice Fisher (30%), Brian King (30%), Rebecca Chavez-Houck (27%), Rhonda Menlove (27%), Lynn Hemingway (22%) and Tim Cosgrove (18%).

The lowest scoring Republicans are Rhonda Menlove (27%) and Jim Bird (36%).

### Senate Summary

The average score in the Senate is 75 percent. No senator received a perfect, 100% score. Seven senators received the second highest possible score of 92 percent: Stuart Adams, Margaret Dayton, Jerry Stevenson, Daniel Liljenquist, Wayne Niederhauser, Howard Stephenson and John Valentine. Patricia Jones (58%) and Karen Morgan (50%) are the highest scoring Democrats.

Senators scoring below 50% are Gene Davis (46%), Karen Mayne (46%), Ben McAdams (46%), Luz Robles (42%), Ross Romero (38%).

The lowest scoring Republicans are David Hinkins (67%), Kevin Van Tassell (69%) and Peter Knudson (69%).

### Key

An upper case "Y" or "N" indicates a vote in support of the Taxpayers Association's position. A lower case "y" or "n" indicates a vote in opposition to the Association's position. Absences were not included in vote totals or voting percentages.

### Notes

- A floor vote on House Bill 264 was only taken in the House and is therefore only included on the House scorecard.
- A floor vote on Senate Bill 224 was taken only in the Senate and is therefore only included on the Senate scorecard.
- A floor vote on Senate Bill 270 was taken only in the Senate and is therefore only included on the Senate scorecard.
- A floor vote on Senate Joint Resolution 9 was taken only in the Senate and is therefore only included on the Senate scorecard.

# Utah House of Representatives Legislative Scorecard 2011

	Party	HB 98	HB 138	HB 183	HB 226	HB 264	SB 59	SB 65	SB 97	SB 180	SB 320	SJR 5	Final Score
<b>UTA POSITION</b>		<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	
Clark, David	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	100%
Grover, Keith	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	100%
Peterson, Val	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	100%
Wilson, Brad	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	100%
Wimmer, Carl	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	100%
Cox, Fred	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	91%
Fisher, Julie	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	91%
Froerer, Gage	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	91%
Herrod, Christopher	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	91%
Ivory, Ken	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	91%
Kiser, Todd	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	91%
Morley, Michael	R	N	Y	Y	n	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	91%
Richardson, Holly	R	N	Y	Y	n	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	91%
Daw, Bradley	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A	90%
Harper, Wayne	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	n	Y	N	Y	90%
Last, Bradley	R	y	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	90%
Newbold, Merlynn	R	y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	90%
Oda, Curtis	R	N	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	n	Y	N	Y	90%
Wright, Bill	R	y	Y	Y	A	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	90%
Butterfield, David	R	y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A	89%
Painter, Patrick	R	y	Y	Y	A	N	A	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	89%
Hughes, Gregory	R	N	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	A	y	A	88%
Barrus, Roger	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	82%
Brown, Derek	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	82%
Dougall, John	R	N	Y	Y	n	N	Y	Y	n	Y	N	Y	82%
Eliason, Steve	R	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	82%
Galvez, Brad	R	N	Y	Y	n	N	n	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	82%
Ipson, Don	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	82%
Noel, Michael	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	82%
Pitcher, Dixon	R	y	Y	n	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	82%
Sanpei, Dean	R	N	Y	Y	n	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	82%
Webb, Curt	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	82%
Christensen, Lavar	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	A	y	Y	80%
Hutchings, Eric	R	y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	80%
Ray, Paul	R	N	Y	A	n	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	78%
Sumsion, Kenneth	R	y	Y	A	n	N	Y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	78%
Lockhart, Rebecca	R	N	A	Y	n	N	Y	Y	Y	A	y	A	75%
Mathis, John	R	y	Y	Y	n	N	A	Y	A	Y	N	A	75%
Anderson, Johnny	R	N	Y	Y	n	N	Y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	73%
Dunnigan, James	R	N	Y	n	Y	N	n	n	Y	Y	N	Y	73%
Gibson, Francis	R	N	Y	Y	n	y	n	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73%
Handy, Stephen	R	y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73%
Nielson, Jim	R	y	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73%
Peterson, Jeremy	R	A	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	73%
Vickers, Evan	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	n	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	73%
Wilcox, Ryan	R	N	Y	Y	n	N	n	Y	n	Y	N	Y	73%
Draxler, Jack	R	y	Y	A	Y	N	n	Y	Y	Y	y	A	67%
Powell, Kraig	R	y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	n	Y	Y	y	Y	64%
Sandstrom, Stephen	R	y	Y	Y	Y	N	n	n	n	Y	N	Y	64%
Brown, Melvin	R	y	Y	n	Y	N	n	Y	A	Y	y	A	56%
Dee, Brad	R	y	A	n	Y	N	n	Y	Y	A	y	Y	56%
Greenwood, Richard	R	N	Y	n	n	N	n	n	n	Y	N	Y	55%
Edwards, Rebecca	R	y	Y	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	45%
McCliff, Kay	R	y	Y	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	45%
Perry, Lee	R	y	Y	Y	n	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	45%
Sagers, Douglas	R	y	Y	n	n	N	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	45%
Wheatley, Mark	D	y	n	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	N	Y	45%
Arent, Patrice	D	y	n	n	Y	y	A	n	Y	Y	y	Y	40%
Litvack, David	D	y	A	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	40%
Watkins, Christine	D	y	Y	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	A	40%
Bird, Jim	R	y	Y	n	n	y	n	n	n	Y	N	Y	36%

# Utah House of Representatives Legislative Scorecard 2011 Continued

	Party	HB 98	HB 138	HB 183	HB 226	HB 264	SB 59	SB 65	SB 97	SB 180	SB 320	SJR 5	Final Score
<b>UTA POSITION</b>		<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	
Biskupski, Jackie	D	y	Y	n	n	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	36%
Briscoe, Joel	D	y	n	n	n	y	n	n	Y	Y	N	Y	36%
Duckworth, Susan	D	y	Y	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	n	36%
Hendrickson, Neal	D	y	Y	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	n	36%
Moss, Carol Spackman	D	y	n	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	36%
Poulson, Marie	D	y	Y	n	n	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	36%
Seelig, Jennifer	D	y	n	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	36%
Wiley, Larry	D	y	Y	n	Y	y	n	n	Y	A	y	A	33%
Fisher, Janice	D	y	Y	n	n	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	A	30%
King, Brian	D	y	n	n	n	A	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	30%
Chavez-Houck, Rebecca	D	y	n	n	n	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	Y	27%
Menlove, Rhonda	R	y	Y	n	n	y	n	n	n	Y	y	Y	27%
Hemingway, Lynn	D	y	A	n	n	y	n	n	Y	Y	y	A	22%
Cosgrove, Tim	D	y	n	n	n	y	n	n	n	Y	y	Y	18%
<b>With Taxpayers Assn.</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>63</b>	
<b>Against Taxpayers Assn.</b>		<b>50</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Absent from Vote</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>% with Taxpayers Assn.</b>		<b>33%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>84%</b>	

# Utah State Senate Legislative Scorecard 2011

	Party	HB 98	HB 138	HB 183	HB 226	SB 59	SB 65	SB 97	SB 180	SB 224	SB 270	SB 320	SJR 5	SJR 9	Final Score
<b>UTA Position</b>		<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	
Adams, Stuart	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	92%
Dayton, Margaret	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	92%
Stevenson, Jerry	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	92%
Liljenquist, Daniel	R	N	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	92%
Niederhauser, Wayne	R	N	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	92%
Stephenson, Howard	R	N	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	92%
Valentine, John	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	92%
Buttars, Chris	R	A	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	91%
Madsen, Mark	R	N	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	A	91%
Bramble, Curtis	R	A	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	y	A	Y	89%
Okerlund, Ralph	R	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	85%
Reid, Stuart	R	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	85%
Jenkins, Scott	R	y	A	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	82%
Stowell, Dennis	R	y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	n	80%
Christensen, Allen	R	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	Y	77%
Hillyard, Lyle	R	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	Y	77%
Thatcher, Daniel	R	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	y	Y	Y	77%
Urquhart, Stephen	R	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	y	Y	Y	77%
Waddoups, Michael	R	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	y	Y	Y	77%
Knudson, Peter	R	y	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	Y	69%
Van Tassell, Kevin	R	y	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	Y	69%
Hinkins, David	R	y	A	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	y	Y	Y	67%
Jones, Patricia	D	y	Y	n	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	A	y	Y	Y	58%
Morgan, Karen	D	y	Y	n	Y	n	Y	A	Y	n	n	y	Y	Y	50%
Davis, Gene	D	y	Y	n	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	n	y	Y	n	46%
Mayne, Karen	D	y	Y	n	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	n	y	Y	n	46%
McAdams, Ben	D	y	Y	n	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	n	y	Y	n	46%
Robles, Luz	D	y	Y	n	A	n	Y	Y	Y	n	n	y	Y	n	42%
Romero, Ross	D	y	Y	n	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	n	n	y	n	n	38%
<b>With Taxpayers Assn.</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>Against Taxpayers Assn.</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Absent from Vote</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>% with Taxpayers Assn.</b>		<b>28%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>76%</b>	

# Bills Considered for the 2011 Utah Taxpayers Association Scorecard

HB 98 (Watkins) – HB 98 allows small school districts to inappropriately use property taxes designated for capital projects to temporarily fund plant services (janitorial services, utility bills, maintenance, etc.). Your Taxpayers Association supports school districts making sustainable budget choices instead of using stop-gap measures.  
Approved by House 50-24. Approved by Senate 19-8. Association Position: Oppose.

HB 138 (Ivory) – HB 138 requires state agencies to indicate what budget cuts would be necessary if Utah lost 5 percent and 25 percent of total federal receipts. When federal funding is cut, your Taxpayers Association supports a reduction in government spending instead of tax increases.  
Approved by House 69-9. Approved by Senate 25-0. Association Position: Support.

HB 183 (Grover) – HB 183 prohibits school districts from paying the salary of teacher union representatives. Your Taxpayers Association opposes the use of taxpayer dollars to pay for union representatives doing union work.  
Approved by House 42-28. Approved by Senate 20-7. Association Position: Support.

HB 226 (Harper) – HB 226 eliminates the ability of counties to impose a emergency service fee after December 31, 2012. Your Taxpayers Association strongly opposes the Salt Lake County police fee and increased taxes and fees for emergency services.  
Approved by House 48-25. Approved by Senate 27-0. Association Position: Support.

HB 264 (Moss) – HB 264 would have created open primary elections for members of the State School Board. Your Taxpayers Association opposes open primary elections for the State School Board because they decrease the quantity and quality of candidates.  
Defeated by House 28-45. Not considered by Senate. Association Position: Oppose.

SB 59 (Niederhauser) – SB 59 requires all public schools to be graded with a simple A-F letter grade based on student performance. Your Taxpayers Association supports increased accountability and transparency for public schools.  
Approved by House 39-32. Approved by Senate 17-10. Association Position: Support.

SB 65 (Stephenson) – SB 65 allows student to access high quality online courses from multiple providers for course credit. Your Taxpayers Association supports increased access to individualized education options for students.  
Approved by House 48-27. Approved by Senate 27-0. Association Position: Support

SB 97 (Urquhart) – SB 97 changes the higher education funding model from enrollment to mission based funding. Your Taxpayers Association supports post-secondary education funding options that increase return on investment for students and the Utah economy.  
Approved by House 60-11. Approved by Senate 27-0. Association Position: Support

SB 180 (Liljenquist) – SB 180 is the first step in reforming Utah's Medicaid program by changing provider payment from a per-service payment structure to a package payment structure. Your Taxpayers Association supports reform of the Utah's Medicaid program in order to contain Medicaid costs that are currently growing at three times the rate of the state budget.  
Approved by House 70-0. Approved by Senate 29-0. Association Position: Support

SB 224 (Stephenson) – SB 224 would have required partisan elections for members of the State School Board. Your Taxpayers Association supports partisan elections for the State School Board to increase candidate recruitment, voter turnout and awareness.  
Not considered by House. Approved by Senate 17-12. Association Position: Support

SB 270 (Adams) - SB 270 would have restored the sales tax on food and reduced the overall sales tax rate. The overall sales tax reduction would have made SB 270 revenue neutral. Your Taxpayers Association supports the good tax policy of lowering the sales tax rate and broadening the tax base.  
Not considered by House. Approved by Senate 19-9. Association Position: Support

SB 320 (Hillyard)- SB 320 spends \$5 million of oil and gas severance tax revenue instead of depositing it into the Permanent State Trust Fund. Your Taxpayers Association supports placing oil and gas severance tax revenue in a trust fund for future generations since severance tax revenues will disappear as resources are depleted.  
Approved by House 40-34. Approved by Senate 28-0. Association Position: Oppose

SJR 5 (Niederhauser) – SJR 5 requires a performance note on all new state programs, agencies and appropriations which will outline the goal of the spending and be used to evaluate future success. Your Taxpayers Association supports great accountability and transparency when authorizing new or additional government spending.  
Approved by House 62-2. Approved by Senate 26-1. Association Position: Support

SJR 9 (Reid)– SJR 9 amends the Utah constitution to place control and supervision of public and higher education under the Governor. Since over half of the Utah state budget is spent for public education, your Taxpayer Association supports greater executive branch control of education spending.  
Not considered by House. Approved by Senate 22-6. Association Position: Support

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