

ACLU

Mississippi

2018

**Legislative
Score Card**

A Measurement of Progress on Issues
of Equity and Inclusion in Mississippi.

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“One day I know the struggle will change. There’s got to be a change-not only for Mississippi, not only for the people in the United States, but people all over the world.”

- Fannie Lou Hamer

Introduction

Gaining Momentum.

Resistance to injustice and inequality is on the rise. More and more Americans are making their voices heard at State Capitols throughout the nation. Mississippi is no different.

Throughout our state's 200-year history, the masses have arisen time and again to defend the core principles of fairness and equality. Since 1969, the ACLU of Mississippi has stood side-by-side with those individuals that sought a better Mississippi for all of us.

On our watch, we have been vigilant to demand racial justice. The ACLU of Mississippi has been steadfast in defending and accurately defining religious freedom. We have staunchly opposed discrimination in all its nefarious and invidious forms. We have tirelessly worked to reform our broken and imbalanced criminal justice system. With the continued support from our members and our allies inside and outside the Mississippi State Capitol, we will continue to achieve victories toward a more inclusive and just state for all of us.



The ACLU of Mississippi is proud to present the 2018 Legislative Score Card. We have selected a series of bills that illustrate the depth of our work and the response from policymakers charged with improving the quality of life for all Mississippians. We hope that you will find this information useful, and we encourage you to use this tool as you build relationships with your state representatives to further the cause of civil liberties.

On behalf of the citizens of the Magnolia State, we commit to continue to work with the Mississippi State Legislature. In addition, we commit to holding those legislators accountable in delivering the leadership, fortitude and vision, respecting the resilience, and laying the foundation for a stronger, diverse and prosperous state for hundreds of years to come.



2018 Legislative Score Card

The 2018 legislative session started out with only one thing on the mind of state leaders: the budget. Appropriations took up the vast majority of legislator's time this session, and hardly anything passed out of committee that wasn't related to infrastructure. Still, a (government-caused) budget crisis is no excuse not to protect and expand the civil liberties of Mississippians.

This session, we tracked 131 bills that were related to our areas of focus. We have broken these bills down into general categories related to criminal justice reform, equality, voting, freedom of speech, and educational opportunities. We hope that you find this legislative scorecard useful and insightful, and that it encourages you to reach out to your legislators to tell them how they can move Mississippi forward and promote true equity.

2018 Legislative Session

Grade: D-

Total Number of Bills Tracked by the ACLU of Mississippi = 131

Out of the 131 Total Tracked, 93 Bills Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 71%

Out of the 131 Total Tracked, 38 Bills Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 29%

Out of the 131 Total Tracked, 4 Became Law = 3%

Out of the 93 Bills That Were Supportive of Equity, Only 3 Became Law = 3%

Out of the 38 Bills That Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights, 1 Became Law = 2%



Commitment to Criminal Justice Reform

Grade: C

55 Criminal Justice Reform Bills Tracked

42 Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 76%

13 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 24%

2 Became Laws Supportive of Equity = 4%

1 Bill Supportive of Equity was Vetoed = 2%

We asked legislators to continue the necessary work to promote criminal justice reform by putting an end to policies and practices that create barriers to an improved quality of life and fail to ensure transparency and accountability:

- Create a process for a special prosecutor to be selected concerning officer-involved shootings
- Implement a statewide policy for the proper usage of body worn cameras by law enforcement
- Obtain written consent for searches
- Provide racial impact analysis on legislation impacting the criminal justice system

Reduce Mississippi's Prison Population

(-) HB 58 - Case plans for parole-eligible inmates; require for nonviolent inmates convicted on or after July 1, 2014.

The law requires those released on parole to have case plans to improve reentry.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 56 & HB 59 - Offenders convicted of a crime of violence; are eligible for parole.

This legislation would have made less offenders eligible for parole. We should be expanding parole, not narrowing it.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 61 - DOC; authorize to transfer disruptive technical violation center offender to general population under certain circumstances.

While MDOC needs to maintain order at technical violation centers (TVCs), this bill as written failed to narrowly define "disruption," and probationers and parolees should only be removed from TVCs in exceptional circumstances.

Status: Died on Senate Calendar.

(-) HB 70 - School resource officers; clarify ability to make arrests on school property.

School resource officers serve a role in school that is distinct from law enforcement. This bill would have led to a violation of many students' Fourth, Sixth, and Fourteenth Amendment rights. A school disruption should be dealt

with within the school's discipline system, not through the legal system.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 97 - Conjugal visits; prohibit for offenders committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Conjugal visits, as with any visitation, help prisoners maintain their humanity while incarcerated. Therefore, such visits help in the transition to contributing positively to society once they are released. No legislative act should deny that opportunity for true rehabilitation.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 183 - Heroin and Fentanyl; provide punishment for transfer and possession with intent to transfer.

Under this bill, someone suffering from heroin addiction charged with simple possession would have faced up to 12 years, and anyone with 2 grams would have faced a minimum of 10 years. This was a throwback to the failed policies of decades past. This bill would have added to the already over-populated prison system in Mississippi.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 194 - Shoplifting; revise penalties.

This bill attempted to rollback smart justice reforms from recent sessions. Specifically, it sought to reduce the shoplifting felony threshold from \$1,000 to \$500. This would have resulted in more people behind bars, contributing to our already overburdened prison system.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 243 - Littering violations; increase penalties for.

Increasing penalties in an attempt to increase deterrence is a flawed philosophy. If we want to decrease littering, we won't do it by increasing the sentence tenfold. This bill would have had a disproportionate impact against lower-income Mississippians.

Status: Died on House Calendar.

(+) HB 387- Re-entry council; implement certain recommendations thereof.

This bill prohibits city, county, and circuit courts from incarcerating or detaining a person because of inability to pay. Being poor is not a crime, and no one should have to face jail time simply because they can't afford to pay fees and fines. This legislation also allows parolees to have visits by their parole officers at their job, instead of missing work.

Status: Approved by the governor on March 26th.

(+) HB 471 - Task force to address the disparity of African-American males in the judicial system; create.

This bill would have created a task force to address the shameful fact that Black people in Mississippi, as in other states, are arrested and incarcerated at a higher rate than white people and at a disproportionate rate relative to the Black population of Mississippi. The Magnolia state incarcerates Black people 3.5 times more than the rate of white people. African Americans account for 37% of the state's population, but 65% of its prisoners.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 515 - Nonviolent offenders; authorize reduction of sentences for passage of end-of-course subject area tests by the offenders.

Nonviolent offenders deserve the opportunity to reduce their sentence by meeting certain criteria, such as passing subject area tests. This would grant nonviolent offenders who no longer pose a threat to society a chance to be released from prison.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 614 - Inmates convicted of capital offenses; provide parole eligibility after certain requirements are met.

Opening the door for individuals convicted of capital offenses to be released on parole would have helped to provide more rehabilitation opportunities, versus incarcerating individuals indefinitely.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 637- Mandatory minimum sentences for crimes committed by offenders; revise which offenders are eligible for.

This bill would have allowed for early release of certain offenders, thus reducing prison populations. Nonviolent offenders would have been required to serve at least 25% of sentence and violent offenders at least 50% of sentence. This type of legislation helps to reduce over-incarceration through sentencing reform.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 638 - Violent offenders, certain; may be paroled by Parole Board if sentencing judge authorizes parole consideration.

Even violent offenders deserve the chance to show they have been rehabilitated. This measure would have helped to reduce prison populations by expanding the number of those eligible for parole and allowing those convicted to reenter into society.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 640 - Earned time allowance; revise which offenders are eligible for.

This bill would have allowed certain elderly people incarcerated at MDOC to qualify for earned time allowance, and thus, it will help to reduce our prison population. The individuals affected by this bill were not a threat to the public.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 641 - Corrections; authorize to administer the "Halfway House Grant Program."

Creating reentry opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals greatly reduces the risk of recidivism. This bill would have provided funds to any nonprofit organization that focuses on providing support to offenders and their families in the effort to aid reentry into society.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 645 - Conjugal visits; require Department of Corrections to provide for married inmates.

Conjugal visits, as with any visitation, help prisoners maintain their humanity while incarcerated. Therefore, such visits help in the transition to contributing positively to society once they are released. We support any bill that restores certain basic human rights to those convicted of crimes.

Status: Died in committee

(+) HB 646 - Department of Corrections; require implementation of an Extended Family Visitation Program for eligible offenders.

This bill would have implemented an extended family visitation program in state prisons. Prisoners with families and children deserve the right to stay in contact with them. Inmates who receive visits from family while incarcerated are less likely to recommit crimes once released.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 720 - Bail; provide imposition of by courts, under certain circumstances, when no other conditions will ensure defendant's court appearance.

This legislation would have returned our pretrial system to the way it should be -- one in which money bail is a last resort to ensure court appearance. Pretrial liberty should be the rule, not the exception that is reserved for people with wealth.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) SB 2128 - Habitual offenders; revise method of determining whether a felony triggers sentencing as.

This bill would have allowed a person to be sentenced as a habitual offender only if that person has been sentenced to and served separate terms of one year or more for a felony, thus reducing the number of individuals who are subject to mandatory minimum sentences.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) SB 2133 - Offender case plans; MDOC to develop for parole-eligible offenders convicted on or after July 1, 2014.

This bill would have mandated that the Department of Corrections (MDOC) complete a case plan for all inmates that included certain rehabilitative programs. MDOC must be held accountable for ensuring inmates are being rehabilitated in order to break the incarceration cycle and reduce risk for recidivism.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) SB 2248 - Violent habitual offender; require bifurcated trial.

Life imprisonment should only be used as punishment in the most severe of crimes. This bill would have allowed a person to be sentenced to life as a habitual offender only if a jury determines that the punishment is merited, thus reducing the number of individuals who are subject to mandatory minimum sentences.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) SB 2257, SB 2262, SB 2269, SB 2272 - Habitual offender; revise sentencing.

These bills would have reduced the number of people who are sentenced to mandatory minimums under harsh habitual offender laws. We should be investing in programs that rehabilitate and reduce recidivism, not locking more people away for longer sentences.

Status: All Died in committee.

(+) HB 668 - Vagrants and tramps; repeal laws regarding.

Tramp and vagrancy laws are out-of-date and disproportionately criminalize the poor and homeless. Repealing these criminal statutes will help to reduce Mississippi's prison population.

Status: Approved by the governor on March 8th.

(-) SB 2868 - Delinquency of a minor; provide that those who cause minors to sell drugs or join gangs contribute to.

This bill would have made it easier for law enforcement to label a suspect as a gang member, in order to bring additional conspiracy charges. This bill would have disproportionately impacted communities of color and would likely have falsely implicated many young men of color.

Status: Died in House committee.

Promote Community Policing, Transparency and Accountability

(-) HB 26 - Emergency Medical Technicians; authorize to carry firearms while in performance of duties.

Providers of emergency care are there to help, not injure further. Arming EMTs blurs the lines between professions, and we already have enough law-enforcement involved shootings.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 27 - "Law Enforcement Protection Act of 2018"; enact.

If someone has a medical condition that will require tinted windows to drive, they should not be prevented from driving, and they shouldn't be criminalized for it. This bill would have set limitations on tinted windows, without providing for medical allowances.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 60 - Emergency leave for certain offenders due to death/sickness in family; revise security escort requirement.

This bill would have allowed MDOC to authorize emergency leave without escort. An individual granted temporary leave to attend a funeral or other exceptional life event should be able to do so with the dignity of not being accompanied by an officer if MDOC makes the determination that one isn't necessary.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 94 - Employment application form; prohibit criminal background information from being asked on.

This measure would have removed the criminal background section on an application for employment. Employability is a critical factor in supporting meaningful re-entry into society and reducing recidivism rates.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 282 - Child support arrearage; require electronic house arrest for certain person found in contempt for.

No one should be incarcerated for refusing to pay a debt, and that includes the inability or refusal to pay child support. This bill would have caused those in contempt of court for child support payments to be put under house arrest, further disadvantaging them from seeking employment or other means to pay the child support.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 655 - Voluntary search; regulate for those who are not under arrest.

We support written consent requirements that protect law enforcement without impeding police work, and protect citizens' constitutional rights to refuse an unwarranted search.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 696 - Cell site simulator device; require law enforcement agencies to obtain warrant before using.

Law enforcement officers should have to obtain a warrant before they can use a Cell Site Simulator device, a device that can be used to intercept or collect data used by cell phones. This bill would have protected privacy rights of citizens and helped hold law enforcement officers accountable.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) SB 2283 - Community Policing and Transparency Act; create body-worn camera policy standards.

Body cameras are a win-win for both the police and the community, but only if we pass a law that balances police protection and citizen privacy, and promotes transparency and accountability. Uniformed policy around body cams is necessary for effective usage.

Status: Died in committee.

Support Restorative Justice

(+) HB 205, HB 240, HB 241 - Expungement; authorize for nonviolent felony convictions.

Nonviolent felons who are rehabilitated should have the opportunity to obtain jobs and function in society without the weight of their conviction hindering them.

Status: All died in committee.

(+) HB 276 - Right to vote; restore to people who committed nonviolent disqualifying crimes upon meeting certain requirements.

This bill would have put in place a process to restore the right to vote to certain individuals convicted of nonviolent crimes. We supported this means of both criminal justice reform, and restoring equality to all Mississippians.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 295 - Driver's license; authorize issuance of hardship license to persons who have their licenses suspended as a result of being out of compliance with order for support.

The criminalization of poverty perpetuates poverty, and counterproductive license suspensions are a clear example. This bill would have allowed hardship waivers be issued for people who can't afford to make child support payments.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 438 - Felony expungement; authorize for first-time offenses.

This bill would have provided an opportunity for those who were convicted as a first-time offender to be given the chance to petition for an expungement of their record. One indiscretion should not affect persons for the perpetuity of their lives.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 462 - Felony expungement; revise age.

This bill would have allowed individuals to petition the court for an expungement of felony records committed before an individual turned 35. We support this bill because one youthful indiscretion should not affect individuals for the rest of their lives.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 561 - Expunction; revise.

This bill would have allowed for expungement of minor traffic offenses for young adults. Additionally, it would have expanded the felonies that qualify for expungement.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 642 - Mississippi Prison Industries; require to pay inmates federal minimum wage for inmate labor.

This bill would have mandated that the Mississippi Prison Industries pay prisoners federal minimum wage for labor done while incarcerated. Prisoners should be guaranteed basic worker's rights. Paying prisoners minimum wage gives them an opportunity to provide for their families, make restitution payments, or pay other fees.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) SB 2036, SB 2112, SB 2118, SB 2241, SB 2263, SB 2265, SB 2266, SB 2271 - Expungement.

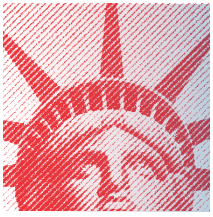
Second chances are an indispensable piece of successful reentry. These bills would have increased access to second chances by making more people eligible to expunge prior offenses from their record.

Status: All died in committee.

(+) SB 2841 - Re-entry and employability; implement mechanisms to provide.

This legislation would have improved drug courts and improved re-entry possibilities. Under the current system, an individual's driver's license can be suspended for a controlled substance related charge, regardless of whether the individual was driving at the time of the offense. SB 2841 would have limited license suspensions to impaired driving. This bill would also have done away with "debtor's prison" charges, where people on parole or probation are denied discharged based on their inability to pay a fine.

Status: Vetoed by the governor on April 13th.



Extend Equality to All Mississippians

Grade: F

33 Extend Equality to All Mississippians Bills Tracked

20 Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 61%

13 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 39%

1 Became Law that was Not Supportive of Equity = 3%

We implored members of the Mississippi Legislature to remember that one of the basic tenets of government is to do no harm. Protecting every Mississippian's constitutional rights leads to public policies that uplifts us all. With understanding of our past and learning from those mistakes of intolerance, we are providing the groundwork for a better Mississippi, now and into the future.

The equitable treatment of all Mississippians is of paramount importance to the ACLU of Mississippi, and it was the most expansive charge and most challenging issue of the 2017 legislative session.

We asked legislators to:

- Support legislation that protects all citizens, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, immigrant status, disability, gender identity, familial status, and sexual orientation from discrimination.
- Strengthen non-discrimination laws in state employment and housing programs.
- Oppose any legislation that compromises human rights.

Equality for All Mississippians

(+) HB 5 - Motor vehicle license plates; increase number of special that may be issued to a person with a disability which limits ability to walk.

This bill would have allowed for more disability license plates be provided for a person with disabilities and their families, expanding access to transportation. We supported this measure because it gives those with disabilities and their caregivers more flexibility in their transportation options.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 202 - Disabilities, persons with; modernize terminology used to refer to.

This bill would have replaced certain offensive terminology used in the legislature when referring to those with disabilities.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 545 & SB 2933 - Mississippi Civil Rights Act; create.

The Mississippi Civil Rights Act mandates that all citizens of Mississippi be given the same fundamental human rights, offering protections for them when those rights are violated. Mississippians should not be forced to seek redress in federal courts when they are wronged at home.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 618 & SB 2828 - Religious Freedom Act; repeal along with Protecting Freedom of Conscience from Government Discrimination Act.

This bill would have repealed HB 1523, the law passed in 2016 that is considered the most egregious anti-LGBT law in the United States. We support any effort to overturn this discriminatory law.

Status: Died in committee.

Protecting the LGBT Community

(+) HB 596 & SB 2489 - State service employees; prohibit sexual orientation or gender identity discrimination of.

Mississippians should not fear firing from their place of employment because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. These bills would have extended protections to LGBT state employees inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 597 - MS Home Corporation Act; include sexual orientation and gender identity as prohibited forms of discrimination under.

A person should not worry about being evicted from their home because of who they love or what gender they identify as. This bill would have added sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes under the MS Home Corporation Act, preventing housing discrimination against the LGBTQ community.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 1075, HB 1462, SB 2576 - Hate Crimes Law; revise application of.

These bills would have added to the criteria for application of the hate crime law to include sexual orientation, disability, and first responders.

Status: Died in committee.

Promoting Fair Treatment in Jobs, Schools, Housing, Public Places, Health Care and Government Programs

(+) HB 146 - Health; State Health Officer shall develop program to close the gap in health status of gender and racial groups.

Health State Officers should be looking to reduce the differences in health outcomes between groups. This bill took steps to diminish the health disparities among racial groups in Mississippi. We supported this bill because it worked toward racial and gender equity.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 472 - Public benefits; require drug testing for all recipients of state or local funded benefits.

Any effort to mandate any type of drug testing of public benefit applicants and recipients is an intrusion upon an individual's right to privacy and an unreasonable search by the government. In addition to constitutional issues, drug testing is a misguided policy, based on the false premise that poor people are more likely to be drug users than other members of our society. By targeting recipients of public benefits, these proposals disproportionately impact communities of color.

Status: Died in committee.

Protecting Women's Rights

(-) HB 45, HB 226, HB 1509, SB 2565, SB 2829 - Anti-abortion.

A woman should be able to determine when she is ready to have children. These bills each infringed on a woman's right to control her own healthcare choices by limiting the time period in which a woman could seek an abortion or by restricting abortion services completely.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 1510 (SB 2903 & 2905) - Gestational Age Act; create.

This bill criminalizes legal abortion by making it illegal to obtain an abortion after 15 weeks. This law makes Mississippi the most restrictive state for reproductive rights in the nation. A woman should have the ability to control her health choices, and those choices should not be criminalized.

Status: Approved by the governor on March 19th.

(-) SB 2616 - Unborn Children with Down Syndrome Abortion Ban Act; enact.

A woman's constitutional right to control her own healthcare choices should not be limited for any reason. This legislation would have made it illegal to obtain an abortion if the fetus was determined to have down syndrome. This would have set a dangerous precedent for abortion legislation.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 864; HB 1257- The Evelyn Gandy Fair Pay Act; create.

This legislation would have made it illegal for employers to use gender as a means for deciding wage. This bill also prohibited wage discrimination in the workplace.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 717, HB 1303, SB 2511 - Equal pay for equal work; require for employees of opposite sex in the same work establishment.

These bills would have required that all workers be paid the same amount for the same type of work, regardless of their gender. HB 1303 also would have raised the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. Economic equity is an important step towards gender equity practices.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 96 - Mississippi State Workforce Investment Board; expand membership to include a woman and require gender equity in certain workforce development systems.

Gender should not define how one is paid. This bill would have required that at least one woman sit on the Mississippi State Workforce Investment Board, and would have required that workforce development plans contain plans to improve gender equity.

Status: Died in committee.



Expanding Access to Opportunities for Immigrants

(-) HR 1 - Council on American Islamic Relations; urge law enforcement and government agencies to avoid contacts with.

The intent of this bill was to single out and avoid the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) in a religiously-motivated, discriminatory move.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 33 - Allow undocumented immigrants in-state tuition.

This bill would have allowed that certain undocumented students be eligible for in-state tuition provided that they can prove residency. We support this bill because everyone should have equal access to education, regardless of immigration status.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 1506 - Illegal immigration; strengthen enforcement provision to prevent.

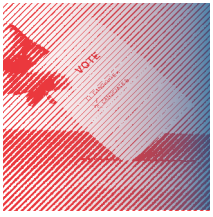
This bill would have forced local police to cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), putting a heavy financial burden on local law enforcement agencies. This bill would have also required that schools check students' immigration statuses, in violation of Department of Justice and Department of Education guidelines. Immigration enforcement is the sole purview of the federal government. This legislation was outside the scope of Article X of the US Constitution.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) SB 2155 - Illegal immigration; Attorney General to seek federal reimbursement of costs incurred by state.

This legislation sought to have federal reimbursement for actions outside of the jurisdiction of the state. Immigration enforcement is not a function of state government.

Status: Died in committee.



Expanding Access for All Mississippi Voters

Grade: C-

17 Expanding Access For All Mississippi Voters Bills Tracked

16 Were Supportive of Equity = 94%

1 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights = 6%

1 Became Law That Expanded Voter Access = 6%

We asked legislators to:

- Support legislation that expands voter access, especially early voting and online registration.
- Revise statues that restrict a person from voting based on past felonies.
- Oppose any legislation that compromises a person's right to vote, or that could disparately harm communities of color.



(+) HB 62, HB 93, HB 333, HB 1001, SB 2877- Pre-election day voting; authorize.

These bills would have created the pre-Election Day Voting Act, which would have helped to extend the right to vote to all citizens, irrespective of disability, occupation, or travel. All citizens should be entitled to the same right to vote, even if they cannot physically be present at the polls on Election Day.

Status: All died in committee.

(+) HB 65, HB 926, HB 1311, SB 2875 - Online voter registration; revise to allow first-time voters to register through

An online voter registration system expands access to voting for all citizens. In this digital age, availing voter registration online is critical to moving democracy forward.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 499 - Elections; require employers to let employees certain time off to vote in.

Often times, qualified electors are not able to exercise their right to vote due to fear of missed wages or losing their job. This bill would have allowed for all qualified voters equal access to the ballot box without barriers or intimidation from employers.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 774 - Bipartisan committee to study voter disenfranchisement

This committee would have studied the possibility of rewriting disenfranchisement laws for nonviolent offenses. We support legislation that is likely to create smart policies around felony disenfranchisement.

Status: Died on the Senate calendar.

(+) HB 803 - Certified poll managers; revise

This bill lowered the number of certified poll workers per precinct from two to one, allowing for less expenditures by the county clerk's office. Lower expenditures will result in more money that can be spent on expanding voter access and implementing reforms, such as early voting.

Status: Approved by the governor on March 8th.

(+) HB 817 & HB 925 - Automatic voter registration; authorize for those who apply for the issuance, renewal or change of address of motor vehicle driver's license.

Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) is a voter registration system that is becoming popular in many states. This bill would have implemented AVR in Mississippi by registering voters when they perform necessary DMV activities, such as applying for insurance or changing one's address. An opt-out system like this will result in more registered voters. We support legislation that expands voter participation.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 1419 - Absentee voting; establish electronic application procedure for college students.

Everyone should have the opportunity to vote early without limitations. This bill would make it easier for students to vote before Election Day and was a step towards expanding voter access.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) SB 2636 - Voter registration; require applicants to submit acceptable documents to verify U.S. citizenship.

This bill would have required voters to submit proof of citizenship through documents such as birth certificates. This bill is unnecessary and would have the consequence of excluding eligible voters who have a social security number that proves they are citizens, but may have trouble accessing these specific documents like a birth certificate.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) SB 2809 - Elections; authorize pre-election day voting and online voter registration.

This bill would have expanded access for all Mississippians by allowing online voter registration, providing the convenience and ease that individuals need to register to vote. This bill would also have expanded access to the ballot box for all Mississippians by allowing time before Election Day for early voting without excuse. These common-sense reforms help to expand access to the ballot box.

Status: Died in committee.



Educational Opportunity

Grade: F

22 Educational Opportunity Bills Were Tracked

Out of the 22 Bills Tracked, 15 Were Supportive of Equity = 68%

Out of the 22 Bills Tracked, 7 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights = 32%

Out of the 22 Bills Tracked, 0 Became Law = 0%

Education is among the most critical services our government can provide. And yet, our state consistently underfunds and undermines our public education system. Mississippi ranked last in education attainment in the last census and among the nation's worst when it comes to removing children from the classroom and shifting them into the school to prison pipeline. The ACLU of Mississippi tracks education reforms and supports bills that promote educational opportunity because we believe that children deserve to be fully supported in their academic endeavors.

We asked legislators to:

- Amend the Superintendent's bill passed last year that inherently discriminates against majority black and rural low-resourced districts.
- Eliminate practices that contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline.
- Oppose legislation that underfunds our public schools or disadvantages poor students and students of color.

(+) HB 22 - Mississippi English Language Learners Scholarship Program.

This bill would have supported fostering diverse educators in order to meet the needs of English Language Learners throughout the state. Increased diversity in educators creates equitable environments where all students can learn.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 70 - Clarify SROs ability to make arrests on school property.

This bill would give additional arresting authority to school resources officers. SRO duties should only include those that focus on total school safety and should not promote the criminalization of student behavior.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 73 - Require to report acts of violence resulting in injury to local law enforcement.

The bill mandated the arrests of students by local law enforcement officers for offenses deemed violent in nature. It perpetuated the school to prison pipeline by criminalizing student behavior and authorizing arrest power to local law enforcement officials on school property. This bill did nothing to keep Mississippi children safe.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 125 - Voter Education a Mandatory part of U.S. Government Class.

We supported this bill because it promoted civic engagement for high school students who are nearing voting age. Given the low voter registration rates of Mississippians ages 18-29, voter education would help to increase that number as well as voter turnout.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 135 - Concealed fire arms on school premises.

This bill would have authorized the legal possession of firearms on school campuses for school personnel and school resource officers. We do not support this bill because school safety is the role of school resource officers and allowing other personnel to carry firearms on school property creates an unsafe environment for students.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 208 - Mississippi Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program Act of 2018.

This bill would have established a free universal Pre-Kindergarten program for every child in the state of Mississippi. Early childhood education is a key indicator of student success and creates equitable opportunities for Mississippi children.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 209 - Increase adjustment to base student cost for at-risk students.

This bill provided for increased education funding to school districts across the state and creates equitable opportunities for more Mississippi students.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 210 - School Social Workers and Psychologists.

This bill would have required school districts to hire social workers and psychologists in addition to providing funding for those positions. We support the hiring of additional student support staff that help to contribute to an equitable school environment.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 294 - Allow local contribution to follow students who transfer from one district to another.

This bill would have required that funding for individual students follow that student if he or she transferred to another school. It offered no remedy for school districts who do not have the funds to pay, refunds for students who return to previously enrolled districts, or provided support for struggling districts who might lose an overwhelming majority of students. We opposed this bill because it created systemic barriers to educational opportunities for all.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 409 - Provide a deduction for donations made to public schools.

This bill would have given tax credits to individuals who have given money to public schools. We supported this measure because these tax credits would have helped to provide additional funding to public schools.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 491 - Mississippi School Safety Act.

The use of restraint and seclusion methods puts children at risk and does not keep them safe in public schools. This bill would have limited the use of restraint and seclusion and require teacher training. We supported this bill because all children should be safe in school environments.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 576 - Require districts to provide alternative approach to expulsion, suspension, and isolation.

This bill would have required school districts to submit reports each year to the Department of Education by describing how the district utilized practices other than suspension, as it pertained to student discipline. We supported this bill because school districts should be held accountable and encouraged to utilize alternative methods of discipline other than removing the student from the classroom.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 672 - Require local school district to develop the proper procedure for the administration of discipline action to exceptional education students.

This bill would have required school districts to adopt specialized discipline plans for exceptional education students in order to ensure that proper IDEA guidelines are being followed for students who need additional behavior and academic supports.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 714 - Establish statewide open enrollment for public school students.

This bill would have allowed school boards to choose which students can transfer into their district with no guidelines for districts on the criteria that would be used to determine whether a student is accepted. Without such guidelines, school boards could have rejected students for no just cause in a discriminatory manner.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 753 - Revise Qualifications for the Office of School Superintendent.

This amendment removed language that unintentionally creates racial and gender discrimination towards persons seeking employment as superintendent. Education professionals should be able to advance in their careers based on merit, and this amendment would have created high standards for superintendent qualifications while also creating equitable opportunities for all educators.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 822 - Require school districts to report to MDE on positive behavior intervention practices.

This bill would have encouraged schools to use positive behavior supports to improve student behavior and create positive school environments. The use of positive behavior supports the disruption of school to prison discipline policies that push students out of school.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 823 - Require to report use of alternatives to suspension included in district's discipline plan to MDE.

This bill would have encouraged the use of alternatives to suspension thereby dismantling the school to prison pipeline.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 993 - Provide incentives for working in certain areas with critical teacher shortages.

This bill would have supported certified teachers in critical needs areas. Supporting teachers is essential to creating equitable educational opportunities for all students.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 957 - establish Mississippi Uniform Per Student Funding Formula Act of 2018.

This bill was an effective rewrite of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP) formula. It would have cheapened the value of public education and strengthened the case for a rise in public charter schools. We believe that public education should be a guaranteed Constitutional right and that MAEP be fully funded.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 1083 - Firearms, authorize those with enhanced carry to bring onto public property.

This bill started out as expanding where a person can legally carry their firearms. However, in the wake of the Parkland shooting, it was modified in the Senate to allow teachers to carry firearms into the classrooms if they were licensed to carry. This bill would have made schools more dangerous for both students and teachers.

Status: Died on House concurrence calendar.

(+) HB 1104 - Require clear and convincing evidence as standard of proof for removal of more than 10 days.

This bill would have required school officials to show compelling evidence to justify the removal of a student from the classroom setting. This bill prevented school districts from excessively and unfairly suspending students for extended amounts of time.

Status: Died in committee.

(+) HB 1370 - Create in State Department of Education.

This bill would have provided additional training and mentorship to rural area educators to improve school leadership. This bill would have helped create equitable learning environments for rural schools and helps to build stronger leadership.

Status: Died in committee.

(-) HB 1405 - Require school districts to pay local funds due on quarterly, rather than annual basis.

This systemic issue created a funding disparity that impeded equitable funding practices. It mandated that public school districts pay charter schools based on per pupil enrollment on a quarterly basis. We opposed this bill because it did not include a provision for returning funds for students who transferred back into the public school system. This bill forced public school to pay charter school for students who no longer attended.

Status: Died in committee.

The Scorecard

Method

The legislative scorecard includes those bills which had floor action in both the House and Senate; six issues for the House and seven issues for the Senate. The issues chosen are issues core to the mission of the ACLU of Mississippi, which is to promote, extend, and defend civil liberties to all Mississippians. All ACLU of Mississippi positions on the specific issues in this scorecard were made clear to legislators and the general public, either through our website, in one-on-one meetings, through the media, or via our “Equity Agenda,” which specifically stated our intent to publish a Legislative Score Card.

Scoring

The legislators are scored based upon a percentage of votes wherein their votes aligned with the ACLU of Mississippi’s position, which we believe is supportive of equity. In the scorecard the actual votes are indicated with a “Y” for “Yes” or an “N” for “No.” The ACLU of Mississippi’s position appears on the column header below the issue. If a legislator did not vote, an “A” or a “P” appears in the column. Absent and Present votes are not tallied into the score. The numerical score and grade appear in the far right columns. Legislators are graded using the following rubric:

Percent	Letter Grade
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
Below 60	F

Purpose

This legislative scorecard is intended to be used as a resource to better assist voters in working with their elected officials. It is not intended to be political or to advance any one legislator or candidate over another. The ACLU of Mississippi is non-partisan and does not endorse or financially support any candidate for elected office.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Name	District	County	Party	HB 957*	HB 387	HB 1510	HB 803	HB 668	HB 1083	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU POSITION				NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO		
Lester "Bubba" Carpenter	1	Alcorn, Tishomingo	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Nick Bain	2	Alcorn	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
William Tracey Arnold	3	Alcorn, Prentiss	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Jody Steverson	4	Alcorn, Tippah	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
John G. Faulkner	5	Benton, Lafayette, Marshall, Tate	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Dana Criswell	6	DeSoto	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Steve Hopkins	7	DeSoto	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
John Thomas "Trey" Lamar, III	8	Lafayette, Tate	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	60	D-
Cedric Burnett	9	Coahoma, Quitman, Tate, Tunica	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	83	B
Nolan Mettetal	10	Lafayette, Panola, Tallahatchie	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Lataisha Jackson	11	Panola, Tate	D	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	100	A
Jay Hughes	12	Lafayette	D	N	A	A	Y	Y	Y	75	C
Steve Massengill	13	Benton, Lafayette, Marshall, Union	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Margaret Ellis Rogers	14	Union	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Mac Huddleston	15	Pontotoc	R	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	50	F
Steve Holland	16	Lee, Monroe	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Shane Aguirre	17	Lee	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Jerry R. Turner	18	Lee, Prentiss, Union	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Randy P. Boyd	19	Itawamba, Lee	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Chris Brown	20	Itawamba, Lee, Monroe	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Donnie Bell	21	Itawamba, Tishomingo	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Preston E. Sullivan	22	Chickasaw, Pontotoc	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Jim Beckett	23	Calhoun, Grenada, Lafayette, Webster	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Jeff Hale	24	DeSoto	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Dan Eubanks	25	DeSoto	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Orlando W. Paden	26	Bolivar, Coahoma	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	50	A
Kenneth Walker	27	Attala, Leake, Madison, Yazoo	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	A	100	A
Robert Foster	28	DeSoto	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Abe Hudson	29	Bolivar, Sunflower	D	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	83	B
Robert E. Huddleston	30	Bolivar, Quitman, Sunflower, Tallahatchie	D	N	Y	N	A	Y	N	100	A
Sara Richardson Thomas	31	Bolivar, Humphries, Sunflower, Washington	D	N	Y	N	A	Y	A	100	A

Name	District	County	Party	HB 957*	HB 387	HB 1510	HB 803	HB 668	HB 1083	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU POSITION				NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO		
Willie J. Perkins, Sr	32	Leflore	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Tommy Reynolds	33	Grenada, Tallahatchie, Yalobusha	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Kevin Horan	34	Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Leflore, Tallahatchie	D	N	Y	P	Y	Y	Y	83	B
Joey Hood	35	Attala, Choctaw, Webster, Winston	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Karl Gibbs	36	Clay, Monroe	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Gary A. Chism	37	Clay, Lowndes, Oktibbeha	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Cheikh A. Taylor	38	Clay, Lowndes, Oktibbeha	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Jeff Smith	39	Lowndes, Monroe	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Ashley Henley	40	DeSoto	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Kabir Karriem	41	Lowndes	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Carl L. Mickens	42	Lowndes, Noxubee, Winston	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	A	100	A
Loyd B. (Rob) Roberson II	43	Oktibbeha, Winston	R	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	40	F
C. Scott Bounds	44	Leake, Neshoba	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Michael T. Evans	45	Kemper, Lauderdale, Neshoba, Winston	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Karl Oliver	46	Carroll, Grenada, Leflore, Montgomery, Webster	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Bryant W. Clark	47	Attala, Holmes, Yazoo	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	83	B
Jason White	48	Attala, Carroll, Holmes, Leake	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Willie L. Bailey	49	Washington	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
John W. Hines	50	Bolivar, Issaquena, Washington	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Rufus E. Straughter	51	Humphreys, Sharkey, Yazoo	D	N	Y	Y	N	100	A	100	A
Bill Kinkade	52	DeSoto, Marshall	R	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Vince Mangold	53	Franklin, Jefferson Davis, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Kevin Ford	54	Issaquena, Warren, Yazoo	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Oscar Denton	55	Warren	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Edward Blackmon, Jr	56	Madison	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Philip Gunn	57	Hinds, Madison	R	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Joel Bomgar	58	Madison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Brent Powell	59	Rankin	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F

Name	District	County	Party	HB 957*	HB 387	HB 1510	HB 803	HB 668	HB 1083	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU POSITION				NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO		
John Moore/Fred Shanks****	60	Rankin	R							N/A	N/A
Ray Rogers	61	Rankin	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Tom Weathersby	62	Copiah, Rankin, Simpson	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Deborah Butler Dixon	63	Hinds, Warren, Yazoo	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
William C. Denny, Jr	64	Hinds, Madison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Christopher Bell	65	Hinds	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Jarvis Dortch	66	Hinds	D	N	Y	N	A	Y	N	100	A
Earle S. Banks	67	Hinds	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Credell Calhoun	68	Hinds, Rankin	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100	A
Alyce Griffin Clarke	69	Hinds	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Kathy Sykes	70	Hinds	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Adrienne Wooten	71	Hinds	D	N	Y	N	Y	P	N	100	A
Deborah Gibbs	72	Hinds, Madison	D	N	Y	N	P	Y	N	100	A
Cory T. Wilson	73	Madison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Mark Baker	74	Rankin	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Tom Miles	75	Rankin, Scott	D	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Gregory Holloway, Sr.	76	Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds	D	N	Y	A	Y	Y	P	100	A
Andy Gipson	77	Rankin, Simpson	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Randy Rushing	78	Leake, Newton, Scott	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Mark K. Tullos	79	Jasper, Smith	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Omeria Scott	80	Clarke, Jasper, Jones	D	N	Y	A	A	A	A	100	A
Steve Horne	81	Clarke, Lauderdale	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Charles Young, Jr	82	Lauderdale	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Greg Snowden	83	Lauderdale	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
William Shirley	84	Clarke, Jasper, Newton	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
America "Chuck" Middleton	85	Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Warren	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Pres	N	80	B-
Shane Barnett	86	Greene, Perry, Wayne	R	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	A
Chris Johnson	87	Forrest, Lamar	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Gary V. Staples	88	Jasper, Jones	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Donnie Scoggin	89	Jones	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Noah Sanford	90	Covington, Jefferson Davis, Simpson	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Bob Evans	91	Copiah, Covington, Jefferson Davis, Lawrence, Simpson	D	N	Y	Y	Pres	Y	Y	60	D-
Becky Currie	92	Copiah, Lawrence, Lincoln	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Timmy Ladner	93	Hancock, Pearl River, Stone	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	50	F

Name	District	County	Party	HB 957*	HB 387	HB 1510	HB 803	HB 668	HB 1083	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU POSITION				NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO		
Robert L. Johnson, III	94	Adams, Franklin, Jefferson	D	N	Y	N	A	Y	A	100	A
Patricia H. Willis	95	Hancock, Harrison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Angela Cockerham	96	Adams, Amite, Pike, Wilkinson	D	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	50	F
Sam C. Mims, V	97	Adams, Amite, Franklin, Pike	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
David W. Myers	98	Pike, Walthall	D	A	A	A	A	A	A	N/A	N/A
Bill Pigott	99	Lamar, Marion, Walthall	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Ken Morgan	100	Lamar, Marion	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Brad A. Touchstone	101	Lamar	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Missy W. McGee	102	Forrest, Lamar		N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Percy W. Watson	103	Forrest	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Larry Byrd	104	Forrest	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Roun McNeal	105	George, Greene, Perry	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
John Glen Corley	106	Lamar, Pearl River	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Doug McLeod	107	George, Stone	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Stacey Hobgood Wilkes	108	Pearl River	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Manly Barton	109	George, Jackson	R	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	60	D-
Jeramey D. Anderson	110	Jackson	D	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	100	A
Charles Busby	111	Jackson	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
John O. Read	112	Jackson	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
H. B. "Hank" Zuber, III	113	Jackson	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Jeffrey S. Guice	114	Harrison, Jackson	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Randall H. Patterson	115	Harrison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Casey Eure	116	Harrison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Scott DeLano	117	Harrison	R	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	60	D-
Greg Haney	118	Harrison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Sonya Williams-Barnes	119	Harrison	D	N	Y	N	Y	P	N	100	A
Richard Bennett	120	Harrison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Carolyn Crawford	121	Harrison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
David Baria	122	Hancock	D	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	100	A

*The vote on HB 957 in the House was for the bill itself, which we opposed. In the Senate, the vote was on a motion to send the bill back to committee, which effectively killed the bill. Therefore, a "yes" vote on a motion to send the bill back was essentially a "no" vote against the bill. This is why the ACLU positions for HB 957 are different in the House and the Senate.

SENATE

Name	District	County	Party	HB 957*	HB 387	HB 1510	HB 803	HB 668	HB 1083	SB 2868	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU POSITION				YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO		
Chris Massey	1	DeSoto	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	57	F
David Parker	2	DeSoto	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Nickey Browning	3	Benton, Pontotoc, Union	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	67	D+
Rita Parks	4	Alcorn, Tippah	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
JP Wilemon, Jr.	5	Itawamba, Prentiss, Tishomingo	D	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	57	F
Chad McMahan	6	Itawamba, Lee	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	57	F
Hob Bryan	7	Itawamba, Lee, Monroe	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Russell Jolly	8	Calhoun, Chickasaw, Lee, Pontotoc, Yalobusha	D	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	67	D+
Gray Tollison	9	Lafayette, Panola	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Bill Stone	10	Marshall, Tate	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Robert L. Jackson	11	Coahoma, Panola, Quitman, Tunica	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Derrick T. Simmons	12	Bolivar, Coahoma, Washington	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Willie Simmons	13	Bolivar, Sunflower, Tallahatchie	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N/A**	N	100	A
Lydia Chassaniol	14	Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Leflore, Montgomery, Panola, Tallahatchie, Yalobusha	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Gary Jackson	15	Choctaw, Montgomery, Oktibbeha, Webster	R	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	57	F
Angela Turner-Ford	16	Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Charles Younger	17	Lowndes, Monroe	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Jenifer Branning	18	Leake, Neshoba, Winston	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	P	Y	50	F
Kevin Blackwell	19	DeSoto, Marshall	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Josh Harkins	20	Rankin	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Barbara Blackmon	21	Attala, Holmes, Leake, Madison, Yazoo	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Eugene Clarke	22	Bolivar, Humphreys, Madison, Sharkey, Washington, Yazoo	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
W. Briggs Hopson, III	23	Issaquena, Warren, Yazoo	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	57	F
David Jordan	24	Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, Tallahatchie	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	A	N	100	A

Name	District	County	Party	HB 957*	HB 387	HB 1510	HB 803	HB 668	HB 1083	SB 2868	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU POSITION				YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO		
J. Walter Michel, III	25	Hinds, Madison	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	57	F
John Horhn	26	Hinds, Madison	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Hillman Frazier	27	Hinds	D	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Sollie B. Norwood	28	Hinds	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
David Blount	29	Hinds	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Dean Kirby	30	Rankin	R	A	A	A	A	A	A	Y	0	F
Terry Burton	31	Lauderdale, Newton, Scott	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Sampson Jackson, II	32	Kemper, Lauderdale, Noxubee, Winston	D	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	N	83	B-
Videt Carmichael	33	Clarke, Lauderdale	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	57	F
Juan Barnett	34	Forrest, Jasper, Jones	D	A	A	N	Y	Y	N/A**	A	100	A
Chris Caughman	35	Copiah, Rankin, Simpson	R	N	A	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	40	F
Albert Butler	36	Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Jefferson	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Bob M. Dearing	37	Adams, Amite, Franklin, Pike	D	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	71	C-
Tammy Witherspoon	38	Adams, Amite, Pike, Walthall, Wilkinson	D	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	100	A
Sally Doty	39	Copiah, Lawrence, Lincoln, Walthall	R	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Angela Hill	40	Marion, Pearl River	R	N	P	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	50	F
Joey Fillingane	41	Covington, Forrest, Jefferson Davis, Lamar, Smith	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Chris McDaniel	42	Forrest, Jones	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	57	F
Dennis DeBar	43	George, Greene, Wayne	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	57	F
John Polk	44	Lamar, Pearl River	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Billy Hudson	45	Forrest, Perry	R	N	A	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	40	F
Philip Moran	46	Hancock, Harrison	R	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Joseph M. Seymour	47	Jackson, Pearl River, Stone	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	71	C-
Deborah Dawkins	48	Harrison	D	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	86	B
Sean Tindell	49	Harrison	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F
Tommy Gollott	50	Harrison	R	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	F
Michael Watson	51	Jackson	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	67	F
Brice Wiggins	52	Jackson	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	43	F

**Senator Willie Simmons, who would have voted Yes on HB 1083, pair-voted with Senator Barnett, who would have voted no.

ACLU

Mississippi

The ACLU of Mississippi is dedicated to promoting, defending, and extending civil liberties to all Mississippians with emphasis on issues related to criminal justice reform, educational opportunities, equal access/equality for all, voter rights, and governmental transparency and accountability. We accomplish our mission through legislation, litigation, and advocacy.

