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# Hold Your Congressmen Accountable to the Constitution!

Do you know how your congressmen voted on important legislation?

**Learn how they voted by reading the third "Freedom Index" for the 119th Congress, which was published in the August 2026 issue of *The New American* magazine. Also, please print and distribute our *Congressional Scorecards*, which are an easy way to inform others about how your congressmen are voting.**

We live at a time when our federal government routinely usurps powers not granted to it by the Constitution. This is leading to an increasingly out-of-control Big Government that routinely infringes on our basic rights (property rights, privacy rights, religious liberties, right to bear arms, etc.). These infringements have grown worse with the Covid-19 overreach, climate-change tyranny, and Great Reset implementation that are betraying the very foundation of our Republic.

The solution is for more and more voters to hold their representatives and senators in Congress accountable to the Constitution. *The New American* magazine has been publishing the "Freedom Index: A Congressional Scorecard Based on the U.S. Constitution" and its predecessor, "The Conservative Index," since 1971. The "Freedom Index" provides scorecards for every member of Congress on ten key votes several times every two-year session of Congress.

You can help return our federal government to its constitutional moorings by using the "Freedom Index" to learn how constitutionally your representative and two senators are voting, taking the appropriate actions to influence them to vote constitutionally, and then spreading the word to others in your sphere of influence about how to use the "Freedom Index" to hold their congressmen accountable to the Constitution. **Physical print copies, as well as digital download, copies of the current edition of the Freedom Index can be purchased here at ShopJBS.org.**



Freedom Index

The Freedom Index

A Congressional Scorecard Based on the U.S. Constitution

*Our third look at the 119th Congress shows how every member of the House and Senate voted on key issues such as foreign aid, war powers, ObamaCare subsidies (House only), and immigration.*

**House Vote Descriptions**

**21 Appropriations.** H.R. 6938 would appropriate $187 billion in total funding for select federal agencies in fiscal 2026. Among other provisions, it would provide $49.1 billion for the Department of Energy, $37.1 billion for the Department of Justice, $24.4 billion for NASA, $14.5 billion for the Department of the Interior, $11.1 billion for the Department of Commerce, $8.8 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency, $8.8 billion for the National Science Foundation, and $5.5 billion for more than 3,000 earmarks.

The House passed H.R. 6938 on January 8, 2026 by a vote of 397 to 28 (Roll Call 7). We have assigned pluses to the nays because most of the spending would go to federal departments, agencies, and programs that have no authorization or basis in the Constitution. Furthermore, this reckless spending is yielding record increases in the national debt.

**22 ObamaCare Subsidy Extension.** H.R. 1834 would extend enhanced ObamaCare subsidies, originally enacted under the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act and the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act, by an additional three years.

The House passed H.R. 1834 on January 8, 2026 by a vote of 230 to 196 (Roll Call 11). We have assigned pluses to the nays because Article I,




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**About This Index**

"The Freedom Index: A Congressional Scorecard Based on the U.S. Constitution" rates members of Congress based on their adherence to constitutional principles of limited government, fiscal responsibility, national sovereignty, and a traditional foreign policy of avoiding foreign entanglements. For information on the criteria we use to select the votes, go to FreedomIndex.us/about.

To learn how any representative or senator voted on the key measures described herein, look him or her up in the vote charts. The scores are derived by dividing a congressman's constitutional votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100. The average House score for this index is 40 percent (64 percent for the Republicans and 16 percent for the Democrats), and the average Senate score is 38 percent (52 percent for the Republicans and 22 percent for the Democrats). Two representatives (Thomas Massie of Kentucky and Warren Davidson of Ohio) and one senator (Rand Paul of Kentucky) earned 100 percent. We encourage readers to examine how their own legislators voted on each of the 10 key measures. We also encourage readers to commend legislators for their constitutional votes, and to urge improvement where needed.

This is our third index for the 119th Congress. Our first index for the current Congress (votes 1-10) appeared in our August 2025 issue, and our second index (votes 11-20) appeared in our February 2026 issue. An online version of the Freedom Index is also available (click on "Freedom Index" at TheNewAmerican.com), as are Congressional Scorecards on individual members of the House and Senate and Legislative Scorecards on state legislators (see ad on page 12). ■


*This copyrighted article originally appeared in the August 2026 issue of* The New American. *Visit ShopJBS.org to order copies of this reprint!*


**Click on the image at left to download a FREE PDF of the Freedom Index** for the 119th Congress covering 20 important votes within the past year. Ten votes are analyzed for the House (pp. 1-7) and ten for the Senate (pp. 9-12). Scores are listed for all 435 representatives and 100 senators. You'll find them listed alphabetically by state, then district. The average score in the House was 40 percent, and in the Senate it was 38 percent.

**Contact your U.S. representative and senators** to inform them of their latest "Freedom Index" voting score. Thank them if they have a perfect score, and ask for explanations when their votes violate the Constitution. Remember that it is your responsibility as a voter to hold your senators and representative accountable to the Constitution.

As Robert Welch once wrote, "Education is our total strategy, and truth is our only weapon." The Freedom Index is a vital tool to educate the electorate on both the voting habits of their congressmen and on what the Constitution says about a wide range of important issues.