



ShotVal



What is ShotVal?

- Modeled after practice of fighter pilot debriefing “kill” shots.
- Process by which shots/accusations/judgments are verified to be “truth data”.
- Not a scoring of ideology, values or legislators but a validation of facts and methodology.



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Arkansas Legislative Scorecard Scoring



Why do we need a reconciliation?

Americans For Prosperity

We protect the American Dream by fighting each day for lower taxes, less government regulation and economic prosperity for all.

Conduit For Commerce

- Support the passage of “pro small business” legislation; and
- Reduce regulation at the state and local levels in Arkansas.

Senator Bryan King -> **F**
(Lowest Scorer)

Senator Bryan King -> **196**
(Highest Scorer)



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Arkansas Legislative Scorecard Scoring



American Conservative Union

Americans for Prosperity

Arkansas Citizens First Congress (2015)

Arkansas Family Council

Arkansas State Chamber Of Commerce

Conduit For Commerce

Advance Arkansas Institute

NFIB (2016)



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Scored Areas



Accuracy

- Bill Descriptions
- Contextual Considerations

Methodology

- Objectivity
- Proportionality
- Mathematically
- Understandability

Transparency

- Clarity on Scoring Methodology
- Willingness to disclose funding sources



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American Conservative Union

Accuracy



- Bill Descriptions; Accurate Description of Bills and context



- Contextual Considerations; Gave award to a legislator they disqualified for insufficient # of votes

Accuracy Grade -> C



ShotVal American Conservative Union Accuracy Downgrade



- Contextual Considerations; Gave award to a legislator they disqualified for insufficient # of votes

90-100% AWARD FOR CONSERVATIVE EXCELLENCE

SENATE	HOUSE
KING	DOTSON
STANDRIDGE	

Award to Sen King
for Conservative
Excellence

ARKANSAS SENATE VOTE DETAIL

Party	District	Bills																												ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2017 %	2016 %	LIFETIME AVG				
		SB 1002	SB 1033	SB 1223	SB 1818	SB 1848	SB 1005	SB 1008	SB 1011	SB 1011	SB 1011	SB 1016	SB 409	SB 284	SB 1260	SB 658	SB 226	SB 085	SB 272	SB 1015	SB 001	SB 727	SB 373	SB 1260	SB 088	SB 1025	SB 2218	SB 1262	SB 2260						SB 3 (Special Session)			
BLED SOE	R	3	+	X	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	26	62%	77%	78%
Bond	D	32	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	28	21%	n/a	21%
CALDWELL	R	23	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	X	-	X	+	E	E	E	+	X	+	-	X	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	14	21	67%	65%	69%
Cheatham	D	26	+	+	-	+	+	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	+	-	X	+	X	X	+	-	-	-	X	+	+	+	+	+	9	22	41%	41%	37%
Chesterfield	D	30	-	X	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	7	26	27%	22%	20%
CLARK	R	13	+	E	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	X	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	-	-	+	+	+	16	25	64%	77%	78%	
COLLINS-SMITH	R	19	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	X	+	-	-	X	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	16	26	62%	81%	76%	
COOPER	R	21	X	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	X	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	X	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	16	25	64%	67%	68%	
DISMANG	R	28	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	X	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	16	22	73%	62%	69%
EADS	R	7	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	X	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	X	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	16	26	62%	70%	70%
Elliott	D	31	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	8	28	29%	19%	18%
ENGLISH	R	34	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	X	-	+	+	-	+	+	X	X	+	-	X	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	15	24	63%	63%	72%
FILES	R	8	X	+	X	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	X	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	14	25	56%	64%	63%
FLIPPO	R	17	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	X	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	-	X	+	+	+	17	25	68%	86%	80%
Flowers	D	25	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	6	27	22%	25%	19%
GARNER	R	27	+	X	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	19	26	73%	n/a	73%
HENDREN	R	2	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	17	28	61%	62%	73%
HESTER	R	1	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	E	-	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	20	25	80%	83%	89%
HICKEY	R	11	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	18	28	64%	62%	70%
HUTCHINSON	R	33	+	-	X	-	+	-	X	-	-	X	X	+	+	X	X	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	10	22	45%	52%	57%
Ingram	D	24	-	-	-	-	+	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	5	24	21%	33%	25%
IRVIN	R	18	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	X	+	+	X	-	+	X	X	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	17	24	71%	76%	75%
JOHNSON	R	20	+	X	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	X	+	-	X	+	X	X	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	15	23	65%	77%	73%
KING	R	5	X	+	+	E	E	X	+	X	X	+	-	+	E	E	-	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	10	13	n/a	86%	93%		

† Legislator did not vote on enough of the selected bills and as a result the 2017 percentage was not rated. 2/3rds of the selected bills must be voted on to receive a score.



Sen King Disqualified for missing to many votes

Accuracy Grade -> C





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American Conservative Union



Methodology



- Mathematically; High score was 80.



- Understandability; Showed historic trends and Partisan breakdowns.



- Objectivity ; Minimal effort to influence legislators; objective selection and assessment of bills.

Methodology Grade -> A+



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AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION



Transparency



- Scoring Description; Simple, proportional, understandable



- Funding Disclosure; None provided

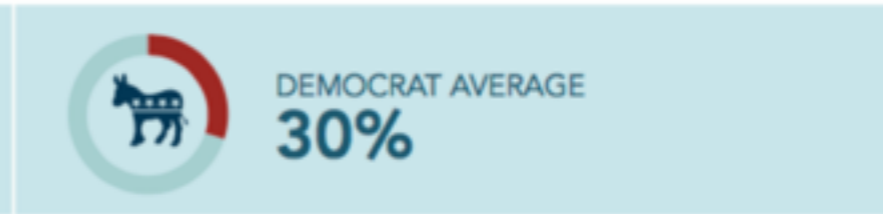
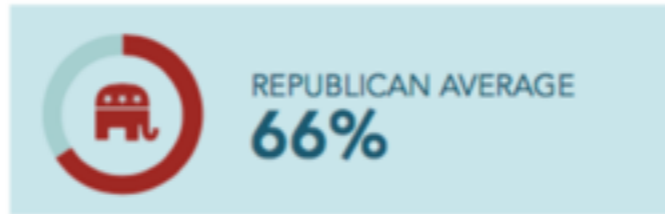
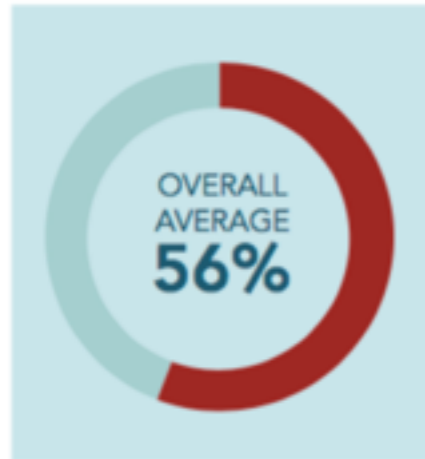
Transparency Grade -> B



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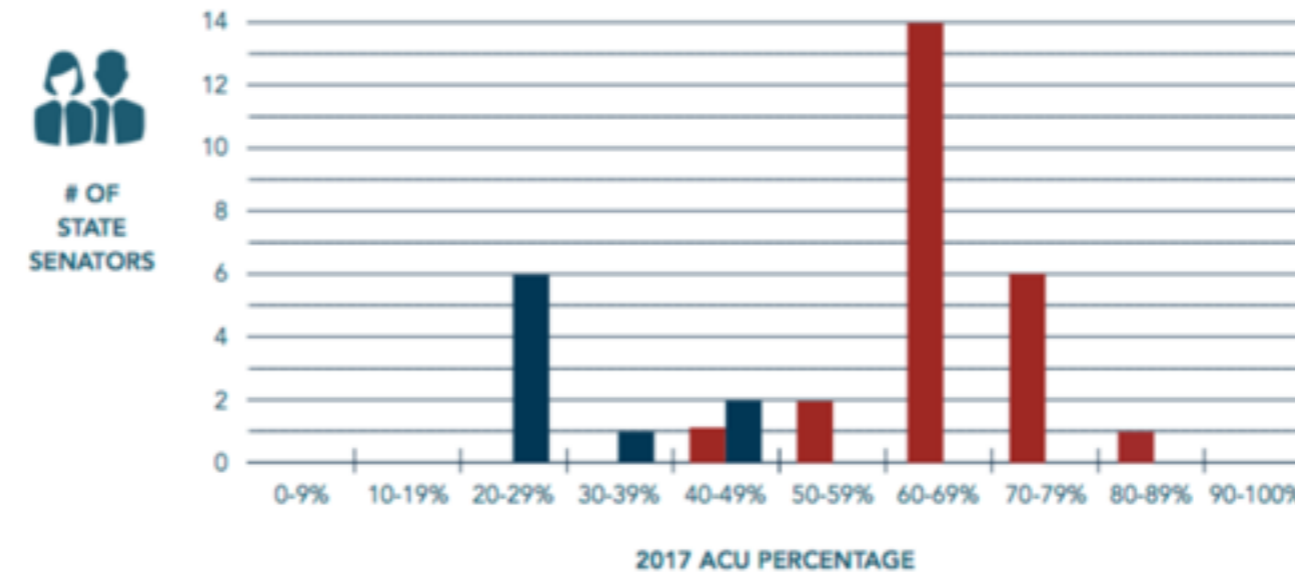
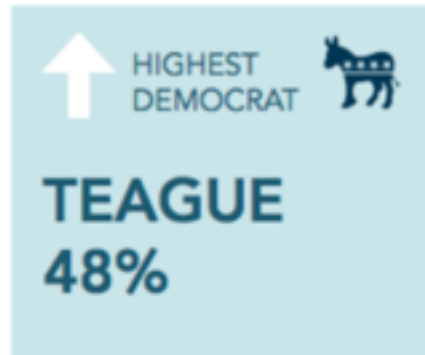
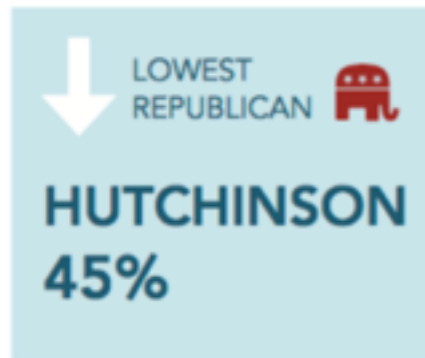
Great Shot Award

ARKANSAS SENATE STATISTICS



ARKANSAS SENATE CONSERVATIVE RATINGS

RED = REPUBLICANS BLUE = DEMOCRATS



American Conservative Union: Clearly shows Partisan division on their conservative issues.

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AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION



Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

American Conservative
Union

C

A+

B

B

Bills Scored: 28

Overall Grade -> B



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AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

Accuracy



- **Bill Descriptions; Accurate Description of Bills and context.**



- **Contextual Considerations; Not distracted by noise on MEDICAID Waiver bill or military retiree exemption bill.**

Accuracy Grade -> A



ShotVal

AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY Methodology



- **Proportionality:** Tort Reform double weighted; scored ammnt. and bill; only 7 Senate bills counted; 13 House bills.



- **Understandability;** A-F by 10% increments; well curved.



- **Understandability;** Page 1 clear description of scoring methods.

SCORING METHODOLOGY

AFP-AR awarded points based on how members voted throughout the entirety of the 2017 legislative session. One point was awarded for every vote that aligned with AFP's position on a key issue. If AFP's position was in opposition to a bill, we scored anything that was contrary to a "Yea" vote as consistent with our position (Nay, Not Voting, or Present). If AFP's position was in support of a bill, anything other than a "Yea"

vote counted as a "Nay," including Not Voting or Present. If the official vote record lists an absence as "Excused," those votes were not counted against legislators. This scorecard includes 12 key bills and 1 key amendment. All 13 of those votes were taken on the House side, but only 7 of them were taken on the Senate side. This scorecard only covers bills that AFP Arkansas key voted and is intended only to reflect votes taken during the 91st General Assembly, not the entirety of a legislator's career voting record.

GRADING SCALE

A+	100%
A	90-99
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59-Below

Methodology Grade -> A-



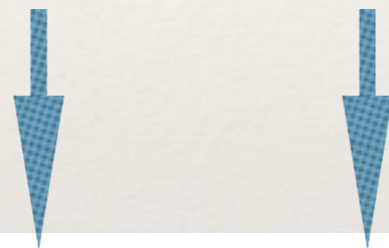
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AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

Methodology Downgrade



- Proportionality: Tort Reform double weighted in House; scored ammnt. and bill; only 7 Senate bills counted; 13 House bills.



REPRESENTATIVE	DISTRICT	SB 140	HB 1388	HB 1726	SJR 8 AMENDMENT	HB 1161	SB 723	SB 746	HB 1222	SJR 8	SB 601	HB 1465	SB 362	SB 115	GRADE
Fred Allen	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	F
Eddie Armstrong	37	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	F
Bob Ballinger	97	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A+

Minor downgrade but worth noting House and Senate scoring used significantly different method

Methodology Grade -> A-



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AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

Transparency



- Scoring Description; Simple, proportional, understandable
- Funding Disclosure; None provided

Transparency Grade -> B

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AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY



Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

Americans For
Prosperity

A

A-

B

A-

Bills Scored: 13 (7 In Senate)

Overall Grade -> A-



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ARKANSAS CITIZENS FIRST CONGRESS (2015)



Accuracy



- **Bill Descriptions; Accurate Description of Bills and context.**



- **Contextual Considerations; Best historical trend data of any report cards**

Accuracy Grade -> A



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ARKANSAS CITIZENS FIRST CONGRESS



Methodology



- **Understandability:** 30 pages broken up by topics.



- **Objectivity:** Like ACU, minimal pressure and objective selection and description.



- **Proportionality:** Thorough scoring of topics of interest. Civil Rights, Economic Dev and Justice; Education; Election and Government Reform; Environmental; Public Health; Overall.

Methodology Grade -> A+



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ARKANSAS CITIZENS FIRST CONGRESS



Transparency



- **Scoring Description;** Detailed, proportional, understandable.



- **Funding Disclosure;** Listed supporting organizations on report card.

Transparency Grade -> A

ShotVal

ARKANSAS CITIZENS FIRST CONGRESS



Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

Arkansas Citizens First
Congress

A

A+

A

A

Bills Scored: 31

Overall Grade -> A



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Great Shot Award

Historical Trends

Historical trends in CFC Voting Records:

Overall scores in our vote guide have been declining for the past 6 years, as you can see below. The body has also become more partisan and divisive as the overlap in scores between Democrats and Republicans is shrinking. A legislator's vote on a given issue is now much more strongly correlated to the party that legislator is from than it used to be. This polarized and hyper-partisan climate makes progress on non-partisan issues more challenging.

Arkansas House:

Year	Average	High	Low	Average					
				Civ	Econ	Edu	Elec/	Enviro	Health
2009	77%	95%	34%	73%	56%	93%	72%	81%	75%
2011	57%	85%	22%	56%	33%	66%	72%	57%	84%
2013	52%	89%	19%	—	33%	67%	50%	47%	60%
2015	46%	86%	14%	37%	23%	53%	66%	33%	80%

Arkansas Senate:

Year	Average	High	Low	Average					
				Civ	Econ	Edu	Elec/	Enviro	Health
2009	83%	94%	72%	81%	55%	92%	75%	92%	80%
2011	71%	89%	61%	100%	46%	76%	91%	67%	96%
2013	57%	82%	33%	43%	21%	77%	55%	57%	68%
2015	50%	89%	30%	34%	25%	62%	47%	46%	79%

Citizens Fist Congress - Quantifies changing direction of legislature over 6 year period.



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ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL



Accuracy



- **Bill Descriptions;** Description of bill included subjective opinions about impact of bill.



- **Contextual Considerations;** Failed to consider context of several issues; Call of a const. convention with pro-marriage bill; Marijuana bills in context of voter approved const amnt.

Accuracy Grade -> D



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ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL



Methodology



- Proportionality; Bill to require save baby alive weighted same as allowing debit cards to be used to buy lottery tickets.



- Proportionality; Marijuana/alcohol bills carried 6 times more weight than traditional marriage bills and almost as much as pro-life bills.



- Mathematic; If legislator votes 100% Pro-Life/ Pro-Marriage/Pro Ed-Home/Christian School - score =60% = D; because economic/marijuana/wine/petition/lottery = 40% of score.

Methodology Grade -> F

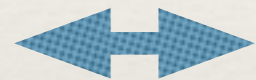


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ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL



Transparency



- Scoring Description; Simplest of all but caused proportionality issues.



- Funding Disclosure; None provided and overreacted to request to identify funding sources of scorecard.

Transparency Grade -> C

ShotVal

ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL



Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

Arkansas Family Council

D

F

C

D

Bills Scored: 25

Overall Grade -> D



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ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL

Accuracy downgrade



- Contextual Considerations; Failed to consider context of several issues; Call of a const. convention with pro-marriage bill; Marijuana bills in context of voter approved const amnt.

Issue 6 - Voter approved Medical Marijuana

and permitting the General Assembly by two-thirds vote to amend sections of the amendment, except that the **General Assembly may not amend the sections legalizing the medical use of marijuana** and setting the number of dispensaries or cultivation facilities allowed.^[13]

(A) "Usable marijuana" means the stalks, seeds, **roots, dried leaves, flowers, oils,** vapors, waxes, and other portions of the marijuana plant and **any mixture or preparation thereof.**

SB357

No (Bad Vote)

Bans the Smoking of Marijuana Anywhere in Arkansas
This bill bans all marijuana smoking anywhere in Arkansas. Family Council Action Committee supports banning smoking marijuana and supported this bill. The Senate defeated the bill by a vote of 11-15.

HB1392

No (Bad Vote)

Bans Use of Medical Marijuana in Food and Drink
This bill prohibits companies from making and selling marijuana edibles. Medical marijuana caregivers and hospitals would still be able to mix marijuana with food or drink to aid ingestion. Family Council Action Committee supports banning dangerous products infused with marijuana and supported this bill. The House defeated the bill by a vote of 52-40.

Negative score for two bills that would have clearly violated voter approved Medical Marijuana Constitutional amendment.

Many legislators worked against passage of amendment but fulfilled their duty to follow the state constitution.

Accuracy Grade -> D

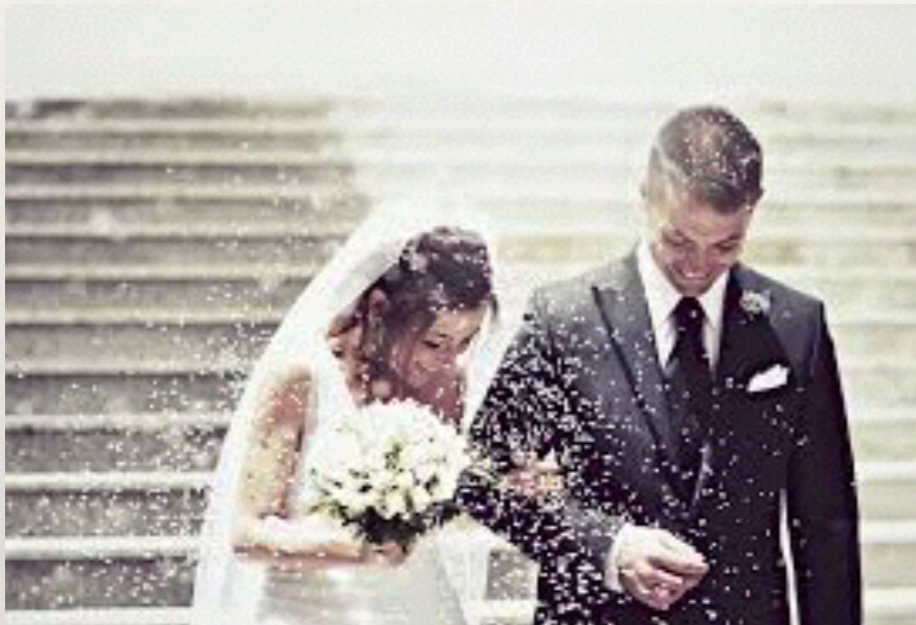


ShotVal ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL

Accuracy Downgrade



- Contextual Considerations; Failed to consider context of several issues; Call of a const. convention with pro-marriage bill; Marijuana bills in context of voter approved const amnt.



Traditional Marriage

AND
Constitutional
Convention

USA CONVENTION of STATES
A PROJECT BY CITIZENS FOR SELF-GOVERNANCE

The correct path can be found within Article V of the United States Constitution.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

- Article V, U.S. Constitution

SJR7 (Senate)

Not Voting/Absent

A Resolution Calling a Convention of States to Propose a Traditional Marriage Amendment

This resolution called for a convention of states to propose a federal marriage amendment defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman. Family Council Action Committee supports marriage as the union of one man and one woman and supported this resolution. The Senate passed the resolution by a vote of 18-9. The House defeated the resolution by a vote of 50-25

Negative Scoring to many who support traditional marriage but do not support a convention to rewrite the U.S. Constitution.

Accuracy Grade -> D



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ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL

Methodology Downgrade



- **Mathematic;** If legislator votes 100% Pro-Life/ Pro-Marriage/Pro Ed Home/Christian School - score =60% = D; because economic/marijuana/wine/petition/lottery = 40% of score.

Pro-Life, Pro Traditional Marriage Pro Home School/School Choice

Economic, Marijuana, Wine, Debit Cards, Petition

60%

- HB 1032 - Pro-Life
- HB 1208 - Pro Home School
- HB 1248 - Pro-Life
- HB 1434 - Pro-Life
- HB 1474 - Pro Home School
- HB 1481 - Pro Home School
- HB 1566 - Pro-Life
- HB 1574 - Pro Home School
- HB 1740 - Pro Home School
- HB 2024 - Pro-Life
- SB 148 - Pro-Life
- SB 340 - Pro-Life
- SB 746 - Pro Home School
- SJR 7 - Pro Marriage (COS)
- SJR 9 - Pro-Life

40%

- HB 1400 - Marijuana
- HB 1742 - Lawsuit Reform
- HB 1991 - Marijuana
- HJR 1003 - Petitions Circulation
- SB 254 - Marijuana
- SB 284 - Out of State wine sales
- SB 333 - Marijuana
- SB 357 - Marijuana
- SB 617 - Lottery Debit Cards
- SJR 8 - Tort Reform

*Being 100% Pro-Life, Pro-Traditional Marriage,
Pro Home school only gets you a score of D-.*

Methodology Grade -> F



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ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL

Methodology Downgrades

- Proportionality; Bill to require save baby alive weighted same as allowing debit cards to be used to buy lottery tickets.

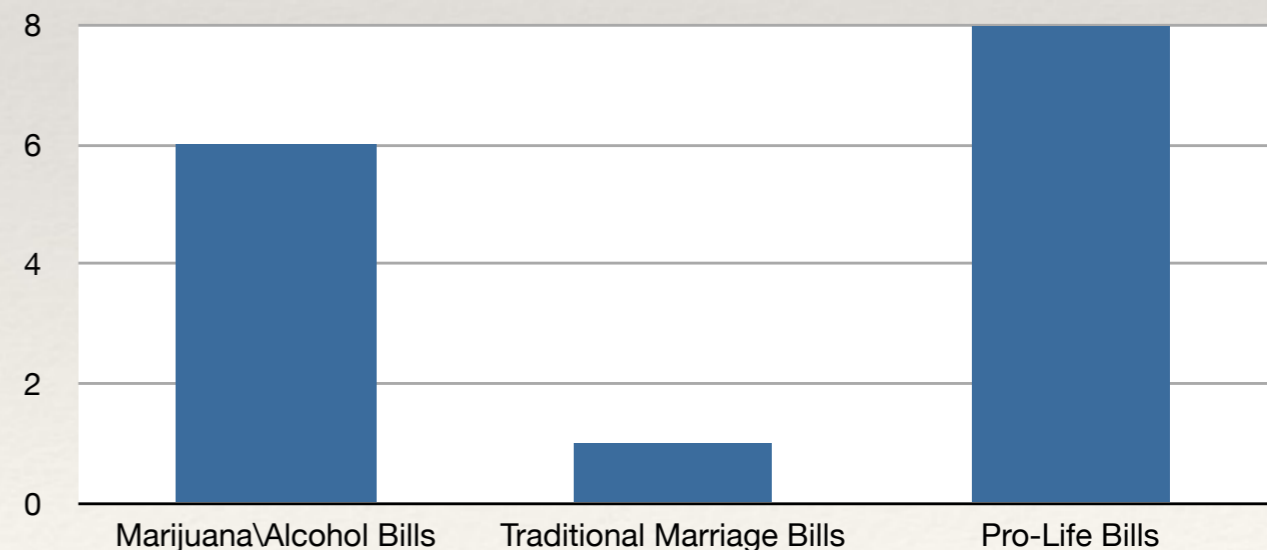
SB148 - Prohibits Doctors from murdering a baby that survives an abortion **4 Pts**

SB617 - Allows use of debit card vs cash to buy lottery tickets **4 Pts**

Most would agree preventing the murder of a baby that survives an abortion is a bill of greater magnitude than one allowing someone to use a debit card to buy a lottery ticket.

- Proportionality; Marijuana/alcohol bills carried 6 times more weight than traditional marriage bills and almost as much as pro-life bills.

Relative Weighting of Issues Scored



Methodology Grade -> F



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ARKANSAS STATE CHAMBER Accuracy



- **Bill Descriptions;** Accurate objective of bills.



- **Contextual Considerations;** Most legislation was part they proposed and were supporting to make AR more business friendly.

Accuracy Grade -> A



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ARKANSAS STATE CHAMBER



Methodology

- ↓ • Proportionality; Santa Claus; 27 out of 35 won awards. (60/100 in House).
- ↓ • Hesitant to recognize failures.
- ↑ • Understandability; 31 pages; thorough descriptions clearly grouped together.

Methodology Grade -> C



ShotVal

ARKANSAS STATE CHAMBER



Transparency



- **Scoring Description;** Grouping by bills they support and oppose makes understanding easy.



- **Funding Disclosure;** Two pages of businesses/organizations providing support.

Transparency Grade -> A

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ARKANSAS STATE CHAMBER



Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

Arkansas State
Chamber

A

C

A

B

Bills Scored: 32

Overall Grade -> B



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CONDUIT FOR COMMERCE



Accuracy



- **Bill Descriptions;** False descriptions of several bills; Mil Tax; Tort Reform; MEDICAID waiver bill, Long term reserve bill.



- **Contextual Considerations;** Only context applied seemed to be objection to ARWorks (MEDICAID expansion bill)

Accuracy Grade -> F



ShotVal

CONDUIT FOR COMMERCE Methodology



- ↓ • Proportionality; Committee votes completely distorts picture.
- ↓ • Proportionality; Counted absences/not voting as positive in most cases.
- ↓ • Proportionality; Different weighting (high/med/low/ impact) exaggerated to game system for specific legislators.
- ↓ • Understandability; “high score” (A) = 196; “low score” = -118. Need to learn how to create a normalized grading scale.

Methodology Grade -> F



ShotVal

CONDUIT FOR COMMERCE

Transparency



- ↓ • **Scoring Description;** Easier to decipher encrypted nuclear launch codes than make sense of their scoring system.
- ↓ • **Funding Disclosure;** Complete meltdown over one tweet asking if willing to disclose.

Transparency Grade -> D



ShotVal

CONDUIT FOR COMMERCE



Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

Conduit For Commerce

F

F

D

F

Bills Scored: 36

Overall Grade -> F

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Conduit For Commerce

METHODOLOGY DOWNGRADE - Not Consistent with Mission Statement "support pro small business legislation"

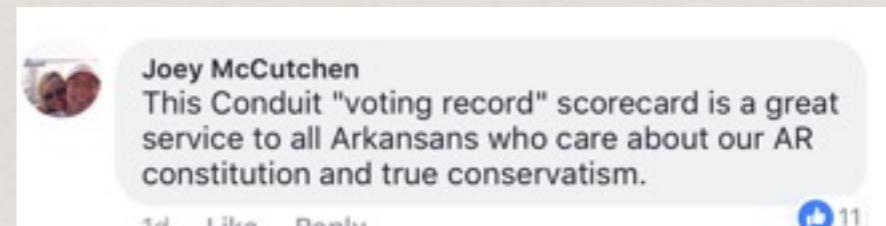
Only Conservative Economic Group to Oppose Tort Reform

Conservative / Business Groups
Supporting Tort Reform (SJR8)

State Chamber
Americans for Prosperity
American Conservative Union
Advance Arkansas Institute

Groups
Opposing Tort Reform (SJR8)

Conduit for Action
Arkansas Family Council
Arkansas Trial Lawyers



President Arkansas Trial Lawyers Association

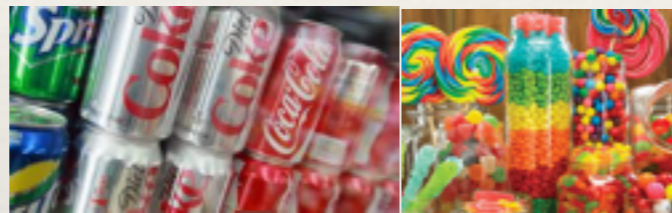
Only "conservative" group to side with Trial Lawyers against Tort Reform to limit frivolous lawsuits that destroy small businesses.



ShotVal

“I just shot my wingman” Award

“TRUTH DATA” on Veteran Pension Exemption Bill



\$13.4 MIL



\$3.1 MIL



\$13.8 MIL



\$2.4 MIL



\$5.9 MIL



GENERAL REVENUE

What Conduit doesn't seem to understand.

\$5.9 MIL



= \$19.3MIL

= \$19.3MIL

MEDICAID TRUST FUND

Number of Taxpayer \$ flowing to government are exactly the same after bill passed.

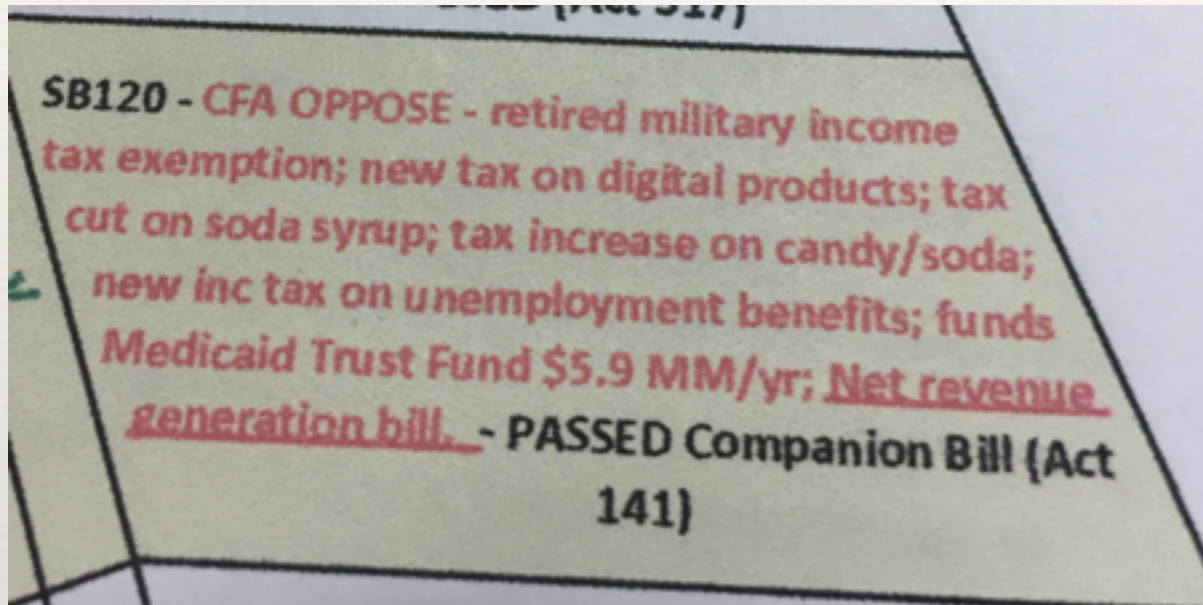


ShotVal



“I just shot my wingman” Award

Conduit for Action - Calling Revenue neutral bill a NET TAX INCREASE.



FALSE

From Conduit Scorecard

2. “We are not raising taxes” is being used in an extremely deceptive way. Since the state will not receive more tax money overall, he claims “we are not raising taxes”. Like the first statement, this is all about what state government receives and is not about what is being done to ordinary taxpayers. For example, if the legislature gave a \$100 million tax break that only applied to Walmart, and then raised taxes on the rest of us by \$100 million, he would also call this “not raising taxes.”

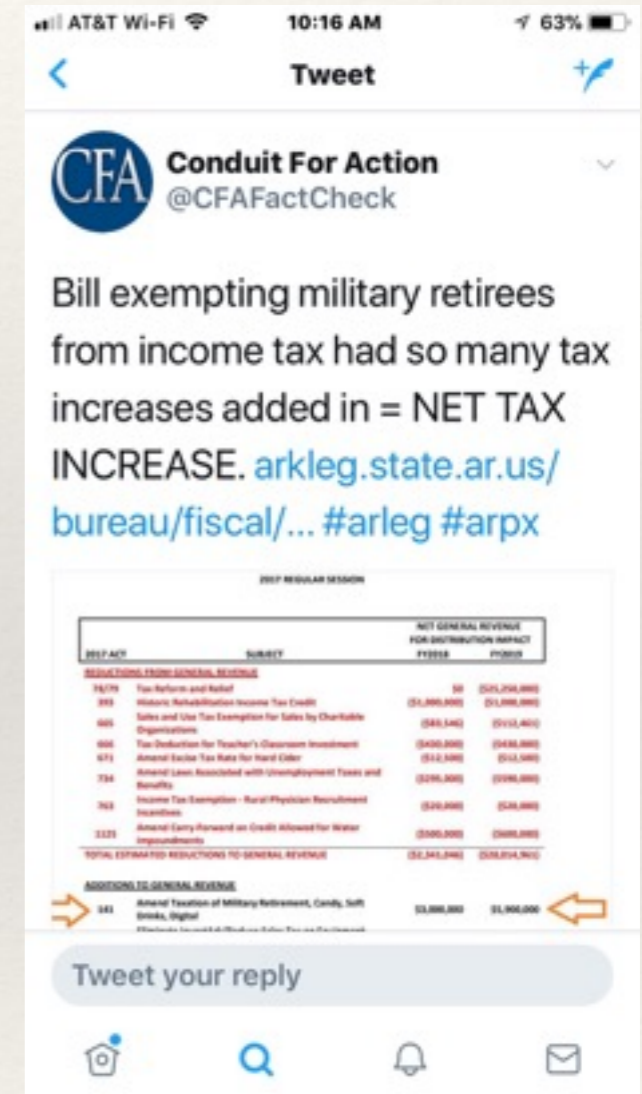
So while the legislature is supposedly being busy being “revenue neutral” and supposedly “not raising taxes”, the legislation actually raises taxes on:

- Imposing Arkansas’s sales tax on digital downloads. Digital downloads include items such as software and digital books, music, and movies.
- Raising the sales taxes on soft drinks and candy.
- Imposing income tax on unemployment compensation.

Using tortured words to mislead the public is nothing new. That is how we got Obamacare.

FALSE

From Conduit web site



FALSE

From Conduit Twitter



ShotVal



“I just shot my wingman” Award

Veterans Pension Tax Exemption

Tax Increase or Revenue Neutral?

Conservative Groups
not scoring as a Tax Increase

Americans for Tax Reform
Americans for Prosperity
American Conservative Union
Advance Arkansas Institute

Conservative Groups
scoring as a Tax Increase

Conduit for Action

Gleason noted that **“given the overall package was revenue neutral, lawmakers who voted for it did not violate the taxpayer protection pledge.”**

Arkansas Democrat Gazette Feb 1, 2017

Patrick Gleason of Americans for Tax Reform (Norquist “No new taxes pledge”)

Misrepresenting the fiscal impact of a bill removing income taxes from veteran’s pensions in order to protect taxes on unemployment insurance, soda pop, candy and internet downloads earns Conduit for Action the “I just shot my wingman” Award.



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ADVANCE ARKANSAS INSTITUTE



Accuracy



- **Bill Descriptions;** Accurate objective of bills.



- **Contextual Considerations;** Good understanding and accounting for contextual factors.

Accuracy Grade -> A



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ADVANCE ARKANSAS INSTITUTE Methodology



- **Proportionality;** Large sampling and logical groupings (like Citizen Congress).



- **Understandability;** 61 High - 30 Low; unclear on what that translates to. 20/20 - Separate category. Not as clear on scoring meaning. 20/20 vs General score?

Methodology Grade -> B



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ADVANCE ARKANSAS INSTITUTE



Transparency

- ↓ • **Scoring Description;** Thorough but complicated. 15 different scores (54-100)
- ↓ • **Funding Disclosure;** None disclosed.

Transparency Grade -> B



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Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

Advance Arkansas
Institute

A

B

B

B+

Bills Scored: 79

Overall Grade -> B+



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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF IND. BUSINESSES

(2016)

Accuracy



- **Bill Descriptions;** Accurate bill descriptions but small sampling.



- **Contextual Considerations;** Narrow focus of bills relevant to them but all contextually accurate.

Accuracy Grade -> A



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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF IND. BUSINESSES



Methodology



- Proportionality; Tort reform 2 of 8 so great weight



- Understandability; While not much supporting or historical data, clear and easy to understand scoring system.

Methodology Grade - C



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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF IND. BUSINESSES



Transparency

- ↑ • Scoring Description; Simple and clear explanation.
- ↓ • Funding Disclosure; None disclosed.

Transparency Grade - B

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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF IND. BUSINESSES



Accuracy Methodology Transparency **OVERALL**

NFIB	A	C	B	B
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Bills Scored: 9

Overall Grade -> B



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SUMMARY

Organization	Accuracy	Methodology	Transparency	OVERALL
American Conservative Union	C	A+	B	B
Americans For Prosperity	A	A-	B	A-
Arkansas Citiznes First Congress (2015)	A	A+	A	A
Arkansas Family Council	D	F	C	D
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce	A	C	A	B
Conduit For Commerce	F	F	D	F
Advance Arkansas Institute	A	B	B	B+
NFIB - Arkansas (2016)	A	C	B	B