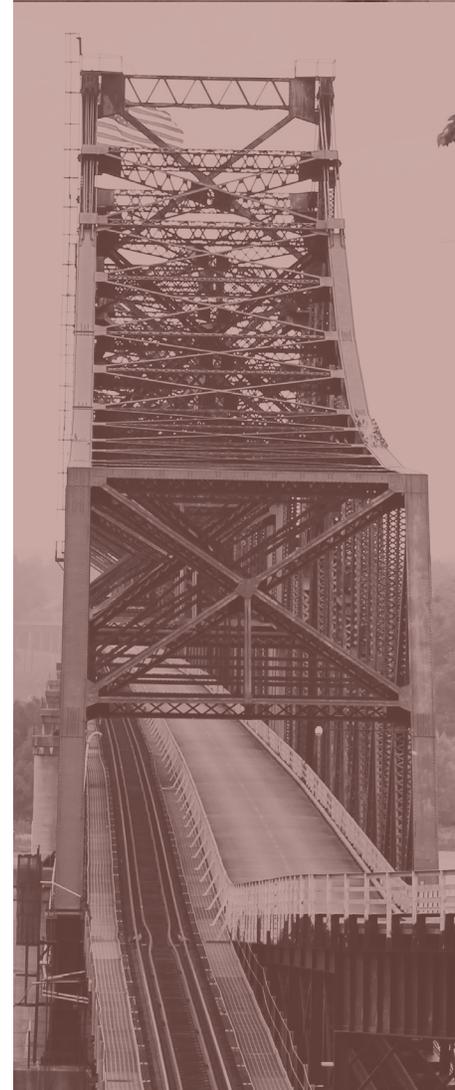


# 2015

## Legislative Score Card

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



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
2015 Legislative Score Card	7
Commitment to Criminal Justice Reform	8
Extend Equality to All Mississippians	11
Guarantee Freedom of Speech, Expression, Protecting Privacy & Public Access	17
Other Legislative Actions	18
Other Resolutions	18
The Scorecard	19
House of Representatives	20
Senate	25
Notes	27

# Introduction

Mississippi's statistics about disparities in education, employment, health, incarceration and other equitable opportunities are all too familiar. Familiarity with the dismal indicators, however, cannot breed acquiescence.

This does not have to be the legacy of our state.

We do not need governmental leadership nor Mississippi's citizens to accept being last. Instead, we need courageous leadership with an intentional commitment to equity, a willingness to change the narrative and genuine community engagement.

**Mississippi is Failing to Thrive.**

**It is time we stop being last.**



Mississippi has some of the highest equity disparities in the country.

## Poverty

### Mississippi continues to be the poorest state in the nation.

- “While working hard, many of Mississippi’s families fall short of economic security. According to an analysis of data from the U.S. Census, approximately 42% of Mississippi’s working families are low-income and 22% of residents live in poverty.” (<http://mepconline.org/category/policy-areas/income-working-families>)
- Alongside poverty, disparity continues to loom. For children the poverty rate is 35%, for senior citizens the poverty rate is 18% and for women the poverty rate is 25.9%. There are 253,000 Black children below 200% poverty. (<http://www.spotlightonpoverty.org/map-detail.aspx?state=Mississippi>)
- According to Wallethub, Mississippi has a nearly 153% poverty rate gap comparing blacks to whites. (<http://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-the-highest-and-lowest-financial-gaps-by-race/9842/>)

## Mass Incarceration

### Mississippi continues to be at a major contributor to mass incarceration.

- In June, Mississippi Department of Corrections reported incarcerating 21,134 inmates. (<http://www.mdoc.state.ms.us/Research%20and%20Statistics/MonthlyFactSheets/2015MFS/06-01-15%20fact%20sheet.pdf>)
- Racial/Ethnic Disparity in Mississippi’s Prison Population: Blacks are incarcerated at a rate 3.5 times greater than whites. Hispanics are imprisoned 1.2 times more often than whites. (<http://www.sentencingproject.org/map/map.cfm#map>)

## Education

Mississippi ranked 51st among the states and Washington, D.C. in K-12 student achievement and earned a grade of D and score of 64.2 on the Chance for Success Index. (19th annual edition of Education Week’s Quality Counts Score Card <http://www.edweek.org/ew/qc/2015/state-highlights/2015/01/08/mississippi-education-ranking.html>)

- Black students in Mississippi are much more likely to be taught by inexperienced teachers, and black male students are suspended at the second-highest rate in the nation.
- Educational Opportunity in Mississippi is skewed and distorted by race, class, critical teacher shortages and the failure of the state to adopt effective policies to remedy the impact of past discrimination based on race and class. (“Explaining Disparity in Student Performance” in Mississippi - A Special Report by Southern Echo” <http://southernecho.org/s/?p=2942>)

## Women

### There are 1.5 million women residing in the State of Mississippi.

- Mississippi has the lowest score on the composite poverty and opportunity index. It ranks last on the percentage of women above poverty, and among the bottom ten on the percentage of women with health insurance coverage and with a bachelor’s degree or higher. Mississippi’s best ranking is on women-owned businesses, where the state comes in 30th place, in the middle third. (<http://statusofwomendata.org/app/uploads/2015/04/PO-Chapter-4.7.2015.pdf>)
- Women in Mississippi earn on average 71 cents per dollar of men’s earnings. White women earn 73% of white men, and African American women earn only 55% of white men. White women’s earnings as a group are higher than both African American men and women. (<http://mepconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/WOMEN-AND-ECONOMIC-SECURITY-IN-MISSISSIPPI-2-2.pdf>)
- Mississippi received an F ranking in the 2014 Women’s Health Report Card in all three factors taken into account to determine states’ grades: the proportion of women in the state who lack health coverage; women’s access to timely and quality medical care; and women’s health outcomes. ([http://allianceforajustsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/2014.10\\_Womens.Health\\_National.pdf](http://allianceforajustsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/2014.10_Womens.Health_National.pdf))

## LGBT

**There are 3,484 same-sex couples living in Mississippi and yet zero state protections against discrimination at work, school and in the community.**

- Rolling Stone Magazine identified Mississippi as one of the 5 worst states to live in for LGBT people. “Mississippi will likely be the last state in the country to pass marriage equality on its own. As just 34% of the state’s population believes in the freedom to marry, Silver estimates that the Mississippi electorate wouldn’t get around to it for another decade or so. In addition, a survey from the Guardian showed that the state has almost no protections for LGBT people, outright banning marriage and adoption rights for same-sex couples. (A Daily Beast survey gave the state a -1 score on gay rights.)” (<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/the-5-worst-states-for-lgbt-people-20141124>)
- “The majority of same-sex couples are female (58%). The average age of individuals in same-sex couples in Mississippi is over six years younger than that of different-sex married couples – 43.9 and 50.4 years old, respectively. 29% of same-sex couples in Mississippi are raising children under age 18 in their homes. 996 same-sex-couple households in the state are raising 1,401 children. One in three individuals in same-sex couples who are members of racial or ethnic minorities (33%) are raising a child under age 18, compared to 26% of their White counterparts.” (<http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/demographics/mississippi-ss-couples-demo-dec-2014/#sthash.UsVSns8b.dpuf>)

## Persons with Disabilities

**There are 470,000 individuals with disabilities in Mississippi.**

- Mississippi ranked fourth in the nation in 2008 in the prevalence of disabilities of people of all ages; 16.7% of the state’s population—432,300 people—had a disability (Erickson, Lee and von Schrader, 2010). Mississippi is still a “bricks and mortar” service provider for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. In FY 2006, Mississippi ranked 50th in the nation in the percentage of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in out-of-home settings of 1-6 people: 34% lived in placements of one to six people, 14% in settings of 7-15 people, 52% in settings of 16+ people (Braddock, Hemp, and Rizzolo, 2008). Mississippi, the last state to institute home- and community-based Medicaid waivers, spends \$133 per capita, the least amount in the nation for home- and community-based waivers; New York, at the top, spends \$247 (Braddock, Hemp, Rizzolo, Haffner, Tanis and Wu, 2011). (<http://www.aucd.org/docs/urc/Network%20Application%20Samples/Mississippi%20App%20Objectives.pdf>)
- In 2012, the employment rate of working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in MS was 26.4%. People with disabilities actively looking for work was 9.2%. ([http://www.disabilitystatistics.org/StatusReports/2012-PDF/2012-StatusReport\\_MS.pdf](http://www.disabilitystatistics.org/StatusReports/2012-PDF/2012-StatusReport_MS.pdf))

## Immigrants

**Mississippi was home to 62,899 immigrants in 2013.**

- 38.2% of immigrants (or 24,044 people) in Mississippi were naturalized U.S. citizens in 2013—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- Only 0.9% of the state’s population (or 25,000 people) in 2012 are undocumented immigrants, according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center
- 3.6% of Mississippians are Latino or Asian. The Latino percentage of Mississippi’s population grew from 0.6% in 1990 to 1.4% in 2000 to 2.7% (or 80,455 people) in 2013. The Asian percentage of the population grew from 0.5% in 1990 to 0.9% (or 28,159 people) in 2013, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- In Mississippi, 85.4% of children with immigrant parents were U.S. citizens in 2009, according to data from the Urban Institute. (<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/state-profiles/state/demographics/MS> and <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/charts/us-immigrant-population-state-and-county>)

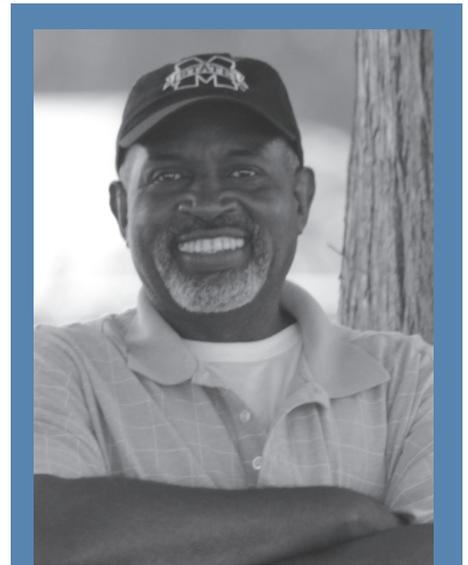
## We are not proud of this story.

**This is not the Mississippi we want for ourselves and for our children.** These statistics are all too familiar, but they should not be so familiar that we have become accustomed to them and accept them as our lot in life. We must recognize the systems we have in place— from education, to employment, to housing, to incarceration — are interrelated. Inequities permeate all of these and multiply their effects across the opportunities that matter in our society.

## We can change this narrative.

**Building an equitable state, one where all people have genuine access to the opportunities that could make Mississippi better, requires intentional, targeted action.** Examples of this kind of thinking exist, and in a year when our economy, education, mass incarceration and budget challenges dominated the legislative session, these efforts matter more than ever. We see it in initiatives and bills that would improve our public education system, which would prevent employers from asking about criminal backgrounds on an initial job application, which would grant in-state tuition to our Mississippi educated immigrant students, and would have established community based support for those re-entering society after incarceration. Unfortunately, not many of these kinds of bills became law. But they do open the door to more equitable policymaking at all levels of government. We can hold all of these levels of policymaking accountable by asking them to pay attention to how policy proposals will impact Mississippi's diverse and marginalized communities. We must analyze proposed policies in a manner that addresses the fairness impact on communities directly impacted by inequities. Does the proposed legislation or policy expand civil liberties or roll back civil rights? These are critical inquiries that necessitate community and civic engagement to shape positive outcomes. We must all be informed and advocate to achieve a better Mississippi.

In January, on the same date the Governor delivered his State of the State Address, the American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi published the 2015 Equity Agenda, documenting for our state legislators and governor opportunities to dismantle barriers and increase equity. The agenda asked leaders to pay attention to the unfinished business of “justice for all” in Mississippi, especially the disenfranchised and marginalized communities who face barriers to true opportunity every day in our state. We announced, therein, our intent to publish a Legislative Score Card in an effort to highlight “Champions” of equity and inclusion and to hold accountable those who fail to promote racial, cultural and economic justice. In addition to the Equity Agenda, we published and distributed at the Capital and on our webpages ACLU of MS’ position statements on legislation, which represents full range of civil liberties and civil rights issues.





## 2015 Legislative Score Card

The ACLU of Mississippi is proud to present the 2015 Legislative Score Card. This report holds Mississippi's legislators accountable for pursuing racial, cultural and economic equity. We asked legislators to remove barriers to opportunity faced by marginalized communities, including communities of color, immigrant communities, people with disabilities, women, and the lesbian, bisexual and transgender community, and to oppose policies detrimental to the welfare of our state. We strived to present an accurate, fair, and unbiased presentation of the record.

It is our hope that this score card will inform Mississippians how their legislators performed on specific issues. Further, we hope that citizens will take this educational document as an advocacy tool and engage their legislators in dialogue about these important issues, thank them for supporting issues which increase equity, and raise concerns when they did not.

### Grade: D

Total Number of Bills Tracked by the ACLU of Mississippi = 100

Out of the Total 100 Tracked, 55 Bills Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 55%

Out of the Total 100 Tracked, 45 Bills Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 45%

Out of the Total 100 Tracked, 14 Became Law = 14%

Out of the 55 Bills That Were Supportive of Equity, Only 10 Became Law = 18.2%

Out of the Total 45 Bills That Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights, 4 Became Law = 9%



# Commitment to Criminal Justice Reform

**Grade: D**

31 Criminal Justice Reform Bills Chosen.

Out of the 31 Bills Chosen, 21 Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 68%

Out of the 31 Bills Chosen, 10 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 32%

Out of the Total 31 Chosen, 6 Became Law = 19%

Out of the 6 Bills That Became Law, 6 Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 100%

Out of the 6 Bills That Became Law, 0 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 0%

1 Bill Was Vetoed by the Governor, but Its Provisions Were Combined with Another Bill, Which the Governor Approved. \* See (+) HB 2780 And HB 692 For Explanation.

We asked legislators to courageously promote criminal justice reform by bringing an end to excessively harsh policies that result in mass incarceration and stand in the way of a just and equal society; ensuring good police practices by requiring accountability, transparency; and removing barriers that make it difficult for those with criminal records to access opportunities that build a better life.

## Reduce Mississippi's Prison Population

Mississippi has the second highest incarceration rate in the country. The ACLU of Mississippi seeks an end to policies within the criminal justice system that cause widespread violation of constitutional and human rights and also lead to unprecedented levels of incarceration.

**(+) HB 2780 and HB 692** ought to provide immunity from arrest or prosecution for certain drug violations committed by a person seeking treatment for a drug overdose.

*Approved by the Governor. \*The language present in HB2780 was ultimately combined with the language contained in HB 692 to create "The Emergency Response and Prevention Overdose Act." HB692 was approved by the Governor on 03/13/15.*

**(-) SB 2290** would have prohibited offenders convicted of burglary from participating in MDOC Early Release Programs.

***Died in Committee.***

**(+) HB 1276, HB 1289, SB 2051 and SB 2447** each required that an offender be both sentenced to a prison term and have served actual prison time towards that sentence before he or she is categorized as a habitual offender and therefore subject to stiffer penalties and longer prison sentences.

***All died in Committee.***

**(+) HB 1051** clarified the definition of a "technical violation" for the purposes of probation. A "Technical Violation" no longer includes the commission of a new crime or absconding from supervision by a person on probation. This law will keep countless probationers out of prison for lesser infractions.

***Approved by Governor.***

**(-) HB 1261** The "dangerous dog bill" contained language that would have possibly allowed unconstitutional pretextual searches. For example: "In order to determine if there is a violation of this section, a law enforcement officer, at any time, may enter the premises where a dangerous dog is kept, or is believed to be kept, for an on-

site inspection of the premises.” The ACLU of Mississippi also monitored this bill because it would have been inequitably applied against communities of color and the impoverished.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 600** sought to limit the availability of probation or post supervision. HB 600 would also give judges up to 180 days to hold revocation hearings for people accused of violating probation or parole. Current law gives 30 days to have such a hearing.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 616** would have increased penalties for shoplifting.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 615** would have enhanced penalties for car theft.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 560** purported to exclude from Drug Court people charged with burglary of a dwelling.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 603** sought to enhance penalties for illegal sale of controlled substances in proximity to drug rehab facilities.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 272** would have included electronic transfers in the crime of writing bad checks.

***Died in Committee.***

---

## Promote Community Policing, Transparency and Accountability

Policing in America disproportionately and negatively affects communities of color, particularly black youth. Since April, police across the country have killed at least six unarmed black men under circumstances that strongly suggest the unjustified use of lethal force and racial profiling. Systemic reform is necessary nationwide. To serve and protect is not a suggestion. It is a mandate that law enforcement must apply equally to all communities. Otherwise, there will only be more Fergusons. The ACLU of Mississippi urged our state legislators to:

- Support policies that seek to restrict militarization of law enforcement agencies.
- Encourage transparency and accountability.
- Require data collection to promote police and community awareness of racial profiling.

**(+) HB 1279** authored by the ACLU of Mississippi in partnership with Rep. Chuck Espy, was a clear effort to increase police transparency and accountability. A win-win, it sought to protect the public against police misconduct and protect police from false accusations of misconduct.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 347** failed to place any restrictions on law enforcement use, retention, and disclosure of captured images from drones. We support legislation that regulates the use of drones by government agencies, but that legislation must require a search warrant for drone use by law or regulatory enforcement agencies and establish clear data retention limitations, and disclosure requirements so that the public is aware of the uses being made of drones.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(-) HB 5** would have required law enforcement agencies to record interrogations on video and preserve such recordings.

***Died in Committee***

---

**(+) HB 389** Prohibited texting while driving and also called for the Department of Public Safety to record and retain the records of citations issued under this statute, including the age and race of the vehicle operator, whether there was an additional traffic violation by the vehicle operator, and whether there was a crash or any damage to a vehicle or passenger at the time of the citation.

***Approved by the Governor.***

---

## Support Restorative Justice

In 2014, Mississippi passed reform that would reduce incarceration for low-level offenses by implementing alternatives to prison. However, we must continue to focus on stronger programming for former prisoners to prevent them from returning to old patterns that originally led them to prison. We must make successful reentry a priority. Therefore, we urged legislators to:

- Establish community-based support for individuals re-entering society.
- Address basic health care needs.
- Increase opportunities to expunge criminal records.
- Restore the right to vote the state of Mississippi takes a holistic approach to improving the lives of those at the highest risk to return to prison.

**(+) HB 235, HB 1291, HB 566, SB 2050 and SB 2045** each sought to expand opportunities for expunction of a criminal record.

***All died in Committee.***

---

**(+) HB 602, SB 2555 and SB 2053** were measures intended to authorize the creation of the “Re-Entry” Council, to help inmates successfully reintegrate into society. Legislation such as this promotes principles of restorative justice and rehabilitation.

***HB 602 was approved by the Governor. SB 2555 died on the Senate Calendar. SB2053 died in Committee.***

---

**(+) SB 2059** sought to establish a “Pilot Offender Reentry program” to successfully reduce recidivism & re-integrate/transition offenders back into the community.

***Died in Committee.***

---

**(+) HB 173** “Ban the Box” would have eliminated barriers to employment for formerly incarcerated individuals.

***Died in Committee***

---

**(+) HB 1563** seeks the creation of housing grants to help people leaving prison and mental health facilities.

***Approved by the Governor.***

---

**(+) HB 1267** will clarify rules for people on parole (so that a technical violation doesn’t land them back in a long prison term).

***Approved by the Governor.***

---



# Extend Equality to All Mississippians

Grade: F

58 Extend Equality to All Mississippians Bills Chosen

Out of the 58 Bills Chosen, 34 Bills Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 59%

Out of the 58 Bills Chosen, 24 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 41%

Out of the 58 Bills Chosen, 7 Became Law = 12%

Out of the 7 Bills that Became Law, 3 Were Supportive of Equity (+) = 43%

Out of the 7 Bills that Became Law, 4 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights (-) = 57 %

We began our narrative on what it would take to build a better Mississippi by asking leaders to bravely change the narrative about our state. Acknowledging the painful legacy of the Jim Crow era and Mississippi's own continuous struggle with inequality, we implored Legislators to ensure that all people are treated equally regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status or disability; protect women's rights; guarantee safe and supportive schools for all students; and protect the rights of voters in Mississippi.

Ensuring the equal and equitable treatment of all Mississippi citizens was, perhaps, the single most expansive charge issued to legislators during the legislative session, and, rightfully so, as being treated equally in the eyes of the law is foremost to freedom and of the utmost importance to the ACLU of Mississippi.

## We asked legislators to:

- Ensure a fair wage for all working Mississippians.
- Reject policies that criminalize people with HIV and AIDS.
- Increase access to opportunity for immigrant members of our community.
- Expand access to affordable healthcare to all Mississippians.
- Support legislation that allows lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender citizens to live openly, where identities, relationships and families are respected.
- Promote fair treatment on the job, in schools, housing, public places, health care and government programs.
- Oppose any legislation that compromises human or worker rights.

## Reject Policies that Criminalize Persons with HIV and Aids

(+) **HB 1322** revised the crime of knowingly exposing a person to HIV or AIDS, by clarifying that exposure must either occur through semen or blood, not saliva. Science has proven that neither HIV nor AIDS can be transmitted through saliva. Bill would have eliminated the practice of criminalizing an HIV or AIDS infected person because of the stigma attached to the disease.

*Died in Committee.*

---

## Expanding Access to Affordable Healthcare

(+) **HB 377, HB 316, HB 223, HB 127, HB 769, HB 56 and SB 2082** each sought to expand Medicaid coverage to all Mississippians under the provisions of the Affordable Care Act.

*All died in Committee.*

---

(+) **HB 957 and SB 2697** would have established a “Commission on Future of Medicaid”.

*HB 957 passed both Houses, but died in conference. SB 2697 died in Committee.*

---

(+) **SB 2481** was an act to create the “Mental Health Task Force” to study certain issues relating to the state’s mental health system.

*Passed the Senate. Died in House Committee.*

---

## Expanding Access to Opportunities for Immigrants

(+) **HB 652, HB 196 and SB 2498** were intended to allow all students, regardless of their immigration status, to receive in state college tuition and financial aid at Mississippi Colleges & Universities. \*HB 652 and SB 2498 were both offered by the ACLU of Mississippi in partnership with MIRA.

*All died in Committee.*

---

(-) **HB 1216 and HB 177** prohibit the application of foreign laws in Mississippi.

HB 1216 died in Committee. HB 177 was approved by the Governor. \*The final version of HB 177, which was amended by the Senate, struck all anti-sharia language from the bill and left only a definition of what is considered foreign law.

(-) **HB 1187 and SB 2706** sought to create the “Employment Protection Act” which would have made work illegal for undocumented immigrants in the state of Mississippi.

*Both died in Committee.*

---

(-) **HB 1218 and SB 2702** were introduced to prohibit the use & enforcement of foreign laws in judicial proceedings.

*Both died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2015** would have criminalized persons providing false information when applying for a job.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2701** would have allowed no public benefits for immigrants.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2719** would send immigrant parolees directly to Immigration & Custom Enforcement (ICE) upon release from a state correction facility.

*Died in Committee.*

---

## Protecting the LGBT Community

(-) **HB 714** would have created a rebuttable presumption that placing a child in the custody of a homosexual parent was not in the best interest of the child.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(+) **HB 534** would have added crimes committed against an individual because of their actual or perceived “sexual orientation” as an enumerated category for the basis of the state bringing hate crimes charges.

*Died in Committee.*

---

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

(+) **HB 113, HB 12, and HB 1200** were introduced to create the “Fair Pay Act” to require employers to pay equivalent pay for equivalent jobs— regardless of sex, race, national origin, age or disability.

*All died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2499** sought to authorize the issuance of Racial Impact Statements to determine how proposed legislation may affect certain populations.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(+) **HB 836 and SB 2017** required state agencies to enhance employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

*HB836 was approved by the Governor. SB2017 died in Committee.*

---

(+) **SB 2407**, a transparency bill, requires public hospitals to hold board meetings that are open to the public.

*Approved by the Governor.*

---

(+) **HB 408 and SB 2107** Both bills were introduced by the ACLU of Mississippi and mandated that all sections of the Mississippi Code be amended to require the use of Person First Respectful language when referencing people with disabilities.

*HB 408 died in Committee. SB 2107 was approved by the Governor. \*The House Committee on Public Health stripped the bill of its retroactive language, therefore, nullifying its intended purpose of removing all disrespectful terms from the MS Code.*

---

## Protecting Women’s Rights

In 2014, Mississippi witnessed a wholesale attack on the rights of women. The ACLU of Mississippi stood on the frontlines, alongside allies, to defeat bad policies, such as “Personhood” bills which sought to limit the reproductive rights of women. This session we continued to work to secure gender equality and ensure that all women and girls are able to lead lives of dignity, free from violence and discrimination, including discrimination based on gender stereotypes. In the Equity Agenda, we gave legislators a very clear look at what we perceived as threats to the health, safety, and overall general well-being of women in the state of Mississippi. We asked legislators to:

- Ensure Mississippi women have equal economic and educational opportunities.
- Protect a woman’s right to make informed decisions free from government interference about reproductive health care
- Refuse to support any legislation which creates undue burdens on a woman’s ability to access healthcare in the state of Mississippi.

(-) **HB 1309** sought to classify unborn fetuses as persons at the moment of conception/fertilization, rather than birth.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2138** was introduced with the intent of increasing the minimum waiting period before a woman can have an abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2767** would have made it a crime to perform an abortion of a child based on the child's race or gender.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **HB 1306 and SB 2272** required any infant born to a mother who tests positive for illegal drugs or controlled substance without a prescription to be placed in foster care.

*Both died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2389** called for a Constitutional Convention to “balance the federal budget.”

In legislatures across the nation, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) and other conservative groups have introduced a number of bills calling for the United States to hold a Constitutional Convention “for the purpose of balancing the federal budget.” Unfortunately for the state of Mississippi, one such measure, SB2389, was introduced and approved by the Governor this legislative session.

While a convention is promoted as an opportunity to improve governmental structure, good government may not be the focus of such a convention. Instead, the focus may turn to measures that threaten civil rights and civil liberties. For the reasons stated above, the ACLU of MS opposed SB2389.

*Approved by the Governor.*

---

## Guaranteeing Safe and Supportive Schools

For 17 years, with the exception of two occasions (2003 and 2007), the Mississippi Legislature has neglected to follow the guidelines for basic levels of school funding, according to the Mississippi Adequate Education Program. Mississippi ranked last in educational attainment in the last census and among the nation's worst when it comes to sending removing children from the classroom and shifting them into the school to prison pipeline. Furthermore, for the children who manage to remain in our school system, we currently provide them with inadequate protections against bullying and harassment. In response to these issues, we asked legislators to focus on five things for the sake of the state's school aged children:

- Commit full funding of Mississippi's Adequate Education Program.
- Increase funding to Early Childhood Education.
- Eliminate the “school-to-prison pipeline” by amending laws that require zero-tolerance and criminalize students for minor infractions.
- Require training for school personnel, including school resource officers, that promotes prevention and intervention.
- Promote policies protecting students from bullying that includes enumerated groups.

(-) **SB 2695** establishes a pilot program to give parents the option of withdrawing their child from a public school and receiving an Education Scholarship Account (ESA) with \$6,500 to help pay for educational expenses outside the traditional public school. Funds will be distributed through a debit card and used for private school tuition. \*The ACLU of Mississippi opposes the use of public funds to fund private education. SB 2695 takes money away from Mississippi's public schools.

*Approved by the Governor.*

---

**(-) SB 2072** was a thinly-veiled assault on public education, which would have allowed parents to challenge any educational or child welfare policy that did not coincide with their own personal, political, or religious beliefs.

*Died in Committee.*

---

## MAEP Funding

*\*See Other Legislative Action for discussion of (-) Ballot Alternative 42A and (+) Initiative 42.*

## Early Childhood Funding

**(+) HB 197** was an act to create “The Mississippi Foundation for Early Childhood Development,” a public-private partnership that would identify methods to increase student preparedness for school at the kindergarten level.

*Died in Committee.*

---

## School-to-Prison Pipeline

**(+) HB 429** required that schools annually report unlawful activity to the Mississippi Department of Education. The bill also required ongoing training for school staff and law enforcement professionals.

*Died in Committee.*

---

**(+) HB 478 and SB 2332**, both proposed by the ACLU of Mississippi, would have mandated “prior to placement” training for School Resource Officers in the areas of child adolescent development, cultural competence and building relationships with students; deescalating violent situations; identifying the social, emotional, and mental needs of the students; directing youth to appropriate services rather than using force; and due process protections for students.

*HB478 died in Committee. SB2332 died on the House Calendar.*

---

**(+) SB 2568** required that, prior to being detained, a school age child that has been referred to youth court by a school official must receive a juvenile delinquency risk assessment.

*Died in Committee.*

---

**(+) SB 2295** required school districts to collect and report data related to the arrest of students on school property.

*Approved by the Governor.*

---

## Anti-bullying Policies

**(+) HB 750 and SB 2474**; Supported HB 573 and SB 2466 In 2015, the ACLU of Mississippi and other social justice organizations offered bills intended to amend the state’s bullying laws to enumerate categories of victims, and mandate the creation of anti-bullying policies for school districts.

*HB 750, SB 2474 and SB 2466 all died in Committee. HB 573 died on the House floor Calendar.*

---

**(+) HB 253** sought the creation of the “Safe2tell” program, a program that would provide students and the community with an avenue to anonymously report unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, to appropriate law enforcement and public safety agencies and school officials.

*HB253 died in Committee.*

---



## Protecting Voting Rights

**(-) HB 932** was intended to require registrars to mail a voter registration card to the mailing address provided on an applicant’s voter registration form. As HB932 was written, individuals would be allowed to change their address over the phone, however, their voter registration cards would still be mailed to the address on their original application. As a result, countless voters may never have received their voter registration cards, even though they had taken measures to ensure that they would not be denied the right to vote.

***Died in Committee.***

**(-) SB 2615** required a person to provide “Proof of citizenship before voting.”

***Died in Committee.***

**(-) HB 299** permitted early absentee voting, but the bill also required absentee voters to attest that they “will be absent from their precinct both on Election Day and every day that early voting is allowed.”

***Died in Committee.***

***\*The ACLU of Mississippi supports legislation that expands the opportunity to vote by absentee ballot, but we do not support language requiring a person to provide a reason or excuse in order to take advantage of such an option. The privilege should be permitted without exception.***

**(-) HB 1069 AND SB 2613** were measures that would have prohibited a person from participating in a Primary unless he or she intended to support the nominations made.

***Died in Committee.***



# Guarantee Freedom of Speech, Expression, Protecting Privacy & Public Access

**Grade: F**

11 Guarantee Freedom of Speech, Expression, Protecting Privacy & Public Access Bills Chosen

Out of the 11 Bills Chosen, 0 Were Supportive of Equity = 0%

Out of the 11 Bills Chosen, 11 Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights = 100%

Out of the 11 Bills Chosen, 1 Became Law = 9%

Bill that Became Law Created Barriers or Rolled Back Rights = 100%

We asked Mississippi's governmental leaders to stand valiantly in defiance of any infringement upon the First Amendment rights of Mississippians. Legislators were encouraged to embrace the wonderful diversity of Mississippi by defending freedom of religion and belief as a guarantee that all are free to follow and practice their faith – or no faith at all – without governmental influence or interference; and protect the right to self-expression.

## Defending Religious Freedom

(-) **HB 386 and SB 2179** were acts introduced to make the Holy Bible the state book of Mississippi.

*Both died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2140** would have created a state funded course for the purpose of teaching the Bible.

*Died in Committee.*

---

## Protecting Freedom of Speech & Expression & Protecting Privacy & Public Access

(-) **HB 347** would have allowed police to use drone surveillance for any “law enforcement” purpose. \*The ACLU of Mississippi is not against the use or regulation of drones, however, any drones bill must also include adequate privacy protections for the public. This bill failed to place any restrictions on law enforcement use, retention, and disclosure of captured images from drones.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **HB 449** prohibited teachers and other school personnel from engaging in political speech during school hours. Violators were subject to fines and civil penalties.

*Died in Committee.*

---

## Protecting Privacy

(-) **HB 597** would have allowed a person's legal gambling winnings to be taken by the state for the purposes of satisfying any owed child support obligations. The bill would have allowed casino workers and staff to freely access the private information of people who owe child support.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **HB 257** provided for DNA collection and HIV/AIDS testing of persons arrested for violent crimes. As introduced, HB257 allowed the state to collect and store DNA profiles for all persons arrested for violent crimes.

*Approved by Governor.*

*\*HB 257 passed the House unanimously on 01/27/15, as originally introduced. It passed the Senate unanimously on 03/05/15 \*after being stripped of the DNA storage and collection provisions and instead only requiring the HIV and AIDS testing of persons who were arrested for committing sexual acts against children.*

---

(-) **HB 296** would have required sex offenders to list their offender status on their social media accounts.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **SB 2538** would have required GPS tracking of sex offenders.

*Died in Committee.*

---

## Protecting Public Access

(-) **HB 1305 and SB 2543**, Across the United States, drug companies are seeking to circumvent public disclosure laws. HB1305 violated principles of transparency and open government.

*HB 1305 Passed the House, but died in Senate Corrections Committee. SB 2543 died on the Senate Calendar.*

---

# Other Legislative Actions

## Funding MAEP

(-) **H.C. 9** During the 2015 legislative session, the legislature passed H.C.R. 9 “Ballot Alternative 42A”, which would require the Legislature to support an “effective” system of free public schools. This initiative was intended to compete with Initiative 42, both of which appeared on voter ballots across the state of Mississippi in the November 2015 elections. Ballot Initiative 42 would require the Legislature to comply with existing law to fully fund the Mississippi Adequate Education Program. Instead, Alternative 42A would require the state to support both an “adequate” and “efficient” system of free public schools.

*H.C. 9 “Ballot Alternative 42A” was approved by the Governor. Mississippi voters passed Alternative 42A during the November 3, 2015 General Election.*

---

# Other Resolutions

(+) **H.C. 2** was a concurrent resolution in which the state of Mississippi would finally apologize for the wrongs of slavery and call for reconciliation.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(-) **H.C. 13** was a concurrent resolution urging that state appointments be more reflective of the demographics and diversity of the state of Mississippi.

*Died in Committee.*

---

(+) **H.C. 14** called for the state of Mississippi to acknowledge Mississippi’s state of poverty by creating opportunities for economic viability and improvement.

*Died in Committee.*

---

# The Scorecard

## Method

The legislative scorecard includes those bills which had floor action in both the House and Senate; fifteen issues for the House and fourteen 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, 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 above the issue. The ACLU position on the issue or how we wanted the legislators to vote appears in the column header above the issue. If a legislator did not vote, an “A” appears in the column. Absent 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
94-100	A
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-
60 and below	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	County	HB 177	HB 602	HB 257	HB 1051	HB 1305	SB 2332	SB 2107	SB 2389	HB 836	HB 1267	HB 1563	SB 2407	HB 957	SB 2695	HB 389	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU Position		NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES		
Gene Alday (R) District 25	Coahoma, DeSoto, Tunica	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D +
Brian Aldridge (R) District 17	Lee	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	64	D
Jeramey D. Anderson (D) District 110	Jackson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	73	C
William Tracey Arnold (R) District 3	Alcorn, Prentiss	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	64	D
Willie L. Bailey (D) District 49	Washington	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	80	B-
Nick Bain (D) District 2	Alcorn	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73	C
Mark Baker (R) District 74	Madison, Rankin	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	A	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	70	C-
Earle S. Banks (D) District 67	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	73	C
David Baria (D) District 122	Hancock	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	73	C
Toby Barker (R) District 102	Forrest, Lamar	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	60	D-
Manly Barton (R) District 109	George, Jackson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Jim Beckett (R) District 23	Calhoun, Clay, Oktibbeha, Webster	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	57	F
Donnie Bell (R) District 21	Itawamba, Monroe	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Richard Bennett (R) District 120	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Edward Blackmon, Jr. (D) District 57	Madison	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
C. Scott Bounds (R) District 44	Neshoba	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Randy P. Boyd (R) District 19	Itawamba, Lee, Tishomingo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Cecil Brown (D) District 66	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Chris Brown (R) District 20	Lowndes, Monroe	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	D-
Clara Henderson Burnett (D) District 9	Coahoma, Panola, Quitman, Tate, Tunica	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	80	B-
Charles Busby (R) District 111	Jackson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Larry Byrd (R) District 104	Forrest, Lamar	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	60	D-
Credell Calhoun (D) District 68	Hinds	N	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	93	A-
Kimberly Campbell (D) District 72	Hinds, Madison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	73	C
Lester "Bubba" Carpenter (R) District 1	Alcorn, Tishomingo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Gary A. Chism (R) District 37	Clay, Lowndes, Oktibbeha	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Bryant W. Clark (D) District 47	Attala, Holmes, Yazoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	80	B-

Name	County	HB 177	HB 602	HB 257	HB 1051	HB 1305	SB 2332	SB 2107	SB 2389	HB 836	HB 1267	HB 1563	SB 2407	HB 957	SB 2695	HB 389	ACLU %	Grade
Alyce Griffin Clarke (D) District 69	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Angela Cockerham (D) District 96	Adams, Amite, Pike, Wilkinson	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	80	B-
Linda F. Coleman (D) District 29	Bolivar	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Mary H. Coleman (D) District 65	Hinds, Madison	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	80	B-
Carolyn Crawford (R) District 121	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Becky Currie (R) District 92	Copiah, Franklin, Lincoln	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	D-
Dennis DeBar, Jr. (R) District 105	Forrest, George, Greene, Perry, Wayne	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Scott DeLano (R) District 117	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	D-
William C. Denny, Jr. (R) District 64	Hinds, Madison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Oscar Denton (D) District 55	Warren	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	73	C
Reecy L. Dickson (D) District 42	Kemper, Lauderdale, Noxubee	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	80	B-
Deborah Butler Dixon (D) District 63	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Blaine "Bo" Eaton (D) District 79	Covington, Jones, Smith	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	73	C
Tyrone Ellis (D) District 38	Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Chuck Espy (D) District 26	Coahoma, Quitman	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	N	Y	86	B
Casey Eure (R) District 116	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Bob Evans (D) District 91	Copiah, Covington, Jefferson Davis, Lawrence, Simpson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
James "Jim" Evans (D) District 70	Hinds	A	Y	A	Y	N	Y	A	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	100	A
Michael T. Evans (D) District 43	Kemper, Noxubee, Winston	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	81	B-
John G. Faulkner (D) District 5	Marshall, Benton	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Mark Formby (R) District 108	Pearl River	A	A	Y	A	A	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	63	D
Herb Frierson (R) District 106	Lamar, Pearl River	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Karl Gibbs (D) District 36	Clay, Lowndes, Monroe	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	73	C
Andy Gibson (R) District 77	Rankin, Simpson, Smith	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	D-
Jeffrey S. Guice (R) District 114	Harrison, Jackson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	N	Y	N	57	F

Name	County	HB 177	HB 602	HB 257	HB 1051	HB 1305	SB 2332	SB 2107	SB 2389	HB 836	HB 1267	HB 1563	SB 2407	HB 957	SB 2695	HB 389	ACLU %	Grade
Philip Gunn (R) District 56	Hinds, Madison, Warren, Yazoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	71	C-
E. Forrest Hamilton (R) District 6	DeSoto	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73	C
Greg Haney (R) District 118	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	N	Y	71	C-
Esther M. Harrison (D) District 41	Lowndes	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	80	B-
John W. Hines (D) District 50	Washington	Y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	93	A-
Steve Holland (D) District 16	Lee	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	79	C+
Gregory Holloway, Sr. (D) District 76	Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	79	C+
Joey Hood (R) District 35	Choctaw, Grenada, Oktoberfest, Webster	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Kevin Horan (D) District 24	Calhoun, Grenada, Yalobusha	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Steve Horne (R) District 81	Clarke, Lauderdale	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	D-
Bobby B. Howell (R) District 46	Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Leflore, Montgomery	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Mac Huddleston (R) District 15	Pontotoc	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Robert E. Huddleston (D) District 30	Bolivar, Leflore, Quitman, Sunflower, Tallahatchie	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Lataisha Jackson (D) District 11	Panola, Tate	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Wanda Taylor Jennings (R) District 7	DeSoto	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	F
Robert L. Johnson, III (D) District 94	Adams, Claiborne, Jefferson	Y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	86	B
Bill Kinkade (R) District 52	DeSoto, Marshall	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Timmy Ladner (R) District 93	Forrest, Hancock, Harrison, Lamar, Pearl River, Stone	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
John Thomas "Trey" Lamar, III (R) District 8	DeSoto, Tate	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Sherra Hillman Lane (D) District 86	Clarke, Perry, Wayne	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Hank Lott (R) District 101	Forrest, Lamar	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	A	A	A	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	78	C+
Bennett Malone (D) District 45	Leake, Neshoba, Rankin, Scott	A	A	A	A	A	Y	Y	N	A	A	Y	Y	A		A	100	A
Rita Martinson (R) District 58	Madison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Steve Massengill (R) District 13	Benton, Lafayette, Marshall, Union	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73	C

Name	County	HB 177	HB 602	HB 257	HB 1051	HB 1305	SB 2332	SB 2107	SB 2389	HB 836	HB 1267	HB 1563	SB 2407	HB 957	SB 2695	HB 389	ACLU %	Grade
Brad Mayo (R) District 12	Lafayette	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Doug McLeod (R) District 107	Forrest, George, Jackson, Stone	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	71	C-
Nolan Mettetal (R) District 10	Lafayette, Panola, Tallahatchie	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
America "Chuck" Middleton (D) District 85	Adams, Claiborne, Hinds, Jefferson, Warren	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Tom Miles (D) District 75	Scott	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Sam C. Mims, V (R) District 97	Adams, Amite, Franklin, Lawrence, Pike, Walthall	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	F
Bobby Moak (D) District 53	Amite, Franklin, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Alex Monsour (R) District 54	Issaquena, Sharkey, Warren	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	D-
John L. Moore (R) District 60	Rankin, Simpson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	60	D-
Ken Morgan (R) District 100	Jefferson Davis, Lamar, Marion	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	64	D
David W. Myers (D) District 98	Pike, Walthall	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	73	C
Pat Nelson (R) District 40	DeSoto	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Brad A. Oberhausen (D) District 73	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Randall H. Patterson (R) District 115	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Willie J. Perkins, Sr. (D) District 32	Leflore	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	73	C
Bill Pigott (R) District 99	Lamar, Marion, Pike, Walthall	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	60	D-
Brent Powell (R) District 59	Rankin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
John O. Read (R) District 112	Jackson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Tommy Reynolds (D) District 33	Lafayette, Tallahatchie, Yalobusha	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Margaret Ellis Rogers (R) District 14	Pontotoc, Union	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	64	D
Ray Rogers (R) District 61	Rankin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73	C
Randy Rushing (R) District 78	Neshoba, Newton, Scott	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Omeria Scott (D) District 80	Clarke, Jasper, Jones	A	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	79	C+
William Shirley (R) District 84	Clarke, Jasper, Lauderdale, Newton	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+

Name	County	HB 177	HB 602	HB 257	HB 1051	HB 1305	SB 2332	SB 2107	SB 2389	HB 836	HB 1267	HB 1563	SB 2407	HB 957	SB 2695	HB 389	ACLU %	Grade
Bobby Shows (R) District 89	Jones	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	60	D-
Ferr Smith (D) District 27	Attala, Leake, Madison, Yazoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	67	D+
Jeff Smith (R) District 39	Lowndes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	73	C
Greg Snowden (R) District 83	Clarke, Lauderdale	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Gary V. Staples (R) District 88	Jones, Perry	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	60	D-
Jody Steverson (D) District 4	Benton, Tippah, Union	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73	C
Rufus E. Straughter (D) District 51	Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey, Washington, Yazoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	80	B-
Johnny W. Stringer (D) District 87	Jasper, Jones, Newton	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73	C
Preston E. Sullivan (D) District 22	Calhoun, Chickasaw, Pontotoc	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	73	C
Tommy Taylor (R) District 28	Bolivar, Sunflower, Washington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Sara Richardson Thomas (D) District 31	Sunflower	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Jerry R. Turner (R) District 18	Lee, Prentiss	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
J. L. Warren (D) District 90	Covington, Forrest, Jefferson Davis, Marion, Simpson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	73	C
Percy W. Watson (D) District 103	Forrest	A	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Tom Weathersby (R) District 62	Copiah, Rankin, Simpson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Jason White (R) District 48	Attala, Carroll, Choctaw, Holmes, Humphreys, Leake	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Linda Whittington (D) District 34	Carroll, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, Montgomery	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	87	B+
Sonya Williams-Barnes (D) District 119	Harrison	Y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	92	A-
Patricia H. Willis (R) District 95	Hancock, Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	67	D+
Adrienne Wooten (D) District 71	Hinds, Rankin	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	73	C
Charles Young, Jr. (D) District 82	Lauderdale	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
H. B. "Hank" Zuber, III (R) District 113	Jackson	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-

# SENATE

Name	County	HB 177	HB 602	HB 257	SB 2295	SB 2332	SB 2107	SB 2481	SB 2389	HB 836	HB 1267	SB 2407	HB 957	SB 2695	HB 389	ACLU %	Grade
ACLU POSITION		NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES		
David Blount (D) District 29	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Nickey Browning (R) District 3	Calhoun, Pontotoc, Union	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	79	C+
Hob Bryan (D) District 7	Itawamba, Lee, Monroe	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	85	B
Terry Burton (R) District 31	Lauderdale, Newton, Scott	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	77	C+
Albert Butler (D) District 36	Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Jefferson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	92	A-
Kelvin Butler (D) District 38	Adams, Amite, Pike, Walthall, Wilkinson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Videt Carmichael (R) District 33	Clarke, Lauderdale	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Lydia Chassaniol (R) District 14	Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Leflore, Montgomery, Tallahatchie	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Eugene Clarke (R) District 22	Bolivar, Humphreys, Sharkey, Washington, Yazoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Nancy Adams Collins (R) District 6	Lee, Pontotoc	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Deborah Dawkins (D) District 48	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Sally Doty (R) District 39	Lawrence, Lincoln, Simpson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Joey Fillingane (R) District 41	Covington, Forrest, Jefferson Davis, Lamar, Marion	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Hillman Frazier (D) District 27	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Phillip Gandy (R) District 43	George, Greene, Stone, Wayne	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Tommy Gollott (R) District 50	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Steve Hale (D) District 10	Panola, Tate	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Josh Harkins (R) District 20	Madison, Rankin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Angela Hill (R) District 40	Marion, Pearl River, Walthall	Y	Y	Y	P	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	64	D
W. Briggs Hopson, III (R) District 23	Issaquena, Warren, Yazoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
John Horhn (D) District 26	Hinds, Madison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	85	B
Billy Hudson (R) District 45	Forrest, Lamar, Pearl River, Perry, Stone	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	83	B
Gary Jackson (R) District 15	Attala, Calhoun, Choctaw, Montgomery, Oktibbeha, Webster, Winston	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Robert L. Jackson (D) District 11	Coahoma, Quitman, Tate, Tunica	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B

Name	County	HB 177	HB 602	HB 257	SB 2295	SB 2332	SB 2107	SB 2481	SB 2389	HB 836	HB 1267	SB 2407	HB 957	SB 2695	HB 389	ACLU %	Grade
Sampson Jackson, II (D) District 32	Kemper, Lauderdale, Noxubee, Winston	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Russell Jolly (D) District 8	Calhoun, Chickasaw, Grenada, Lee	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Kenneth Jones (D) District 21	Attala, Holmes, Madison, Yazoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
David Jordan (D) District 24	Holmes, Leflore, Tallahatchie	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Dean Kirby (R) District 30	Rankin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Perry Lee (R) District 35	Copiah, Covington, Rankin, Simpson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Will Longwitz (R) District 25	Hinds, Madison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Chris Massey (R) District 1	DeSoto	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Chris McDaniel (R) District 42	Jones	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	57	F
Haskins Montgomery (D) District 34	Jasper, Jones, Scott, Smith	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Philip Moran (R) District 46	Hancock, Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Sollie B. Norwood (D) District 28	Hinds	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
David Parker (R) District 19	DeSoto	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Rita Parks (R) District 4	Alcorn, Tippah, Tishomingo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
John Polk (R) District 44	Forrest, Lamar, Perry	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	69	D+
Derrick T. Simmons (D) District 12	Bolivar, Washington	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	80	B-
Willie Simmons (D) District 13	Bolivar, Humphreys, Sunflower	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Tony Smith (R) District 47	Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Melanie Sojourner (R) District 37	Adams, Amite, Franklin, Pike	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Bill Stone (D) District 2	Benton, Marshall, Tippah	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Sean Tindell (R) District 49	Harrison	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Gray Tollison (R) District 9	Lafayette, Tallahatchie, Yalobusha	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Angela Turner (D) District 16	Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	86	B
Giles Ward (R) District 18	Leake, Neshoba, Winston	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-
Michael Watson (R) District 51	Jackson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	64	D
Brice Wiggins (R) District 52	Jackson	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	73	C
JP Wilemon, Jr. (D) District 5	Itawamba, Prentiss, Tishomingo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	79	C+
Charles Younger (R) District 17	Lowndes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	71	C-





**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, equality and freedom of speech and expression. We accomplish our mission through legislation, litigation, and advocacy.

[www.aclu-ms.org](http://www.aclu-ms.org) • P.O. BOX 2242 JACKSON, MS 39225 • 601.354.3408

