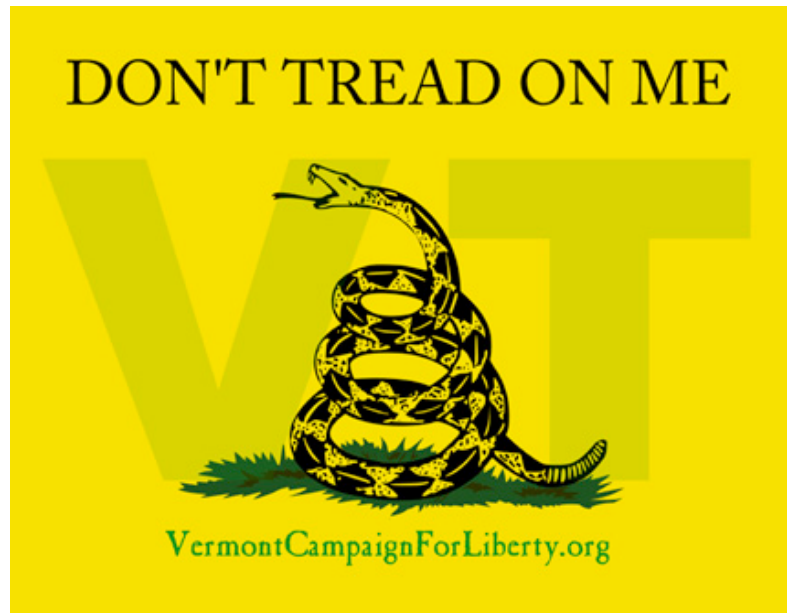


Vermont Campaign for Liberty

# 2010 Liberty Report Card

*for the Vermont House & Senate*



S.17 18 Year Old Drinking Age  
S.34 Presidential Election by Popular Vote  
S.88 ObamaCare  
S.136 Pre-K Education

H.147 Primary Seat Belt Enforcement  
H.24 Mandatory Colorectal Screening  
H.441 2010 Appropriations Bill  
JR.H.27 ObamaCare  
Prop 5 17 Year-old Voting

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This is the first annual Liberty Grade report card issued by the VTC<sub>4</sub>L based on several roll call votes in the House and Senate during 2009 and 2010.

This report card is based on pro-Liberty and anti-Liberty votes and their impact on the State of Vermont - actual recorded floor votes on legislation passing under the dome in Montpelier. Bills have been chosen that show our elected officials' concern for individual rights and liberties.

Pro-Liberty votes protect individual freedom of choice and personal responsibility, recognize the superiority of freedom over coercion, respect the individual's right of self-ownership, promote governance that is transparent, accountable, and adheres to the Constitutions, and recognize the value of voluntary economic decisions.

Anti-Liberty votes replace self-governance with interventionist regulation, assume rules made by agencies backed by force are superior to voluntary choices backed by personal accountability, and assume a better economy can be managed by a central authority that compels people and businesses to pay for policies they may not willingly support.

We encourage Vermont voters to learn the facts about how their elected representatives are voting in Montpelier and to use this tool to hold them accountable. This report card serves as a valuable voter guide when these same representatives are running for re-election.

## The votes:

### **S.17** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/resoltn/SR0017.pdf>

#### SENATE RESOLUTION RELATING TO PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL

This act is deemed Pro-Liberty for the following reasons:

- The withholding of Federal Highway funds to force states to enact laws is unconstitutional, extortional and violates state sovereignty. Vermont should be free to decide the drinking age of its citizens.

### **S.34** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/bills/Senate/S-034.pdf>

#### AN ACT RELATING TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE STATES TO ELECT THE PRESIDENT BY NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE

This act is deemed Anti-Liberty for the following reasons:

- It is an attempt to abrogate the Constitution by changing the manner of the election of the President of the United States
- that was originally in place at the time Vermont entered the Union.
- It would reduce the present power of individual Vermonters to elect the President

### **S.88** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/Acts/ACT128.PDF>

#### AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE IN VERMONT

- This act is deemed Anti-Liberty for the following reasons:
- It seeks a government solution over free-market alternatives
- It requires participation by all hospitals and insurers
- It seeks to create yet another state-wide bureaucracy
- It introduces price controls

### **S.136** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/bills/Senate/S-136.pdf>

#### AN ACT RELATING TO REDUCING THE DROP-OUT RATE IN VERMONT SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO ZERO BY THE YEAR 2020

This act is deemed Anti-Liberty for the following reasons:

- It effectively adds 2 more grades to publicly-supported elementary schools
- The cost is unsustainable and unwarranted

### **H.24** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/Acts/ACT034.PDF>

#### AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

This act is deemed Anti-Liberty for the following reasons:

- It is an example of the legislative meddling that has resulted in all but two health insurers leaving the state. By limiting consumer choice, it is symptomatic of the state government's intervention that has resulted in Vermont having one of the highest per capita costs for health care in the nation
- It forces mandated costs on health insurers, requiring them to pay for services based on age, thus discriminating against younger consumers
- It calls for price controls

**H.147** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/bills/House/H-147.pdf>

**AN ACT RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE BY JUNIOR OPERATORS AND PRIMARY SAFETY BELT ENFORCEMENT**

This act is deemed Anti-Liberty for the following reasons:

- It prohibits teen drivers from driving between the hours of 1 am and 5pm and is effectively a state-wide curfew.
- It makes driving without a seatbelt a primary offense, and requires police officers to arrest drivers who, for whatever reason, choose not to use the devices which were here-to-fore voluntary. Between 20 and 30% of drivers currently choose not to use restraint devices, thus it criminalizes a large portion of the citizenry for an act of personal volition

**H.441** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/bills/intro/H-441.pdf>

**AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT**

- This act is deemed Anti-Liberty for the following reasons:
- The Appropriations bill of 2010 leaves a budget shortfall of \$67 million dollars in the next fiscal year and is completely unsustainable, unbalanced and irresponsible.
- The budget is overly reliant on Federal recovery funds
- It includes a variety of tax increases
- It raises taxes on small business an average of \$3000 annually
- Raising the estate tax will unfairly impact family farmers
- It requires 40 new studies and reports to be overseen by the Administration

**JRH27** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/Acts/ACTR227.pdf>

**JOINT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT H.R. 676, THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT**

This act is deemed Anti-Liberty for the following reasons:

- It calls for the mandatory purchase of health care by every citizen by the Federal Government
- It will result in rationing
- It represents an unwarranted intrusion into the private market

**Prop 5** <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2010/bills/intro/PR0005.pdf>

**RIGHT TO VOTE IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

Deemed Pro-Liberty:

- Allowing 17 year-olds to vote in primary elections is not a constitutional issue. Parties are constructs outside of state and federal government, if a party chooses to allow 17 year olds, 16 year olds or in any way wants to restrict or open membership to their party, it should be permitted. The right of free association is guaranteed in the Bill of Rights

# Grades:

## Representatives:

- A+** Norman McAllister, Representative of Franklin, received an A grade for his 100% Liberty voting record
- B** 12 Representatives achieved a B ranking
- C** 13 Representatives achieved a C ranking
- D** 81 Representatives achieved a D ranking
- F** 19 Representatives received an F grade for voting **against** Liberty 100% of the time

View House grades alphabetically: <http://vermontcampaignforliberty.org/RepAlpha2010.pdf>

View House grades by rank: <http://vermontcampaignforliberty.org/RepGrade2010.pdf>

## Senators:

- B** Senator Mullin, of Rutland County, received the top grade in the Senate: a B. Senator Brock received the next highest grade, a B-
- C** 5 Senators achieved a C ranking
- D** 21 Senators achieved a D ranking
- F** Senator Mazza scored an F by managing to never vote for Liberty

View Senator grades alphabetically: <http://vermontcampaignforliberty.org/SenAlpha2010.pdf>

View Senator grades by rank: <http://vermontcampaignforliberty.org/SenGrade2010.pdf>

## Scoring:

|   |             |       |   |    |
|---|-------------|-------|---|----|
| 6 | pro-Liberty | votes | = | A+ |
| 5 | “           | “     | = | B  |
| 4 | “           | “     | = | B- |
| 3 | “           | “     | = | C  |
| 2 | “           | “     | = | D  |
| 1 | “           | “     | = | D- |
| 0 | “           | “     | = | F  |

NA means No Grade. The individual didn't participate in enough votes to be meaningful