

SCORECARD COMPUTATIONS

Each time Common Cause issues its scorecard on results of a General Assembly session, readers raise many of the same questions. Here are some answers.

Q: Who is Common Cause endorsing?

A: No one. We neither endorse nor oppose candidates. This summary reviews legislative votes on reform proposals that Common Cause believes are vital to more open, ethical, accountable state government.

Q: How does Common Cause pick issues to consider in this scorecard?

A: The State Governing Board considers recommendations from its six standing issues committees: Campaign Finance, Ethics, Fiscal Oversight, Government Reform, Judicial Reform and Telecommunications. Board decisions shape both our lobbying and our scorecard.

Q: How do legislators know where Common Cause stands?

A: Throughout the session, we distribute materials to legislators, informing them about issues identified by the Board. Then Common Cause lobbyists urge action on particular proposals. We also alert our grass-roots members to call their senators and representatives on key votes.

Q: How were votes computed?

A: This scorecard reports legislators' votes on particular bills or amendments on the floor of the state Senate or House of Representatives. Votes that in our view helped the reform under consideration are listed as YES votes (**YES = 1**). Votes that hindered or weakened a reform count as NOs (**NO = 0**). In the attached summary, votes counted—whether on floor amendments or on final passage of a bill—are marked in **bold type**.

Q: Were committee votes counted?

A: No. Committee votes are significant, but not all legislators have opportunities to vote on the same proposals. In the interest of equity and fairness, no committee votes are counted in this scorecard.

Q: Were any other factors counted?

A: Only one. With its allies in the Right Now!

Coalition, Common Cause established merit selection of all Rhode Island judges as its highest priority for 1994. We wrote to all senators and representatives, encouraging them to sponsor the Right Now! bills being introduced simultaneously in each chamber. Those who became co-sponsors are indicated by a RN! just left of the YES vote totals. Each merit selection co-sponsor is credited with a bonus (RN! = 1). Since the bonus would put some legislators over 100, we have scaled the top vote back to 100 with a reciprocal factor of 100/105.3. Here are the factors and Common Cause Scorecard formula:

YES = Supported Common Cause position

NO = Opposed Common Cause position

ABSENT = Absent or abstained

RN! Bonus = Co-sponsored Right Now! Merit Selection legislation

M = Moratorium on Grand Committee until judicial reform enacted

$$((\text{YES} + \text{RN!}) \div (\text{YES} + \text{NO} + 1/2 \text{ Absences})) \times (100/105.3) = (\text{Support})$$

Q: Why not count all absences?

A: This is a part-time legislature. Most senators and reps have to earn a living. Fixed work schedules and expanding General Assembly hours, particularly toward the end of the session, always affect attendance. Common Cause calculates that of 437 bills passed, 240 received final consideration on or after June 20. We also know that some absences result from diligence, not inattention. In the case of Senate Majority Leader Paul Kelly, who was frequently called out of the chamber, the combination of five absences and one negative vote produced a result that greatly understates his effort. In a rank-and-file situation like that of Rep. Leo Raptakis, absences on key Common Cause votes occurred when a sponsor pressed the case for a key reform with committees in the opposite chamber.

Q: What does the "M" stand for?

A: Moratorium on Grand Committee participation. Those who committed themselves so early deserve credit for courage, but since some legislators were not contacted it would be unfair to compute this.

- Phil West and Kevin Grau

SENATE SCORECARD

Common Cause never endorses or opposes candidates for any public office. Please read attached summaries for further information.

First name Last name	City, Zip	District	Party	Moratorium	Merit Co-sponsor	YES Votes	NO Votes	Absent/Abstain	Scaled % Support		
June N. Gibbs	Middletown 02840	48	R	M	RNI	19	0	0	100.0%		
James P. McStay	E. Providence 02914	43	D	M	RNI	18	0	1	97.5%		
William V. Irons	Rumford 02916	39	D	M	RNI	18	0	1	97.5%		
W. M. Sullivan	Richmond 02892	25	R	M	RNI	17	0	2	95.0%		
Thomas Izzo	Cranston 02920	13	D	M	RNI	18	1	0	95.0%		
Robin Porter	N. Kingstown 02852	23	R	M	RNI	18	1	0	95.0%		
David E. Bates	Barrington 02806	44	R	M		19	0	0	95.0%		
Rhoda E. Perry	Providence 02906	3	D	M	RNI	18	1	0	95.0%		
Helen M. Mathieu	Portsmouth 02871	46	D			19	0	0	95.0%		
Eleanor C. Sasso	Cranston 02920	14	D	M		19	0	0	95.0%		
William P. Fitzpatrick	Cranston 02905	11	D	M	RNI	18	1	0	95.0%		
Dennis L. Algieri	Westerly 02891	26	R	M	RNI	17	1	1	92.4%		
Mary A. Parella	Bristol 02809	45	R	M	RNI	17	1	1	92.4%		
J. Michael Lenihan	E. Greenwich 02818	22	D	M		18	0	1	92.4%		
Paul J. Tavares	E. Providence 02914	42	D	M		18	1	0	90.0%		
Myrth York	Providence 02906	2	D	M	RNI	16	1	2	89.7%		
Roger Badeau	Woonsocket 02895	32	D	M		17	0	2	89.7%		
Anthony R. Marciano	N. Providence 02904	36	D			17	0	2	89.7%		
Charles J. Fogarty	Harmony 02829	27	D			17	1	1	87.3%		
William Enos	Tiverton 02878	47	D	M		17	1	1	87.3%		
Joseph J. McGair	Warwick 02889	16	D			16	0	3	86.8%		
Jennie D. Day	Coventry 02816	20	D			17	2	0	85.0%		
Sandra K. Hanaway	Cumberland 02864	33	D			17	2	0	85.0%		
Daniel J. Issa	Central Falls 02863	35	D			16	1	2	84.4%		
J. Clement Cicilline	Newport 02840	50	D		RNI	15	2	2	84.4%		
Charles D. Walton	Providence 02905	9	D		RNI	14	1	4	83.8%		
Walter J. Gray	S. Kingstown 02881	6	D	M	RNI	13	0	6	83.1%		
Maryellen Goodwin	Providence 02908	1	D	M		16	2	1	82.1%		
John R. O'Leary	Cranston 02910	12	D	M		16	2	1	82.1%		
M. Teresa Paiva-Weed	Newport 02840	49	D	M		16	2	1	82.1%		
Catherine E. Graziano	Providence 02909	5	D	M		16	2	1	82.1%		
Edward J. Lawrence	Warwick 02888	15	D			15	1	3	81.4%		
Jack Revens, Jr.	Warwick 02886	18	D			14	0	5	80.6%		
Joseph Montalbano	N. Providence 02904	37	D			15	2	2	79.1%		
Joseph M. Polisena	Johnston 02919	28	D	M		13	0	6	77.2%		
Leo R. Blais	Coventry 02816	21	R			15	3	1	77.0%		
Robert T. Kells	Providence 02907	10	D		RNI	14	4	1	77.0%		
Michael J. Flynn	Smithfield 02829	29	R			14	2	3	76.0%		
Domenic A. DiSandro, III	Saunderstown 02874	24	D			14	2	3	76.0%		
Dominick J. Ruggerio	Providence 02904	4	D	M		14	2	3	76.0%		
Paul S. Kelly	N. Smithfield 02895	30	D			13	1	5	74.8%		
Peter T. Bouchard	Woonsocket 02895	31	D			12	0	7	73.5%		
Bradford Gorham	Foster 02825	41	R			13	3	3	70.5%		
John W. Lyle, Jr.	Lincoln 02865	34	R	M	RNI	10	1	8	69.6%		
John Feroce	W. Warwick 02893	19	R	M		10	1	8	63.3%		
Harold J. Miller, Jr.	Pawtucket 02861	40	D			9	1	9	58.9%		
John Orabona	Providence 02903	8	D			5	1	13	38.0%		
Thomas A. Lynch	Warwick 02888	17	D			5	2	12	36.5%		
John F. McBurney, III	Pawtucket 02860	38	D			3	1	15	24.8%		
John J. Bevilacqua	Providence 02909	7	D			1	2	16	8.6%		
						26	16	736	55	159	80.1%
Total votes counted						950	Median		84.1%		

HOUSE SCORECARD 1

Common Cause never endorses or opposes candidates for any public office. Please read attached summaries for further information.

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CITY, ZIP	DISTRICT	PARTY	Moratorium	Co-Sponsor	YES	NO	ABSENT	Scaled Support
George A.	Zainyeh	Warwick 02886	35	D		RN!	19	0	0	100.0%
James	Langevin	Warwick 02888	29	D	M	RN!	19	0	0	100.0%
Marc C.	Lauzon	Woonsocket 02895	65	D	M	RN!	19	0	0	100.0%
Sandra M.	Barone	Barrington 02806	87	D	M	RN!	17	0	2	95.0%
William C.	McGowan	Warwick 02886	37	D	M	RN!	17	1	1	92.4%
Hubert E.	Little	Portsmouth 02871	96	R	M	RN!	17	1	1	92.4%
Paul V.	Sherlock	Warwick 02888	30	D	M	RN!	16	0	3	92.3%
Stephen	Anderson	Coventry 02816	42	D	M	RN!	16	0	3	92.3%
Bruce J.	Long	Middletown 02840	95	R	M	RN!	17	2	0	90.0%
Edith H.	Ajello	Providence 02906	3	D	M	RN!	17	2	0	90.0%
Thomas J.	Winfield	Smithfield 02828	69	D			18	1	0	90.0%
Suzanne M.	Henseler	N. Kingstown 02852	44	D			18	1	0	90.0%
Mark B.	Heffner	Barrington 02806	88	D		RN!	16	1	2	89.7%
Ellen A.	Kellner	Chepachet 02814	15	D	M	RN!	16	1	2	89.7%
Melvoid J.	Benson	N. Kingstown 02852	45	D	M		17	0	2	89.7%
Edward R.	Lynch	Rumford 02916	82	D		RN!	15	0	4	89.4%
Linda J.	Kushner	Providence 02906	4	D	M	RN!	15	0	4	89.4%
Donald J.	Lally, Jr.	Wakefield 02879	48	D		RN!	15	0	4	89.4%
Charles E.	Millard, Jr.	Bristol 02809	90	R	M	RN!	15	0	4	89.4%
Henry C.	Rose	E. Providence 02915	84	D	M	RN!	16	2	1	87.3%
Eugene F.	Garvey	Wakefield 02879	81	D	M	RN!	16	2	1	87.3%
John B.	Harwood	Pawtucket 02860	76	D			17	1	1	87.3%
George D.	Caruolo	E. Providence 02915	86	D			17	1	1	87.3%
Peter F.	Kilmartin	Pawtucket 02861	80	D			17	1	1	87.3%
Joseph A.	DeLorenzo, Jr.	Cranston 02920	25	D			16	0	3	86.8%
Nancy L.	Benoit	Woonsocket 02895	64	D	M	RN!	14	0	5	86.3%
Paul H.	Archetto	Cranston 02920	21	R		RN!	16	3	0	85.0%
Brian	Kennedy	Ashaway 02804	16	D			16	1	2	84.4%
Edward J.	Smith	Tiverton 02878	92	D			16	1	2	84.4%
Raymond C.	Coelho	E. Providence 02914	85	D	M		16	1	2	84.4%
Susan E.	Deveney	Cranston 02905	28	R		RN!	15	2	2	84.4%
Patrick J.	Kennedy	Providence 02908	7	D		RN!	14	1	4	83.8%
Thomas A.	Palangio	Providence 02908	8	D	M		15	0	4	83.8%
Steven	Smith	Providence 02909	12	D	M	RN!	15	3	1	82.1%
James J.	Ginolfi	Cranston 02921	23	D	M	RN!	15	3	1	82.1%
Roger A.	Picard	Woonsocket 02895	66	D			16	2	1	82.1%
John S.	Simonian	Cranston 02910	27	D			16	2	1	82.1%
Wayne L.	Salisbury	North Scituate 02857	54	R	M	RN!	14	2	3	81.4%
Charlene	Lima	Providence 02909	13	D	M	RN!	14	2	3	81.4%
Mary Lou	Walter	Westerly 02891	51	R	M	RN!	14	2	3	81.4%
George A.	Castro	Providence 02905	20	D		RN!	14	2	3	81.4%
Michael J.	Lombardo	Warren 02885	89	D			14	0	5	80.6%
Clinton O.	Remington, III	Harrisville 02830	60	D	M	RN!	13	1	5	80.6%
Charles	Knowles	Narragansett 02882	47	D			16	3	0	80.0%
Robert B.	Lowe	Forestdale 02824	61	D	M	RN!	12	0	7	79.6%
Beatrice A.	Lanzi	Cranston 02920	22	D	M	RN!	14	3	2	79.1%
Christine	Callahan	Middletown 02840	99	R	M	RN!	14	3	2	79.1%
Joan B.	Quick	Adamsville 02801	94	R		RN!	13	2	4	78.2%
Rodney D.	Driver	W. Kingstown 02892	52	D	M	RN!	13	2	4	78.2%
William J.	Murphy	W. Warwick 02893	39	D			14	1	4	78.2%
Francis A.	Gaschen	Cumberland 02864	68	D	M	RN!	12	1	6	77.2%

HOUSE SCORECARD 2

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FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CITY, ZIP	DISTRICT	PARTY	Moratorium	Co-Sponsor	YES	NO	ABSENT	Scaled Support		
Edward S. Inman, III		Coventry 02816	41	D			13	0	6	77.2%		
Mark M. Montalbano		Pawtucket 02904	74	D			15	3	1	77.0%		
Bambilyn B. Cambio		N. Providence 02911	11	D	M		15	3	1	77.0%		
Leonidas P. Raptakis		Coventry 02816	31	D	M	RNI	11	0	8	76.0%		
Antonio J. Pires		Pawtucket 02861	79	D			14	2	3	76.0%		
John J. McCauley, Jr.		Providence 02908	1	D		RNI	13	3	3	76.0%		
Russell Bramley		Warwick 02886	36	D	M	RNI	13	3	3	76.0%		
Donald D. Large		Cumberland 02864	67	D		RNI	11	0	8	76.0%		
Kenneth Carter		N. Kingstown 02874	46	D	M		15	4	0	75.0%		
Jennifer A. Martelli		Johnston 02919	56	D			14	3	2	73.9%		
John J. DeSimone		Providence 02904	6	D			14	3	2	73.9%		
Susan B. Iannitelli		Greenville 02828	57	R		RNI	11	1	7	73.5%		
Peter Ginaitt		Warwick 02889	33	D	M	RNI	11	1	7	73.5%		
Paul E. Moura		Providence 02906	2	D	M	RNI	12	3	4	72.6%		
Eileen S. Naughton		Warwick 02889	32	D			14	4	1	71.9%		
Peter N. Wasyluk		Providence 02909	10	D			14	4	1	71.9%		
Leona Kelley		Peacedale 02879	49	R	M	RNI	12	4	3	70.5%		
Mary C. Ross		Providence 02907	17	R	M	RNI	12	4	3	70.5%		
Paul W. Crowley		Newport 02840	100	D	M	RNI	12	4	3	70.5%		
Barbara Burlingame		Woonsocket 02895	62	D	M	RNI	13	6	0	70.0%		
Frank T. Caprio		Providence 02903	14	D			11	0	8	69.6%		
Sandra J. Campbell		Foster 02825	53	R	M	RNI	11	3	5	69.1%		
Robert E. Flaherty		Warwick 02886	34	D			12	2	5	69.1%		
Gordon Fox		Providence 02906	5	D			13	4	2	68.6%		
Jeffrey J. Teitz		Newport 02840	97	D			13	4	2	68.6%		
Richard E. Fleury		W. Warwick 02893	40	R	M	RNI	10	2	7	67.4%		
Rene R. Menard		Manville 02838	58	D	M	RNI	12	6	1	66.7%		
Frank A. Montanaro		Cranston 02921	24	D	M	RNI	9	1	9	65.5%		
Vincent J. Mesolella, Jr.		N. Providence 02904	71	D			10	0	9	65.5%		
Frank J. Anzeveno, Jr.		N. Providence 02911	70	D			10	0	9	65.5%		
Joseph Faria		Central Falls 02863	72	D	M		11	2	6	65.3%		
Timothy A. Williamson		W. Warwick 02893	38	D			11	2	6	65.3%		
David J. Panciera		Westerly 02891	50	D			12	4	3	65.1%		
Lawrence J. Ferguson		Bristol 02809	91	D			11	4	4	61.4%		
Robert A. Watson		E. Greenwich 02818	43	R		RNI	9	3	7	61.3%		
Robert B. Jacquard		Cranston 02910	26	D			11	5	3	59.7%		
Anastasia P. Williams		Providence 02907	9	D	M	RNI	7	1	11	56.3%		
Joseph Newsome		Providence 02907	18	D		RNI	8	4	7	55.1%		
John D. Barr, II		Lincoln 02865	59	D	M	RNI	9	7	3	54.3%		
Alfred Russo, Jr.		Johnston 02919	55	D			10	6	3	54.3%		
Robert Brousseau		Central Falls 02863	73	D	M	RNI	6	1	12	51.1%		
Gerard M. Martineau		Woonsocket 02895	63	D			7	1	11	49.2%		
Elaine Coderre		Pawtucket 02860	78	D	M	RNI	7	5	7	49.0%		
William San Bento, Jr.		Pawtucket 02860	75	D			8	5	6	47.5%		
Mabel M. Anderson		Pawtucket 02860	77	D			9	10	0	45.0%		
Charles J. Levesque		Portsmouth 02871	93	D	M	RNI	6	10	3	38.0%		
Mary Levesque		Jamestown 02835	98	D	M		6	6	7	36.8%		
Harold M. Metts		Providence 02907	19	D			7	11	1	35.9%		
Maria Lopes		E. Providence 02914	83	D	M	RNI	5	9	5	34.5%		
							53	58	1,323	233	344	75.3%
Total votes counted							1,900	Median		77.7%		