



THE
AMERICAN
CONSERVATIVE
UNION
FOUNDATION

2015 45th Edition

RATINGS *of* CONGRESS


114th United States Congress, First Session

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HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

1. HR 240 (Roll Call 109) Funding Obama's Executive Action on Immigration. This bill funds the Department of Homeland Security for Fiscal Year 2016. It removes provisions that prohibit using funds to implement President Obama's executive actions granting amnesty to some illegal immigrants. It also removes provisions that prohibit granting any federal benefits to any illegal immigrants as a direct result of implementing amnesty. ACU opposed funding Obama's executive actions, which were unconstitutional, and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 3, 2015 by a vote of 257-167.

2. H Con Res 27 (Roll Call 138) Conservative Budget. The Stutzman amendment to the Congressional Resolution presents a conservative alternative to the budget bill, capping discretionary spending at \$975 billion in Fiscal Year 2016, and freezing spending for two years, then allowing it to grow with inflation. It assumes repeal of Obamacare and transitions Medicare to a premium support system. Further, it reforms entitlement programs by converting into block grants Medicaid, children's health (CHIP), and the food stamp programs. ACU supports this reasonable attempt to stop increasing our national debt, which has reached \$19 trillion, and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on March 25, 2015 by a vote of 132-294.

3. HR 1105 (Roll Call 161) Repealing the Death Tax. This bill repeals the federal estate tax, also known as the death tax, and is the first House vote on the issue in nine years. The bill also repeals the generation-skipping transfer tax and reduces the top marginal rate for the gift tax from 40 percent to 35 percent. ACU has long advocated for the repeal of the death tax and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on April 16, 2015 by a vote of 240-179.

4. HR 2029 (Roll Call 190) Abuse of "Official Time." The Hice amendment to the Military Construction-Veterans Administration Appropriations bill prohibits the use of federal funds to pay employees while they are conducting union activities, which they call "official time." ACU opposes the abuse of "official time" at the Veterans Administration, where 250 employees do nothing but perform union activities, and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on April 30, 2015 by a vote of 190- 232.

5. HR 2029 (Roll Call 191) Repealing the Davis-Bacon Wage Mandates. The King amendment to the Military Construction-Veterans Administration Appropriations bill prohibits funds from being used to enforce the prevailing wage provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act. ACU opposes artificial wages that drive up the cost of projects and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on April 30, 2015 by a vote of 186-235.

6. HJ Res 43 (Roll Call 194) Religious Freedom. This resolution disapproves the District of Columbia's Reproductive Health Non Discrimination law. The new law prohibits employers from discriminating against anyone and provides no religious exemptions despite a finding by the DC Attorney General that the measure "raises serious concerns under the Constitution and under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993." ACU supports the free exercise of religion under the Constitution and supported this resolution. The House passed the resolution on April 30, 2015 by a vote of 228-192.

7. HR 2028 (Roll Call 205) Reducing Wasteful Energy Spending. The Hudson amendment to the Energy and Water Appropriations bill returns the Department of Energy budget to levels equal to Fiscal Year 2008, before they were dramatically increased under the stimulus. The amendment makes an across the board cut of 11.2 percent, while exempting defense-related programs. ACU supports returning government spending to pre-stimulus levels to help reduce the deficit and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on April 30, 2015 by a vote of 143-278.

8. HR 36 (Roll Call 223) Late-Term Abortion Restrictions. This bill prohibits abortions when the probable age of the fetus is 20 weeks or older, but includes exceptions for cases of rape, incest, or the life of the mother. ACU believes abortion is a human tragedy, supports educating patients and restricting the practice, and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on May 13, 2015 by a vote of 242-184.

9. HR 2578 (Roll Call 278) Spending Reduction. The Blackburn amendment to the Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations bill provides for an across the board 1 percent spending reduction. ACU supports this modest effort to reduce spending to help reduce the deficit and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on June 3, 2015 by a vote of 168-257.

10. HR 2577 (Roll Call 298) Rural Air Service Subsidies. The McClintock amendment to the Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill eliminates \$155 million in funding for a program that subsidizes air service to rural airports with little passenger traffic. It applies these funds to deficit reduction. ACU opposes this wasteful spending on mostly short distance air service to destinations easily accessible by car or bus and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on June 4, 2015 by a vote of 166-255.



 HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS *Continued*

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11. HR 2577 (Roll Call 315) Amtrak Subsidies. The Sessions amendment to the Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill prohibits the use of funds to subsidize any Amtrak route that has a cost exceeding two times its revenue. ACU supports this fiscally responsible approach to taxpayer subsidies and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on June 9, 2015 by a vote of 186-237.
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12. HR 2685 (Roll Call 337) Closing Guantanamo. The Nadler amendment to the Defense Appropriations bill removes a provision that bars funds from being used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the U.S. to house Guantanamo Bay detainees. ACU opposes moving terrorists from Guantanamo to the U.S. and opposed this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on June 10, 2015 by a vote of 173-259.
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13. HR 2685 (Roll Call 341) Afghanistan Funding. The Walberg amendment to the Defense Appropriations bill eliminates a provision allowing \$50 million allocated to the Afghan Security Forces to be redirected to infrastructure programs. ACU opposes increasing funds for a program the Inspector General has found to be filled with waste, such as funds being spent on a \$43 million natural gas filling station, and supported this amendment. The House passed the amendment on June 10, 2015 by a vote of 233-199.
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14. HR 2822 (Roll Call 407) Spending Reduction. The Blackburn amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill provides for an across the board 1 percent spending reduction. The small decrease will assist in reducing the deficit. ACU supports this modest effort to reduce the bill's increased spending and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on July 8, 2015 by a vote of 168-258.
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15. HR 5 (Roll Call 419) No Child Left Behind Reauthorization. The Walker amendment to the education overhaul bill, also known as the A-Plus amendment, puts the federal funds expended in the bill into block grants. This action allows the states to spend the funds for any educational purpose under state law. ACU supports local control of education and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on July 8, 2015 by a vote of 195-235.
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16. HR 6 (Roll Call 431) Mandatory Health Research. This bill creates a new mandatory spending program for health research through the National Institute of Health. A key vote came on the Brat amendment, which makes the program part of discretionary spending, giving Congress more control over its budget. Current mandatory spending programs are responsible for annual increases of our \$19 trillion debt. ACU opposes any new mandatory spending programs and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on July 10, 2015 by a vote of 141-281.
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17. HR 3009 (Roll Call 466) Funding for Sanctuary Cities. This bill withholds some funds and grants from federal law enforcement, including local government grants that bar officials from enforcing federal immigration laws. ACU opposes the ability of local governments to create their own immigration laws, which the Constitution outlines as a federal responsibility, and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on July 23, 2015 by a vote of 241-179.
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18. HR 3134 (Roll Call 505) Defunding Planned Parenthood. This bill bars federal funds from going to organizations that perform abortion services, such as Planned Parenthood, and redirects the funds to community health centers that do not provide abortions. This bill does not include limits on abortion services for cases of rape, incest, or the life of the mother. ACU believes abortion to be a human tragedy, supports educating patients and restricting the practice, and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on September 18, 2015 by a vote of 241-187.
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19. HR 3457 (Roll Call 533) Iran Sanctions. This bill prohibits the President from waiving any of the sanctions under the Iran Nuclear Agreement until Iran pays the legal terrorism-related judgment it owes and all outstanding judgments. ACU supports forcing Iran to pay these judgements before lifting the sanctions and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on October 1, 2015 by a vote of 251-173.
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20. HR 10 (Roll Call 559) School Choice. This bill reauthorizes the District of Columbia's school voucher program, which allows eligible students to enroll in a participating private school. ACU supports school choice and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on October 21, 2015 by a vote of 240-191.
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21. HR 597 (Roll Call 576) Reauthorizing the Export Import Bank. This bill reauthorizes the Export-Import Bank for four years. This Depression-era bureaucracy primarily helps a select few multi-billion dollar corporations increase their international business. ACU opposes this crony-capitalist policy, which gives foreign airline companies discounted loan rates to purchase American planes, and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on October 27, 2015 by a vote of 313-118.
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22. HR 1314 (Roll Call 579) Busting the Budget Caps. This bill busts the budget caps voted on by Congress, increasing the caps by \$50 billion in Fiscal Year 2016 and by \$30 billion in Fiscal Year 2017. The bill also suspends the debt limit until March 15, 2017. ACU supports the budget caps as the only brake on increased federal spending, which has resulted in a national debt of \$19 trillion, and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on October 28, 2015 by a vote of 266-167.
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HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS *Continued*

23. SJ Res 24 (Roll Call 650) Existing Power Plant Emissions Rule. This resolution invokes the Congressional Review Act to disapprove the EPA's Existing Power Plant Emissions Rule. ACU opposes the EPA's attempt to use federal executive action to impose the cap and trade plan rejected by Congress in 2010, a plan that will drive up electricity costs for everyone, and supported this resolution. The House passed the resolution on December 1, 2015 by a vote of 242-180.
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24. HR 2029 (Roll Call 705) Omnibus Appropriations. This portion of the bill contains a 2,000 plus page Omnibus Appropriation that busts the budget caps by \$50 billion and includes major increases for Obama pet programs while doing nothing to prevent the federal funding of Planned Parenthood. The bill also ignores many provisions passed by the House Appropriations Committee, including the restriction of funds for sanctuary cities and placing restrictions on the FCC's ability to enforce "net neutrality" rules, giving the federal government power to control the Internet. ACU opposes these massive bills that are passed with little discussion and are not allowed any amendments, and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on December 18, 2015 by a vote of 316-113.
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HOUSE VOTE DETAIL, BY STATE

VOTE #	ACU Position	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	2015	2014		
		N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N			
4	NEWHOUSE	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	75	NA	1	75.00	
5	McMORRIS RODGERS	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	75	72	11	86.18
6	Kilmer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	3	8.00
7	McDermott	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	8	8	27	3.05
8	REICHERT	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	X	-	-	-	+	-	26	56	11	53.15
9	Smith, Adam	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	19	12.54
10	Heck, D.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	3	5.33
West Virginia																													
1	McKINLEY	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	58	52	5	61.20
2	MOONEY	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	88	NA	1	88.00
3	JENKINS	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	54	NA	1	54.00
Wisconsin																													
1	RYAN, P.	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	X	-	78	80	17	89.29
2	Pocan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	8	8	3	9.33
3	Kind	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8	19	12.79
4	Moore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	11	2.18
5	SENSENBRENNER	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	96	100	37	90.19
6	GROTHMAN	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	88	NA	1	88.00
7	DUFFY	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	79	73	5	79.20
8	RIBBLE	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	92	88	5	87.93
Wyoming																													
AL	LUMMIS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	96	92	7	94.29

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