



YOUNG CONSERVATIVES OF TEXAS

Ratings of the 78th Texas Legislature

Rating the Texas Legislature Since 1975

Young Conservatives of Texas

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Young Conservatives of Texas is an independent, non-partisan youth organization dedicated to the preservation of individual liberties and freedoms through limited government.

YCT is an organization that enables college students the opportunity to participate in the political process. YCT believes that there is no better way to educate and train young citizens as to the working of our government than to have them directly participate in the process.

Since 1975, YCT has prepared its ratings of legislators as a public service to the citizens of Texas. The purpose is to better inform them of the activities and performance of their representative lawmakers. YCT has selected the following bills which it believes accurately serve to gage a legislator's philosophy in light of YCT's Statement of Principles.

Over the past twenty-eight years, the YCT ratings have earned the reputation as the best and most reliable measure of determining who is conservative in the Texas Legislature. Our ratings are unique in that YCT is the only organization in Texas to produce ratings of a state legislature for the last 28 years.

The YCT ratings cover an important period in Texas history. Since our first ratings, we have witnessed dramatic changes in Texas politics. During the past 28 years, Texans have seen the emergence of a viable Republican Party and the virtual disappearance of a conservative presence in the Democratic Party. These ratings serve to record the history of Texas lawmaking. The YCT ratings should not be construed as an official endorsement of any party or official.

Voting Legend

- “+” means votes favoring YCT’s position
- “0” means votes against YCT’s position
- “U” means legislator absent (unexcused), penalties assigned
- “E” means legislator absent (excused), no penalties assigned
- “P” means legislator is present not voting, penalties assigned
- “C” means legislator is Speaker for that particular vote, no penalties assigned
- Vote numbers correspond with House and Senate Bill Explanations, respectively
- Italicized names denote members of the Republican Party; regular text denotes Democrats; and bolded names denotes YCT Honor Roll with the score bolded.
- There are two numerical scores on our ratings. The first score (%) represents the legislator’s performance during the 78th Legislative session. The second score (C) is a composite or career rating, based on the member’s votes in all previous sessions, weighted accordingly.

House Vote Explanations

- 1) **HB 1.** Final passage of the general appropriations bill. HB 1 passed 100-45. YCT-YES on passage of HB 1. Historically, YCT has not used the general appropriations bill in our ratings, but in this session the budget was the most important and controversial issue. YCT supports the legislators who passed a balanced budget that cut spending and did not raise taxes when the State of Texas was in a budget shortfall. (RV 303, April 17, 2003, p 1665).
- 2) **HB 1.** Floor Amendment no. 16 to the general appropriations bill, by Coleman, would increase funding to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) by \$250 millions dollars in the next budget biennium. The Coleman Amendment was tabled 95-50. YCT-YES on motion to table the Coleman Amendment. YCT opposes increases in spending to welfare programs. (RV 229, April 14 2003, p 1424-5).
- 3) **HB 1.** Floor Amendment no. 258, by Telford. The Telford Amendment takes all unallocated money and balances in the budget and puts them into retired teacher health insurance fund. The Telford Amendment failed 67-79. YCT-NO on adoption of Telford Amendment. YCT opposes the teacher health insurance fund because teachers are not state employees. The state should not increase spending on an insurance program that does not pertain to state employees. (RV 285, p 1598, April 16, 2003).
- 4) **HB 7.** Floor Amendment no. 27, by Rodriguez. The Rodriguez Amendment would raid the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF, or "Rainy Day Fund") of nearly \$332M to fund Texas Education Agency. Motion to table the Rodriguez Amendment. Amendment no. 27 was tabled 94-41. YCT-YES on tabling of Rodriguez Amendment no 27. YCT believes it is fiscally irresponsible to take money out of a reserve fund to give to the Texas Education Agency that has a history of wasting taxpayers' money and not improving the quality of our public education system. (RV 218, p 1405, April 14, 2003).
- 5) **HB 15.** Final passage of the informed consent for abortion bill. HB 15 passed 95-41. YCT-YES on passage of HB 15. YCT is a pro-life organization that supports efforts to decrease the number of abortions. HB 15 also increases the rights of parents over their minor children in this important decision. (RV 385, April 29, 2003, p 2017).
- 6) **C SHB 318.** Final passage of CSHB 318, which would allow individuals with at least a bachelor's degree to receive teacher certification at certain grade levels after passing a teacher certification exam. CSHB 318 passed 78-63. YCT-YES on passage of CSHB 318. YCT supports making it easier for an educated individual to receive teacher certification and begin teaching to increase the number of trained teachers in Texas. (RV 340, April 24, 2003, p 1796-7).
- 7) **HB 1112.** Final passage of HB 1112, which makes it easier for school districts to fire poor performing teachers. HB 1112 passed 71-66. YCT-YES on passage of HB 1112. YCT supports giving school districts the authority to replace poor performing teachers with better teachers. (RV 433, p 2166, April 30, 2003).
- 8) **HB 1407.** Passage to engrossment of HB 1407, which would allow non-profit organizations to operate slot machines and other gambling machines, with voter approval within the jurisdiction of the organization. HB 1407 failed to pass 37-86. YCT-NO on passage of HB 1407. YCT opposes all forms of state sponsored gambling. (RV 572, May 9, 2003, p 2861-2).
- 9) **HB 2292.** Final passage of HB 2292, which reorganizes and consolidates many of the functions of the health and human services agencies. HB 2292 passed 88-56. YCT-YES on passage of HB 2292. YCT supports efforts to streamline government bureaucracies and save taxpayer money. (RV 367, April 28, 2003, p 1981).

- 10) **HB 2292.** Floor Amendment no. 20, by Coleman. The Coleman Amendment would strike article 1 of the bill, which consolidates 12 Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies into four and gives the governor substantially more power over HHS agencies. Motion to table the Coleman Amendment. Amendment no. 20 was tabled 86-54. YCT-YES on tabling the Coleman Amendment. YCT believes in streamlining and reducing the amount of government agencies and bureaucracies to improve the overall efficiency of government. (RV 347, p 1818, April 24, 2003).
- 11) **HB 3015.** Passage to engrossment of the unlimited tuition bill. HB 3015 passed to engrossment 81-58. YCT-NO on passage of HB 3015. This bill divests the responsibility of the State Legislature in setting tuition rates and gives it to the individual public university without caps and with virtually no legislative oversight. This bill will allow public universities to set their own tuition rates and raise them at their own will, which in the end only hurts college students and their families. (RV 397, April 29, 2003, p 2056).
- 12) **HB 3015.** Adoption of the conference report on CSHB 3015. This is the final version of the bill that Governor Perry signed into law. The conference report passed 100-43. YCT-NO on passage of the conference report on CSHB 3015. It is irresponsible of the Legislature to allow universities to set their own tuition rates with no caps and very limited oversight. (RV 934, June 1, 2003, p 5970-1).
- 13) **HB 3588.** Floor Amendment no. 47, by Wise, would allow the State of Texas to accept the *Matricula Consular*, an official Mexican document, as identification for issuance of a Texas driver's license. Motion to table the Wise Amendment. Floor Amendment no 47 failed to be tabled 38-99. YCT-YES on motion to table the Wise Amendment. This amendment would give rights to non-US citizens that jeopardize the rights and safety of US citizens and potentially create voter registration fraud. It also allows illegal citizens to masquerade as legal citizens. (RV 567, May 9, 2003, p 2832-3).
- 14) **SB 7.** Final passage of the Defense of Marriage Act, which prohibits the State of Texas from recognizing same-sex marriages. SB 7 passed 118-9. YCT-YES on passage of SB 7. YCT supports traditional family values and holds the position that "marriage" is strictly defined as a union between one man and one woman. (RV 404, April 30, 2003, p 2116).
- 15) **SB 14.** Floor Amendment no. 30, by Wolens/Hochberg. Amendment no. 30 bans credit scoring in insurance decisions. Motion to table the Wolens/Hochberg Amendment. The Wolens/Hochberg Amendment failed to be tabled, 50-89. YCT-YES on tabling amendment no. 30. YCT believes that the State should not remove the only reliable system of checks that the insurance industry has in determining financial responsibility of individuals. (RV 656, p 3450-1, May 22, 2003).
- 16) **SB 14.** Floor amendment no. 27, by Wolens. The Wolens Amendment prohibits insurers from raising insurance premiums without prior approval from the Texas Department of Insurance. Motion to table the Wolens Amendment. Amendment no. 27 was tabled 75-62. YCT-YES on tabling amendment no. 27. YCT opposes unnecessary government regulation of businesses. (RV 654, p 3445-6, May 22, 2003).
- 17) **SB 285.** Floor Amendment no. 3, by Naishtat, would not allow the Department of Human Services to deny medical care to any individual who is eligible for financial assistance, even if the individual is uncooperative with the agency. Motion to table the Naishtat Amendment. The Naishtat Amendment was tabled 85-56. YCT-YES on tabling the Naishtat Amendment. YCT believes that it is the individual's responsibility to seek government assistance when necessary. If the individual is uncooperative, the individual should be denied access to those services. (RV 634, May 19, 2003, p 3217).
- 18) **SB 501.** Passage to engrossment of SB 501, which provides uniformity and consistency in Texas' concealed handgun license law for both licenses and law enforcement. SB 501 passed to engrossment 122-21. YCT-YES on passage of SB 501. YCT supports the concealed handgun license law and making the law uniform throughout the State of Texas. (RV 627, May 16, 2003, p 3158).

- 19) SB 1111.** Final passage of SB 1111, allowing Dallas County to increase their hotel and occupancy taxes and their rental car taxes to support a new stadium for the Dallas Cowboys. SB 1111 passed 122-18. YCT-NO on passage of SB 1111. YCT opposes tax increases and taxpayer-funded corporate welfare projects. Additionally, YCT believes that taxes should not be levied on people who are not constituents of the elected officials levying the tax. (RV 447, May 1, 2003, p 2213)
- 20) SB 1131.** Floor amendment no. 3, by Wise. The Wise Amendment would increase cigarette taxes by more than three times the current amount for funding trauma centers in Texas. Motion to table the Wise Amendment. The Wise Amendment was tabled 81-51. YCT-YES on tabling the Wise Amendment. YCT opposes all tax increases. (RV 750, p 4173, May 27, 2003).

House Scorecard

Representative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	%	C	
<i>Allen</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	84	
Alonzo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	6	
Bailey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	E	0	0	+	U	0	0	E	0	0	+	0	0	11	13	
<i>Baxter</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	75	75	
Berman	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	85	91	
<i>Bohac</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	75	75	
<i>Bonnen</i>	+	+	+	+	+	U	+	+	+	+	0	0	E	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	79	79	
<i>Branch</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	U	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	75	75	
<i>Brown, B</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	80	87	
<i>Brown, F</i>	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	65	73	
Burnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	15	8	
<i>Callegari</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	U	70	77	
<i>Campbell</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	U	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	70	70	
Canales	0	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	U	+	U	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	15	15	
Capelo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	U	+	0	+	15	8	
<i>Casteel</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	65	65	
Castro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10	
Chavez	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	U	0	U	0	+	0	0	15	6	
<i>Chisum</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	73	
Christian	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95	94	
Coleman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	9	
<i>Cook, B</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	75	75	
Cook, R	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	45	49	
<i>Corte</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	U	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	89	
Crabb	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	92	
Craddick	C	C	+	C	C	P	C	C	P	C	0	0	C	P	P	P	P	P	C	P	/	90	
<i>Crownover</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	0	0	+	+	U	+	+	+	0	+	79	77	
<i>Davis, J</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	E	+	84	87
Davis, Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	15	8	
<i>Dawson</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	85	
<i>Delisi</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	84	
Denny	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	80	90	
Deshotel	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	U	25	13	
<i>Driver</i>	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	E	0	+	C	+	+	+	+	0	+	88	80	
Dukes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	+	0	U	E	E	U	0	0	U	6	3	
Dunnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	30	19	
Dutton	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	25	13	
Edwards	+	0	0	U	0	0	0	P	0	0	+	+	0	P	0	0	0	+	0	+	25	20	
Eiland	E	0	E	+	+	0	0	U	U	0	0	0	0	E	+	+	+	+	0	0	35	26	
<i>Eissler</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	85	
<i>Elkins</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	70	84	
Ellis	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	U	+	+	+	0	0	+	E	0	0	+	0	0	53	53	
Escobar	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	+	/	/	0	0	0	0	/	0	17	17
Farabee	+	U	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	55	32	
Farrar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	6	
Flores	+	0	0	U	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	+	0	U	15	7	
<i>Flynn</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	U	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	85	
Gallego	0	0	0	0	E	0	0	+	0	0	E	+	0	E	0	0	0	U	0	0	12	18	
Garza	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	+	U	0	+	0	0	0	U	0	0	15	15	
<i>Gattis</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	C	+	0	+	79	79	

Representative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	%	C
<i>Geran</i>	+	+	+	U	+	+	+	0	+	U	0	0	0	+	0	0	U	+	0	U	55	53
<i>Giddings</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	13
<i>Goodman</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	60	65
<i>Goolsby</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	U	65	66
<i>Griggs</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	75	75
<i>Grusendorf</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	75	82
<i>Guillen</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	20	20
<i>Gutierrez</i>	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	E	0	0	32	19
<i>Haggerty</i>	+	+	0	+	+	0	U	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	50	75
<i>Hamilton</i>	+	+	0	U	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	60	60
<i>Hamric</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	88
<i>Hardcastle</i>	+	+	+	+	U	+	0	0	+	U	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	50	59
<i>Harper-Brown</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	85
<i>Hartnett</i>	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	89	90
Heflin	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	E	E	+	+	+	+	90	97
<i>Hegar</i>	+	+	+	U	+	+	+	U	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	75	75
<i>Hilderbran</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	80	87
<i>Hill</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	89
<i>Hochberg</i>	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	11
<i>Hodge</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	U	10	10
<i>Homer</i>	0	U	0	+	+	0	0	U	0	0	U	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	30	27
<i>Hope</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	U	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	E	74	73
<i>Hopson</i>	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	30	24
Howard	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	U	75	91
<i>Hughes</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	90	90
<i>Hunter</i>	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	U	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	70	72
<i>Hupp</i>	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	79	93
<i>Isett</i>	+	E	0	+	+	E	E	+	+	E	E	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	E	+	86	92
<i>Jones, D</i>	0	0	0	E	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	58	58
<i>Jones, E</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	75	67
<i>Jones, J</i>	0	0	0	0	0	U	U	+	0	0	U	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	+	10	8
<i>Keel</i>	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	60	68
<i>Keffer, B</i>	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	84	84
<i>Keffer, J</i>	+	+	0	+	E	+	0	E	+	+	E	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	U	65	78
<i>King</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	U	75	75
<i>Kolkhorst</i>	+	+	+	U	+	+	0	E	+	U	0	0	E	+	0	0	U	+	0	+	50	63
<i>Krusee</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	U	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	89
<i>Kuempel</i>	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	E	+	+	0	0	E	+	0	+	+	+	U	+	67	83
<i>Laney</i>	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	40	55
<i>Laubenberg</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	85
<i>Lewis</i>	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	15
<i>Luna</i>	+	+	+	+	U	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	U	0	E	0	0	0	0	32	12
<i>Mabry</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	25	25
<i>Madden</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	U	0	+	+	+	0	+	75	89
<i>Marchant</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	85
<i>Martinez Fischer</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	20	13
<i>McCall</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	U	+	C	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	68	70
<i>McClendon</i>	+	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	U	20	9
<i>McReynolds</i>	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	U	30	26
<i>Menendez</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	U	0	10	9
<i>Mercer</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	70	70
<i>Merritt</i>	+	+	0	+	E	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	58	58

Representative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	%	C
<i>Miller</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	U	+	+	+	+	0	U	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	75	83
Moreno, J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	7
Moreno, P	U	0	0	U	0	0	0	U	0	0	+	+	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	11
<i>Morrison</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	U	75	70
<i>Mowery</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	85
Naishtat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	6
<i>Nixon</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	0	0	E	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	83	84
Noriega	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	20	8
Oliveira	0	0	0	+	E	0	E	E	E	0	E	+	E	E	0	0	U	E	E	0	18	15
Olivo	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	U	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	10
Paxton	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	90	90
Pena	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	U	E	U	0	0	0	0	16	16
<i>Phillips</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	U	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	80	80
Pickett	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	35	20
<i>Pitts</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	E	E	+	+	0	+	78	79
Puente	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	+	0	U	+	0	0	+	0	0	U	+	+	0	25	13
Quintanilla	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	25	25
Rangel	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	10
Raymond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	20	21
Reyna	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	90	92
<i>Riddle</i>	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	E	E	+	+	0	+	78	78
Ritter	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	60	36
Rodriguez	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	10	10
Rose	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	E	+	0	+	21	21
<i>Seaman</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	85	85
<i>Smith, T</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	75	73
<i>Smith, W</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	U	0	0	+	+	U	+	+	0	+	75	75
<i>Smithee</i>	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	0	U	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	83	85
Solis	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	20	8
<i>Solomons</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	75	82
<i>Stick</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	U	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	70	70
<i>Swinford</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	82
Talton	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90	95
<i>Taylor</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	80
Telford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	E	E	0	+	U	+	33	37
Thompson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	U	U	0	+	0	0	20	14
<i>Truitt</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	80	78
Turner	+	0	0	U	0	C	0	E	0	U	+	+	0	+	0	E	0	0	0	+	29	14
Uresti	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	5
<i>Van Arsdale</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	80
Villarreal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	U	10	5
<i>West</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	U	0	65	77
Wilson	+	+	0	0	0	+	E	+	0	0	0	+	0	E	0	0	0	+	0	0	33	23
Wise	0	0	0	0	0	0	E	0	0	0	+	+	0	E	0	0	0	+	0	0	17	13
<i>Wohlgemuth</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	E	+	+	0	U	74	88
Wolens	E	+	E	+	0	0	U	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	39	39
<i>Wong</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	80	80
<i>Woolley</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	85	85
<i>Zedler</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	80	80

Senate Vote Explanations

- 1) **Confirmation of Geraldine “Tincy” Miller** as chair of the State Board of Education. Confirmation passed 24-6. YCT-YES on confirmation. “Tincy” Miller is a good conservative and leader for the State Board of Education. (Mar. 6, 2003, p 427).
- 2) **HB 1.** Final passage of the general appropriations bill. HB 1 passed 26-5. YCT-YES on passage of HB 1. Historically, YCT has not used the general appropriations bill in our ratings, but in this session the budget was the most important and controversial issue. YCT supports the legislators who passed a balanced budget that cut spending and did not raise taxes when the State of Texas was in a recession. (Apr. 29, 2003, p 1197).
- 3) **HB 5.** Passage of Floor Amendment 9, by West, which would give a mandatory increase to teachers’ health care coverage. The West Amendment failed 13-16. YCT-NO on passage of the West Amendment. YCT believes that teachers’ health insurance should be handled at the district level instead of at the state level. (May 6, 2003, p 1386).
- 4) **HB 15.** Final passage of the informed consent law for abortions performed in the State of Texas. HB 15 passed 21-10. YCT-YES on passage of HB 15. YCT is a pro-life organization that supports efforts to decrease the number of abortions. HB 15 also increases the rights of parents over their minor children in this important decision. (May 21, 2003, p 2050).
- 5) **HB 3015.** Final passage of the unlimited tuition bill for public universities in the State of Texas. HB 3015 passed 23-8. YCT-NO on passage of HB 3015. This bill divests the responsibility of the State Legislature of setting tuition rates and gives it to the individual public university without caps and with virtually no legislative oversight. This bill will allow public universities to set their own tuition rates and raise them at their own will, which in the end only hurts college students and their families. (May 27, 2003, p 2596).
- 6) **SB 7.** Motion to suspend the three-day rule to consider SB 7 on second reading. SB 7 is the Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA, which prohibits the State of Texas from recognizing same-sex marriages. Motion passed 22-7. YCT-YES on motion to suspend the three-day rule. YCT supports traditional family values and holds the position that “marriage” is defined as a union between one man and one woman. (Apr. 14, 2003, p 965).
- 7) **SB 14.** Floor Amendment 15 by Gallegos would outlaw the practice of credit scoring in the insurance industry. The Gallegos Amendment failed 11-20. YCT-NO on passage of the Gallegos Amendment. YCT believes that the State should not remove the only reliable system of checks that the insurance industry has in determining financial responsibility of individuals. (Apr. 2, 2003, p 802).
- 8) **SB 14.** Floor Amendment 19 by Shapleigh would mandate an insurance rate rollback to a certain date. The Shapleigh Amendment failed 11-20. YCT-NO on passage of the Shapleigh Amendment. YCT opposes unnecessary government regulation of businesses. (Apr. 2, 2003, 802).
- 9) **SB 342.** Motion to suspend the three-day rule to consider SB 342. SB 342 would require state agencies to give preference in contracting to state agencies that provide health insurance to their workers and sets up a “Border Health Foundation” along the Texas-Mexico border. Motion to suspend the three-day rule failed 14-14. YCT-NO on motion to suspend the three-day rule. YCT opposes preferential contracts for any reason and increasing the size of government by creating new agencies and councils. (May 24, 2003, p 1241).
- 10) **SB 348.** Motion to suspend the three-day rule to consider SB 348 that would expand the options to a jury in a capitol offense to also include a life without parole sentence (along with the death penalty and a life sentence with parole after 40 years). Motion to suspend the three-day rule failed 19-12. YCT-NO on motion to suspend the three-day rule. YCT supports keeping the death penalty strong in the

State of Texas as a punishment for heinous crimes.

- 11) **CSSB 501.** Motion to suspend the three-day rule to place CSSB 501 on its third and final passage. CSSB 501 provides uniformity and consistency in Texas' concealed handgun license law for both licenses and law enforcement. Motion to suspend the three-day rule failed (not receiving 4/5 majority of the members present) 24-7. YCT-YES on motion to suspend the three-day rule. YCT supports the concealed handgun license law and making the law uniform throughout the State of Texas. (Mar. 31, 2003, p 758).
- 12) **SB 618.** Motion to table Floor Amendment 1, by Janek, which would make consequences to low-performing public schools optional. The consequences in question are the ability of the school district to fire under-performing teachers instead of reassigning them within the district. Motion to table the Janek Amendment failed 10-19. YCT-NO on motion to table the Janek Amendment. YCT supports the proposal of giving under-performing schools the option to fire poor teachers instead of reassigning them within the district. YCT supports efforts to penalize low-performing schools and their administrators as a first step towards a school voucher system. (Mar. 27, 2003, p 741).
- 13) **SB 1111.** Final passage of SB 1111. SB 1111 allows Dallas County to increase their hotel and occupancy taxes and their rental car taxes to support a new stadium for the Dallas Cowboys. SB 1111 passed 25-3. YCT-NO on passage of SB 1111. YCT opposes tax increases and taxpayer-funded corporate welfare projects. Additionally, YCT believes that taxes should not be levied on people who are not constituents of the elected officials levying the tax. (Apr. 2, 2003, p 816).
- 14) **SB 1200.** Final passage of SB 1200 that would create the Texas Next Step Program that gives grants to students for tuition in two-year colleges without meeting the high school curriculum requirements. SB 1200 passed 24-7. YCT-NO on passage of SB 1200. YCT does not support a state subsidized college education, especially for those that do not meet the minimum high school requirements. (May 20, 2003, p 1846).
- 15) **SB 1952.** Floor Amendment 44, by Van de Putte, would allow non-US and Texas residents to get a driver's license in the State of Texas with only proof of identity from their home country. The Van de Putte Amendment failed 9-18. YCT-NO on passage of Van de Putte Amendment. This amendment would give rights to non-US citizens that can potentially jeopardize the rights and safety of US citizens and also potentially create voter registration fraud. It also allows illegal citizens to masquerade as legal citizens. (May 22, 2003, p 2147).
- 16) **SB 2292.** Reconsideration of the vote on Floor Amendment 50 by Gallegos that would more than triple the amount of the cigarette tax within the State of Texas. The Gallegos Amendment failed 11-19. YCT-NO on passage of the Gallegos Amendment. YCT opposes tax increases.
- 17) **SJR 43.** Final passage of SJR 43, the Constitutional Amendment allowing the State of Texas to dip into the Permanent School Fund to buy right-of-ways for new highway construction. SJR 43 passed 28-3. YCT-NO on passage of SJR 43. YCT believes in sound fiscal policies by our State Legislature. This proposal is not fiscally sound and sets a bad precedent that the state can draw on the actual fund of both the Permanent School Fund and Public University Fund whenever additional money is needed for any project. (Apr. 9, 2003, p 913).
- 18) **SR 1034.** Passage of the Senate Resolution that allows the Senate to go outside the bounds of HB 3015 to actually allow universities to set their own tuition rates. SR 1034 passed 17-13. YCT-NO on passage of SR 1034. YCT opposes allowing universities to set their own tuition rates since the administrations at these universities are unaccountable to the voting public. (May 31, 2003, p 4397).

Senate Scorecard

Senator	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	%	C
Armbrister	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	50	55
Averitt	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	U	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	67	74
Barrientos	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	E	0	0	0	0	+	12	9
Bivins	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	U	+	0	0	61	77
Brimer	+	+	E	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	70	79
Carona	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	56	81
Deuell	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	67	67
Duncan	+	+	+	+	0	E	+	+	E	0	+	+	0	+	U	+	0	0	62	66
Ellis	U	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	22	18
Estes	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	72	72
Fraser	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	83	88
Gallegos	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	11	15
Harris	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	U	0	0	67	77
Hinojosa	0	0	U	0	+	E	0	0	E	0	+	U	0	0	0	0	0	+	19	15
Jackson	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	78	85
Janek	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	78	78
Lindsay	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	61	70
Lucio	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	E	47	33
Madla	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	E	0	0	+	0	+	47	29
Nelson	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	83	95
Ogden	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	83	82
Ratliff	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	39	67
Shapiro	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	72	89
Shapleigh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	6	12
Staples	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	U	+	0	+	72	83
Van de Putte	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	33	19
Wentworth	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	67	73
West	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	U	0	0	0	0	0	+	22	24
Whitmire	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	U	0	0	+	22	33
Williams	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	0	0	76	86
Zaffirini	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	28	29

2003 Honor Roll

Scores from 90-100 percent

Rep. Wayne Christian (95%)

Rep. Ken Paxton (90%)

Rep. Robert Talton (90%)

Rep. Talmadge Heflin (90%)

Rep. Elvira Reyna (90%)

Rep. Bryan Hughes (90%)

Honorable mention

Scores from 81-89 percent

Rep. Leo Berman (85%)

Rep. John Davis (84%)

Rep. Diane White Delisi (85%)

Rep. Rob Eissler (85%)

Rep. Dan Flynn (85%)

Rep. Linda Harper-Brown (85%)

Rep. Carl Isett (86%)

Rep. Jody Laubenberg (85%)

Sen. Jane Nelson (83%)

Sen. Steve Ogden (83%)

Rep. John Smithee (83%)

Rep. Joe Crabb (85%)

Rep. Glenda Dawson (85%)

Rep. Joe Driver (88%)

Sen. Troy Fraser (83%)

Rep. Peggy Hamric (85%)

Rep. Will Hartnett (89%)

Rep. Bill Keffer (84%)

Rep. Kenny Marchant (85%)

Rep. Joe Nixon (83%)

Rep. Gene Seaman (85%)

Rep. Beverly Woolley (85%)

Historical Honor Roll

Composite Scores 90-100 Percent

Rep. Leo Berman (91%)

Rep. Joe Crabb (92%)

Rep. Mary Denny (90%)

Rep. Talmadge Heflin (97%)

Rep. Suzanne Gratia Hupp (93%)

Sen. Jane Nelson (95%)

Rep. Robert Talton (95%)

Rep. Wayne Christian (94%)

Speaker Tom Craddick (90%)

Rep. Will Hartnett (90%)

Rep. Charlie Howard (91%)

Rep. Carl Isett (92%)

Rep. Elvira Reyna (92%)

*Historical Honor Roll based on 2 or more sessions. No rookies included.

Most Liberal Legislators

Score 10 percent and below

Rep. Roberto Alonzo (10%)
 Rep. Garnet Coleman (10%)
 Rep. Terri Hodge (10%)
 Rep. Jose Menendez (10%)
 Rep. Elliot Naishtat (10%)
 Sen. Eliot Shapleigh (6%)
 Rep. Mike Villareal (10%)

Rep. Joaquin Castro (10%)
 Rep. Dawnna Dukes (6%)
 Rep. Jesse Jones (10%)
 Rep. Paul Moreno (10%)
 Rep. Eddie Rodriguez (10%)
 Rep. Carlos Uresti (10%)

Most Conservative Democrats

Scores for Session above 40 percent

Sen. Ken Armbrister (50%)
 Rep. Dan Ellis (53%)
 Rep. Pete Laney (40%)
 Sen. Frank Madla (47%)

Rep. Robert Cook (45%)
 Rep. David Farrabee (55%)
 Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr. (47%)
 Rep. Allen Ritter (60%)

Most Liberal Republicans

Scores for Session below 55 percent

Rep. Charlie Geren (55%)
 Rep. Rick Hardcastle (50%)
 Sen. Bill Ratliff (39%)

Rep. Pat Haggerty (50%)
 Rep. Lois Kolkhorst (50%)

Young Conservatives of Texas

Legislative Ratings Committee

Chairman

Randy Samuelson

Vice-Chairman

Matthew Griffing

Ashton Ellis
Austin Kinghorn
Matt Maddox
David Rushing
Steve Watson

Young Conservatives of Texas State Officers

State Chairman

David Rushing

Senior Vice Chairman for Legislative Affairs

Randy Samuelson

Vice Chairman for Communications

Mark McCaig

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