



Georgia – CPAC Scorecard

Center for Legislative Analysis

12th Edition – 2025

Summary

In the 12th edition of the Georgia CPAC Scorecard, CPAC Foundation’s Center for Legislative Analysis rated 21 House bills and 20 Senate bills. The Georgia General Assembly delivered on a host of Conservative priorities during the 2025 legislative session. **Led by strong Republican majorities, the Assembly reduced the burden on Georgia’s taxpayers, rooted out taxpayer-funded gender ideology, and protected Georgia from foreign threats.** The Conservative success did not stop there. The General Assembly also enshrined additional religious freedom protections into law and improved the fairness of litigation.

The overall score for Republican lawmakers in the Georgia General Assembly came in at a solid 78%, representing the commitment of Georgia Republicans to Conservative principles. By contrast, **Democrat lawmakers scored a mere 29%**. The overall score for all legislators was 58%, which was almost exactly the same as their 2024 score of 57%. This points to the steady decision making of Republicans in the General Assembly, who are holding the line against government expansion and woke ideology.

Key Takeaways

Reducing the Burden on Georgia’s Taxpayers

Georgia taxpayers received much-deserved relief during the 2025 legislative session. Due to sound fiscal management, Georgia’s government was in a position to reduce citizens’ future tax obligations and return taxes already paid. The General Assembly passed HB 111 in April of 2025, which accelerates the implementation of tax reductions that were already approved. In practice, this means tax relief arrived to Georgians faster than originally anticipated. And HB 112 offered a one-time tax rebate for Georgians who filed income taxes in 2023 and 2024. Instead of finding inventive ways to spend the surplus generated during those years, the General Assembly returned the money to its rightful owners: the Georgian taxpayer.

Rooting Out Taxpayer-Funded Gender Ideology

The General Assembly addressed the pressing issue of taxpayer-funded gender ideology during the 2025 legislative session. SB 1, also known as the “Riley Gaines Act of 2025,” ensured that biological males in Georgia schools cannot compete in women’s athletics or utilize changing areas designated for women. SB 185 ensured that prison inmates will not receive taxpayer dollars to finance their “gender-affirming care” while incarcerated. These bills protect both young people and taxpayers from being forced to finance and endure state-sponsored gender ideology.

Protecting Georgia from Foreign Threats

Assembly members took steps to protect Georgia and the United States from hostile foreign threats. HB 113 barred the State Government and State Agencies from purchasing goods from nations identified by the U.S. Commerce Secretary as a “foreign nation of concern.” This bill protects Georgia’s state systems and services from becoming dependent on an adversary. HB 150 requires state universities to submit biannual reports on donations received by individuals from hostile nations, providing Georgia with a clear picture of foreign influence in the state’s higher-education system. HB 358 helped add clarity to a previous ban on “foreign persons and entities” from purchasing land near U.S. military installations in Georgia. Each of these bills help to ensure the independence and safety of Georgia from those who wish her citizens harm.

Highlighted Votes Analyzed

SB 36 – Georgia Religious Freedom Restoration Act

SB 36 enshrines additional protections for people of faith into Georgia law, protecting them from discrimination for religious beliefs or practices. CPAC advocates for the free exercise of religion without fear of government retaliation, so it supports this bill. After being approved by both chambers of the General Assembly, SB 36 was signed into law on April 4, 2025, by Governor Brian Kemp.

SB 68: Tort-Reform Bill

SB 68 ensures tort litigation in Georgia is handled more efficiently and fairly. The bill includes protections against onerous “phantom charges,” which force defendants to pay for damages never incurred. CPAC believes that efforts to ensure monetary rewards reflect actual damages are worthwhile, and it supports this bill. SB 68 was passed by both

chambers of the General Assembly, and it was signed into law by Governor Brian Kemp on April 21, 2025.

SB 82: Local Charter School Authorization and Support Act of 2025

SB 82 incentivizes local school districts to approve new charter schools, helping to meet Georgians' high demand for choice in education. CPAC advocates for school choice and charter schools, and it supports this bill. SB 82 was passed by both chambers of the Georgia General Assembly, and it was signed into law by Governor Brian Kemp on April 28, 2025.

Trends and Observations

Georgians Reap the Benefits of Conservative Governance

In recent years, Georgia's government has consistently operated with budget surpluses. This trend is a direct result of Republican majorities in both chambers of the General Assembly drawing on Conservative principles to guide their decision making. Budgets are balanced by a combination of both a robust tax base and fiscal discipline. Republican Assembly members delivered progress in both areas during the 2025 legislative session.

- **Creating a Robust Tax Base:** Georgia's tax base is supported by a vibrant business community. Georgia's 2025 legislative session saw the passage of multiple initiatives that eased the burdens on businesses operating in the state. Most prominently, SB 68, a tort-reform bill that addressed complaints by businesses that tort litigation in Georgia was beginning to stifle investment, was passed by both chambers of the Assembly. With SB 68 becoming law, Georgia's Assembly members ensured Georgia's business community can continue to invest freely in the state and employ more Georgians.
- **Fiscal Discipline:** In a victory for fiscal discipline and competent management, SB 96 was passed by both chambers of the General Assembly and signed into law. SB 96 eliminates redundant and defunct government boards. With needless boards eliminated, Georgia's government is free to utilize its time on issues that are actually pertinent. This means every tax dollar goes further and citizens get better results from their government.

The citizens of Georgia are the beneficiaries of this wise Conservative leadership. Bills like HB 111 and HB 112, which allow Georgians to keep more of their hard-earned money, are only possible because the state has been effectively managed over many years. At the same

time taxpayers in California are facing looming tax hikes, taxpayers in Georgia are going to be receiving a tax rebate. The success of Conservatism is on display in Georgia.

The Tide Turns Against Exposing Minors to Gender Ideology

After creating disappointment during the 2024 legislative session, Georgia's General Assembly made solid progress protecting minors from gender ideology in 2025. In a victory for female athletes, the General Assembly passed SB 1, the "Riley Gaines Act of 2025." The bill requires school athletes to compete with their own biological sex. Moreover, the bill also mandates that school athletes must use sex-appropriate changing rooms, precluding the possibility of biological males changing with female athletes. The General Assembly and the Governor should be lauded for protecting the achievements and safety of Georgia's student athletes in public schools and state colleges.

Conservative Excellence - Senate

John Albers - 94%

Greg Dolezal - 90%

Conservative Excellence - House

Mitchell Horner - 94%

Conservative Achievement - Senate

Larry Walker - 89%

Brandon Beach - 84%

Randy Robertson - 84%

Blake Tillery - 84%

Marty Harbin - 83%

Ed Setzler - 83%

Lee Anderson - 80%

Timothy Bearden - 80%

Matt Brass - 80%

Max Burns - 80%

Drew Echols - 80%

Frank Ginn - 80%

Steve Gooch - 80%

Russ Goodman - 80%

Bo Hatchett - 80%

Billy Hickman - 80%

Mike Hodges - 80%

John Kennedy - 80%

Kay Kirkpatrick - 80%

Colton Moore - 80%

Chuck Payne - 80%

Shawn Still - 80%

Carden Summers - 80%

Ben Watson - 80%

Sam Watson - 80%

Ricky Williams - 80%

Conservative Achievement - House

John Carson - 89%

Noelle Kahaian - 86%

Jason Ridley - 85%

Steve Tarvin - 85%

Charlice Byrd - 85%

Scott Hilton - 83%

Houston Gaines - 81%

Leesa Hagan - 81%

Mitchell Scoggins - 81%

David Clark - 80%

Robert Dickey - 80%

Emory Dunahoo - 80%

Ginny Ehrhart - 80%

Stan Gunter - 80%

Lauren McDonald - 80%

Martin Momtahan - 80%

Trey Rhodes - 80%

Darlene Taylor - 80%