

IN PERSPECTIVE



Americans are talking increasingly about issues of importance to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Across kitchen tables and around office water coolers, people are engaged in dialogue about hate crimes, same-sex marriage and military service — about basic equal rights for our community in the new millennium.

On Nov. 7, Americans will elect a new president and a new Congress. Many races could be quite close, meaning that a small number of voters could make the difference — just a few votes in a few states and congressional districts will influence the end result. This year, more than ever, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Americans along with our allies, friends, families and co-workers could factor heavily in the outcome.

The Human Rights Campaign wants to provide you with the information you need to be an informed voter. Use this scorecard to evaluate your senators and representative. Contact them on issues that are critical to you. Most importantly, get involved to elect a fair-minded Congress.

Now is the time to let your voice be heard.

1) EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT, H.R. 2355 (CO-SPONSORSHIP)

All 435 members of the House of Representatives were asked to co-sponsor legislation introduced June 24, 1999, that would prohibit anti-gay discrimination in the workplace. At the end of the 106th Congress, H.R. 2355 had 172 co-sponsors: Democrats - 155; Republicans - 16; Independent - 1.

2) HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT, H.R. 1082 (CO-SPONSORSHIP)

All 435 members of the House were asked to co-sponsor legislation introduced March 11, 1999, that would extend federal jurisdiction over serious, violent hate crimes committed because of real or perceived sexual orientation, gender and disability when other jurisdictions will not or cannot act. At the end of the 106th Congress, H.R. 1082 had 192 co-sponsors: Democrats - 170; Republicans - 21; Independent - 1.

3) NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Representatives were asked to voluntarily adopt a written policy for their congressional offices indicating that sexual orientation is not a factor in their employment decisions. A total of 262 representatives have adopted a non-discrimination policy: Democrats - 188; Republicans - 73; Independent - 1.

4) SOUDER AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1501

On June 17, 1999, the House considered an amendment offered by Rep. Mark Souder, R-Ind., that would have undermined educational programs designed to prevent hate crimes in public schools by prohibiting the development of curriculums addressing anti-gay violence and prejudice. The House defeated this amendment by a vote of 210 to 216. Eight representatives did not vote: Democrats - 36 yes/172 no; Republicans - 174 yes/43 no; Independent - 1 no. **HRC opposed this amendment.**

5) NADLER AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1691

On July 15, 1999, Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., introduced an amendment designed to correct a serious flaw with H.R. 1691, the Religious Liberty Protection Act, that threatened to pit one civil right against another. RLPA would have prohibited governments from enforcing laws that substantially burden a person's religious beliefs unless that law was narrowly tailored to meet a compelling governmental interest. This very high legal standard could threaten enforcement of hard-won civil rights laws. The House defeated this amendment by a vote of 190 to 234. Ten representatives did not vote: Democrats - 174 yes/30 no; Republicans - 15 yes/204 no; Independent - 1 yes. **HRC supported this amendment.**

6) LARGENT AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2387

Rep. Steve Largent, R-Okla., introduced his amendment to the fiscal year 2000 District of Columbia appropriations bill that would prohibit couples in Washington not related by blood or marriage from jointly adopting a child. This amendment failed July 29, 1999, by a vote of 213 to 215. Five representatives did not vote: Democrats - 30 yes/178 no; Republicans - 183 yes/36 no; Independent - 1 no. **HRC opposed this amendment.**

7) NADLER/CROWLEY/SHAYS AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2684

Reps. Jerry Nadler, D-N.Y., Joseph Crowley, D-N.Y., and Christopher Shays, R-Conn., offered an amendment to the Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill that would have restored \$10 million that had been cut from the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS program. The HOPWA amendment passed Sept. 8, 1999, by a vote of 212 to 207. Fourteen representatives did not vote: Democrats - 162 yes/41 no; Republicans - 49 yes/166 no; Independent - 1 yes. **HRC supported this amendment.**

8) GRAHAM MOTION TO INSTRUCT TO H.R. 4205

On Sept. 13, 2000, Rep. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., — in an attempt to derail a vote on meaningful hate crimes legislation — introduced a motion to instruct House conferees on the Department of Defense authorization bill that did nothing to address the issue of hate violence. The motion falsely implied that the revised Senate-passed Hate Crimes Prevention Act is unconstitutional, and attacked the underlying basis of all existing federal civil rights laws. Graham's motion failed 196 to 227. Ten representatives did not vote: Democrats - 19 yes/187 no; Republicans - 176 yes/39 no; Independents - 1 yes/1 no. **HRC opposed this motion.**

9) CONYERS MOTION TO INSTRUCT TO H.R. 4205

Reps. John Conyers, D-Mich., and Barney Frank, D-Mass., offered a non-binding motion to instruct House Department of Defense authorization conferees to accept the Senate-passed, Kennedy-Smith hate crimes amendment. (See vote 7 in the Senate.) The Kennedy-Smith hate crimes amendment would add real or perceived sexual orientation, gender and disability to existing law and remove the overly burdensome restriction on federal involvement in helping investigate and prosecute hate crimes. The Conyers motion passed Sept. 13, 2000, by a vote of 232 to 192. Nine representatives did not vote: Democrats - 190 yes/17 no; Republicans - 41 yes/ 174 no; Independents - 1 yes/ 1 no. **HRC supported this motion.**

10) SOUDER AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4942

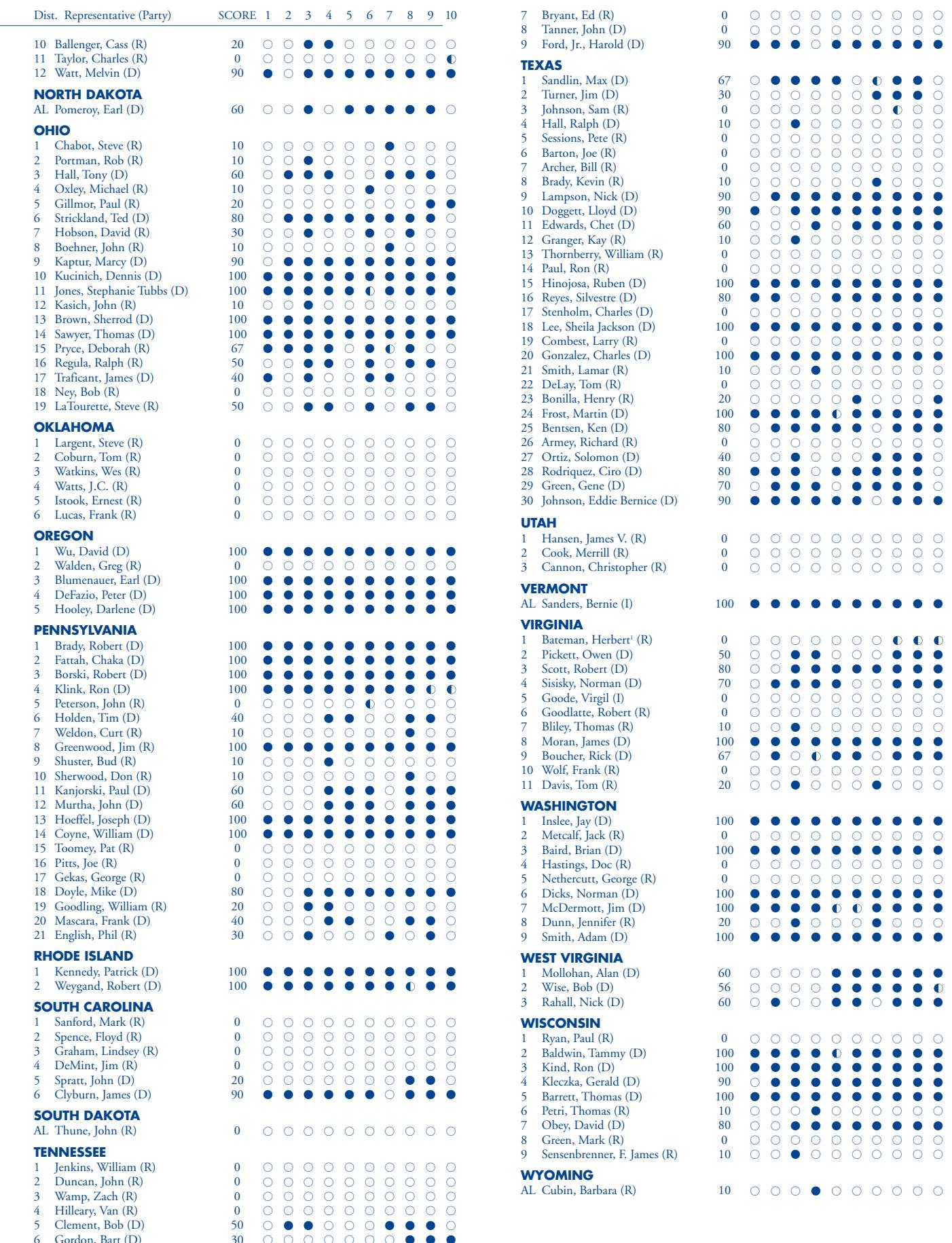
On Sept. 14, 2000, the House of Representatives passed an amendment introduced by Rep. Mark Souder, R-Ind., that would prohibit locally raised funds in Washington, D.C., from being used to operate a needle exchange program. Needle exchange programs are scientifically proven to reduce HIV transmission without increasing drug use. The amendment passed by a vote of 239 to 181. Fourteen representatives did not vote: Democrats - 42 yes/160 no; Republicans - 196 yes/20 no; Independents - 1 yes/1 no. **HRC opposed this amendment.**

Although important to advancing the reauthorization process, the Human Rights Campaign did not endorse the House version of the legislation to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act (H.R. 4807) because of policy concerns over certain provisions. We appreciate those members who were supportive of this legislation, but chose not to include House cosponsorship in this voting guide.

DELEGATES

Because delegates do not represent states, they do not have voting privileges on the floor of the House. However, they can co-sponsor legislation.

	Delegate (Party)	1	2	3
AMERICAN SAMOA	Faleomavaega, Eni F. (D)	●	●	●
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	Norton, Eleanor Holmes (D)	●	●	●
GUAM	Underwood, Robert (D)	●	●	●
PUERTO RICO	Romero-Barcelo, Carlos (D)	○	●	●
VIRGIN ISLANDS	Christensen, Donna M.	●	●	○



● Supported HRC's position ○ Did not support HRC's position □ Did not vote

1. Rep. Herbert Bateman (R) died Sept. 11, 2000.

1) EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT, S. 1276 (CO-SPONSORSHIP)

All 100 members of the Senate were asked to co-sponsor legislation introduced June 24, 1999, that would prohibit anti-gay discrimination in the workplace. At the end of the 106th Congress, S. 1276 had 37 co-sponsors: Democrats - 34; Republicans - 3.

2) HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT, S. 622 (CO-SPONSORSHIP)

All 100 members of the Senate were asked to co-sponsor legislation introduced March 16, 1999, that would extend federal jurisdiction over serious, violent hate crimes committed because of real or perceived sexual orientation, gender and disability when other jurisdictions will not or cannot act. At the end of the 106th Congress, S. 622 had 42 co-sponsors: Democrats - 36; Republicans - 6.

3) RYAN WHITE CARE ACT, S. 2311 (CO-SPONSORSHIP)

Members of the Senate were asked to co-sponsor legislation introduced March 29, 2000, that would reauthorize the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act. The CARE Act has allowed HIV-positive people to live longer, healthier lives and represents the largest and most critical discretionary federal investment in treating individuals with HIV and AIDS. At the end of the 106th Congress, the CARE Act had 52 co-sponsors: Democrats - 34; Republicans - 18.

4) NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Senators were asked to voluntarily adopt a written policy for their congressional offices indicating that sexual orientation is not a factor in their employment decisions. A total of 66 senators have adopted a non-discrimination policy: Democrats - 42; Republicans - 24.

5) HARKIN AMENDMENT TO S. 1692

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, offered an amendment expressing the sense of Congress to reaffirm the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision as creating an important constitutional right to abortion that should be maintained. His amendment narrowly passed on Oct. 21, 1999, by a vote of 51 to 47 (two senators did not vote): Democrats - 43 yes/2 no; Republicans - 8 yes/45 no. HRC supported this amendment.

6) HATCH AMENDMENT TO S. 2549

On June 20, 2000, Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, offered an inadequate hate crimes amendment to the fiscal year 2001 defense authorization bill. The Hatch amendment failed to address problems with existing law, failed to acknowledge the critical role of the federal government in responding to bias crime and failed to address crimes based on the victim's sexual orientation, disability or gender. This amendment narrowly passed 50 to 49. One Senator did not vote: Democrats - 2 yes/43 no; Republicans - 48 yes/6 no. HRC opposed this amendment.

7) KENNEDY-SMITH AMENDMENT TO S. 2549

Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Gordon Smith, R-Ore., introduced on June 20, 2000, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, renamed the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, as an amendment to the fiscal year 2001 defense authorization bill. The Kennedy-Smith amendment would extend basic hate crime protections to all Americans in all communities by adding real or perceived sexual orientation, gender and disability to the categories covered and by removing the federally protected activity requirement. This amendment was overwhelmingly approved 57 to 42. One senator did not vote: Democrats - 44 yes/1 no; Republicans - 13 yes/41 no. HRC supported this amendment.

SENATE

Name (Party)	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ALABAMA								
Shelby, Richard (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Sessions, Jeff (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
ALASKA								
Murkowski, Frank (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Stevens, Ted (R)	29	○	○	○	○	●	○	●
ARIZONA								
McCain, John (R)	17	○	○	○	●	●	○	○
Kyl, Jon (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
ARKANSAS								
Hutchinson, Tim (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Lincoln, Blanche (D)	43	○	○	○	○	●	●	●
CALIFORNIA								
Feinstein, Dianne (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Boxer, Barbara (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
COLORADO								
Campbell, Ben Nighthorse (R)	29	○	○	○	●	●	○	○
Allard, Wayne (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CONNECTICUT								
Dodd, Christopher (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Lieberman, Joseph (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
DELAWARE								
Roth, William (R)	29	○	○	○	●	○	○	●
Biden, Joseph (D)	86	○	●	●	●	●	●	●
FLORIDA								
Graham, Bob (D)	86	○	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mack, Connie (R)	43	○	○	●	●	○	○	●
GEORGIA								
Cleland, Max (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Miller, Zell ¹ (D)	0	○	○	○	●	●	○	●
HAWAII								
Inouye, Daniel (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Akaka, Daniel (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
IDAHO								
Craig, Larry (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Crapo, Michael (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
ILLINOIS								
Durbin, Richard (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fitzgerald, Peter (R)	14	○	○	○	○	○	●	○
INDIANA								
Lugar, Richard (R)	43	○	○	●	●	○	○	●
Bayh, Evan (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
IOWA								
Grassley, Charles (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Harkin, Tom (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
KANSAS								
Brownback, Sam (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Roberts, Pat (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
KENTUCKY								
McConnell, Mitch (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Bunning, Jim (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
LOUISIANA								
Breaux, John (D)	86	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
Landrieu, Mary (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
MAINE								
Snowe, Olympia (R)	86	○	●	●	●	●	●	●
Collins, Susan (R)	71	○	●	●	●	●	○	●
MARYLAND								
Sarbanes, Paul (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mikulski, Barbara (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
MASSACHUSETTS								
Kennedy, Edward (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kerry, John (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
MICHIGAN								
Levin, Carl (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Abraham, Spencer (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
MINNESOTA								
Wellstone, Paul (D)	100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Grams, Rod (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
MISSISSIPPI								
Cochran, Thad (R)	14	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Lott, Trent (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
MISSOURI								
Bond, Christopher (R)	29	○	○	●	●	○	○	○
Ashcroft, John (R)	0	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

● Supported HRC's position ○ Did not support HRC's position □ Did not vote

1. Sen. Paul Coverdell (R) died July 18, 2000. Zell Miller (D) was sworn in July 27, 2000.

2. Sen. John Chafee (R) died Oct. 24, 1999. Lincoln Chafee (R) was sworn in Nov. 4, 1999.

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