

111th Congress First Session • 2009



Congressional Scorecard



American Federation of State, County
and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

How to Judge a Member's Voting Record

AFSCME selects a few roll-call votes from the hundreds cast by members of Congress every session. In choosing these votes, AFSCME attempts to fairly represent a lawmaker's position on issues determined to be important to AFSCME members — first and foremost as workers, but also as citizens and union brothers and sisters.

This voting scorecard is one of the key factors used in making judgments on AFSCME campaign support, endorsements or contributions from PEOPLE — AFSCME's Political Action Committee, or PAC. Other important factors often include the member's official leadership position, chairmanship or seniority on important committees, leadership in a state's congressional delegation, and accessibility and responsiveness to AFSCME's lobbying efforts.

Visit AFSCME's website at www.afscme.org to obtain *AFSCME e-News*, weekly reports, letters to congressional members and votes. Questions concerning the selection of the votes or other aspects of a member's record are welcome.

Write to AFSCME Department of Legislation,
1625 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036-5687,
or call (800) 732-8120.

2009 Senate Vote Descriptions



1. Fighting Wage Discrimination

AFSCME Position: Yes

The Senate approved the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 (S. 181), which restores long-standing pay discrimination protection the Supreme Court eliminated in its 2007 *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.* decision.

Senate Vote Number 14

AFSCME supported the bill, which the Senate approved by a vote of 61 to 36 on January 22, 2009.

2. Increasing Child Health Care Coverage

AFSCME Position: Yes

The Senate approved the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (H.R. 2), which expands coverage for low-income children who lack health insurance.

Senate Vote Number 31

AFSCME supported the bill, which the Senate passed by a vote of 66 to 32 on January 29, 2009.

3. Providing State and Local Government Aid

AFSCME Position: Yes

The Senate approved the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (H.R. 1), which provided vital state and local fiscal relief, unemployment assistance and key funding for job preservation and creation.

Senate Vote Number 61

AFSCME supported the bill, which the Senate passed by a vote of 61 to 37 on February 10, 2009.

4. Nomination of Hilda Solis

AFSCME Position: Yes

The Senate approved the nomination of Hilda Solis to be Secretary of Labor. During her tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, Solis maintained a 100 percent AFSCME voting record.

Senate Vote Number 66

AFSCME supported the nomination, which the Senate approved by a vote of 80 to 17 on February 24, 2009.

5. Opposing Union Organizing

AFSCME Position: No

During debate on the Omnibus Appropriations Act, Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) offered an amendment to deny funding for implementation of an executive order Pres. Barack Obama issued on January 30, 2009, entitled "Notification of Employee Rights Under Federal Labor Laws." The order reversed a Bush-era anti-worker executive order that made it harder to form unions and organize.

Senate Vote Number 91

AFSCME supported the executive order and opposed the amendment, which the Senate rejected by a vote of 38 to 59 on March 10, 2009.

6. Restoring Funding for Labor and Education Programs

AFSCME Position: Yes

The Senate approved the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 (H.R. 1105), which combined funding for several agencies, including the Department of Labor and Department of Education. It provided a 5–7 percent increase in critical funding for labor, health



and safety net programs when compared with the Bush administration's spending request.

Senate Vote Number 96

AFSCME supported the bill, which the Senate approved by a vote of 62 to 35 on March 10, 2009.

7. Helping Homeowners Avoid Foreclosure

AFSCME Position: Yes

During debate on the Helping Families Save Their Homes Act (S. 896), Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) offered an amendment to allow bankruptcy judges to modify home mortgages and allow thousands facing foreclosure to keep their homes. Despite predatory lending, many mortgage lenders have been slow or failed to modify loans based on false or misleading information.

Senate Vote Number 174

AFSCME supported the amendment, which the Senate rejected by a vote of 45 to 51 on April 30, 2009.

8. Nomination of Sonia Sotomayor

AFSCME Position: Yes

The Senate approved the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Sotomayor has served with distinction as a litigator, prosecutor, trial court attorney and U.S. appellate judge and demonstrated a commitment to civil liberties and equal justice under the law.

Senate Vote Number 262

AFSCME supported the nomination, which the Senate approved by a vote of 68 to 31 on August 6, 2009.

9. Moving Health Care Reform Forward

AFSCME Position: Yes

To proceed with consideration of the Patient Protection and

Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590), the Senate approved a motion to invoke cloture. A cloture motion allows the Senate to cut off debate if a 3/5 majority is achieved.

Senate Vote Number 353

AFSCME supported the motion, which the Senate approved by a vote of 60 to 39 on November 21, 2009.

10. Derailing Health Care Reform

AFSCME Position: No

During debate on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590), a number of Republican senators used motions to recommit to stall debate and kill the health care bill. A motion to recommit, if passed, removes the bill from the floor and sends it back to committee.

Senate Vote Number 364

AFSCME opposed the motion offered by Sen. Mike Johanns (R-NE), which the Senate rejected by a vote of 41 to 53 on December 5, 2009.

11. Reforming Health Care

AFSCME Position: Yes

The Senate approved the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590) — comprehensive health care reform legislation. The bill required most large employers to provide or help fund health care for workers, included measures to help reduce cost pressures on our coverage, improved Medicare and created subsidies for families who do not get coverage through their job. The bill also addressed abuses by insurance companies such as denying coverage to those with pre-existing conditions. However, the bill included a tax on high-cost plans.

Senate Vote Number 396

AFSCME supported moving the debate forward and passing a Senate health care bill. The Senate passed the bill by a vote of 60 to 39 on December 24, 2009.



Senate Voting Record 2009



Vote Number	AFSCME Position											Session Support (percent)	Career Cumulative Record		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		Right	Wrong	% Right
Alabama															
Sessions, J. (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	X	0%	4	105	4%
Shelby (R)	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	9%	49	156	24%
Alaska															
Begich (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	11	0	100%
Murkowski (R)	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	36%	13	46	22%
Arizona															
Kyl (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	0	119	0%
McCain (R)	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9%	30	164	15%
Arkansas															
Lincoln (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	82%	75	17	82%
Pryor (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	54	5	92%
California															
Boxer (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	141	2	99%
Feinstein (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	131	18	88%
Colorado															
Bennet, M. (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	10	1	91%
Udall, M. (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	86	4	96%
Connecticut															
Dodd (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	238	26	90%
Lieberman (I)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	171	30	85%
Delaware															
Carper (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	70	8	90%
Kaufman (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	11	0	100%

Senate Voting Record 2009



Vote Number	Fighting Wage Discrimination Increasing Child Health Care Coverage Providing State & Local Government Aid Nomination of Hilda Solis Opposing Union Organizing Funding Labor & Education Programs Helping Homeowners Avoid Foreclosure Nomination of Sonia Sotomayor Moving Health Care Reform Forward Derailing Health Care Reform Reforming Health Care											Session Support (percent)	Career Cumulative Record		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		Right	Wrong	% Right
AFSCME Position	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			

Florida

LeMieux (R)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	0%	0	3	0%
Martinez (R) <i>resigned</i>	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	?	?	?	38%	4	36	10%
Nelson, Bill (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	72	7	91%

Georgia

Chambliss (R)	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9%	3	56	5%
Isakson (R)	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9%	1	42	2%

Hawaii

Akaka (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	172	4	98%
Inouye (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	281	20	93%

Idaho

Crapo (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	1	89	1%
Risch (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	0	11	0%

Illinois

Burris (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	11	0	100%
Durbin (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	108	2	98%

Indiana

Bayh (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	82%	83	9	90%
Lugar (R)	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	27%	36	261	12%

Iowa

Grassley (R)	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9%	29	241	11%
Harkin (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	211	14	94%

Kansas

Brownback (R)	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9%	2	106	2%
Roberts (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	4	106	4%

Key: ✓ voted with AFSCME's position; X voted against AFSCME's position; ? did not vote.

Senate Voting Record 2009



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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		Right	Wrong	% Right
	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			

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Kentucky

Bunning (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	4	88	4%
McConnell (R)	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9%	19	220	8%

Louisiana

Landrieu (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	92	17	84%
Vitter (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	0	43	0%

Maine

Collins (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	45%	38	72	35%
Snowe (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	55%	50	78	39%

Maryland

Cardin (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	27	0	100%
Mikulski (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	209	7	97%

Massachusetts

Kennedy, E. (D) <i>deceased</i>	?	?	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	100%	288	12	96%
Kerry (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	217	13	94%
Kirk (D)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	100%	3	0	100%

Michigan

Levin, C. (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	267	16	94%
Stabenow (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	78	1	99%

Minnesota

Franken, A. (D)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	4	0	100%
Klobuchar (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	27	0	100%

Mississippi

Cochran (R)	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	18%	33	247	12%
Wicker (R)	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	9%	1	19	5%

Senate Voting Record 2009



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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		Right	Wrong	% Right
AFSCME Position	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y				

Missouri

Bond (R)	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	18%	31	187	14%
McCaskill (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	25	1	96%

Montana

Baucus (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	223	55	80%
Tester (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	25	2	93%

Nebraska

Johanns (R)	X	X	X	✓	?	?	X	X	X	X	X	11%	1	8	11%
Nelson, Ben (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	82%	54	25	68%

Nevada

Ensign (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	2	73	3%
Reid, H. (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	201	18	92%

New Hampshire

Gregg (R)	X	X	?	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	20%	8	139	5%
Shaheen (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	11	0	100%

New Jersey

Lautenberg (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	59	0	100%
Menendez (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	35	0	100%

New Mexico

Bingaman (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	230	18	93%
Udall, T. (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	92	0	100%

New York

Gillibrand (D)	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	28	0	100%
Schumer (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	88	3	97%

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Vote Number	AFSCME Position											Session Support (percent)	Career Cumulative Record		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		Right	Wrong	% Right
	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y				

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North Carolina

Burr (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	1	42	2%
Hagan (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	11	0	100%

North Dakota

Conrad (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	192	28	87%
Dorgan (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	91%	135	10	93%

Ohio

Brown, Sherrod (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	27	0	100%
Voinovich (R)	X	X	X	Y	Y	X	X	Y	?	X	X	30%	18	72	20%

Oklahoma

Coburn (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	0	42	0%
Inhofe (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	0%	2	124	2%

Oregon

Merkley (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	11	0	100%
Wyden (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	107	10	91%

Pennsylvania

Casey (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	27	0	100%
Specter (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	91%	141	111	56%

Rhode Island

Reed, J. (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	108	1	99%
Whitehouse (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	100%	27	0	100%

South Carolina

DeMint (R)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0%	0	43	0%
Graham (R)	X	X	X	Y	X	X	X	Y	X	?	X	20%	3	55	5%

Senate Voting Record 2009



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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		Right	Wrong	% Right
	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y				

South Dakota

Johnson, Tim (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	94	7	93%
Thune (R)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	0%	2	41	5%

Tennessee

Alexander, L. (R)	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	36%	7	52	12%
Corker (R)	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	18%	3	24	11%

Texas

Cornyn (R)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	0%	1	58	2%
Hutchison (R)	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	27%	13	131	9%

Utah

Bennett, R. (R)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	9%	9	140	6%
Hatch (R)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	9%	33	263	11%

Vermont

Leahy (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	100%	287	25	92%
Sanders (I)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	100%	26	0	100%

Virginia

Warner (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	11	0	100%
Webb (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	91%	26	1	96%

Washington

Cantwell (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	75	4	95%
Murray (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	138	8	95%

West Virginia

Byrd (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	?	✓	90%	279	46	86%
Rockefeller (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	215	15	93%

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		Right	Wrong	% Right
	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y				

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Wisconsin

Feingold (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91%	139	10	93%
Kohl, H. (D)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	178	26	87%

Wyoming

Barrasso (R)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	9%	1	22	4%
Enzi (R)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	9%	3	105	3%

