



## HOW TO USE THE TAXPAYERS LEAGUE SCORECARD

This scorecard reports key votes lawmakers cast on taxes and spending. A “+” vote denotes a pro-taxpayer position. The rating reflects the percentage of pro-taxpayer votes cast. Also reported is the cumulative score for each state legislator for years 1997-2002.

The Taxpayers League of Minnesota is a nonpartisan nonprofit grassroots taxpayer advocacy organization representing thousands of Minnesotans. It fights for lower taxes, limited government and the full empowerment of taxpaying citizens in accordance with Constitutional principles. Nothing in this scorecard implies endorsement of any candidate for public office.

### TO CONTACT LAWMAKERS:

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- Toll Free: ..... (800) 657-3550
- MN Senate Switchboard: ..... (651) 296-0504
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- Governor’s Office ..... (651) 296-3391
- U.S. House of Reps Switchboard ..... (202) 225-3121
- U.S. Senate Switchboard ..... (202) 225-3121

## PLEASE JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR LOWER TAXES

If you’re tired of Minnesota’s high taxes and big government – and you want to join the fight to change it – the Taxpayers League would like your help. To support our cause, we suggest a gift of \$25 or more be sent to:

TAXPAYERS LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA  
 One Carlson Parkway, Ste. 120  
 Plymouth, MN 55447  
 (763) 249-5950  
 Fax: (763) 249-5960  
 Visit our website at:  
[www.taxpayersleague.org](http://www.taxpayersleague.org)



## OUR MISSION

**Michael Wigley**  
Chairman, Taxpayers League

"The Taxpayers League's mission is to represent Minnesotans who believe in limited government, low taxation, local control, free enterprise and the Constitutional principles set forth by our nation's founders.

The Taxpayers League is fighting to reduce and reform taxation, eliminate government waste and improve efficiency. It serves as a strong voice for all taxpaying citizens in Minnesota."

## THE 2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



**Linda Runbeck**  
President

It was bound to happen. After 10 years of spending growth far outstripping inflation, our state has landed in a pool of red ink. Of course the liberal interest groups are all lining up behind massive tax increases to keep the spending train on track, so it is doubly important that you ask your state lawmakers to sign the Taxpayer Protection Pledge.

## WHAT’S NEXT?

State spending grew by 28% during Governor Ventura’s tenure: from \$21 billion in 1998 to \$27 billion today--landing us #1 in per capita state tax burden this year. Despite this alarming fact, liberals in the State Senate have proposed over \$7 billion in new taxes. The next legislative session will determine the direction of Minnesota’s future. Will we have bigger government and higher taxes, or a more balanced budget approach?



**David Strom**  
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TAXPAYERS  
LEAGUE  
*of Minnesota*

## 2002 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

*A Guide to  
Minnesota Lawmakers’  
Votes on Taxes  
and Spending*

# United States Congress Scorecard - 107th Congress 2001-02



U.S. Senator	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Score
Mark Dayton (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Paul Wellstone (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%



## U.S. Senate Votes

- 1) Kill the Death Tax (Roll Call 151)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to permanently repeal the death tax.
- 2) Stimulate Lagging Economy (Roll Call 14)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to pass this package of tax cuts and incentives to stimulate the economy.
- 3) Promote Economic Growth and Trade (Roll Call Vote 207)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to promote America's industries by giving the President authority to negotiate trade agreements.
- 4) Promote Energy Independence (Roll Call 71)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to promote American energy independence by expanding domestic oil production.
- 5) Reject New England Dairy Compact (Roll Call 29)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this outdated scheme to subsidize New England dairy producers at the expense of Minnesota dairy farmers.
- 6) Don't Outlaw Pickup Trucks (Roll Call 48)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this measure to impose low passenger car fuel economy standards on pickups and other trucks.
- 7) Control Health Care Costs (Roll Call 197)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to help control health care costs by reducing frivolous lawsuits against health care providers.
- 8) Reject Government Price Controls (Roll Call 179)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this bogus scheme to reduce prescription drug prices by exporting American pharmaceuticals to Canada and subsequently buying them back at reduced prices.
- 9) Don't Undermine the Family Farm (Roll Call 103)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject the \$190 Billion farm bill, which will continue to undermine family farms by encouraging overproduction and lower farm prices, while costing taxpayers billions.
- 10) Preserve Free Speech (Roll Call 54)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject the so-called "campaign finance reform" bill, which would impose strict unconstitutional limits on political speech by everyone except politicians and the media.

U.S. Representative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Score
Gil Gutknecht (R-1st)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	83%
Mark Kennedy (R-2nd)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	83%
Jim Ramstad (R-3rd)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	83%
Betty McCollum (D-4th)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Martin Sabo (D-5th)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Bill Luther (D-6th)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	17%
Collin Peterson (D-7th)	-	-	+	*	*	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	40%
James Oberstar (D-8th)	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%

## U.S. House of Representatives Votes

- 1) Stimulate Lagging Economy (Roll Call 38)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to pass this package of tax cuts, unemployment benefits, and incentives to stimulate economic activity.
- 2) Make Tax Cuts Permanent (Roll Call 103)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to make the 2001 Bush tax cuts permanent.
- 3) Kill the Death Tax (Roll Call 219)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to permanently repeal the death tax.
- 4) Marriage Penalty Elimination (Roll Call 229)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to permanently eliminate the marriage tax penalty on working families.
- 5) Tax Limitation Amendment (Roll Call 225)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to protect taxpayers by requiring a 2/3rds "supermajority" vote of Congress to raise taxes.
- 6) Reject Trade Restrictions (Roll Call 130)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject increasing tariffs, which costs jobs and lower economic growth.
- 7) Expand Economic Growth and Trade (Roll Call 370)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to promote America's industries by giving the President authority to negotiate trade agreements with other countries.
- 8) Don't Undermine the Family Farm (Roll Call 123)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject the \$ 190 Billion farm bill, which will continue to undermine family farms by encouraging overproduction and lower farm prices, while costing taxpayers billions.
- 9) Welfare to Work (Roll Call 170)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to help people get off welfare and into steady paying jobs.
- 10) Reform the IRS (Roll Call 85)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to simplify the federal tax code and to provide new safeguards against unfair IRS collection procedures.
- 11) Preserve Free Speech (Roll Call 34)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject the "Campaign Finance Reform" bill, which would impose strict, unconstitutional limits on political speech by everyone except politicians and the media.
- 12) Keep Nuclear Power Safe (Roll Call 133)** The taxpayer friendly vote was to finally open the multibillion dollar Yucca Mountain Repository for nuclear waste, fulfilling a federal promise and ensuring that nuclear power remains a safe and viable energy source.

+ = Taxpayer Friendly Vote

- = Taxpayer Unfriendly Vote

\* = Not Voting

# VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

## MINNESOTA STATE SENATE

- DON'T INCREASE GAS PRICES.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject increasing the gas tax by 30%. (passed 39-26)
- DON'T INCREASE "SIN" TAXES.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this measure to raise cigarette taxes by 60 cents a pack. (passed 46-21)
- DON'T INCREASE THE PHONE TAX.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject increasing the 911 surcharge on monthly phone bills. (failed 20-47)
- REJECT THE 3/16<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this attempt to dedicate 3/16<sup>th</sup> of one percent of sales tax receipts to fund some legislators' pet projects. (passed 44-21)
- REJECT BUDGET BUSTING BONDING BILL.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject the excessive \$1.2 billion bonding bill. (passed 51-13)
- FUND ROADS, NOT RAIL.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to fund needed bottleneck reductions instead of wasteful rail projects. (failed 8-51)
- DON'T USE ROAD MONEY FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this proposal to use road construction funds to reduce the budget deficit. (passed 35-31)
- DON'T INCREASE FUEL PRICES.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this mandate requiring that vegetable oil be added to diesel fuel in Minnesota. (passed 53-11)
- RETAIN ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNMENT.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this legislation which would reduce accountability in government contracting. (passed 35-23)
- REPEAL THE PROFILE OF LEARNING.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to repeal the Profile of Learning, which has wasted millions of tax dollars on bureaucracy while dumbing down our children. (failed 33-33)
- SAY NO TO GOVERNMENT GAMBLING.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this proposal to use government-run slot machines to fund a new baseball stadium. (failed 23-43)
- SUPPORT THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to support optional recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in schools once a week. (passed 46-10)

## MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- REJECT TAXPAYER-FUNDED STADIUM.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to kill this proposal to use taxpayer dollars to finance a new baseball stadium for the Minnesota Twins. (passed 80-52)
- REJECT GRANTS FOR PUBLIC TELEVISION.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject a taxpayer subsidy of public television. (passed 113-20)
- HOLD THE LINE ON GOVERNMENT SPENDING.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to adopt the Minority Report to the bonding bill, which would have cut the bonding bill in half. (failed 14-114)
- REJECT "RULE OF 90."** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject an expansion of early retirement benefits for selected public employees, while undermining funding for K-12 education. (passed 106-23)
- REDUCE THE BUDGET DEFICIT.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reduce the budget deficit with spending cuts instead of tax increases. (passed 76-56)
- USE RESERVE FUNDS TO ERASE THE DEFICIT.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to allow the use of tobacco settlement funds to reduce the budget deficit. (failed 61-71)
- FUND ROADS, NOT RAIL.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to transfer money proposed for commuter rail to highway construction. (failed 66-66)
- DON'T INCREASE FUEL PRICES.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this mandate requiring that vegetable oil be added to diesel fuel in Minnesota. (passed 78-53)
- PREVENT AMORTIZATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this proposal to allow cities to seize private property without just compensation. (failed 42-85)
- SAY NO TO GOVERNMENT RUN CASINO.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to reject this proposal to build a government-chartered casino to fund pork barrel spending. (failed 7-125)
- REJECT DISCRIMINATORY STATE POLICY.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to support a resolution to reject discriminatory benefits packages which would extend marriage benefits to unmarried state employees in same-sex relationships, while excluding state employees in opposite sex relationships. (passed 75-54)
- REPEAL THE PROFILE OF LEARNING.** The taxpayer friendly vote was to repeal the Profile of Learning which has wasted millions of tax dollars on bureaucracy while dumbing down our children. (passed 109-22)

Legend: "+"= pro-taxpayer vote    "-"= anti-taxpayer vote    "\*"= not voting

# STATE SENATE

Name	Party/ District													RATING	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2002	97-02
Ellen Anderson	D66	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	9
Michele Bachmann	R56	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	92
William Belanger Jr.	R41	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	50	66
Charles Berg	R13	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	50	47
Linda Berglin	D61	*	-	-	+	-	-	-	*	-	-	+	*	*	3
Don Betzold	D48	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	10
Satveer Chaudhary	D52	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	33	26
Richard Cohen	D64	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	25	13
Dick Day	R28	+	+	+	-	*	*	+	-	+	+	-	+	70	80
Steve Dille	R20	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	50	56
Michelle Fischbach	R14	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	67	80
Leo Foley	D49	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	25	10
Chuck Fowler	D26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	25	25
Dennis Frederickson	R23	-	-	-	-	-	*	+	-	+	+	+	+	45	61
Linda Higgins	D58	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	25	7
John Hottinger	D24	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	25	7
Dave Johnson	D40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	+	*	10	18
Dean Johnson	D15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	+	+	18	37
Douglas Johnson	D6	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	+	*	*	5
Debbie Johnson	R50	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	75	84
Steve Kelley	D44	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	13
Bob Kierlin	R32	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	58	70
Tony Kinkel	D4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	*	9	6
Sheila Kiscaden	R30	-	-	-	-	-	*	+	-	+	+	*	+	40	57
Dave Kleis	R16	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	58	78
David Knutson	R36	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	*	+	-	+	73	78
Jane Krentz	D51	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	18	22
Keith Langseth	D9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	10
Cal Larson	R10	+	+	+	-	-	*	+	-	+	+	-	+	64	74
Arlene Lesewski	R21	+	+	+	-	-	*	+	-	+	+	+	+	64	74
Bob Lessard	I3	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	*	*	-	+	30	27
Warren Limmer	R33	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	92
Becky Lourey	D8	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	*	18	6
John Marty	D54	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	33	22
James Metzen	D39	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	25	18
Roger Moe	D2	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	-	+	+	20	6
Mee Moua	D67	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	17
Steve Murphy	D29	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	33	8
Thomas Neuville	R25	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	67	79
Edward Oliver	R43	*	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	*	+	+	+	60	78
Gen Olson	R34	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	*	+	+	+	73	82
Myron Orfield	D60	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	*	27	14
Mark Ourada	R19	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	50	72
Sandra Pappas	D65	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	5
Pat Parisseau	R37	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	75	85
Larry Pogemiller	D59	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	6
Leonard Price	D57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	17	9
Jane Ranum	D63	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	9
Mady Reiter	R53	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	83	88
Ann Rest	D46	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	33	26
Twyla Ring	D18	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	25	15
Martha Robertson	R45	+	+	+	*	+	-	+	*	-	-	-	*	56	69
Claire Robling	R35	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	58	77
Julie Sabo	D62	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	17	9
Dallas Sams	D11	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	*	+	-	+	36	23
Don Samuelson	D12	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	33	26
Kenric Scheevel	R31	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	*	82	79
Linda Scheid	D47	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	33	12
Grace Schwab	R27	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	*	+	-	+	45	64
Yvonne Solon	D7	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	*	18	18
Dan Stevens	R17	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	*	64	80
LeRoy Stumpf	D1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	17	11
Roy Terwilliger	R42	-	+	-	-	*	-	*	+	*	+	-	*	38	65
David Tomassoni	D5	-	-	+	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	+	+	18	17
Jim Vickerman	D22	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	42	16
Deanna Wiener	D38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	17	16
Charles Wiger	D55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	25	34

