### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT



# National Taxpayers Union Rates Congress

110th Congress • 1st Session 2007

very year National Taxpayers Union (NTU) rates U.S. Representatives and Senators on their actual votes—every vote that significantly affects taxes, spending, debt, and regulatory burdens on consumers and taxpayers. Unlike most organizations that publish ratings, we refuse to play the "rating game" of focusing on only a handful of Congressional votes on selected issues. The NTU voting study is the fairest and most accurate guide available on Congressional fiscal policies. It is a completely unbiased accounting of votes.

NTU assigned weights to the votes, reflecting the importance of each vote's effect.\*

NTU has no partisan axe to grind. All Members of Congress are treated the same regardless of political affiliation. Our only constituency is the overburdened American taxpayer. Grades are given impartially, based on the Taxpayer Score.

#### **TAXPAYER SCORE**

The Taxpayer Score measures the strength of support for reducing spending and regulation and opposing higher taxes. In general, a higher score is better because it means a Member of Congress voted to lessen or limit the burden on taxpayers. The Taxpayer Score can range between 0 and 100. We do not expect anyone to score a 100, nor has any legislator ever achieved a 100 in the multi-year history of the comprehensive NTU scoring system. A high score does not mean that the Member of Congress was opposed to all spending or all programs. High-scoring Members have indicated that they would vote for many programs if the amount of spending were lower. A Member who wants to increase spending on some programs can achieve a high score if he or she votes for offsetting cuts in other programs. A zero score would indicate that the Member of Congress approved every spending proposal and opposed every pro-taxpayer reform.

NTU believes a score qualifying for a grade of "A" indicates the Member is one of the strongest supporters of responsible tax and spending policies. We are pleased to give these Members of Congress our "Taxpayers' Friend Award" (subject to attendance criteria).

A score qualifying for a grade of "B" represents a "good" voting record on controlling spending and taxes. A "B" grade indicates that the Member voted for taxpayers most of the time, but slightly less than those who attained the grade of "A."

A score qualifying for a grade of "C" represents a minimally acceptable voting record on controlling taxes and spending. To qualify for a grade of "C" a Member must have a Taxpayer Score of at least 50 percent. While such a score may be "satisfactory," there is clearly room for improvement.

We are also issuing pluses and minuses for the grades of "B" and "C" in order to better recognize the differences in the voting records of Members with these grades.

A score qualifying for a grade of "D" indicates the Member has a "poor" voting record on controlling taxes and spending.

A score significantly below average qualifies for a grade of "F." This failing grade places the Member into the "Big Spender" category.

#### **VOTE SELECTION**

We analyzed every roll call vote taken during 2007 (1st Session of the 110th Congress) and selected all votes that could significantly affect the amounts of federal taxes, spending, debt, or regulatory impact. A total of 427 House and 182 Senate roll call votes were selected. We included votes cast on appropriations bills, authorization bills, budget target resolutions, tax bills, amendments, and certain procedural votes that could affect the burden on taxpayers. Votes that simply shifted equal amounts of spending from one area to another were excluded. Also excluded were votes where there was a significant difference of opinion on how to vote to reduce or control government.

We believe the number of votes used in the analysis, the objective and nonpartisan weighting of the votes, computerized calculations, and many error checks all combine to ensure the highest possible standards of accuracy.

#### **OTHER FACTORS**

Although we believe this voting analysis is the most accurate guide available on Congressional fiscal performance, no

study of roll call votes can fully evaluate a Member's overall record. A Member's committee work, leadership, and effectiveness with other Members also affect his or her influence on the amount of federal spending, taxes, debt, and regulatory impact. Because of the complexity of the calculations and the number of votes involved, we do not have space to reprint the votes of each Representative and Senator here. A list of the votes used in the study, including the weight assigned to each vote, is available on request.

#### \* Computation

NTU's federal budget experts assigned a weight to each vote ranging from 0 to 100. A low weight was assigned to votes that had relatively little effect, while a high weight was assigned to votes with the most significant effect on federal spending, taxes, debt, and regulation.

Weights were based solely on the relative effect of each vote on the total amount of federal spending, taxes, debt, or regulatory impact. Consideration was given to the long-term effect of a vote, even though relatively little might be immediately at issue. A vote with average importance should have a weight close to 10.

Scores were computed by dividing the weighted total of votes cast *against* higher spending, taxes, or regulation or *for* lower spending, taxes, or regulation, by the weighted total number of fiscal issues on which the Member of Congress voted. Average state scores were also computed, using the weighted total of votes cast by each delegation.

In computing these scores, we included only those votes on which the Member actually voted for or against a bill, resolution, or amendment. Paired votes, announced positions, and absences were excluded. Because some Members were absent frequently (or otherwise failed to vote yes or no), their scores and grades, based on relatively few votes, may not accurately reflect fiscal attitudes. The Members falling into this category are noted.

#### **TAXPAYER SCORES**

177	. Al Ell 000	0
SENATE		HOUSE
37%	Average	35%
17%	Median	12%
93%	High	96%
3%	Low	1%
	Party Scores	
8%	Democratic Average	6%
7%	Democratic Median	5%
66%	Republican Average	69%
71%	Republican Median	75%

GRADE SCORE
ALABAMA
AderholtC+64%
Bachus <b>B</b> +76%
Bonner
Cramer
DavisF5%
Everett
RogersC+60%
State Average49%
ALASKA
Young
ARIZONA
Flake96%
Franks
Giffords F
Grijalva <b>F</b> 3%
Mitchell
Pastor <b>F</b> 2%
Renzi
ShadeggA92%
State Average45%
ARKANSAS
Berry8%
BoozmanB69%
RossF6%
Snyder
State Average22%
CALIFORNIA
BacaF4%
Becerra <b>F</b> 3%
Berman
Bilbray82%
Bono
Calvert
Campbell
CappsF3%
Cardoza <b>F</b> 5%
Costa F
Davis
Doolittle <b>B-</b> 68%
Dreier
Eshoo
Farr4%
FilnerF4%
Gallegly <b>B</b> 74%
Harman
Herger80%
Honda
Hunter B
Issa
Lantos[Deceased]N.A.
LeeF8%
Lewis <b>B-</b> 66%
Lofgren
Lungren <b>B</b> +80%
Matsui
McCarthy8+79%
McKeon83%
McNerneyF9%
Millender-McD. [Deceased]N.A.
Miller, Gary <b>B</b> +79%
Miller, GeorgeF4%
NapolitanoF3%
Nunes <b>B</b> +79%
PelosiN.AN.A.**
Radanovich <b>B</b> +84%
RichardsonN.AN.A.**
Rohrabacher
Roybal-Allard F
•
Notional

GI	RADE	SCORE
Royce	. <b>A</b>	93%
Sánchez, Linda	. <b>F</b>	3%
Sanchez, Loretta		
Schiff		
Sherman		
Stark		
Tauscher		
Thompson		
Waters	. <b>F</b>	7%
Watson		
Waxman		
Woolsey State Average		
COLORADO	•••••	32 /0
DeGette	.F	6%
Lamborn	. <b>A</b>	93%
Musgrave		
Perlmutter		
Salazar Tancredo		
Udall		
State Average		
CONNECTICUT		
Courtney	.F	5%
DeLauro		
Larson		
MurphyShays	. <b>F</b> C-	35%
State Average		
DELAWARE		
Castle	.C	44%
FLORIDA		
Bilirakis		
Boyd		
Brown-Waite		
Buchanan		
Castor		
Crenshaw		
Diaz-Balart, L Diaz-Balart, M	. <u>C</u>	56%
Diaz-Balart, M	.C	58%
Feeney Hastings		
Keller		
Klein		
Mack		
Mahoney		
Meek Mica		
Miller		
Putnam		
Ros-Lehtinen		
Stearns		
Wasserman Sch		
Weldon Wexler		
Young		
State Average	•••••	46%
GEORGIA		
Barrow	. <b>D</b>	17%
Bishop	.F	5%
Broun Deal		
Gingrey		
Johnson	. <b>F</b>	3%
Kingston	.B+	84%
Lewis	. <b>F</b>	7%

	GRADE	
Marshall		
Norwood[I	_	
Price	A	88%
Scott		
Westmoreland		
State Average	•••••	50%
Abercrombie	F	4%
Hirono		
State Average		4%
IDAHO		
Sali	Δ	87%
Simpson		
State Average		
II I INIOIO		07 70
Bean	D	220/2
Biggert		
Costello		
Davis		
Emanuel		
Gutierrez		
Hare		
Hastert		
Jackson		
Johnson	C	39%
Kirk		
LaHood		
Lipinski	<u>F</u>	6%
Manzullo		
Roskam		
Rush		
Schakowsky		
Shimkus		
Weller		
State Average	•••••	30%
INDIANA		
Burton	<b>A</b>	85%
Buyer	B+	78%
Carson, J[I	Deceased].	N.A.
Donnelly		
Ellsworth		
Hill	F	14%
Pence	A	91%
Souder		
Visclosky	F	4%
State Average	·····	45%
IOW/A		
Boswell	F	6%
Braley	F	5%
King	<b>A</b>	85%
Latham	C	51%
Loebsack		
State Average		
KANSAS Boyda	F	8%
Moore		
Moran		
Tiahrt		
State Average		
KENTHOKY		
Chandler	F	10/
Davis		
Lewis		
Rogers Whitfield	<b>Ď-</b>	09%
Yarmuth		
State Average		
STATE AVERAGE		4 / 7/0

## U.S. HOUSE OF R

	GRADE	SCORE
Baker		
Dakei	<b>D</b>	/0/0
Boustany	<u>C</u> +	61%
Jefferson	F	3%
Jindal	C	56%*
McCrery	B	74%
Melancon		
State Average	•••••	40 70
MAINE Allen		
Allen	<b>F</b>	6%
Michaud	<b>F</b>	7%
State Average		
MARYLAND		
	D.:	7.60/
Bartlett		
Cummings		
Gilchrest	<b>D</b>	26%
Hoyer	F	3%
Ruppersberger		
Sarbanes	E	40/
Sarvanes	F	470
Van Hollen		
Wynn		
State Average	•••••	15%
MASSACHUS Capuano	ETTS	
Canuano	F	6%
D-1-14	F	20/
Delahunt	<u>r</u>	3%
Frank		
Lynch	F	4%
Markey	F	5%
McGovern	F	4%
Meehan[	Dagianadl	NT A
Neal		
Olver	F	5%
Tierney	F	6%
Tsongas	F	6%*
State Average		
MICHIGAN Camp		7.40/
Camp	В	/4%
Conyers		
Dingell	F	5%
Ehlers	C	51%
Hoekstra		
Kildee		
Kilpatrick	F	4%
Knollenberg	C+	61%
Levin	F	5%
McCotter		
Miller		
Rogers		
Stupak	F	5%
Upton	C	54%
Walberg	B+	81%
State Average		
MUNICOOTA		
Bachmann		960/
Ellison		
Kline	B+	84%
McCollum	F	3%
Oberstar		
Peterson		
Ramstad		
Walz		30/2
State Average		
MISSISSIPPI	•••••	30%
MISSISSIPPI Pickering	B	65%
MISSISSIPPI Pickering Taylor	B	65%
MISSISSIPPI Pickering Taylor Thompson	B D	65%28%3%
MISSISSIPPI Pickering Taylor Thompson Wicker	B DFB	30% 65% 28% 3% 69%
MISSISSIPPI Pickering Taylor Thompson	B DFB	30% 65% 28% 3% 69%

#### EPRESENTATIVES GRADE SCORE MISSOURI Blunt ......81% Clay.....**F**......4% Graves .....C+ .....64% Hulshof ...........C+.......61% **State Average ......39%** MONTANA Rehberg......54% NEBRASKA Smith......**B**+......79% **State Average ......68%** NEVADA Heller ......78% **State Average ......42% NEW HAMPSHIRE** Shea-Porter ......**F**.......5% **State Average ......5%** NEW JERSEY Andrews.....F.....4% Frelinghuysen ......C ......53% Holt ......**F**.......5% LoBiondo ......24% Pallone ......**F**.......4% Payne......**F**.......5% Sires ......**F**.......5% Smith......**D** ......26% State Average ......22% NEW MEXICO Udall ......**F**.......5% **State Average ......43% NEW YORK** Ackerman.....F......5% Clarke......**F**.......5% Gillibrand......**F**...........7% Hall ......**F**.......4% Higgins......**F**.......5% Hinchey.......F.......4% Israel ......**F**......6% Kuhl ......C-.....46% Lowey......**F**.......5% Maloney ......F.........6% McCarthy ......F........6%

	GRADE	SCORE	I	GRADE	SCOR
Meeks			English		
Nadler			Fattah		
Rangel			Gerlach		
Reynolds			Holden		
Serrano			Kanjorski		
Slaughter			Murphy, P	F	13%
Towns			Murphy, T	C-	39%
Velázquez			Murtha	F	4%
Walsh			Peterson		
Weiner			Pitts		
State Average			Platts		
NORTH CARC	LINA		Schwartz		
Butterfield		3%	Sestak		
Coble			Shuster		
Etheridge			State Average	•••••	27%
Foxx					
Hayes			RHODE ISLAN Kennedy	F	4%
Jones			Langevin	F	4%
McHenry			State Average	•••••	4%
McIntyre			SOUTH CARO	LINA	
Miller			Barrett		
Myrick			Brown		
Price	F	3%	Clyburn		
Shuler			Inglis		
Watt	F	4%	Spratt		
State Average	•••••	38%	Wilson	<b>A</b>	85%
NORTH DAKO	TA		State Average		
Pomeroy	F	4%			
OTHIO .			SOUTH DAKO Herseth Sandlin.	F	6%
Boehner	A	87%	TENNESSEE		
Chabot			Blackburn	A	90%
Gillmor[]			Cohen		
Hobson	C	47%	Cooper		
Jones			Davis, D		
Jordan			Davis, L		
Kaptur			Duncan		
Kucinich			Gordon		
LaTourette	C	35%	Tanner	<b>F</b>	12%
Latta			Wamp	B+	75%
Pryce	C	52%	State Average		
Regula	C	42%	TEXAS		
Ryan			Barton	B+	80%
Schmidt	B+	75%	Brady		
Space	<b>F</b>	8%	Burgess		
Sutton			Carter	B+	79%
Tiberi			Conaway	B+	84%
Turner			Cuellar	F	7%
Wilson			Culberson	B+	84%
State Average	•••••	43%	Doggett	F	7%
OKLAHOMA			Edwards	F	8%
Boren			Gohmert		
Cole			Gonzalez	F	6%
Fallin			Granger		
Lucas			Green, A		
Sullivan			Green, G		
State Average	•••••	65%	Hall		
OREGON			Hensarling		
Blumenauer			Hinojosa		
DeFazio			Jackson-Lee		
Hooley			Johnson, E		
Walden			Johnson, S		
Wu			Lampson		
State Average		17%	Marchant		
PENNSYLVAN		100:	McCaul		
Altmire			Neugebauer		
Brady			Ortiz		
Carney			Paul		
Dent			Poe		
Doyle	F	3%	Reyes	<b>r</b>	5%

	GRADE	
English	C	47%
Fattah	F	5%
Gerlach	C	35%
Holden		
Kanjorski	TF	50/-
Murphy, P	F	120/
Murphy, P	F	1370
Murphy, T		
Murtha		
Peterson		
Pitts	A	87%
Platts	C	46%
Schwartz	F	7%
Sestak		
Shuster	R	74%
State Average		2/70
RHODE ISLAN	עו	10 /
Kennedy		
Langevin		
State Average	•••••	4%
SOUTH CARO	LINA	
Barrett	A	91%
Brown	R	70%
Clyburn	<b>D</b>	20/
CIYUUIII	F	0.40/
Inglis		
Spratt	F	5%
Wilson	A	85%
State Average	•••••	56%
<b>SOUTH DAKO</b>	TA	
SOUTH DAKO Herseth Sandlin.	F	6%
TENNESSEE Blackburn		
Dlaakhurn	<u> </u>	000/
C 1	A	20/
Cohen	F	3%
Cooper	D	21%
Davis, D		
Davis, L	F	9%
Duncan	A	86%
Gordon		
Tanner		
Wamp		
State Average		
TEVAC	•••••	73 /0
TEXAS Barton	TD :	000/
Barton	B+	80%
Brady	B+	80%
Burgess	B+	77%
Carter	B+	79%
Conaway	B+	84%
Cuellar		
Culberson		
Doggett		
Edwards		
Gohmert	D.	010/
Gonzalez	F	6%
Granger	B+	79%
Green, A	F	4%
Green, G	F	7%
Hall	B	74%
Hensarling	A	93%
Hinojosa		
Jackson-Lee		
Johnson, E		
Johnson, S	E	900/
JUHISUH, S	A	09%
Lampson	D	20%
Marchant		
McCaul		
Neugebauer		
Ortiz		
Paul		
Poe		

	GRADE	SCORE
Rodriguez	F	6%
Sessions		
Smith	B+	76%
Thornberry		
State Average		
UTAH Bishop	D⊥	770/2
Cannon	Λ	960/
Matheson		
State Average		
VEDMONT	•••••	02 70
VERMONT Welch	- E	50/
weich	F	5%
VIRGINIA Boucher		
Cantor		
Davis, J[I		
Davis, T	C	57%
Drake		
Forbes		
Goode		
Goodlatte		
Moran		
Scott		
Wittmann	N.A	N.A.**
Wolf		
State Average		
WASHINGTON Baird		
Baird	F	7%
Dicks	<u>F</u>	5%
Hastings		
Inslee		
Larsen		
McDermott	F	9%
McMorris Rodge	ers. <b>B-</b>	67%
Reichert		
Smith		
State Average	•••••	24%
WEST VIRGIN Capito	<u>IA</u>	
Mollohan		
Rahall		
State Average	•••••	18%
WISCONSIN Baldwin		
Baldwin	F	5%
Kagen Kind	F	7%
Moore Obey		
Petri		
Ryan		
Sensenbrenner		
State Average		
MANORALNIA		
Cubin	N.A	N.A **
C40111	1 1	1 1.

H	ous	e Key
SCORE	GRADE	COMMENTS
85% or mo	re A	Taxpayers' Friend
75%-84%	B+	
70%-74%	В	Good
65%-69%	B-	
59%-64%	C+	
50%-58%	С	Satisfactory
35%-49%	C-	
17%-34%	D	Poor
16% or less	s F	Big Spender
		han 75%, but more
than 50%, of v	veighted	total of votes cast.
** Voted on 50	% or less	s of weighted total of rade not issued.

### **United States Senate**

GRADE SCORE
ALABAMA
Sessions <b>B</b> +74%
Shelby <b>B-</b> 65%
State Average69%
ALASKA
Murkowski
Stevens
State Average47%
ARIZONA
Kyl
McCain
State Average86%
ARKANSAS
LincolnF9%
Pryor
State Average8%
CALIFORNIA
Boxer
Feinstein F
State Average7%
COLORADO
Allard
Salazar F
State Average47%
CONNECTICUT
DoddF4%*
LiebermanF11%
State Average8%
DELAWARE
Biden
Carper
State Average8%
FLORIDA
Martinez <b>B</b> +73%
Nelson F 11%
State Average42%
GEORGIA
ChamblissB+75%
- 1
Isakson B+/5%
State Average75%
HAWAII AkakaF3%
Inouye
State Average3%
IDAHO
Craig
Crapo <b>B</b> 68%
State Average69%

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	GRADE	SCORE
ILLINOIS		
Durbin	F	6%
Obama		
State Average	•••••	6%
INDIANA		
Bayh	D	15%
Day11	<b>D</b>	520/
Lugar		
State Average	•••••	34%
IOWA		
Grassley	C	520/
Harkin		
State Average	•••••	29%
KANSAS		
Brownback	D.	770/*
Roberts	<b>C</b> +	56%
State Average	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	65%
KENTUCKY		
RENT OOK		010/
Bunning		
McConnell	<b>B</b> +	77%
State Average		79%
LOUISIANA		
		1.60/
Landrieu		
Vitter	B+	76%
State Average		
RAAINE		
		2.50/
Collins		
Snowe	<b>D</b>	27%
State Average		31%
MARYLAND		
Cardin		
Mikulski	F	7%
State Average		6%
MASSACHUSE	TTC	
WASSACHUSE	-	
Kennedy	F	8%
Kerry	F	8%
State Average		
MICHIGAN		
WICHIGAN		
Levin		
Stabenow	F	6%
State Average		
MINNESOTA	•••••	
Coleman		
Klobuchar	F	5%
State Average		22%
MISSISSIPPI		
Cochran		
Lott	B+	71%
State Average		
MICCOLLEGE		
Bond		
McCaskill	<b>D</b>	17%
State Average		
	•••••	33 /0
MONTANA		
Baucus	F	11%
Tester	F	10%
State Average		
NEBRASKA	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	10 /0
Hagel	<b>B</b> +	73%
Nelson	D	17%

**State Average ......45%** 

GRADE SCORE
NEVADA
Ensign
ReidF7%
State Average46%
NEW HAMPSHIRE
GreggB+78%
Sununu B+71%
State Average74%
NEW JERSEY
Lautenberg
Menendez
State Average8%
NEW MEXICO
Bingaman
Domenici
<b>State Average29%</b>
NEW YORK
Clinton
Schumer
State Average5%
NORTH CAROLINA
Burr
Dole
State Average80%
NORTH DAKOTA
Conrad
Dorgan5%
State Average6%
ОНЮ
Brown F6%
VoinovichC+58%
State Average32%
OKLAHOMA
Coburn
Inhofe
State Average86%
OREGON
Smith
Wyden
State Average20%
PENNSYLVANIA
Casey
Specter <b>D</b> 34%
State Average20%
RHODE ISLAND
Reed
Whitehouse
State Average7%
SOUTH CAROLINA
DeMint93%
Graham
State Average87%
SOUTH DAKOTA
JohnsonN.AN.A.**
Thune <b>B</b> 68%
State Average68%
TENNESSEE
AlexanderC+58%
Corker863%
State Average60%
g- ····································

GRADE SCORE
TEXAS
Cornyn <b>B</b> +79%
HutchisonB63%
<b>State Average71%</b>
UTAH
Bennett
Hatch57%
<b>State Average62%</b>
VERMONT
Leahy
Sanders
State Average6%
VIRGINIA
Warner
Webb <b>F</b> 13%
State Average33%
WASHINGTON
Cantwell
Murray F6%
State Average8%
WEST VIRGINIA
Byrd
Rockefeller <b>F</b> 5%
<b>State Average6%</b>
WISCONSIN
Feingold
Kohl
<b>State Average10%</b>
WYOMING
Barrasso <b>B</b> +76%*
Enzi
Thomas[Deceased]N.A.
<b>State Average82%</b>

#### **Senate Key**

GRADE COMMENTS

SCORE

- 1			
	80% or more	Α	Taxpayers' Friend
	71%-79%	В+	
	66%-70%	В	Good
	61%-65%	B-	
	56%-60%	C+	
	50%-55%	C	Satisfactory
	35%-49%	C-	
	15%-34%	D	Poor
	14% or less	F	Big Spender

- $^{\star}$  Score based on less than 75%, but more than 50%, of weighted total of votes cast.
- \*\* Voted on 50% or less of weighted total of votes cast; score and grade not issued.