



CITIZENS for Limited Taxation

44 Years as the Voice of Massachusetts Taxpayers
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CLT Legislative Ratings 2017 session

Citizens for Limited Taxation rates state representatives and state senators on direct and indirect taxpayer issues for which there are roll call votes.

Basis for CLT Legislative Ratings — 2017 Session

Both the House and Senate took votes on the \$18 million personal pay raise bill. In fact both branches made it the first order of business with a vote in the House on January 25th (Roll Call #4) and Senate on January 26th (Roll Call #2). That same day the House took a vote requiring public hearings on any pay hike, which was defeated. A week later both branches passed the pay hike legislation over the Governor's veto.

The House and Senate jointly met in a Constitutional Convention in June to move the graduated income tax constitutional amendment toward the 2018 ballot. This amendment process requires two votes over two legislative sessions. It received its first vote in the last session, and again it passed overwhelmingly. (Note: A hearing was held before the SJC in February by groups challenging the constitutionality of the ballot question. A decision is expected in June).

Despite taking over 300 roll call votes in 2017, the Senate carefully avoided any other direct tax votes. CLT gave them credit for a "transparency" vote to publicize bills taken up in informal session. Unfortunately, they voted down a proposal to increase to \$2,000 the amount paid to seniors working towards property tax relief.

The House took up the issues of an outside, third-party audit of the Legislature, and putting committee votes online. Both proposals were defeated. Attempts to roll back the state income tax rate and sales tax rate to 5% were also defeated. Finally, amendments to require a social security number for public housing, and prohibiting EBT card usage outside Massachusetts and its border states received little support.

There were "further amendments" listed after three of the House votes. These deceptive amendments are hastily introduced to avoid taking a vote on a controversial subject. Passage of these amendments is simply cover, a dodge from a direct vote that should have been taken; for example, on the sales tax reduction to 5%. CLT considers any legislator's "yea" vote on a deceptive "further amendment" as a negative in their rating.

Every Tax is a Pay Cut . . . A Tax Cut is a Pay Raise

2017 Key House Roll Call Votes

Roll Call	Date	CLT Favored	Description
1	1/25/2017	Y	Public Hearings for Legislators' Pay Hike
4	1/25/2017	N	Pay Hike Engrossment
6	2/2/2017	N	Override of Governor's Pay Hike Veto
16	2/2/2017	Y	3rd Party Audit of Legislature
19	2/2/2017	Y	Put Committee Votes online for public
26	4/24/2017	Y	Income Tax Rollback Fully Implemented
30	4/24/2017	N	Sales Tax Cut to 5% <i>(further amendment)</i>
41	4/25/2017	N	Require SS# for Public Housing <i>(further amendment)</i>
45	4/25/2017	N	No EBT outside MA and border states <i>(further amendment)</i>
67	6/14/2017	N	The Graduated Income Tax

2017 Key Senate Roll Call Votes

Roll Call	Date	CLT Favored	Description
2	1/26/2017	N	Legislators' Pay Hike
3	2/2/2017	Y	Improved Transparency
9	2/2/2017	N	Override of Governor's Pay Hike Veto
47	6/14/2017	N	The Graduated Income Tax
70	7/27/2017	Y	Increase Senior Property Tax Deduction to \$2,000

REPRESENTATIVE	PARTY/DISTRICT	RATING
Arciero	(D-Westford)	0%
Ashe	(D-Longmeadow)	0%
Atkins	(D-Concord)	0%
Ayers	(D-Quincy)	0%
Balser	(D-Newton)	0%
Barber	(D-Somerville)	0%
Barrett, J	(D-North Adams)	N/A
Barrows	(R-Mansfield)	100%
Benson	(D-Lunenburg)	0%
Berthiaume	(R-Spencer)	100%
Boldyga	(R-Southwick)	100%
Brodeur	(D-Melrose)	0%
Cabral	(D-New Bedford)	0%
Cahill	(D-Lynn)	0%
Calter	(D-Kingston)	20%
Campanale	(R-Leicester)	100%
Campbell	(D-Methuen)	0%
Cantwell	(D-Marshfield)	0%
Carvalho	(D-Boston)	0%

Cassidy	(D-Brockton)	0%
Chan	(D-Quincy)	0%
Collins	(D-Boston)	0%
Connolly	(D-Cambridge)	20%
Coppinger	(D-Boston)	0%
Crighton	(D-Lynn)	0%
Crocker	(R-Barnstable)	100%
Cronin	(D-Easton)	0%
Cullinane	(D-Boston)	0%
Cusack	(D-Braintree)	0%
Cutler	(D-Duxbury)	0%
Day	(D-Stoneham)	0%
Decker	(D-Cambridge)	0%
DeCoste	(R-Norwell)	100%
DeLeo	(D-Winthrop)	0%
D'Emilia	(R-Bridgewater)	100%
Diehl	(R-Whitman)	100%
DiZoglio	(D-Methuen)	20%
Donahue	(D-Worcester)	0%
Donato	(D-Medford)	0%
Dooley	(R-Norfolk)	100%
Driscoll	(D-Milton)	0%
DuBois	(D-Brockton)	0%
Durant	(R-Spencer)	100%
Dwyer	(D-Woburn)	80%
Dykema	(D-Holliston)	0%
Ehrlich	(D-Marblehead)	0%
Farley-Bouvier	(D-Pittsfield)	0%
Ferguson	(R-Holden)	100%
Fernandes	(D-Nantucket)	0%
Ferrante	(D-Gloucester)	10%
Finn	(D-West Springfield)	10%
Fiola	(D-Fall River)	0%
Frost	(R-Auburn)	100%
Galvin	(D-Canton)	10%
Garballey	(D-Arlington)	0%
Garlick	(D-Needham)	0%
Garry	(D-Dracut)	80%
Gentile	(D-Sudbury)	0%
Gifford	(R-Wareham)	100%
Golden	(D-Lowell)	10%
Goldstein-Rose	(D-Amherst)	0%
Gonzalez	(D-Springfield)	0%
Gordon	(D-Bedford)	0%
Gregoire	(D-Marlboro)	10%
Haddad	(D-Somerset)	0%
Harrington	(R-Groton)	90%

Hay	(D-Fitchburg)	0%
Hecht	(D-Watertown)	20%
Heroux	(D-Attleboro)	30%
Higgins	(D-Leominster)	0%
Hill	(R-Ipswich)	100%
Hogan	(D-Stow)	0%
Holmes	(D-Boston)	0%
Honan	(D-Boston)	0%
Howitt	(R-Seekonk)	100%
Hunt, D	(D-Boston)	0%
Hunt, R	(R-Sandwich)	100%
Jones	(R-North Reading)	100%
Kafka	(D-Stoughton)	0%
Kane	(R-Shrewsbury)	100%
Kaufman	(D-Lexington)	0%
Keefe	(D-Worcester)	0%
Kelcourse	(R-Amesbury)	100%
Khan	(D-Newton)	0%
Kocot	(D-Northampton)	0%
Koczera	(D-New Bedford)	0%
Kulik	(D-Worthington)	0%
Kuros	(R-Uxbridge)	100%
Lawn	(D-Watertown)	0%
Lewis, Jack	(D-Ashland)	0%
Linsky	(D-Natick)	0%
Livingstone	(D-Boston)	0%
Lombardo	(R-Billerica)	80%
Lyons	(R-Andover)	100%
Madaro	(D-East Boston)	0%
Mahoney	(D-Worcester)	0%
Malia	(D-Boston)	0%
Mariano	(D-Quincy)	10%
Mark	(D-Hancock)	0%
Markey	(D-Dartmouth)	10%
Matias	(D-Lawrence)	0%
McGonagle	(D-Everett)	0%
McKenna	(R-Charleton)	100%
McMurtry	(D-Dedham)	0%
Meschino	(D-Hull)	0%
Miceli	(D-Wilmington)	0%
Michlewitz	(D-Boston)	0%
Mirra	(R-West Newbury)	100%
Mom	(D-Lowell)	0%
Moran, F	(D-Lawrence)	0%
Moran, M	(D-Boston)	0%
Muradian	(R-Grafton)	100%
Muratore	(R-Plymouth)	100%

Murphy	(D-Weymouth)	0%
Murray, B	(D-Milford)	0%
Nangle	(D-Lowell)	10%
Naughton	(D-Clinton)	0%
O'Connell	(R-Taunton)	100%
O'Day	(D-West Boylston)	0%
Orrall	(R-Lakeville)	100%
Parisella	(D-Beverly)	0%
Peake	(D-Provincetown)	0%
Peisch	(D-Wellesley)	0%
Petrolati	(D-Ludlow)	10%
Pignatelli	(D-Lenox)	0%
Poirier	(R-North Attleboro)	100%
Provost	(D-Somerville)	20%
Puppolo	(D-Springfield)	10%
Rogers, D.	(D-Cambridge)	0%
Rogers, J.	(D-Norwood)	0%
Roy	(D-Franklin)	0%
Rushing	(D-Boston)	0%
Ryan, D	(D-Boston)	0%
Sanchez	(D-Boston)	0%
Scaccia	(D-Boston)	0%
Schmid	(D-Westport)	0%
Scibak	(D-South Hadley)	0%
Silvia	(D-Fall River)	0%
Smizik	(D-Brookline)	0%
Smola	(R-Palmer)	100%
Speliotis	(D-Danvers)	0%
Stanley	(D-Waltham)	0%
Straus	(D-Mattapoissett)	0%
Tosado	(D-Springfield)	0%
Tucker	(D-Salem)	0%
Tyler, C	(D-Boston)	0%
Ultrino	(D-Malden)	0%
Vargas	(D-Haverhill)	N/A
Vega	(D-Holyoke)	0%
Velis	(D-Westfield)	20%
Vieira	(R-Falmouth)	100%
Vincent	(D-Revere)	0%
Wagner	(D-Chicopee)	0%
Walsh, C	(D-Framingham)	0%
Walsh, T	(D-Peabody)	0%
Whelan	(R-Brewster)	100%
Whipps	(U-Athol)	70%
Williams	(D-Springfield)	0%
Wong	(R-Saugus)	100%
Zlotnik	(D-Gardner)	60%

SENATOR	PARTY/DISTRICT	RATING
Barrett, M	(D-Lexington)	20%
Boncore	(D-Winthrop)	20%
Brady	(D-Brockton)	20%
Brownsberger	(D-Belmont)	20%
Chandler	(D-Worcester)	20%
Chang-Diaz	(D-Boston)	20%
Creem	(D-Newton)	20%
Cyr	(D-Truro)	40%
Crichton	(D-Lynn)	N/A
deMacedo	(R-Plymouth)	100%
DiDomenico	(D-Everett)	20%
Donoghue	(D-Lowell)	20%
Eldridge	(D-Acton)	40%
Fattman	(R-Webster)	100%
Feeney	(D-Foxboro)	N/A
Forry	(D-Boston)	20%
Friedman	(D-Arlington)	N/A
Gobi	(D-Spencer)	100%
Hinds	(D-Pittsfield)	20%
Humason	(R-Westfield)	100%
Ives	(D-Newburyport)	45%
Jehlen	(D-Somerville)	20%
Keenan	(D-Quincy)	20%
Lesser	(D-Longmeadow)	20%
Lewis, Jason	(D-Winchester)	20%
L'Italien	(D-Andover)	45%
Lovely	(D-Salem)	20%
Montigny	(D-New Bedford)	20%
Moore	(D-Millbury)	80%
O'Connor	(R-Weymouth)	80%
Pacheco	(D-Taunton)	20%
Roderigues	(D-Westport)	20%
Rosenberg *	(D-Amherst)	0%
Ross	(R-Wrentham)	100%
Rush	(D-Boston)	40%
Spilka	(D-Ashland)	20%
Tarr	(R-Gloucester)	100%
Timilty	(D-Milton)	80%
Welch	(D-West Springfield)	20%

* *The (former) Senate President usually does not vote.*