



THE  
AMERICAN  
CONSERVATIVE  
UNION  
FOUNDATION

# 2017 RATINGS *of* ALASKA



 ACUConservative

 @ACUFoundation  
#ACURatings

 Conservative.org

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Conservative,

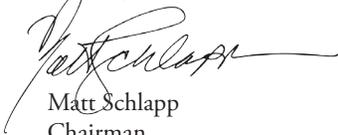
The American Conservative Union Foundation is proud to present our ratings of the 2017 meeting of the Alaska State Legislature. Like our Congressional Ratings, which date back 46 years, these ratings are meant to reflect how elected officials view the role of government in an individual's life. We begin with our philosophy (conservatism is the political philosophy that sovereignty resides in the person) and then apply our understanding of government (its essential role is to defend life, liberty and property).

Because our ratings are designed to educate the public about how consistently their elected officials adhere to conservatism, we carefully examine the entire docket of legislation introduced in each state every year. We select the most meaningful bills and publish the results after the dust has settled. The ACU Foundation is the only organization to score over 8,000 elected officials each year, including lawmakers from all 50 states and Congress.

The 2016 election dramatically impacted the political landscape of not only Washington but state legislative chambers all across the country. Republicans now have control of both legislative chambers in 32 states, more than double the number they controlled in 2010. With these victories comes an ability to implement policies that restore individual liberty and return us to a limited form of government run by and for "We the People."

It is our hope that these ratings will serve as a guide showing who can be relied on to fight for conservative principles and restore the role of government to what our nation's founding fathers envisioned.

Sincerely,



Matt Schlapp  
Chairman  
American Conservative Union





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	Niger Innes	
	Adam Laxalt	
	Willes K. Lee	



201 N. Union Street, Suite 370  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(202) 347-9388

**SELECTING THE VOTES**

ACU researched and selected a range of bills before the Alaska State Legislature that determine a member's adherence to conservative principles. We selected bills that focus on Ronald Reagan's philosophy of the "three-legged stool": 1) *fiscal and economic*: taxes, budgets, regulation, spending, healthcare, and property; 2) *social and cultural*: 2nd amendment, religion, life, welfare, and education; and 3) *government integrity*: voting, individual liberty, privacy, and transparency. This wide range of issues are designed to give citizens an accurate assessment that conveys which of Alaska's elected leaders best defend the principles of a free society: Life, Liberty and Property.



## 2017 WINNERS & LOSERS

### 90-100% AWARD FOR CONSERVATIVE EXCELLENCE

#### SENATE

COGHILL  
HUGHES  
KELLY

#### HOUSE

BIRCH	NEUMAN	TILTON
CHENAULT	PRUITT	WILSON
EASTMAN	RAUSCHER	
JOHNSON	REINBOLD	
JOHNSTON	SADDLER	
KOPP	SULLIVAN-LEONARD	
MILLETT	TALERICO	

### <= 10% COALITION OF THE RADICAL LEFT

#### SENATE

Begich  
Egan  
Gardner  
Wielechowski

#### HOUSE

n/a

### 80-89% AWARD FOR CONSERVATIVE ACHIEVEMENT

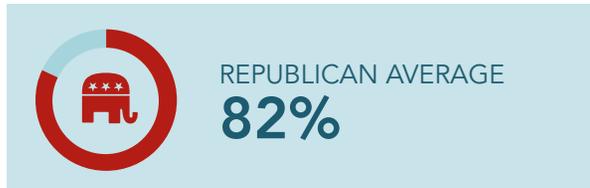
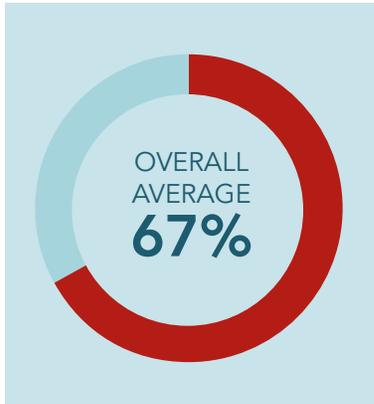
#### SENATE

COSTELLO  
DUNLEAVY  
GIESSEL  
Hoffman  
MacKINNON  
MEYER  
MICCICHE  
STEVENS  
Von IMHOF  
WILSON

#### HOUSE

KNOPP  
THOMPSON

# ALASKA SENATE STATISTICS

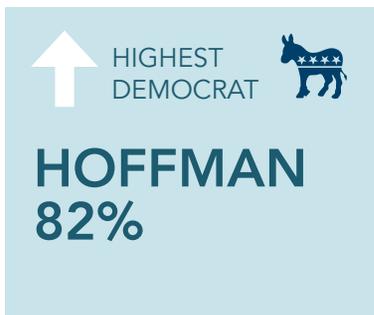
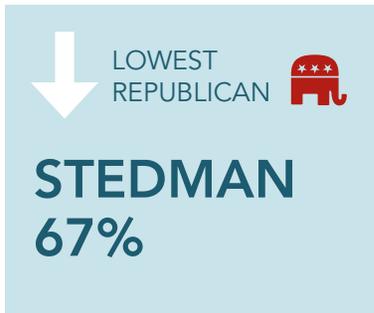
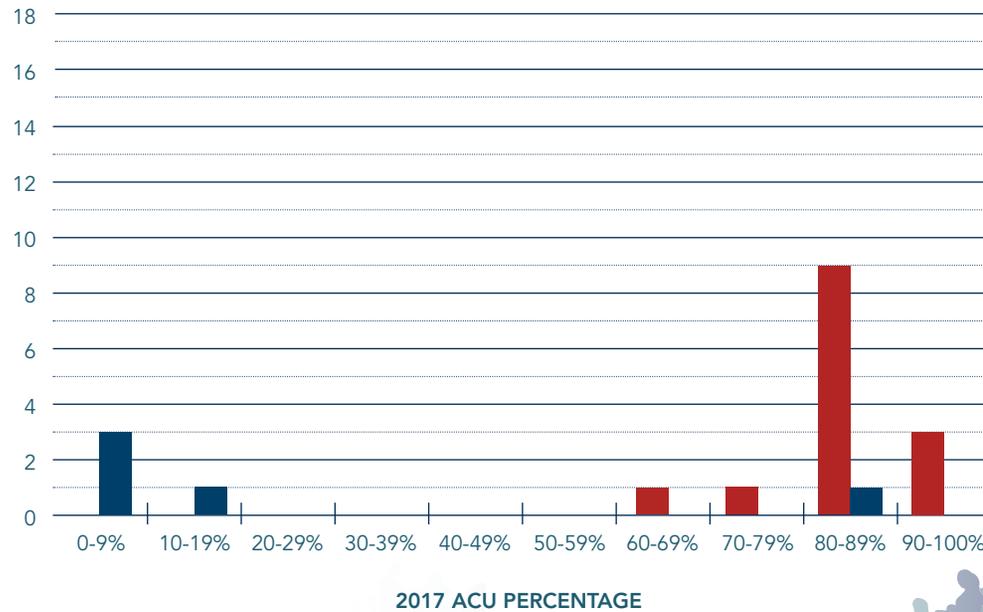


## ALASKA SENATE CONSERVATIVE RATINGS

 RED = REPUBLICANS       BLUE = DEMOCRATS



# OF STATE SENATORS





## ALASKA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

1. **SB 14 Allowing Ride Sharing Companies.** This bill establishes a framework that allows ride sharing companies such as Uber and Lyft to operate legally in Alaska. Expanding entrepreneurship promotes economic growth, which leads to greater family prosperity, as illustrated by the ACU Foundation's Family Prosperity Index. ACU supports a free market in ride sharing and supported this bill. The Senate passed the bill on March 23, 2017 by a vote of 14-5.

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2. **SB 14 Price Controls on Ride Sharing.** Amendment Number 9 to the ride sharing regulations bill prohibits an increase in ride sharing fares when a state of emergency is declared by the governor. ACU opposes price controls that only serve to make a product scarce when it is most needed and opposed this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on March 23, 2017 by a vote of 4-15.

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3. **SB 14 Minimum Wage.** Amendment Number 12 to the ride sharing regulations bill sets a minimum wage for ride sharing network drivers even though they are not employees of the company. ACU opposes these artificial wages that hurt those that need help with employment the most and should never apply to independent contractors and opposed this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on March 23, 2017 by a vote of 4-15.

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4. **SB 14 Overtime Mandate.** Amendment Number 13 to the ride sharing regulations bill mandates that overtime requirements should apply if ride sharing drivers work more than 40 hours in a week or more than eight hours in a day, regardless of whether they are an employee of the company. ACU opposes these mandates that interfere with the right of drivers, who are independent contractors, to negotiate their own benefits and opposed this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on March 23, 2017 by a vote of 4-15.

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5. **SB 14 Caps on Hours Worked.** Amendment Number 17 to the ride sharing regulations bill prohibits ride sharing drivers from working more than 60 hours per week. ACU opposes these mandates that interfere with the right of drivers, who are independent contractors, to negotiate their own hours and opposed this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on March 23, 2017 by a vote of 5-14.

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6. **SB 45 Contractor Licensing.** This bill exempts from state contractor licensing requirements those individuals who work on the construction or alteration of personal property or those performing work on an existing structure on that person's property whether or not it is their residence or on their residence even if they do not own the property. ACU opposes the proliferation of licensing requirements and supports the freedom to work on one's own property or residence and supported this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 15, 2017 by a vote of 19-0.

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7. **SB 80 Cell Phone Surcharge.** This bill imposes a surcharge on cell phone users, in addition to the current surcharge on land lines, to provide special equipment, a telecommunications relay service, for those who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired. ACU opposes taxes that are taken from some cell phone users to benefit other cell phone users, regardless of means, and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 17, 2017 by a vote of 19-0.

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8. **SB 23 Planned Parenthood Legal Fees.** Amendment Number 13 to the Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations bill pays \$ 1 million of taxpayer's money for legal fees incurred by Planned Parenthood in their lawsuit against a law requiring parental consent for a minor's abortion. ACU opposes appropriating funds to organizations that perform abortions such as Planned Parenthood and opposed this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on May 11, 2017 by a vote of 4-14.

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9. **HB 115 Income Tax Increase.** This bill imposes an income tax on Alaska taxpayers for the first time in 37 years with a top rate of 27 percent. ACU opposes tax increases that harm economic growth, especially when other options exist to balance the budget such as spending cuts and using the \$60 billion Alaska Permanent Fund and opposed this bill. The Senate defeated the bill on a procedural motion on May 11, 2017 by a vote of 5-13.

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10. **SB 63 Smoking Regulations.** This bill treats cigarettes and e-cigarettes (vaping) the same and bans their use both in private establishments such as restaurants and bars as well as private apartment house common areas and bans the use of both outdoors near playgrounds, schools, healthcare facilities and "open windows." ACU considers tobacco and e-cigarettes a personal liberty issue and oppose these draconian restrictions on a legal product that infringe on property rights and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on May 17, 2017 by a vote of 15-5.

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11. **HB 132 Ridesharing Regulations.** Amendment Number 2 to the House-passed ride sharing regulations eliminates the requirement that a municipal ban on ride sharing be approved in a voter referendum. ACU supports a free market in ride sharing and opposes this effort to silence the will of the people and opposed this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on May 17, 2017 by a vote of 6-14.

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# ALASKA SENATE SCORES

## ALASKA SENATE VOTE DETAIL

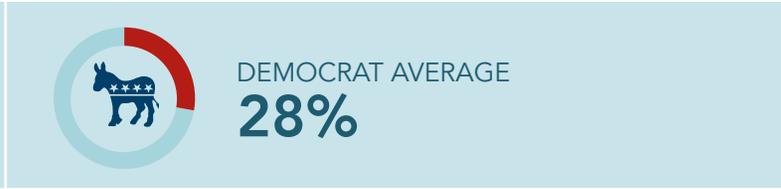
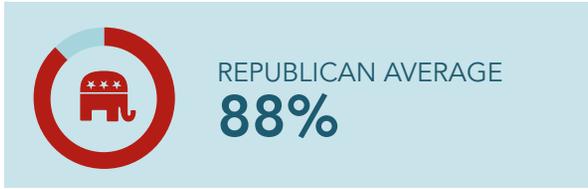
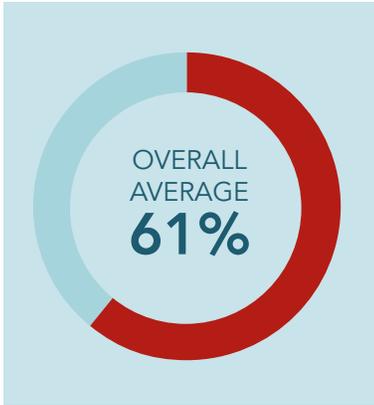
	Party	District	SB 14	SB 14 - Amd. 9	SB 14 - Amd. 12	SB 14 - Amd. 13	SB 14 - Amd. 17	SB 45	SB 80	SB 23 - Amd. 13	HB 115	SB 63	HB 132 - Amd. 2	ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2017 %	2016 %	LIFETIME AVG
Begich	D	J	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	n/a	9%
BISHOP	R	C	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	8	11	73%	42%	63%
COGHILL	R	B	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	10	11	91%	62%	80%
COSTELLO	R	K	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	54%	79%
DUNLEAVY	R	E	+	+	+	+	+	E	-	E	E	+	+	7	8	88%	77%	88%
Egan	D	Q	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	23%	36%
Gardner	D	I	-	-	-	-	-	+	E	-	-	-	-	1	10	10%	15%	29%
GIESSEL	R	N	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	54%	74%
Hoffman	D	S	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	38%	69%
HUGHES	R	F	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	10	11	91%	60%	80%
KELLY	R	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	10	11	91%	62%	80%
MacKINNON	R	G	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	54%	66%
MEYER	R	M	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	54%	74%
MICCICHE	R	O	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	54%	74%
Olson	D	T	E	E	E	E	E	+	-	+	-	-	-	2	6	n/a†	42%	70%
STEDMAN	R	R	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	E	E	+	-	6	9	67%	50%	72%
STEVENS	R	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	38%	69%
Von IMHOF	R	L	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	n/a	82%
Wielechowski	D	H	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	33%	35%
WILSON	R	D	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	9	11	82%	n/a	82%

“+” Member voted with ACU’s position  
 “-” Member voted against ACU’s position

“X” Member was absent for vote  
 “E” Member was excused for vote

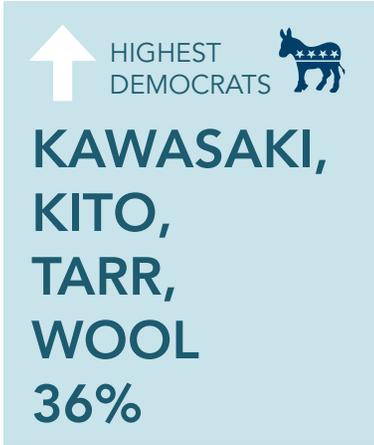
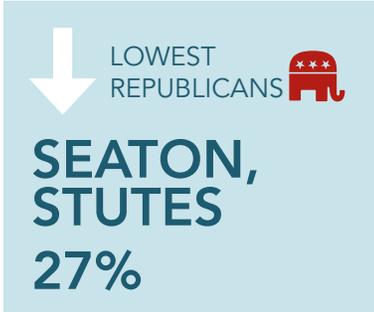
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# ALASKA HOUSE STATISTICS

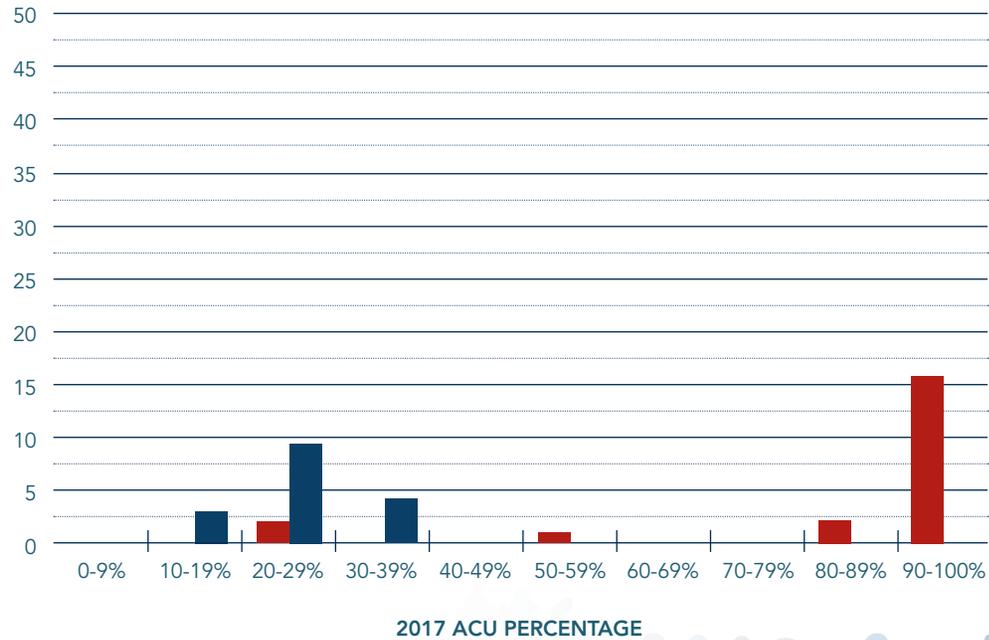


## ALASKA HOUSE CONSERVATIVE RATINGS

RED = REPUBLICANS      BLUE = DEMOCRATS



# OF STATE REPS





## ALASKA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

1. **HB 57 Government Competition with the Private Sector.** Amendment Number 6 to the Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations bill prohibits the Division of Motor Vehicles from outsourcing administrative and licensing services to private sector businesses. ACU supports the expansion of private sector participation in government programs and opposed this amendment. The House passed the amendment on March 13, 2017 by a vote of 21-19.

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2. **HB 57 Government Transparency.** Amendment Number 60 to the Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Bill calls on the executive branch to publish online every government expense over \$1,000. ACU supports increasing government transparency and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on March 16, 2017 by a vote of 18-21.

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3. **HB 57 Taxpayer Funding of Abortion.** Amendment Number 90 to the Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Bill prohibits any appropriated funds from being used for an abortion. ACU believes abortion is a human tragedy, supports restrictions on the practice and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on March 16, 2017 by a vote of 19-20.

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4. **HB 57 Compulsory Union Dues.** Amendment Number 133 to the Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations bill expresses the intent of the legislature that the state stop the mandatory collection of union dues or account for union dues in the state accounting system. ACU opposes the government acting as the dues collector for unions and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on March 17, 2017 by a vote of 17-21.

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5. **HB 57 Defunding Planned Parenthood.** Amendment Number 126 to the Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations bill expresses the intent of the legislature that Planned Parenthood not receive any state grants or appropriation of state funds. ACU opposes taxpayer funds from being used to support organizations that perform abortions, such as Planned Parenthood and supported this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on March 17, 2017 by a vote of 17-21.

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6. **HB 43 Patient Choice on Alternative Medical Treatments.** This bill allows terminally ill patients who have exhausted other available treatments and do not qualify for clinical trials to gain access to drugs that have not completed the Food and Drug Administration's approval process. ACU supports "right to try" and believes it is absurd to deny those who are terminally ill access to new drugs and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on April 10, 2017 by a vote of 40-0.

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7. **HB 115 Income Tax Increase.** This bill imposes an income tax on Alaska taxpayers for the first time in 37 years with a top rate of 27 percent. ACU opposes tax increases that harm economic growth, especially when other options exist to balance the budget such as spending cuts and using the \$60 billion Alaska Permanent Fund and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on April 16, 2017 by a vote of 22-17.

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8. **HB 222 Manicurist Licensing Regulations.** This bill repeals a 2015 law that required anyone giving a manicure to pass an examination devised by the state board of cosmetology and complete 250 hours of classroom training. Expanding entrepreneurship promotes economic growth, which leads to greater family prosperity, as illustrated by the ACU Foundation's Family Prosperity Index. ACU opposes the proliferation of licensing requirements that are primarily designed to restrict competition and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on April 27, 2017 by a vote of 40-0.

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9. **HB 132 Ride Sharing Regulations.** Amendment Number 2 to the House-passed ride sharing regulations eliminates the requirement that a municipal ban on ride sharing be approved in a voter referendum. ACU supports a free market in ride sharing and opposes this effort to silence the will of the people and opposed this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on May 15, 2017 by a vote of 20-20.

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10. **HB 132 Ride Sharing Regulations.** This bill establishes a framework that allows ride sharing companies such as Uber and Lyft to operate legally in Alaska. Expanding entrepreneurship promotes economic growth, which leads to greater family prosperity, as illustrated by the ACU Foundation's Family Prosperity Index. Although the bill includes a provision allowing municipalities to prohibit the companies from operating through a referendum, ACU supported the bill overall as allowing more of a free market in ride sharing. The House passed the bill on May 15, 2017 by a vote of 35-5.

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11. **HB 105 Restricting the Hunting of Wolves.** This bill would for the first time carve out 530 square miles in Denali National Park to prevent the hunting and trapping of wolves. ACU opposes unnecessary restrictions when there is already a wolf preserve covering 2.5 million acres of land in central Alaska and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on May 17, 2017 by a vote of 22-18.

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# ALASKA HOUSE SCORES

## ALASKA HOUSE VOTE DETAIL

Party	District	HB 57 - Amd. 6	HB 57 - Amd. 60	HB 57 - Amd. 90	HB 57 - Amd. 133	HB 57 - Amd. 126	HB 43	HB 115	HB 222	HB 132 - Amd. 2	HB 132	HB 105	ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2017 %	2016 %	LIFETIME AVG
BIRCH	R	26	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	n/a	100%
CHENAULT	R	29	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	10	11	91%	60%	77%
Claman	D	21	-	E	E	E	E	+	-	+	-	-	2	7	n/a†	30%	20%
Drummond	D	18	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	40%	32%
EASTMAN	R	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	n/a	100%
Edgmon	D	37	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	50%	39%
Fansler	D	38	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	2	11	18%	n/a	18%
Foster	D	39	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	50%	49%
Gara	D	20	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	33%	30%
Grenn	I	22	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	5	11	45%	n/a	45%
Guttenberg	D	4	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	2	11	18%	60%	36%
JOHNSON	R	11	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	n/a	100%
JOHNSTON	R	28	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	10	11	91%	n/a	91%
Josephson	D	17	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	40%	29%
Kawasaki	D	1	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	4	11	36%	50%	39%
Kito	D	33	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	4	11	36%	30%	26%
KNOPP	R	30	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	9	11	82%	n/a	82%
KOPP	R	24	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	10	11	91%	n/a	91%
Kreiss-Tomkins	D	35	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	38%	28%
LEDOUX	R	15	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	6	11	55%	70%	62%
MILLETT	R	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	60%	80%
NEUMAN	R	8	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	10	10	100%	67%	85%
Ortiz	I	36	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	30%	39%
Parish	D	34	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	n/a	27%
PRUITT	R	27	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	44%	75%
RAUSCHER	R	9	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	n/a	100%
REINBOLD	R	14	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	40%	76%
SADDLER	R	13	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	60%	80%
SEATON	R	31	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	50%	46%
Spohnholz	D	16	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	50%	39%
STUTES	R	32	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	50%	52%
SULLIVAN-LEONARD	R	7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	n/a	100%
TALERICO	R	6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	10	11	91%	60%	80%

“+” Member voted with ACU’s position  
 “-” Member voted against ACU’s position

“X” Member was absent for vote  
 “E” Member was excused for vote

† Legislator did not vote on enough of the selected bills and as a result the 2017 percentage was not rated. 2/3rds of the selected bills must be voted on to receive a score.



## ALASKA HOUSE VOTE DETAIL

	Party	District	HB 57 - Amd. 6	HB 57 - Amd. 60	HB 57 - Amd. 90	HB 57 - Amd. 133	HB 57 - Amd. 126	HB 43	HB 115	HB 222	HB 132 - Amd. 2	HB 132	HB 105	ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2017 %	2016 %	LIFETIME AVG
Tarr	D	19	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	4	11	36%	56%	37%
THOMPSON	R	2	+	-	+	E	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	8	9	89%	86%	83%
TILTON	R	12	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	60%	83%
Tuck	D	23	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	2	11	18%	40%	31%
Westlake	D	40	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	3	11	27%	n/a	27%
WILSON	R	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	70%	83%
Wool	D	5	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	4	11	36%	40%	32%

“+” Member voted with ACU’s position  
 “-” Member voted against ACU’s position

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