



2024 House Scorecard Bills

SFCN Positions

HB 206	
Sponsor:	Steven Sainz (R-180)
Summary:	<p>This is effectively a Green New Deal bill for Georgia. This is a Green New Deal type program where we would use public funds to pay for private property to be retrofitted to be more “Green.” This is an absolute intrusion into the free market and not the proper role of government.</p> <p>The claim is that this bill does not use public funding, but the text of the bill disagrees. The bill explicitly mentions the use of public funds for private property improvements in the context of financing qualifying improvements, including energy efficiency, water conservation, renewable energy, and resiliency improvements on private properties. Lines 329-331 even claim it to be an “essential government function” for public funds to be used in this manner. Lines 337-345 explicitly lay out how public funds may be used saying that counties and municipalities may furnish funds to aid in these endeavors. In lines 346-396 it even discusses the authority for imposing assessments.</p> <p>This bill passed the House purely with Democrat support. A large amount of Republicans voted against this bill because no Republican in their right mind can support this legislation.</p> <p>This bill is anti-capitalistic and an affront to the free market.</p> <p>The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.</p>
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 434	
Sponsor:	Lee Hawkins (R-27)
Summary:	<p>This bill establishes licensure requirements for radiologists. At a time when we constantly hear about access to healthcare, the government is looking to step in the way of Georgians receiving care. Especially in the age of services like yelp, Georgians can decide for themselves who is qualified to treat</p>



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	them. We should be removing licensure requirements, not creating new ones. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 456	
Sponsor:	Stan Gunter (R-8)
Summary:	This bill changes the minimum term for a municipal judge for 1 year to 2 years. These judges already operate with too much power. We should not be making it harder to move on from a bad one. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 461	
Sponsor:	Brad Thomas (R-21)
Summary:	Currently local governments may not use their existing regulatory fees for the purpose of raising revenue. This bill strengthens the spirit of that law by saying the funds can only be used for carrying out the regulatory activities and may not go into the general fund. It adds extensive renovations to determining the cost of the regulatory activities to help make the estimate more accurate. Because this will prevent unneeded fees imposed by the government, though they should be banned entirely, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 481	
Sponsor:	John Carson (R-46)
Summary:	This gives a fiduciary responsibility to retirement system to require them to execute all their duties in the best interest of the investor for the exclusive purpose of benefitting the investor. This bill would protect Georgians from ESG, and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 502	
Sponsor:	Deborah Silcox (R-53)
Summary:	This bill adds to the definition of “cosmetic laser services” which would require one to attain the existing licensure for



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	cosmetic laser services before providing these services. We should be reducing licensure requirements, not increasing them. In the age of services like yelp, and a lack of credibility in government agencies, the people will serve as the best decider on someone's qualifications. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 576	
Sponsor:	Joseph Gullett (R-19)
Summary:	This bill bars discrimination based on COVID-19 vaccination status for organ donation. It would make it unlawful for someone to be denied a transplant because of their vaccination status for COVID-19. This would prevent someone from being left to die due to their vaccine status and, therefore, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 583	
Sponsor:	Leesa Hagen (R-156)
Summary:	This bill puts harsh regulation on hazardous foods, which do not include alcohol, which make it illegal for many to buy, sell, or produce them without immense regulation. The people of Georgia do not need the government permission to consume the food they choose and, therefore, the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 663	
Sponsor:	Matt Hatchett (R-155)
Summary:	This bill gives parents the right to be with their child at all times in the hospital or other long-term care facility. An adult may also have a designated caregiver with the same rights. They may be required to wear masks, protective gear, or whatever other precautions are in place so long as it does not infringe on these rights. This bill is commonsense and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 809	



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Sponsor:	Alan Powell (R-33)
Summary:	This bill would add requirement that someone be occupationally licensed to perform dry needling. Especially in the age of yelp, people are more than capable of deciding on their own whether someone is qualified. Occupational licensing is an unnecessary barrier to the market and the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 839	
Sponsor:	Katie Dempsey (R-13)
Summary:	This bill adds additional licensure requirements for social work and massage work. Adding new regulation for the purpose of increasing access to our marketplace by other states is ridiculous. Rather than joining some absurd compact of regulation, we could simply pass a law saying that anyone licensed in another state is allowed to practice here. This is an easy NO for the SFCN.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 844	
Sponsor:	Ginny Ehrhart (R-36)
Summary:	This bill creates a licensure requirement for nutritionists and dietitians along with extensive regulation. This has the markings of some big pharma ploy to stomp out the ability for people to have natural remedies. This is a terrible big government bill and the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 872	
Sponsor:	Lee Hawkins (R-27)
Summary:	This bill adds dental students to the service cancellable loans we have for healthcare workers. Dentists are already included in law. This bill is simply saying you can merely be a student, not someone who provides the service. It does not even say you must complete the degree. This is absurd Bernie Sanders style state paid college and it is antithetical for conservatism. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO



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HB 880	
Sponsor:	Bethany Ballard (R-147)
Summary:	This bill would allow spouses of services members with occupational licenses in other states the practice here without going through the licensing process. This is commonsense and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 924	
Sponsor:	Mandi Ballinger (R-23)
Summary:	This bill places an insurances mandate on drugs, barring insurances from denying coverage for drugs. We see, every year, the rising costs of insurance. Yet we continue to push Obamacare-style mandates like this bill. Insurance mandates increase prices for everyone and interfere in the free market. Therefore, the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 925	
Sponsor:	Steven Sainz (R-180)
Summary:	This bill would require that, in a health emergency where private entities are being mandated to close yet there are some given more favorable status than others, religious institutions must be given a status equal or better than that of the freest entities. This is better than what we have now, but the bill should make it unlawful for any businesses to shutdown period. Regardless, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 934	
Sponsor:	Martin Momtahan (R-17)
Summary:	This bill says that, regarding self-service storage facilities, that if someone has a rental agreement in their possession for 14 days and does not sign it but continues to use the facility, the agreement will be considered signed. It would require that someone stop using these facilities within 14 days of the termination or expiration of their agreement. During these 14 days, the owner may restrict their ability to use the facility outside of accessing their own personal property. If the property is not removed within 14 days, the owner may dispose



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	of it themselves. This bill further allows these rental agreements to be delivered electronically. This bill protects property rights and, therefore, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 971	
Sponsor:	Mark Newton (R-127)
Summary:	<p>Under HB 971, Georgians will register a gun safe with the government, or have to pay an additional \$300 in taxes. You don't buy a gun safe for it to remain empty. This is de facto gun registration. This is extortion and it is wrong. It is also a foot in the door for deadly safe storage laws and moves Georgia in the wrong direction.</p> <p>Rather than force Georgians to register their firearms for tax relief, let's pass a bill to eliminate the state income tax. Under this bill, Georgians will pay much lower taxes and have zero infringement on the second amendment.</p> <p>You should not have to pay \$300 more in taxes than someone else because those chose to inform the government, they possess firearms, and you didn't.</p> <p>Because this bill infringes on the second amendment and is anti-gun, the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.</p>
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 974	
Sponsor:	John LaHood (R-175)
Summary:	This bill mandates the Secretary of State maintain a statewide database of scans of all ballots used in all elections. This promotes transparency in elections and is a step toward trusting the process and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 977	
Sponsor:	John LaHood (R-175)



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Summary:	This bill adds a statutory maximum to the amount of discrepancy allowed in a risk limiting audit. It further mandates that the race at the top of the ballot is audited along with an additional race. This bill increases the integrity in our elections and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 986	
Sponsor:	Brad Thomas (R-21)
Summary:	<p>This bill would make it a felony with 2-5 years in prison for someone to publish, broadcast, stream, or upload a video recording, video file, audio recording, or audio file, still image, or still image within 90 days of an election that is perceived to be deceptive by means of appearing to be real when it is not. For simpler terms, it would be illegal to post a deepfake or digitally altered image within 90 days of an election if the powers at be claimed it to be intentionally deceiving and having interfered in the election.</p> <p>By substitute, the bill certainly has become less bad than it was before. Being executed via hanging, while better than being executed via quartering, is still being executed. Infringing on free speech is still infringing on free speech, regardless of how many parameters you put on it. We have seen it very clearly with Fani Willis this year that it is essential to not create avenues for power to be abused because it then certainly will be.</p> <p>The bill now requires these prosecutions to begin with a recommendation from the state elections board. Perhaps for now this will suffice...maybe. If Democrats ever were to get control of the state elections board, that is a scary thought. Even when it comes to the issues in the 2020 election, it was largely Republicans who were the problem rather than Democrats. Now we have a Republican Governor who refuses to acknowledge that there is anything wrong with the actions of Fani Willis, Jack Smith, Alvin Bragg, and so it is clear that even Republican control is not enough to protect Georgians.</p> <p>The substitute did narrow the scope of this bill to only apply to any employee, staff member, or other similarly affiliated individual of a political party, political body, candidate, campaign committee, political action committee, or any other</p>



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	<p>political committee. Narrower is better, but that means still some people are under this umbrella. Perhaps the average person is not employed by a candidate or a PAC, but many are affiliated with a political party, political body, or a candidate. At the end of the day, mere affiliation is required, not employment. A simple Republican Party member who is an activist in their community that posts some memes is still very eligible for prosecution.</p> <p>The bill adds language saying that campaigns may use AI generated images, videos, or audio if it has a disclaimer.</p> <p>The future of AI presents troubling possibilities. If we lose our first amendment in the process of preventing deception, we have lost that which we sought to protect. This bill is a grave risk to free speech, making it where someone could be thrown in prison for something as simple as posting memes that were then deemed to have interfered in an election. For the sake of freedom, the SFCN recommends NO, with the strongest possible emphasis, on this bill.</p>
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 997	
Sponsor:	John Corbett (R-174)
Summary:	This bill gives the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration the ability to disqualify someone from operating a commercial vehicle and reinstate them. We do not need federal tyrants deciding what someone can do in Georgia. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 1017	
Sponsor:	Devan Seabaugh (R-34)
Summary:	This bill makes creates the criminal offense of squatting , which is living on someone's property without permission. It would be a misdemeanor. The plaintiff could be awarded fair market value worth of rent in court if the judge deems fit. This bill is good for property rights and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES



HB 1018	
Sponsor:	Jason Ridley (R-6)
Summary:	This bill makes it unlawful for financial institutions to refuse to allow for certain financial transactions due to the receiver being a gun retailer. It also makes it illegal for any government entity to maintain a database of who owns a lawfully acquired firearm.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1023	
Sponsor:	Bruce Williamson (R-112)
Summary:	This bill sets the corporate tax rate to correspond with the individual income tax rate. This serves as a cut and, therefore, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1041	
Sponsor:	Ron Stephens (R-164)
Summary:	This bill authorizes the Savannah-Georgia Convention Center Authority to now accrue up to \$400 million in bond debt. Previously they were capped at \$50 million. It also allows them to condemn public property. First, we create an additional layer of government for this convention center, now we authorize it to burden the taxpayers thereof with an additional \$350 million. Furthermore, the term "condemn" in the legal context is the same thing as eminent domain. So now we are allowing this authority to steal people's property. This bill is anti-freedom and the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 1044	
Sponsor:	Victor Anderson (R-10)
Summary:	This bill increases the amount for which government does not have to do due diligence on contracts for public works from \$100,000 to \$250,000. This includes bid requirements and review requirements. This allows government to be more corrupt away from the eye of the people and, therefore, the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO



HB 1053

Sponsor:	Carter Barrett (R-24)
Summary:	This bill would ban the use or participation by Georgia in any form of CBDC. This is great for freedom and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES

HB 1078

Sponsor:	Jesse Petrea (R-166)
Summary:	This bill expands Medicaid to provide further coverage for elderly care. Medicaid is inherently single-payer healthcare, it is not the proper role of government, and the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO

HB 1100

Sponsor:	Kimberly New (R-64)
Summary:	<p>This bill says that the notice required by the Department of Revenue that your insurance has lapsed may, with your consent, be delivered electronically. It also would allow DDS to send notices via opt-in. Further, the commissioner would be authorized to set up a framework for transferring titles of cars electronically.</p> <p>It also clarifies that government vehicles must have plates signifying they are government vehicles. There are existing exemptions, and this bill does not change that. Currently it is largely just pertaining to vehicles used exclusively for government use, but this bill provides transparency by making the people aware of who owns that vehicle.</p> <p>It further allows trailers to be considered as part of a “fleet” which is a group of 100 or more cars (and now trailers too under this bill) for the purpose of registration in bulk. This is things like U-Hauls where the company owns a large amount. The bill makes re-registration easier.</p> <p>This bill helps us move into the modern age, provides transparency, and cuts red tape. Therefore, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.</p>



SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1104	
Sponsor:	Omari Crawford (D-84)
Summary:	This bill imposes new mandates on local school districts, requiring them to conduct mental health screenings for student athletes in addition to physical exams, develop and distribute educational materials on mental health risks, and have annual training for coaches. This is burdensome and unnecessary as schools can do this already to fit their own needs. This risks costing money to the school system, which they should be allowed to decide the necessity on their own. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 1105	
Sponsor:	Jesse Petrea (R-166)
Summary:	This bill would require jails to report when an illegal alien is in the jail. Funding will be subject to withholding if there is failure to comply. Additionally, failure to comply would be a high and aggravated misdemeanor. This is a great step in the right direction and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1124	
Sponsor:	Chuck Martin (R-49)
Summary:	This bill expands a needs-based completion grant for college students which was passed last year. It builds off the Governor's federally funded pilot started in 2020 to help students with unmet financial need pay their college bills and needs-based financial aid language passed by the Legislature in 2018 but not yet funded. We do not support taxpayer funded higher education and this is proving easily that once they start growing the pot they never stop. Therefore, the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 1138	
Sponsor:	Dar'shun Kendrick (D-95)



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Summary:	The bill amends the mission of the Invest Georgia Fund. Firstly, this fund is communist nonsense where the government is meddling in the free market by funding businesses with taxpayer dollars. Communism would be where the government owns the means of production and that is essentially what this fund seeks to do. Now, under this bill, the fund would also be looking to topple the free market in favor of demographic diversity. This is a woke bill and the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HB 1149	
Sponsor:	Mesha Mainor (D-56)
Summary:	This bill requires audits of discretionary funds of county officers. It mandates annual audits for local governments with populations over 1,500 or expenditures exceeding \$550,000, and biennial audits for those not meeting these criteria. Local governments spending less than \$550,000 may opt for an annual report of agreed-upon procedures instead of the audit. Additionally, the bill specifies the content of annual audit reports for county or city-county governments, which must include financial conditions of discretionary funds of county officers. Audit reports must be completed and submitted to the state auditor within specified deadlines, with a requirement for public access to these reports. The bill also outlines procedures for failure to conduct audits or address deficiencies, including public notification and potential withholding of state funds for non-compliance. This bill is good for transparency and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1180	
Sponsor:	Kasey Carpenter (R-4)
Summary:	This bill narrows the scope of who can get film tax credits, mandates the workers and vendors be more than 50% Georgians, mandates a majority of the filming happens in Georgia, and a lot of additional regulation on these credits. It limits tax credit transfers significantly and establishes a base investment amount. It also creates an annual cap for companies. Essentially, if you dislike the film tax credits, you like this bill. The SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES



HB 1182	
Sponsor:	Clint Crowe (R-118)
Summary:	This bill changes the name of low-income housing projects to affordable housing projects. The bill creates a cap on these credits. Because this bill will mean less tax credits, the SFCN recommends YES on the bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1185	
Sponsor:	Beth Camp (R-135)
Summary:	This bill creates a homestead exemption statewide where your property value would essentially freeze rather than increase. This would require counties to opt-in. This would be better if it was not optional but, regardless, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1207	
Sponsor:	Tim Fleming (R-114)
Summary:	This bill would require the election superintendent to sign off that the ballots are correct before they are used to ensure they are correct. This is another step to make sure the will of the people is accurately reflected and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
HB 1371	
Sponsor:	James Burchett (R-176)
Summary:	This bill reduces liability for property owners and prevents frivolous lawsuits. This will stop ridiculous lawsuits and the SFCN recommends YES on the bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 189	
Sponsor:	Max Burns (R-23)
Summary:	<p>This bill makes it unlawful for the QR codes on ballots to be used for tabulation and instead requires the text portion to be counted. The SFCN recommends YES on this bill.</p> <p>By substitute, this would allow, in very specific instances which are not super common, for a county election superintendent to be</p>



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	<p>allowed to use hand marked paper ballots. This certainly lets this form of election be tested at a small level. This is a good thing.</p> <p>Additionally, it ensures absentee ballots are verified before being counted.</p> <p>This is a great bill for election integrity and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.</p>
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 212	
Sponsor:	Max Burns (R-23)
Summary:	This bill bars a probate judge from serving as an election superintendent. This is good for election integrity and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 233	
Sponsor:	Greg Dolezal (R-27)
Summary:	This creates a school choice voucher program. It is not perfect and far from universal but it is a massive step in the right direction and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 237	
Sponsor:	Bo Hatchett (R-50)
Summary:	By substitute, this is again Rep. Chuck Martin trying to extend the sunset and increase eligibility for needs-based scholarships, not merit-based. This is college. This is not the proper role of government to be paying for people's college on the backs of their fellow citizens and the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
SB 293	
Sponsor:	Ben Watson (R-1)
Summary:	This bill removes the authority of the county board of health to appoint its own director, giving that authority to the commissioner of public health. This takes away local control and gives it to a statewide bureaucrat which is exceptionally bad when you



	remember the medical tyranny we have faced since 2020. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
SB 349	
Sponsor:	Chuck Hufstetler (R-52)
Summary:	<p>By substitute, this bill creates a homestead exemption statewide where your property value would essentially freeze rather than increase. This would allow counties to opt-out. This would be better if it was not optional but, regardless, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.</p> <p>This would require a constitutional amendment and greatly diminishes the original bill, which counties were required to abide by. The Senate should disagree to this substitute.</p>
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 373	
Sponsor:	Larry Walker, III (R-20)
Summary:	This bill allows for the expedition of occupational licenses for those practicing marriage or family therapy if they are licensed in another state. This bill, by substitute, also removes the doctoral requirement for counseling licensure. One should not need a license at all, but this does lighten requirements so, therefore, the SFCN recommends YES on this bill
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 398	
Sponsor:	Kay Kirkpatrick (R-32)
Summary:	This bill removes the Governor's Defense Initiative Director from the Georgia Joint Defense Commission and adds the commissioner of economic development, the University System Chancellor, a defense industry contractor representative appointed by the Lt. Governor, and a representative of a public or private defense entity appointed by the Governor. It changes the chair from the Defense Initiative Director to the economic development commissioner. It adds growing the defense industry to the mission statement thereof. This is seemingly an attempt to make our military crony and more concerned about profits for the defense industry than our country's safety. It is an absolute



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	<p>conflict of interest to have those profiting from conflict to be advising on the military. Moving it from TCSG from economic development is for the purpose of increasing funding, turning it more into an economic development commission, seeking ways to use communist tax credits and government intervention to grow the area around bases. For these reasons, the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.</p>
SFCN Position:	NO
SB 399	
Sponsor:	Shelly Echols (R-49)
Summary:	<p>This bill requires the technical college system to compile a report every two years on the transferability of credits to the university system. Furthermore, it provides for the certification of these pre-requisites for the university system in the technical colleges. It encourages the technical colleges and board of regents to coordinate so their credits can be transferred in between and overall pushes for occupational programs in the technical colleges. Less students in university and more pursuing alternate means of being a productive member of society is a good thing and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.</p>
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 420	
Sponsor:	Jason Anavitarte (R-31)
Summary:	<p>This bill bars nonresident aliens and certain foreign companies from acquiring land within 25 miles of a military base. The point is to prevent the Chinese government from buying land near U.S. military bases. This protects our homeland from communists and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.</p>
SFCN Position:	YES
SB 430	
Sponsor:	Greg Dolezal (R-27)
Summary:	<p>This bill expands the COVID-19 liability protections to apply to any instance other than those of gross negligence, providing the presumption of assuming to risk for those entering. There will no longer need to be notices or anything of that nature. This is a great bill, preventing lawsuits over ridiculous claims of COVID-19 liability, and the SFCN recommends YES on this bill.</p>



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SFCN Position:	YES
SB 480	
Sponsor:	Mike Hodges (R-3)
Summary:	This bill is student loan repayment for those working in mental health or substance abuse. This is a Bernie Sanders like plan to pay off student loans in order for the government to influence the free market. This is pulled right out of HB 520. If you voted for Bernie Sanders, you probably like this bill. No reasonable conservative can support this bill, however. The SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
SB 533	
Sponsor:	Brian Strickland (R-17)
Summary:	This bill makes it so that, upon someone being found unfit to stand trial, DBHDD would be given full custody of the person, with no regard for the judge, to be the one to restore them to health. This takes away judicial discretion in favor of giving DBHDD more power and the SFCN recommends NO on this bill.
SFCN Position:	NO
HR 780	
Sponsor:	Jesse Petrea (R-166)
Summary:	This is a constitutional amendment to clarify that only citizens can vote in our elections. This should already be in law and the SFCN recommends YES on this resolution.
SFCN Position:	YES
HR 1019	
Sponsor:	Steven Sainz (R-180)
Summary:	This is a much weaker version of Senator Colton Moore's resolution, S.R. 539, calling on the Governor to declare an invasion due to the extreme amount of illegal immigration into our country and directly affecting our state. It attacks Joe Biden's handling of the crisis, stands with Greg Abbott and Texas, and says the Senate supports actions by the Governor to send resource (but falls short of encouraging resources). It could be much stronger, like S.R. 539 by Senator Colton Moore.



	Regardless, it says correct things and the SFCN recommends YES on this resolution.
SFCN Position:	YES
Budget-HB916	
SFCN Position:	NO