

# Scorecard 117-3

The Congressional Scorecard is a nationwide educational program of The John Birch Society. Its purpose is to create an informed electorate on how members of Congress are voting. The Scorecard is nonpartisan; it is not meant to promote any candidate or political party. Bills are selected for their constitutional implications and cost to the taxpayers.

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U.S. Constitution, Amendment I --- 11 C.F.R. §114(4)(c)(4) --- 616 F.2d 45 (2d Cir. 1980)

The following scorecard lists several key votes in the current 117th Congress (January 3, 2021 – January 3, 2023) and ranks congressmen based on his or her fidelity to constitutional and limited-government principles.

**Federal Debt Equals \$243,797 per taxpayer, as of August 12, 2022.**



## Chellie Pingree

Representative

Maine District 1st

Democrat

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Lifetime Score

This legislator voted constitutionally on **0%** of the votes shown below.

### CPH: Estimated cost per household.

★ Constitutional	✘ Unconstitutional	🕐 Did not Vote	CPH	Vote
<b>1. HR 4521 Competitiveness Package</b> (Passed 222 to 210 on 2/4/2022, Roll Call 31). Unconstitutionally authorizes \$350 billion over five years for federal funding of research and development programs, along with leftist-agenda items. See U.S. Const., Art. I, Sec. 8.			<b>\$2,760</b>	<b>Yes</b> ✘
<b>2. HR 2471 Omnibus Appropriations</b> (Passed 361 to 69 on 3/9/2022, Roll Call 65). Spends \$927.4 billion on multiple unconstitutional programs and agencies. See U.S. Const., Art. I, Sec. 8.			<b>\$7,283</b>	<b>Yes</b> ✘
<b>3. HR 2471 Omnibus Appropriations</b> (Passed 260 to 171 on 3/9/2022, Roll Call 66). Spends about \$600 billion on multiple unconstitutional programs and agencies. See U.S. Const., Art. I, Sec. 8.			<b>\$4,732</b>	<b>Yes</b> ✘
<b>4. HR 3807 Covid Aid</b> (Passed 223 to 203 on 4/7/2022, Roll Call 123). Unconstitutionally spends \$55 billion in grants to small businesses harmed by government Covid restrictions. See U.S. Const., Art. I, Sec. 8.			<b>\$434</b>	<b>Yes</b> ✘
<b>5. HR 7691 Ukraine Aid</b> (Passed 368 to 57 on 4/7/2022, Roll Call 145). Unconstitutionally spends \$40.1 billion in aid to Ukraine. See U.S. Const., Art. I, Sec. 8.			<b>\$316</b>	<b>Yes</b> ✘
<b>6. S 2938 Gun Control</b> (Passed 234 to 193 on 6/24/2022, Roll Call 299). Implements new federal gun controls and mental-health programs. See U.S. Const., amend. 2.			<b>\$36</b>	<b>Yes</b> ✘



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## 1. Competitiveness Package

H.R. 4521, the America COMPETES Act of 2022, would authorize about \$350 billion in federal funding over five years. This includes the funding of research and development programs, with more than \$52 billion for the U.S. semiconductor industry. H.R. 4521 would also authorize \$8 billion for the UN Green Climate Fund, codify a requirement that the U.S. implement the Paris climate agreement, direct the U.S. Armed Forces to implement climate-change training, and enable increased admissions of refugees and economic migrants.

The Constitution does not authorize Congress to fund research and development programs. Furthermore, the bill advances a radical environmentalist agenda; erodes U.S. national sovereignty; and encourages increased migration, a tool of the Deep State to fundamentally alter the U.S.

## 2. Omnibus Appropriations

H.R. 2471, officially known as the “Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022,” would provide \$1.5 trillion in “discretionary” appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. The provisions in the first portion to be voted on (Roll Call 65) included \$728.5 billion for the Department of Defense, \$81.1 billion for the Department of Homeland Security, and \$75.8 billion for the Commerce Department. Included within this spending was \$23.9 billion for FEMA and \$13.6 billion in assistance to Ukraine.

This bill funds many unconstitutional agencies and programs, and it funds our further entanglement in the Ukraine-Russia conflict without a congressional declaration of war.

## 3. Omnibus Appropriations

H.R. 2471, officially known as the “Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022,” would provide \$1.5 trillion in discretionary appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. The provisions in the second portion to be voted on (Roll Call 66) included approximately \$600 billion to fund the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Labor, State (for “foreign operations”), Transportation, and Treasury, as well as the EPA, NIH, HUD, SNAP (food stamp program), etc.

Most of the spending would go to federal government departments, agencies, and programs that have no authorization or basis in the Constitution. Furthermore, this reckless spending is currently yielding record-high inflation, most visible in the current rising grocery prices.

## 4. Covid Aid

H.R. 3807, the “Relief for Restaurants and other Hard Hit Small Businesses Act of 2022,” would provide \$55 billion for Small Business Administration grants, including \$42 billion for restaurants and \$13 billion for small businesses, supposedly to help those small businesses that were most harmed by the Covid pandemic.

Not only is such spending not authorized anywhere in the Constitution, but this additional deficit spending would contribute to the ruinous inflation that is currently plaguing Americans. The economic harms to restaurants and other small businesses that H.R. 3807 is supposed to remedy were due to the unconstitutional federal and state Covid-19 lockdowns and vaccine mandates in the first place.

## 5. Ukraine Aid

H.R. 7691 would provide \$40.1 billion in fiscal year 2022 “emergency supplemental appropriations for activities to respond to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.”

Foreign aid (military or otherwise) is unconstitutional. The aid would further interject the United States in the Russia-Ukraine war, and would increase the likelihood of the war broadening to fully include as combatants the United States as well as the rest of NATO. Instead of acting as a global cop, America would be best served by returning to our traditional and constitutionally sound foreign policy of staying clear of foreign quarrels.

## 6. Gun Control

S. 2938, the “Bipartisan Safer Communities Act,” would provide more than \$4.6 billion in funding through 2026 to address gun violence and mental health. Among other provisions, the bill would implement extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs), also known as red flag laws, and expand background checks for firearm purchases.

Increased spending and red flag laws are a direct violation of the U.S. Constitution, especially the Second Amendment-protected right to keep and bear arms, and this is one step closer to a disarmed America. Also, Congress is failing to address its fiscally irresponsible spending habits, which are far outside of Congress’ constitutional limits.