

SCOTT BROWN

HIS YEARS IN THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE & SENATE: A 100-PAGE REPORT BASED ON VOTES CAST, PLUS BILLS AND AMENDMENTS FILED

FROM THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Grover Norquist of Americans for Tax Reform will love him.

Wayne LaPierre of the NRA, too.

Maybe even Michael Brune of the Sierra Club.

Glenn Beck? Not so much. As Tea Party activists get to know him, Scott Brown is all but certain to lose the poster boy status he gained when he won the Ted Kennedy US Senate seat.

Because to be a “Scott Brown Republican” is to be:

- For **tax cuts** and credits across the board (with minor exceptions) for businesses and individuals
- For **environmental protection**
- For small business **bulk purchasing** of health insurance and pharmaceuticals
- Against **gay marriage** and civil unions
- Mixed on **women’s rights** (he’s not favored by pro-choice or pro-life groups)
- In support of eliminating **pre-existing condition** stipulations from insurance
- In support of **spending** for young children, persons with disabilities, seniors and veterans
- Against programs for new **immigrants**
- For **charter schools**
- For K-12 **teacher accountability** and certification
- Against restrictions on **assault weapons** and semi-automatic weapons
- For **privatization** of government services
- For greater **transparency** of government
- For **stem cell research**
- For **mental health parity**
- For increasing the **minimum wage**
- For **medical malpractice** reform

The Scott Brown story, based on what he actually did as a member of the Massachusetts House and Senate – in contrast to media speculation as to who he is based on who may or may not have voted for him – reveals a man much more politically similar to Nelson Rockefeller than to Jim DeMint.

HIGHLIGHTS OF VOTES BY SUBJECT

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Supports the authorization and funding of **stem cell research** (2005-014, 008, 020, 047).
- Voted to increase the **minimum wage** (2006-636).
- Voted to eliminate treble damages for non-compliance as an amendment to a bill regulating **employee compensation** (2008-183).
- Voted to allow small businesses to **purchase health insurance coverage in bulk** at reduced rates (2005-194).
- Voted against overriding a veto to a section of the Massachusetts Health Care Reform

CIVIL LIBERTIES & HUMAN RIGHTS

- Voted against bill to collect data for a study of **racial profiling** at traffic stops (500 of 2000).
- Voted in favor of a state constitutional amendment defining **marriage** as between one man and one woman (046 of 2007) and against providing civil unions with the same rights and benefits of marriage (498 of 2004). Senate colleagues in favor of gay marriage voted against this measure, viewing “civil union” as a separate, and thus inferior, status.
- Voted to authorize **church-associated health plans** to opt out of contraceptive coverage provisions (055 of 2002).
- Voted to allow **hospital workers** to refuse to administer emergency contraception if

ENERGY & UTILITIES

- Supported imposing fines on **utilities and contractors** who interrupt services when mistakes are made in driving piles or digging in areas housing utilities (532 of 2004).
- Voted for extending **broadband access** to rural communities (301 of 2008).
- Voted to provide supplemental funding of **fuel assistance** for low-income families (133 of 2007).
- Voted in favor of an amendment to a **renewable energy** bill to extend an \$8000 income

ENVIRONMENT

- Voted in favor of a \$2000 tax credit to purchasers of **alternative fuel vehicles** (161 of 2008).
- Supported rewarding **green buildings** with 20% tax credits by 2020 (164 of 2008).
- Supported advancing a bill setting standards for compliance with the **Toxic Use Reduction Act** and federal requirements (236 of 2006).
- Voted to allow a property taxpayer to add up to 3% of his or her tax payment to cover **community preservation efforts** (024 of 2001).

HEALTH & HOSPITALS

- Voted to address instances of **pre-existing conditions** in life insurance contracts (290 of 2008).
- Supported groups of **small businesses purchasing** health insurance at reduced rates (215 of 2005).
- Supported amendment to authorize **bulk purchasing of pharmaceuticals** (550 of 2004).
- Only Senator to vote against devising a plan for individuals to buy **prescription drugs from Canada** if and when it becomes legal under federal law (552 of 2004).

LABOR

- Voted to make it harder to qualify for **unemployment benefits** while at the same time voting to reduce the number of weeks benefits could be collected (045, 459 of 2003).
- Voted to raise the **minimum wage** by \$1.50 over three years (138 of 1999), and again by \$1.25 over three years (314 of 2006), ultimately raising it to \$8.00 an hour.
- Voted in favor of measure to **reduce the use of state employees** (025, 027 of 2001).

ADDITIONAL SECTIONS

Other sections include votes on matters of Consumer Affairs, Education, Housing, Human Services, Law Enforcement, Political & Governmental Reform, Taxes and Transportation. The highlights of each substantive area are followed by a **detailed narrative** of each section. Also included are the **bills and amendments filed**, **legislative effectiveness**, plus **election results** for all of his campaigns for office in Massachusetts.

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