

# Voting Records of the Senate

## Key Senate Votes

### 1) CUTS IN MEDICARE, MEDICAID, & EDUCATION, MORE TAX CUTS FOR WEALTHY, AND A GROWING DEFICIT – S. Con. Res. 83

The Bush Administration budget plan outlined in the FY 2007 budget resolution called for substantial cuts in Medicare and Medicaid, and other programs that strengthen and improve jobs, health care and education. But even these proposed cuts do not offset the huge tax cuts – mainly for the wealthy – called for by the White House. In fact, the budget resolution adds \$266 billion to the deficit over the next five years, and the \$873 billion spending cap will result in a significant loss of federal support for education, veterans’ medical care, law enforcement, transportation, and other vital services for millions of Americans.

**BAC POSITION:**  NAY  
**RESULT:**  PASSED

### 2) OVERTIME AND OTHER WAGE PROTECTIONS – S. 256

In a move to provide political cover to opponents of raising the minimum wage, Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) offered an amendment to the bankruptcy bill to increase the minimum wage by \$1.10 an hour, but tied the raise to rollbacks in other wage and hour protections, including allowing employers to substitute an 80-hour, two-week work period for the current 40-hour week. It also would have disqualified as many as 10 million workers from the minimum wage, overtime pay, and equal pay protections under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

**BAC POSITION:**  NAY  
**RESULT:**  FAILED

### 3) MINIMUM WAGE – S. 2766

The federal minimum wage of \$5.15 an hour has not been raised since 1997, while Congress has raised its own pay eight times with another \$3,300 a year raise due in January. Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) offered an amendment to the

#### ABBREVIATION KEY

- “Dist.” District
- “P” Party Affiliation: “D” Democrat, “R” Republican, “I” Independent
- “Y” Yea
- “N” Nay
- “A” Absent from vote
- “I” Not in office

Defense Authorization bill to increase the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 over 26 months.

**BAC POSITION:**  YEA  
**RESULT:**  FAILED

### 4) SOCIAL SECURITY – S. Con. Res. 18

The Bush Administration has vigorously fought to privatize Social Security, but working families and other groups mobilized to block efforts to weaken Social Security and its guaranteed benefits. Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) offered an amendment to the Senate budget resolution stating that Congress should reject any Social Security plan that requires deep benefit cuts or a massive increase in debt.

**BAC POSITION:**  YEA  
**RESULT:**  FAILED

### 5) HEALTH CARE – S. 1955

More than 80 million people with health insurance would be affected by this measure, which would give insurance companies broad authority to determine health care coverage and costs, including the power to eliminate consumer protections that are now required under existing state laws. Essentially, insurers would offer “bare-bones” plans that appeal only to younger and healthier workers, prompting premium increases for people who need health care the most, such as older workers.

**BAC POSITION:**  NAY  
**RESULT:**  MOTION TO END DEBATE FAILED

Highlighted votes indicate support for BAC’s position.

Senator	P	1	2	3	4	5
Reflects BAC Position		N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>ALABAMA</b>						
Sessions, J.	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Shelby	R	Y	Y	A	N	Y
<b>ALASKA</b>						
Murkowski	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Stevens	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>ARIZONA</b>						
Kyl	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
McCain	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>ARKANSAS</b>						
Lincoln	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Pryor	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>						
Boxer	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Feinstein	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>COLORADO</b>						
Allard	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Salazar, K.	D	N	N	Y	Y	N

Senator	P	1	2	3	4	5
Reflects BAC Position		N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>						
Dodd	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Lieberman	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>DELAWARE</b>						
Biden	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Carper	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>FLORIDA</b>						
Martinez	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Nelson, Bill	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>GEORGIA</b>						
Chambliss	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Isakson	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
<b>HAWAII</b>						
Akaka	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Inouye	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>IDAHO</b>						
Craig	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Crapo	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>ILLINOIS</b>						
Durbin	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Obama	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>INDIANA</b>						
Bayh	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Lugar	R	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
<b>IOWA</b>						
Grassley	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Harkin	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>KANSAS</b>						
Brownback	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Roberts	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>KENTUCKY</b>						
Bunning	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
McConnell	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>LOUISIANA</b>						
Landrieu	D	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Vitter	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
<b>MAINE</b>						
Collins	R	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Snowe	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>MARYLAND</b>						
Mikulski	D	N	A	Y	Y	N
Sarbanes	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>						
Kennedy, E.	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Kerry	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>MICHIGAN</b>						
Levin, C.	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Stabenow	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>MINNESOTA</b>						
Coleman	R	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Dayton	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>						
Cochran	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Lott	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
<b>MISSOURI</b>						
Bond	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Talent	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>MONTANA</b>						
Baucus, M.	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Burns	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>NEBRASKA</b>						
Hagel	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Nelson, Ben	D	N	N	Y	Y	Y
<b>NEVADA</b>						
Ensign	R	N	Y	N	N	Y
Reid, H.	D	N	N	Y	Y	N

Senator	P	1	2	3	4	5
Reflects BAC Position		N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>						
Gregg	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Sununu	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>						
Lautenberg	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Menendez	D	N	I	Y	I	N
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>						
Bingaman	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Domenici	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>NEW YORK</b>						
Clinton	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Schumer	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>						
Burr	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Dole	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>						
Conrad	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Dorgan	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>OHIO</b>						
DeWine	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Voinovich	R	Y	Y	N	N	N
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>						
Coburn	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Inhofe	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
<b>OREGON</b>						
Smith, G.	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Wyden	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>						
Santorum	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Specter	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>						
Chafee	R	N	N	Y	N	N
Reed, J.	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>						
DeMint	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Graham	R	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>						
Johnson, Tim	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Thune	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>TENNESSEE</b>						
Alexander, L.	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Frist	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>TEXAS</b>						
Cornyn	R	Y	N	N	N	Y
Hutchison	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>UTAH</b>						
Bennett	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Hatch	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
<b>VERMONT</b>						
Jeffords	I	N	N	Y	Y	N
Leahy	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>VIRGINIA</b>						
Allen, G.	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Warner	R	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
<b>WASHINGTON</b>						
Cantwell	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Murray	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>						
Byrd	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Rockefeller	D	N	N	A	Y	A
<b>WISCONSIN</b>						
Feingold	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
Kohl	D	N	N	Y	Y	N
<b>WYOMING</b>						
Enzi	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Thomas, C.	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y