

How Mississippi Legislators  
Vote on Business, Jobs and  
Economic Growth Issues



## Legislator “Business & Jobs” Report Card

2013 Legislative Session



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[www.bipec.org](http://www.bipec.org)

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## WHY IT'S IMPORTANT — DETAILS ABOUT THE EVALUATION PROCESS

### How to use the BIPEC Legislative Jobs Report Card?

In 1980, the Business and Industry Political Education Committee (BIPEC) was founded by Mississippi's business and professional leaders to supply needed political research information. Founders wanted credible information to identify legislative candidates who understood needs and concerns of employers...these employers are the people who take risks to create jobs, stimulate our economy and give back to communities! Use this guide to determine and assess your legislator's support of the employers who provide the jobs our state needs to thrive. Our objective is to assist with the constituent/voters quest for legislative accountability and transparency. Please visit [www.bipec.org](http://www.bipec.org) for additional information and for links to various other resources that will help you to seek accountability from your elected officials.

### What are the five performance levels?

Lawmakers are given one of five performance grades. Each grade indicates to business leaders how, in general, legislators support economic growth, jobs and other broad job-related issues.

<b>Business Champion</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Strong Business Support</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>Average Business Support</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Below Average Business Support</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Failing Business Support</b>	<b>F</b>

### What does a performance evaluation mean?

BIPEC's performance evaluation is a measuring stick used to determine each legislator's business philosophy, attitude and effectiveness in supporting growth of jobs in Mississippi. Over 50 business and professional leaders participate in the rating process. Key factors of the assessment are:

- Legislator's votes on clearly identified economic principles and employer issues
- Leadership in committee and floor debates on job-related issues
- Encouragement of other legislators to support economic growth and build coalitions

### What types of votes are used in the ratings?

It is important to note that no single issue dominated BIPEC's ratings. A great deal of effort is made to ensure that the votes chosen represent a broad cross-section of employer-related issues. Votes impacting operating costs and restriction of management choices are viewed as very important. Key subject areas include:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government growth</li> <li>• Government regulation</li> <li>• Privatization of government services</li> <li>• Lawsuit reduction</li> <li>• Environmental protection</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labor/management issues</li> <li>• Incentives for job growth</li> <li>• Workers Compensation</li> <li>• Business taxation</li> <li>• Government spending controls</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

### The 2013 Bills and Action Card and Bills Vote Key

The "Bills and Action Card" gives brief descriptions of the legislation and the "business" vote position (yes or no). The Bills Vote Key provides the voting tally sheet for each of the legislators and their votes used for the scoring process.

For additional information including direct links to the MS Legislature website, Bills and Action Cards and Voting Keys, please visit [www.bipec.org](http://www.bipec.org).

## BIPEC 2013 LEGISLATOR "BUSINESS & JOBS" SCORE CARD BILLS AND ACTION CARD

Bill	Description	Vote Key	House Votes	Business Vote	Senate Votes	Business Vote
HB 141	Prohibits local governments from establishing a mandatory minimum wage	A	76-44	Yes	32-16-4	Yes
HB 333	Amends the MS Products Liability Act to add the "designers" of products; they were previously omitted from the product liability statute	B	105-13-2-1	Yes	52-0	Yes
HB 545	Allows businesses and individuals with four or more vehicles covered by an auto insurance policy to select uninsured motorist coverage limits	C	74-43-2	Yes	52-0	Yes
HB 841	Provides for a rate reduction on the sales tax for electricity and fuel used by producers in enhanced oil/gas recovery processes utilizing carbon dioxide	D	117-1-2	Yes	51-0	Yes
HB 844	Provides manufacturers, poultry/livestock/aquaculture/horticultural/milk producers, commercial fishers, and the irrigation of farm crops with a full exemption from the sales tax on energy used for their respective processes	E	75-43-2	Yes	52-0	Yes
HB 892	Enhances the protection of businesses and individuals by further defining the audit practices of the MS Dept of Revenue and establishing audit time limits	F	119-0-1	Yes	52-0	Yes
HB 932	Enhances actions related to Ms Dept of Employment Security including a 1yr reduction in unemployment tax rate and increasing workforce training funds	G	95-23-2	Yes	51-0	Yes
SB 2687	Protects the tenets of free-market enterprise by prohibiting local govts from enacting size, quantity, and labeling regulations on the food service industry	H	92-26-2	Yes	50-1	Yes
HB 1680	Allows for scrap metal recyclers to be recognized as manufacturers; offers reduced tax rate on manuf equipment/utilities used by recycling operations	I	115-0-3-2	Yes	52-0	Yes
HB 1698	Serves as economic incentive for attracting horizontal oil/gas drilling operations by reducing the severance tax on horizontal oil/gas production	J	110-5-4	Yes	52-0	Yes
HB 369	MS Charter Schools Act of 2013; promotes the free market ideal of competition in what is actually our largest job training program - public education	K	62-56-1	Yes	34-18	Yes
HB 1302	died in committee; would have protected property owners from undue liability resulting from the actions of illegal trespassers	L	95-22-2-1	Yes		
HB 1594	died in committee; would have provided for an ad valorem tax exemption for manufacturers for federal govt mandated pollution control equipment	M	60-57-2-1	Yes		



# LEGISLATOR “BUSINESS & JOBS” REPORT CARD

## 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### HOUSE

FIRST	LAST	PARTY	CITY	DIST	GRADE	FIRST	LAST	PARTY	CITY	DIST	GRADE	FIRST	LAST	PARTY	CITY	DIST	GRADE
Gene	Alday	R	Walls	25	B	Tyrone	Ellis	D	Starkville	38	D	Bobby	Moak	D	Bogue Chitto	53	F
Brian	Aldridge	R	Tupelo	17	A	Henry (Chuck)	Espy III	D	Clarksdale	26	C	Alex	Monsour, Jr.	R	Vicksburg	54	A
William Tracy	Arnold	R	Booneville	3	A	Casey	Eure	R	Biloxi	116	A	John L.	Moore	R	Brandon	60	A
Willie L.	Bailey	D	Greenville	49	F	Bob	Evans	D	Monticello	91	F	Ken	Morgan	R	Morgantown	100	A
Nick	Bain	D	Corinth	2	C	James	Evans	D	Jackson	70	F	David W.	Myers	D	McComb	98	F
Mark	Baker	R	Brandon	74	A	Michael T.	Evans	D	Preston	43	B	Pat	Nelson	R	Southaven	40	B
Earle	Banks	D	Jackson	67	F	George	Flaggs, Jr.	D	Vicksburg	55	B	Brad	Oberhousen	D	Jackson	73	D
David	Baria	D	Bay St. Louis	122	F	Mark S.	Formby	R	Picayune	108	A	Randall	Patterson	D	Biloxi	115	C
Toby	Barker	R	Hattiesburg	102	B	Herb	Frierson	R	Poplarville	106	A	Willie J.	Perkins, Sr.	D	Greenwood	32	F
Manly	Barton	R	Moss Point	109	A	Andy	Gipson	R	Braxton	77	A	Bill	Pigott	R	Tylertown	99	A
Jim	Beckett	R	Bruce	23	A	Jeffrey S.	Guice	R	Ocean Springs	114	B	Brent	Powell	R	Brandon	59	A
Donnie	Bell	R	Fulton	21	B	Philip	Gunn	R	Clinton	56	A	John O.	Read	R	Gautier	112	A
Richard	Bennett	R	Long Beach	120	A	Eugene Forrest	Hamilton	R	Olive Branch	6	A	Tommy	Reynolds	D	Water Valley	33	C
Edward	Blackmon, Jr.	D	Canton	57	F	Greg	Haney	R	Gulfport	118	A	Margaret Ellis	Rogers	R	New Albany	14	A
C. Scott	Bounds	R	Philadelphia	44	A	Esther Mullin	Harrison	D	Columbus	41	F	Ray	Rogers	R	Pearl	61	A
Randy P.	Boyd	R	Mantachie	19	A	John W.	Hines, Sr.	D	Greenville	50	F	Randy	Rushing	R	Decatur	78	A
Billy	Broomfield	D	Moss Point	110	F	Steve	Holland	D	Plantersville	16	D	Omeria	Scott	D	Laurel	80	F
Cecil	Brown	D	Jackson	66	D	Gregory L.	Holloway, Sr.	D	Hazlehurst	76	D	Williams E.	Shirley Jr.	R	Quitman	84	B
Chris	Brown	R	Aberdeen	20	A	Joey	Hood	R	Ackerman	35	A	Bobby	Shows	R	Ellisville	89	A
Kelvin O.	Buck	D	Holly Springs	5	C	Kevin	Horan	D	Grenada	24	F	Ferr	Smith	D	Carthage	27	D
Kimberly Campbell	Buck	D	Jackson	72	D	Steve	Horne	R	Meridian	81	B	Jeff	Smith	R	Columbus	39	A
Clara H.	Burnett	D	Tunica	9	D	Bobby B.	Howell	R	Kilmichael	46	A	Greg	Snowden	R	Meridian	83	A
Charles	Busby	R	Pascagoula	111	A	Mac	Huddleston	R	Pontotoc	15	A	Gary V.	Staples	R	Laurel	88	A
Larry	Byrd	R	Petal	104	A	Robert E.	Huddleston	D	Sumner	30	F	Jody	Steverson	D	Ripley	4	B
Credell	Calhoun	D	Jackson	68	F	Wanda Taylor	Jennings	R	Southaven	7	B	Rufus E.	Straughter	D	Belzoni	51	F
Lester (Bubba)	Carpenter	R	Burnsville	1	A	Robert L.	Johnson III	D	Natchez	94	D	Johnny W.	Stringer	D	Montrose	87	D
Gary A.	Chism	R	Columbus	37	A	Bill	Kinkade	R	Byhalia	52	A	Preston	Sullivan	D	Okolona	22	B
Bryant W.	Clark	D	Pickens	47	F	Timmy	Ladner	R	Poplarville	93	A	Tommy	Taylor	R	Boyle	28	A
Alyce G.	Clarke	D	Jackson	69	F	John T. (Trey)	Lamar III	R	Senatobia	8	B	Sara Richardson	Thomas	D	Indianola	31	F
Angela	Cockerham	D	Magnolia	96	C	Sherra	Lane	D	Waynesboro	86	F	Jerry R.	Turner	R	Baldwyn	18	A
Linda	Coleman	D	Mound Bayou	29	F	Hank	Lott	R	Sumrall	101	A	Joseph L.	Warren	D	Mount Olive	90	B
Mary H.	Coleman	D	Jackson	65	D	Bennett	Malone	D	Carthage	45	B	Percy	Watson	D	Hattiesburg	103	F
Carolyn	Crawford	R	Pass Christian	121	A	Rita	Martinson	R	Madison	58	A	Tom	Weathersby	R	Florence	62	A
Becky	Currie	R	Brookhaven	92	A	Steve	Massengill	R	Hickory Flat	13	A	Jason	White	R	West	48	A
Dennis	DeBar, Jr	R	Leakesville	105	A	Brad	Mayo	R	Oxford	12	A	Linda	Whittington	D	Schlater	34	F
Scott	Delano	R	Biloxi	117	A	Doug	McLeod	R	Lucedale	107	A	Sonya	Williams Barnes	D	Gulfport	119	F
Bill	Denny	R	Jackson	64	A	Nolan	Metttetal	R	Sardis	10	A	Adrienne	Wooten	D	Jackson	71	F
Reecy L.	Dickson	D	Macon	42	D	America (Chuck)	Middleton	D	Port Gibson	85	D	Charles L.	Young Jr.	D	Meridian	82	D
Deborah Butler	Dixon	D	Raymond	63	D	Tom	Miles	D	Forest	75	C	Henry (Hank)	Zuber III	R	Ocean Springs	113	A
Blaine H. (Bo)	Eaton II	D	Taylorville	79	D	Sam C.	Mims V	R	McComb	97	A						

\*Rep. Karl Gibbs (Dist 36) took office after session started



# LEGISLATOR “BUSINESS & JOBS” REPORT CARD

## 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### SENATE

FIRST	LAST	PARTY	CITY	DIST	GRADE
David	Blount	D	Jackson	29	<i>B</i>
Terry W.	Brown	R	Columbus	17	<i>A</i>
Nickey	Browning	R	Pontotoc	3	<i>A</i>
Hob	Bryan	D	Amory	7	<i>C</i>
Terry C.	Burton	R	Newton	31	<i>A</i>
Kelvin E.	Butler	D	McComb	38	<i>C</i>
Albert	Butler, Sr.	D	Port Gibson	36	<i>C</i>
Videt	Carmichael	R	Meridian	33	<i>A</i>
Lydia	Chassaniol	R	Winona	14	<i>A</i>
Eugene S. (Buck)	Clarke	R	Hollandale	22	<i>A</i>
Nancy Adams	Collins	R	Tupelo	6	<i>A</i>
Debbie	Dawkins	D	Pass Christian	48	<i>D</i>
Sally	Doty	R	Brookhaven	39	<i>A</i>
Joey	Fillingane	R	Sumrall	41	<i>A</i>
Hillman	Frazier	D	Jackson	27	<i>C</i>
Phillip A.	Gandy	R	Waynesboro	43	<i>A</i>
Tommy	Gollott	R	Biloxi	50	<i>A</i>
Steve	Hale	D	Senatobia	10	<i>B</i>
Josh	Harkins	R	Flowood	20	<i>A</i>
Angela Burks	Hill	R	Picayune	40	<i>A</i>
W. Briggs	Hopson III	R	Vicksburg	23	<i>A</i>
John	Horhn	D	Jackson	26	<i>C</i>
Billy	Hudson	R	Hattiesburg	45	<i>A</i>
Gary	Jackson	R	French Camp	15	<i>A</i>
Robert L.	Jackson	D	Marks	11	<i>D</i>
Sampson	Jackson II	D	DeKalb	32	<i>C</i>

FIRST	LAST	PARTY	CITY	DIST	GRADE
Russell	Jolly	D	Houston	8	<i>B</i>
Kenneth Wayne	Jones	D	Canton	21	<i>C</i>
David L.	Jordan	D	Greenwood	24	<i>D</i>
Dean	Kirby	R	Pearl	30	<i>A</i>
Perry	Lee	R	Mendenhall	35	<i>A</i>
Will	Longwitz	R	Madison	25	<i>A</i>
Chris	Massey	R	Nesbit	1	<i>A</i>
Chris	McDaniel	R	Ellisville	42	<i>A</i>
Haskins	Montgomery	D	Bay Springs	34	<i>B</i>
Philip	Moran	R	Kiln	46	<i>A</i>
David	Parker	R	Olive Branch	19	<i>A</i>
Rita Potts	Parks	R	Corinth	4	<i>A</i>
John A.	Polk	R	Hattiesburg	44	<i>A</i>
Derrick T.	Simmons	D	Greenville	12	<i>C</i>
Willie	Simmons	D	Cleveland	13	<i>C</i>
Tony	Smith	R	Picayune	47	<i>A</i>
Melanie	Sojourner	R	Natchez	37	<i>A</i>
Bill	Stone	D	Ashland	2	<i>B</i>
Sean	Tindell	R	Gulfport	49	<i>A</i>
Gray	Tollison	R	Oxford	9	<i>A</i>
Giles K.	Ward	R	Louisville	18	<i>A</i>
Michael	Watson	R	Pascagoula	51	<i>A</i>
Brice	Wiggins	R	Pascagoula	52	<i>A</i>
J. P.	Wilemon, Jr.	D	Belmont	5	<i>B</i>

\*Sen's S. Norwood (Dist. 28) and A. Turner (Dist. 16) took office after session started.

# BIPEC 2013 LEGISLATOR VOTE KEY

## SENATE

FIRST	LAST		CITY	DIST	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
David	Blount	D	Jackson	29	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Terry W.	Brown	R	Columbus	17	a/nv	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nickey	Browning	R	Pontotoc	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Hob	Bryan	D	Amory	7	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X
Terry C.	Burton	R	Newton	31	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kelvin E.	Butler	D	McComb	38	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Albert	Butler, Sr.	D	Port Gibson	36	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Videt	Carmichael	R	Meridian	33	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lydia	Chassaniol	R	Winona	14	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eugene S. (Buck)	Clarke	R	Hollandale	22	a/nv	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nancy Adams	Collins	R	Tupelo	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Debbie	Dawkins	D	Pass Christian	48	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Sally	Doty	R	Brookhaven	39	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Joey	Fillingane	R	Sumrall	41	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hillman Terome	Frazier	D	Jackson	27	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Phillip A.	Gandy	R	Waynesboro	43	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tommy	Gollott	R	Biloxi	50	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Steve	Hale	D	Senatobia	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Josh	Harkins	R	Flowood	20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Angela Burks	Hill	R	Picayune	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
W. Briggs	Hopson III	R	Vicksburg	23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
John	Horhn	D	Jackson	26	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Billy	Hudson	R	Hattiesburg	45	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gary	Jackson	R	French Camp	15	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robert L.	Jackson	D	Marks	11	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Sampson	Jackson II	D	DeKalb	32	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Russell	Jolly	D	Houston	8	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Kenneth Wayne	Jones	D	Canton	21	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
David L.	Jordan	D	Greenwood	24	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Dean	Kirby	R	Pearl	30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Perry	Lee	R	Mendenhall	35	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Will	Longwitz	R	Madison	25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chris	Massey	R	Nesbit	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

FIRST	LAST		CITY	DIST	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Chris	McDaniel	R	Ellisville	42	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Haskins	Montgomery	D	Bay Springs	34	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Philip	Moran	R	Kiln	46	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
David	Parker	R	Olive Branch	19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rita Potts	Parks	R	Corinth	4	a/nv	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
John A.	Polk	R	Hattiesburg	44	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Derrick T.	Simmons	D	Greenville	12	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Willie	Simmons	D	Cleveland	13	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tony	Smith	R	Picayune	47	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Melanie	Sojourner	R	Natchez	37	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bill	Stone	D	Ashland	2	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Sean	Tindell	R	Gulfport	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gray	Tollison	R	Oxford	9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Giles K.	Ward	R	Louisville	18	a/nv	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michael	Watson	R	Pascagoula	51	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brice	Wiggins	R	Pascagoula	52	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
J. P.	Wilemon, Jr.	D	Belmont	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X

a/nv = Not Voting or Absent P = Present ✓ voted for business/jobs position X voted against business/jobs position

