



# **Legislator “Business & Jobs” Report Card**

## **2014 Legislative Session**

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

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

# 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 the growth/enhancement of jobs in Mississippi. The BIPEC "Business & Jobs" grade is composed of two parts, the objective portion, which is reflective of the selected votes legislators cast and detailed with the enclosed "vote key", and the subjective portion, which is used to measure the non-voting actions of the legislator.

Over 35 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 to promote job development

## **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:

- Government growth
- Government regulation
- Privatization of government services
- Lawsuit reduction
- Environmental protection
- Labor/management issues
- Incentives for job growth
- Workers Compensation
- Business taxation
- Government spending controls

## **The 2014 Bills and Action Card and Bills Vote Key**

The "Bills and Action Card" gives brief descriptions of the legislation, the vote totals, 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 2014 LEGISLATOR

## “BUSINESS & JOBS” SCORE CARD

### BILLS AND ACTION CARD

Bill	Description	Vote Key	House Votes	Business/Jobs Vote	Senate Votes
HB 641	Commercial driver's license; enhances the efficiency of regulatory personnel management practices and productivity for trucking industry by providing/allowing the electronic exchange of driver medical cards	A	121-0	yes	51-0
HB 680	Product liability; amends product liability law to include the “designers” of a product; strengthens “tort reform” measures by protecting designers from frivolous litigation	B	111-7	yes	52-0
HB 785	Income tax; authorizes/incentivizes a tax credit for costs paid by a company in relocating their national or regional headquarters to Mississippi	C	109-8	yes	51-1
HB 799	Taxation; The “MS Taxpayer Fairness Act” strengthens MS’s pro-business tax climate by providing definitive standards for using/determining alternative tax liability methods, allows for contesting/appeal of adverse tax rulings without the burden of bond expenses, and clarifies the tax appeals process	D	120-1	yes	40-9
SB 2065	Corp. franchise tax law; this bill excludes deferred gains and income from the computation of capital, paid-in capital, surplus, and retained earnings while removing the requirement that treasury stock must be purchased with corporate earnings in order for the cost of the stock to be utilized to reduce capital - this state tax change is comparable with federal tax treatment	E	121-0	yes	51-0
SB 2378	MS Uniform Construction Code; adopts recognized building codes/standards in accordance with the International Building Code and strengthens the MS Building Code Council	F	102-17	yes	51-0
SB 2473	The “Prohibition Against Employer Intimidation Act”; prohibits a person, organization, union, or other entity from damaging, harming, or threatening to harm/coerce/intimidate a business or their employees from exercising their legal rights, in an attempt to obtain something of value (i.e. neutrality agreement, card check agreement, collective bargaining recognition) for a union, corporation, or other organization	G	69-52	yes	38-14
SB 2653	Labor unions; prohibits an organized effort to use picketing and the use of obstacles to block a business’ ingress/egress, and from targeting private residences as a part of a labor dispute	H	68 - 53	yes	37 - 15
SB 2689	Local government; prohibits local governments from creating regulations that limit an employer’s ability to perform background checks of potential/current employees in order to maintain a fair, secure workplace	I	73-46	yes	36-15
SB 2733	Uninsured motorist coverage; requires insurers, during the sale/issuance of an auto liability policy, to list the benefits of uninsured motorist coverage, and if rejected, creates a legal presumption of a knowing, voluntary rejection of coverage	J	63-56	yes	51-0
SB 2797	MS Employment Fairness Act; prevents local governments from using ordinances, zoning, licensure, or conditional procurement to force employers to use organized labor	K	78 - 41	yes	31 - 15
SB 2934	Exempt from sales taxation sales of certain truck-tractors; provides a sales tax exemption for the purchase of truck-tractors and semitrailers to be used by trucking companies for interstate commerce	L	119-2	yes	49-2
SB 2958	Unemployment compensation, create the Workforce Investment Fund; Provides \$4m in addtl Workforce Enhancement Training funds, generates \$1m for State Workforce Investment Board to use for program development/maintenance, and reduces the ‘14 employer paid Unemployment General Experience rate	M	119-0	yes	51-0



# LEGISLATOR "BUSINESS & JOBS" REPORT CARD

## 2014 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	A	Chuck	Espy III	D	Clarksdale	26	D	Bobby	Moak	D	Bogue Chitto	53	F
Brian	Aldridge	R	Tupelo	17	A	Casey	Eure	R	Biloxi	116	A	Alex	Monsour, Jr.	R	Vicksburg	54	A
Jeramey	Anderson	D	Moss Point	110	D	Bob	Evans	D	Monticello	91	F	John L.	Moore	R	Brandon	60	A
William Tracy	Arnold	R	Booneville	3	A	James "Jim"	Evans	D	Jackson	70	D	Ken	Morgan	R	Morgantown	100	A
Willie L.	Bailey	D	Greenville	49	D	Michael	Evans	D	Preston	43	B	David W.	Myers	D	McComb	98	D
Nick	Bain	D	Corinth	2	A	John	Faulkner	D	Holly Springs	5	C	Pat	Nelson	R	Southaven	40	B
Mark	Baker	R	Brandon	74	A	Mark S.	Formby	R	Picayune	108	A	Brad	Oberhousen	D	Jackson	73	C
Earle	Banks	D	Jackson	67	C	Herb	Frierson	R	Poplarville	106	A	Randall	Patterson	D	Biloxi	115	B
David	Baria	D	Bay St. Louis	122	D	Karl	Gibbs	D	West Point	36	D	Willie J.	Perkins, Sr.	D	Greenwood	32	F
Toby	Barker	R	Hattiesburg	102	B	Andy	Gipson	R	Braxton	77	A	Bill	Pigott	R	Tylertown	99	A
Manly	Barton	R	Moss Point	109	A	Jeffrey S.	Guice	R	Ocean Springs	114	B	Brent	Powell	R	Brandon	59	A
Jim	Beckett	R	Bruce	23	A	Philip	Gunn	R	Clinton	56	A	John O.	Read	R	Gautier	112	A
Donnie	Bell	R	Fulton	21	A	Forrest	Hamilton	R	Olive Branch	6	A	Thomas U.	Reynolds	D	Charleston	33	B
Richard	Bennett	R	Long Beach	120	A	Greg	Haney	R	Gulfport	118	A	Margaret	Rogers	R	New Albany	14	A
Ed	Blackmon, Jr.	D	Canton	57	D	Esther	Harrison	D	Columbus	41	D	Ray	Rogers	R	Pearl	61	A
C. Scott	Bounds	R	Philadelphia	44	A	John W.	Hines, Sr.	D	Greenville	50	D	Randy	Rushing	R	Decatur	78	A
Randy P.	Boyd	R	Mantachie	19	A	Steve	Holland	D	Plantersville	16	D	Omeria	Scott	D	Laurel	80	F
Cecil	Brown	D	Jackson	66	D	Greg	Holloway, Sr.	D	Hazlehurst	76	C	Williams E.	Shirley Jr.	R	Quitman	84	B
Chris	Brown	R	Aberdeen	20	A	Joey	Hood	R	Ackerman	35	A	Bobby B.	Shows	R	Ellisville	89	A
Clara H.	Burnett	D	Tunica	9	D	Kevin	Horan	D	Grenada	24	D	Ferr	Smith	D	Carthage	27	D
Charles	Busby	R	Pascagoula	111	A	Steve	Horne	R	Meridian	81	C	Jeff	Smith	R	Columbus	39	A
Larry	Byrd	R	Petal	104	A	Bobby	Howell	R	Kilmichael	46	A	Greg	Snowden	R	Meridian	83	A
Credell	Calhoun	D	Jackson	68	D	Mac	Huddleston	R	Pontotoc	15	A	Gary V.	Staples	R	Laurel	88	B
Kimberly	Campbell	D	Jackson	72	C	Robert E.	Huddleston	D	Sumner	30	D	Jody	Steverson	D	Ripley	4	A
Bubba	Carpenter	R	Burnsville	1	A	Lataisha	Jackson	D	Como	11	D	Rufus E.	Straughter	D	Belzoni	51	F
Gary A.	Chism	R	Columbus	37	A	Wanda	Jennings	R	Southaven	7	A	Johnny W.	Stringer	D	Montrose	87	F
Bryant W.	Clark	D	Pickens	47	D	Robert	Johnson III	D	Natchez	94	C	Preston	Sullivan	D	Okolona	22	B
Alyce G.	Clarke	D	Jackson	69	D	Bill	Kinkade	R	Byhalia	52	A	Tommy	Taylor	R	Boyle	28	A
Angela	Cockerham	D	Magnolia	96	B	Timmy	Ladner	R	Poplarville	93	A	Sara Richardson	Thomas	D	Indianola	31	D
Linda	Coleman	D	Mound Bayou	29	D	Trey	Lamar III	R	Senatobia	8	B	Jerry R.	Turner	R	Baldwyn	18	A
Mary H.	Coleman	D	Jackson	65	D	Sherra	Lane	D	Waynesboro	86	D	Joseph L.	Warren	D	Mount Olive	90	C
Carolyn	Crawford	R	Pass Christian	121	A	Hank	Lott	R	Sumrall	101	B	Percy	Watson	D	Hattiesburg	103	F
Becky	Currie	R	Brookhaven	92	A	Bennett	Malone	D	Carthage	45	A	Tom	Weathersby	R	Florence	62	A
Dennis	DeBar, Jr	R	Leakesville	105	A	Rita	Martinson	R	Madison	58	A	Jason	White	R	West	48	A
Scott	DeLano	R	Biloxi	117	A	Steve	Masengill	R	Hickory Flat	13	A	Linda	Whittington	D	Schlater	34	D
Bill	Denny	R	Jackson	64	A	Brad	Mayo	R	Oxford	12	A	Sonya	Williams-Barnes	D	Gulfport	119	D
Oscar	Denton	D	Vicksburg	55	D	Doug	McLeod	R	Lucedale	107	A	Patricia	Willis	R	Diamondhead	95	A
Reecy L.	Dickson	D	Macon	42	D	Nolan	Mettetal	R	Sardis	10	A	Adrienne	Wooten	D	Ridgeland	71	F
Deborah	Dixon	D	Raymond	63	C	Chuck	Middleton	D	Port Gibson	85	D	Charles L.	Young Jr.	D	Meridian	82	D
Bo	Eaton II	D	Taylorville	79	D	Tom	Miles	D	Forest	75	D	Hank	Zuber III	R	Ocean Springs	113	A
Tyrone	Ellis	D	Starkville	38	D	Sam C.	Mims V	R	McComb	97	A						





# LEGISLATOR "BUSINESS & JOBS" REPORT CARD

## 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### SENATE

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

FIRST	LAST	PARTY	CITY	DIST	GRADE
Russell	Jolly	D	Houston	8	B
Kenneth Wayne	Jones	D	Canton	21	C
David L.	Jordan	D	Greenwood	24	D
Dean	Kirby	R	Pearl	30	A
Perry	Lee	R	Mendenhall	35	A
Will	Longwitz	R	Madison	25	A
Chris	Massey	R	Nesbit	1	A
Chris	McDaniel	R	Ellisville	42	A
Haskins	Montgomery	D	Bay Springs	34	A
Philip	Moran	R	Kiln	46	A
Sollie B.	Norwood	D	Jackson	28	C
David	Parker	R	Olive Branch	19	A
Rita Potts	Parks	R	Corinth	4	A
John A.	Polk	R	Hattiesburg	44	A
Derrick T.	Simmons	D	Greenville	12	D
Willie	Simmons	D	Cleveland	13	C
Tony	Smith	R	Picayune	47	A
Melanie	Sojourner	R	Natchez	37	A
Bill	Stone	D	Holly Springs	2	D
Sean	Tindell	R	Gulfport	49	A
Gray	Tollison	R	Oxford	9	A
Angela	Turner	D	West Point	16	D
Giles K.	Ward	R	Louisville	18	A
Michael	Watson	R	Pascagoula	51	A
Brice	Wiggins	R	Pascagoula	52	A
J. P.	Wilemon, Jr.	D	Belmont	5	A

# BIPEC 2014 LEGISLATOR VOTE KEY SENATE

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

FIRST	LAST		CITY	DIST	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Chris	Massey	R	Nesbit	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chris	McDaniel	R	Ellisville	42	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Haskins	Montgomery	D	Bay Springs	34	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Philip	Moran	R	Kiln	46	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sollie B.	Norwood	D	Jackson	28	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓
David	Parker	R	Olive Branch	19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rita Potts	Parks	R	Corinth	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
John A.	Polk	R	Hattiesburg	44	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Derrick T.	Simmons	D	Greenville	12	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓
Willie	Simmons	D	Cleveland	13	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓
Tony	Smith	R	Picayune	47	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Melanie	Sojourner	R	Natchez	37	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Bill	Stone	D	Holly Springs	2	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓
Sean	Tindell	R	Gulfport	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gray	Tollison	R	Oxford	9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Angela	Turner	D	West Point	16	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓
Giles K.	Ward	R	Louisville	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michael	Watson	R	Pascagoula	51	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brice	Wiggins	R	Pascagoula	52	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
J. P.	Wilemon, Jr.	D	Belmont	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓

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

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



**825 N. President Street  
Jackson, MS 39202**

**P.O. Box 23021  
Jackson, MS 39225**

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