



# FACING RACE

## 2009 LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD ON RACIAL EQUITY

By Arthur Way Jr. and Carlos Valverde Jr.

COLORADO



*With* the election of our nation's first Black President, and the ascension of our state's first Black Senate President and Speaker of the House, many Coloradans believe we have entered into a post-racial era-- a time in which our society has confronted our long history of racial tension and has addressed the deep rooted and systemic racial injustices of yesterday. Indeed, we have come a long way as a nation and a state, but we still have a way to go. This report will highlight some of the public policies from the 2009 legislative session that attempt to make further progress. However, for many Coloradans of color, opportunity is still as thin as our mile-high air and the many disparities are still as vast as the Rocky Mountains. This report also draws attention to many of these harsh inequities that have remained constant in our society and paralyzing for communities of color. Now more than ever, we must advance racial equity with an approach to policymaking that ensures communities of color are not excluded, intentionally or not, from the best that Colorado has to offer.

The report grades our elected officials on their efforts to create a more just state for Coloradans of color. We believe that voting the right way on legislation deserves a passing grade. But to be at the top of the class on racial justice, we feel that legislators should take the lead on important legislation. To that end, legislators received 80 points for voting favorably, and received boosts to their grade for being a sponsor or co-sponsor of a bill. This report does not grade legislators on every bill but rather a select few that we viewed as having a particular impact on communities of color.

The overall grade for the Colorado Legislature on this inaugural edition of the Racial Equity Report Card is a C- and Governor Bill Ritter's grade is also a C-. Although the Governor signed all of the racial equity bills that came to his desk, as the state's highest elected official his grade reflects the efforts of the legislative body, with his leadership, in preparing Colorado for a multiracial future. We hope this report serves as an annual tool to hold elected officials accountable for public policies that result in reduced disparities and positive outcomes for communities of color.

### Health Equity

Although Colorado as a whole is considered one of the healthiest states, communities of color are disproportionately affected by disease, disability, and death.<sup>1</sup> What is most disparaging is that these illnesses nationwide and in Colorado are due, in large part, to a lack of health care access resulting in limited preventive care and early disease diagnosis in communities of color.<sup>2</sup> When compared to other racial and ethnic groups in Colorado, Latinos have the highest death rates of diabetes and chronic liver disease.<sup>3</sup> According to Colorado data from 1998 to 2002, the African American population had the highest incidence rates of lung cancer and HIV.<sup>4</sup>

#### *HB 1020, Expanding Access for Medicaid Reenrollment*

Continuation of coverage is a prominent factor concerning racial disparities in healthcare. Internet and phone systems provide ease for reenrollment, rapid confirmation responses, and determinations of likely eligibility.<sup>5</sup> Although HB 1020 only allows for reenrollment of services over the phone and internet, the process is intended to create a more accessible, efficient system for all Colorado residents.

#### *HB 1293, Expanding Medicaid Eligibility*

In Colorado, more than 60 percent of the uninsured are Black and Latino while Whites represent only 13 percent.<sup>6</sup> Further, thousands more people of color are underinsured. HB 1293 creates a hospital provider fee that leverages federal monies to expand access to high-quality, affordable health care to low-income and uninsured populations. HB 1293 aggressively attempts to lower the number of uninsured in Colorado. By doing so, health care premiums across the state will decrease due to cost shifting for the uninsured.



## Education Equity

The achievement gap between students of color and Whites in Colorado has remained profound and persistent over time.<sup>7</sup> This problem is complex and will require a multilateral policy approach to remedy the disparity. State and local leaders must begin to systemically address issues such as class sizes, teacher quality, curriculum development, community engagement and disciplinary policies that disproportionately affect students of color.<sup>8</sup> A coordinated, high-level, and statewide commitment to target the achievement gap in Colorado including appropriate funding is required to address these disparities.<sup>9</sup>

One of the more pressing issues for students of color in our educational system is the dropout rate. In 2007, more Latinos dropped out statewide than Whites despite Latinos only representing 18 percent of the state's population.<sup>10</sup> African Americans are less than 5 percent of the total population but encompass 10 percent of the dropouts in Colorado.

### ***HB 1243, Student Re-Engagement and Dropout Prevention Office***

Dropout rates for Blacks and Latinos double that of Whites statewide.<sup>11</sup> In Denver, the graduation rates for Black and Latino males are 47.6 and 38.2 percent respectively.<sup>12</sup> SB 123 creates an Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-Engagement in the state Department of Education to study effective policies to increase the graduation rate. This office will identify school districts with high dropout rates and provide technical assistance. Participating districts are obligated to increase graduation rates and provide access to their educational practices and development plans. SB 123 also repeals suspension and expulsion policies shown to disproportionately impact young males of color.

### ***SB 123, Drop-out Prevention Pilot Program***

This program is designed to reduce the dropout rate of adolescent students in "at-risk" public schools. Operated by the Colorado Department of Education, this grant program takes a holistic approach by supplementing education services with programs that address a student's mental and physical health.

## Criminal Justice

The elimination of racial disparities in the criminal justice system requires corrective legislation that ensures fundamental fairness regardless of race. In Colorado, people of color represent 55 percent of the prison population but only a quarter of the population as a whole.<sup>13</sup> Blacks are less than 5 percent of the state population yet constitute 20 percent of the prison population.<sup>14</sup> Many problems people of color face with law enforcement are considered problems of "poor judgment" by those in power. This poor judgment is customary with people of color, often rising to the level of abuse.

### ***HB 1262, Issuance of Summons In Lieu of Arrest Warrant***

Unfortunately, abuse of discretion by law enforcement disproportionately impacts people of color at every level of the criminal justice system. People of color are more likely to be stopped, and suffer from higher rates of arrest<sup>15</sup>. HB 1262 repeals a requirement that prosecutors must first agree with the court before a summons for arrest is issued in lieu of an arrest warrant for all crimes except class 1, 2 and 3 felonies. The bill provides a better system of checks and balances by limiting the discretion of prosecutors.

### ***HB 1266, Retention of Driving Privileges***

People of color experience disproportionate police contact often leading to problems related to driving privileges. A 2002-03 Colorado report, done as a result of HB01-1114, revealed that Whites experience traffic stops lasting less than five minutes 40 percent of the time, whereas people of color encounter this efficient policing only 15 percent of the time.<sup>16</sup> HB 1266 repeals mandatory criminal sanctions that suspend driving privileges for certain offenses such as criminal mischief or possession and use of a controlled substance. HB 1266 is projected to lose money for the department of revenue,<sup>17</sup> so its introduction and passage are in stark contrast to criminal justice politics that often attempt to criminalize residents on one hand and create revenue with the other.



## Economic and Housing Equity

Economic and housing disparities for people of color continue to be an issue in Colorado. While nearly three-quarters of Whites own homes, only about half of Blacks and Latinos are owners.<sup>18</sup> Homeowners of color represent less than 20 percent of all homeowners in Colorado.<sup>19</sup> Earnings and employment gaps are persistent as well. The median family income for people of color amounts to about \$20,000 less than White families annually, and the unemployment rates for Blacks and Latinos are nearly 40 percent higher than Whites.<sup>20</sup>

### *HB 1064 Creation of Poverty Task Force*

In Colorado, nearly 30 percent of Blacks and Latinos live in poverty compared to only eight percent of Whites.<sup>21</sup> In total, non-Whites represent 27 percent of Colorado's population yet comprise 56 percent of people living in poverty.<sup>22</sup> Due to the recent economic downturn, Colorado's budget will likely sacrifice many of the safety net programs designed to assist families living in poverty.<sup>23</sup> HB 1064 creates a legislative poverty task force to focus on economic advancement for low-income communities in an attempt to promote economic opportunity and poverty reduction in Colorado.

### *HB 1085, Mortgage Loan Originator Licensing Act*

High interest subprime loans are a significant cause in the foreclosure crisis.<sup>24</sup> In 2006, 40 percent of all home loans to Blacks and 37 percent to Latinos were subprime in Colorado. This nearly tripled the 14 percent of subprime loans brokered to Whites in the state.<sup>25</sup> HB 1085 updates Colorado's mortgage laws to align with the federal Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing (SAFE) Act. The SAFE Act is designed to prevent fraud and reduce foreclosures.<sup>26</sup> HB 1085 replaces the term "broker" with "originator" then defines the new term to reflect the federal definition. Under HB 1085, all mortgage loan "originators" must register with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008.

### *HB 1276, 90-Day Foreclosure Deferment*

According to the Department of Justice, Colorado was in the top ten concerning mortgage fraud.<sup>27</sup> It is projected that one out of every 25 Colorado

homeowners who secured a subprime loan in 2006 will default on that loan in 2008-2009.<sup>28</sup> These numbers are far worse for people of color since more than a third of the loans secured by Blacks and Latinos are subprime.<sup>29</sup> HB 1276 allows qualified homeowners to defer foreclosure for 90 days and establishes training and retention qualifications for foreclosure counselors to assist homeowners with deferments. HB 1276 also requires the placement of a posted notice for the deferment opportunity on the front door of a property subject to foreclosure; this notice must be in both English and Spanish.

## Civil Rights

This past election cycle, Colorado voters upheld our state's commitment to civil rights by voting down the deceptively worded Amendment 46 which would have eliminated publicly funded affirmative action and equal opportunity programs. Nevertheless, women and people of color in Colorado still earn less than White men for the same work.<sup>30</sup> Other underrepresented groups like the disabled, LGBTQ, and immigrants still struggle daily for equity and full participation in society.

### *SB 110, Continuation of Anti-Discrimination Commission*

The Civil Rights Commission helps employees bring discrimination claims against employers on the basis of ability, race, and sexual orientation among other factors. The Commissioner is also allowed to file charges of discrimination which include societal and systemic violations of equal opportunity. Small business owners who engage in discriminatory conduct, as well as those guilty of sexual orientation discrimination are often shielded under federal law. SB 110 loudly proclaims, "Not in Colorado."

### *HB 1260, Designated Beneficiary Agreements*

Various studies have found many people do not prepare for their death in the form of a will.<sup>31</sup> Many low-income people of color lack the resources to draft appropriate legal documents in order to ensure that their intent is followed concerning the disposition of their estates. This bill not only provides a cost-effective means for estate planning but also provides for visitation rights and an efficient transfer of



decision-making abilities regarding medical emergencies, health care and social security. Although the immediate advantages of HB 1260 will be seen among gay and lesbian Coloradans and those living in poverty, the bill will no doubt benefit many Coloradans.

### Missed Opportunities

#### ***SB 170, Tuition Equity***

Every year in Colorado, hundreds of high achieving college-eligible students graduate high school but cannot afford college. Currently, undocumented students are forced to pay out-of-state tuition which is up to 500 percent more expensive.<sup>32</sup> SB 170 provides the opportunity for undocumented students who graduate from Colorado high schools to pay in-state tuition at public institutions of higher education.

#### ***SB 286, Sentencing Reform***

Increased jail time due to sentencing guidelines are a substantial reason for prison overcrowding. SB 286 changes the offense level and sentencing options for select nonviolent offenses. SB 286 also changes the presumptive sentencing ranges for certain felony offenses and allows for sentencing time credits for qualified offenders. SB 286 will return next session after being vetted by a state commission on criminal justice.

### Legislating Institutional Racism

Public policies reinforce institutional racial inequities when they result in adverse outcomes for communities of color, regardless of intent. The following bills, had

they passed, were likely to perpetuate and aggravate existing racial inequities.

#### ***HB 1075, Expansion of Criminal Background Check***

White men with criminal records are more likely to obtain employment than many people of color without a criminal record.<sup>33</sup> HB 1075 expanded employment disqualification for offenders who have certain convictions despite the completion of a deferred judgment. Also, the bill intended to expand background checks for employment in the department of human services to include jobs beyond those working with vulnerable persons. This bill created more obstacles for people of color and all ex-offenders looking to gain quality employment upon paying their debt to society.

#### ***HB 1238, Civil Forfeiture without Criminal Conviction***

HB 1238 attempted to add human smuggling to the list of offenses for which the state is allowed to seize a person's property. Due to the broad definition of "smuggling," primarily involving undocumented people, this law would have adversely affected many families living in mixed resident status without the necessity of a prior criminal conviction. Furthermore, this bill lowered the standard of proof needed to charge an individual for an offense subject to civil forfeiture.

#### ***SB 146, State Vehicle Impound Initiative***

SB 146 allowed for impounding vehicles driven by people with licenses from other countries that are ineligible to obtain a Colorado license, such as those who are undocumented. SB 146 made it a primary offense to drive a vehicle while being "suspected" of not having a Colorado license.

*For endnote sources please visit [www.progressivecoalition.org/news/2009FacingRace](http://www.progressivecoalition.org/news/2009FacingRace).*

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House of Representatives	Party-Dist.	HB 1020	HB 1293	HB 1243	SB 123	SB 170	HB 1262	HB 1266	HB 1064	HB 1090	HB 1276	SB 110	HB 1260	AVG	Grade
Acree, Cindy	R-40	100	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	20	20	49.1	F
Apuan, Dennis	D-17	80	90	90	90	N/A	90	80	90	80	90	90	90	87.3	B+
Balmer, David	R-39	80	20	80	80	N/A	80	80	20	20	20	80	20	52.7	F
Baumgardner, R.	R-57	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	20	20	47.3	F
Benefield, Debbie	D-29	80	90	80	80	N/A	80	90	80	80	90	80	90	83.6	B
Bradford, Laura	R-55	80	80	80	80	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	20	20	58.2	F
Carroll, Terrance	D-7	50	90	90	90	N/A	80	50	90	80	90	90	90	80.9	B-
Casso, Edward	D-32	80	90	90	90	N/A	100	80	90	80	90	80	90	87.3	B+
Court, Lois	D-6	80	90	90	80	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	85.5	B
Curry, Kathleen	D-61	80	90	80	80	N/A	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80.9	B-
Ferrandino, Mark	D-2	80	100	90	80	N/A	80	80	90	80	100	80	100	87.3	B+
Fischer, Randy	D-53	80	90	90	90	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	80	90	85.5	B
Frangas, K.Jerry	D-4	80	80	90	80	N/A	80	20	90	80	90	90	90	79.1	C+
Gagliardi, Sara	D-27	80	90	80	80	N/A	80	80	80	80	90	80	80	81.8	B-
Gardner, Bob	R-21	90	20	90	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	80	20	54.5	F
Gardner, Cory	R-63	80	20	80	20	N/A	20	20	20	80	20	80	20	41.8	F
Gerou, Cheri	R-25	90	20	90	80	N/A	80	90	20	80	90	80	80	72.7	C-
Green, Gwyn	D-23	80	90	90	80	N/A	80	20	90	80	90	90	90	80.0	B-
Hullinghorst, D.	D-10	80	90	90	80	N/A	80	80	90	90	90	90	90	86.4	B
Judd, Joel	D-5	80	90	80	80	N/A	80	90	80	80	80	90	90	83.6	B
Kefalas, John	D-52	90	90	90	90	N/A	80	80	100	80	90	80	90	87.3	B+
Kerr, Andrew	D-26	80	90	90	80	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	80	90	84.5	B
Kerr, James	R-28	90	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	90	20	20	54.5	F
King, Steve	R-54	80	20	80	20	N/A	90	80	20	80	20	20	20	48.2	F
Labuda, Jeanne	D-1	50	90	90	90	N/A	80	60	90	90	90	90	90	82.7	B-
Lambert, Kent	R-14	80	20	20	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	20	20	41.8	F
Levy, Claire	D-13	80	90	80	80	N/A	80	80	90	80	80	100	90	84.5	B
Liston, Larry	R-16	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	20	20	47.3	F
Looper, Marsha	R-19	80	20	80	20	N/A	90	20	80	80	20	20	20	48.2	F
Marostica, Don	R-51	80	90	80	80	N/A	80	80	20	80	30	80	80	70.9	C-
Massey, Tom	R-60	50	90	100	90	N/A	80	50	80	90	60	80	80	77.3	C+
May, Mike	R-44	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	80	20	52.7	F
McCann, Elizabeth	D-8	50	90	80	80	N/A	80	70	90	80	90	80	90	80.0	B-
McFadyen, Liane	D-47	80	90	80	80	N/A	90	20	80	80	80	90	80	77.3	C+
McGihon/Kagen	D-3	80	60	60	80	N/A	80	80	90	20	50	80	90	70.0	C-
McKinley, Wes	D-64	80	80	80	80	N/A	20	80	80	20	80	80	20	63.6	D
McNulty, Frank	R-43	80	20	20	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	80	20	47.3	F
Merrifield, Michael	D-18	50	90	90	90	N/A	90	50	90	80	90	90	90	81.8	B-
Middleton, Karen	D-42	80	90	100	90	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	80	90	86.4	B
Miklosi, Joe	D-9	80	90	90	80	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	85.5	B
Murray, Carole	R-45	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	20	20	47.3	F
Nikkel, B.J.	R-49	80	20	20	80	N/A	90	80	20	80	20	20	20	48.2	F
Pace, Sal	D-46	80	90	90	80	N/A	90	80	90	80	90	90	80	85.5	B
Peniston, Cheryl	D-35	80	90	90	80	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	80	90	84.5	B
Pommer, Jack	D-11	80	90	80	80	N/A	50	80	80	50	90	80	80	76.4	C
Primavera, Dianne	D-33	20	90	90	80	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	80	90	79.1	C+
Priola, Kevin	R-20	80	50	50	80	N/A	80	90	80	90	90	20	80	71.8	C-
Rice, Joe	D-38	80	80	80	80	N/A	80	80	80	100	80	80	80	81.8	B-
Riesberg, Jim	D-50	80	100	90	80	N/A	80	20	80	80	80	80	90	78.2	C+
Roberts, Ellen	R-59	80	20	90	90	N/A	90	90	80	80	20	80	80	72.7	C-
Ryden, Su	D-36	90	90	90	90	N/A	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90.0	A-
Scanlan, Christine	D-56	80	90	90	90	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	80	90	85.5	B
Schafer, Sue	D-24	80	90	90	90	N/A	90	90	90	80	90	90	90	88.2	B+
Solano, Judy	D-31	80	90	90	90	N/A	80	90	90	80	90	80	80	85.5	B
Sonnenberg, Jerry	R-60	80	20	80	20	N/A	20	20	20	90	20	80	20	42.7	F

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House of Representatives	Party-Dist.	HB 1020	HB 1293	HB 1243	SB 123	SB 170	HB 1262	HB 1266	HB 1064	HB 1090	HB 1276	SB 110	HB 1260	AVG	Grade
Soper, John	D-34	80	90	80	80	N/A	80	20	80	80	80	80	20	70.0	C-
Stephens, Amy	R-20	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	90	20	90	20	20	20	49.1	F
Summers, Ken	R-22	90	20	90	90	N/A	80	80	20	80	50	80	20	63.6	D
Swalm, Spencer	R-37	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	80	20	52.7	F
Tipton, Scott	R-58	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	20	20	80	20	80	20	47.3	F
Todd, Nancy	D-41	90	90	90	100	N/A	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90.9	A-
Vaad, Glenn	R-48	80	20	80	20	N/A	80	80	20	80	20	80	20	52.7	F
Vigil, Edward	D-62	90	90	90	20	N/A	80	80	90	80	90	90	80	80.0	B-
Waller, Mark	R-15	80	20	80	20	N/A	90	90	20	80	20	20	20	49.1	F
Weissmann, Paul	D-12	80	90	80	50	N/A	80	90	80	20	80	80	90	74.5	C
<b>House AVG</b>														<b>70.5</b>	<b>C-</b>

Senate	Party-Dist.	HB 1020	HB 1293	HB 1243	SB 123	SB 170	HB 1262	HB 1266	HB 1064	HB 1090	HB 1276	SB 110	HB 1260	AVG	Grade
Bacon, Bob	D-14	80	90	100	90	90	80	90	90	80	90	80	90	87.5	B+
Boyd, Betty	D-21	90	100	90	90	80	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	87.5	B+
Brophy, Greg	R-1	20	20	80	20	20	80	80	20	20	20	80	20	40.0	F
Cadman, Bill	R-10	20	20	80	20	20	80	50	20	20	20	20	20	32.5	F
Carroll, Morgan	D-29	80	90	90	80	20	90	100	90	80	100	90	80	82.5	B-
Foster, Joyce	D-35	80	90	80	90	80	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	85.0	B
Gibbs, Dan	D-16	80	90	90	90	80	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	85.8	B
Groff, Peter	D-33	80	90	90	90	90	80	80	50	80	90	90	90	83.3	B
Harvey, Ted	R-20	80	20	80	20	20	80	80	20	80	20	80	20	50.0	F
Heath, Rollie	D-18	80	90	90	80	80	80	80	80	100	90	90	90	85.8	B
Hodge, Mary	D-25	80	90	80	80	80	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	84.2	B
Hudak, Evie	D-19	80	80	90	90	80	80	90	90	80	90	90	90	85.8	B
Isgar, Jim	D-6	80	90	90	80	20	80	80	90	80	80	80	80	77.5	C+
Keller, Maryanne	D-20	80	100	80	80	20	80	80	80	80	80	90	80	77.5	C+
Kester, Ken	R-2	80	90	80	20	20	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	70.8	C-
King, Keith	R-12	80	20	90	20	20	80	80	20	20	80	80	20	50.8	F
Kopp, Mike	R-22	80	20	80	20	20	80	80	20	20	20	80	20	45.0	F
Lundberg, Kevin	R-15	20	20	80	20	20	80	80	20	20	20	80	20	40.0	F
Mitchell, Shawn	R-23	80	50	80	20	20	80	80	20	20	50	50	50	50.0	F
Morse, John P.	D-11	80	90	90	80	80	100	80	80	80	90	100	90	86.7	B
Newell, Linda	D-26	90	90	90	90	20	80	80	90	90	90	90	90	82.5	B-
Penry, Joshua	R-7	80	20	90	20	20	80	80	20	80	80	80	50	58.3	F
Renfroe, Scott	R-13	20	20	80	20	20	80	80	50	20	20	80	20	42.5	F
Romer, Chris	D-32	80	80	80	80	100	80	80	80	80	90	80	90	83.3	B
Sandoval, Paula	D-34	80	80	90	90	90	80	80	100	80	90	90	90	86.7	B
Scheffel, Mark	R-4	80	20	80	20	20	80	80	20	80	20	80	20	50.0	F
Schultheis, David	R-9	20	20	80	20	20	80	80	20	20	20	20	20	35.0	F
Schwartz, Gail	D-5	80	80	90	80	80	80	80	90	80	90	90	80	83.3	B
Shaffer, Brandon	D-17	80	90	90	90	80	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	85.8	B
Spence, Nancy	R-27	100	20	90	20	20	80	50	20	80	80	20	20	50.0	F
Tapia, Abel	D-3	80	90	80	90	90	80	80	80	80	90	90	90	85.0	B
Tochtrop, Lois	D-24	80	90	80	80	20	80	80	90	80	90	90	80	78.3	C+
Veiga, Jennifer	D-31	80	50	80	80	80	80	80	90	80	80	50	100	77.5	C+
White, Al	R-8	80	90	80	20	20	80	80	20	80	90	80	80	66.7	D
Williams, Suzanne	D-28	80	90	80	100	80	80	80	90	80	90	90	90	85.8	B
<b>Senate AVG</b>														<b>69.7</b>	<b>D+</b>
<b>Legislature AVG</b>														<b>70.2</b>	<b>C-</b>

**Grading Methodology:**

Grades are based on a 100 point scale with 59 and below an F, 60 a D-, 63 a D, 67 a D+, 70 a C-, 73 a C, 77 a C+, 80 a B-, 83 a B, 87 a B+, 90 an A-, 93 an A, 97 an A+. Legislators received 80 points for pro-racial equity votes and 20 points for anti-racial equity votes. Co-sponsors received an additional 10 points and lead sponsors an additional 20 points for pro-racial equity bills. Legislators received 50 points for an Excused Absence on a vote.