

# Legislator Scorecard 2021 Session



## Introduction

Welcome to the Arizona Oral Health Coalition (AZOHC) Legislator scorecard for 2021! We are a dedicated cadre of oral health advocates that exist to address oral health disparities in Arizona. As the AZOHC continues to advocate for better access to oral health care for all Arizonans, it is important to understand how our elected lawmakers vote -- who sponsors progressive oral health policies, and who stands in the way of progress. This scorecard informs lawmakers that Arizonans care about oral health issues and take notice when lawmakers care, too.

To see the full scorecard, please visit:

<https://www.billtrack50.com/public/scorecard/summary/qPsmiEVIfEi061D3Tl14WQ>

## Methodology: Understanding the Scorecard

The AZOHC Scorecard uses a simple methodology to score individual legislators on how closely their votes align with the AZOHC's policy priorities.

- Legislators were given 1 point for voting in alignment with AZOHC priorities, or -1 point for voting the opposite.  
➡ If a Legislator voted "yes" on a bill AZOHC supported, that legislator would receive 1 point. If a legislator voted "no" on that same bill, they would receive -1 point.
- Legislators that sponsored oral health bills received 1 extra point and were marked with a star ★
- Legislators were not penalized for not voting or for being absent.
- Only final votes (third read) in either chamber were considered in calculating the score.

The score shows how many total points an individual legislator earned. When looking at the scorecard, remember 1 additional point is given for sponsoring a bill, so some legislators may have a greater number of points than the number of bills.

A word of caution: The legislative process is a lot more nuanced than this simple scoring methodology. There are many more factors to consider, such as bills that never made it to committee, bills that passed but were ultimately not included in the budget, or other complex circumstances. Party politics is messy, and there's no foolproof way to ascribe weight to a policymaker's intentions - whether they truly act in favor of oral health equity or not.

While this scorecard may appear to show bipartisan support for oral health based on the bills that received a vote, the bottom line continues to be that oral health was not and has not been prioritized at the state legislature despite consistent efforts.

**There is still work to be done.**

**Get involved with the AZOHC to support our advocacy efforts as we strive to achieve accessible oral health for all Arizonans.**

 AZOHC.org  <https://www.facebook.com/ArizonaOralHealthCoalition>



# Legislator Scorecard 2021 Session: Senate



## Oral Health High Achievers



## Solid Effort



## Needs Improvement





# Legislator Scorecard 2021 Session: House



## Oral Health High Achievers



## Solid Effort



## Needs Improvement

