

# COUNCIL FOR A LIVABLE WORLD

## U.S. SENATE VOTE SCORECARD—111TH CONGRESS

In 2009 and 2010, the Senate continued its recent pattern of avoiding votes on major national security issues.

Before a series of votes on the New START nuclear reductions treaty in December 2010, the Senate took a holiday on national security votes that lasted more than a year. The Senate has proved more adept at avoiding issues than voting on them.

A major part of the problem is that the full Senate failed to consider the annual Defense Authorization and Defense Appropriations Bills – except for about two minutes when the Defense Authorization Bill was approved by unanimous consent in the waning hours of the 111th Congress.

The Defense Appropriations Bill was considered only as part of a government-wide Continuing Resolution temporarily funding agencies and programs at the previous year’s levels through March 4, 2011.

These defense bills tend to be the vehicles for consideration of major issues such as non-proliferation, Iran, North Korea, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and so many other controversial topics.

In the first half of 2009, there were two votes on policy toward North Korea. In October 2009, there were two votes concerning Senate action on Afghanistan.

Then nothing until December 2010, when there was a baker’s dozen recorded votes on bringing up New START, ten amendments, invoking cloture to end debate and final passage. The Senate gave its advice and consent to treaty ratification on December 22 by a vote of 71 – 26.

For this voting scorecard, the Council chose three key New START procedural votes, including final passage, plus amendments on the relationship between offensive and defensive forces and increasing offensive nuclear forces.

These votes are only one measure of a Senator’s positions, ideology and effectiveness. Also important

are the Senator’s work in committee, his or her leadership on issues and ability to build coalitions and secure majorities. But these votes provide a good measure of where Senators stand on key national security issues.

Because of the partisan nature of the votes, 52 Democratic Senators (including several serving only part of the year) scored a perfect 100%.

Twenty seven Republican Senators received a zero.

### ***There were few Senators in the middle.***

#### ***Among them were:***

Sen. Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) .....	78%
Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN) .....	78%
Sen. George Voinovich (R-OH) .....	78%
Sen. Scott Brown (R-MA) .....	60%
Sen. Bob Bennett (R-UT) .....	56%
Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN) .....	56%
Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) .....	56%
Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) .....	56%
Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) .....	44%
Sen. Evan Bayh (D-IN) .....	44%
Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME) .....	44%
Sen. Judd Gregg (R-NH) .....	33%

Two Democrats also scored 78% because they missed two votes. Senators receive a positive score for a particular vote only if they vote in accord with the Council position; absenteeism counts against a Senator’s score.

These results point to a clear need to elect additional Senators who will support and advocate further deep reductions in both the United States and Russian nuclear arsenals, ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and expanded nuclear non-proliferation programs to safeguard and secure all nuclear weapons and materials across the globe.



# RECORD 111TH CONGRESS

Options on page 4

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score
<b>Nevada Senators</b>										
Ensign (R-NV)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Reid (D-NV)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>New Hamp. Senators</b>										
Gregg (R-NH)	+	-	-	-	-	A	+	A	+	33%
Shaheen (D-NH)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>New Jersey Senators</b>										
Menendez (D-NJ)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Lautenberg (D-NJ)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>New Mexico Senators</b>										
Bingaman (D-NM)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Udall (D-NM)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>New York Senators</b>										
Schumer (D-NY)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Gillibrand (D-NY)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>N. Carolina Senators</b>										
Hagan (D-NC)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Burr (R-NC)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
<b>N. Dakota Senators</b>										
Conrad (D-ND)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Dorgan (D-ND)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>Ohio Senators</b>										
Brown (D-OH)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Voinovich (R-OH)	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	78%
<b>Oklahoma Senators</b>										
Coburn (R-OK)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Inhofe (R-OK)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
<b>Oregon Senators</b>										
Merkley (D-OR)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Wyden (D-OR)	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	A	+	78%
<b>Penn. Senators</b>										
Casey (D-PA)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Specter (D-PA)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>Rhode Island Senators</b>										
Reed (D-RI)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Whitehouse (D-RI)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>S. Carolina Senators</b>										
DeMint (R-SC)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Graham (R-SC)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	11%
<b>S. Dakota Senators</b>										
Thune (R-SD)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Johnson (D-SD)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score
<b>Tennessee Senators</b>										
Alexander (R-TN)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	44%
Corker (R-TN)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	56%
<b>Texas Senators</b>										
Cornyn (R-TX)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Hutchison (R-TX)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
<b>Utah Senators</b>										
Hatch (R-UT)	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	0%
Bennett (R-UT)	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	56%
<b>Vermont Senators</b>										
Leahy (D-VT)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Sanders (I-VT)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>Virginia Senators</b>										
Webb (D-VA)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Warner (D-VA)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>Wash. Senators</b>										
Cantwell (D-WA)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Murray (D-WA)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>W. Virginia Senators</b>										
Rockefeller (D-WV)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Manchin (D-WV)	N	N	N	N	+	A	+	+	+	80%
Byrd (D-WV)	A	A	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	50%
<b>Wisconsin Senators</b>										
Kohl (D-WI)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Feingold (D-WI)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>Wyoming Senators</b>										
Barrasso (R-WY)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Enzi (R-WY)	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	0%

## Key to Votes

- + Supported Council Position
- Opposed Council Position
- A Absent/Did Not Vote
- N Not in office at the time of the vote

# U.S. SENATE VOTE SCORECARD 111TH CONGRESS

**Vote 1: North Korea**—Amendment offered by Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Richard Lugar (R-IN) requiring a review of North Korean actions to determine if it should be re-listed as a state sponsor of terrorism. Amendment approved 66-31, July 22, 2009 (*A “yes” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 2: North Korea**—Amendment offered by Senators Sam Brownback (R-KS) and Evan Bayh (D-IN) to overturn a Bush Administration decision to take North Korea off the list of state sponsors of terrorism. Amendment rejected 43-54, July 22, 2009 (*A “no” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 3: Afghanistan**—Amendment offered by Sen. Carl Levin (D-MI) to eliminate the deadline contained in the McCain amendment below, have additional witnesses and broaden the hearings to include strategy as well as resources. Amendment adopted 60-39, October 1, 2009 (*A “yes” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 4: Afghanistan**—Amendment offered by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) requiring Obama Administration testimony no later than Nov. 15, 2009 on recommendations for additional forces and resources for Afghanistan. Amendment rejected 40-59, October 1, 2009 (*A “no” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 5: New START Treaty**—Motion to begin debate on the New START nuclear reductions treaty. Motion agreed to 66-32 with 51 votes required to move to the debate. December 15, 2010 (*A “yes” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 6: New START Treaty**—Amendment offered by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) to the New START nuclear reductions treaty to remove language in the preamble on the relationship between offensive and defensive forces. The treaty would have been killed if the amendment had been adopted. Amendment rejected 37-59, December 18, 2010 (*A “no” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 7: New START Treaty**—Amendment offered by Sen. John Thune (R-SD) to the New START nuclear reductions treaty to increase the number of deployed strategic nuclear delivery vehicles allowed under the treaty. The treaty would have been killed if the amendment had been adopted. Amendment rejected 33-64, December 10, 2010 (*A “no” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 8: New START Treaty**—Cloture vote to end debate on the New START nuclear reductions treaty. Cloture approved 67-28, with 60 votes required to end debate. December 21, 2010 (*A “yes” vote supports the Council position*).

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**Vote 9: New START Treaty**—Final Senate vote on giving its advice and consent to ratification of the New START nuclear reductions treaty. Treaty approved 71-26, December 21, 2010 (*A “yes” vote supports Council position*).

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