

SAM JOHNSON CONSISTENTLY CHOOSES MEMBERS OF GEORGE’S “HAVE MORES” CLUB OVER THOSE WHO LIVE ON MAIN STREET

HOUSE

Sam Johnson (R-TX)

JOHNSON'S MIDDLE-CLASS GRADES

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| 2009 | Final grade to be released 03.2010 |
| 2008 | D |
| 2007 | F |
| 2006 | F |
| 2005 | F |
| 2004 | F |
| 2003 | F |



First took office: 1991
Term ends: 2011

* indicates votes that count toward the final grade. See the [Grade Release FAQ](#) for more information.

HERE ARE A FEW OF THE REASONS WHY SAM GOT AN F FOR REPRESENTING THE MIDDLE CLASS:

1. **Sam Johnson doesn’t think that you deserve to have your home saved** and he proved it by voting against H.R. 1106 “*Helping Families Save their Homes Act*” The Helping Families Save Their Homes Act authorizes bankruptcy courts to modify the terms of mortgages made on homeowners’ primary residences, a practice which is barred by current law. *[Note that current Bankruptcy law currently permits such restructuring only for vacation homes, family farms, and yachts—properties we usually associate with the Bush “have-mores”.]*

Emma Berry believes that you deserve the same opportunity to save your home that is currently extended to “have-mores” to save their yachts and vacation homes.

2. **Sam Johnson would rather protect predatory lenders than you.** To prove it, he voted against H.R. 1728 “*Mortgage Reform and Predatory Lending Act of 2009.*” This bill protects mortgage borrowers from certain abusive and predatory lending practices.

Emma Berry believes that you deserve protection against predatory lenders just as I believe that the public needs protection against people like Bernie Madoff. I do not follow a “buyer beware” philosophy.

3. Sam thinks that whatever credit card companies do to their customers is just fine. He voted against H.R. 627 Credit Card Holders Bill of Rights. The bill limits the circumstances under which credit card companies can increase interest rates and requires creditors to notify consumers of an increase in their interest rate at least 45 days before the increase takes effect. The legislation prohibits applying finance charges to card balances accrued in previous billing cycles and applying fees to interest accrued during the preceding billing period if an outstanding balance has been fully repaid.

Emma Berry believes that the entire financial industry along with Wall Street have shown us that they are not to be trusted. Regulation under the law is absolutely the only thing that will make these crooks behave.

4. Sam Johnson thinks that employers have a right to pay you whatever they want. This is evident in the fact that he voted against the bill to raise the minimum wage in 2007, even though it had been 10 years since it have been raised. Then in 2008 he voted against *H.R. 1338 Paycheck Fairness Act of 2008*. This bill strengthens protections against compensation discrimination. It narrows the defense that employers can use to demonstrate that a difference in compensation is not based on gender. Under the Act, employers must show that the difference in compensation is not based on or derived from a sex-based difference in compensation and is related to job performance.

Emma Berry believes that employers do not have a right to discriminate when it come to compensation—for any reason. I would have supported the Pay Check Fairness Act. I also believe that labor should be compensated according to productivity.

5. Sam doesn't think that shareholders should have a say in the amount of compensation that is paid to executives. He wouldn't even support giving them a non-binding vote. He voted against *H.R. 1257 Shareholder Vote on Executive Compensation 2007*. This bill would require that all publicly traded companies allow their shareholders to cast a non-binding advisory vote on executive compensation packages.

Emma Berry believes that shareholders should have a say in the amount of compensation that is paid to executives—especially CEO's of publicly held corporations. I would go one step further. I would vote to give shareholders a BINDING vote.

6. Sam thinks that American should follow a "buyer-beware" philosophy when it comes to our food safety. He voted against *H.R. 2749 Food Safety Enhancement Act*. The Food Safety Enhancement Act updates food safety laws to improve the Food and Drug Administration's supervision of the nation's food supply. The legislation requires more frequent inspection of food facilities, improves inspector access to plant records, and orders facilities to develop and implement safety plans to identify and protect against hazards.

Emma Berry supports the Food Safety Enhancement Act. *If anything, these past 8 years of the wild-west anti regulation Bush Administration should have taught us is that 1)people manipulate markets 2)the majority of those on Wall Street have nor morals when it comes to anything that stands between them and their bottom line.*

7. Sam Johnson supports a punitive approach to solving the problem that we have in our Nation of displaced people from Mexico. He voted for H.R. 4437 *Border protection, anti-terrorism and illegal immigration control act of 2005.* In other words, he supports treating the symptom (the presence of these people in our country) as opposed to the root cause (which is why they are here in the first place: NAFTA and farm subsidies for Wall Street Agribusinesses like ADM).

Emma Berry supports treating the root causes—NAFTA and farm subsidies to large agribusinesses like ADM. *Putting people in jail is a typical right wing knee jerk solution to immigration problem which in the long run will only create more problems for us. First of all we don't have enough prisons to hold 12 million human beings. Putting them in prison is not even logistically viable so we can dispense with that insanity from the beginning. It is nothing more than political blustering—throwing raw meat to the crowd.*

We created this problem with NAFTA, an unfair trade agreement that removed protective tariffs for the Mexican corn farmers and allowed the lower priced USA agribusinesses like Archer Daniel Midland to unfairly compete for the market. The ONLY REASON that agribusinesses like ADM and Cargill have such low corn prices is because they are heavily subsidized by the American taxpayers.

8. Sam Johnson says he is for small business, but he voted against H.R. 525 Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2005. This bill amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) to provide for the establishment of Association Healthcare Plans (AHPs): group health plans that would be exempted from important state insurance regulations and consumer protections. The plans, which are intended to help small employers and the self-employed get a better deal in the health insurance marketplace by joining together, could be sponsored by trade, industry, professional, chamber of commerce or similar business associations. This is a bill that would have helped small businesses to be more competitive with large corporations and Sam said no—no to small business.

Emma Berry supports small businesses. *I would have voted for H.R. 525 and I will do much more for small businesses if I am given the confidence of the voters in the US Third Congressional District. In my first year I will see to it that the official standard for defining a small business is changed from “under 500 employees” to “under 100 employees”. It is RIDICULOUS that mom and pop shops have to compete with large corporations for small business incentives.*

Vote for EMMA BERRY – U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FOR THIRD US CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS

[HTTP://emmberry.org](http://emmberry.org)