

# 2023 YOUNG STATE LEADERSHIP REPORT

**WHILE ONLY 25% OF THE LEGISLATURE, GEN Z AND MILLENNIALS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 40% OF ALL BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW.**

This report tracks the power and influence of Gen Z and millennial lawmakers on legislative outcomes in all 50 U.S. states. Young state legislators are winning key committee chairmanships and leadership positions, and they're outperforming previous generations when it comes to bipartisan policymaking. It reflects data from January 1, 2023 to November 6, 2023. "Young legislators" includes those aged 45 and under.

**25%** of all legislators are Gen Z or millennials

**1,843** young legislators

**4%** increase over 2022

## POWER OF YOUNG LEGISLATORS

**316**

senior leadership roles\*

**566**

committee chairs

**610**

vice-chairs or ranking members

\*Roles include: Speaker, Senate President, Speaker/President Pro Tempore, Majority/Minority Leader, Majority/Minority Whip/Assistant Leader, Caucus or Conference Leader

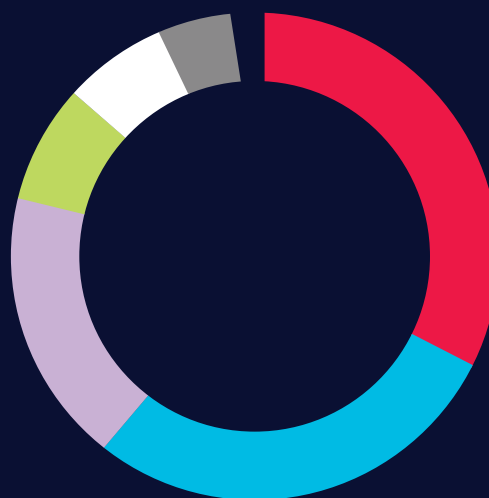
## YOUNG LEGISLATORS ARE LEADERS IN REACHING ACROSS THE AISLE

40% of all bipartisan bills enacted by state legislatures in 2023 were authored by young lawmakers. Legislators under 45 introduced 5,503 bipartisan bills. Of these, 43% (2,378 bills) were passed by the legislature and signed into law. Compare this to legislators over 45. This much larger cohort introduced 9,078 bipartisan bills and enacted 3,557 bills, a 39% passage rate. Not only are young legislators introducing roughly 3 bipartisan bills per capita compared to older legislators who are introducing about 1.2 bipartisan bills per capita, the young legislators are more effective at getting their bipartisan bills signed into law. Despite only making up 25% of the legislature, young legislators are responsible for 40% of all bipartisan bills signed into law.



## BIPARTISAN BILLS ENACTED BY YOUNG LEGISLATORS IN 2023

Gen Z and millennial lawmakers concentrate their policymaking on six broad areas: housing, health, criminal justice, future of work, energy and environment, and strengthening democracy. Of the 2,378 bipartisan bills this group enacted into law, the overwhelming majority of legislation focused on health and the economy.



HEALTH: 777

FUTURE OF WORK: 678

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM: 420

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY: 175

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT: 164

HOUSING: 113

OTHER: 51