

South Carolina

RANK **9** SCORE **62.9%**



government

Religious Freedom Restoration Act	Religious Freedom Restoration Act	✓
Absentee Voting	Absentee Voting	
Nonparticipation in Weddings by Public Officials	Nonparticipation in Weddings by Public Officials	



health care

General Conscience Protection	General Conscience Protection	✓
Abortion Refusal	Individual-Level Abortion Refusal	✓
	Private Hospital Abortion Refusal	✓
	Public Hospital Abortion Refusal	✓
	Immunity from Civil Liability (Abortion)	✓
	Immunity from Criminal Liability (Abortion)	✓
	Protection from Government Consequences (Abortion)	✓
	Refusal in Emergency (Abortion)	
	Disposal of Abortion Remains	
Sterilization Refusal	Individual-Level Sterilization Refusal	✓
	Private Hospital Sterilization Refusal	✓
	Public Hospital Sterilization Refusal	✓
	Immunity from Civil Liability (Sterilization)	✓
	Immunity from Criminal Liability (Sterilization)	✓
	Protection from Government Consequences (Sterilization)	✓
Contraception Refusal	Individual-Level Contraception Refusal	✓
	Private Hospital Contraception Refusal	✓
	Public Hospital Contraception Refusal	✓
	Immunity from Civil Liability (Contraception)	✓
	Immunity from Criminal Liability (Contraception)	✓
	Protection from Government Consequences (Contraception)	✓
Euthanasia Refusal	Euthanasia Refusal	✓
Recusal of Counseling Provider	Right to Opt Out of Mental Counseling	✓
	Right to Opt Out of Genetic Counseling*	✓
Health Insurance Mandates	Exemption from Contraception Mandate	✓
	Exemption from Abortion Mandate	✓
	Exemption from Sterilization Mandate	✓

Items marked with an asterisk (*) are new in 2026.

 economic life

Nonparticipation in Economic Arrangements	For-Profit Business Nonparticipation in Wedding Ceremonies	
	Nonparticipation in Union Membership*	✓
No Religious Discrimination in Financial Services/Insurance Provision	Insurance Companies Prohibited from Denying Access	
	Financial Institutions Prohibited from Denying Access	

 religious life

Clergy-Penitent Privilege Protected	Clergy-Penitent Privilege Protected	✓
Ceremonial Use of Alcohol by Minors	Furnishment to Minors	✓
	Consumption by Minors	✓
Houses of Worship Protected from Closing	Houses of Worship Protected from Closing	✓
Nonparticipation in Weddings by Clergy	Nonparticipation in Weddings by Clergy	
Religious Entity Refusal to Participate in Weddings	Nonparticipation by Religious Organizations	
	Explicit Protection of Tax-Exempt Status	
	Protections from Government Penalties Beyond Tax-Exempt Status	

 family and education

Immunization Requirement Exemption	Immunization Requirement Exemption	✓
School Protections	Public K-12 Students Excused for Religious Observance	✓
	Public K-12 Students Excused for Religious Instruction	
	Public College and University Students Excused for Religious Observance	
	Right of Student Athletes to Wear Faith-Related Attire	
	Right to Opt Out of Sex Education Assignments	✓
	Equal Access for College Students*	
No Religious Discrimination in Foster Parent Eligibility	No Religious Discrimination in Foster Parent Eligibility	

Items marked with an asterisk (*) are new in 2026.

Religious Liberty in the States 2026 Rankings

