

ALABAMA



Katie Britt

Senator for Alabama's Class III Senate Seat (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: February 2, 1982

Hometown: Enterprise, AL

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of Alabama School of Law, 2013
- BA, Political Science, University of Alabama, 2004

Family:

- Husband; 2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Alabama, 2023-Present
- President and CEO, Business Council of Alabama (BCA), 2019-2021
- Office of Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL), 2004-2007, 2015-2018
 - Chief of Staff, 2016-2018
 - Deputy Campaign Manager & Communication Director, 2015
 - Press Secretary, 2006-2007
 - Deputy Press Secretary, 2004-2006
- Attorney, Butler Snow LLP, 2014-2016
- Attorney, Johnston, Barton, Proctor, & Rose LLP, 2013-2014
- Special Assistant, University of Alabama President Robert Witt, 2007-2008

Committees:

- Senate Appropriations
 - Department of Homeland Security (Ranking Member)
 - Department of the Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
 - DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - National Security & International Trade & Finance
 - Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection
 - Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Rules & Administration

Quick Summary

Former CEO of the Business Council of Alabama and congressional chief of staff ran to replace her previous boss in the US Senate; campaigned on a platform of conservative and business values

- Born and raised in Alabama, Britt is a daughter of small business owners in the Wiregrass region of Alabama
- After serving as the youngest press secretary on Capitol Hill at the time, Britt rose through the ranks of Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL)'s office; notably, while working for Shelby as chief of staff, she led efforts during the selections of Alabama court judges and Supreme Court justice confirmation hearings of Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh
- A lawyer and CEO of the Business Council of Alabama (BCA), a nonpartisan business association, Britt has experience communicating business interests with elected officials; propelled the state's businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic, advocating



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for Alabama to reopen and to learn about federal stimulus funding

- Prioritizes centering Alabama in state, federal, and international policies, especially in foreign trade, national security, broadband access, and low-cost energy sources
- In 2021, Britt stepped announced her bid to be the next Senator for Alabama with the endorsement of Sen. Shelby and emerged as a top contender for the nomination—ahead of the primary she lead the field in fundraising, received financial support from Senate Republicans, and won key state-level endorsements
- In May 2022, Britt won the largest share of votes in the primary, but failed to capture a majority; prior to the June runoff against Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL5), Britt received former President Trump's endorsement
- Defeated Brooks in the runoff and then won the general election in November 2022 against Will Boyd (D)

- If elected senator, Britt will utilize her decade-long work on state interests to inform her “Alabama First” approach; able to apply her experience as CEO of the BCA to ensure policies align with pro-business interests and continue her support for school choice and pathways to employment for Alabama students

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Approach and Motivations

Native to Alabama, Britt incorporated her business expertise and conservative values into policies that “put Alabama first”

- Cites growing up near an army base and being raised by two small business owners as the impetus of her support for developing Alabama’s military and defense sectors, small and rural businesses, and opposing government over-regulation of entrepreneurs
- Demonstrated support for conservative constitutional values as Shelby’s chief of staff but maintains that she will take her own approach if elected to office
- A self-described conservative and Christian, Britt touts her advocacy for religious freedoms and experience working during the confirmation hearings of Supreme Court Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh



Gary Palmer

Representative for Alabama's 6th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: PALL-mur

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 14, 1954

Birthplace: Hackleburg, AL

Religion: Presbyterian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Attended, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 1987-1989
- BS, University of Alabama, 1977
- Attended, Northwest Alabama Junior College, 1972-1974

Family:

Wife; 3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Alabama's 6th District, 2015-Present
- Alabama Policy Institute, Birmingham, AL, 1990-2014
- Cost Engineer and Project Control Engineer, Rust International, 1981-1989
- Cost Engineer, Combustion Engineering, 1980-1981
- Business Manager, Bradford and Company, 1979-1980
- General Manager, Palmer Truss Company, 1977-1978

Committees:

- House Oversight & Accountability
 - Government Operations & Federal Workforce
- House Energy & Commerce
 - Environment, Manufacturing & Critical Minerals
 - Oversight & Investigations
 - Energy, Climate & Grid Security

Quick Summary

Deficit hawk from the Deep South who headed a premier state think tank. Staunch Freedom Caucus conservative and advocate for a smaller budget, less environmental regulatory oversight, and repealing the ACA

- First-generation college student born and raised in Alabama with deep ties to local Presbyterian Church
- Helped conservative politicians formulate policy as President of Alabama Policy Institute (API), including advising Alabama governors, and continues to do so as Chair of House GOP Policy Committee
- Wide network of religious leaders and conservative interest groups helped secure his win in competitive 2014 primary election
- Focus has been budgetary reform, including cutting government spending
- Emphasizes de-regulation, including reducing the number and expense of federal regulations, especially the Environmental Protection Agency
- Favors rolling back the ACA to reduce budgetary burden and put people in charge of their own health care decisions
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election



Gary Palmer

Representative for Alabama's 6th District (R)



Approach and Motivations

With experience in public policy, utilizes a research-driven approach and applies budgetary lens to his work in Congress

- Cites background in public policy advisory and analysis experience, from tenure as API President and from time as Chair of State Policy Network, as key qualifications for office
- Focused research on fiscal policy; developed viewpoint that budget should reflect how Americans would spend their own money
- As Rep. and as head of the Republican Policy Committee, champions research-forward legislative solutions that take budgetary impact into account

Contact Information

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Terri Sewell

Representative for Alabama's 7th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: SOO-wull

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: January 1, 1965

Birthplace: Huntsville, AL

Hometown: Selma, AL

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Divorced

Education Summary:

- JD, Harvard Law School, 1992
- MA, Oxford University, 1988
- BA, Princeton University, 1986

Work History:

- Representative for Alabama's 7th District, 2011-Present
- Partner, Maynard, Cooper & Gale P.C., 2004-2010
- Associate, Davis Polk & Wardwell, 1994-2004
- Law Clerk to Chief Judge UW Clemon, US District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, 1993
- Summer Intern, Office of Sen. Howell Heflin (D-AL)
- Summer Intern, Office of Rep. Richard Shelby (D-AL7)

Committees:

- House Administration
 - Elections (Ranking Member)

- Joint Library
- House Ways & Means
 - Health
 - Work & Welfare
 - Trade
- House Armed Services
 - Military Personnel

Quick Summary

Trailblazing woman and Selma native fighting for minority inclusion in the health care system and revitalizing the Black Belt economy; has forged long-standing ties to influential leaders

- As a child, was exposed to the fight for racial justice, as her teachers and preachers were civil rights leaders who worked with Dr. King Jr.
- First African American woman elected to Congress from Alabama; hails numerous relationships to political elites from alma maters and legal career, including the Obamas
- Previously worked as a securities and public finance attorney for 15 years, helping earn her a position on the Ways and Means Committee
- Has secured party leadership roles including President of the 112th Congress' Democratic Freshman Class and later as Chief Deputy Whip; in 2019 was named co-chair of Ways and Means Committee's Rural and Underserved Communities Health Task Force
- Civil rights and racial justice activist who is a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, vice-chair of the Voting Rights Caucus, New Democrat Coalition, and the Congressional HBCU Caucus; focuses efforts on job creation, racial justice initiatives, and HBCU funding
- Represents a predominantly Black district, geographically composed of three large urban areas and ten rural counties; main industries are health care and manufacturing



Terri Sewell

Representative for Alabama's 7th District (D)



Approach and Motivations

Born in the hotbed of the civil rights movement to a politically active mother; uses committees to advocate for minority rights

- Growing up near the site of “Bloody Sunday,” ingrained a deep appreciation for civil rights
- Daughter of a librarian and Selma’s first black city councilwoman, she attributes her political interest and value of education to her mother
- Moderate, centrist Democrat who leverages her committee and task force positions to shed light on underserved communities in the rural South
- Prioritizes Alabaman concerns, works closely and frequently with Rep. Martha Roby (R-AL2) and Sen. Doug Jones (D-AL)

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Tommy Tuberville

Senator for Alabama (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: TUB-er-ville

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: September 18, 1954

Birthplace: Camden, AR

Religion: Church of Christ

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education:

- BS, Physical Education, Southern Arkansas University Main Campus, 1976

Family:

- Wife: Suzanne
- 2 Children: Tucker, Troy

Work History:

- Senator for Alabama (R), 2021-Present
- Full-Time Broadcast Staff Member, ESPN, 2016-2020
- Studio Analyst, ESPN
- Studio Analyst, ESPNU
- Head Football Coach, University of Cincinnati, 2012-2016
- Head Football Coach, Texas Tech University, 2010-2012
- Head Football Coach, Auburn University, 1999-2008
- Head Football Coach, University of Mississippi, 1995-1998
- Defensive Coordinator, University of Miami, 1993

- Graduate Assistant, University of Miami, 1986-1993
- Assistant Football Coach, Arkansas State University, 1980-1984
- Former Head Coach/Assistant Coach, Hermitage High School, 1976-1979

Committees:

- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Children & Families (Ranking Member)
- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Rural Development & Energy (Ranking Member)
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
- Senate Armed Services
 - Readiness & Management Support
 - Seapower
 - Strategic Forces
- Senate Veterans' Affairs

Quick Summary

A retired college football coach well-known in Alabama for his time at Auburn University; sticking closely to former President Trump, he defeated former Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Sen. Doug Jones to represent Alabama in the Senate

- Born and raised in Camden, AR, Tuberville is the youngest of three children and the son of a decorated World War II veteran; played college football at Southern Arkansas University
- Started coaching high school football after graduating, working his way up to college football, eventually becoming head coach at the University of Mississippi; supported a push to bar the Confederate flag from home games



Tommy Tuberville

Senator for Alabama (R)



and worked to attract Black recruits and make them feel more welcome

- Best known for his head coaching tenure at Auburn University where he finished with an 85-40 record and the university’s longest winning streak against rival University of Alabama; was known for being a mild-mannered coach and a strong recruiter
- Moved to Alabama from Florida in 2018 with the idea of eventually running for political office and considered a run for governor; said he decided to run for Senate following former Sen. Doug Jones’ (D-AL) victory over former chief justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama Roy Moore (R)
- During his primary campaign, Tuberville was an ardent supporter of President Trump, whose endorsement helped him secure the nomination in a runoff election over former Alabama Senator and US Attorney General Jeff Sessions
- Running on a conservative platform closely tied to President Trump, he successfully unseated incumbent Doug Jones by 22 points
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results from Arizona and Pennsylvania affirming President Joe Biden’s victory

success, and public support from President Trump

- Says he is proud to be the son of a veteran and emphasizes patriotism and support for America’s armed forces; improving veteran services and care is a top issue for him, and he promised to donate his Senate paycheck to veterans in Alabama
- Describes himself as a man of Christian faith and says his faith informs his support of pro-life policy, saying we will look back on the current policies surrounding abortion as “this generation’s holocaust”

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Approach and Motivations

Highlighting his sports career and status as a political outsider, Tuberville aligned his platform closely with President Trump and traditional conservative values

- Fully embraced President Trump and his own lack of prior experience in politics, stating that he would help Trump “clean up the swamp”
- Made few campaign appearances or press conferences and declined to debate incumbent Sen. Doug Jones (D-AL); instead, he leveraged his name recognition, football

ARIZONA



Juan Ciscomani

Representative for Arizona's 6th District (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, University of Arizona, 2005
- Pima Community College

Family:

6 children

Work History:

- Representative for Arizona's 6th District, 2023-Present
- Senior Advisor for Regional and International Affairs, Gov. Doug Ducey, 2015-Date Unknown
- Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 2011-2015
 - Vice President of Outreach
 - Membership Director
- Senior Program Development Specialist, Take Charge America Institute at the University of Arizona, 2006-2014

Committees:

- House Veterans' Affairs
 - Disability Assistance & Memorial Affairs
 - Economic Opportunity
- House Appropriations
 - Financial Services & General Government
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
 - Labor, Health & Human Services, Education & Related Agencies

Quick Summary

Son of Mexican immigrants and proud father of six children who has held multiple community leadership positions in Arizona; with a platform focusing heavily on border security, Ciscomani ran to flip the competitive 6th Congressional district of Arizona

- Graduated from Pima Community College and later earned a BA in 2005 at the University of Arizona
- Remained at the University of Arizona post-graduation as a senior program development specialist in the Take Charge America Institute; oversaw the Credit-Wise Cats program, which taught financial literacy to students and community members
- In 2008, Ciscomani launched an ultimately unsuccessful campaign to represent District 29 in the Arizona state legislature; was inspired to run by his concern over the quality of Arizona education and laws affecting local small businesses
- At the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Ciscomani initially worked as a membership director and launched several affiliate Hispanic chambers throughout Arizona; as vice president of outreach, Ciscomani “fought for lower taxes and the elimination of unnecessary regulations on behalf of small business owners”
- As the senior advisor for regional and international affairs for Governor Doug Ducey (R), Ciscomani led the Southern Arizona Office, the Arizona-Mexico Commission in Phoenix, and the governor’s offices in Mexico City and Hermosillo, Sonora; accompanied the governor on multiple trips to Mexico and helped to cultivate relationships and resolve trade issues with the neighboring country
- Ran to represent Arizona’s open 6th Congressional district, one of two districts in



Juan Ciscomani

Representative for Arizona's 6th District (R)



Arizona that directly border Mexico; won the 2022 general election against Kirsten Engel

Contact:

https://ciscomani.house.gov/address_authentication?form=/contact

Approach and Motivations

Relied on a moderate platform focused on border security to appeal to his evenly split electorate

- Often cited preserving the “American Dream,” which he and his parents personally experienced, for his children as his primary motivation for running for Congress
- In the earlier stages of his career, Ciscomani credited the Flinn-Brown fellowship, a skills development program for emerging civic leaders in Arizona, for helping him navigate problems that Arizona faced and for instilling in him a “solution-based filter as opposed to a political one” when tackling state-related issues
- Running in a competitive district that President Biden would have narrowly won, Ciscomani adopted a moderate, issue-focused campaign message that contrasted with his Republican primary rivals, arguing that voters were weary of “infighting”
- As an English and Spanish speaker, Ciscomani used this bilingual advantage to improve the reach of his campaign and communicate his campaign’s stances to the Spanish-speaking community

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Mark Kelly

Senator for Arizona (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KEH-lee

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: February 21, 1964

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MS, Aeronautical Engineering, US Naval Postgraduate School, 1994
- BS, Marine Engineering and Nautical Science, United States Merchant Marine Academy, 1986

Family:

- Wife, Gabby Giffords, former Representative for Arizona's 8th district and gun control activist; 2 children from a previous marriage

Work History:

- Senator for Arizona (D), 2020-Present
- Co-founder, Giffords, 2013-Present
- Strategic Advisor, World View Enterprises, 2013-2020
- Independent Safety Advisory Panel Member, Space X, 2012
- Space Shuttle Astronaut and Pilot, NASA, 1996-2011
 - Space Shuttle Discovery and Endeavour Commander, 2008-2011
- Naval Aviator and Captain, US Navy, 1987-2011

Committees:

- Senate Environment & Public Works

- Transportation & Infrastructure (Chairman)
- Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife
- Clean Air, Climate & Nuclear Safety
- Senate Armed Services
 - Airland (Chairman)
 - Strategic Forces
 - Readiness & Management Support
 - Emerging Threats & Capabilities
- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
 - Water & Power
 - National Parks
 - Public Lands, Forests & Mining
- Joint Economic
- Senate Aging

Quick Summary

A retired US Navy Captain, astronaut, and engineer, Kelly served his country for over thirty years prior to joining the Senate; successfully won Arizona's 2020 special Senate election on a campaign of responsible gun control and health care reform

- Began his career as a Naval aviator, flying 39 combat missions in Operation Desert Storm
- Selected as a NASA space shuttle pilot in 1996; served as a pilot for two missions and commanded two missions, visiting the Space Station a total of four times
- Identical twin brother, Scott, is also an astronaut, making them the only twins who have traveled to space; the pair are subjects of the NASA Twin Study, which researched the physiological, molecular, and cognitive changes that could occur from living in space and found changes in gene expression
- Retired as a Navy Captain and astronaut in 2011, after his wife, former Rep. Gabby Giffords (D-AZ8), was shot in the head and faced a difficult recovery; this experience



Mark Kelly Senator for Arizona (D)



sparked his passion for gun control advocacy and he co-founded Giffords, a PAC and advocacy, research, and lobbying firm that recognizes Second Amendment rights while seeking to curb gun violence

- Advocates for affordable, accessible health care that prevents individuals with pre-existing conditions from losing their insurance; campaign platform called for introducing a public option to increase competition and reduce costs
- In the 2020 election, Kelly flipped former Sen. Martha McSally’s (R-AZ) seat after winning 51 percent of the vote, and was sworn in on December 2, 2020
- In the 117th Congress, he has worked with Democrats and Republicans on education, infrastructure, and technology policy; Kelly’s bipartisan bill expanding the Barry Goldwater Scholarship program for students in STEM fields passed as part of the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act

politically lies towards the center of the Democratic party, identifying as a “capitalist” and small business owner while distancing himself from Sen. Bernie Sanders’ (I-VT) democratic socialist platform

- Says that he learned from his wife how to use policy to improve people’s lives; as a prostate cancer survivor himself and as a witness to his wife’s rehabilitation, he has made health care policy a priority

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Approach and Motivations

Inspired by his mother’s work ethic and motivated by his wife’s story, Kelly is committed to enacting effective and supportive legislation through bipartisan teamwork

- Raised by two police officers, with his mother serving as the first woman police officer in their town; she instilled in him the values of hard work and resilience, urging Kelly to “do things that most people wouldn’t dare try”
- Adventurous and methodical, Kelly emphasizes the importance of collaboration in his career and pledges to work across the aisle; when referencing his space flights or combat work, he states “never once did I do that by myself, it’s always about teamwork”
- At times, he has criticized both the Democratic and Republican parties and said that he ran for office to be an “independent voice for Arizona”;



David Schweikert

Representative for Arizona's 1st District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: SHWY-kurt

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: March 3, 1962

Birthplace: Los Angeles, CA

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MBA, Arizona State University, Tempe, 2005
- BS, Arizona State University-Tempe, 1988
- AA, Scottsdale Community College, 1985

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Representative for Arizona, 2011-Present
 - 1st District, 2023-Present
 - 6th District, 2013-2023
 - 5th District, 2011-2013
- Treasurer, Maricopa County, Arizona, 2004-2007
- Chair, Arizona State Board of Equalization, 1995-2003
- State Representative for Arizona's 28th District, 1991-1995
- Owner, Financial Consultant, Sheridan Equities LLC

Committees:

- House Ways & Means
 - Oversight (Chairman)
 - Tax
 - Social Security
- Joint Economic (Vice Chairman)

Quick Summary

Hardline fiscal conservative with broad policy focus; early career defined by financial services legislation while later career has focused on opposing deficit spending and reforming entitlement programs through role on the Ways and Means Committee

- Former realtor who became a state representative and then the treasurer of Maricopa County in Arizona; state legislative career focused on tax cuts, tort reform, and school choice
- Unsuccessfully challenged a Democrat for a recently flipped seat in 2008, but secured victory in 2010 focusing on opposition to President Barack Obama (D)'s policies and spending pushes
- Gained an early role on the Financial Services Committee, and leveraged his position to oppose many aspects of the post-2008 financial reform, including increased regulation of lending markets
- Has proposed legislation to modify Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Social Security to streamline processes; particularly focuses on ensuring those on benefit programs do not have the ability to otherwise work
- Works to support small businesses through financial regulation; passed the Small Company Capital Formation Act of 2011 to allow small businesses to be traded more easily on public stock exchanges
- Has expressed opposition to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's creation and



David Schweikert

Representative for Arizona's 1st District (R)



regulations, which he considers overzealous, and works to reform federal economic agencies to better protect small banks and credit unions

- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

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Approach and Motivations

Strongly advocates for limited government; works with other members of the Freedom Caucus in objection to spending and taxation

- Joined the Freedom Caucus shortly after the group was established, and has been critical of policies put forward by the Republican establishment
- A previously outspoken member, he softened his approach after ousting former Rep. Ben Quayle (R-AZ3), who was supported by Republican leadership, following redistricting in Arizona; the contentious race resulted in discontent from Republican leaders and is speculated to have cost Schweikert his previous role on the Financial Services committee, although he has since returned to prominence with his role on Way and Means
- Known for dedication to research and factual backing for policies; early in his career, Schweikert would spend five hours a day studying financial services policies
- Heavily favors free market approach to economics and views government as a barrier to economic growth; this belief informs his opposition to issues such as tax increases and government spending overall, including breaking with Republican colleagues on defense spending hikes

Contact Information

Main Office Address:



Kyrsten Sinema

Senator for Arizona (I)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: SIH-nih-muh

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Independent

Born: July 12, 1976

Birthplace: Tucson, AZ

Ethnicity: White

Education Summary:

- MBA, Arizona State University, 2018
- PhD, Justice Studies, Arizona State University, 2012
- HKSEE, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, 2008
- JD, Arizona State University Law School, 2004
- MSW, Arizona State University, 1999
- BA, Brigham Young University, 1995

Work History:

- Senator for Arizona, 2019-Present
- Representative for Arizona's 9th District, 2013-2018
- State Senator for Arizona's 15th District, 2011-2012
- State Representative for Arizona's 15th District, 2005-2011
- Member, White House Health Reform Task Force, 2010
- Adjunct Professor, Arizona State University, 2003
- Social Worker, Washington School District, Arizona, 1995-2002
- Staff, Ralph Nader's Presidential Campaign, 2000

- Director, Arizona Center for Progressive Leadership, Dates Unknown

Electoral Overview:

- Won the 2018 Arizona Senate election against Republican Martha McSally by fewer than 3%
- Sinema's unexpected lead on election day caused a 6-day delay in results to verify mail-in ballots

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Space & Science (Chairman)
 - Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations
 - Tourism, Trade & Export Promotion
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs
 - Government Operations & Border Management (Chairman)
 - Emerging Threats & Spending Oversight
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - National Security & International Trade & Finance
 - Securities, Insurance & Investment
 - Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Veterans' Affairs

Quick Summary

Former social worker whose personal experiences with poverty motivated her to become a leading progressive in State government; has since pivoted to a centrist platform in her first statewide role as Arizona's senator

- Her family lived in poverty for part of her childhood, often relying on support from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



Kyrsten Sinema

Senator for Arizona (I)



and government aid, and she became a social worker to help others in similar circumstances

- Entered politics as a spokesperson for the Green Party, and in her early political career campaigned on a progressive platform; background in social work and personal experiences with poverty drove Sinema to seek solutions to poverty and systemic oppression
- Shifted to a significantly more centrist platform as she progressed in Arizona politics, adjusting her stances on immigration and social policy to gain traction with independent voters and moderate Republicans, who previously supported Sen. John McCain's (R-AZ) bipartisan approach to legislating
- Elected to the Senate in 2018, Sinema became the first openly bisexual member of the US Senate, the first woman to be elected from Arizona, and was the first Democratic senator from Arizona in two decades
- Considered to be one of the most moderate members of Congress, sponsoring many of her bills with Republicans; favors legislating on veterans' affairs, national security, and health care, frequently taking centrist positions and favoring incremental reform
- A pivotal legislator in the 117th Congress, Sinema shaped Democrats' legislative agenda, such as the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure deal; committed to keeping the Senate filibuster, advocating for the 60-vote threshold to be restored for "all elements of the Senate's work"
- Announced in December 2022 that she will switch her party affiliation to independent but told Politico that she anticipates "nothing will change about my values or behavior"

diverse, statewide constituency and pursue her campaign promise of enacting durable change

- Entered politics as a progressive state legislator, when she represented a liberal constituency in Maricopa County, but pivoted to more moderate stances as she furthered her political career; raised in a family with various military members, which drives her interest in veterans affairs and national security
- As a US Senator favoring incrementalism and durable change, Sinema's views on health care, immigration, and veterans affairs often mirror the stances of the late Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), whom she succeeded; this is perhaps due to the broad constituency she represents as a statewide office holder in a swing state
- In 2019, Arizona progressives denounced Sinema's continued voting with Republicans, such as her support for the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, and called for the party to censure her; the party narrowly voted against the censure, but it formalized the progressive left's opposition to Sinema's centrist politics

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Approach and Motivations

Pragmatically shifted away from progressive views to meet the interests of a politically

ARKANSAS



John Boozman

Senator for Arkansas (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: BOAZ-muhn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: December 10, 1950

Birthplace: Shreveport, LA

Hometown: Fort Smith, AR

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- OD, Southern College of Optometry, 1977

Family:

3 children; 2 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Arkansas, 2011-Present
- Representative for Arkansas' 3rd District, 2001-2011
- Co-Founder, Boozman-Hof Regional Eye Clinic
- Optometrist, Arkansas School for the Blind

Committees:

- Senate Appropriations
 - Military Construction & Veteran Affairs & Related Agencies (Ranking Member)
 - Financial Services & General Government
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
 - State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs

- DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
- Department of Defense
- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry (Ranking Member)
 - Conservation, Climate, Forestry & Natural Resources
 - Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Sys & Food Safety & Sec
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
 - Rural Development & Energy
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Chem Safety, Waste Mngmnt, Enviro Justice & Reg Oversight
 - Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
- Senate Veterans' Affairs
- Joint Security & Cooperation in Europe

Quick Summary

Former optometrist and cattle rancher who advocates for Arkansas' agricultural sector, veterans, and rural communities

- Fifth-generation Arkansan who played football at the University of Arkansas; later attended the Southern College of Optometry, where he graduated with his optometry degree
- Practiced optometry in Arkansas, co-founding a clinic with his brother and volunteering his services to low-income families; helped establish the low-vision program at the Arkansas School for the Blind
- Entered politics by successfully running for school board in 1994, eventually working on his brother's unsuccessful campaign for the US Senate four years later
- Ran for the House of Representatives unopposed in a special election in 2001 after



John Boozman Senator for Arkansas (R)



former Rep. and current Governor Asa Hutchinson (R-AR) resigned to head the Drug Enforcement Agency; Boozman served in the House for a decade before decisively beating incumbent Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) in 2010

- Focuses on the agricultural sector, veterans' services, and accessible public health services, particularly through funding government programs
- Became ranking member of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee in February 2021; this leadership position allows Boozman to set the policy agenda regarding trade and overseas markets for farmers and financial security in the face of emergencies like COVID-19

with Democratic colleagues to advance exports to Cuba and co-sponsoring a bill to expand mental health treatment options for veterans with Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)

Political History

- Member, Rogers, AR Board of Education, 1994-2001
- Member, U.S. House of Representatives, 2001-2011
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, 2009-2011
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, 2009-2011
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, 2015-2017
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management and Trade, 2015-CURR

Approach and Motivations

Leverages personal background and deep Arkansas roots to shape his policy priorities; adopts a pragmatic approach to achieve legislative success

- Policy priorities stem from Boozman's personal experiences as well as the needs of his constituents; optometry career and past volunteering gave him insight to the importance of health care access, background as a cattle rancher allows him to relate to the state's agricultural sector, and passion for veterans' affairs stems from not only the high military population in Arkansas but also his father's Air Force career
- Prioritizes the needs of the agricultural community even when doing so contradicts the positions of party leaders; for instance, he supports ending the trade embargo with Cuba to expand the market for American producers, and criticized former President Trump's use of tariffs
- Willingly reaches across the aisle to accomplish legislative goals, such as working

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Tom Cotton

Senator for Arkansas (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KAH-tuhn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 13, 1977

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Harvard University, 2002
- Att, Claremont Graduate University, 1999
- AB, Harvard University, 1998

Family:

- Wife, Anna Peckham; 2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Arkansas, 2015-Present
- Representative for Arkansas's 4th District, 2013-2015
- Management Consultant, McKinsey and Co., 2010-2011
- Army Reserves, 2010-2013
- Infantry Officer, US Army, 2005-2010
- Attorney, Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher, 2003-2004
- Clerk, US 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, 2002-2003

Committees:

- Senate Judiciary
 - Criminal Justice & Counterterrorism (Ranking Member)

- Subcommittee on Intellectual Property
- Competition Policy, Antitrust & Consumer Rights
- Immigration, Citizenship & Border Security
- Senate Armed Services
 - Airland (Ranking Member)
 - Emerging Threats & Capabilities
 - Strategic Forces
- Joint Economic
- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Harvard-educated lawyer who served in Iraq and Afghanistan as an Army officer; since 2013, he has risen through the GOP ranks to become a leading spokesman for the party's immigration and foreign policy agenda

- Raised in Arkansas on a cattle farm, Cotton earned undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard before deciding to join the Army after 9/11
- While serving in Iraq as a platoon leader, Cotton attracted significant attention from conservative thought leaders after penning a strongly-worded letter to the New York Times following the paper's publication of sensitive national security information
- Left active duty in 2010 and spent two years as a management consultant at McKinsey, before running for the open Arkansas 4th District seat in 2012; won the general election by comfortable margins in a traditionally blue district that was trending red
- Joined forces with anti-establishment conservatives against party leadership, breaking with party leadership on issues like the 2013 bipartisan immigration reform proposal, which he characterized as "amnesty"
- Defeated then-incumbent Sen. Mark Pryor (D-AR) by double-digit margins in 2014,



Tom Cotton

Senator for Arkansas (R)



capitalizing on Arkansas' increasing tilt towards the GOP; received strong support from Republican Senate-affiliated PACs and outside groups like the Club for Growth

- In the Senate, Cotton's profile has continued to rise through his outspokenness on issues including immigration, criminal justice, and foreign policy; notably spearheaded Senate GOP opposition to the Obama administration's nuclear negotiations with Iran, and is a leading voice on the right for developing policies to compete with China
- Remains a strong supporter of former President Trump, who he aligns with on immigration, economic, and foreign policy, but declined to join Republicans who voted against certifying the 2020 election on January 6

competition with China; views the country's communist government as an existential security threat to the US

- Combining strong relationships with conservative intellectuals and popularity with President Trump's base, Cotton is considered a top potential candidate for the 2024 GOP nomination

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Approach and Motivations

Combining a high-profile and attention-grabbing communication style with stances that resonate with the pro-Trump GOP base, Cotton is an influential Senator and potential presidential candidate in 2024

- Raises his profile through attention-grabbing statements and publications; frequently appears on conservative-leaning outlets to offer sharp criticism of Democratic policies, and his June 2020 "Send in the Troops" op-ed calling for military deployments in US cities during Black Lives Matter protests provoked fierce debate and criticism
- While close to pro-business interests like the Club for Growth, Cotton is one of several GOP senators pushing the party in an explicitly working-class-focused direction; stances on immigration and foreign policy are driven by a belief that previous US policies have undermined workers
- Long viewed as a foreign policy "hawk" by observers on the left and right, Cotton vocally advocates for increased military and economic



Steve Womack

Representative for Arkansas's 3rd District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: WO-mack

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: February 18, 1957

Birthplace: Russellville, AR

Religion: Southern Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, Arkansas Tech University, 1979

Family: 3 children ; 3 grandchildren

Work History:

- Representative for Arkansas' 3rd District (R), 2011-Present
- Mayor of Rogers, AR, 1998-2011
- Colonel, Arkansas Army National Guard, 1979-2009
- Member, Rogers City Council, 1997-1998
- Financial Consultant, Merrill Lynch, 1997
- Executive Officer, Army ROTC Program, University of Arkansas, 1990-1996
- Station Manager, KUMR Radio Station, 1979-1990

Committees:

- House Appropriations
 - Financial Services & General Government (Chairman)
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
 - Defense

Quick Summary

Former mayor and National Guard Army Colonel who pushes for a balanced federal budget and tax parity between online retailers and local small businesses; fervently protects and promotes local poultry industry

- Established KURM Radio station with his father in 1979 and covered local politics for the station
- Served for 30 years in the Army National Guard and retired as a Colonel
- As Mayor of Rogers, Arkansas, for 12 years, he fostered economic growth through a \$1 billion increase in infrastructure development that built a new mall, convention center, and hospital
- Dedicated to ensuring small business growth through “e-fairness” policies, Womack works to standardize tax regulations for online retailers and local small businesses
- Uses leadership role on the Budget Committee to focus on reducing discretionary funding and proposing balanced budget initiatives
- District is home to multiple higher education institutions, Walmart headquarters, and is the fifth highest producing poultry district in the U.S.
- Created the Chicken Caucus with Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA16) due to the relevance of the poultry industry in district; Benton County has 19.1 million birds according to the 2017 Census

Approach and Motivations

Childhood exposure to politicians instilled an admiration for service; advocates bipartisanship and integration of local government approaches

- Father was a radio broadcaster who introduced him to local political figures; Womack says he



Steve Womack

Representative for Arkansas's 3rd District (R)



grew up with an “admiration of political leaders” which sparked his run for office

- Says he was successful in revitalizing Rogers economy as mayor because he let government play “a limited role confined to the things that the private businessperson cannot do themselves”
- Bipartisan legislator who engages in congressional exchange program; visits with appropriations colleague Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA06) to emphasize their shared interests and commonality across the aisle

Political History

- Member, Rogers, AR City Council, 1983-1984
- Member, Rogers, AR City Council, 1997-1998
- Chair, Arkansas Commission on National and Community Service, 1999-2001
- Mayor, Rogers, AR, 1999-2010
- Vice Chair, U.S. House Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, 2011-2013
- Vice Chair, U.S. House Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, 2013-2018
- Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Budget, 2018

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CALIFORNIA



Lou Correa

Representative for California's 46th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: ko-RAY-ah

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: January 24, 1958

Birthplace: Los Angeles, CA

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of California Los Angeles, 1985
- MBA, University of California Los Angeles, 1985
- BA, California State University - Fullerton, 1980

Family:

- Married; five children

Work History:

- Representative for California's 46th District, 2017-Present
- Member, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 2015-2016
- State Senator for California's 34th District, 2006-2014
- Orange County Board of Supervisors, 2005-2006
- State Assemblymember for California's 69th District, 1998-2004

Committees:

- House Homeland Security

- Border Security & Enforcement (Ranking Member)
- Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement & Intelligence
- House Judiciary
 - Immigration, Integrity, Security & Enforcement
 - Administrative State, Regulatory Reform & Antitrust

Quick Summary

A former state lawmaker from southern California, Correa leverages his local policymaking experience at the federal level, focusing on education, immigration reform, and border security

- Ran an unsuccessful campaign for State Senator in 1996 that was centered around opposition to the passage of a 1994 state proposition that targeted illegal immigration
- As a state senator, Correa prioritized safety and education within Orange County, through the creation of informative programs to education children about the legislative process and provide safety identification and crisis preparedness kits to schools
- Successfully ran for the House in 2016 on a platform focused on immigration and education
- A staunch supporter of immigrant rights and an advocate for DACA recipients, Correa has introduced legislation focused on immigrant welfare, including the DREAMers, Immigrants, and Refugees Legal Aid Act that sought to establish grants for nonprofit organizations that offer legal assistance to immigrants
- Member of the House Committee for Homeland Security; stated in 2018 that policies at the border are "not working" and proposed his own Marshall Plan that calls for giving aid to struggling countries in Central America to stimulate their economies, reduce poverty and



Lou Correa

Representative for California's 46th District (D)



violence in the region, and ultimately reduce the number of illegal border crossings

- Advocates for increased resources at local schools; introduced the Trahan-Correa amendment to the House Rules' Appropriations Act of 2021 that allows communities and their local school boards to retain control of their schools and prevented the Trump administration for withholding federal funding to schools that would not reopen due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Approach and Motivations

Pragmatic moderate who puts the priorities of his working-class, minority-majority district first

- Closely connected to his district's working-class Mexican American community, Correa prioritizes the district's needs by advocating for increased aid for residents, introducing the Leave No Taxpayer Behind Act that aims to include undocumented immigrants in the COVID-19 relief CARES Act
- A proponent of bipartisanship, Correa has worked with House Republicans like Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL1) to create legislation that aimed to prevent the prosecution of medical marijuana users, saying that "when we put partisanship aside and work together, we can make government work for everyone"
- Grew up only speaking and understanding Spanish for a period of time, impacting his passion for education and language inclusion; introduced the White House Accountability for Language Diversity Act that sought to require the White House to provide an official website in the five most commonly used languages in the United States

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Dianne Feinstein

Senator for California (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: FINE-stine

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: June 22, 1933

Birthplace: San Francisco, CA

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, Stanford University, 1955

Family:

- Husband (deceased); 1 child; 3 stepchildren

Work History:

- Senator for California (D), 1992-Present
- Director, Board of Directors, Bank of California, 1988-1989
- Mayor, City of San Francisco (D), 1978-1988
- Board of Supervisors, City of San Francisco, 1970-1978
- Vice Chair, Women’s Board of Terms and Parole, State of California, 1960-1966

Committees:

- Senate Appropriations
 - Energy & Water Development (Chairman)
 - Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies

- Department of the Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
- Department of Defense
- Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
- Senate Judiciary
 - Constitution (Chairman)
 - Criminal Justice & Counterterrorism
 - Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action & Federal Rights
 - Human Rights & the Law
- Senate Intelligence
- Senate Rules & Administration

Quick Summary

Moderate Democrat and longest-tenured woman in the US Senate; leverages six decades of political experience to shape national security policy and lead party’s gun control reform

- California native with a career marked by “firsts,” serving as the first woman president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, first woman mayor of San Francisco, and first woman Senator for California
- Was president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors when Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone were murdered; Feinstein found Milk’s body and announced the murders, citing this experience as shaping her views on gun control
- Works to protect California’s natural resources, including the Mojave Desert and Redwood Forest, through restoration and fuel efficiency
- As chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee, oversaw the review of the CIA’s rendition, detention, and interrogation (RDI) program and has been a leader in NSA transparency and reform initiatives, advocating for some data collection to protect national security while building in civil liberties protections



Dianne Feinstein

Senator for California (D)



- Has clashed with California progressives for what they see as her moderate views; failed to gain the California Democratic Party's endorsement in 2018 but still won by a wide margin with support from prominent national-level Democrats
- After some Democrats criticized her management of confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney, Feinstein decided to step down as the top Democrat in on the Senate Judiciary Committee in 2020 and was replaced by Dick Durbin (D-IL) in the 117th Congress
- The oldest member of the Senate, Feinstein has indicated that she will finish her current term, which runs through 2024

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Approach and Motivations

Pragmatism and collegial style reflect California's political leanings when she was first elected

- Emphasized pragmatic centrism when she ran for office in the 1990s, reflecting the state's more moderate political environment at the time
- Over time, she has moved further to the left, but not at the same pace as the state party; despite this, Feinstein easily wins re-election due to her vast experience and influence
- Willing to work collaboratively with Republicans on issues ranging from women's rights to the environment



Robert Garcia

Representative for California's 42nd District (D)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: December 2, 1977

Birthplace: Lima, Peru

Hometown: Covina, CA

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- EdD, Educational Leadership, California State University, 2010
- MA, Communications Management, University of Southern California, 2005
- BA, Communication Studies, California State University, 2002

Work History:

- Representative for California's 42nd District, 2023-Present
- Mayor, City of Long Beach, California, 2014-2023
- Adjunct Faculty, University of Southern California, 2012-Date Unknown
- Vice Mayor, City Long Beach, California, 2012-2014
- Council Member for Long Beach's 1st District, 2009-2014
- Communications Director, Long Beach City College, 2007-2012
- Co-Founder, Long Beach Post, 2007-2013
- Faculty, California State University-Long Beach, 2005-2007

Committees:

- House Oversight & Accountability
 - National Security, the Border & Foreign Affairs (Ranking Member)
 - Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic
 - Government Operations & Federal Workforce
- House Homeland Security
 - Transportation & Maritime Security
 - Border Security & Enforcement

Quick Summary

A former university educator and sitting mayor of Long Beach, California, Garcia won election in 2022 to become the representative of California's 42nd District

- Immigrated to the US from Lima, Peru, at the age of 5 and spent most of his childhood in Covina, California; attended schools in southern California, earning his bachelor's degree and doctorate in education from California State University's Long Beach campus
- Blending his background in communications and higher education, Garcia taught communications studies from 2005 until 2007, when he co-founded a news website called the Long Beach Post and pivoted from his faculty position to serve as the communications director for Long Beach City College
- First entered politics as a member of the Long Beach City Council, where he served from 2009 to 2014, the last two years of which Garcia was the vice mayor; in 2014, Garcia was elected mayor of Long Beach and became the city's first immigrant and openly LGBTQ+ mayor
- Since becoming mayor in 2014, Garcia implemented a significant infrastructure repair



Robert Garcia

Representative for California's 42nd District (D)



program, a cannabis tax, and an ethics and redistricting commission all of which were passed by ballot initiative

- Launched his congressional bid in 2021, campaigning on Medicare for All, pandemic preparedness, expanded options for immigration and naturalization, and LGBTQ+ rights protections
- Advanced from the June 2022 nonpartisan primary and won the election for California's 42nd District in November 2022 against board of education member John Briscoe (R)

accomplishments as mayor of Long Beach; for instance, he hopes to expand social programs and protections for undocumented migrants as he did as mayor on a larger scale by serving in Congress

Approach and Motivations

Influenced by his positive experiences with the federal government as a child and centered his campaign around issues relevant to his constituents

- Positively recalls his experiences as a first-generation immigrant and credits federal programs and legislation for granting him a pathway to citizenship and supporting his family during difficult times; inspired to pursue a career in public service by a desire to replicate this experience for future generations
- Committed to combating structural inequality, Garcia highlights his positions supporting federal assistance programs; many of his priorities focus on health and social programs, which align with the largest employment industries in the 42nd District, health care and social assistance
- Points to Gov. Gavin Newsom's (D) and President Biden's approval of the Long Beach government's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic to demonstrate his leadership capabilities to his constituents; suffered personal losses including his mother and step-father to COVID-19 and seeks to protect others from going through the same experience
- Framed his 2022 House campaign's policy proposals in the context of his previous

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Alex Padilla

Senator for California (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: pah-DEE-yah

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: March 22, 1973

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BS, Mechanical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1994

Family:

- Wife, Angela; 3 sons

Work History:

- Senator for California, 2021-Present
- Secretary of State of California, 2014-2021
- State Senator for California's 20th District, 2006-2014
- President, California League of Cities, 2005
- Member/President, Los Angeles City Council, 1999-2005
- Campaign Manager, Richard Alarcon for State Senate, 1998
- Campaign Manager, Gil Cedillo for State Assembly, 1997
- Campaign Manager, Tony Cardenas for State Assembly, 1996
- Educational Counselor, University of the Pacific, 1994
- Engineer, Hughes Aircraft, 1991-1992

Committees:

- Senate Judiciary

- Immigration, Citizenship & Border Security (Chairman)
- Subcommittee on Intellectual Property
- Privacy, Technology & the Law
- Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action & Federal Rights
- Criminal Justice & Counterterrorism
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife (Chairman)
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Clean Air, Climate & Nuclear Safety
- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs
 - Government Operations & Border Management
 - Investigations
- Senate Rules & Administration
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Pioneering Latino politician who ascended through the ranks of California politics, shaping the state's climate policy, public health regulations, and elections; has emerged as a progressive voice on COVID-19 relief, labor, and immigration in his first term

- Earned a degree in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and briefly worked for the aerospace company Hughes Aircraft before transitioning to a career in Democratic politics
- Spent his early political career as a campaign manager for several successful "dark horse" Democratic state assembly candidates, including Rep. Tony Cardenas (D-CA29) and former state Sen. Richard Alarcon (D-20), in addition to serving as a staffer for Sen. Diane Feinstein (D-CA)



Alex Padilla

Senator for California (D)



- Mounted a successful campaign for the Los Angeles City Council at the age of 26 to represent his east San Fernando Valley neighborhood and became the youngest council president in city history; tenure was marked by the passage of an infrastructure project to modernize Los Angeles International Airport and a brief stint as acting mayor after 9/11
- In the state Senate, he chaired the Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Communications and authored over 70 bills signed into law; focused on climate-related infrastructure improvements, enacting safety and testing standards for driverless cars, and public health measures to address obesity and tobacco sales to minors
- Elected twice as California's secretary of state, becoming the first Latino to hold the office; implemented measures intended to increase voter participation, including a program to register voters at the DMV
- Appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) to serve out Vice President Kamala Harris' Senate term, making him California's first Latino Senator; intends to run for re-election when his term expires in 2022

intended to boost lower- and working-class Americans, such as a \$15 minimum wage

- Worked his way up from city politics in Los Angeles to statewide office and an appointment to the Senate, leveraging ties he built with key Democratic figures in California like Gov. Gavin Newsom
- Aligned with progressive Democrats in Congress, Padilla backs sweeping reforms such as the Green New Deal and Medicare for All, and urges fellow Democrats to abandon the filibuster in order to protect voting rights and address climate change

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Approach and Motivations

Shaped by his immigrant background and Los Angeles neighborhood, Padilla advocates for progressive policies to boost underserved communities

- Raised by immigrant parents and deeply impacted by anti-immigrant Prop 187 as a young man, Padilla is strongly motivated to pass comprehensive immigration reform that includes pathways to citizenship
- From Pacoima, a disadvantaged east Los Angeles neighborhood, Padilla developed an early awareness of inequity in the Los Angeles community; backs progressive policies

COLORADO



Michael Bennet

Senator for Colorado (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: BEH-nuht

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: November 28, 1964

Birthplace: New Delhi, India

Religion: Episcopalian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Yale Law School, 1993
- BA, Wesleyan University, 1987

Family:

- Married; 3 children

Work History:

- US Senator for Colorado, 2009-Present
- Superintendent of Schools, Denver Public Schools, 2005-2009
- Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor John Hickenlooper, 2003-2005
- Managing Director, Anschutz Investment Company, 1997-2003
- Counsel, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, US Department of Justice, 1995-1997
- Law Clerk to Judge Francis D. Murnaghan, US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- Personal Assistant, Office of Gov. Richard F. Celeste (D-OH), 1988-1990

Committees:

- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry

- Conservation, Climate, Forestry & Natural Resources (Chairman)
- Rural Development & Energy
- Senate Finance
 - Taxation & IRS Oversight (Chairman)
 - Energy, Natural Resources & Infrastructure
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
- Senate Intelligence
- Senate Rules & Administration

Quick Summary

Former superintendent of Denver public schools with rich political pedigree; draws on diverse professional background to advance educational outcomes and address immigration reform

- Son of a diplomat and born in India; father held prominent positions in the Carter and Clinton administrations, and was serving as an aide to the US ambassador to India when Bennet was born
- After graduating from Wesleyan University, Bennet worked for Ohio Gov. Richard Celeste (D), a family friend, before attending law school
- Worked at the Department of Justice before pivoting to the private sector, where he managed Anschutz Investment Company and oversaw the consolidation of theater chains
- Launched into Colorado policy circles by an appointment to superintendent of Denver's public schools, where he focused on boosting performance standards
- Among Barack Obama's education advisers during his presidential campaign and was vetted to be Obama's secretary of education, though the position was eventually filled by Arne Duncan
- Appointed by Gov. Bill Ritter (D) in 2009 to replace former Sen. Ken Salazar, who left the Senate to serve as the Secretary of the



Michael Bennet

Senator for Colorado (D)



Interior; subsequently won reelection in 2010 and 2016

- In the Senate, Bennet has pushed for evidence-based educational reform, including a 2015 overhaul of No Child Left Behind; he is also vocal on immigration reform and environmental issues, particularly balancing national climate emissions goals with support for his state's natural gas development
- Announced a longshot presidential bid in the spring of 2019 but failed to gain traction, ultimately suspending his campaign in February 2020; won re-election to the Senate in 2022

- Disapproves of what he considers a breakdown of political discourse and compromise that has resulted in partisan gridlock; wrote in a 2018 op-ed that, "voices on the left and right routinely decry modest concessions as a betrayal of principle....that principle turns out to be little more than a tactic to garner media attention by casting small differences on policy as cataclysmic"

Approach and Motivations

With a unique blend of public and private sector experiences, Bennet carries on family legacy of public service; cultivates moderate status to appeal to purple state voters

- Driven to public service by long family history of political involvement dating back to his grandfather's post in the Roosevelt administration
- Brings wide professional experience in law, politics, finance, and education, which he says illustrates his adaptability and operational skills
- Strongly values bipartisanship, regularly engaging with colleagues from both parties on topics like immigration and energy; hesitated to accept the chairmanship of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee in 2012 because he was concerned it would interfere with efforts to reach across the aisle
- Adheres to a moderate policy platform in order to find common ground and engage with voters; during the Democratic presidential primary elections in 2019, Bennet questioned the electability of his progressive opponents, as he believed policies such as Medicare for All would not appeal to the average American

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John Hickenlooper

Senator for Colorado (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: HIK-ehn-loop-ehr

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: February 7, 1952

Hometown: Narberth, PA

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MS, Geology, Wesleyan University, 1980
- BA, English, Wesleyan University, 1974

Family:

- Wife, Robin Pringle
- One son

Work History:

- Senator for Colorado, 2021-Present
- Candidate for President, 2019
- Governor of Colorado, 2011-2019
- Mayor of Denver, 2003-2011
- Founder, Wynkoop Brewing Company, 1988-2003
- Geologist, Buckhorn Petroleum, 1981-1986

Electoral Overview:

- Won 2014 gubernatorial election by a margin of victory of 3.3% and won in 2010 by 14.5%

Committees:

- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Employment & Workplace Safety (Chairman)
- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation

- Consumer Protection, Product Safety & Data Security (Chairman)
- Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations
- Space & Science
- Tourism, Trade & Export Promotion
- Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
 - Water & Power
 - Public Lands, Forests & Mining
 - Energy
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Quick Summary

Former governor, mayor, and brewpub entrepreneur known for practical approach to health, environmental issues, and economic growth

- Grew up in a middle-class family in a suburb of Philadelphia
- After being laid off as a geologist, opened the first brewpub in CO, which helped spark the revitalization of Denver's Lower Downtown
- While running his brewery, led a grassroots campaign to keep the name of the Denver Mile High stadium, raising his public profile and serving as a primer for his mayoral run
- Two-term mayor of Denver, where he eliminated a \$70 million budget deficit and attracted the 2008 Democratic National Convention to Denver
- As governor, helped to spur job creation, oversaw the legalization of recreational marijuana, and signed three major gun control proposals into law
- Supports adding a public health care option and has been vocal on the need to lower prescription drug costs, including through allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices



John Hickenlooper

Senator for Colorado (D)



- Advocates for a transition to a 100% renewable energy economy, but has opposed bans on fracking
- Briefly ran for the Democratic nomination for president in 2020, running as a coalition-building centrist Democrat, before dropping out and enter the US Senate race; successfully unseated incumbent Cory Gardner (R-CO)

Approach and Motivations

Pragmatic, business-minded approach informed by small business background and science

- Says he became active in the local community and ran for office because he believed, as a business owner, he could bring a different perspective and achieve substantive change; stated that work resolving customer complaints is transferable to effectively receiving constituent feedback and diffusing partisan conflict
- Drawing on his time working in state and local politics, Hickenlooper is animated to address how legislation at the federal level affects states, cities, and municipalities
- Learned that as a business owner, being asked to decide between good jobs and a clean environment is a “false choice”; believes as a trained geologist he will bring a practical, fact-based understanding of Earth science to the Senate while working to spur economic growth
- Says he has a difficult time describing his ideology, sometimes referring to it as moderate and other times as apolitical

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Doug Lamborn

Representative for Colorado's 5th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: LAM-born

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 24, 1954

Birthplace: Leavenworth, KS

Religion: Christian Church

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of Kansas School of Law, 1985
- BS, University of Kansas School of Journalism, 1978

Family:

Married; 5 children

Work History:

- Representative for Colorado's 5th District, 2007-Present
- State Senator for Colorado's 9th District, 1999-2007
 - President Pro Tempore, 1999-2000
- State Representative for Colorado's 20th District, 1995-1999
 - Republican Whip, 1997
- Associate, Kutak, Rock, and Campbell, Dates Unknown

Committees:

- House Armed Services
 - Strategic Forces (Chairman)
 - Tactical Air & Land Forces

- House Natural Resources
 - Energy & Mineral Resources
 - Federal Lands

Quick Summary

Traditional conservative with legal background who focuses on national security policy; strong conservative voice on environmental policy

- Worked as a business and real estate attorney after moving to Colorado from Kansas
- Served in both the state House and Senate for a combined 12 years, serving in GOP leadership roles and chairing the state Senate's Military and Veterans Affairs Committee; he also sponsored the largest tax cut in Colorado history
- First ran in an open primary in 2006, winning by a slim margin with backing from the Club For Growth and Colorado Christian Coalition
- Longtime member of the House Armed Services Committee; as the ranking member of the Readiness Subcommittee, he led dialogue on the importance of space threats and subsequent necessity of the Space Force
- Often authors op-eds concerning US-Israel relations, advocating for strengthening the US's military and economic ties with Israel to promote peace in the Middle East
- Holds leadership roles in several caucuses, including the Missile Defense Caucus, the Directed Energy Caucus, the Israel Allies Caucus, the House Sovereignty Caucus, and the Republican Israel Caucus; collaborates with other leaders to produce defense and foreign affairs policy
- On the House Committee for Natural Resources, he supports an all-of-the-above energy approach, which includes both renewable energy and fossil fuels, and rejects any penalties or fees for fossil fuel producers based on climate change



Doug Lamborn

Representative for Colorado's 5th District (R)



- Has proposed and several reforms to the VA, including bills to allow veterans to have subsidized private market health care plans and permit the VA to terminate or demote employees based on performance
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Approach and Motivations

Heavily military-oriented district and veteran family background drive heavy focus on armed forces policy

- Father's WWII service instilled Lamborn's strong support for national defense and interest in service
- District has more than 20% active duty military, with several military installations including the North American Aerospace Defense Command, Peterson Airforce Base, Fort Carson, the Air Force Academy, Schriever Air Force Base; it is estimated to be the most military dominated district in the US, driving Lamborn's intense focus on defense policy
- During the 2012 budget debate, called for deep cuts to Medicare, Social Security, and agriculture programs in order to support increases in military spending that would support his district
- Colorado Springs, at the heart of the district, is one of the most conservative metropolitan areas in the country, establishing a safe district
- Past experience with business and real estate law informs approach to limit regulations to promote growth

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FLORIDA



Lois Frankel

Representative for Florida's 22nd District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: FRANK-uhl

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: May 16, 1948

Birthplace: New York, NY

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Divorced

Education Summary:

- JD, Georgetown University, 1973
- BA, Boston University, 1970

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Representative for Florida (D), 2013-Present
 - 22nd District, 2023-Present
 - 21st District, 2017-2023
 - 22nd District, 2013-2017
- Mayor of West Palm Beach, 2003-2011
- State Representative for Florida's 83rd District (D), 1987-2003
- Practicing Attorney, 1978-2003
- Assistant Public Defender, West Palm Beach, 1974-1978
- Law Clerk, Honorable Judge David Norman, 1973-1974

Committees:

- House Appropriations

- State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
- Labor, Health & Human Services, Education & Related Agencies

Quick Summary

Attorney and long-time public servant passionate about protecting the rights of vulnerable populations; priority issues include women's rights, gun control, and preventing Medicare fraud

- After obtaining her law degree, Frankel began her career in public service first as a law clerk and later as an assistant public defender
- While continuing to practice law, Frankel was elected to the Florida state House in 1987, where she served as majority whip and chaired the AIDS Task Force and the Select Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect; co-authored a change to Florida legislation to ensure confidentiality in AIDS testing
- Described her tenure as mayor as extremely rewarding, given how much she was able to help people on a daily basis; focused on uplifting children in poverty
- In Congress, Frankel has focused on gun control, which she terms "common-sense legislation," frequently criticizing her colleagues' approach to the issue; after the Pulse Nightclub shooting, stated that the NRA's "stranglehold" on Congress would prevent substantive action
- A passionate advocate for women's rights, Frankel chaired the bipartisan Congressional Women's Caucus, where she has emphasized reproductive freedom, and led an effort for Democratic women to wear black at Trump's 2018 State of the Union address to shed light on revelations of sexual misconduct in both the public and private sectors; international affairs legislation focuses on protecting and uplifting women abroad



Lois Frankel

Representative for Florida's 22nd District (D)



- Pushes for legislation to protect seniors and prevent Medicare fraud; sponsored the Medicare Fraud Act of 2018

Development Act, which included a focus on restoring ecosystems in the Everglades

Approach and Motivations

A passionate human rights advocate, Frankel attributes her drive to early days as a student activist; willing to work across the aisle, particularly in promoting her district's priorities such as environmental restoration

- Studied psychology at Boston University, intending to become a psychiatrist, but chose to pursue a career in public service after becoming involved in the social movements of the late 1960s; as a student activist focused on anti war protesting and the women's liberation movement, Frankel joked that she "majored in protests" and stated that she had "real disdain" for the political establishment
- Citing a lifelong dedication to "fight for the underdog," Frankel joined a criminal justice clinic while studying law at Georgetown and went on to clerk for a judge and be an assistant public defender; transitioned to private practice after giving birth to her son
- Decided to run for office after recognizing that while she would be able to provide her son with resources, such as high quality education and health care, necessary to thrive; in office, focused on children's issues, advocating for prenatal care, Head Start education, and preventing child abuse
- In line with her heavily Democratic district, Frankel promotes public works legislation, particularly those bills focused on the protection and restoration of the Everglades
- Has occasionally worked across the aisle; effectively legislated as chair of the bipartisan Congressional Women's Caucus and as a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where she supported passage of the Water Resources Reform

Political History

- Member, FL State House, 1986-1992
- Candidate (FL), U.S. House of Representatives, 1992
- Member, FL State House, 1994-2002
- Minority Leader, FL State House, 2000-2002
- Mayor, West Palm Beach, FL, 2003-2011

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Brian Mast

Representative for Florida's 21st District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: mast

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: July 10, 1980

Birthplace: Grand Rapids, MI

Religion: Christian Church

Ethnicity: Two or More Ethnicities

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Harvard University, BLA, 2016
- Palm Beach Atlantic University (FL), Att, 2002

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Florida, 2017-Present
 - 21st District, 2023-Present
 - 18th District, 2017-2023
- Explosive Specialist, US Department of Homeland Security, 2012-2015
- Analyst, National Nuclear Security Administration, 2011-2012
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician, US Army, 2006-2010
- Combat Engineer, US Army Reserve, 2000-2006

Committees:

- House Foreign Affairs
 - Oversight & Accountability (Chairman)
 - Middle East, North Africa & Central Asia

- Joint Congressional-Executive Commission on China
- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Coast Guard & Maritime Transportation
 - Aviation
 - Water Resources & Environment

Noteworthy Caucuses:

- **House**
 - Republican Study Committee (RSC)
- **Joint**
 - Congressional Rare Disease Caucus
 - Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease

Quick Summary

Purple Heart veteran turned representative who prioritizes foreign affairs and national security, as well as preserving the environment of his Florida district

- Born and raised in the Grand Rapids, MI area and enlisted in the Army after graduating from high school
- Served under the Joint Special Operations Command for four of his twelve years of service as a bomb disposal expert, a dangerous position that culminated in the loss of both of his legs from an IED in Afghanistan
- After recovering from his injuries, Mast continued working in counterterrorism, using his expertise to advise the National Nuclear Security Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and the Department of Homeland Security; also volunteered with the Israel Defense Forces
- Since taking office in 2017, Mast has used his seat on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to advocate for improvements to the water systems serving Lake Okeechobee; pressed for the development of large-scale



Brian Mast

Representative for Florida's 21st District (R)



water filtration technology to combat toxic algae, which was enacted as part of the 2018 water resources bill

- On the Foreign Affairs Committee, he focuses on Middle East policy; co-authored bills imposing sanctions on entities supporting Hamas as well as entities supporting Iran's ballistic missile development program and co-sponsored legislation expanding cooperative cybersecurity research and development programs between the United States and Israel
- Supports a ban on assault weapons, citing his personal use of such weapons while in the Army in shaping his belief that they have no place in a civilian setting
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

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Approach and Motivations

Lifelong value of public service is applied to his current position in Congress; personally involves himself in causes he is passionate about

- Always felt defined by his work serving the country; was inspired to run for Congress while recovering from his injuries when his father advised him that his greatest service to the country as well as the best example he can set for his children could still be ahead of him
- Applies his Army experience, where he learned that decisions have very real consequences, to his policy making role in Congress
- Likes to demonstrate support for particular issues through action; a notable example would be volunteering with the Israeli Defense Forces to exhibit his already existing support for Israel as the Middle East's only democracy
- Makes veterans engagement a large part of his platform and was the first Congressman to open a satellite office in a VA facility in order to make himself available to this constituency



Bill Posey

Representative for Florida's 8th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: PO-zee

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: December 18, 1947

Birthplace: Washington, DC

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Brevard Community College (FL), AA, 1969
- Stetson University (FL), Att, 1978

Family:

2 children; 3 grandchildren

Work History:

- Representative for Florida, 2009-Present
 - 8th District, 2013-Present
 - 15th District, 2009-2013
- State Senator for Florida (R), 2000-2008
 - 24th District, 2002-2008
 - 15th District, 2000-2002
- Founder and President, Posey and Company, 1978-2008
- State Representative for Florida's 32nd District (R), 1992-2000
- Broker, Sherwood Realty Inc., 1974-1978
- Manager, Gay and Taylor Inc., 1971-1974
- President and CEO, Mid Florida Racing Inc., 1969-1971

- Quality Assurance Representative, McDonnell-Douglas, 1966-1969

Committees:

- House Science, Space & Technology
 - Space & Aeronautics
 - Environment
- House Financial Services
 - Financial Institutions & Monetary Policy
 - Housing & Insurance

Quick Summary

Five-term representative who has spent his career in state and federal politics emphasizing government transparency and accountability

- After earning his associate's degree, Posey joined McDonnell Douglas, an aerospace manufacturing corporation and defense contractor later acquired by Boeing, and worked on the Apollo Space Program at the Kennedy Space Center
- Founded Posey & Co. Realtors and served as director of the Florida Association of Realtors and president of the Space Coast Association of Realtors
- Served eight years each in the state House and Senate where he successfully reformed Florida's insurance laws to increase competition and modernized the state's election process following the 2000 presidential election controversy; authored legislation focused on increasing state government accountability and transparency
- Carried passion for state and federal government accountability to Congress; as a member of the Financial Services Committee, Posey introduced the National Activity Based Total Accountability Act, which would require states to submit fiscal accounting reports as a condition of receiving federal money



Bill Posey

Representative for Florida's 8th District (R)



- Introduced the End the Congressional Revolving Door Act, which would prevent any former member of Congress or former senior congressional employee who becomes a lobbyist within two years of leaving office to forfeit their federal retirement and other benefits
- Vocal advocate for repealing the Affordable Care Act; introduced a bill that would have required all federal employees involved in writing, implementing, or enforcing health care regulations to enroll in an ACA health plan, asserting that officials would be more judicious “knowing that they must live under the regulations they are imposing on the rest of America”
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden’s election
- Willing to break from his party, Posey has sided with Democrats on issues such as the war in Afghanistan and net neutrality
- Wrote *Activity Based Total Accountability*, a book outlining his suggestions for improving American politics

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<http://posey.house.gov/forms/meetingrequest>

Approach and Motivations

Republican lawmaker whose passion for government accountability transcends party lines; promotion of space technology advancement informed by his district's sensibilities and his work history

- Accountability was a central theme of his congressional campaign and has remained at the forefront of his legislative agenda; stated that “too often leaders in Washington make rules for others and exempt themselves – that must change”
- A member of the Space, Science and Technology Committee, Posey represents his district’s interest in NASA and manufacturing, drawing on his personal experience working on the Apollo mission; introduced legislation, such as the RACE for Space Act, to provide further funding for space innovation and direct the Department of Defense to work with non-federal entities to promote efficiency in commercial space activities



Marco Rubio

Senator for Florida (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: ROO-bee-oh

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 28, 1971

Birthplace: Miami, FL

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of Miami, 1996
- BA, Political Science, University of Florida, 1993

Family:

4 children

Work History:

- Senator for Florida (R), 2011-Present
- Attorney, Sole Practitioner, 2008-2010
- State Representative for Florida's 111th District (R), 2000-2008
- Attorney, Broad and Cassel Law Firm
- Visiting Professor, Florida International University
- Political Analyst, Univision, 2008
- Attorney, Tew Cardenas Law Firm, 1996-2000

Committees:

- Senate Foreign Relations
 - West Hem Crime Civ Sec Dem Rights & Women's Issues (Ranking Member)

- Near East, South Asia, Central Asia & Counterterrorism
- Europe & Regional Security Cooperation
- Senate Intelligence (Ranking Member)
- Senate Appropriations
 - Legislative Branch
 - Financial Services & General Government
 - State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
 - Military Construction & Veteran Affairs & Related Agencies
 - DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship
- Senate Aging

Quick Summary

Raised in South Florida by Cuban American immigrants, Rubio was mentored by the GOP establishment in Florida and found success early in his career; aims to position himself as leader in the Trump-era GOP

- Raised in West Miami, where his parents worked in the hotel industry after immigrating from Cuba prior to Fidel Castro's ascent to power
- Became interested in politics while in college; interned for Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL27), volunteered on Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart's (R-FL21) campaign, ran the Dade County operation for Sen. Bob Dole's (R-KS) 1996 presidential campaign, and received mentorship from future Gov. Jeb Bush (R)
- Successfully ran for the state House in a 1999 special election, where he pushed for aggressive tax cuts and worked on climate change policy like carbon emission caps; elected as speaker of the state House in 2005, becoming the youngest person and first Hispanic American to achieve the position



Marco Rubio Senator for Florida (R)



- After reaching his term limits in the state House, Rubio rode the Tea Party wave into the Senate in 2010; defeated then-Gov. Charlie Crist (later elected to Congress as a Democrat) in the Republican primary and the general election
- Gained national media attention in 2012 after being on Mitt Romney’s shortlist for vice president; helped craft Romney’s immigration policy and introduced Romney at the RNC Convention
- Leadership positions on the Small Business and Intelligence Committees have enabled Rubio to focus on crafting small business-friendly policy and developing a tough foreign policy towards US adversaries
- Aggressively campaigned against Trump during the 2016 primaries, but subsequently supported most of the Trump administration’s policies and became a strong ally of the former president; Trump endorsed Rubio’s 2022 Senate re-election campaign
- Argues that the Republican Party should embrace a new direction that includes prioritizing the working class and a diverse electorate; believes GOP can capture those voters by focusing on economic issues and perceived liberal overreach

Political History

- Member, West Miami City Commission
- Majority Leader, FL State House, 2002-2004
- Speaker, FL State House, 2006-2008
- Member, FL State House, 2000-2008
- Co-Chair, U.S. Joint Congressional-Executive Commission on China, 2016
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, 2016
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues, 2016

Approach and Motivations

Embraces conservative bootstraps mentality, Christian faith, and working-class background in pursuit of his political goals; sees a diverse, working-class base as the future of the GOP

- Initially a Democrat who drew inspiration from Sen. Ted Kennedy’s (D-MA) “the dream shall never die” speech in 1980, Rubio later switched to the Republican Party under President Reagan
- Devout Catholic whose faith informs his conservative social policy positions on issues such as abortion and LGBTQ rights
- Credits the sacrifice of his parents, who fled Cuba to work grueling hotel jobs in the US, for ultimately providing opportunities for Rubio and his sisters

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John Rutherford

Representative for Florida's 5th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: RUH-thur-furd

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: September 2, 1952

Birthplace: Omaha, NE

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BS, Criminology, Florida State University, 1974
- AA, Police Administration, Florida Junior College, 1972

Family:

2 children ; 6 grandchildren

Work History:

- Representative for Florida, 2016-Present
 - 5th District, 2023-Present
 - 4th District, 2016-2023
- Sheriff of Jacksonville, 2003-2015
- Jacksonville Police Department, 1974-2003
 - Director of Corrections, 1995-2003
 - Patrolman, 1974-1995

Committees:

- House Appropriations
 - Homeland Security
 - Military Construction, Veterans Affairs & Related Agencies
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies

- House Ethics

Quick Summary

A career law enforcement official and former sheriff of Jacksonville, Rutherford focuses on veterans affairs and public safety in Congress

- A longtime resident of Jacksonville, Florida, Rutherford received an AA in police administration and a BA in criminology and graduated from the FBI National Academy and the National Executive Institute
- Began his career in law enforcement as a patrolman in the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, where he worked his way up to director of corrections before being elected sheriff of Duval County
- As sheriff, he spent 12 years instituting community based policing initiatives and pushing to reduce recidivism rates by facilitating treatment of formerly incarcerated people suffering from mental illness; during his tenure homicide and violent crime in Duval County dropped to a 40 year low
- Well known locally for his time as sheriff, Rutherford easily won election to the House in 2016; ran on a platform focused on supporting veterans and public safety that highlighted his law enforcement career
- On the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Rutherford prioritizes improving veterans' access to quality medical care and providing transition assistance; sponsored the Veterans Affairs Physician Recruitment Act of 2017, which recruited medical students to work at VA hospitals
- Authored the STOP School Violence Act, which would provide resources to schools and local law enforcement to identify potential threats, creating anonymous phone and online reporting systems and increasing school security personnel and technology, such as panic buttons



John Rutherford

Representative for Florida's 5th District (R)



- Despite support for bills to address dangers of gun violence, Rutherford states a commitment to protect Second Amendment rights and has received significant contributions from the NRA
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Approach and Motivations

Policy informed by career in law enforcement and shaped by his district's priorities; Rutherford is known as an ally to GOP leadership

- Dedicated to protecting and increasing the efficacy of law enforcement, Rutherford has sponsored legislation that would punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers and provide federal information on terrorists to local law enforcement; has communicated skepticism of shortening prison sentences for nonviolent drug offenses
- Policy informed by his time as chair of the Legislative Committee for Florida's Sheriff's Association, where he advocated for policies that strengthened constitutional rights, supported law enforcement, and prioritized public safety
- Selected by Republican leaders to serve on the Appropriations Committee, Rutherford used his position to promote the interests of Jacksonville's large Navy bases, claiming credit for congressional approval to purchase three littoral combat ships from the Mayport shipbuilding yard in his district
- Highlighting his state's needs, Rutherford campaigned on protecting beaches, the ocean, and waterways from offshore drilling and on securing funding to rebuild communities in the wake of destructive hurricanes

Political History

- Sheriff, Jacksonville, FL, 2003-2015

Contact Information

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Rick Scott

Senator for Florida (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: skaht

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: December 1, 1952

Birthplace: Bloomington, IL

Hometown: Kansas City, MO

Religion: Christian Church

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Southern Methodist University Law, 1978
- BS, Business Administration, University of Missouri-Kansas City, 1975

Family:

2 children ; 6 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Florida, 2019-Present
- Governor of Florida, 2011-2019
- Founder, Solantic, 2001
- Founder, Richard L. Scott Investments, 1997
- CEO, Columbia/HCA, 1994-1997
- Founder, Columbia Hospital Corporation, 1988-1994
- Attorney/Partner, Johnson & Swanson, 1978-1988
- US Navy, 1971-1974

Electoral Overview:

• First elected to Senate in 2018, narrowly defeating incumbent Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) by margin of 50.06-49.93% - a margin of 10,033 votes of the 8,190,005 cast

Committees:

- Senate Armed Services
 - Personnel (Ranking Member)
 - Seapower
 - Airland
- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs
 - Investigations
 - Emerging Threats & Spending Oversight
- Senate Aging
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Self-made hospital executive who upended the Florida political establishment by winning the governorship in 2010; as chair of the NRSC, Scott is promoting an agenda he believes will propel Republicans into the Senate majority

- Originally from Kansas City, Missouri, from a working class background; after serving in the Navy, Scott financed his undergraduate education by buying doughnut shops for his mom to run
- After earning his law degree, he became a practicing attorney at a large firm, where he specialized in health care mergers and acquisitions
- Launched Columbia Hospital Corporation with billionaire Richard Rainwater in 1988, later merging Columbia with the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) into Columbia/HCA; resigned in 1997 after Columbia/HCA faced federal fraud charges
- Entered politics in 2009, during the national health care debate surrounding the Affordable



Rick Scott Senator for Florida (R)



Care Act (ACA); spent \$5 million on ads against Democrats' health insurance reform proposals, and launched his Florida gubernatorial bid a month after the ACA was enacted in 2010

- Leveraged outsider status and momentum from the Tea Party movement to win the governor's race by a close margin of 1.1%; as governor, he expanded school voucher programs, coordinated disaster relief efforts for Hurricane Irma, and enacted a controversial law requiring individuals receiving government assistance to be tested for drugs
- Successfully ran against incumbent Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) in 2018; ran on a platform that touted Scott's accomplishments as governor and accused Nelson of being a socialist
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election
- As chair of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, Scott released an 11-point plan to regain a Republican majority in March 2022 that included promoting family values, strengthening border security, and shrinking the federal government

assets, and an alternative to the Affordable Care Act

- Positions himself as an outsider who speaks honestly to voters about issues like the national debt, in contrast to other members of Congress; released his 11-point plan, which he characterized as common sense reforms to "save our nation," over the objections of Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

Political History

- Chair, National Republican Senatorial Committee, 2021-Present
- US Senator for Florida, 2019-Present
- Governor, State of Florida, 2011-2019
-

Contact Information

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Approach and Motivations

Believes his personal success story represents the American Dream; combines free market ideology with an outsider, anti-Washington appeal

- Family's financial struggles motivated him to pursue career in business; believes he achieved the American Dream and intends to help others do the same through private-sector job creation
- Leverages his health care business background to push for free enterprise principles such as limiting spending on federal programs, selling non-essential government



Greg Steube

Representative for Florida's 17th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: STOO-bee

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 19, 1978

Birthplace: Bradenton, FL

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of Florida, 2003
- BS, Beef Cattle Science, University of Florida, 2000

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Representative for Florida's 17th District, 2019-Present
- Florida Senator for the 23rd District, 2016-2018
- Attorney, Becker & Poliakoff, 2011-2017
- Florida Representative for the 73rd District, 2010-2016
- US Army JAG Corps, 2004-2008

Committees:

- House Ways & Means
 - Oversight
 - Social Security
 - Trade
- House Judiciary (Membership in Subcommittees Only)

- Select Weaponization of the Federal Government

Quick Summary

South Florida native and US Army veteran is committed to pursuing Second Amendment rights, benefits for veterans, and support for the Trump administration in Congress

- Born and raised in South Florida as a fifth-generation Floridian; his father served as Sheriff of rural Manatee County
- After receiving his law degree, Steube joined the Army's JAG Corps and served for four years, during which he was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Strong supporter of the Second Amendment; in the state House, supported several controversial gun bills, including allowing concealed weapons on college campuses as well as armed security guards in K-12 schools; such legislation has earned him the support of the NRA
- Passed state House legislation that established the state's Division of Public-Private Partnerships to better facilitate local infrastructure development
- Ardent supporter of the Trump administration, and notably gained public attention in Congress for being one of the select Republican freshmen to speak against the impeachment inquiry of President Trump on the House floor
- A veteran and advocate for veterans' support, Steube has introduced several pieces of legislation aimed at improving veterans' health care, such as expanding TRICARE Select to veterans with service-related disabilities and allowing the VA to automate collection of health insurance claims
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election



Greg Steube

Representative for Florida's 17th District (R)



Approach and Motivations

Principled legislator who considers himself an ally to President Trump in Congress; remains committed to his conservative views through his independent legislative approach

- Sought to serve the country by enlisting in the Army following 9/11
- Has made his support for the Trump administration and deference to the president, even if he disagrees, part of his legislative approach; a notable example would be voting against the February 2019 funding bill, ultimately signed by Trump himself, as he felt it did not properly secure funding for the wall along the Southern border
- Campaigned on his narrative as an independent thinker, and maintained this position during his two years in Congress; for instance, despite his strong support of the Trump administration, he declined to join the Freedom Caucus immediately to avoid being “pigeonholed”
- Christian faith influences his value of life and shapes his pro-life policy platform; it also pushed Steube to author legislation allowing religious insignia on military identification tags, citing the importance of his faith to him while serving in the Army

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GEORGIA



Hank Johnson

Representative for Georgia's 4th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: JAHN-suhn

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: October 2, 1954

Birthplace: Washington, DC

Religion: Buddhism

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University, 1976-1979
- BS, Political Science and Government, Clark Atlanta University, 1972-1976

Family:

- 2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Georgia's 4th District, 2007-Present
- Commissioner, DeKalb County Commission, 2001-2006
- Special Master, Georgia Supreme Court
- Attorney and Partner of Criminal and Civil Litigation, Johnson and Johnson Law Group, LLC, 1980-2007
- Associate Judge, Magistrate Court, DeKalb County, 1989-2001

Committees:

- House Judiciary
 - Administrative State, Regulatory Reform & Antitrust

- Courts, Intellectual Property & Internet (Ranking Member)
- Constitution & Limited Government
- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Aviation
 - Railroads, Pipelines & Hazardous Materials
 - Highways & Transit

Quick Summary

Longtime criminal defense attorney and judge turned policymaker, Johnson has spent over a decade in Congress focused on civil rights, consumer protection, and budgetary policy

- Spent over four decades working in the Georgia legal system, first as a criminal defense attorney, then as a DeKalb county magistrate judge, before serving as county commissioner
- Elected to Congress in 2006, often easily winning reelection in his majority Democratic district
- As the chair of the House Judiciary Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet Subcommittee, Johnson introduced several bills to improve data privacy, allow consumers to opt-out of data collection, and protect them from identity theft; passed the FAIR Act in the House to stop forced arbitration for consumers, antitrust, and civil rights issues
- A strong proponent of balancing the federal budget and decreasing the deficit, he voted to reestablish the PAYGO system, requiring lawmakers to offset new spending or tax decreases
- On the House Armed Services Committee, advocated for the demilitarization of local law enforcement agencies in 2014, in the aftermath of Michael Brown's fatal police shooting and the Ferguson Missouri protests; introduced legislation to prevent Defense department transfers of military equipment to local law



Hank Johnson

Representative for Georgia's 4th District (D)



enforcement agencies and co-sponsored the 2020 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act

- Diagnosed with Hepatitis C in 1998, which has resulted in his at times slow speech and tendency to become “lost in thought”; completed an experimental treatment in 2010 that helped restore his mental acuteness

Approach and Motivations

Outspoken representative whose policymaking style is influenced by his Buddhist faith and diverse district

- As one of three Buddhists in Congress, Johnson practices the religion’s fundamental principle of the “middle way,” which promotes avoiding extreme positions and living a practical life
- With a blunt, occasionally comedic, approach to communicating, he has received pushback for several comments, including a 2010 comment during a House Armed Services Committee hearing concerning Guam where he said, “my fear is that the whole island will become so overly populated that it will top over and capsize”
- As the representative of a racially and economically-diverse district, he views politics as a common thread that connects people of varying backgrounds and allows citizens to work out their differences; introduced the Restoring Statutory Rights Act with Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI13) to prevent forced arbitration in employment, consumer, and other contract disputes

Contact Information

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Jon Ossoff
 Senator for Georgia (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: oss-OFF

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: February 16, 1987

Birthplace: Atlanta, GA

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MS, London School of Economics, 2013
- BS, Culture and Politics, Georgetown University, 2009

Family:

- Wife, Dr. Alisha Kramer, an Atlanta-based OB-GYN

Work History:

- Senator for Georgia (D), 2021-Present
- CEO, Insight TWI, 2013-Present
- Staff, Office of Representative Hank Johnson (D-GA4), 2007-2012
 - National Security Aide
- Hank Johnson for Congress, 2006
 - Deputy Communications Chief
 - Volunteer
- Intern, Office of Representative John Lewis

Committees:

- Senate Judiciary
 - Human Rights & the Law (Chairman)
 - Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

- Constitution
- Privacy, Technology & the Law
- Criminal Justice & Counterterrorism
- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs
 - Emerging Threats & Spending Oversight
 - Investigations
- Senate Rules & Administration
- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Former investigative journalist and effective fundraiser whose political career has centered around underdog campaigns in the once-red-leaning Georgia; liberal platform is focused on benefits for Georgia workers through health care and infrastructure

- Born and raised in Atlantia, Ossoff began his career in politics as an intern in the office of late Rep. John Lewis (D-GA5), whom he considered a mentor and “spiritual guide”
- Worked on Rep. Hank Johnson’s (D-GA4) first campaign and then joined his congressional office, rising to the role of senior legislative assistant; handled issues related to foreign policy, national security, and the economy
- Most recently served as CEO of investigative journalism outlet Insight TWI, where he produced documentaries for the BBC on topics such as ISIS, human trafficking, and corruption in African soccer
- First ran for office in 2017, when he lost a competitive special election against Fmr. Rep. Karen Handel (R-GA6) in a traditionally red, suburban Atlanta district despite a large advantage in fundraising; Ossoff’s campaign raised \$29 million compared to \$7 million for Handel
- Easily won the 2020 Democratic primary to challenge Fmr. Sen. David Perdue (R-GA) and



Jon Ossoff Senator for Georgia (D)



went on to win the general runoff election in a race that drew significant national attention and spending to Georgia as it created a narrow Democratic majority in the US Senate

- Has not yet published or spoken extensively on his detailed policy proposals but general priorities include investment in infrastructure, equitable COVID-19 relief, improved access to health care through the introduction of a public option and Medicaid expansion, efforts to combat climate change, and government accountability

- Elevated health care and emphasized his personal connection to the issue through his wife, an OB-GYN; highlighted Perdue’s votes against the ACA despite his claim to want to protect pre-existing conditions, and also stated that he would protect the “right” of Georgians to purchase private insurance

Approach and Motivations

Shaped by his friendship with late Rep. John Lewis and experience as a journalist, Ossoff’s campaign message revolved around fighting special interests; pragmatically positions himself towards the more moderate end of the Democratic ideological spectrum

- Read Rep. John Lewis’ book "Walking With The Wind" as a teenager, which compelled him to write Lewis a letter at age 16, and the two became friends; deeply influenced by Lewis’ life, activism, and friendship, and wants to carry out his legacy of fighting “oppression, poverty, and violence”
- An investigative journalist whose past work focused on corruption, Ossoff has pledged to fight corporate spending in the political system, which he has labeled corrupt and blamed for high health insurance and drug costs; declined to accept corporate PAC money for his campaigns, while associating his opponent with wealthy special interest groups
- Viewed as a more “moderate” member of the Democratic Party, expressing opposition to “wasteful spending” and progressive proposals like the Green New Deal and Medicare for All while remaining pro-choice, committed to combatting climate change, and a defender of Medicare

Contact Information

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(202) 224-3521

Contact: <http://www.ossoff.senate.gov/contact-us/message>



Raphael Warnock

Senator for Georgia (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: WAR-nahk

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: July 23, 1969

Birthplace: Savannah, GA

Hometown: Savannah, GA

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Divorced

Education Summary:

- PhD, Union Theological Seminary, 2006
- MPhil, Union Theological Seminary, 1994
- BA, Psychology, Morehouse College, 1991

Family:

- 2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Georgia (D), 2021-Present
- Senior Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, 2005-Present
- Senior Pastor, Douglas Memorial Community Church, 2001-2005
- Youth Pastor and Assistant Pastor, Abyssinian Baptist Church, 1991-2001
- Intern, Sixth Avenue Baptist Church, 1990-1991

Committees:

- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection (Chairman)

- Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Securities, Insurance & Investment
- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change & Manufacturing
 - Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations
 - Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Conservation, Climate, Forestry & Natural Resources
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
- Senate Aging

Quick Summary

The leader of a historic Atlanta church, Warnock is a progressive advocate for health care access, voting rights, and criminal justice reform; defeated a Republican incumbent to become the first Black senator to represent Georgia

- Grew up in Savannah public housing as one of 12 children, the son of a small business owner and preacher; attended Morehouse College in Atlanta with the help of Pell Grants and low-interest student loans before obtaining a master’s degree and PhD from Union Theological Seminary in New York City
- As the Senior Pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, the position held by Martin Luther King Jr. from 1960 to 1968, Warnock has an elevated stature as a civil rights and religious leader; gave the sermon at the 2016 White House Prayer Breakfast at the invitation of President Obama, and has condemned the “virus of racism” in his speeches and sermons



Raphael Warnock

Senator for Georgia (D)



- After a long history of political activism and rumors of a 2015 run for former Sen. Johnny Isakson's (R-GA) seat, Warnock became a favorite to run for the seat in 2020; after announcing his campaign, he received endorsements from top state and national Democratic figures, including Stacey Abrams, now-Sen. Jon Ossoff (D-GA), Vice President Kamala Harris, Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY), and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
- Supports investments in broadband for underserved urban and rural areas, education from pre-K to workforce training, and infrastructure to make the state more resilient to climate change while transitioning to a greener economy; strongly advocates for health care reforms to protect underserved communities
- Won Isakson's seat in the 2020 election, defeating incumbent Sen. Kelly Loeffler (R-GA) in both the general election and the runoff; Warnock defended his Senate seat in a December 2022 runoff against Hershel Walker (R)
- Possesses strong empathy for struggling Georgians; Warnock has described himself as a "kid from the projects," and was motivated to run for office based on his belief that struggling families face tougher circumstances today than his own family did
- With his counterpart Jon Ossoff, Warnock's campaign emphasized health care and opposing special interests that he blamed for seeking to deny poorer Americans insurance coverage; like Ossoff, he refused to take corporate PAC money for his campaign

Contact Information

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Approach and Motivations

Shaped by his faith and personal experience with poverty, Warnock has emphasized improving services for disadvantaged communities and limiting the role of special interests in the political system

- Feels called to service through his faith; as the Pastor of "America's freedom church," Warnock has used his historically significant position to advocate for a more equitable society and believes this background prepared him to be a senator
- Focused on fighting the "virus of racism" in US society, Warnock's policy proposals intend to boost Georgia's historically disadvantaged communities, from infrastructure investment in low-income communities, to Medicaid expansion, to improving broadband access



Nikema Natassha Williams

Representative for Georgia's 5th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: WILL-yuhmz

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: July 30, 1978

Birthplace: Columbus, GA

Hometown: Smiths Station, AL

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Yale University's Women's Campaign School, 2009
- BA, Talladega College, 2000

Family:

One child

Work History:

- Representative for Georgia's 5th District (D), 2021-Present
- State Senator for Georgia's 39th District (D), 2017-2021
- State Director, National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA), 2018-2021
- Vice-President of Public Policy, Planned Parenthood Southeast, 2007-2018
- Public Policy Manager, Planned Parenthood of Georgia, 2008-2010
- Chair, Democratic Party of Georgia, 2007-2009
- Political Director, Young Democrats of Georgia, 2008
- Campaign Manager, TJ Copeland, 2004-2006

Committees:

- House Financial Services
 - Oversight & Investigations
 - Housing & Insurance

Quick Summary

Trailblazing Georgia Democratic Party leader with deep roots in activism, Williams used her position on the state legislature to advocate for women's rights, voting rights reform, and improved health care access and continues that work in Congress

- Raised by her grandparents in Smiths Station, Alabama; she remained in the state while attending the historically Black Talladega College, where she joined the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority
- Began career in activism as the political director of Young Democrats of Georgia and later joined the southeast chapter of Planned Parenthood, where she rose to vice president of public policy, and promoted reproductive health care throughout Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi from 2007 to 2018
- Longtime Democratic party organizer who served as a super delegate for Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012, and for Hillary Clinton in 2016; Williams was the first Black woman Chair of the Democratic Party of Georgia and a member of the Executive and Resolution Committees of the Democratic National Committee, where she helped energize grassroots Democratic support and increase party representation in the state legislature
- Elected to the Georgia Senate in 2017 to represent the 39th District, she prioritized women's rights, health care, and education; sponsored legislation to provide Medicaid coverage to pregnant women for 12 months, eliminate the statute of limitations for rape, and improve access to higher education
- Staunch advocate of measures to improve voting rights access, including a proposed



Nikema Natassha Williams

Representative for Georgia's 5th District (D)



amendment to the Georgia Constitution restoring voting rights to formerly incarcerated felons

- Chosen to replace the late-Rep. John Lewis (D-GA5) as the Democratic nominee for his House seat upon his death and launched her campaign on the anniversary of the Voting Rights Act to honor the civil rights hero; elected by a margin of over 70%

suppression concerns, which are largely centered around a political and racial divide

Contact Information

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(202) 225-3801

Contact: <http://nikemawilliams.house.gov/meeting-request>

Approach and Motivations

Dedicated public servant following in the footsteps of civil rights leaders, Williams' activism and policy priorities focus on improving the lives of minority communities

- Credits her grandparents' efforts canvassing, educating voters, and volunteering as election poll workers with inspiring her passion for public service
- Fashions herself as "a student of the John Lewis school of politics" who has "practiced the art of getting into 'good trouble'"; was arrested along with 15 other lawmakers in the Georgia state capitol during a November 2018 protest over the results of the gubernatorial election
- Supports Medicare for All legislation, citing a 2017 car accident where she was without insurance and had to refuse ambulance transportation out of fear that she would be unable to pay for the cost
- Motivated to run for elected office to help create a better future for her community and provide opportunities for her young son; since taking office, has stated that her decision-making process is centered around helping the most marginalized members of the community she serves through support of voting rights and educational opportunities, including legislation to test lead contamination in early learning centers
- Campaign and policy priorities were largely shaped by the late- Rep. John Lewis' civil rights legacy and the district's voting

ILLINOIS



Mike Bost

Representative for Illinois's 12th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: bahst

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: December 30, 1960

Birthplace: Murphysboro, IL

Religion: Southern Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of Illinois Certified Firefighter II Academy

Family: 3 children ; 11 grandchildren

Work History:

- Representative for Illinois' 12th District, 2015-Present
- Co-Owner, White House Salon, 1993-Present
- State Representative for Illinois' 115th District, 1995-2015
- Certified Firefighter, Murphysboro Fire Department, 1993-2015
- Manager, Bost Trucking Service, 1979-1992

Committees:

- House Veterans' Affairs (Chairman)
- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Railroads, Pipelines & Hazardous Materials
 - Highways & Transit
 - Water Resources & Environment
- House Agriculture

Quick Summary

A small business owner and former firefighter, Bost has worked to protect veterans, promote agriculture, and secure transportation funding in Congress

- Enlisted in the US Marine Corps from 1979 to 1982 and later attended the University of Illinois Certified Firefighter II Academy to become a firefighter
- Ran his family's small trucking business for 10 years while beginning his political career, serving as a member of the Jackson County Board for four years; in 1989, he was elected treasurer of Murphysboro Township and opened a beauty shop with his wife called the White House Salon
- Elected to the state House in 1994 and served until 2005, where he mainly focused on the coal and agriculture sectors pertinent to his district; a leader in the Illinois House, Bost rose to the position of House Republican Caucus Chair
- Add when he started in Congress; Since serving in Congress, Bost has advocated for increasing local jobs and protecting domestic companies from unfair foreign pricing
- Serves as ranking member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and successfully enacted a bipartisan bill to reduce the processing time of veteran claims appeals; introduced a bill to expand access to VA suicide prevention coordinators
- With agriculture vital to his district's economy, Bost sat on the Agriculture Committee until 2021, working to expand rural broadband access and increase new farmers' credit; advanced legislative efforts to modernize small business standards for agriculture producers
- Active on transportation and infrastructure policies; integrated inland waterways provisions into the Water Resources Development Act to better secure ports,



Mike Bost

Representative for Illinois's 12th District (R)



- ensured grants for local airport expansion, and worked to fund surface transportation programs
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election
- Trustee, Murphysboro Township, IL, 1993-1995
- Treasurer, Murphysboro Township, IL, 1989-1992
- Committeeman, Republican Precinct No. 4, 1985-1989
- Member, Jackson County (IL) Board, 1984-1988

Approach and Motivations

Small business owner whose frustration with government regulation inspired his political runs; prioritizes agricultural and transportation needs

- Says he learned the value of honesty and hard work from his parents and grandparents, highlighting his challenging yet defining time working for the family trucking business
- Encouraged by his wife to run for local office; in response to his frustration with the local government she told him to “shut up or get involved,” leading him to successfully run for Jackson County Board as a write-in candidate and later for higher office
- Small business experience influences policy decision to reduce regulations, limit heavy taxes, and increase small businesses’ access to capital; priorities further shaped by his understanding of the district’s local economy, industries, and transportation needs

Political History

- Chairman, US House Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, 2018
- Minority Spokesperson, IL State House Committee on Public Utilities, 2014
- House Minority Caucus Chair, IL State House, 2014
- Republican Caucus Floor Leader, IL State House
- Minority Caucus Chair, IL State House
- Member (IL115 R), IL State House, 1995-2014

Contact Information

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Tammy Duckworth

Senator for Illinois (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: DUK-wurth

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: March 12, 1968

Birthplace: Bangkok, Thailand

Religion: Unspecified/Other

Ethnicity: Two or More Ethnicities

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- PhD, Human Services, Capella University, 2015
- MA, International Affairs, George Washington University, 1992
- BA, Political Science, University of Hawaii, 1989

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Illinois, 2017-Present
- Representative for Illinois' 8th district, 2013-2017
- Illinois Army National Guard, 1996-2014
- Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, United States Department of Veterans Affairs, 2009-2011
- Director, Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, 2006-2009
- United States Army Reserve, 1992-1996

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations (Chairman)
 - Tourism, Trade & Export Promotion
 - Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports
 - Consumer Protection, Product Safety & Data Security
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - Internat'l Dev Instit & Internat'l Econ, Energy & Environ Policy (Chairman)
 - East Asia, the Pacific & International Cybersecurity Policy
 - Europe & Regional Security Cooperation
- Senate Armed Services
 - Personnel
 - Cybersecurity
 - Readiness & Management Support
 - Airland
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship
- Joint Congressional-Executive Commission on China

Quick Summary

Purple Heart veteran and former Department of Veterans Affairs official who has a record of advancing veterans' interests, women's rights, and clean air and water in Congress

- Born in Thailand to a Thai mother and American father; lived in Thailand, Singapore, and Indonesia as a child due to her father's international career before relocating to Hawaii with her family at 16
- Served in the United States Army Reserve and Illinois National Guard, earning the rank of lieutenant colonel and becoming one of the



Tammy Duckworth

Senator for Illinois (D)



first women to fly combat missions in Iraq; lost her legs and partial use of her arm when her helicopter was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in 2004

- Before entering politics, worked as director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs and as assistant secretary of the federal Department of Veterans Affairs during the Obama administration; encouraged by Obama and Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) to run for Congress
- After losing her initial Congressional bid in 2006, Duckworth successfully ran for the US House in 2012, becoming the first Thai American elected to Congress
- Successfully challenged incumbent Sen. Mark Kirk (R-IL) in the 2016 Senate race; became first sitting senator to give birth while in office in 2018
- Calls for improved benefits for veterans, including mental health services and job training
- Pushes for accommodations for working mothers; spearheaded the rule change to allow children under one on the Senate floor
- Vocal on environmental policy, pushing for tighter Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards, cleanup of the Great Lakes, and investments in water infrastructure
- During the 2020 campaign, Joe Biden considered Duckworth as a running mate before ultimately selecting Kamala Harris
- Up for reelection in 2022, Duckworth is expected to win another term

to speak out for what she believes is right in “a nation born out of an act of protest”; believes that the founding values of the United States grants everyone the right to share their opinions about government, and that it is important to have a national dialogue about contentious issues such as history and racism

- After her severe injury, decided she wanted to enter politics; says that she learned to never leave anyone behind or put a service member in harm’s way without understanding the cost
- Believes her experiences as a mother have made her a better legislator, giving her insight on how the government can help families balance their work and home responsibilities

Political History

- Candidate (IL 06 D), U.S. House of Representatives, 2006
- Director, IL Department of Veterans Affairs, 2006-2009
- Assistant Secretary, Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2009-2011
- Member (IL08 D), U.S. House of Representatives, 2013-2017
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Transportation and Public Assets, 2015-2017

Contact Information

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Contact:

<http://www.duckworth.senate.gov/connect/email-tammy>

Approach and Motivations

Shaped by her life experiences, Duckworth combines a military mentality with the perspective of a working mom

- Personal and family history of military experience fuels her patriotism and her desire



Dick Durbin

Senator for Illinois (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: DUR-bin

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: November 21, 1944

Birthplace: East St. Louis, IL

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Georgetown University, 1969
- BS, Georgetown University, 1966

Family:

3 children (1 deceased); 3 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Illinois, 1997-Present
- Representative for Illinois' 20th District, 1983-1997
- Partner, Durbin & Lestikow, 1979-1982
- Legal Counsel, Illinois Senate Committee on the Judiciary, 1972-1982
- Associate Professor of Medical Humanities, Southern Illinois University, 1978
- Chief Legal Counsel, Office of Lt. Gov. Paul Simon, 1969-1972
- Parliamentarian, State of Illinois, 1969-1972

Committees:

- Senate Judiciary (Chairman)
- Senate Appropriations

- Financial Services & General Government
- Department of Defense
- State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
- Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
- DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
- Energy & Water Development
- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
 - Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Sys & Food Safety & Sec
 - Rural Development & Energy

Quick Summary

Longtime liberal Senator who uses his seniority and leadership positions to prioritize progressive social issues across a variety of topics

- An Illinois native, Durbin left the state to earn his bachelor's and law degrees at Georgetown University; entered politics as an intern for Sen. Paul Douglass (D-IL) while in college and later served as legal counsel for then-Lt. Gov. Paul Simon (D-IL), who would become his friend and mentor
- Began his nearly four decades in Congress by winning his 1982 bid for Illinois' 20th District; moved to the Senate in 1997 after successfully vying for the seat opened by the retirement of Sen. Simon
- One of the most senior Democrats in the Senate, Durbin has been Democratic whip since 2005 and became chair of the powerful Judiciary Committee in 2021
- Known on the Hill for his debating skills, stemming from his background as a trial lawyer prior to running for Congress
- Passionate about social justice, health care, and immigration, Durbin has played a key role in the passage of bipartisan criminal justice reform, and pushed for expansion of public



Dick Durbin Senator for Illinois (D)



- health care options; regularly introduces the DREAM Act to shield non-citizens brought to the US as children from deportation
- As Judiciary chair in the 117th Congress, Durbin is pushing for comprehensive immigration reform, a diverse federal bench, voting rights expansion, and electoral reform

- Democratic Whip and Assistant Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, 2005-2007
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on The Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights, 2013-2015
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Defense, 2013-CURR
- Senate Majority Whip; Assistant Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, 2007-2015

Approach and Motivations

Over four decades in Congress, Durbin has honed a bipartisan approach to achieve legislative wins; leverages position as Judiciary chair to diversify the federal judiciary

- Proud of his ability to collaborate across the aisle on landmark legislation, such as his negotiations with Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Trump advisor Jared Kushner to fine tune the specifics of a criminal justice overhaul that was implemented in 2018
- Uses the expansive reach of the Judiciary Committee to implement policy through not only traditional legislation, but also court and bureaucratic confirmations; plans on using his position as chair to increase diversity in the judicial system
- His mother's immigration and naturalization process has been a defining factor in his history of advocating for immigrants' rights; keeps his mother's naturalization certificate in his office as a reminder

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Phone:

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Contact: <http://www.durbin.senate.gov/contact/email>

Political History

- Worker, Re-election Campaign of Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D IL), 1966
- Candidate, IL State Senate, 1976
- Member (IL20 D), U.S. House of Representatives, 1983-1997
- Assistant Democratic Floor Leader, U.S. Senate, 1999-2005



Jonathan Jackson

Representative for Illinois' 1st District (D)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: January 7, 1966

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MBA, Business, Northwestern University, 1991
- BA, Business, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, 1988

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Illinois' 1st District, 2023-Present
- National Spokesperson, Rainbow PUSH Coalition, 2004-Date Unknown
- Professor of Business, Chicago State University, 2013-2015
- Professor, City Colleges of Chicago-Kennedy-King College, 2011-2013
- Investor, River North Sales & Service, 1998-2011
- Investment Banker, Drexel Burnham Lambert, 1988-1989

Committees:

- House Foreign Affairs
 - Africa
- House Agriculture
 - Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture & Horticulture

- Commodity Markets, Digital Assets & Rural Development

Quick Summary

Legacy civil rights leader and career advocate and investor running to fill a vacant, deep-blue seat in Illinois; campaign focused on achieving racial justice through economic programs and reducing gun violence

- Grew up working alongside his father, Rev. Jesse Jackson, on human rights missions; was present when Rev. Jackson negotiated prisoner releases in Syria and Cuba
- Began a career in finance in 1988, working for Drexel Burnham Lambert
- Served as the national spokesman for Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, a civil rights organization founded by his father; when he took the role in 2007, he began advocacy against practices of torture and false convictions by the Chicago Police Department and worked to fight school closures in Chicago
- Launched a campaign for Congress in 2022 to replace retiring incumbent Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL); won a crowded primary with 28% of the vote
- Congressional campaign centered on reducing gun violence and investing in a robust slate of social programs to tackle climate change, affordable housing, health care, and education issues; won Illinois's 1st District in the 2022 general election against Eric Carlson

Approach and Motivations

Civil rights background and global experience inform economic worldview; views job growth and accessible investments as pathways to social mobility and racial justice

- Through his advocacy and finance work, he has traveled across the world and met with



Jonathan Jackson

Representative for Illinois' 1st District (D)



world leaders like Hugo Chavez of Venezuela, Fidel Castro of Cuba, and Jean-Bertrand Aristide of Haiti; his experiences in the developing world drive his focus on economic development in the US, where he seeks to bolster social, health, and jobs programs to support low-income Americans

- Career and family history with civil rights inform his economic policies; supported economic programs that he considers conscious of racial justice, like the Green New Deal
- Financial industry background and personal economic rise through the private sector inform his approach to building the wealth of minorities, which centered on jobs and investments; specifically cited the tech industry as a pathway to social mobility, citing its rapid growth and emphasis on diversity

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INDIANA



Mike Braun

Senator for Indiana (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: brawn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: March 24, 1954

Birthplace: Jasper, IN

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MBA, Harvard University, 1978
- BA, Wabash College, 1976

Family:

4 children

Work History:

- Senator for Indiana, 2019-Present
- Owner, Meyer Distributing, 1995-Present
- State Representative for Indiana's 63rd District, 2014-2017
- Co-owner, Meyer Distributing, 1986-1995
- Founder, Meyer Body Company, 1981
- Co-founder, Crystal Farms, Inc., 1979

Committees:

- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Employment & Workplace Safety (Ranking Member)
 - Primary Health & Retirement Security
- Senate Aging (Ranking Member)
- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry

- Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research (Ranking Member)
- Rural Development & Energy
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Businessman and avid conservationist who brings private sector approach to government reform; experience in logistics and timber directly informs his infrastructure and conservation priorities in Senate

- Grew up in Jasper, Indiana, inspired by father's military service and hard-working business acumen
- Entrepreneurial roots began with Harvard MBA, and started his early career in a poultry business before joining his father's truck body manufacturing business; eventually expanded his father's business and acquired truck parts manufacturer Meyer Body Company
- As co-founder and CEO of Meyer Distributing and owner of Meyer Logistics, Braun not only generated significant wealth, but also grew the company into a nationwide third-party logistics business employing 900 people
- Served ten years on his local school board before being elected to Indiana House, where he prioritized infrastructure and conservation
- Ran for Senate in the 2018 election cycle, highlighting his business background and status as a political outsider; unseated Democratic incumbent Joe Donnelly (D-IN), who had only served for one term
- Since being elected to the Senate in 2018, Braun has continued focus on infrastructure, conservation efforts, and combating climate change; despite his support for infrastructure improvements, he opposed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, citing concerns about the debt



Mike Braun
Senator for Indiana (R)



Approach and Motivations

Interested in status quo disruption, Braun aims to shift his party's stance on issues like climate change; mixes independence on some issues with an overall conservative record

- Holds fundamental belief that disrupting the status quo is vital to success; serves as common theme from private sector through political career
- While he generally votes with GOP, believes that practical solutions matter and has broken with more conservative members on notable occasions, including raising the gas tax in Indiana and wanting to reform the ACA rather than repeal it in the Senate
- Advocate for not only working to combat climate change, but also for steering the Republican party to a more pro-environment platform as a means to attract and retain younger voters; launched the bipartisan Senate Climate Solutions Caucus in 2019 with Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) and publicly acknowledges that climate change is an imminent threat
- Emerged as a strong ally of former President Trump, vocally backing his economic policies and defending him during his first impeachment, and is generally ranked among the most conservative members of the Senate

Political History

- Member (IN063 R), IN State House, 2014-2017
- Board Member, Greater Jasper Consolidated School Board, 2004-14

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Rudy Yakym

Representative for Indiana's 2nd District (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Hometown: Granger, IN

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MBA, University of Notre Dame, 2019
- BS, Finance and Business Administration, Indiana University South Bend, 2011
- Associates Degree, Business, Indiana University South Bend, 2009

Family: Married; 3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Indiana's 2nd District, 2023-Present
- Director of Growth Initiatives, Kem Krest, 2019-2022
- Vice President, Bradley Company, 2013-2019
- Finance Director, Walorski for Congress, 2011-2012
- Commercial Sales Manager, Omnicity, 2010-2011
- Vice President, Cyberlink International

Committees:

- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Aviation (Vice Chairman)
 - Railroads, Pipelines & Hazardous Materials
 - Highways & Transit
- House Budget

Quick Summary

Entrepreneur and first-time candidate who replaced the late Rep. Walorski (R-IN), Yakym III is a well-known Indiana political activist and state GOP fundraiser

- Worked for his family's company Cyberlink International, an internet service provider, out of high school
- A long-time contributor to the South Bend Tribune's Voice of the People letter page, Yakym III often advocated for the GOP with submissions ranging from notes on local corruption investigations in 2006 to an endorsement of Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination in 2018
- Backed right-to-work laws in Indiana in 2012, joining a coalition of business leaders to promote the view that union power hinders economic growth; served as finance director for Rep. Jackie Walorski's (R-IN) 2012 campaign, which was the first time she was elected to Congress
- In 2015, Yakym III was appointed to the Judicial Nominating Commission in Indiana by then-Gov. Mike Pence (R-IN)
- Selected as part of Jeb Bush's Hispanic Leadership Committee in 2016, which sought to engage with Hispanic voters in the 2016 GOP presidential primary; later served as a delegate in the 2016 nominating convention
- Served on Gov. Eric Holcomb's (R-IN) transition team in 2017 and was appointed by Holcomb to the Indiana Finance Authority in 2020
- In 2020, Yakym III also worked as the Director of Growth Initiatives at Kem Krest, an automotive distribution company, where he led their initiative to retool equipment to produce hand sanitizer and ventilator parts at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic
- In 2022, Yakym was nominated by a Republican convention for Indiana's 2nd



Rudy Yakym

Representative for Indiana's 2nd District (R)



House seat after Rep. Walorski (R-IN) passed away in a car crash

- Though he has limited public engagement and discussions on policy, his 2022 campaign content showcased “Hoosier values,” inflation, and support for Israel
- Won the election for Indiana's 2nd District in November 2022 against Paul Steury

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Todd Young

Senator for Indiana (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: yung

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: August 24, 1972

Religion: Christian Church

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Indiana University, 2006
- MA, American Politics, University of London, 2001
- MBA, University of Chicago, 2000
- BS, Political Science, United States Naval Academy, 1995

Family: 4 children

Work History:

- Senator for Indiana, 2017-Present
- Representative for Indiana's 9th District, 2011-2017
- Pro Bono Mediator, Indiana Civil Rights Commission
- Deputy Prosecutor for Orange County, 2007-2010
- Attorney, Tucker & Tucker, PC, 2006-2010
- Management Consultant, Crowe Chizek & Company, 2004-2006
- Adjunct Professor of Public Affairs, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University, 2003
- Legislative Assistant, Office of US Sen. Richard Lugar, 2001-2003

- Advisor, Heritage Foundation, 2001
- Intelligence Officer, United States Marine Corps, 1996-2000

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports (Ranking Member)
 - Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations
 - Consumer Protection, Product Safety & Data Security
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - Near East, South Asia, Central Asia & Counterterrorism (Ranking Member)
 - Africa & Global Health Policy
 - West Hem Crime Civ Sec Dem Rights & Women's Issues
- Senate Finance
 - Social Security, Pensions & Family Policy
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
 - Health Care
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Quick Summary

A former marine who capitalized off Tea Party momentum in 2010, Young has since earned a reputation as a Republican able to broker bipartisan partnerships

- Born in Pennsylvania to a family with five generations of Indiana ties, Young moved to Indiana with his family as a teenager; enlisted in the Navy after high school and attended the US Naval Academy
- After graduation, he served in the Marine Corps as an intelligence officer, working with reconnaissance drones; earned his MBA by



Todd Young

Senator for Indiana (R)



taking classes at night while serving in the Marines

- Left the military in 2000 and entered politics by moving to Washington, DC to work as an advisor at conservative think tank the Heritage Foundation and later as a staffer to Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN); returned to Indiana to volunteer on Mitch Daniels's successful 2004 gubernatorial campaign
- During the rise of Tea Party Republicans, Young unseated incumbent Rep. Baron Hill (D-IN9) in the 2010 election; in the House, and later in the Senate, Young has pushed for congressional oversight of federal agency regulations, such as the Regulations from Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act
- In 2016, Young announced his bid for Senate after Sen. Dan Coats (R-IN) declared his retirement; campaigned against fmr. Sen. Evan Bayh (D-IN), and criticized Bayh for his post-Senate lobbying career and allegedly distant Indiana ties
- Since joining the Senate, Young has maintained his fiscally conservative goals, and continues to pursue policies that would lower government spending; also focuses on foreign policy and economic opportunity initiatives
- Has formed a close relationship with Senate GOP leadership; was appointed by Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) to chair the National Republican Senatorial Committee in 2019 for the 2020 election cycle

- Notably similar approach to the late Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN), whose three decades in the Senate was known for pragmatism and frequent bipartisan compromise; Young worked for Lugar early on in his career, and considers him a mentor
- A self-described “independently minded, center-right conservative Republican,” Young is unafraid to break from party norms; for instance, Young supported a debt ceiling compromise in 2011 and a resolution calling for the withdrawal of US support for Saudi-led forces in Yemen in 2018

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Approach and Motivations

His military background shapes his foreign policy views; maintains a results-oriented, bipartisan approach to policy negotiations

- Cites serving in the Marine Corps as a transformative experience, particularly for his foreign policy views and decision-making on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

KANSAS



Sharice Davids

Representative for Kansas's 3rd District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: DAY-vidz

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: May 22, 1980

Birthplace: Frankfurt, Germany

Religion: Unspecified/Other

Ethnicity: Native American

Marital Status: Single

Education Summary:

- JD, Cornell University, 2010
- BA, University of Missouri- Kansas City, 2007
- AA, Johnson County Community College, 2003

Work History:

- Representative for Kansas's 3rd District, 2019-Present
- Co-Founder, Host, Starty Pants, 2017-Present
- Fellow, White House Fellowship Program, Department of Transportation, 2016-17
- Deputy Director, Thunder Valley Community Corporation, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, 2014-16
- Member, Twelve Clans Incorporated Board of Directors, 2015-16
- Of Counsel, Ceiba Legal, Limited Liability Partnership, 2012-14
- Owner, Hoka! Coffee Company, 2013-2013
- Director of Economic Development, Red Cloud Indian School, 2012-13
- Associate, Corporate and Indian Law and Tribal Representation Practice Groups, SNR Denton, 2010-12

- Summer Associate, Sonnenschien Nath and Rosenthal Limited Liability Partnership, 2009
- Teaching Assistant, American Indian Law Center, 2008
- Executive Meetings Coordinator, Downtown Kansas City Marriott, 2006-2007

Committees:

- House Agriculture
 - Conservation, Research & Biotechnology
 - General Farm Commodities, Risk Management & Credit
- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Economic Dev't, Public Buildings & Emergency Management
 - Aviation
- House Small Business
 - Economic Growth, Tax & Capital Access

Quick Summary

Transportation wonk and lesbian mixed martial artist with an economic development background in Native American communities

- After graduating from Cornell Law, Davids worked at an international law firm and later for two economic development groups on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, where she worked with Lakota and Oglala Sioux leaders on entrepreneurship
- Davids herself is a member of the Ho-Chunk Tribe, native to the midwest
- In the 2000s and 2010s, Davids fought in the octagon as a professional mixed martial artist, before entering a White House fellowship under the Department of Transportation; collaborated on the department's transition team
- Defeated four-term Republican incumbent in 2018, boosted by both national and statewide



Sharice Davids

Representative for Kansas's 3rd District (D)



Democratic boon to hold a conservative district; in efforts to appeal to moderates, Davids has worked to lower prescription drug costs and boost female and veteran-owned small businesses

Approach and Motivations

Legislates with reserved, collaborative style; unique background and transportation expertise inform policy and connections

- In contrast to her MMA experience, Davids is a relatively reserved member of the House, relying on collaboration and policy expertise when legislating
- Applies experience as a White House Transportation Fellow on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; as vice chair of the Aviation Subcommittee, Davids has led hearings on the Boeing 737 Max Crashes
- Experience with economic development on Native American reservations informs both her support for small businesses and collaboration on Native American issues
- Has connected with Transportation and Infrastructure Chair and former wrestler Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR04) on common interest in transportation policy and athletic background
- Works closely with policymakers of common backgrounds through leadership on the Congressional LGBT and Native American caucuses; particularly close with Rep. Deb Haaland (D-NM1), as the two are the first ever Native American women elected to congress

Political History

- Fellow, White House Fellowship Program, 2016-2017

Contact Information

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Roger Marshall

Senator for Kansas (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: MAR-shull

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: August 9, 1960

Birthplace: El Dorado, KS

Religion: Christian Church

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MD, University of Kansas, 1987
- BA, Kansas State University, 1982
- AS, Butler Community College, 1980

Family:

- 4 children; 3 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Kansas (R), 2021-Present
- Representative for Kansas' 1st District (R), 2017-2021
- President, Quivira Ranch, 2000-2021
- Obstetrician/Gynecologist, Great Bend Regional Hospital, Dates Unknown
- Captain, United States Army Reserves, 1984-1991
- Resident, Bayfront Medical Center, Dates Unknown

Committees:

- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Conservation, Climate, Forestry & Natural Resources (Ranking Member)

- Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Sys & Food Safety & Sec
- Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Primary Health & Retirement Security (Ranking Member)
 - Employment & Workplace Safety
- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs
 - Investigations
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

A physician-turned-politician, Marshall advocates for health care reform and agricultural policy that supports farmers and his predominantly rural state

- Fifth-generation farmer born in El Dorado, Kansas; worked on his family's farm while growing up and became the first in his family to attend college
- After earning his MD, he practiced medicine in Great Bend, KS for more than 25 years as an obstetrician-gynecologist where he delivered more than 5,000 babies and was chair of the board of physician-owned Great Bend Regional Hospital
- Served for seven years with the Army Reserve, where he achieved the rank of captain and trained a mobile hospital support unit
- Elected to the US House in 2016 with strong endorsements from the agricultural community, Marshall largely focused on agriculture and health care policy, advocating for federal support for farmers, favorable trade terms, and the repeal of the ACA
- Launched a successful bid for the US Senate in 2019, defeating former Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach (R) in the GOP primary,



Roger Marshall

Senator for Kansas (R)



where Marshall was widely viewed as the more moderate candidate; won the 2020 Senate race against State Rep. Barbara Bollier (D) with a platform that aligned with President Trump's agenda

- Voted to object to the January 6, 2021 certification of Electoral College results from Pennsylvania and Arizona

Approach and Motivations

Committed conservative leader who draws on his medical background, long-standing connection to the state agriculture sector, and strong involvement with local religious organizations

- Frequently cites his dual experience as a physician and business owner; helping run a physician-owned hospital in Great Bend, Marshall says firsthand experience signing paychecks, treating patients, and witnessing the “negative consequences of government-controlled health care systems” motivated him to run for office
- Representing an agriculture-dependent constituency and having grown up on a family farm, Marshall’s focus on agriculture issues is pragmatic and personal; willing to break with the GOP on policies he views as at odds with agricultural interests, including President Trump’s tariffs
- Active involvement with his religious and local community helps him better understand the concerns of constituents; Marshall and his wife taught Sunday school for over 25 years, and he has served as an elder, deacon and board chairman of his church

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Jerry Moran

Senator for Kansas (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: mor-AN

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 29, 1954

Birthplace: Great Bend, KS

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of Kansas, 1981
- BS, Economics, University of Kansas, 1976

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Kansas, 2011-Present
- Representative for Kansas' 1st District, 1997-2011
- State Senator for Kansas' 37th District, 1989-1996
- Deputy Attorney, Rooks County, 1987-1995
- Special Assistant Attorney General, Kansas, 1982-1985
- Practicing Attorney, 1981-1996

Committees:

- Senate Veterans' Affairs (Ranking Member)
- Senate Appropriations
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies (Ranking Member)

- DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
- Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies
- State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
- Department of Defense
- Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations (Ranking Member)
 - Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change & Manufacturing
 - Consumer Protection, Product Safety & Data Security
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Product of rural Kansas who presents himself as an independent-minded conservative; champions the agricultural economy, rural health, and entrepreneurship

- Born the son of an oil-field worker in the western plains of Kansas
- Began his career as an attorney and rose through the ranks of Kansas politics; served as the state special assistant attorney general, held the position of deputy attorney for Rooks County, and served in the state Senate for eight years
- Won his initial election to the House of Representatives in 1996 and was reelected six times; easily won the race for Senate in 2010 with 70% of the vote in the general election
- Works to eliminate barriers to growth in the agricultural economy, such as trade restrictions and regulations for livestock truckers
- Prioritizes health care reform in order to strengthen coverage in rural communities,



Jerry Moran

Senator for Kansas (R)



working closely with state health providers to identify what Kansans need; supports Affordable Care Act (ACA) repeal, but rejected the GOP's 2017 Better Care Reconciliation Act based on his desire for an "open legislative process"

- Leverages his leadership position on the Veterans Affairs Committee to push for provisions that enhance health care and economic opportunity for veterans, including agricultural training and mental health services
- Chaired the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC) from 2013 to 2014, when Republican's secured their first majority since 2006
- Vocal on initiatives to foster entrepreneurship and innovation, including his signature Startup Act

- Majority Leader, KS State Senate, 1995-1997
- Member, U.S. House of Representatives, 1997-2011
- National Republican Senatorial Committee Chairman, U.S. Senate, 2014
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, 2016
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance and Data Security, 2016

Approach and Motivations

Vocally prioritizes constituency over party; values independence from the GOP leadership, despite his previous success leading the NRSC

- Says he will represent Kansas before the party or leadership, and is unafraid to break with party ranks or leaders on issues important to his voters, such as tariffs
- Values face-to-face interaction with constituents, and returns to Kansas each weekend to meet with them through town halls
- Despite his success as chair of the NRSC, Moran has stated that being a part of GOP leadership hinders his independent, constituency-first style; has said, "the more that you are part of the leadership, the less flexibility you sometimes have in the positions you take"

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Political History

- Member, KS State Senate, 1989-1997
- Vice President, KS State Senate, 1993-1995

KENTUCKY



Mitch McConnell

Senator for Kentucky (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: mih-KAH-null

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: February 20, 1942

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education:

- BA, Political Science, University of Louisville
- JD, Law, University of Kentucky

Education Summary:

- BA, Political Science, University of Louisville, 1964
- JD, University of Kentucky, 1967

Family:

- Spouse: Elaine Chao, Secretary of Transportation under the Trump Administration
- Three children from a previous marriage

Work History:

- Senator for Kentucky, 1985-Present
- Senate Minority Leader, 2021-Present
- Senate Majority Leader, 2015-2021
- Senate Minority Leader, 2007-2015
- Chief Legislative Assistant, Office of Sen. Marlow Cook (R-KY), 1968-1970
- Attorney, Private practice, 1970-1974
- Judge, Jefferson County, 1978-1985

Committees:

- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Conservation, Climate, Forestry & Natural Resources
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
- Senate Rules & Administration
- Senate Appropriations
 - Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development
 - Department of Defense
 - Military Construction & Veteran Affairs & Related Agencies
 - State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
 - Department of the Interior, Environment & Related Agencies

Quick Summary

An eight-term Senator and entrenched leader of the Republican caucus, McConnell has served as the chief foil to two Democratic presidents; worked with President Trump to pass tax cuts and confirm a record number of judges to the federal judiciary

- Born in Alabama and educated in Kentucky, McConnell first came to Capitol Hill as an intern to Sen. John Sherman Cooper (R-KY), and returned as a legislative assistant to Sen. Marlow Cook (R-KY) after law school
- After two terms as judge in Jefferson County, Kentucky, the jurisdiction that encompasses Louisville, McConnell won his first race for Senate against incumbent Democrat Walter Huddleston by five thousand votes in 1984
- Began to hold leadership positions within the Senate Republican caucus in the 1990s, first as chair of the National Republican Senatorial Committee; became whip for the caucus in



Mitch McConnell

Senator for Kentucky (R)



2002, and minority leader in 2007 after Republicans lost their majority

- Lead Senate Republicans through the entire Obama presidency; used his hold over the GOP caucus to block much of Obama’s legislative agenda and many of his judicial appointments, and negotiated compromises with then-Vice President Joe Biden on fiscal matters
- As majority leader, he forged a strong partnership with the Trump White House to deliver on common priorities, collaborating to pass tax cuts, confirm judges, and defeat the first attempt to remove President Trump from office through impeachment
- Following the January 6 riot at the US Capitol, McConnell condemned Trump’s provocation of the rioters but ultimately voted to acquit him; since then, the two party leaders have backed different candidates in some House and Senate primary races
- With Biden in the White House and Democrats in control of Congress, he is largely reprising his role from the Obama presidency; notably voted for the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the United States Innovation and Competition Act in the summer of 2021

- Fiercely determined in pursuing political goals, McConnell is known for using hardball tactics to maximize the power of the Republican Senate Caucus, and is openly unconcerned with public opinion or outside evaluations of his leadership
- Leverages procedural elements such as the filibuster to his achieve goals; has shaped Senate rules to achieve his aims, such as changing the minimum number of cloture votes for Supreme Court Justices from 60 to 51
- Prioritizes maintaining a Republican majority in the Senate, and to this end he has expressed a willingness to promote candidates he believes can win a general election— even if Trump has endorsed someone else

Approach and Motivations

Prioritizing the federal judiciary, McConnell adheres to a hardball approach to Senate tactics and rules that has angered Democrats and produced results for Republicans; focus on the Senate majority has put him at odds with Trump since the latter’s defeat

- Long focused on the judiciary, McConnell views the large number of federal judges confirmed by President Trump— vacancies he prevented President Obama from filling— as a central part of his legacy, and an essential check on Democratic power

Political History

- Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, 2015-2021
- Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, 2007-2015
- Majority Whip, U.S. Senate, 2003-2007
- Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, 1974-1975

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Morgan McGarvey

Representative for Kentucky's 3rd District (D)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: December 23, 1979

Birthplace: Louisville, KY

Religion: Presbyterian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of Kentucky
- BA, Journalism, University of Missouri

Family:

- Wife, twin daughters

Work History:

- Representative for Kentucky's 3rd District, 2023-Present
- State Senator for Kentucky's 19th District, 2013-2023
- Attorney, Morgan & Pottinger PSC, 2010-Date Unknown
- Special Assistant, Attorney General Jack Conway (D-KY), 2008-2010
- Press Secretary, Jack Conway for Congress, 2002
- Staff, Rep. Ben Chandler (D-KY6)
- Attorney, Frost Brown Todd

Electoral Overview:

- Defeated Attica Scott 63-37 in the May 17th Democratic primary

Committees:

- House Small Business
 - Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Workforce Development (Ranking Member)
 - Contracting & Infrastructure
- House Veterans' Affairs
 - Economic Opportunity
 - Disability Assistance & Memorial Affairs

Quick Summary

Louisville native with deep roots in Kentucky politics; ran for Congress after a decade defending Democratic priorities in the State Senate

- Kentucky native and legacy politico, whose father worked with Gov. Wendell Ford (D-KY) and served as a city attorney
- Early career centered around broadcast journalism; covered the 2000 US Senate election in Missouri while studying at the University of Missouri, but instead decided to pursue law shortly after
- Entered the political sphere in his early 20s, working for Democrat Jack Conway's unsuccessful 2002 congressional campaign; later served in Conway's office when he served as attorney general
- Ran for state Senate in 2012, joining a Democratic minority that has declined by almost half in recent years
- Became minority leader of the Kentucky State Senate in 2018, just before Gov. Andy Beshear (D-KY) was elected; with veto-proof Republican majorities in the state legislature, McGarvey's leadership centered on negotiating with the GOP and building alliances with GOP senators
- Helped push bipartisan initiatives through the state legislature, including protections for



Morgan McGarvey

Representative for Kentucky's 3rd District (D)



domestic violence survivors, resources for low-birthweight babies, and teacher pay increases

- Entered the race for Kentucky's 3rd District after Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY) announced his retirement; received an endorsement from the incumbent and handily won the Democratic primary with nearly two thirds of the vote
- Won the election for Kentucky's 3rd District in November 2022 against Republican Stuart Ray

Approach and Motivations

Bipartisan deal broker who used a personal approach to defend Democrats from severe partisan action; personal experience and district geography have shaped his policy priorities

- Legislative style relies heavily on personal conversations and individual negotiations; under McGarvey's leadership, Democrats have reportedly evaded GOP initiatives to split Kentucky's lone Democratic Congressional District and impeach Gov. Andy Beshear (D-KY) prior to those initiatives making it to the floor
- Prior to exiting the race, incumbent Yarmouth faced progressive challenger Attica Scott, who focused heavily on racial justice and the environment; after entering the race as Yarmuth's preferred candidate, McGarvey emphasized both of these issues during the primary
- Healthcare policy informed by premature birth of twin daughters; channeled this into his advocacy for low-birthweight care and resources for new mothers
- Districts' vulnerability to floods and tornadoes drives his interest in climate policy^[1]_[SEP]

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Rand Paul
 Senator for Kentucky (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: pall

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: January 7, 1963

Birthplace: Pittsburgh, PA

Hometown: Lake Jackson, TX

Religion: Presbyterian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MD, Duke University, 1988

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Senator for Kentucky, 2011-Present
- Ophthalmologist, Ophthalmology Practice, 1993-2010
- Founder, Southern Kentucky Lions Eye Clinic, 1995
- Residency in Ophthalmology, Duke University Medical Center, 1993
- Internship, Georgia Baptist Medical Center

Committees:

- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs (Ranking Member)
 - Emerging Threats & Spending Oversight
 - Government Operations & Border Management

- Investigations
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - Europe & Regional Security Cooperation
 - Africa & Global Health Policy
 - State Dept & USAID Mngmnt, Internat'l Ops & Internat'l Dev
 - Internat'l Dev Instit & Internat'l Econ, Energy & Environ Policy
- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Children & Families
 - Primary Health & Retirement Security
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Quick Summary

Constitutional conservative and Tea Party favorite who left his ophthalmology practice to lead the libertarian faction of the Republican Party; champions small-government, free-market, and non-interventionist approaches

- Grew up in Texas, where his father Ron Paul began serving as a US Representative when Rand Paul was 13; Paul spent summers interning in his father's congressional office
- Completed his medical school requirements at Baylor University, ultimately transferring to Duke University's School of Medicine to earn his medical degree; moved to Kentucky after completing his residency to establish an ophthalmology practice
- Gained significant political experience working on his father's 2008 presidential campaign
- Successfully ran for an open Senate seat in 2010, highlighting the libertarian viewpoints that he shared with his father and leveraging the popularity of the Tea Party movement; beat the GOP establishment candidate, the Kentucky secretary of state backed by Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY), in the primary election



Rand Paul Senator for Kentucky (R)



- Ran a brief, unsuccessful presidential campaign during the 2016 election cycle; noninterventionist foreign policy viewpoints failed to gain traction during a period of increasing terrorist threats abroad
- Known for his libertarian principles, particularly related to fiscal policy and privacy rights; vehemently opposed to financial bailouts, and is outspoken about his disapproval of policies that increase government surveillance powers, such as the PATRIOT Act
- Noninterventionist who has staunchly criticized American military actions in the Middle East; broke with President Trump on the issue of arms sales to Saudi Arabia

using filibusters and candid rhetoric to draw attention to his outsider opinions

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Contact: <http://www.paul.senate.gov/connect>

Approach and Motivations

Outspoken and independent-minded libertarian motivated by deeply held philosophical stances and anti-establishment beliefs

- Often sides with personal philosophy over party on fiscal policy, individual liberties, and curbing government overreach; sometimes at odds with rank and file Republicans due to positions on surveillance and foreign policy
- Skepticism of government power extends to his positions on government surveillance and investigations; became particularly pertinent during the Trump administration, when he called for an end into the 2016 investigation into the Trump campaign's possible ties to Russia and tried to block the nomination of Justice Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court due to Kavanaugh's previous authorization of bulk collection of phone records
- Cautious foreign policy approach motivated by his philosophy as a physician to "first, do no harm"; wants to keep the US out of conflicts without a clear path to victory
- Leverages Senate procedure to engage debate on various policy issues, frequently

LOUISIANA



Bill Cassidy

Senator for Louisiana (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KAS-ih-dee

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: September 28, 1957

Birthplace: Highland Park, IL

Religion: Christian - Non-Denominational

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MD, Louisiana State University, 1983
- BS, Louisiana State University, 1979

Family:

- Married, Dr. Laura Cassidy, breast cancer surgeon
- Three children

Work History:

- Senator for Louisiana, 2015-Present
- Representative for Louisiana's 6th District, 2009-2015
- Co-founder, Greater Baton Rouge Community Clinic, 1998-2015
- Associate Professor, LSU Medical School
- Gastroenterologist, Earl K. Long Medical Center, 1990-2013
- State Senator for Louisiana's 16th District, 2006-2008

Electoral Overview:

- Never lost an election

- Defeated three-term incumbent Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA) in 2014 by a margin of 55.94% to Landrieu's 44.06%
- Won his 2020 reelection campaign with 59.3% of the vote, to Democratic opponents' 19% and 11%, respectively

Committees:

- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (Ranking Member)
 - Employment & Workplace Safety
 - Primary Health & Retirement Security
- Senate Finance
 - Social Security, Pensions & Family Policy
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
 - Health Care
- Senate Veterans' Affairs
- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
 - Water & Power
 - Energy
 - Public Lands, Forests & Mining

Quick Summary

A gastroenterologist, Cassidy has focused on health policy throughout a political career that began in the Louisiana Senate; elected to a second US Senate term in 2020

- Grew up in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and earned his bachelor's and medical doctor degrees from Louisiana State University (LSU); specializing in gastroenterology, he was on the faculty of LSU Medical School and worked at LSU's Earl K. Long Medical Center, a hospital for uninsured patients, until its closure in 2013
- Helped found the Greater Baton Rouge Community Clinic in 1998 to provide free health care to low-income uninsured patients; after Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana in 2005,



Bill Cassidy

Senator for Louisiana (R)



Cassidy led efforts to form a makeshift clinic in an abandoned K-Mart

- In 2006, Cassidy entered politics as a Republican state senator, and garnered scrutiny for having been registered as a Democrat in the past; Cassidy attributed his party switch to a declining number of conservative Democrats, his frustrations with government involvement in health care policy, and his support for a free market-based health care system
- Elected to the House in 2008, he served on the Energy and Commerce Committee and supported policies such as incentives for health savings accounts and preventive care, as well as efforts to reduce obesity and prohibit abortion past 20 weeks
- Since he unseated incumbent Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA) in the 2014 election, he has utilized his medical background to focus on health care policy; pushed for alternatives to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and policies to combat opioid addiction, provide expanded access to mental health care, and incentivize COVID-19 testing
- One of seven Republican senators who voted to convict former President Trump for inciting the Capitol riots on January 6, 2021; the Louisiana Republican Party censured Cassidy for his vote

recalled the struggles of a difficult financial situation

- Leverages his medical background to shape his policy positions towards health care; stated that his experience working for government-run health care, where “the government had all the power, not the patient,” taught him that the private market was better equipped to handle the system
- Changed his political party identification from Democrat to Republican in his 40s as he began to agree more with the Republican political platform; however, he maintains a strong relationship with colleagues across the aisle, such as his collaboration with Sen. Maggie Hassan (D-NH) on the Fair and Accurate Medicaid Pricing Act, and Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) on the Hydrogen for Trucks Act

Political History

- US Senator for Louisiana, 2015-Present
- Representative for Louisiana’s 6th District, 2009-2015
- State Senator for Louisiana’s 16th District, 2006-2008

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Contact: <http://www.cassidy.senate.gov/contact>

Approach and Motivations

His early experience with family financial hardship motivated him to pursue medicine and serve underprivileged communities; his perspective as a health care professional informs his views on health care policy

- Cites his family’s financial background as his reason for ultimately focusing his medical career on helping those in need rather than working in a traditional private practice, as he



John Kennedy

Senator for Louisiana (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KEH-nuh-dee

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: November 21, 1951

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Vanderbilt University (TN), BA, 1973
- University of Virginia School of Law, JD, 1977
- Oxford University (England), BCL, 1979

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Senator for Louisiana, 2017-Present
- Adjunct Professor, Louisiana State University Law School, 2002-2016
- Treasurer for Louisiana, 2000-2017
- Secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue, 1996-1999
- Secretary, Louisiana Governor's Cabinet, 1990-1992
- Special Counsel, Office of Governor Buddy Roemer, 1988-1992
- Partner, Chaffe McCall Law Firm, 1984-1995

Committees:

- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - Economic Policy (Ranking Member)
 - Securities, Insurance & Investment

- Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Judiciary
 - Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action & Federal Rights (Ranking Member)
 - Human Rights & the Law
 - Privacy, Technology & the Law
 - Criminal Justice & Counterterrorism
- Senate Appropriations
 - Energy & Water Development (Ranking Member)
 - Financial Services & General Government
 - DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Democrat-turned Republican who wields colorful turns of phrase to promote Trump brand of conservatism and secure disaster relief

- Raised in small-town Louisiana and earned law degrees from University of Virginia and Oxford
- After a career as a product liability attorney, served as special counsel to Democratic Gov. Buddy Roemer, sparking an interest in politics
- Worked almost two decades as state Treasurer; launched an unsuccessful Senate run in 2004 as a Democrat but was recruited by the state GOP in 2007, running and winning subsequent Treasury campaigns as a Republican
- Prioritizes expanding disaster recovery programs for state population, including



John Kennedy

Senator for Louisiana (R)



through extending and lowering costs of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

- Watchdog for the taxpayer that pushes for budget cuts and championed the 2017 Republican tax reform bill
- Critic of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and has focused on policies that bring transparency to pricing for Medicare-covered drugs
- A consistent defender of Trump, Kennedy objected to the certification of electoral votes from Arizona on January 6, 2021

Approach and Motivations

Juxtaposes elite academic background with folksy colloquialisms to appeal to constituency

- Despite Oxford education and political pedigree, cultivates relatable persona with colorful of manner speech
- Has made a name for himself for his sharp and humorous quips, such as “Just because you’ve seen ‘My Cousin Vinny’ doesn’t qualify you to be a federal judge”

Shifts in party allegiance to gain electoral edge

- Flipped from Democrat to Republican in 2007 as Louisiana emerged as a reliably red state; says that he changed parties because the GOP platform more paralleled his views
- Allied with Trump during his 2016 run for Senate, breaking with centrist leanings to embrace Trump’s populist messaging
- Cites former boss Gov. Buddy Roemer, another politician who switched parties, as a political mentor

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Steve Scalise

Representative for Louisiana's 1st District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: skuh-LEESS

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: October 6, 1965

Birthplace: New Orleans, LA

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BS, Louisiana State University, 1989

Family:

- Married; 2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Louisiana's 1st District, 2008-Present
- State Senator for Louisiana's 9th District, 2008-2008
- State Representative for Louisiana's 82nd District, 1996-2008
- Systems Engineer, Diamond Data Systems

Quick Summary

Native Louisianan propelled to party leadership early in his career, Scalise has long been an influential House Republican and vocal on offshore oil drilling and coastal restoration

- Born and raised in Louisiana, Scalise grew up in Jefferson Parish in the New Orleans metropolitan area; worked as a software

engineer and marketing executive before successfully running for state House in 1995

- Ran for state Senate in 2007, but held that position for less than a year before winning a special election to replace then-Rep. Bobby Jindal (R-LA1) in the House following his resignation and subsequent run for governor
- In Congress, Scalise prioritizes district-specific interests tied to Louisiana's major sectors including the oil industry and the coastal economy of tourism and fishing; pushes for lower taxes to attract business to the state
- Ascended to a leadership role within the House GOP, serving as chair of the Republican Study Committee from 2012 to 2013 before becoming Republican whip in 2014; announced his bid for majority leader in 2015, though Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA23) decided to keep his position
- Survived a 2017 shooting at a congressional baseball practice during which Scalise and five other people were shot; credits his survival of the 2017 shooting to his faith in God, and remains a strong voice for Second Amendment rights
- After signing an amicus brief in Texas v. Pennsylvania alongside 126 other Republicans, Scalise voted to object to the certification of Arizona and Pennsylvania's electoral votes; criticized fmr. President Trump for failing to immediately denounce the mob that rioted at the Capitol, but voted against impeachment
- Sponsored various energy and natural resources bills in the 117th Congress; after Republicans won a majority of House seats in the 2022 midterm election, Scalise was named House Majority Leader



Steve Scalise

Representative for Louisiana's 1st District (R)



Approach and Motivations

Principled positions were formulated early in life; cites his religious and fiscal conservative beliefs in his personal and political experiences

- Attended a gubernatorial debate in college and left disappointed by the incumbent Democrat's plan to let talented workers leave Louisiana; this experience cemented his preference for Republican leadership and future policy focus on retaining and attracting jobs
- Inspired by President Ronald Reagan as a teenager, Scalise believes Reagan's philosophy should continue to guide Republicans today; in a nod to Reaganism, Scalise's congressional website describes himself as a "strong leader who upholds the Constitution, advocating for the principles of fiscal discipline, lower taxes, a robust national defense, and conservative values"
- A deeply religious Catholic, Scalise credits his survival of the 2017 shooting to his faith that God would perform a miracle; this worked to bolster not only his own faith but also his support among his largely Christian constituency
- Adheres to conservative views, which he believes were the founding principles of the United States

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MARYLAND



Ben Cardin

Senator for Maryland (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KAR-din

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: October 5, 1943

Birthplace: Baltimore, MD

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of Pittsburgh (PA), BA, 1964
- University of Maryland School of Law, JD, 1967
- Villa Julie College (MD), LLD, 2007

Family:

2 children (1 deceased); 2 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Maryland (D), 2007-Present
- Representative for Maryland's 3rd District (D), 1987-2007
- Speaker of the House, Maryland State House, 1979-1987
- State Delegate for Maryland's 42nd District (D), 1967-1987
- Attorney, Rosen and Esterson, 1967-1978

Electoral Overview:

- Re-elected in 2018 with 65% of the vote
- First elected to the Senate in 2006, winning by 10-points, and won re-election twice by much wider margins

- Elected in 1986 to the Democratic leaning 3rd Congressional district, Cardin generally won reelection with a 20-point lead

Committees:

- Senate Finance
 - Health Care (Chairman)
 - Taxation & IRS Oversight
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - State Dept & USAID Mngmnt, Internat'l Ops & Internat'l Dev (Chairman)
 - Near East, South Asia, Central Asia & Counterterrorism
 - West Hem Crime Civ Sec Dem Rights & Women's Issues
 - Europe & Regional Security Cooperation
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship (Chairman)
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Clean Air, Climate & Nuclear Safety
 - Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife
- Joint Security & Cooperation in Europe

Quick Summary

Third generation Marylander and bipartisan consensus-builder who promotes human rights abroad and an inclusive fiscal agenda

- Born in Baltimore and is the son of and nephew of state legislators
- Referred to as the former "boy wonder" of Maryland politics, having been elected to the House of Delegates at age 23 and elevated to Speaker by age 35
- In the House and in the Senate, Cardin has worked to integrate human rights into foreign



Ben Cardin

Senator for Maryland (D)



policy, including by sanctioning countries like Russia and China for human rights abuses

- As the lead Democrat on the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, has pushed for policies that increase business opportunity for minority communities
- Leader on legislation surrounding retirement security through 401(k) expansion
- Supports protecting and expanding Medicare and the Affordable Care Act (ACA), including by adding coverage for cancer screenings and pediatric dental services
- Frequently cosponsors legislation with Republicans and has become well-known for his collaborative efforts
- Engages with international organizations on strategies to enhance cooperation and security, representing the U.S. at organizations including the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

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Contact: <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/email-ben/>

Approach and Motivations

Agreeable personality that reaches across the political aisle, but shifted to more partisan rhetoric after the 2016 election

- Gained a reputation in the state House of Delegates as a consensus builder and has carried over that approach to Congress
- Rejects hyper-partisanship and values the small details of legislation, allowing him to work effectively with Republicans
- Described as having a “low-key” personality but since 2016, has been an outspoken critic of the administration’s foreign policy



Andy Harris

Representative for Maryland's 1st District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: HAIR-iss

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: January 25, 1957

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MHS, Bloomberg School of Hygiene and Public Health, John Hopkins University, 1995
- MD, John Hopkins University, 1980
- BS, John Hopkins University, 1977

Family:

Five children; six grandchildren

Work History:

- Representative for Maryland's 1st District, 2011-Present
- State Senator for Maryland, 1999-2011
 - State Senator for Maryland's 7th District, 2003-2011
 - State Senator for Maryland's 9th District, 1999-2003
- United States Navy Reserve Medical Corps, 1988-2010
 - Commanding Officer, Johns Hopkins Naval Reserve Medical Unit, 1989-1992
- Chief of Obstetric Anesthesiology, John Hopkins Hospital
- Associate Professor of Anesthesiologist and Critical Care Medicine, Johns Hopkins Hospital

Committees:

- House Appropriations
 - Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies (Chairman)
 - Labor, Health & Human Services, Education & Related Agencies
 - Homeland Security

Quick Summary

Doctor, veteran, and state senator who entered Congress on the tea party wave and has since legislated from the right on the provider side of health care and a variety of other issues

- Born in Brooklyn, New York to parents who immigrated from Eastern Europe to escape communism; attended Johns Hopkins for his BS, MD, and Master's in Health Science
- Served in the US Naval Medical Corps, where he was called up to duty at Bethesda Naval Hospital during Operation Desert Storm
- Defeated the Maryland Senate Minority Leader in the 1998 Republican Primary; while in the state Senate, Harris opposed environmental regulations, state spending, and drivers' licenses and in-state tuition for immigrants who entered the United States illegally
- Defeated former Rep. Wayne Gilchrest, a moderate Republican, in a 2008 primary; ran on a platform of lower taxes and spending and lost narrowly to Democrat Frank Kratovil, whom Gilchrest endorsed
- Ran again in 2010, winning on a similar platform while attacking Kratovil for failing to commit to repeal the Affordable Care Act
- Legislates on biomedical research issues, with bills aimed at prohibiting human cloning and ensuring funding for high-risk, high-reward research; has also introduced numerous niche bills on footwear duties, plant importation paperwork, and bonds for border wall construction



Andy Harris

Representative for Maryland's 1st District (R)



- Maintains strong anti-marijuana stance; believes that only limited medical benefits exist, and supports research to uncover what he believes will be detriments and prove a lack of medical uses for the drug
- Criticized Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) for his stay at home order in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, noting his own medical background in deeming conditions safe to begin to reopen Maryland in May 2020
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Approach and Motivations

Family history informs his strong libertarian instincts; unafraid to take stances outside of the mainstream, Harris has also collaborated with Democrats on Maryland issues

- Parents immigrated from Eastern Europe after World War II to escape communism, leading in part to Harris' strong beliefs in limited government; claims that the only newspaper in his house growing up was the conservative publication Human Events
- Willing to go against bipartisan consensus, Harris signed a letter of support along with 11 Republicans to Hungarian prime minister Viktor Orbán, who openly advocated for "illiberal democracy," and joined eight other Republicans who voted against naming a post office for poet Maya Angelou due to her one-time support of communist Cuba
- Willing to work across the aisle on Maryland-specific issues; co-chairs the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Caucus and worked with Maryland Democratic Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen to secure funding through grants for Chesapeake Bay area infrastructure

Contact Information

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http://harris.house.gov/address_authentication?form=/contact



Kweisi Mfume

Representative for Maryland's 7th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: kwy-EE-see uum-FOO-may

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Education Summary:

- MA, Johns Hopkins University, 1984
- BS, Morgan State University, 1976

Work History:

- Representative for Maryland's 7th District, 1987-1996, 2020-Present
- President and CEO, NAACP, 1996-2004
- Member of Baltimore City Council for the 4th District, 1978-1986

Committees:

- House Small Business
 - Oversight, Investigations & Regulations (Ranking Member)
 - Contracting & Infrastructure
- House Oversight & Accountability
 - Government Operations & Federal Workforce (Ranking Member)
 - Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic
 - Cybersecurity, Information Technology & Gov't Innovation

Quick Summary

A Baltimore civil rights activist, Congress member, and former president of the NAACP, Mfume touts a diverse career fighting for African American civil rights and equality; continues to push for better access to education and health care

- Originally born Frizzel Gerald Gray, he changed his name to Kweisi Mfume in the 1970s to reflect his African heritage
- Raised in a single parent home and later as an orphan, Mfume dropped out of high school and worked three jobs to support his sisters; later completed his GED and went on to receive undergraduate and graduate degrees
- Accomplished career in radio and television broadcasting for over twenty years; hosted the TV show “The Remarkable Journey” on which he interviewed racially, ethnically, and professionally diverse people to document their experiences overcoming barriers
- Ascended through the local political ranks from Baltimore City Council to Rep. for Maryland’s 7th district; resigned in 1996 to become the president and CEO of the NAACP before returning to the House in May 2020
- During his previous congressional tenure, served as the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and the Joint Economic Committee of the House and Senate, areas that were integral to his 2020 campaign
- As president and CEO of the NAACP, Mfume brought financial stability while advancing African American civil rights by pushing for economic empowerment, educational opportunities, and affordable health care
- Accumulated leadership roles in health policy, having served as executive director and as a board member of various minority health and health disparities advisory organizations; continues to legislate for affordable health care and lowering the cost of prescription drugs



Kweisi Mfume Representative for Maryland's 7th District (D)



Approach and Motivations

Difficult upbringing influenced his progressive advocacy for racial equality and has helped him foster a strong connection to his constituents

- Cites a specific moment when his memory of his mother overcame him, leading to a spiritual and political awakening that inspired him to pursue his GED and dedicate his life to public service
- After his mother passed away when he was 16 years old, Mfume no longer attended school and often frequented the streets, occasionally interacting with the police, which he says was due to “suspicion of theft because [he] happened to be black”; believes his experience allows him to personally relate to constituents and drives his policymaking to support minority communities
- Identifies as “very, very progressive” on social issues but “a little more moderate” on fiscal policies; pushes socially progressive initiatives to help children with difficult upbringings, saying “it’s not where you start in life, it’s how you finish” while advising wise federal spending

Contact Information

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Jamie Raskin

Representative for Maryland's 8th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: RAS-kuhn

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: December 13, 1962

Birthplace: Washington, DC

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Harvard University, 1987
- BA, Harvard University, 1983

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Maryland's 8th District, 2017-Present
- Law Professor, American University, 1990-Present
- Founder and Director, Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project, 1999-Present
- State Senator for Maryland's 20th District, 2007-2016
- International Trade and Human Rights Teacher, Argentina and Chile, 2005
- Visiting Professor, Institut D'Etudes Sciences Politiques, Paris, France, 2003-2004
- Associate Dean, Faculty and Academic Affairs, Washington College of Law, American University, 1994-1996

- General Counsel, National Rainbow Coalition, 1989-1990
- Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1987-1989
- Teaching Fellow, Harvard University Government Department, 1985-1987
- Travelling Fellowship, Benjamin A. Trustman, 1983-1984

Committees:

- House Oversight & Accountability (Ranking Member)
 - Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic

Quick Summary

Constitutional lawyer and Washington, D.C. native who has achieved numerous leadership positions within the Democratic Caucus to fight for social justice reforms

- Grew up in a politically active family inside the Washington beltway where he was immersed in the social movements of the 1960s and 70s; his father worked as a national security aide in the Kennedy administration and his mother wrote the seminal feminist novel "Hot Flashes"
- Earned his bachelor and law degrees from Harvard University where his interest in constitutional law compelled him to serve as an intern for the House Judiciary Committee and as an editor for the school's law review
- Dedicated 25 years as a constitutional law professor at American University's Washington College of Law where he wrote widely about civil rights and civil liberty protections
- Spent ten years in the Maryland State legislature where he championed sweeping criminal justice reform, same-sex marriage legislation and a medical marijuana bill before running for Congress



Jamie Raskin

Representative for Maryland's 8th District (D)



- Supported Democratic candidates seeking House seats during his first two years in office and now represents the junior members of the caucus as a member of House Democratic leadership; serves as the Senior Whip for the House Democratic Caucus
- Focused on oversight of the Trump administration; proposed a bill in 2017 allowing Congress to invoke the 25th Amendment through a panel of medical professionals and retired public officials in case of presidential incompetence, and offered to reintroduce the bill following President Trump's COVID-19 diagnosis
- Co-sponsored the Medicare for All bill and became a founding member of the Medicare for All Caucus, citing how costly his own fight with stage three colon cancer would have been without health insurance
- Lead House impeachment manager in the second impeachment trial of former President Trump; spoke openly on the Senate floor about his experiences during the pro-Trump mob's attack on the Capitol on January 6, and he rejected the defense's arguments that Trump's remarks at a rally prior to the attack are protected speech under the First Amendment

injustices by sponsoring legislation to expand voting rights and protect equal employment rights; serves as the Chair of the Oversight Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

- Background as a constitutional law professor informs his academic, data-driven approach to tackling problems and guided his focus on constitutional challenges to the Trump administration; helped craft the articles of impeachment against the president and provided explanations for impeachment to national TV news outlets

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Approach and Motivations

Self-described progressive Democrat who takes a by-the-book approach to policy making; active on committees that allowed him to exercise oversight of the Trump administration and advance civil rights

- Built a reputation as a coalition builder in the Maryland Senate where he worked across the aisle with moderate Republicans to institute strict gun control with background checks, and increased environmental standards for state agencies
- Stated that his experience as a cancer survivor motivated him to focus on eliminating social



Dutch Ruppertsberger

Representative for Maryland's 2nd District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: ROO-purs-bur-gur

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: January 31, 1946

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of Maryland - College Park, BA, 1967
- University of Baltimore School of Law (MD), JD, 1970

Family:

2 children ; 5 grandchildren

Work History:

- Representative for Maryland's 2nd District, 2003-Present
- Baltimore County Executive, 1994-2002
- Attorney, Partner, Ruppertsberger, Clark and Mister, 1980-1994
- Prosecutor, Baltimore County, MD State's Attorney's Office, 1972-1980
- Law Clerk to Judge Kenneth C. Proctor, Baltimore County, MD Circuit Court, Third Judicial Circuit, 1970-1972
- Claims Adjuster, US Fidelity and Guaranty Company, 1969-1970
- Social Worker, Baltimore City Schools, 1967-1969

Committees:

- House Appropriations
 - Defense
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies

Quick Summary

Baltimore County native, former lawyer, and local government official with strong interest in climate, intelligence, and the intersection of the two

- Worked in the investigative division of the state attorney's office, focusing mainly on drug trafficking cases; was elected to the Baltimore County Council in 1985
- First elected to Congress in 2002 following an 8-year service as a Baltimore County executive, and has represented the northwest Chesapeake coast for almost two decades
- Previously served as the lead Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, alongside then-chair Rep. Mike Rogers (R-MI8) before his appointment to the Appropriations Committee
- Authored and passed the Securing Energy Infrastructure Act in order to analyze threats to the US's energy supply; supports an "all of the above" approach to energy policy, working to eliminate dependence on oil from adversarial countries
- Works to protect the Chesapeake Bay from erosion, pollution, and weather damage; seeks to establish digital infrastructure through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to better map the coastline and allow for advance notice for natural and ecological disasters
- Active on veterans issues, Ruppertsberger crafted the Hero Miles and Hotel for Heroes programs that allow people to donate travel bonuses to veterans



Dutch Ruppersberger

Representative for Maryland's 2nd District (D)



Approach and Motivations

Dedicated to bipartisan intelligence work and the promotion of cybersecurity; local government background drives interest in municipal finance

- District is home to the National Security Agency and Ruppersberger has often dubbed it the “cybersecurity capital of the world,” informing his focus on cybersecurity policy and emerging threats legislation; helped create the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act that increased intelligence-sharing between cybersecurity groups and government agencies
- Sought to restore cooperation within the Intelligence Committee after a six year stretch without passing legislation; worked with then-chair Rep. Mike Rogers (R-MI8) to pass several bills through the committee, emphasizing the need for bipartisanship in security policy
- Uses seat on the Appropriations Committee to advocate for local government spending, creating the Municipal Finance Caucus; often draws on experience in county government when advocating for local infrastructure spending and supporting deductions for tax-exempt municipal bonds

Political History

- Candidate, MD State Senate, 1978
- Member, Baltimore County Council, 1986-1994
- Executive, Baltimore County, 1995-2003
- Delegate, Democratic National Conventions, 1996
- Delegate, Democratic National Conventions, 2000
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, 2011-2015

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John Sarbanes

Representative for Maryland's 3rd District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: SAR-baynz

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: May 22, 1962

Birthplace: Baltimore, MD

Religion: Greek Orthodox

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School of International Affairs (NJ), BA, 1984
- Harvard University (MA), JD, 1988

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Maryland's 3rd District, 2007-Present
- Chair, Health Care Venable's Baltimore Law Practice, 2000-2006
- Associate and Partner, Venable LLP, 1989-2006
- President, Public Justice Center, 1994-1997
- Law Clerk for Judge J. Frederick Motz, U. S. District Court, District of Maryland, 1988-1989
- Special Assistant, MD Superintendent of Schools

Committees:

- House Energy & Commerce
 - Health

- Environment, Manufacturing & Critical Minerals
- Energy, Climate & Grid Security

Quick Summary

A former attorney from a politically active family, Sarbanes focuses on government reform and accountability, the environment, and education policy

- Raised in a political family, his father Paul Sarbanes was a former congressman and senator from Maryland
- After following the same academic path as his father and graduating from Princeton University and Harvard Law School, he returned to Baltimore and served for seven years with the Maryland State Department of Education, working to improve the state's public school system as special assistant to the Maryland superintendent of schools
- Practiced law for 18 years, during which he clerked for a federal district court judge in Baltimore and worked for the law firm Venable, where he chaired the health care practice and represented nonprofit hospitals and senior-living providers
- Was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2006 and has since been re-elected 6 times with no substantive opposition
- In Congress, Sarbanes has worked to pass reforms to improve accountability and transparency in government as chair of the Democracy Reform Task Force; authored the For the People Act, a reform package to reduce corruption in Washington by expanding voting rights, reducing the influence of private donor money, and strengthening ethics rules, passed by the House in 2019
- An outspoken advocate for the environment, he led efforts in Congress to clean up Chesapeake Bay as a co-chair of the



John Sarbanes

Representative for Maryland's 3rd District (D)



bipartisan Chesapeake Bay Watershed Caucus, worked to expand environmental education opportunities for children, authoring the No Child Left Inside Act to promote healthier children and communities

- Dedicated to combating the rise of opioid addiction in Baltimore, he has introduced and passed multiple pieces of legislation aimed to bring together different experts and professionals to improve addiction treatment and expand prevention services

Approach and Motivations

A lifelong Baltimorean with familial political roots; Actively involved in his local community and uses his Greek background to guide his policy

- Born and raised in Baltimore, Sarbanes and his family live in Towson; stated that “listening to [his constituents] concerns allows him to better represent his District and has shaped his work in the House”
- Like his father, Sarbanes is an outspoken advocate of Greece and its Hellenic values as a member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, which aims to bring a renewed congressional focus to key diplomatic, military, and human rights issues in this part of the world; at Princeton he completed a senior thesis on US intelligence in Greece and studied law and politics in Greece on a Fulbright Scholarship
- Maintains strong connections to his community, he attends the Greek orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation in Baltimore and is active with his wife and children in the Bolton Street Synagogue; a close ally of fellow Baltimore native Nancy Pelosi, who he worked closely with to add voting rights, ethics reforms, donor disclosures, and restrictions on gerrymandering to the For the People Act

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Chris Van Hollen

Senator for Maryland (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: van-HAH-luhn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: January 10, 1959

Birthplace: Karachi, Pakistan

Religion: Episcopalian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Georgetown University, 1990
- MPP, National Security Studies, Harvard University, 1985
- BA, Philosophy, Swarthmore College, 1982

Family:

- Wife; 3 children

Work History:

- Senator for Maryland (D), 2017-Present
- Representative for Maryland's 8th District (D), 2003-2007
- State Senator for Maryland's 18th District (D), 1995-2003
- Attorney, Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin & Kahn, 1991-2002
- Delegate for Maryland's 18th District (D), 1991-1995
- Senior Advisor, Office of Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefer, 1989-1991
- Staff Member, US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 1987-1989

- Legislative Assistant, Office of US Sen. Charles Mathias (R-MD), 1985-1987

Committees:

- Senate Appropriations
 - Financial Services & General Government (Chairman)
 - Legislative Branch
 - Department of the Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
 - State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - East Asia, the Pacific & International Cybersecurity Policy (Chairman)
 - Europe & Regional Security Cooperation
 - Africa & Global Health Policy
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - National Security & International Trade & Finance
 - Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection
 - Economic Policy
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Longtime Maryland politician whose international upbringing paved the way for his focus on foreign policy; also pushes for gun control and fiscal policy reform using his congressional leadership ties

- Born in Pakistan as the son of an US Ambassador and a State Department officer, Van Hollen grew up in various countries in Asia, including Sri Lanka and Pakistan; moved to the United States as a teenager to attend boarding school



Chris Van Hollen

Senator for Maryland (D)



- After earning his Master's in Public Policy from Harvard University, Van Hollen began his political career by working for Sen. Charles Mathias (R-MD) and later for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee
- Elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1990 and to the Maryland Senate four years later; successfully ran for Congress in 2002 and campaigned with the support of progressive organizations that focused on the environment and gun control
- During his 7th-term in the House, Van Hollen managed candidate recruitment and served as chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC); while DCCC chair, Van Hollen was selected to be an assistant to Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA14)
- After Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) announced her retirement in 2015, Van Hollen decided to run for her seat; he faced a difficult primary race against Rep. Donna Edwards (D-MD4) but won the general election with 60% of the vote
- Continued his streak of campaign committee leadership by serving as chair of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC) during his first two years in the Senate
- In the Senate, Van Hollen continues to push for changes to the tax code, gun control measures, and sanctions on bad actors abroad; he is up for reelection in 2022, though experts consider his seat to be safe
- Credits his parents' encouragement to take risks while growing up abroad as a positive trait that has followed him into political life, where he has seen success in challenging Democratic incumbents
- Known for his politeness, he was considered a foil to the more abrasive Rahm Emanuel when they worked at the DCCC together

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Approach and Motivations

A political strategist, Van Hollen balances his career goals with his drive to help people through public service

- His political activism in college on grassroots campaigns against South African apartheid informed his career commitment to civil rights and grassroots movements

MICHIGAN



Gary Peters

Senator for Michigan (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: PEE-turz

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: December 1, 1958

Religion: Episcopalian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MA, Michigan State University, 2007
- JD, Wayne State University Law School, 1989
- MBA, University of Detroit, 1984
- BA, Alma College, 1980

Family:

- Three Children

Work History:

- Senator for Michigan, 2015-Present
- Merchant Marine Academy Board of Visitors, US Department of Transportation, 2017-2020
- Representative for Michigan's 14th District, 2013-2015
- Representative for Michigan's 9th District, 2009-2013
- Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair of American Government, Central Michigan University, 2007-2008
- Commissioner, Michigan Lottery, 2003-2007
- State Senator for Michigan's 14th District, 1994-2002
- City Council Member for Rochester Hills City, 1991-1994

- Vice President, Merrill Lynch
- Vice President, UBS Paine Webber
- Strategic Management and Business Policy Instructor, Oakland University
- Finance Instructor, Wayne State University

Electoral Overview:

- Won re-election in 2020 with 49.9% of the vote against Republican John James
- Initially elected to Senate in 2014 with 54.6% of the vote
- First won election to the House of Representatives in 2008, and held the seat by a narrow margin in 2010; after redistricting in 2012, Peters received over 80% of the vote in his new heavily Democratic district

Committees:

- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs (Chairman)
 - Emerging Threats & Spending Oversight
 - Government Operations & Border Management
 - Investigations
- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports (Chairman)
 - Space & Science
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Armed Services
 - Cybersecurity
 - Airland
 - Emerging Threats & Capabilities
 - Seapower
- Senate Appropriations
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies



Gary Peters

Senator for Michigan (D)



- Department of the Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
- Military Construction & Veteran Affairs & Related Agencies
- Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies

Quick Summary

Ideological moderate who combines liberal social stances with his business-friendly vision for a high-tech economy driven by Michigan manufacturing; leads the DSCC as Democrats aim to protect multiple battleground state incumbents in 2022

- Focused on issues with high relevance in Michigan, such as creating and protecting middle-class manufacturing jobs
- Worked as a financial advisor in the private sector; held local and state office in Michigan before winning a House seat in 2008
- Served two stints in the Naval Reserve; honorably discharged as a Lt. Commander
- Collaborates with Republicans on common priorities, including funding for Great Lakes restoration with Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH)
- Chair of the Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee who takes safeguarding government institutions seriously; introduced bill to boost election cybersecurity
- Balances business and labor interests; wants to build an economy that embraces emerging technologies (e.g. automation) but protects workers impacted by innovation
- Chairs the DSCC for the 2022 midterms, leading the Democrats campaign arm in defending and possibly expanding the slim Senate majority; seeks to fortify incumbents in AZ, GA, NH, and NV and pickup seats in FL, NC, OH, PA, and WI

Approach and Motivations

Manufacturing wonk who sees future of US economy and democracy linked to industrial revival; stresses record of bipartisanship

- Worries that a hollowed-out U.S. manufacturing base and middle class are threats to US national security and democracy; Michigan's particular struggle with the collapse in domestic manufacturing has informed much of Peter's policy decisions, including leading the Congressional support for auto manufacturers during the 2009 collapse
- Focused on positioning Michigan industry and workers to benefit from advances in artificial intelligence and autonomous vehicle technology; wants Michigan to remain a manufacturing and technology hub in the 21st century
- Views himself as a "practical problem solver" who works well across the aisle; touts bipartisanship and effectiveness metrics published by political observers (e.g. Vanderbilt University's Center for Effective Lawmaking), which often rate him highly

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Elissa Slotkin

Representative for Michigan's 7th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: eh-LIS-uh SLAHT-kin

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: July 10, 1976

Birthplace: Holly, MI

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, Cornell University (NY), 1998

Family:

2 stepchildren

Work History:

- Representative of Michigan, 2019-Present
 - 7th District, 2023-Present
 - 8th District, 2019-2023
- Acting Assistant Secretary, International Security Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, U.S. Department of Defense, 2015-2017
- Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, U.S. Department of Defense, 2015-2015
- Acting Principal Deputy Undersecretary, U.S. Department of Defense, 2013-2014
- Senior Advisor on Iraqi Policy to Deputy Secretary Jack Lew, and later to Deputy

Secretary Tom Nides, U.S. Department of State, 2009-2011

- Director of the Office for Iraq for National Security Council (NSC), Executive Office of the President (EOP), 2009

Committees:

- House Armed Services
 - Intelligence & Special Operations
 - Cyber, Information Technology & Innovation
- House Agriculture
 - Conservation, Research & Biotechnology

Quick Summary

Intelligence and national security expert with extensive Middle East policy experience who is passionate about affordable health care and improving veterans' benefits

- Grew up on a farm in Michigan, but she lived elsewhere after college and only returned to the state shortly before running for Congress
- Pledged to join the intelligence community and prevent future acts of terrorism after witnessing the September 11th attacks while getting her Master's degree in International Affairs in New York City; joined the CIA as a Middle East analyst after earning her degree, and spent five years in Iraq
- Held senior positions at the National Security Council, State Department, and Department of Defense during the Bush 43 and Obama Administrations, where she performed advisory and negotiatory roles focused on various regions of the world
- Ran for Congress after she witnessed her predecessor Rep. Mike Bishop (R-MI8) applauding the House Republican vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) without offering an alternative, saying such actions would be considered "dereliction of duty" in the military



Elissa Slotkin

Representative for Michigan's 7th District (D)



- Focuses on lowering prescription drug costs and expanding benefits for veterans; authored the Real Time Benefits Act to expand access to prescription drug cost information for doctors and patients, and co-sponsored legislation easing veterans' ability to get service dogs and expanding apprenticeship programs covered by the GI bill
- On the Armed Services and Homeland Security committees, Slotkin has authored legislation such as the Iran War Powers resolution to restrain military force against Iran without Congressional approval

found this difficult during the impeachment inquiry; as a national security expert, she found it difficult to not speak out against the national security risk of Trump's relationship with Vladimir Putin

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Approach and Motivations

Takes a bipartisan approach to legislating, channeling her nonpartisan national security career while remaining mindful of conservative constituents; motivated to serve the public and reform health care policy

- The values of integrity, decency, and hard work exhibited by her family to run their business, Hygrade Foods, impacted her desire to be involved in public service; initially aimed to be involved in NGOs, but shifted her service goals to intelligence and counterterrorism after 9/11
- Motivated to reform health care policy after spending thousands of dollars to treat her late mother's ovarian cancer in 2009, as her mother's insurance had lapsed due to preexisting conditions from a previous battle with breast cancer
- Campaigned as a "Midwestern Democrat", a practical moderate willing to reach across the aisle to accomplish goals; cited her mission-focused record of serving the intelligence community during both Democratic and Republican administrations
- Planned to refrain from publicly criticizing the Trump Administration to avoid alienating her mostly conservative constituents, she but



Debbie Stabenow

Senator for Michigan (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: STAB-uh-nou

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: April 29, 1950

Birthplace: Gladwin, MI

Religion: Methodist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Divorced

Education Summary:

- Michigan State University, BA, 1972
- Michigan State University, MSW, 1975

Family:

2 children ; 4 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Michigan, 2001-Present
- Representative for Michigan's 8th District, 1997-2001
- State Senator for Michigan's 24th District, 1991-1994
- State Representative for Michigan's 58th District, 1979-1991
- Commissioner, Board of Commissioners, County of Ingham, Michigan, 1975-1978
- Co-founder, MI Leadership Institute, Inc.

Electoral Overview:

- Won 2018 U.S. Senate reelection by 6.5% against Republican John E. James
- Defeated incumbent Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-MI) in 2000; re-elected three times (2006,

2012, 2018) with an average of 56% of the vote

Committees:

- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry (Chairman)
 - Conservation, Climate, Forestry & Natural Resources
 - Rural Development & Energy
 - Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Sys & Food Safety & Sec
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
- Senate Finance
 - Energy, Natural Resources & Infrastructure (Chairman)
 - Health Care
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
- Joint Taxation
- Senate Budget
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Clean Air, Climate & Nuclear Safety

Quick Summary

Michigan native and former local and state officeholder whose personal experience drives her health care focus; other priorities include job creation, the Farm Bill, and the Great Lakes

- Entered politics at age 24 and rose from local to national office, becoming first woman from MI elected to the Senate in 2000



Debbie Stabenow

Senator for Michigan (D)



- Sponsors bipartisan legislation on priorities such as lowering drug costs and protecting auto and agriculture industries in trade deals
- Health care-focused member emerged as a vocal supporter of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) during its passage; has proposed expanding Medicare eligibility to people over 50
- The top Democrat on the Senate Agriculture Committee since 2011, she played a key role in drafting and passing 2014 and 2018 Farm Bills, securing provisions that benefitted Michigan and promoted conservation; enjoyed a good relationship with former committee chair Pat Roberts, the now-retired Kansas Republican
- Co-chairs caucuses with significant relevance to her state, including the bipartisan Senate Manufacturing Caucus and Great Lakes Task Force
- Holds significant caucus leadership position as the chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee
- In 2021, Stabenow worked to promote Michigan priorities in Democrats' major legislation, such as strengthened "Buy American" provisions in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

tells the story of how her first political opponent dismissively called her "that young broad"

- Prioritizes keeping manufacturers in the United States and helping American firms through tax incentives and 'Buy American' requirements for federal agencies
-

Political History

- Commissioner, Board of Commissioners, County of Ingham, Michigan, 1975-1978
- Member, MI State House, 1979-1991
- Member, MI State Senate, 1991-1994
- Candidate, Office of the Governor of Michigan, 1994
- Candidate, Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Michigan, 1994
- Member (MI08 D), U.S. House of Representatives, 1997-2001
- Secretary, U.S. Senate Democratic Conference, 2005-2007
- Senate Democratic Policy and Communications Center Vice Chairman (DPCC), U.S. Senate, 2017
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, 2018
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Health Care, 2018

Approach and Motivations

Shaped by family connections to health care, auto industry, and experience as a woman in politics; prioritizes job creation

- Family owned an Oldsmobile dealership, underscoring her connection to Michigan's signature industry
- Daughter of a nurse who was first inspired to run for office by the closure of a nursing home; health care remains a top priority
- Sees herself as an example for women who want to run for office but fear discrimination;

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MISSISSIPPI



Michael Guest

Representative for Mississippi's 3rd District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: gest

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: February 4, 1970

Birthplace: Woodbury, NJ

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of Mississippi, 1995
- BA, Mississippi State University, 1992

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Mississippi's 3rd district, 2019-Present
- District Attorney of Rankin and Madison County, 2008-2019
- Assistant District Attorney, Madison and Rankin Counties, State of Mississippi
- Instructor, Rankin County Sheriff's Department
- Instructor, Mississippi State Highway Patrol
- Instructor, Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics
- Instructor, Hinds County Sheriff's Department

Committees:

- House Ethics (Chairman)
- House Homeland Security (Vice Chairman)
 - Border Security & Enforcement

- House Appropriations
 - Military Construction, Veterans Affairs & Related Agencies
 - Homeland Security
 - Energy & Water Development & Related Agencies

Quick Summary

Former district attorney who leverages over two decades of experience in law enforcement to advocate for stronger national defense and border security, and improved health care

- Mississippi native; received his BA and JD from state universities before launching a career in the district attorney's (DA) office
- After 12 years as assistant DA, Guest was elected as DA for Madison and Rankin Counties in 2007, where he gained a reputation for being "tough on crime"; balanced his career with leadership roles in local civic groups, including the Mississippi Crime Stoppers and the Foundation for Rankin County Public Schools
- Won a competitive 2018 runoff election with strong support from the state Republican party
- In Congress, has largely focused on foreign affairs, introducing legislation to allocate funding to build trade capacity and law enforcement efficiency in foreign countries; his bill to develop and conduct exercises to prevent terrorist and foreign fighter travel was signed into law
- Advocates for improved enforcement along the Mexican border, including the construction of a border wall, to curb illegal immigration, human trafficking, and drug trafficking
- Supports ACA repeal, calling for a free market solution, such as allowing patients to buy out-of-state health insurance plans; focuses legislative efforts on increasing access to health services for rural communities



Michael Guest

Representative for Mississippi's 3rd District (R)



- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Approach and Motivations

Draws on background as a prosecutor, believing safety and crime prevention are the first steps towards creating a prosperous Mississippi

- Says he fought for families by prosecuting criminals and that he has taken that same spirit and determination to Congress; cites protecting citizens from “those who would prey on others” as his primary motivator throughout his career
- Allies himself closely with law enforcement officials and supports increasing their resources; states that he developed a strong appreciation for police departments while working with them as a DA
- Experience seeing first-hand how the presence of drugs negatively impacts communities informs his drive to strengthen border security, secure funding for long-term rehab programs, and impose stronger penalties for doctors who over-prescribe

Political History

- Representative for Mississippi's 3rd district, 2019-Present

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Cindy Hyde-Smith

Senator for Mississippi (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: hide-smith

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 10, 1959

Birthplace: Brookhaven, MS

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, Criminal Justice and Political Science, University of Southern Mississippi
- AA, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 1979

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Senator for Mississippi, 2018-Present
- Commissioner, Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, 2012-2018
- Member, Agriculture Advisory Committee, Donald J. Trump for President, 2016
- State Senator for Mississippi's 39th District, 2000-2012
- State Director for Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee, National Coalition for Healthcare
- Lobbyist, Southern Coalition for Safer Highways

Committees:

- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry

- Commodities, Risk Management & Trade (Ranking Member)
- Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Sys & Food Safety & Sec
- Conservation, Climate, Forestry & Natural Resources
- Senate Appropriations
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies (Ranking Member)
 - Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development
- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
 - National Parks
 - Energy
- Senate Rules & Administration

Quick Summary

A lifelong Mississippian with a background in agriculture policy, Hyde-Smith focuses on protections for farmers in rural communities; once a Democrat, she is now known for her strong conservative views

- After attending community college, Hyde-Smith earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi; worked as a lobbyist for groups such as the Southern Coalition for Safer Highways and the National Coalition for Healthcare
- Served in the state Senate from 2000 to 2012 and chaired the Agriculture Committee; from 2012 to 2018, Hyde-Smith was the state's commissioner of agriculture and commerce, where she focused on increasing protections and limiting regulations for farmers
- Switched her political party affiliation from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party in



Cindy Hyde-Smith

Senator for Mississippi (R)



2010, explaining that she had always held conservative views

- In 2018, Hyde-Smith was appointed to fill Sen. Thad Cochran's (R-MS) seat after he stepped down; then-Majority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) was initially hesitant towards her appointment, given Hyde-Smith's history in the Democratic Party, but later supported her special election campaign
- Favors fiscal responsibility, deregulations, and investments in infrastructure for rural communities and farmers; has sponsored a constitutional amendment to mandate a balanced budget
- Elected to a full 6-year term in 2020, defeating her opponent, former Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy (D-MS)
- On January 6, 2021, Hyde-Smith objected to the certification of electoral college votes from Arizona and Pennsylvania, saying that she could not in good conscience vote to certify an election that her constituents believed was unconstitutional; was one of a handful of senators who maintained such opposition after insurrectionists broke into the Capitol

within a family of farmers for her views towards agricultural policy; recognizes that such policies affect not only agricultural producers, but everyone, as they consume what producers grow daily

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Approach and Motivations

Raised in rural Mississippi by working class parents who taught her the values of fiscal and social conservatism

- Ran for state Senate after being frustrated with her predecessor's policies and decided she needed to fix it herself; became the first woman to represent Mississippi in the US Senate
- Describes herself as a "rock solid" conservative; frequently points to her lifelong NRA membership and pro-life record when describing her conservative values
- Draws on her past experience in the state Senate Agriculture Committee, as commissioner of agriculture, and as a farmer



Roger Wicker

Senator for Mississippi (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: WIH-kur

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: July 5, 1951

Birthplace: Pontotoc, MS

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of Mississippi, BA, 1973
- University of Mississippi, JD, 1975

Family:

3 children ; 5 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Mississippi (R), 2007-Present
- Representative for Mississippi's 1st District (R), 1995-2007
- Judge Advocate, US Air Force Reserves, 1980-2003
- State Senator for Mississippi's 6th District (R), 1988-1995
- Attorney, Sparks, Wicker and Colburn, 1982-1994
- Judge Pro Tempore for Tupelo City, MS, 1986-1987
- Public Defender for Lee County, 1984-1987
- Staff Assistant, Office of Rep. Trent Lott (R-MS5), 1980-1982
- Officer, US Air Force, 1976-1980

Committees:

- Senate Armed Services (Ranking Member)
 - Personnel
 - Cybersecurity
 - Strategic Forces
 - Emerging Threats & Capabilities
 - Readiness & Management Support
 - Seapower
 - Airland
- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change & Manufacturing
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
 - Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations
 - Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Chem Safety, Waste Mngmnt, Enviro Justice & Reg Oversight
 - Clean Air, Climate & Nuclear Safety
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
- Senate Rules & Administration
- Joint Security & Cooperation in Europe (Ranking Member)

Quick Summary

A traditional conservative with a long history in Mississippi politics, Wicker balances partisan loyalties with bipartisan collaboration on issues such as privacy and disease eradication

- A Northern Mississippi native, Wicker grew up with a father who served as a state senator and circuit court judge
- Started working in politics when he was 16 as a page for then-Rep. Jamie Whitten (D-MS1); much later, Wicker ran for and won Whitten's



Roger Wicker

Senator for Mississippi (R)



seat when Whitten stepped down after 28 terms

- After serving four years in the Air Force, Wicker worked as a staff assistant for then-Rep. Trent Lott (R-MS5) for two years before practicing law; successfully ran for the Mississippi Senate in 1987
- Won his bid for the House of Representatives in 1994, and used his position on the House Appropriations Committee to secure funding for his low-income district; served in the House until 2007, when he was appointed by Gov. Haley Barbour (R) to replace then-Sen. Trent Lott (R-MS) after Lott's resignation
- Through the Commerce Committee, Wicker has worked to pass bipartisan legislation relate to fisheries and agriculture, ocean research, and technology issues such as 5G and data privacy
- Successfully chaired the National Republican Senatorial Committee from 2015 to 2017, raising over \$120 million and defending 24 senate seats in the 2016 election, of which Republicans lost only two
- As the previous chair of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Wicker is highly engaged in relevant foreign policy matters; in early 2021, he traveled to Ukraine with bipartisan Senate delegation to meet with top Ukrainian officials

intentionality in designing Senate procedure as a reason to maintain the controversial filibuster, and voted against enacting a state of emergency to fund the border wall in 2019 due to concerns regarding separation of power

- Legislative approach centers on securing funds for not only state-focused projects such as military installations, but also federal funding for areas such as Alzheimer's research; favors public-private partnerships to fund projects in rural areas of the country
- Frequently uses larger bills and the appropriations process to pass his legislation; several bills introduced by Wicker, such as the Beat CHINA for 5G 2020 act, passed in the 116th Congress through the 2021 NDAA and Consolidated Appropriations Act

Approach and Motivations

Introduced to public service by his father, Wicker has expressed deep respect for the traditional procedures of Congress; as a legislator, he has proven adept at including his priorities in larger bills

- Credits his father, who served as a circuit judge in Mississippi and served in WWII, for inspiring Wicker to enter public service
- Demonstrates respect for government tradition and procedure; cited the Founding Fathers'

Political History

- Member (MS006 R), MS State Senate, 1988-1995
- Member (MS01 R), U.S. House of Representatives, 1995-2007
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Seapower, 2013
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security, 2013
- Chairman, National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC), 2015-2017
- Chairman, U.S. Joint Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, 2018
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Seapower, 2018
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation and the Internet, 2018

MISSOURI



Josh Hawley

Senator for Missouri (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: HAW-lee

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: December 31, 1979

Birthplace: Springdale, AR

Hometown: Lexington, MO

Religion: Evangelical

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Yale Law School, 2006
- BA, Stanford University, 2002

Family:

- Married, Erin Morrow Hawley
- Two children

Work History:

- Senator for Missouri (R), 2019-Present
- Attorney General of Missouri (R), 2017-2018
- Associate Professor, University of Missouri Law School, 2011-2016
- Founder/President, Missouri Liberty Project, 2014-2015
- Attorney, Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, 2011-2015
- Attorney, Hogan Lovells, 2008-2011
- Clerk, Chief Justice John Roberts, 2007-2008
- Clerk to Judge Michael W. McConnell, U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit, 2006-2007

- Summer Associate, Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, 2005
- Summer Associate, Thompson Coburn, 2004
- Teacher, St. Paul's School in London, 2002-2003

Electoral Overview:

- Defeated incumbent Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO) by 51.4-45.6% margin in 2018

Committees:

- Senate Judiciary
 - Privacy, Technology & the Law (Ranking Member)
 - Human Rights & the Law
 - Competition Policy, Antitrust & Consumer Rights
 - Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action & Federal Rights
- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
 - Energy (Ranking Member)
 - Public Lands, Forests & Mining
- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs
 - Investigations
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Quick Summary

A first-term Senator with strong conservative legal credentials, Hawley is an outspoken opponent of “big tech” and China; one of former President Trump’s most fervent supporters, he faced backlash after leading congressional objections to President Biden’s election

- Raised in the Kansas City exurbs by politically active Republicans, Hawley studied Constitutional Law at Stanford and began developing relationships with Washington



Josh Hawley

Senator for Missouri (R)



conservatives as a summer intern at the Heritage Foundation

- Attended Yale Law School and clerked for Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts; working for a religious freedom non-profit, he helped argue a case in which the Supreme Court ruled that certain companies did not have to cover birth control through their insurance plans under the ACA
- Returning to Missouri, Hawley ran successfully for attorney general in 2016; prominent Republicans, including Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO), lobbied Hawley to run for Senate in 2018
- During the campaign, Hawley embraced President Trump and emphasized incumbent Claire McKaskill's (D-MO) votes against confirming Supreme Court Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh; defeated her by 5 points
- In the Senate, Hawley has emerged as a strong critic of big technology firms and an advocate for internet privacy, leading to some overlap with tech-focused Democrats like Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)
- With Sens. Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Tom Cotton (R-AR), Hawley has consistently spoken out against the Chinese government for suppressing free speech in Hong Kong and its response to the COVID-19 outbreak, and supports placing sanctions on Chinese officials
- A leader of congressional objections to the certification of Biden's election, Hawley faced widespread condemnation following the violent riot of January 6; wrote afterwards that he had objected on behalf of his constituents and sought to "lead a democratic debate" on election integrity

social conservative, Hawley rejects party orthodoxy on fiscal and trade policy and deference to business interests

- Considered to harbor ambitions for the 2024 GOP presidential nomination, he remains a vocal Trump backer and focuses on issues with strong resonance in the former president's base; positions himself as an enemy of "leftists and woke capitalists," who he argues are working to silence conservative viewpoints
- Strongly aligned with the GOP on social issues but rejects the party's traditional fiscal conservatism and deference to corporations; supported generous government spending to help individuals navigate the economic fallout of COVID-19, and advocates for overhauling US trade policy to benefit workers, and using regulatory agencies to weaken tech companies
- Despite his rhetoric towards Democrats and close alliance with Trump, Hawley has track record of working across the aisle on areas of mutual agreement; advocated for \$2000 COVID relief payments with Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)

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Contact: <http://www.hawley.senate.gov/contact-senator-hawley>

Approach and Motivations

Tailors rhetoric and priorities to appeal to former President Trump's base; though a steadfast



Eric Schmitt

Senator for Missouri (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: June 20, 1975

Birthplace: Bridgeton, MO

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, St. Louis University Law School, 2000
- BA, Truman State University, 1997

Family:

- Married; 3 children

Work History:

- Senator for Missouri, 2023-Present
- Attorney General of Missouri, 2019-2023
- State Treasurer, Missouri Office of the State Treasurer, 2017-2019
- State Senator for Missouri's 15th District , 2009-2017
- Member, Glendale Board of Aldermen, 2005-2008
- Attorney and Partner, Lathrop and Gage LLP

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Space & Science (Ranking Member)
 - Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Joint Economic
- Senate Armed Services
 - Cybersecurity

- Emerging Threats & Capabilities
- Seapower

Quick Summary

Longtime public official who has consistently focused on cutting taxes; became attorney general in Missouri in 2019, and worked to advance a number of conservative priorities before winning Missouri's Senate race in 2022

- After graduating law school, Schmitt worked in Clayton, Missouri as an attorney; successfully campaigned to be an alderman of Glendale, Missouri in 2005 and served in the local office until 2008
- Joined the Missouri state Senate in 2009; led the bipartisan effort to ban traffic ticket quotas and limit fine revenue, after a traffic stop led to a deadly shooting in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014 amid racial justice protests
- Led major state tax policy reforms, which included cuts to taxes on franchises, corporations, and incomes; created automatic tax cuts that triggered when revenues rose
- After reaching the Senate senate term limit, Schmitt ran for Missouri state treasurer where he continued pursuing tax cuts; in 2018, Schmitt championed efforts to create the state's "Show-Me Checkbook," a website detailing state revenues and expenditures
- Appointed to attorney general in 2019, filling a vacancy left by newly-elected Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO), and was elected to a full term in 2020; his tenure as attorney general has focused on advancing GOP priorities through legal challenges, such as seeking to invalidate the Affordable Care Act (ACA), to limit COVID-19 public health measures, to expand oil and gas projects, to prohibit the expansion of LGBTQ+ rights, and to overturn the 2020 presidential election results
- Ran for Senate in 2022 to fill a vacancy left by Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO); prevailed with 44% of



Eric Schmitt

Senator for Missouri (R)



the vote in a contested primary against two current members of Congress and fmr. Gov. Eric Greitens (R)

- Won the general election for Senate in November 2022 against Democrat Trudy Busch Valentine

(202) 224-5721

Contact: <http://www.schmitt.senate.gov/share-your-opinion>

Approach and Motivations

His son’s disability informed his early policy goals; leveraged his statewide office to advance social and economic priorities through rhetoric and legal challenges

- His interest in disability policy spurred by his son, who has autism; authored a state bill expanding insurance coverage for autism therapy, arguing that the significant costs that he endured for his son’s coverage would not be manageable for low-income families
- Although he gained notoriety in the state legislature for tax policy and economic messaging, he broadened his approach as attorney general; his admiration for fmr. Rep. Jack Kemp (R) inspired Schmitt’s initial focus and approach to tax legislation
- Employs harsh immigration rhetoric and believes “every state is a border state;” in 2022, he alleged that Democrats are “fundamentally trying to change this country through illegal immigration,” particularly by increasing immigrant vote shares, in an interview with conservative outlet The Blaze

Contact Information

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Phone:



Ann Wagner

Representative for Missouri's 2nd District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: WAG-nur

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: September 13, 1962

Birthplace: St. Louis, MO

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BS, University of Missouri-Columbia, 1984

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Missouri's 2nd District, 2013-Present
- US Ambassador to Luxembourg, 2005-2009
- Co-Chair, Republican National Committee, 2001-2005
- Chair, Missouri Republican Party, 1999-2005
- Employee, Carpetime
- Management positions, Hallmark Cards in Kansas City
- Management positions, Ralston Purina in St. Louis

Committees:

- House Financial Services
 - Capital Markets (Chairman)
 - Oversight & Investigations

- House Foreign Affairs (Vice Chairman)
 - Indo-Pacific
 - Europe

Quick Summary

Veteran GOP activist and former ambassador to Luxembourg with small business background; Congressional career has been marked by a commitment to regulatory reform, national defense, and human trafficking prevention

- Grew up in the 2nd district and worked at her family's carpet business, Carpetime; started her career in the retail sector before entering politics, serving in management positions at Hallmark Cards in Kansas City and Ralston Purina in St. Louis
- Initially became involved in state politics as township committeewoman when her husband began serving as counsel for then-Governor John Ashcroft (R); rose through the ranks of Republican leadership, eventually becoming the head of the state party, where she helped coordinate the Republican takeover of the state House and Senate
- Co-chaired the Republican National Committee during George W. Bush's first term; served four years as ambassador to Luxembourg
- Has held a variety of leadership positions within the Republican caucus, including senior deputy whip and vice chair for fundraising of the NRCC
- As vice ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Wagner secures funding for defense priorities including National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency facilities, Super Hornet upgrades in St. Louis, and pay raises for soldiers
- Focused on financial and regulatory reform, authoring legislation such as the Retail Investor Protection Act, which protects access to retirement savings for middle class families



Ann Wagner

Representative for Missouri's 2nd District (R)



- Found policy niche in legislation aimed at combatting sex trafficking and online exploitation of women and children; authored the Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, which was signed into law in 2018
- Defeated 2020 Democratic challenger Jill Schupp by a margin of roughly eight points, winning a fifth term in the House

- Member, House Apportionment Commission, Office of Administration, State of Missouri, 2011-2012
- Candidate for Chair, Republican National Committee, 2010-2011
- Campaign Chair, Friends of Roy Blunt, (MO), 2009-2010
- U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg, U.S. Department of State, 2005-2009
- Co-Chair, Republican National Committee, 2001-2005
- Chair, MO Republican Party, 1999-2005
- Committeewoman, Township of Lafayette, MO, 1996-2005
- MO State Director, Bush/Quayle Re-election Campaign, 1992-1992

Approach and Motivations

Believes that her 25 years in the private sector give her an outsider perspective, while her work in grassroots advocacy and international diplomacy have shown her how she can best serve suburban Missouri and the country as a whole

- Says she adopted Republican ideals at an early age after seeing first hand the effects of government overregulation on her father's small business; these views were further solidified during her time in the private sector, and she applies these lessons to her legislating
- Experience in Europe cemented her belief in the American way, on issues such as opposition to a value-added tax, but also brought to her attention other global problems, like human trafficking; involved in a number of caucuses focused on international affairs, including the ASEAN caucus
- Her suburban priorities are informed by growing up in the St. Louis suburbs; Wagner revived the Suburban Caucus, with the goal of promoting the issues that matter to suburban America such as paid family leave, flexible work schedules, and flexible spending accounts

Contact Information

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Phone:

(202) 225-1621

Contact: <https://wagner.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Political History

- Representative for Missouri's 2nd District, 2013-Present

NEVADA



Mark Amodei

Representative for Nevada's 2nd District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: AM-uh-day

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: June 12, 1958

Birthplace: Carson City, NV

Religion: Presbyterian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Divorced

Education Summary:

- University of Nevada, Reno, BA, 1980
- University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law (CA), JD, 1983

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Nevada's 2nd District, 2011-present
- State Senator, Nevada State Senate, 1999-2010
- President, Nevada Mining Association, 2007-2008
- Attorney, Partner, Kummer Kaempfer Bonner Renshaw Ferrario Reno Office, 2004-2007
- Attorney, Allison, MacKenzie, Pavlakis, Wright & Fagan, Ltd., 1987-2002
- State Assemblyman, Nevada State Assembly, 1997-1998

Committees:

- House Appropriations

- Legislative Branch (Chairman)
- Financial Services & General Government
- Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
- Joint Library

Quick Summary

Small-government conservative passionate about transferring federal land management to local entities and utilizing the land as local communities see fit

- Joined the Army after law school, and served as a prosecutor for the Judge Advocate General Corps, handling criminal matters
- Was elected to the state Assembly, followed by the state Senate; was president of the Nevada Mining Association for a year and a half while serving in the state legislature, but stepped down to give his full attention to the legislative session
- Ran for Congress on a small-government platform of tax cuts, a balanced budget, and opening more public lands for oil and natural gas production
- Uses his seat on the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee to strengthen local control over federal lands, a prevalent issue in western states
- Vice-chairman of the Western Caucus, where he focuses on natural resources issues such as utilizing the Yucca Mountain for nuclear reprocessing and research rather than as only a waste repository

Approach and Motivations

Pragmatic lawmaker who advocates for communication between colleagues while remaining true to his value of self-determination



Mark Amodei

Representative for Nevada's 2nd District (R)



- Brings a straightforward approach to his position in Congress, saying that it is important for lawmakers to talk to each other more
- Says that he is not partisan when it comes to advocating for the needs of Nevadans; for instance, Amodei's district has a significant Hispanic population, and he breaks with the Republican party on immigration reform, expressing frustration over the lack of a solution towards the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program
- Channels the self-determination of the American West to his legislative style, particularly regarding land management legislation; notably passed the Northern Nevada Land Conservation Economic Development Act through the House, which shifted parts of federal lands in Nevada from the Bureau of Land Management's possession to various state government entities

Contact Information

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CHOB- Cannon House Office Building, Room 104
25 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20515-2802

Phone:

(202) 225-6155

Contact: <http://amodei.house.gov/email-me>

Political History

- Member, NV State Assembly, 1996-1997
- Member (NV017 R), NV State Senate, 1999-2011
- President Pro Tempore, NV State Senate, 2003-2005
- Member, Colorado River Commission
- Member, Uniform State Law Commission
- Member, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Legislative Oversight Committee
- Candidate, U.S. Senate, 2010
- Chairman, NV Republican Party, 2010-2011
- Vice Chair, U.S. House Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, 2015-present
- Vice Chair, U.S. House Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, 2018



Catherine Cortez Masto

Senator for Nevada (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: kor-TEZ MASS-toe

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: March 29, 1964

Birthplace: Las Vegas, NV

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Gonzaga University School, 1990
- BS, University of Nevada, Reno, 1986

Family:

Spouse: Paul Masto

Work History:

- Senator for Nevada, 2017-Present
- Executive Vice Chancellor, Nevada System of Higher Education, 2015
- Attorney General of Nevada, 2007-2015
- Assistant County Manager, Clark County, 2002-2006
- Federal Prosecutor, US Attorney's Office, 1999-2001
- Chief of Staff, Office of Gov. Bob Miller, 1995-1999
- Associate Attorney, Raleigh, Hunt & McGarry, P.C., 1991-1995
- Law Clerk, Chambers of Judge Michael J. Wendell, Eighth Judicial District Court, 1990-1991

Committees:

- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
 - Public Lands, Forests & Mining (Chairman)
 - Water & Power
 - Energy
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - National Security & International Trade & Finance
 - Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection
 - Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Indian Affairs
- Senate Finance
 - Energy, Natural Resources & Infrastructure
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
 - Health Care

Quick Summary

A former Nevada attorney general with deep in-state political connections, Cortez Masto has focused on natural resource, energy, and business policy in her first Senate term

- Born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada, Cortez Masto inherited ties to former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Latino Leaders Network through her late father Manny Cortez, former commissioner for Clark County
- Began her political career working as chief of staff for former Nevada Governor, Bob Miller (D) and subsequently became a federal prosecutor specializing in drugs and victims' rights cases
- As Nevada attorney general, she prioritized issues of elder abuse, sex trafficking, methamphetamine epidemic and drug distribution, and domestic violence; partnered with then-California Attorney General Kamala Harris to create the Mortgage Fraud Strike



Catherine Cortez Masto

Senator for Nevada (D)



Force to prosecute perpetrators of mortgage rescue scams;

- In 2016, Cortez Masto became the first Latina elected to the Senate, and the first woman to represent Nevada in the Senate
- As a Senator, she launched the Innovative State Initiative, a legislative package to strengthen US economic competitiveness in STEM and renewable energy, and advance small businesses; legislative record shows emphasis on utilizing tax incentives to promote renewable energy and climate conservation
- In February 2021, she announced her 2022 re-election campaign, highlighting her focus on health care access, immigration reform, and Nevada's recovery from the pandemic-triggered recession

Political History

- Senator for Nevada (D), 2017-Present
- Attorney General of Nevada, 2007-2015

Contact Information

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(202) 224-3542

Email: scheduling@cortezmastosenate.gov

Approach and Motivations

Political career shaped by network of influential role models and upbringing in a large, nature-loving family based in Las Vegas

- Inspired by her father's humble beginning as a parking attendant at the Dunes Hotel and subsequent rise to chair of the board of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, and Clark County Commissioner
- Elected in 2016 the backing of fmr. Sen. Reid, who had been friends with her father; expresses admiration for his economic and environmental policies and views her policies as a continuation of his legacy
- Avid hiker and nature lover who grew up camping in the Nevada desert with her family, giving her a longstanding concern for the environment that is reflected in her environmental and energy policies



Jacky Rosen

Senator for Nevada (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: RO-zuhn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: August 2, 1957

Birthplace: Chicago, IL

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- AAS, Computing and Information Technology, Clark County Community College, 1985
- BA, Psychology, University of Minnesota, 1979

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Senator for Nevada, 2019-Present
- Representative for Nevada's 3rd District, 2017-2019
- Computer Programmer and Software Developer, Citibank
- President, Congregation Ner Tamid, 2013-2016
- Consultant, Private Practice, 1993-2002
- Computer Programmer, Software Developer, Southwest Gas Company, 1990-1993
- Computer Programmer, Software Developer, and Designer, Summa Corporation
- Server, Caesar's Palace

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Tourism, Trade & Export Promotion (Chairman)
 - Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations
 - Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs
 - Emerging Threats & Spending Oversight
- Senate Armed Services
 - Cybersecurity
 - Emerging Threats & Capabilities
 - Strategic Forces
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Quick Summary

Former computer programmer and synagogue president who rose to the US Senate after one term in the House; focuses on technological innovation, and applying it to health and renewable energy

- Born and raised in the Chicago area and graduated with a bachelor of arts in psychology from the University of Minnesota in 1979; her parents moved to Las Vegas while she was in college, and she relocated there upon graduation
- After earning an associate degree in computing in 1985, Rosen worked as a systems analyst and programmer at Nevada-based Citibank and Southwest Gas before entering politics
- Tapped by then-Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) to run for a vacant House seat while she was president of Congregation Ner Tamid; a member of the synagogue recommended Rosen
- In 2016, Rosen successfully won Nevada's 3rd Congressional District, edging out attorney and



Jacky Rosen

Senator for Nevada (D)



businessperson Danny Tarkanian (R) 47.2% to 46%

- After one term in the House, Rosen challenged incumbent Sen. Dean Heller (R-NV) in a campaign in which her opponent consistently criticized Rosen's lack of political experience; bested Heller in the 2018 race by 5%, becoming the third female Jewish senator in US history and the first woman to move from the House to the Senate after just one term
- As a senator, Rosen prioritizes safeguarding the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) protections for pre-existing conditions; aims to utilize data mapping and university research to improve health outcomes, particularly for mental health and maternal care
- Champions Nevada's renewable energy industry and has worked on legislation to expand energy tax credits; opposes the relicensing of Yucca mountain nuclear waste storage site for environmental reasons

Problem Solvers Caucus while serving in the House, and co-founded the bipartisan Women in STEM Caucus in the Senate

Contact Information

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Phone:

(202) 224-6244

Contact: http://www.rosen.senate.gov/contact_jacky

Approach and Motivations

Leverages status as political outsider with industry perspective for bipartisan negotiations

- A practicing Jew, Rosen cites the Jewish concept of *tikkun olam*, "repairing the world," as a motivation for running for Congress; *tikkun olam* is generally interpreted to mean the performance of good deeds and actions that benefit the world
- Says that business insight from her tenure in the technology industry and from running her own small consulting business provides her a unique approach to policy making; draws on her tech background to advocate for net neutrality, internet privacy, and funding for STEM education
- Critical of hyper-partisanship, Rosen has committed to consistently working across the aisle, on issues ranging from veterans affairs to education; was a member of the bipartisan

NEW JERSEY



Cory Booker

Senator for New Jersey (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: BOOK-ur

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: April 27, 1969

Birthplace: Washington, DC

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Single

Education Summary:

- JD, Yale University, 1997
- BA, Modern History, Oxford University, 1994
- MA, Sociology, Stanford University, 1992
- BA, Political Science, Stanford University, 1991

Work History:

- Senator for New Jersey, 2013-Present
- Mayor of Newark, NJ, 2006-2013
- Municipal Council Member for Newark's Central Ward, 1998-2002
- Partner, Booker, Rabinowitz, Tent, Lubetkin, Tully, DiPasquale & Webster PC
- Staff Attorney, Urban Justice Center, New York, NY
- Program Coordinator, Newark, NJ Youth Project, 1988

Committees:

- Senate Foreign Relations
 - Africa & Global Health Policy (Chairman)
 - State Dept & USAID Mngmnt, Internat'l Ops & Internat'l Dev

- Near East, South Asia, Central Asia & Counterterrorism
- Senate Judiciary
 - Criminal Justice & Counterterrorism (Chairman)
 - Constitution
 - Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action & Federal Rights
 - Immigration, Citizenship & Border Security
 - Competition Policy, Antitrust & Consumer Rights
- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
 - Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Sys & Food Safety & Sec
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Quick Summary

Dedicated activist, intellectual, and coalition builder who forges connections across the aisle; focuses on the needs of underserved communities through reforms promoting humanity and unity

- Born in Washington DC, Booker grew up in an affluent New Jersey neighborhood; his parents who were executives for IBM who had actively participated in the Civil Rights Movement
- Played football for Stanford University, where he got his undergraduate and master's degrees; later received a Rhodes scholarship to earn a second bachelor's degree from Oxford University
- Moved to Newark, New Jersey during his last year of law school to work as an advocate for tenants' rights; lived alongside his clientele in Newark's inner city housing projects until the building was demolished in 2006



Cory Booker

Senator for New Jersey (D)



- Served on the Municipal Council of Newark from 1998 to 2002, and subsequently ran an unsuccessful campaign for mayor; ran again in 2006 and served for two terms, gaining national recognition for his focus on economic reform, education, and reducing crime
- Won his Senate seat in a 2013 special election following the death of Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ); so far, Booker is one of only seven Black members elected to the Senate since Reconstruction
- As a senator, Booker has prioritized reforming criminal justice reform efforts, addressing economic inequality, and promoting urban development; pushed for the bipartisan First Step Act to address mass incarceration and recidivism on the federal level
- Launched a bid for the 2020 presidential election and ran on a progressive platform; suspended his campaign in January 2020, and endorsed eventual nominee Joe Biden

strikes and lived in housing developments to draw attention to inequalities and inner-city problems

- Collaborates with diverse thought leaders who possess unique political identities, religions, and experiences; a notable example would be his deep ties to the Jewish community, despite not being Jewish himself

Political History

- Member, Newark, NJ City Council, 1998-2002
- Candidate, Mayor of Newark, NJ, 2002-2002
- Mayor, City of Newark, NJ, 2006-2013
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Oversight, 2013-2015

Contact Information

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(202) 224-3224

Contact:

<http://www.booker.senate.gov/contact/write-to-cory>

Approach and Motivations

Driven by lived experience, Booker coalesces diverse groups to enact reforms aimed at improving circumstances for unprivileged Americans

- Focus on racial inequality and education reform stems from the barriers his own family had to face; as African Americans, Booker's parents faced barriers purchasing a home in predominantly white Bergen County, New Jersey
- Spearheads policy initiatives with the goal of reducing systemic economic and social inequalities, occasionally breaking from party norms; differs dramatically from Democratic peers on school choice, vouchers, and opportunity zones, believing these are viable pathways to lift underserved communities
- Steadfast activist who often puts himself in his constituents' shoes; has gone on hunger



Andy Kim

Representative for New Jersey's 3rd District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: kim

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: July 12, 1982

Birthplace: Boston, MA

Religion: Presbyterian

Ethnicity: Asian American/Pacific Islander

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- PhD, University of Oxford (UK), 2010
- MPhil, Oxford University (UK), 2007
- University of Chicago (IL), BA, 2004

Family:

Wife, Kammy; 2 children

Work History:

- Representative for New Jersey, 2019-present
- Director for Iraq, National Security Council, 2013-2015
- Iraq Country Director, Office of the Secretary of Defense, 2013
- Foreign Affairs Officer, U.S. Department of State, 2009-2013
- Strategic Adviser to the Commander, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, International Security Assistance Force, 2011
- Conflict Management Specialist, U.S. Agency for International Development, 2005

Committees:

- House Armed Services

- Military Personnel (Ranking Member)
- Cyber, Information Technology & Innovation
- House Foreign Affairs
 - Indo-Pacific
 - Oversight & Accountability
- House Select China Committee

Quick Summary

After working in foreign policy in the Obama administration, Kim ran for Congress in 2018 on preserving the Affordable Care Act; has since focused on health care, small businesses, military issues, and coastal resiliency

- Raised in southern New Jersey by Korean immigrants, Kim graduated attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, where he wrote his doctoral dissertation on post-Cold War US policy towards conflicts in Iraq and Bosnia
- Joined the State Department as a foreign affairs officer in 2009 and advised the US military in Afghanistan for a five month period in 2011; after working on Iraq policy in the Pentagon, Kim served as director of Iraq policy on President Obama's National Security Council from 2013-2015
- One of three New Jersey freshman Democrats who flipped previously red seats in 2018 (Rep. Jeff Van Drew has since switched parties), Kim defeated GOP incumbent Tom MacArthur in a district President Trump won by 6 points in 2016; campaign highlighted MacArthur's efforts to repeal the ACA and Kim's national security background
- In his first term, Kim focused heavily on health care access and prescription drug costs; introduced the Helping Seniors Afford Health Care Act, which would expand eligibility for Medicare Savings Programs that reduce or eliminate out-of-pocket costs for qualifying beneficiaries



Andy Kim

Representative for New Jersey's 3rd District (D)



- Representing the military's Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Kim was named to the conference committee for the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act; praised the inclusion of environmental provisions and a pay-raise for service members in the NDAA
- In a flood and storm-prone coastal district, Kim has introduced bills to allow states to use up to 15% of federal highway funding for disaster resiliency projects and waive debts owed by households and individuals to the federal government for disaster relief; opposes fossil fuel drilling off of the New Jersey coast, which he believes threatens business and recreation

Approach and Motivations

A career public servant driven to run for office over concern for health care coverage, Kim is a constituent-focused legislator with a moderate policy record

- Emphasizes his background in national service, including time spent in Afghanistan working with Generals David Petraeus and John Allen as a civilian strategic advisor, to demonstrate his commitment to the country's interest over partisan politics
- Motivated to run for Congress in 2018 by MacArthur's actions on health care, particularly his support for an amendment to the GOP's American Health Care Act that would have allowed states to request waivers from the ACA's preexisting condition requirement; expresses a strong belief in the necessity of universal affordable health care access, which he has called "our new moonshot"
- Representing a swing district, Kim has built a moderate record centered around incremental health care reforms, support for service members, and advocacy for small businesses; one of 23 freshman House Democrats endorsed by the US Chamber of Commerce, a powerful lobbying group that has traditionally backed business-friendly Republicans

Political History

- Candidate, United States House of Representatives, New Jersey, District 3, 2018

Contact Information

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Bob Menendez

Senator for New Jersey (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: meh-NEN-dehz

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: January 1, 1954

Birthplace: New York, NY

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- St. Peter's College (NJ), BA, 1976
- Rutgers University Law School (NJ), JD, 1979

Family:

- Wife, Nadine Arslanian
- 2 children (2 from previous marriage)

Work History:

- Senator for New Jersey (D), 2006-Present
- Representative for New Jersey's 13th district (D), 1993-2006
- State Senator for New Jersey's 33rd District (D), 1991-1993
- State Assemblymember for New Jersey's 33rd District (D), 1987-1991
- Mayor, Union City, New Jersey, 1986-1992
- Attorney, Private Practice, 1980-1986

Electoral Overview:

- Faced a competitive primary in 2018 following his corruption charges, but won both the primary election by more than 20 points and the general by more than 10

- Appointed to the Senate in early 2006 after the incumbent Senator retired to serve as governor; won the election with 53% of the vote, and has since been reelected by higher margins
- First elected to the House of Representatives in 1992, winning the heavily-Democratic district by more than 30 points nearly every cycle

Committees:

- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - Securities, Insurance & Investment (Chairman)
 - Economic Policy
 - Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Foreign Relations (Chairman)
- Senate Finance
 - Taxation & IRS Oversight
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
 - Health Care

Quick Summary

As a long-time legislator, Menendez is known for both his international and domestic approach to poverty relief and often draws from his background as the son of Cuban immigrants

- Personally invested in immigration policy as a son of immigrants, and served on the "Gang of Eight" in 2013, a bipartisan coalition to pass immigration reform through the Senate
- Ran for school board immediately after graduating high school, and then climbed the ladder from mayor to representative; he was appointed to the Senate in 2006 when John Corzine became governor
- As chair and then ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee, has worked on several humanitarian issues, including



Bob Menendez Senator for New Jersey (D)



advocating for refugees in Central America, recognizing the Armenian Genocide, and condemning Russia's interference in Crimea

- Stepped down as chair of the Foreign Relations Committee due to corruption charges, but returned as ranking member after being cleared; became chair again after Democrats took control of the Senate in 2021
- In 2022, has served as a leader in drafting sanctions and other potential reactions to the Russia-Ukraine conflict

Approach and Motivations

From a modest background, Menendez works to bring opportunities for social mobility to all Americans, especially immigrants and refugees

- A son of Cuban immigrants who fled turmoil, Menendez now advocates for immigrants and refugees from violence-torn Central America, working to expand asylum and limit detainment
- Strongly supports public education, and values the time he spent in the public school system
- As a first-generation college student and with blue-collar parents, Menendez works to improve social mobility and end child poverty
- Takes a firm stance on military intervention, being one of the only Democrats to oppose the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Point of Action for Iran, and support the 2013 military intervention in Syria, crossing party lines

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NEW YORK



Andrew R. Garbarino

Representative for New York's 2nd District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: g aa r b aa r EE n oh

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: September 27, 1984

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Not Stated

Education Summary:

- JD, Hofstra University, 2009
- BA, George Washington University, 2006

Work History:

- Representative for New York's 2nd District (R), 2021-Present
- State Assemblyman for New York's 7th District, 2013-2020
- Counsel, Captain Merrill H. Masin and Graham D. Masin Foundation
- Attorney, Garbarino Family Law Firm

Committees:

- House Homeland Security
 - Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Protection (Chairman)
- House Financial Services
 - Capital Markets (Vice Chairman)
 - Housing & Insurance
- House Ethics

Quick Summary

Former Long Island state Assemblyman turned national politico who focuses on Long Island-centric issues and pursues pro-business policy in Congress

- A life-long resident of Sayville, New York in Long Island, Garbarino established himself as a lawyer and business owner in his hometown
- Represented Brookhaven and other parts of Suffolk County in the New York State Assembly from 2013 to 2020
- Policy stances reflect his working-class community in Long Island, and are largely consistent with former Rep. Peter King (R-NY2)
- Focuses on supporting for law enforcement, reducing drug addiction, lowering health care costs, and cutting taxes for small businesses
- Similar to King, Garbarino, strongly supports environmental restrictions to protect Long Island's coastal industries

Approach and Motivations

Focused on maintaining quality of life on Long Island, emphasizing infrastructure and constituent services; influenced by his predecessor's district-first, bipartisan outlook

- Emphasizes his personal and family history on Long Island owning businesses and engaging with local politics and institutions; passed numerous bills as a state assemblyman helping religious institutions and businesses receive tax-exempt statuses
- Sees infrastructure as a crucial issue for economic growth and small business on Long Island; focused on sewer systems as a state representative and believes that states, given matching funds, will dramatically improve roads and energy services



Andrew R. Garbarino

Representative for New York's 2nd District (R)



- Citing former Rep. King's tendency to break with the GOP if he believed a law would not benefit Long Island, Garbarino says he will split with his party for the good of his district; calls for environmental protections for the Great South Bay, and voted to certify the results of the 2020 election, saying that Congress lacks the "constitutional authority" to overturn an election

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Kirsten Gillibrand

Senator for New York (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KEER-stuhn JIH-luh-brand

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: December 9, 1966

Birthplace: Albany, NY

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, University of California - Los Angeles, 1991
- BA, Asian Studies, Dartmouth College, 1988

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- US Senator for New York, 2009-Present
- Representative for New York's 20th District, 2007-2009
- Partner, Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, 2001-2005
- Special Counsel, Office of Secretary Andrew Cuomo, US Department of Housing & Urban Development, 2000-2001
- Associate, Davis, Polk & Wardwell LLP, 1991-1992, 1993-2000
- Law Clerk, Chambers of Judge Roger Miner, US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, 1992-1993

Committees:

- Senate Armed Services
 - Emerging Threats & Capabilities (Chairman)
 - Strategic Forces
 - Cybersecurity
- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Sys & Food Safety & Sec (Chairman)
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research
- Senate Aging
- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Raised in upstate New York with a moderate political background, Gillibrand rose to national prominence in the Senate as an advocate for women and leader on issues like sexual assault and paid leave

- Albany native whose parents were both attorneys; earned her bachelor's degree in Asian Studies from Dartmouth College, and studied abroad in China
- After law school, Gillibrand went to Manhattan firm Davis Polk & Wardell, working on behalf of tobacco company Philip Morris in a high-profile case; took on pro bono cases for abused women in her spare time
- Entered politics in 2006 by unseating popular Republican John Sweeney in a conservative upstate New York district amid growing dissatisfaction with the Bush administration
- During her tenure in the House, she was closely aligned with moderate Blue Dog Coalition; argued for stricter immigration laws and maintained high ratings from the NRA, which later swung to an F after she joined the Senate



Kirsten Gillibrand

Senator for New York (D)



- Selected by Gov. David Paterson (D) to fill Hillary Clinton’s Senate seat after Clinton was chosen to serve as secretary of state in 2009; reelected in a 2010 special election and in 2012 to serve a full six-year term
- Shifted to the left on policy stances after her Senate appointment, citing her representation of a larger constituency; quickly endorsed the DREAM Act after previously supporting cutting federal aid to sanctuary cities
- Advocate for combatting sexual assaults in the military and college campuses through targeted legislation and Congressional hearings
- Supports government transparency; publishes Sunlight Report on her website that includes financial disclosures
- Briefly ran in the 2020 Democratic presidential primary with a progressive platform focused largely on women’s equality
- In the 117th Congress, Gillibrand is leading proponent of family-friendly economic policies, such as 12 weeks of guaranteed paid leave for parents or caregivers

representation of a larger, significantly more liberal statewide constituency

- Maintains an open and honest dialogue about her past conservative viewpoints, publicly stating that she learned more as she grew older; stresses the importance of admitting when one is wrong and to make steps to rectify the past

Political History

- Member (NY20 D), U.S. House of Representatives, 2007-2009
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Marketing and Agriculture Security, 2013
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Livestock, Marketing and Agriculture Security, 2018
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Personnel, 2018

Contact Information

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Contact:

<http://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me>

Approach and Motivations

Interest in politics sparked by family’s connections; embraced progressive positions once she took statewide office

- Inspired to enter politics and advocate for women by her grandmother, who served as a secretary in the New York state legislature and founded the Albany Women’s Democratic Club; in the 1990s, Gillibrand got involved with the DNC’s Women Leadership Forum
- Once known as a socially conservative moderate, Gillibrand has adopted increasingly progressive stances in the Senate and now has one of the chamber’s most liberal voting records; observers attribute this in part to her



Brian Higgins

Representative for New York's 26th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: HIH-guhnz

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: October 6, 1959

Birthplace: Buffalo, NY

Hometown: Buffalo, NY

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education:

- MBA, Business Administration, Harvard University, 1996
- MA, History, Suny Buffalo State, 1995
- BA, Political Science, Suny Buffalo State, 1984

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Representative for New York, 2005-Present
 - 26th District, 2013-Present
 - 27th District, 2005-2013
- Assemblymember for New York's 145th District, 1999-2004
- Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor, Erie County Legislature, 1994-1998
- Member of the Buffalo Common Council for the South District, 1988-1993
- Faculty Member, Buffalo State College History and Economics Department

Committees:

- House Ways & Means
 - Trade
 - Health
 - Social Security
- House Budget

Quick Summary

Buffalo native who has maintained a consistent focus on infrastructure funding, affordable health care, and foreign affairs throughout his fifteen years in Congress

- Grew up in Buffalo, NY, with a father who was a bricklayer and a mother who was a teacher; launched his career by involving himself in local politics
- Prior to running for Congress in 2004, Higgins served in the New York Assembly and taught history and economics courses at Buffalo State College
- Named by media outlets as one of the leading candidates to replace Hillary Clinton in the Senate after she became secretary of state in 2009, but Gov. David Paterson (D) ultimately chose Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) instead
- On the Ways and Means Committee, Higgins aims to secure funding for improvements to Buffalo's infrastructure and to rebuild American infrastructure as a whole; he also pushes for development of Buffalo's burgeoning biomedical research industry, including the Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus
- Higgins' health care policy record includes sponsorship of Medicare early buy-in for Americans over the age of 50, and co-sponsorship of legislation to lower prescription drug costs and establish protections to prevent surprise billing



Brian Higgins

Representative for New York's 26th District (D)



- On the Foreign Affairs Committee, Higgins has been involved in legislation promoting cooperation between the US and Israel, as well as implementing sanctions on Iran and affiliates of Hezbollah
- Initially joined a group of Democrats who opposed re-electing Nancy Pelosi as speaker of the House following the 2018 election, but backed Pelosi after she agreed to prioritize Medicare and infrastructure
- In the 117th Congress, he has primarily introduced legislation pertaining to health and health care, such as the Medicare Buy-in and Health Care Stabilization Act of 2021

Approach and Motivations

Moderate who often works across the aisle with Republican colleagues; unafraid to change positions on social issues as public discourse evolves

- Proudly moderate, describing himself as “the most independent and conservative Democrat in the New York delegation”; he is a member of the centrist New Democrat Coalition and often agrees with Republican colleagues on issues such as national security, immigration, and gun control
- Has demonstrated openness to changing his political stances over time; began to support gun control reform after the 2012 Sandy Hook school shooting despite previous support for gun ownership, and became publicly-pro choice during his initial run for Congress despite his support for pro-life legislation while serving in the state assembly
- Became a leader on the Cancer Caucus after he got skin cancer, advocating for increased resources for cancer research and establishment of a national cancer trust fund

Political History

- Member, Buffalo (NY) Common Council, 1988-1994
- Candidate, Election for Erie County (NY) Comptroller, 1993
- Member, NY State Assembly, 1999-2004
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, 2011-2017

Contact Information

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Contact: <http://higgins.house.gov/contact>



Nick Langworthy

Representative for New York's 23rd District (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Hometown: South Dayton, NY

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, Political Science and Government, Niagara University, 2003

Family:

- Married; 1 child

Work History:

- Representative for New York's 23rd District, 2023-Present
- Chair, New York Republican State Committee, 2019-2023
- Chair, Erie County Republican Committee, 2010-2019
- President, Liberty Opinion Research, 2015-2019
- Executive Committee Member, Presidential Transition Team, 2016-2017
- Campaign Manager, Chris Lee For Congress, 2008-2008
- Executive Director, Erie County Republican Committee, 2007-2008
- Field Director, US House of Representatives, 2007-2007
- Campaign Manager, Reynolds For Congress, 2006-2007
- Field Representative for Rep. Thomas Reynolds, 2003-2006

Committees:

- House Oversight & Accountability
 - Economic Growth, Energy Policy & Regulatory Affairs
 - Health Care & Financial Services
 - Cybersecurity, Information Technology & Gov't Innovation
- House Rules
 - Legislative & Budget Process
- House Agriculture
 - Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture & Horticulture
 - Commodity Markets, Digital Assets & Rural Development

Quick Summary

A southern New York native, Langworthy is a long-time voice in the state Republican Party and campaigned for New York's 23rd House District in 2022

- Raised in South Dayton, New York, Langworthy emphasizes his pride of southern New York roots; quickly became interested in politics at a young age
- Attended Niagara University, where he founded the school's Young Republicans Club; became the chair of the New York College Republican State Committee, as well as chair of the Northeast Caucus of the College Republican National Committee, while in college
- In 2002, he began his political career by working as a staffer for Gov. George Pataki (R-NY); later that year, Langworthy opted to lead the 2002 campaign for the Republican candidate who ultimately lost the election to represent New York's 28th District, Henry F. Wojtaszek
- Worked as a field representative for Rep. Tom Reynolds (R-NY26) for three years before running Reynolds successful 2006 campaign;



Nick Langworthy

Representative for New York's 23rd District (R)



Langworthy would enter his first party leadership role as the Erie County Republican Committee for just over a year before running the successful Chris Lee for Congress campaign in 2008

- Returned to the Erie County Republican Committee in 2010 and served as the local party chair for the next nine years; is a vocal supporter of fmr. President Donald Trump, and served on the executive committee of Trump's presidential transition team in 2017
- Became the youngest person to chair New York's state Republican Party in 2019; continues to serve this role, working to help Republicans win federal and state elections
- Won the election for New York's 23rd District in November 2022 against military veteran Max Della Pia (D); campaign focused on energy and economic issues in the hope of creating jobs in the district using New York's large natural gas reserves

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http://langworthy.house.gov/address_authentication?form=/contact

Approach and Motivations

Emphasized the need for a strong Republican voice in New York in his 2022 campaign; local ties drives interest in the economic opportunity in the region's natural resources

- Calls attention to his district's natural resources, which he argues should be used as a resource for the state, but cannot be due to the state ban on fracking
- Wants to join the House Energy and Commerce Committee in order to have a key position to advocate for fracking; vowed to use his position to override the state government's opposition to the use of southern New York's natural gas if elected
- Referenced the high turnover of past representatives for New York's 23rd District and promised to be a reliable Republican voice who has record of political experience to support his self-description of stable leadership



Joseph Morelle

Representative for New York's 25th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: mor-REH-lee

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: April 29, 1957

Birthplace: Utica, NY

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- State University of New York, Geneseo, BA, 1986

Family:

3 children (1 deceased)

Work History:

- Representative for New York's 25th District, 2018-Present
- Majority Leader of the New York State Assembly, 2013-2018
- Acting Speaker of the New York State Assembly, 2015
- State Assemblymember for New York's 136th District, 1991-2018
- President, Founder, Chief Executive Officer, MMI Technologies, Inc. (Software Development)

Committees:

- House Administration (Ranking Member)
 - Modernization
- Joint Library

- House Communications Standards Commission
- Joint Printing
- House Appropriations
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development & Related Agencies

Quick Summary

Brings extensive local and state level experience while retaining strong local ties in upstate New York; pursues policies to provide educational opportunities and improve constituents' financial stability

- Got started in politics as a constituent representative and legislative assistant for state Senator John Perry (D-Brighton) before leading the Democratic party in Irondequoit
- Served in the Monroe County Legislature and then as the Majority Leader of the New York State Assembly on the Insurance and Tourism committees; helped pass a bill that required insurance carriers to cover the cost of autism screening and treatment within the state
- Replaced former Rep. Louise Slaughter in Congress, winning a tense primary through endorsements by Rochester County Newspaper and the Monroe County Democratic Committee
- Serves on the House Education and the Labor committee; sponsored the CAMPUS Act to provide emergency federal funds from the Dept. of Education to college students in need and the Rebuild America's Schools Act which provided \$100 billion to improve working conditions and access to resources in public schools
- Introduced the HOPE Act which facilitates easier access to government benefits through HOPE accounts enabling direct deposit, online



Joseph Morelle

Representative for New York's 25th District (D)



tracking of disbursement, and greater education for consumers on available government programs

- Assembly Majority Leader, NY State Assembly, 2018
- Member (NY25 D), U.S. House of Representatives, 2018-2018

Approach and Motivations

Became engaged in local politics at a relatively young age, quickly gaining notoriety for calling out political opponents; leveraged local political allies to garner leadership roles in the State Assembly

- Cites his family as an inspiration to serve; driven to public service because of his father's service in the Korean War and later career with the Plumbers and Pipefitters union instilling in him "the value of hard work"
- Before entering into politics, Morelle advocated for citizens' rights by raising awareness of Cheesegate, a local scandal in Rochester, in which officials failed to distribute government surplus of cheese to eligible residents
- In the local race for Irondequoit Democratic Party leader, Morelle accused Republican Samuel Soprano of ripping election cards off of doorknobs; despite this, Morelle won the election
- Morelle's endorsements from the Monroe County Democratic Committee in 2018 and 2020 demonstrate his ability to stay connected to the party he chaired decades earlier

Contact Information

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Political History

- Member, Social Action Network Commission
- Member, Vice President, Majority Leader, Monroe County Legislature, 1983-1990
- Member (NY132 D), NY State Assembly, 2010-2012
- Member, Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council
- Member (NY136 D), NY State Assembly, 1990-2018



Jerry Nadler

Representative for New York's 12th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: NAD-lur

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: June 13, 1947

Birthplace: Brooklyn, NY

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Columbia University (NY), Bach Deg, 1969
- Fordham University School of Law (NY), JD, 1978

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Representative for New York, 1992-Present
 - 12th District, 2023-Present
 - 10th District, 2013-2023
 - 8th District, 1993-2013
 - 17th District, 1992-1993
- State Assembly Member for New York, 1977-1992
 - 67th District, 1983-1992
 - 69th District, 1977-1982
- Law Clerk, Morgan, Finnegan, Pine, Foley and Lee, 1976
- Shift Manager, New York City Off-Track Betting Corporation, 1972-1976

- Legislative Assistant, New York State Assembly, 1972
- Law Clerk, Morris, Levin and Shein, 1971
- Legal Assistant, Corporation Trust Company, 1970

Committees:

- House Judiciary (Ranking Member)
 - Select Weaponization of the Federal Government

Quick Summary

Nadler’s deep roots in Brooklyn and four decades in public service have shaped his passion for supporting the working class through progressive policy

- Grew up in working class Brooklyn family; developed an early interest in politics and law
- Dedicated career to helping underserved communities; as member of the NY State Assembly, wrote majority of state’s laws on domestic violence and child support
- Helped lead efforts to secure federal resources for 9/11 first responders; Ground Zero is in his district
- Highly critical of government surveillance of citizens; helped co-write USA Freedom Act to limit bulk data collection by the NSA
- Deep roots in the New York’s Jewish community but willing to break ranks with other prominent Jewish democrats, including Chuck Schumer, on issues such as supporting Obama’s Iran Nuclear Deal
- Leading Democratic voice on impeachment for both Clinton and Trump; led impeachment hearings against President Trump with Adam Schiff and Hakeem Jefferies
- Appointed chair of the Judiciary Committee in November 2020



Jerry Nadler

Representative for New York's 12th District (D)



Approach and Motivations

(202) 225-5635

Motivated to help working class; draws on academic research to support policy initiatives

Contact: <http://nadler.house.gov/contact>

- Family moved back to Brooklyn after losing their chicken farm in New Jersey—an experience that drives Nadler to fight for the working class
- Adept debater and political strategist, Nadler builds arguments on academic justifications and has reputation as a leading liberal constitutional scholar
- Fought against Donald Trump's West Side development projects in the 80s and 90s, setting the stage for what continues to be a contentious relationship with the President

Political History

- Member, Community Planning Board No. 7, 1967-1971
- Member, NY State Assembly, 1976-1992
- Candidate, Manhattan Borough President, 1985
- Candidate, NY City Comptroller, 1989
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on the Constitution, 2011-2013
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, 2013-2017
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary, 2018

Contact Information

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Phone:



Charles Schumer

Senator for New York (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: SHOO-mur

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: November 23, 1950

Birthplace: Brooklyn, NY

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Harvard University (MA), BA, 1971
- Harvard University (MA), JD, 1974

Family:

2 children ; 1 grandchild

Work History:

- Senator for New York, 1999-Present
- Representative for New York's 9th District, 1993-1999
- Representative for New York's 10th District, 1983-1993
- Representative for New York's 16th District, 1981-1983
- State Assembly Member for New York's 45th District, 1975-1980
- Staff Aide, Office of US Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-RI), 1973
- Associate, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison

Committees:

- Senate Rules & Administration

- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Media savvy Brooklynite whose ascension to majority leader was fueled by an adept fundraising ability and desire to strengthen the moderate wing of the party; manages an ideologically diverse caucus constrained by a narrow majority and strong opposition from Republicans

- Brooklyn native who considers the borough to be an immutable part of his identity
- Entered politics with desire to help the middle class; draws inspiration from witnessing father's struggles and relentless work ethic running an extermination business
- Prolific fundraiser who receives significant support from Wall Street bankers and financiers
- Known for frequent engagement with media, using the press as problem-solving mechanism
- As minority leader, he balanced party factions by emphasizing ideological diversity in leadership and building relationships with every member of the caucus to ensure their concerns were met; also used close relationship with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA12) to guarantee Democratic unity between chambers in opposition to the policies of the Trump administration
- Elevated to majority leader by Democratic gains in the 2020 elections, Schumer aims to keep Democrats united as they attempt to pass President Joe Biden's expansive legislative agenda over near-unanimous Republican opposition



Charles Schumer

Senator for New York (D)



Approach and Motivations

Politics fueled by middle class upbringing; leadership style accommodates factions within the Democratic Party

- Father worked 13-hour days six days a week, and often discussed wanting a better life for his children; drives his work ethic and focus on middle-class voters
- Believes party should be a big tent, and favors putting members across the ideological spectrum into leadership positions, from Joe Manchin (D-WV) to Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
- Decision-making approach centers around balancing the needs of his most vulnerable members while ensuring their unity on big votes like health care and impeachment

Political History

- Member, NY State Assembly, 1975-1980
- Member, U.S. House of Representatives, 1981-1999
- Member, Democratic National Convention Platform Drafting Committee, 2000
- Chairman, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, 2005-2009
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest, 2016
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, 2016
- Vice Chair, U.S. Senate Democratic Conference, 2007-2017
- Chair, U.S. Senate Democratic Policy and Communications Center, 2011-2017

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NORTH CAROLINA



Ted Budd

Senator for North Carolina's Class III Senate Seat (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: buhd

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: October 21, 1971

Birthplace: Winston-Salem, NC

Religion: Christian - Non-Denominational

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MBA, Wake Forest University, 2007
- MTh, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1998
- BS, Appalachian State University, 1994

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Senator for North Carolina, 2023-Present
- Business Owner, ProShots Indoor Range & Training, 2010-Present
- Representative for North Carolina's 13th District, 2017-2023
- Partner, AgriTiva LLC, 2005-2015
- Executive Vice President/Regional Vice President, Board of Directors, The Budd Group, 1998-2005

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Tourism, Trade & Export Promotion (Ranking Member)

- Consumer Protection, Product Safety & Data Security
- Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports
- Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Armed Services
 - Cybersecurity
 - Personnel
 - Emerging Threats & Capabilities
- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Employment & Workplace Safety
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Quick Summary

Elected in 2016 as a first-time political figure, Budd prioritized deregulating the financial sector and improving health care; in 2022, he ran on his conservative record in the race for North Carolina's open Senate seat

- Grew up on a cattle and commercial chicken farm in Davie County, North Carolina, where he still lives with his wife
- After receiving a graduate degree from Dallas Theological Seminary and completing a mission trip to the former Soviet Union, he worked for his father's facility services company, The Budd Group; currently owns and operates ProShots, a gun store and shooting range
- Elected in 2016, Budd gained support in the primary race as an outsider with conservative values; backed by conservative organizations such as Club for Growth, which invested \$500,000 in his TV advertisements
- Serves on the Financial Services Committee, where he uses his business administration background to advocate against overregulation; he is also a strong opponent of the ACA



Ted Budd

Senator for North Carolina's Class III Senate Seat (R)



- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results from Pennsylvania and Arizona affirming President Joe Biden's election
- Announced in 2021 a bid for North Carolina Senate to replace retiring Sen. Richard Burr (R); ran on the message of combatting the "liberal agenda" with the endorsement of former President Trump
- After handily winning the May 2022 Republican primary, Budd won the general election for Senate against former North Carolina Supreme Court justice Cheri Beasley (D)

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Approach and Motivations

Experience as a former business owner informed his economic policies on financial services and gun policy; held firmly to fiscally responsible values, occasionally breaking with President Trump

- Ran in a district that became significantly more conservative through redistricting, Budd won on a platform of taking on political insiders, promoting fiscal responsibility, and protecting freedom, particularly religious freedom
- Motivated by his practical experience as a business owner to roll back regulations that he views as negatively impacting job creation and economic growth; operating a gun store, Budd is also a strong advocate for the Second Amendment
- Aligned closely with President Trump, who endorsed him for Senate, but is willing to break with Trump on issues that are at odds with his fiscally and socially conservative values; notably, Budd and fellow Freedom Caucus members opposed several spending bills signed by Trump that they viewed as burdensome for American taxpayer



Valerie Foushee

Representative for North Carolina's 4th District (D)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: May 7, 1956

Birthplace: Chapel Hill, NC

Hometown: Hillsborough, NC

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Family:

2 children; 1 grandchild

Work History:

- Representative for North Carolina's 4th District, 2023-Present
- State Senator for North Carolina's 23rd District, 2013-2023
- State Representative for North Carolina's 50th District, 2013-2013
- Commissioner, Orange County Board of Commissioners, North Carolina, 2004-2010
 - Chair, 2008-2010
- Member, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education, 1997-2004
 - Chair, 2001-2003
- Staff, Chapel Hill Police Department

Committees:

- House Science, Space & Technology

- Investigations & Oversight (Ranking Member)
- Energy
- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Railroads, Pipelines & Hazardous Materials
 - Highways & Transit

Quick Summary

Lifelong North Carolinian whose political career spans local and state positions; ran for Congress on a platform of social justice and education

- A North Carolina native, Foushee grew up in a working-class family with her five siblings, and attended racially segregated schools until sixth grade
- Began serving on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education in 1997, before being the first Black woman elected to the Orange County Board of Commissioners; as commissioner, she notably worked to shutdown a county landfill that had negatively impacted a Black community
- Elected to the state House in 2012, but served for less than a year before local Democrats selected her to replace state Sen. Eleanor Kinnaird (D-NC23) following Kinnaird's resignation in 2013
- During her state Senate tenure, Foushee focused on criminal justice reform, greater voting access, quality education, women's and reproductive rights, and affordable health care
- Launched campaign for Congress in 2021, aiming to replace the retiring Rep. David Price (D-NC4); campaigned on a platform to continue the initiatives she pursued in the state Senate
- Passionate about criminal justice reform and racial justice initiatives and hopes to decriminalize marijuana and end cash bail; in Congress, Foushee plans to support efforts to pass the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act,



Valerie Foushee

Representative for North Carolina's 4th District (D)



For the People Act, and John Lewis Voting Rights Act

- Supports the passage of the Green New Deal; aims to strengthen environmental regulations, increase funding for the Environmental Protection Agency, and prioritize renewable energy development
- Won the Democratic primary on May 17, 2022 with 46% of the vote, followed by contender Nida Allam with 37% and American Idol runner-up Clay Aiken with 7.4%; won the 2022 general election against Courtney Geels to represent North Carolina's 4th District

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Approach and Motivations

Had formative experiences learning from her parents her value of hard work, and joined politics due to her experiences raising Black children

- Credits her parents, who were young and worked multiple jobs while raising Foushee and her siblings, for instilling in her the values of hard work, community service, and education
- After volunteering at Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, where her children attended, Foushee recognized that Black children needed a voice for them on the school board and in local and state government, especially after her son was “placed in a program for ‘at-risk’ youth without her consultation,” a decision that she believes was racially motivated
- A religious woman, Foushee attributes her faith to helping her personally and politically, as she learned about parliamentary procedure through the First Baptist Church



Patrick McHenry

Representative for North Carolina's 10th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: mik-HEN-ree

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: October 22, 1975

Birthplace: Charlotte, NC

Hometown: Gastonia, NC

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, History, Belmont Abbey College, 1999
- Attended, North Carolina State University

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Representative for North Carolina's 10th District (R), 2005-Present
- State Representative for North Carolina's 109th District (R), 2003-2004
- Owner, McHenry Real Estate
- Executive, DCI/New Media, Inc.
- Special Assistant, US Secretary of Labor, 2001-2002

Committees:

- House Financial Services (Chairman)

Quick Summary

Outspoken conservative politico and rising star within the Republican party; focused on modernizing financial institutions and ensuring that small businesses are able to thrive

- Jumpstarted his career on George W. Bush's presidential campaign, allowing him to establish connections with prominent Republican figures and establish himself within the political sphere at a young age, having been elected to Congress at the age of 29
- As ranking member of the Financial Services Committee, McHenry often garners bipartisan support to achieve policy goals; notably leads committee hearings and task force reports pertaining to pertinent issues, such as financial technology
- Focuses policy on financial services, modernization of financial institutions, financial technology, and easing regulatory burdens on entrepreneurs and small businesses
- Supports modernizing and expanding access to financial services in order to make it easier for individuals to innovate, become entrepreneurs, and start their own businesses; for instance, he supports promoting micro-lending as a way to provide capital to entrepreneurs in underbanked communities

Approach and Motivations

Pro-business approach, fostered by personal history with his father's small business

- McHenry's father started his own lawn care business while McHenry was growing up, allowing McHenry to personally witness the benefits of entrepreneurship
- Pro-business platform garners wide support from members of his party, as well as some Democrats; considers one of his proudest



Patrick McHenry

Representative for North Carolina's 10th District (R)



achievements to be helping craft the bipartisan JOBS Act of 2012, signed by President Obama

- Considers himself a strong conservative who was an ally to President Trump while he was in office; however, he has frequently been labeled by conservative groups such as FreedomWorks and Heritage Action, as well as political rivals, as not conservative enough
- Uses congressional hearings to give voice to the business sector and its perspective regarding policy

Political History

- State Chair, NC Federation of College Republicans
- Treasurer, College Republican National Committee
- Member, Gubernatorial Campaign Staff of Robin Hayes, 1996
- Candidate, Election to NC House of Representatives, 1998
- Coalition Director, Bush-Cheney Campaign, 2000
- National Volunteer Coordinator, Presidential Inaugural Committee, 2000-2001
- Member, NC State House, 2002-2004
- Chairman, U.S. House Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs, 2011-2013
- Chairman, U.S. House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, 2013-2015
- Chief Deputy Majority Whip, U.S. House of Representatives, 2014-2018
- Vice Chair, U.S. House Committee on Financial Services, 2015-2018

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Thom Tillis

Senator for North Carolina (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: TIH-liss

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: August 30, 1960

Birthplace: Jacksonville, FL

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of Maryland University College, BS, 1996

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Senator for North Carolina, 2015-Present
- Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives, 2011-2015
- State Representative for North Carolina's 98th District, 2007-2015
- Management Consultant, IBM, 2002-2009
- Member, Town of Cornelius Town Board, 2003-2005
- Former Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Employee, Provident Insurance
- Employee, Wang Laboratories

Committees:

- Senate Finance
 - Social Security, Pensions & Family Policy (Ranking Member)

- International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
- Senate Judiciary
 - Subcommittee on Intellectual Property (Ranking Member)
 - Competition Policy, Antitrust & Consumer Rights
 - Immigration, Citizenship & Border Security
 - Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action & Federal Rights
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection (Ranking Member)
 - Securities, Insurance & Investment
 - Economic Policy
- Senate Veterans' Affairs
- Joint Security & Cooperation in Europe

Quick Summary

Business-focused conservative whose rapid rise in politics was preceded by a successful private sector career; since 2014, he has won two close elections to the Senate in a narrowly-divided swing state

- Got an early start in the business world, delaying college until after he rose to partner at PWC; later joined IBM, consulting on the Bank of America merger in Charlotte
- Found quick success in his political career due to his pro-business policies and connections; he ascended to speaker of the North Carolina House after only two terms, rallying state Republicans with his leadership savvy and popular platform
- Aside from his business focus, led the NC State House in passing socially conservative policies related to abortion, gay marriage, and gun control



Thom Tillis

Senator for North Carolina (R)



- In 2014, Tillis defeated incumbent Sen. Key Hagan (D-NC) by 1.5 points; both candidates tried to position themselves as moderates, and Tillis tied Hagan to Democratic establishment figures like President Obama and then-Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV)
- In the Senate, he has focused primarily on immigration, financial services, and military issues, particularly those related to veterans; Tillis' Protecting Veterans from Predatory Lending Act of 2018 was signed by President Trump as part of a larger bill that reformed financial regulations instituted by the Dodd-Frank Act
- In 2020, Tillis faces a strong challenge from then-state Senator Cal Cunningham (D); Tillis underperformed President Trump, who won just over 50% of the vote, but defeated Cunningham, who scaled back his campaign in the latter stages of the race following the revelation of his extramarital affair
- Tillis' term expires in 2027

- Strongly believes policy should be determined by legislatures, opposing court rulings that nullify legislation and executive orders that circumvent Congress

Political History

- Chair, Dispatch Advisory Board
- Member, Town of Cornelius Town Board, 2003-2005
- Former Minority Whip, NC State House
- Speaker, NC State House, 2011-2014
- Co-Chair, NC State Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, 2014
- Speaker of the House, NC State House, 2011-2015
- Member (NC098 R), NC State House, 2007-2015

Approach and Motivations

Informed by his career path and private sector experience; Tillis has moderate inclinations on some issues, but is mostly a reliable vote for Republicans

- Derives much of his policy view from his private sector experience, working to alleviate burdens on businesses large and small and supporting non-college pathways to success
- Representing a highly-contested state, Tillis is motivated to appeal to moderate voters and align with party interests to maintain fundraising support
- Stances on issues like immigration and gun reform have produced occasional tension with party leadership; while he has introduced and promoted moderate policies on those issues, he has generally voted along party lines

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OREGON



Lori Chavez-DeRemer

Representative for Oregon's 5th District (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BBA, California State University-Fresno, 1990

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Oregon's 5th District, 2023-Present
- Marketing Director, Shawn M. DeRemer, MDPC, 2005-Present
- Mayor of Happy Valley, Oregon, 2010-2018
- City Council Member for Happy Valley, Oregon

Committees:

- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Economic Dev't, Public Buildings & Emergency Management (Vice Chairman)
 - Aviation
 - Highways & Transit
- House Agriculture
 - Forestry
 - Commodity Markets, Digital Assets & Rural Development
- House Education & Workforce
 - Higher Education & Workforce Development
 - Health, Employment, Labor & Pensions

Quick Summary

Former mayor of Happy Valley, Chavez-DeRemer aims to apply her record of law enforcement funding, low taxes, and conservative values as a member of Congress

- A granddaughter of immigrants and a first-generation college graduate, Chavez-DeRemer helped start a small business, Anesthesia Associates Northwest, with her husband, who is an anesthesiologist; they now operate several medical clinics in the region
- Entered public service by serving on the parks committee for her town of Happy Valley, Oregon, and later on the Happy Valley City Council
- Elected as mayor of Happy Valley in 2010, becoming the first woman and Latina to do so and served for two terms; as mayor Chavez-DeRemer balanced the city's budget, kept taxes at low levels, increased police presence and funding in the city, and offered more affordable housing options
- In 2016 and 2018, Chavez-DeRemer was unable to secure a seat in the state legislature in Oregon's 51st District, losing by 2% and 8%, respectively
- Announced her campaign for Congress in July 2021 and advocated for conservative family values and fiscal responsibility; ran on a platform of reducing government spending, curbing inflation, strengthening businesses, and securing funding for law enforcement and public safety
- Advanced from the Republican primary in May 2022 and won the November 2022 election for Colorado's 5th District against Democrat Jamie McLeod-Skinner, who unseated incumbent Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-OR5) in the Democratic primary



Lori Chavez-DeRemer
Representative for Oregon's 5th District (R)



Approach and Motivations

Leveraged her personal background and grassroots collaboration skills, which she was able to use while serving as mayor

- Referenced her background as a small business owner, a mother whose children went to public school, and her prior experience as mayor, when engaging with voters; believes her “hands-on approach” from her local government experience can be applied on a federal level, as she understands how issues such as the economy, crime, and education are felt on a level closer to home
- Values listening to experts for guidance, and plans on engaging with “those on the ground that deal with issues like forest management, water rights, and public safety” to help her craft policy in Congress
- Recognizes the importance of bipartisanship, particularly through her past role in a nonpartisan mayoral position, but she would “never compromise” her values for the sake of bipartisanship

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Jeff Merkley

Senator for Oregon (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: MURK-lee

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: October 24, 1956

Birthplace: Myrtle Creek, OR

Religion: Lutheran

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Stanford University (CA), BA, 1979
- Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School (NJ), MPP, 1982

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Oregon (D), 2009-Present
- State Representative for Oregon's 47th District (D), 1999-2009
 - Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives, 2007-2009
- President, World Affairs Council of Oregon, 1996-2003
- Director, Human Solutions, 1995-1996
- Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity, 1991-1994
- National Security Analyst, Congressional Budget Office, 1985-1989
- Presidential Management Fellow, Office of the US Secretary of Defense, 1982-1985

Electoral Overview:

- Re-elected to the Senate in 2020 with 57% of the vote; won a similar victory in his first re-election in 2014
- Initially elected to the Senate in 2008 with 49.1% of the vote

Committees:

- Senate Appropriations
 - Department of the Interior, Environment & Related Agencies (Chairman)
 - Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies
 - State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
 - DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Chem Safety, Waste Mngmnt, Enviro Justice & Reg Oversight (Chairman)
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Clean Air, Climate & Nuclear Safety
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - East Asia, the Pacific & International Cybersecurity Policy
 - West Hem Crime Civ Sec Dem Rights & Women's Issues
 - Africa & Global Health Policy
- Senate Rules & Administration
- Joint Congressional-Executive Commission on China
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Oregonian who has spent entire career in the public sphere; champion of human rights and



Jeff Merkley

Senator for Oregon (D)



environmental protections while pushing for diplomatic solutions abroad

- Analyzed military weapons programs and strategy at Department of Defense and Congressional Budget Office after grad school
- Returned to Oregon to run various nonprofits, focusing on affordable housing and bolstering Oregon's international presence
- Within a ten-year tenure, was speaker of the state House during one of Oregon's most active legislative sessions; focused on education, including creating a "rainy day fund" for schools
- Gained Senate notoriety regulating Wall Street by crafting the Volcker Rule within Dodd-Frank and by opposing President Obama's nomination of Ben Bernanke as Fed chairman
- Policy priorities include progressive action on environment, finance, and health care, as well as reducing America's military presence abroad
- Was a leader for the Democratic opposition to Neil Gorsuch's nomination to the Supreme Court, ultimately making a 15-hour filibuster
- Holds environmental-oriented subcommittee leadership on both the Environment and Public Works and Appropriations Committees; through those roles, Merkley seeks to regulate plastic pollution, asbestos, and other toxic chemicals as well as expand government cleanup efforts for existing Superfund sites

notably reflected in his vote to reject the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act

- Unabashed in support of progressive candidates and practices; was the only Senator to endorse Bernie Sanders before the 2016 Democratic Primaries and was the first federal candidate to be cross-nominated by the Independent Party of Oregon
- Opposition to foreign intervention has often aligned him with GOP Senators Rand Paul (R-KY) and Mike Lee (R-UT) on international issues

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Approach and Motivations

Self-proclaimed risk taker committed to pursuit of progressive ideals; comfortable taking independent stances, as well as working with, or criticizing, members of both parties

- Conviction in principles of noninterventionism, equal opportunity, and political fairness has often led to deviation from the party line, most



Ron Wyden

Senator for Oregon (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: WY-duhn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: May 3, 1949

Birthplace: Wichita, KS

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of Oregon Law School, JD, 1974
- Stanford University (CA), BA, 1971

Family:

5 children (2 from previous marriage)

Work History:

- Senator for Oregon, 1996-Present
- Representative for Oregon's 3rd District, 1981-1996
- Co-Founder and Director, Oregon Gray Panthers, 1974-1980
- Instructor, University of Portland, 1980
- Instructor, Portland State University, 1979
- Director, OR Legal Services for the Elderly, 1977-1979
- Instructor of Gerontology, University of Oregon, 1975-1976

Electoral Overview:

- 2016: Election for Oregon U.S. Senate, won (56.6%) against Mark Callahan (33.3%)

Committees:

- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
 - Water & Power (Chairman)
 - Energy
 - Public Lands, Forests & Mining
- Joint Taxation (Chairman)
- Senate Finance (Chairman)
 - Health Care
 - Taxation & IRS Oversight
 - Energy, Natural Resources & Infrastructure
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
 - Social Security, Pensions & Family Policy
 - Fiscal Responsibility & Economic Growth
- Senate Budget
- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Second-longest serving Democrat in Congress combines strong principles on civil liberties with flexibility and a bipartisan track record on health care; influences Democratic tax policy as Finance Committee chair

- Born to two refugees and raised in a tight-knit Jewish community near Palo Alto, California, Wyden learned the value of civil advocacy at a young age; states he still carries his mentor Senator Wayne Morse's independent mindset and skepticism of the national security establishment
- Played basketball in college at UC Santa Barbara and then Stanford while studying political science; dreamed of going to the NBA, but instead studied law at the University of Oregon
- Upon graduation, worked as a legal advocate for the elderly for five years
- Successfully ran for the US House in 1980, and represented Oregon's 3rd District until elected to the Senate in a 1996 special election



Ron Wyden

Senator for Oregon (D)



- The top-ranking Finance Committee Democrat, Wyden is an influential health wonk who continues to focus on health care costs for seniors
- Introduced a private insurance-based health care overhaul in 2007 and worked with then-Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) on private Medicare vouchers in 2011
- Made several attempts to increase taxes on wealthy corporations through the removal tax exemptions for foreign entities; moved to expand low and middle income tax credits
- Critic of government surveillance powers who has pushed back against Republican and Democratic administrations on the issue; protective of free speech on the internet without monitoring or censorship
- In 2021, Wyden played a significant role in crafting Democrats' reconciliation package, including writing clean energy tax provisions that are intended to push the country towards President Biden's climate goals

Political History

- Senator for Oregon, 1996-Present
- Representative for Oregon's 3rd District, 1981-1996

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Approach and Motivations

Prioritizes action over perfection; pursues solutions amenable to broad coalitions, including Republicans

- Bipartisanship advocate who prefers to tackle major issues through cooperation with key Republican colleagues including Sens. Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Rand Paul (R-KY), and Pat Toomey (R-PA)
- Motivated by a strong belief in transparency and civil liberty principles on government surveillance, data collection, and internet freedom
- Flexible in other policy areas; more concerned with pragmatic action than ideology on health care
- Uses finance chairmanship to influence Democratic tax policy and priorities

PENNSYLVANIA



Brendan Boyle

Representative for Pennsylvania's 2nd District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: BOY-uhl

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: February 6, 1977

Birthplace: Philadelphia, PA

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Notre Dame University (IN), BA, 1999
- Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government (MA), MPP, 2005

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Representative for Pennsylvania, 2015-Present
 - 2nd District, 2019-Present
 - 13th District, 2015-2019
- State Representative for Pennsylvania's 170th District (D), 2009-2015
- Teacher, Kaplan Test Preparation, 2002-2014
- Management Consultant, American Management Systems, 1999-2002
- Management Consultant, Department of Defense
- Adjunct Professor, Drexel University (PA)
- Sportscaster, 640 WVFI-AM, South Bend, IN (during college)

Committees:

- House Budget (Ranking Member)

Noteworthy Caucuses:

- **House**
 - Congressional Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBTQ+) Equality Caucus
 - New Democrat Coalition (NDC)
 - Expand Social Security Caucus (House)
 - Congressional Medicare for All Caucus
- **Joint**
 - Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC)
 - Congressional TRIO Caucus
 - Coalition for Autism Research and Education (CARE)
 - Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease

Quick Summary

Philadelphian raised in a blue-collar family, Boyle is passionate about accessible, affordable education and advocating for the working class

- Father immigrated to the United States from Ireland, initially worked in a factory and later as a custodian for Philadelphia's SEPTA train system; Boyle was a first-generation college student
- Elected to the state legislature in 2008; his brother Kevin Boyle, who served as Brendan's campaign manager, was elected two years later
- In the state legislature, Boyle focused on education policy, fighting cuts to public education funding, sponsoring a bill creating a scholarship for tuition-free public higher education, and passing a law requiring genocide education to be taught in public schools



Brendan Boyle

Representative for Pennsylvania's 2nd District (D)



- Ran for Congress with significantly less funding than his opponents in the primary; earned votes through grassroots outreach to the community and endorsements from unions as well as then-Rep. Bob Brady, chair of the Philadelphia Democratic Party
- Sits on the Ways and Means and Budget Committees, where he advocates for the allocation of federal funds to improve Philadelphia's struggling public schools
- Passionate about advocating for blue-collar workers; opposes trade deals that reduce jobs for American laborers, publicly denounced companies like Nabisco that have reduced factory jobs, and co-organized the Blue Collar Caucus for Democrats to reach out to Trump supporters to gain their vote

Approach and Motivations

Applies his blue-collar roots and personal experience with accessible higher education to reach working-class voters and push for increased education opportunities

- Promotes an economic populist message on the campaign trail, channeling his own working-class background; highlights the need for a candidate to self-fund their campaign
- Believes the Democratic Party should be more open to voters who may hold more conservative views on social issues like guns and abortion, as they may resonate with the economic interests yet still feel culturally isolated from the party
- Received an academic scholarship for college, making Boyle the first member of his family to go to college; places value on accessible higher education opportunities for low-income students who perform well academically

Political History

- Coordinator, Ed Rendell for Mayor Campaign, 1995
- Fundraiser, Bob Casey for Governor, 2002
- Candidate, PA State House, 2004-2004
- Candidate, PA State House, 2006-2006
- Member (PA170 D), PA State House, 2008-2014
- Member (PA13 D), U.S. House of Representatives, 2015-present

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Bob Casey

Senator for Pennsylvania (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KAY-see

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: April 13, 1960

Birthplace: Scranton, PA

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Catholic University of America, 1988
- BA, College of the Holy Cross, 1982

Family:

4 children; 1 grandchild

Work History:

- Senator for Pennsylvania, 2007-Present
- State Treasurer of Pennsylvania, 2005-2007
- Auditor General of Pennsylvania, 1997-2005
- Practicing Attorney, 1991-1996
- 5th Grade Teacher, Gesu School, 1982-1983

Electoral Overview:

- Ran unopposed in 2018 U.S. Senate primary and won general election by 13.1%
- First elected in 2006 against incumbent Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA); won with 59%, the highest margin of any Democrat ever to run for Senate in Pennsylvania
- Won 2004 Treasurer election with 61.3% of the vote

- Won 1996 Auditor election with 56.1% and re-elected in 2000 with 56.8%

Committees:

- Senate Aging (Chairman)
- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Children & Families (Chairman)
 - Employment & Workplace Safety
- Senate Finance
 - Social Security, Pensions & Family Policy
 - Health Care
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Children’s and disability rights advocate raised in a prominent PA political family; aims to protect Medicare and Medicaid from budget cuts and expand resources for seniors

- Raised in a large family in Scranton, the son of a popular Pennsylvania governor
- Former personal injury lawyer who has spent the majority of his career in the civil service, serving in state-wide financial roles from 1996 until 2006, when he chose to challenge incumbent Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA)
- As auditor general, major achievements included audit of state retirement fund and of compliance with federal law to notify public regarding registered sex offenders; continues the fight for government programs and protections for children as Senator
- Prioritizes strengthening Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, including through expanding Medicaid and opposing funding caps; as chair of the Senate Aging Committee, Casey has also worked to expand government resources for seniors, including financial and technological literacy



Bob Casey Senator for Pennsylvania (D)



- Recognized as advocate for children, and has introduced legislation to strengthen early learning and promote children's health
- Leader on disability rights, pushing for programs to help individuals save for their future, attend school, and secure employment
- Well-connected to influential state- and national-level Dems, including Joe Biden

Approach and Motivations

Early exposure to public service; has built on the pragmatic political legacy of his father, Gov. Robert Casey Sr. (D-PA)

- Says he learned from his father what it means to be a public official, citing Casey Sr.'s tenacity and people-centered approach
- Cites experience volunteering in North Pennsylvania as helping him understand the challenges many of his constituents face and shaping who he is as a public servant
- Like Casey Sr., holds socially conservative views, notably a pro-life stance on abortion, but his views on other social issues including gun control and same sex marriage have become more liberal over time; shifted from his previous pro-gun position to push for comprehensive gun control following the Sandy Hook shooting

Contact Information

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John Fetterman

Senator for Pennsylvania (D)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: August 15, 1969

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education:

- MPP, Harvard University
- MBA, University of Connecticut
- BA, Business Administration, Albright College

Family:

- Spouse: Gisele Barreto Fetterman
- 3 children

Work History:

- Senator for Pennsylvania, 2023-Present
- Lieutenant Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 2019-2023
- Mayor of Braddock, Pennsylvania, 2006-2019
- Risk Management Underwriter, The Chubb Corporation, 1993-1995

Committees:

- Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
 - Food & Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics & Research (Chairman)
 - Commodities, Risk Management & Trade
- Joint Economic
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Chem Safety, Waste Mngmnt, Enviro Justice & Reg Oversight
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs

- Economic Policy
- Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection
- Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Aging

Quick Summary

Pennsylvania native with a long history of community service and civic leadership; ran for Senate as a progressive, Fetterman hoped his candid style will appeal to Democrats and Republicans

- Raised by two middle-class teenage parents in York, PA; played football at Albright College where he studied business administration
- After earning his MBA, Fetterman worked as an underwriter for an insurance company and joined Big Brothers Big Sisters of America; shortly thereafter quit his insurance job to join AmeriCorps, where he opened neighborhood computer labs and taught General Educational Development (GED) courses in Pittsburgh
- Received his master of public policy from Harvard Kennedy School before settling in Braddock, PA, to teach GED courses to out-of-work youths and help them find jobs
- After becoming mayor of Braddock, he set his sights on revitalizing the once-thriving steel town by founding a non-profit, Braddock Redux, that developed and implemented projects like the creation of a community center and an urban farm
- Rose to national recognition in 2009 for his efforts to revitalize Braddock and his unconventional demeanor, including an appearance on Stephen Colbert's The Colbert Report; this attention resulted in funding from Levi Strauss Company, which dedicated \$1.5 million to the refurbishment of the community center in town and to supporting Braddock's urban farm



John Fetterman Senator for Pennsylvania (D)



- Unsuccessfully ran for Pennsylvania's US Senate seat in 2016 on an inequality-focused platform, but won the race for lieutenant governor in 2018 with a similar message
- Announced his candidacy for the Senate seat opened by the retirement of Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA), and positioned himself as a progressive who can appeal to Republican voters
- Recovering from a stroke he had in earlier in the year, Fetterman went on to win his election in November 2022 against Mehmet Oz (R)

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Approach and Motivations

Positioned himself as a political outsider, Fetterman used his everyman persona and open conversation with constituents to create a broad base of support

- Cited experience working with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America as his reason for becoming civically active, and spoke often of the "random lottery of birth" in which some are born with more privilege and opportunities than others; focused on leveling the playing field by fighting against financial and social inequalities that exacerbate the "random lottery of birth"
- Prioritized relationships with constituents over relationships with elected officials, highlighted by his 67-county tour of Pennsylvania to discuss marijuana legalization with constituents; has been described by prominent members of the Democratic Party in Pennsylvania as a "lone wolf" or "independent"
- Promoted himself as an outsider and everyman both politically and physically with a uniform of jeans and Carhartt clothing, and hoped to appeal to a broader base than most progressives; spoke candidly about issues, calling former President Trump a "jagoff," or Pittsburgh slang for "jerk"



Scott Perry

Representative for Pennsylvania's 10th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: PAIR-ree

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: May 27, 1962

Birthplace: San Diego, CA

Religion: Church of the United Brethren in Christ

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BS, Pennsylvania State University-Harrisburg, 1991

Family:

Two children

Work History:

- Representative for Pennsylvania, 2013-Present
 - 10th District, 2019-Present
 - 4th District, 2013-2019
- State Representative for Pennsylvania's 92nd District, 2007-2012
- Commander, 2-104th General Support Aviation Battalion, 2008-2011
- Assistant Division Commander (Support), 28th Infantry Division
- Owner and Operator, Hydrotech Mechanical Services, 1993-2013

Committees:

- House Transportation & Infrastructure

- Economic Dev't, Public Buildings & Emergency Management (Chairman)
- Aviation
- House Foreign Affairs
 - Oversight & Accountability
- House Oversight & Accountability
 - Economic Growth, Energy Policy & Regulatory Affairs
 - National Security, the Border & Foreign Affairs

Quick Summary

A National Guard veteran, businessman, and Freedom Caucus conservative, Perry focuses on foreign relations, health care reform, and congressional oversight

- A resident of central Pennsylvania since age seven, Perry was raised by a single mother and worked as an auto mechanic before joining the Army National Guard, where became a helicopter pilot, served in Iraq, and rose to the rank of Brigadier General
- Upon receiving his business degree, Perry founded a mechanical contracting firm with his mother; the company provided construction and maintenance services to municipal and investor-owned utilities
- Served three terms as a state representative in the Pennsylvania General Assembly, where he opposed Medicaid expansion and worked update the state law allowing residents to use deadly force in self-defense; elected to Congress in 2012 on a platform that emphasized small government, gun rights, and traditional marriage
- Prioritizes health care reform, calling for the repeal and replacement of the ACA and measures to end surprise medical billing, such as directing drug company rebates to consumers rather than insurance companies; authored the "Charlotte's Web Medical Access



Scott Perry

Representative for Pennsylvania's 10th District (R)



- Act” to provide access to Cannabidiol (CBD) Oil for individuals with epilepsy and seizure disorders regardless of the state they live in
- On the Foreign Affairs Committee, Perry is outspoken on the need for a strong posture against threats from terrorist groups and adversaries like China; sponsored legislation to authorize military force against Islamic extremism, reject China’s territorial claims in the South China Sea, and express support for the sovereignty of Hong Kong
 - Committed to fiscal responsibility and government oversight, Perry introduced legislation to establish a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution and led efforts to freeze congressional pay raises
 - Following redistricting in 2018, Perry has faced competitive bids for re-election in 2018 and 2020, winning by three points and seven points respectively
 - Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden’s election

veterans benefits; co-founded the Post-9/11 Veterans’ Caucus

- A vocal defender of President Trump, Perry has closely aligned his voting and rhetoric with the Trump Administration priorities; despite representing a purple district, Perry has stated that “middle of the road” candidates aren’t what his voters are looking for
- A member of the Freedom Caucus who briefly sought to chair it, Perry strongly supports the group’s core principles of small government and limited federal spending and believes “the government that governs best is the government which governs least”

Contact Information

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Contact: <http://perry.house.gov/contact/>

Approach and Motivations

Applies the knowledge gained from diverse experience in business and the military to craft conservative policy aimed at growing the economy and projecting US strength abroad

- Cites upbringing as the son of a single mother in a “spartan” household with no electricity or plumbing as shaping his belief in the power of hard work and his passion for public service
- As a small business owner for many years, Perry says that he understands how taxes and regulations negatively impact small businesses and advocates for policies to lower the barriers to starting and maintaining a business
- Says his 32 years of military service have given him first-hand experience in defense and foreign policy, and inform his advocacy for investment in the military and support for



Glenn Thompson

Representative for Pennsylvania's 15th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: TAHMP-suhn

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: July 27, 1959

Birthplace: Bellefonte, PA

Religion: Protestant - Unspecified Christian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MEd, Temple University, 1998
- BS, Pennsylvania State University, 1981

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Representative for Pennsylvania, 2009-Present
 - 15th District, 2019-Present
 - 5th District, 2009-2019
- Chair, Republican Party of Centre County, Pennsylvania, 2002-2008
- Manager, Susquehanna Health Rehabilitation Services, 1995-2008
- Adjunct Faculty, Cambria County Community College, 1997-1999
- Member, Bald Eagle Area School Board, 1990-1995
- Williamsport, PA Hospital, 1982-1995
 - Chief Recreational Therapist, 1986-1995
 - Recreational Therapist, 1982-1986
- Residential Services Aide, Hope Enterprises, 1981-1982

- Staff, Centre Crest Nursing Home, 1977-1980

Committees:

- House Agriculture (Chairman)
 - Forestry
 - Conservation, Research & Biotechnology
 - Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture & Horticulture
 - Livestock, Dairy & Poultry
 - Commodity Markets, Digital Assets & Rural Development
 - General Farm Commodities, Risk Management & Credit
- House Education & Workforce
 - Higher Education & Workforce Development
 - Early Childhood, Elementary & Secondary Education

Quick Summary

Former health care administrator, Thompson's tenure on the House Agriculture Committee provides him influence on rural development; also focuses on technical education and domestic energy production

- A descendent of dairy farmers and a lifelong resident of Centre County, Pennsylvania, Thompson started his career in health care, spending three decades in elder care and rehabilitation services
- Engaged in local politics as a member of the Bald Eagle Area School Board and as a three-term chair of the Centre County Republican Party, which prepared him for his successful 2008 campaign for Congress
- Active on education policy and was appointed by then-Speaker Paul Ryan to reconcile the House and Senate versions of the 2015 Every Student Succeeds Act; as co-chair of the Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus, Thompson successfully pushed forward bipartisan legislation aiming to expand technical training



Glenn Thompson

Representative for Pennsylvania's 15th District (R)



- Worked to enact the 2018 Farm Bill, where he attempted establish new requirements for SNAP benefit recipients; as the second-highest ranking Republican on the Agriculture Committee, Thompson prioritizes Pennsylvania's agricultural economy through initiatives like forest management policies and federal assistance for dairy farmers
- Calls for energy independence by expanding nuclear energy, "clean" coal, natural gas, and biofuels, including through natural gas development at Marcellus Shale, a sedimentary rock formation in Appalachia; simultaneously believes that new ways of conservation and energy efficiency must be implemented, such as higher fuel standards
- Advocates for greater timber production, fire services, recreational resources, and oil production in the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) and its surrounding areas in Pennsylvania
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election
- Having served as the ranking member on the House Agriculture Committee during the 117th Congress, Thompson now chairs the committee in 2023
- To ensure he is a strong voice for his district, Thompson has repeatedly spoken on diverse topics ranging from flood control to gun rights; says his goal is to communicate with his constituents every day, whether he is in his district or in Washington
- Has aimed to recruit Democratic support when crafting and rallying supporters of legislation; willing to break with party ranks on issues impacting rural America, including support for airport infrastructure and air subsidies in underserved areas

Political History

- Representative for Pennsylvania, 2009-Present
 - 15th District, 2019-Present
 - 5th District, 2009-2019
- Alternate Delegate, Republican National Convention, 2004
- Chair, Centre County Republican Party, 2002-2008
- Candidate, PA State House, 2000
- Candidate, PA State House, 1998
- Member, Bald Eagle Area School Board, 1990-1995
- Member, PA Republican State Committee

Approach and Motivations

A local political and civic leader, Thompson applies a rural lens to his policymaking; views bipartisanship and frequent speeches on the House floor as essential to enacting policy goals that benefit his district

- Says deep community involvement in health care, fire mitigation, and education taught him the issues most important to his largely rural district and inspired him to run for Congress
- District makeup drives support for policies that prioritize rural communities, including broadband expansion, improved cell phone coverage, and rural Medicaid initiatives

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SOUTH CAROLINA



Jeff Duncan

Representative for South Carolina's 3rd District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: DUN-kuhn

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: January 7, 1966

Birthplace: Greenville, SC

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- BA, Clemson University (SC), 1988

Family:

3 children

Work History:

- Representative for South Carolina's 3rd District (R), 2011-Present
- President and CEO, J. Duncan Associates, 1998-2010
- State Representative for South Carolina's 15th District (R), 2003-2011
- Assistant Vice President, Palmetto Bank, 1993-1995
- Assistant Vice President, MS Bailey and Son, 1989-1993
- Intern, Office of US Sen. Strom Thurman

Committees:

- House Energy & Commerce
 - Energy, Climate & Grid Security (Chairman)
 - Innovation, Data & Commerce
 - Oversight & Investigations

Quick Summary

Founding member of the Freedom Caucus and leading advocate for nuclear energy in the House; holds conservative views on a breadth of policies

- Father dedicated his career to revitalizing the once-prominent textile industry across South Carolina
- After attending Clemson University, Duncan became president of J. Duncan Associates, a small business focused on real estate auction
- Following four terms in the state house, Duncan ran for the House in 2010 as part of the “Tea Party Wave” of new limited-government Republicans
- Co-chairs the GOP’s House Energy Action Team (HEAT), advocating for the expansion of nuclear power and exploration of offshore drilling sites
- Leading voice for further deregulation of firearms, advocating for inter-state concealed carry and the legalization of silencers
- In 2015, Duncan and former Rep. Ron DeSantis left the GOP leadership team over conflicts with Republican leadership; Duncan has been a vocal member of the House Freedom Caucus advocating for greater limits on government spending
- Considered a gubernatorial run in 2018 when former Gov. Nikki Haley’s term was set to end, but decided not to pursue the role when former Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster became the incumbent
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Approach and Motivations

Cites faith and small business background in policy decision making



Jeff Duncan

Representative for South Carolina's 3rd District (R)



- Family business background and experience informs advocacy for lower taxes and regulations for small businesses
- Suffered a hearing injury from a firearm while hunting as a child; Duncan often cites the incident in his advocacy for legalizing silencers
- Has often cited his faith in advocacy for expanding energy use through fossil fuels, stating that access to natural resources is part of God's "intelligent design"
- Was critical of Donald Trump during the 2016 election cycle, but stated that he was "more concerned with Hillary Clinton's actions than Donald Trump's words;" Duncan has commended the Trump administration's policies, but continued criticism of the President's rhetoric
- As a former Clemson football player, discusses the importance of sporting events and has petitioned the NCAA to ensure college football will return in the fall of 2020

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Political History

- Vice Chair, U.S. House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, 2015-2017
- Chairman, U.S. House Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, 2015-2017
- Chairman, U.S. House Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, 2013-2015
- State Representative for South Carolina's 15th District (R), SC State House, 2003-2011
- Member, Clinton Zoning Appeals Board, 1995-1999
- SC Representative, Southern States Energy Board



Lindsey Graham

Senator for South Carolina (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: gram

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: July 9, 1955

Birthplace: Central, SC

Religion: Baptist

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Single

Education Summary:

- University of South Carolina Law School, Columbia, JD, 1981
- University of South Carolina, MPA, 1978
- University of South Carolina, Columbia, BS, 1977

Work History:

- Senator for South Carolina (R), 2003-Present
- Representative for South Carolina's 3rd District (R), 1995-2003
- Base Staff Judge Advocate, McEntire Air National Guard Base, SC, 1989-1994
- Assistant Attorney, Oconee County, 1988-1992
- Circuit Trial Counsel, US Air Force, 1984-1988
- Attorney, Private Practice, 1988-1994

Committees:

- Senate Judiciary (Ranking Member)
- Senate Appropriations
 - State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs (Ranking Member)
 - DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development

- Department of Defense
- Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
- Senate Budget
- Senate Environment & Public Works
 - Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Clean Air, Climate & Nuclear Safety

Quick Summary

Longtime politician who climbed quickly through the ranks of the Republican party and became a key voice on immigration, foreign policy, and the judiciary; though a moderate, he emerged as a top ally of President Trump

- Served in the Air Force Reserves and trained as a member of the Judge Advocate General Corps; found an interest in the law and became a trial attorney
- Inspired to become a politician by Reagan's presidency, and was recruited to the South Carolina legislature by GOP activist Ed Mitchell
- Prior to Donald Trump's presidency, Graham was regarded as a bipartisan senator, collaborating with Democrats on matters related to immigration and judicial reform
- Views on President Trump have evolved significantly; he criticized the future president during the primaries and voted against him in the 2016 election, but later became an advocate against impeachment and a staunch supporter of Trump's policies
- Won reelection in 2020 following an expensive race against Jaime Harrison
- Despite a close personal relationship with President Trump, Graham defended the certification of the 2020 presidential election; after the Jan. 6 capitol riot, Graham made comments that were widely perceived as a rejection of Trump, saying "enough is enough, count me out"



Lindsey Graham

Senator for South Carolina (R)



- During the Biden administration, Graham worked with a group of centrist Democrats and Republicans to craft a bipartisan infrastructure bill that passed both chambers of Congress, and has demonstrated his continued support for Trump

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Approach and Motivations

Career of bipartisan collaboration on immigration and the judiciary; has aligned with former President Trump in recent years, while maintaining a moderate outlook towards policy

- Previously participated in multiple bipartisan Senate groups meant to overcome steep partisan differences, including the judiciary-focused Gang of Fourteen during the Bush administration and the Gang of Eight that sought to broker an immigration reform compromise in 2013
- Politically, Graham continues to tie himself closely to the former president, who he believes is the leader of a movement that is "good for the country"; his policy instincts remain moderate, as demonstrated by his vote for the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
- Believes security supersedes other concerns, advocating for reduced legal protections for accused terrorists, mass surveillance without warrants to track criminals, bans on encryption, and strong interventionist policies in regimes he believes to be friendly with terrorists
- Asserts that judicial nominees should be scrutinized on their experience and not their philosophies, and voted in favor of Obama's nominees to the Supreme Court despite GOP opposition

Contact Information

Main Office Address:



Nancy Mace

Representative for South Carolina's 1st District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: m AI s

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: December 4, 1977

Ethnicity: White

Education:

- MS, Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Georgia, 2004
- BS, Business Administration, Citadel Military College of South Carolina, 1999

Work History:

- Representative for South Carolina's 1st District, 2021-Present
- State Representative for South Carolina's 99th District, 2018-2020
- Real Estate Agent, Keller Williams Commercial, 2014-Present
- Coalitions Director, Donald J. Trump for President, 2015-2016
- Public Relations and Marketing Employee, The Mace Group, 2008-2014
- Public Relations and Marketing Employee, The Mace Group, 2006-2008
- Management Consultant, Accenture, 1999-2001

Committees:

- House Oversight & Accountability
 - Cybersecurity, Information Technology & Gov't Innovation (Chairman)
 - National Security, the Border & Foreign Affairs
- House Veterans' Affairs

- Technology Modernization
- Economic Opportunity
- House Armed Services
 - Intelligence & Special Operations
 - Seapower & Projection Forces

Quick Summary

Journalist and small business owner who campaigned on a pro-Trump, pro-environment platform to counter a 2018 flip of her historically conservative district; ambitiously rose through state politics, focusing on veterans' affairs, abortion policy, and conservation

- One of the first women to graduate from The Citadel Military College of South Carolina, who has been involved heavily in the integration of women into military institutions; authored *In the Company of Men: A Woman at the Citadel*, and has been a speaker at many higher education conferences, focusing on her own experience
- Founded the Mace group, a public relations and marketing firm, after receiving her masters in journalism and mass communication; also served as a part-owner of FITS news alongside controversial South Carolina figure Will Folks, but sold her stake in the company prior to running for office
- Has been ambitious for party leadership within the state; challenged Lindsey Graham for his Senate seat in 2014, worked as a political consultant for Tim Scott, and worked on Trump's organizing efforts for the 2016 South Carolina primary
- Ran for South Carolina's first district in 2020, winning by a small margin
- Advocates for a full repeal of the ACA, proposing instead "accountability" in the pharmaceutical supply chain; touts her proposals to remove regulatory laws during her time in the legislature, some of which focused



Nancy Mace

Representative for South Carolina's 1st District (R)



on removing restrictions for opening or expanding healthcare facilities

- Supports a permanent ban on offshore drilling and seismic testing, citing the importance of pristine shores to the coastal economy; often cited her 100% rating from the Conservation Voters of South Carolina during her campaign
- Strongly focuses on veterans' affairs, and sponsored a successful bill that created a state-level VA in SC to better serve the state's veteran communities
- After the events of January 6th at the Capitol, which she described as "domestic terrorism", Mace was critical of former President Trump for what she viewed as his role in inciting the violence and called for his censure; despite her previous support for President Trump, she was vocal in her support of the certification of electoral college votes

less on gun rights and religious freedom than her peers further inland

- Derives her hardline stances on the preservation of rape and incest exemptions in reproductive policy from her own experience with sexual assault, and asserted the government has no place in regulating abortion for sexual assault survivors during a South Carolina Legislature debate; Mace refused to vote for SC's heartbeat bill unless her amendment to protect those exemptions was added
- Father is a retired Brigadier General who served in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic, inspiring Mace's focus on veterans' affairs

Approach and Motivations

Increasingly moderate constituency drives Mace's pragmatic deviation from traditional campaigns elsewhere in the state; upbringing as a daughter of a military officer and experience with sexual assault drive policy focus

- Past elections in the district, particularly in 2018, have indicated that anti-Trump candidates will fair poorly in the Republican primary, but those who align with Trump's environmental policies struggle in the general election- this resulted in a loss for Republicans in a district considered a stronghold in 2016; Mace incorporated her experience as a Trump campaigner with her high ratings from environmental advocacy organizations, asserting that she stood with the former president on all but his environmental policy
- Emphasized willingness to work on a bipartisan basis on economic development, infrastructure, and veterans' affairs, focusing

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Tim Scott

Senator for South Carolina (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: skaht

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: September 19, 1965

Birthplace: North Charleston, SC

Religion: Evangelical

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Single

Education Summary:

- Presbyterian College (SC), Att, 1984
- Charleston Southern University (SC), BS, 1988

Work History:

- Senator for South Carolina (R), 2013-Present
- Representative for South Carolina's 1st District (R), 2011-2013
- State Representative for South Carolina's 117th District (R), 2009-2011
- Councilmember for Charleston County's 3rd District, 1995-2009
- Partner, Pathway Real Estate Group, LLC
- Owner, Tim Scott Allstate Insurance Agency

Committees:

- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs (Ranking Member)
 - National Security & International Trade & Finance
 - Economic Policy
 - Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection
 - Securities, Insurance & Investment

- Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - Africa & Global Health Policy (Ranking Member)
 - East Asia, the Pacific & International Cybersecurity Policy
 - West Hem Crime Civ Sec Dem Rights & Women's Issues
- Senate Aging
- Senate Finance
 - Energy, Natural Resources & Infrastructure
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
 - Health Care
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship
- Joint Security & Cooperation in Europe

Quick Summary

The most high-profile Black Republican in Congress, Scott possesses significant authority on poverty, education, and race issues; announced that he is running for the 2024 GOP nomination for president in May 2023

- The son of low-income single mother, Scott struggled in school until finding a mentor who encouraged him to take education seriously; developed profound belief in the power of hard work and education
- Officially became a Republican to run for Charleston County Council in 1994; served on the council for thirteen years, eventually becoming chairman
- After one term in the state House, Scott ran for an open Congressional seat in 2010 and defeated Paul Thurmond, son of the late and formerly segregationist Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-SC), in the primary; easily won the general election



Tim Scott

Senator for South Carolina (R)



- Appointed to his seat by then-Gov. Nikki Haley (R-SC) to finish the term of fmr. Sen. Jim deMint (R-SC), who left the Senate to lead the Heritage Foundation; elected to a full-term with over 60% of the vote in 2016
- In the Senate Scott has promoted a conservative anti-poverty agenda, including school choice and tax breaks for investment in low-income areas, and been a key participant in bipartisan racial and criminal justice measures, like the 2018 First STEP Act and the 2018 bill to make lynching a federal hate crime
- Influence has steadily risen in the GOP, where he has become a prominent messenger to minority communities and the party's primary negotiator on criminal justice and civil rights issues; spoke at the 2020 Republican convention and delivered the rebuttal to Biden's first speech to a Joint Session of Congress
- Entered the 2024 presidential race in May 2023, though he trails early favorites fmr. President Donald Trump and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis

country, and dismisses the left's approach to racial issues as "woke supremacy" that will only divide Americans

- While staunchly conservative on most issues, Scott has worked productively across the aisle on police reform, taxes, and education; known to have a strong working and personal relationship with Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)

Political History

- Member, Charleston County Council, 1995-2009
- Co-Chair, Senator Strom Thurmond Campaign, 1995
- Candidate, SC State Senator, 1996
- Member, Charleston County Aviation Authority, 2007-2008
- Member (SC117 R), SC State House, 2009-2011
- Representative for South Carolina, 2011-2013
- Senator for South Carolina, 2013-present

Approach and Motivations

Informed by his life experiences, Scott puts forward a conservative vision for expanding opportunity; often collaborates with Democratic colleagues on shared areas of focus

- Shaped by personal experience with poverty and the positive impact of education, Scott emphasizes empathy for struggling Americans and prioritizes expanding opportunity; proposed education and economic policies such as school choice that he believes will lead to better outcomes for low-income Americans
- Calls out overtly racist actions and rhetoric, including from Republicans, and is open about the racism he has endured; he also rejects the idea that America is a systemically racist

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TENNESSEE



Marsha Blackburn

Senator for Tennessee (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: BLAK-burn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: June 6, 1952

Birthplace: Laurel, MS

Religion: Presbyterian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Mississippi State University, BS, 1973

Family:

2 children; 2 grandchildren

Work History:

- Senator for Tennessee, 2019-Present
- Owner, Marketing Strategies, 1978-Present
- Representative for Tennessee's 7th District, 2003-2019
- State Senator for Tennessee's 23rd District, 1999-2003
- Executive Director, Tennessee Film, Entertainment, and Music Commission, 1995-1997
- Chair, Williamson County Republican Party, 1989-1991
- Director of Retail Fashion and Special Events, Mercantile Stores, Inc., Caster Knott Company Division, 1975-1978
- Sales Manager, Times Mirror, Inc., 1973-1975

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation
- Senate Judiciary
 - Human Rights & the Law (Ranking Member)
 - Privacy, Technology & the Law
 - Subcommittee on Intellectual Property
 - Competition Policy, Antitrust & Consumer Rights
 - Immigration, Citizenship & Border Security
- Senate Finance
 - Social Security, Pensions & Family Policy
 - Taxation & IRS Oversight
 - Health Care
- Senate Veterans' Affairs

Quick Summary

Gained national reputation as rising Republican star while serving in the House; Blackburn prizes party loyalty and is strongly committed to conservative positions on social and economic issues

- Originally from Mississippi, Blackburn moved to Tennessee after graduating from Mississippi State University
- Started her career in sales and marketing and founded her own firm in 1978; became interested in running for office after chairing the Williamson County Republican Party from 1989 to 1991, and unsuccessfully ran for Congress in 1992
- After serving as executive director of the Tennessee Film, Entertainment and Music Commission, Blackburn successfully ran for state Senate in 1998, ultimately rising to the position of minority whip
- In state government, she focused on reducing taxes and led a campaign to stop a proposed state income tax, giving her an anti-tax, pro-business reputation in Tennessee



Marsha Blackburn

Senator for Tennessee (R)



- Won a seat in the House in 2002, and served for eight terms before winning her Senate seat in 2018; in Congress, she has focused on telecommunications policy, national security issues, and government spending
- A staunch fiscal conservative, Blackburn is a strong supporter of cutting spending across the board and reducing what she views as government waste
- Champion for pro-life movement; chaired investigations into Planned Parenthood and advocates for prohibiting federal funding for abortion providers
- Vocal on internet and technology policy, and chaired the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications and Technology in the 115th Congress; strong supporter of protecting intellectual property rights and works to protect artists against illegal music downloads
- Early supporter of President Trump, and was a member of his transition team; supported his claims of victory regarding the 2020 election and stated she would oppose the Electoral College certification of the results, but reversed her position following the Capitol insurrection on January 6, 2021

- Cites personal experience of overcoming sexism in her first job in her advocacy for the advancement of women in business; encourages women’s success through hard work and free market incentives as opposed to imposing federal regulations

Political History

- Member, Williamson County Republican Steering Committee
- Chair, Williamson County Republican Party, 1989-1991
- Candidate (R), U.S. House of Representatives, 1992-1992
- Executive Director, TN Film, Entertainment and Music Commission, 1995-1997
- Member (R), TN State Senate, 1999-2002
- Vice Chair, U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2013-2017
- Chairman, U.S. House Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives, 2015-2017
- Member (TN07 R), U.S. House of Representatives, 2002-2018
- Chairman, U.S. House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, 2018

Approach and Motivations

Unabashed Tea Party conservative who credits early career for strong work ethic and pro-private sector views; recognizes hardships faced by women in business

- Unabashed in her political fervor; describes herself as a “hard core, card-carrying Tennessee conservative that’s politically incorrect and proud of it”
- Credits background of selling books door-to-door in college with teaching her the value of connecting with people face-to-face

Contact Information

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Steve Cohen

Representative for Tennessee's 9th District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KO-uhn

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: May 24, 1949

Birthplace: Memphis, TN

Religion: Jewish

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Single

Education Summary:

- Vanderbilt University (TN), BA, 1971
- Memphis State University, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law (TN), JD, 1973

Work History:

- Representative for Tennessee's 9th District, 2007-Present
- Legal Advisor, Memphis Police Department, 1975-1978
- Member of the Shelby County Commission, 1978-1980
- Interim Judge, Shelby County General Sessions Court, 1980
- Member of the Tennessee Senate for the 30th District, 1983-2006
- Attorney, Private Practice, 1974-2007
- Representative for Tennessee's 9th District, 2007-present

Committees:

- Joint Security & Cooperation in Europe (Ranking Member)
- House Transportation & Infrastructure

- Aviation (Ranking Member)
- Highways & Transit
- Railroads, Pipelines & Hazardous Materials
- House Judiciary
 - Constitution & Limited Government
 - Crime & Federal Gov't Surveillance
 - Administrative State, Regulatory Reform & Antitrust

Quick Summary

Progressive lawyer passionate about advocating for racial justice as well as systemic government reforms

- Shifted his interest to politics from sports after contracting polio during his childhood; considered John F. Kennedy to be his political hero after seeing him on a campaign stop in Memphis
- Began his career as a legal advisor for the Memphis Police Department before starting his own practice
- First entered politics when elected to the Tennessee Constitutional Convention of 1977; later served as a county commissioner before winning a seat in the state Senate, where he served for 24 years
- First few Congressional campaigns facilitated strong discourse over whether white lawmakers should represent majority-Black areas; some Black leaders firmly believing Cohen would not adequately represent the district, though he did receive endorsements from notable figures like President Obama
- Prioritizes criminal and racial justice issues such as increased funding for legal counsel for low-income individuals and the legalization of marijuana; authored a resolution formally apologizing for slavery and Jim Crow laws
- Prioritizes government and judicial reform, such as aiming for limiting campaign donations



Steve Cohen

Representative for Tennessee's 9th District (D)



from lobbyists; accomplishments include passing the SPEECH Act banning frivolous libel litigation

- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, 2013-CURR
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Task Force on Executive Overreach, 2017
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, 2018

Approach and Motivations

Unabashedly progressive who was outspoken against the Trump administration's alleged misconduct; seeks to maintain open and engaging constituent services

- Maintains the support of his majority-Black district through a consistent progressive voting record, particularly regarding expansion of affordable health care access, legalization of marijuana, raising the minimum wage, and expanding unemployment benefits
- Prides himself on having his district office's door always open to constituents; has hosted over one hundred district events around Memphis, including town halls with special guests such as the late Rep. John Conyers (D-MI14) and musician Harry Belafonte
- Vowed to use his position as chair of the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties subcommittee for aggressive oversight of Trump's alleged misconduct
- Frequently appears on left-leaning media outlets such as MSNBC, late night talk shows, and alternative media like The Young Turks

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Contact:

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Political History

- Candidate, TN House, 1970
- Delegate and Vice President, TN Constitutional Convention, 1977
- Commissioner, Shelby County, TN, 1978-1980
- Member, TN State Senate, 1982-2006
- Member, Shelby County, TN Charter Commission, 1984
- Candidate, TN Governor, 1994
- Primary Candidate, U.S. House of Representatives, 1996



Scott DesJarlais

Representative for Tennessee's 4th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: deh-zhar-LAY

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: February 21, 1964

Birthplace: Des Moines, IA

Religion: Episcopalian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of South Dakota, BS, 1987
- University of South Dakota School of Medicine, MD, 1991

Family:

4 children (1 from previous marriage)

Work History:

- Representative for Tennessee's 4th District (R), 2011-Present
- Physician, Grand View Medical Center, Jasper, TN

Committees:

- House Agriculture
 - Livestock, Dairy & Poultry
 - Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture & Horticulture
- House Armed Services
 - Seapower & Projection Forces
 - Strategic Forces

Quick Summary

Former physician representing rural district between Nashville and Chattanooga; touts agricultural work and prioritizes fiscal conservatism

- Native Iowan who moved to Jasper, Tennessee to practice medicine
- Inspired to run for office after listening to the concerns of his patients over health care and deficit spending at the beginning of President Obama's first term; opted to run for office in 2010 on a hardline conservative platform
- Elected to Congress as part of the Tea Party wave, unseating moderate incumbent Rep. Lincoln Davis (D-TN4) by an 18-point margin; generally achieves double digit leads in general elections, but has faced close primaries, winning in 2014 by only 38 votes
- Joined the Freedom Caucus and strongly advocates for a balanced budget
- Was diagnosed with and recovered from cancer while in office
- Serves as a senior member of the Agriculture Committee and collaborated on the 2018 Farm Bill, working to limit non-agricultural spending, like food stamps through work requirements
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Approach and Motivations

Relies on medical background and military district when crafting policy; campaigns as an outsider and has been a strong supporter of Donald Trump

- Served as a major ally to President Trump, acting as a liaison between the White House and the Freedom Caucus to ensure cohesion within the GOP



Scott DesJarlais

Representative for Tennessee's 4th District (R)



- Self-styled outsider who promotes his medical background in politics; cites concerns with government and insurance companies interfering with doctor-patient decisions in healthcare rhetoric
- Family's work at Fort Meade Veterans hospital and presence of Arnold Air Force Base in his district inform DesJarlais' focus on veterans policy; authored legislation to overturn bans on personnel carrying firearms at military facilities and protect veterans from rules imposed by homeowners associations

Political History

- Candidate, United States House of Representatives, District 4, 2018
- Representative, United States House of Representatives, 2010-present

Contact Information

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Bill Hagerty

Senator for Tennessee (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: HAG-gur-TEE

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: August 14, 1959

Hometown: Gallatin, TN

Religion: Episcopalian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Vanderbilt University, 1984
- BA, Vanderbilt University, 1981

Family:

- Wife; 4 children

Work History:

- Senator for Tennessee (R), 2021-Present
- Advisory Board Member, Hall Capital, 2019-Present
- US Ambassador to Japan, 2017-2019
- Director of Presidential Appointments, Trump Transition Team, 2016-2017
- Advisory Board Member, Hall Capital, 2016-2017
- Director, Ryman Hospitality Properties, 2016-2017
- Director, Pinnacle Bank, 2015-2017
- Director, RenaissanceRE, 2015-2017
- Director, Rogers Group, 2015-2017
- Commissioner, TN Department of Economic and Community Development, 2011-2014

- RJ O'Brien and Associates, 2010-2017
- Founder and Chair, CyMed, Dates Unknown
- Hagerty Consulting, 2002-2017
- Founder and Managing Director, Hagerty, Peterson & Company, 1997-2017
- Private Equity Investor, Trident Capital, 1993-1994
- Associate Director, White House Competitiveness Council, 1992
- Staff, President George H.W. Bush White House, 1991-1993
- International Management Consultant, Boston Consulting Group, Dates Unknown

Committees:

- Senate Appropriations
 - Financial Services & General Government (Ranking Member)
 - State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs
 - Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development
 - Military Construction & Veteran Affairs & Related Agencies
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - State Dept & USAID Mngmnt, Internat'l Ops & Internat'l Dev (Ranking Member)
 - East Asia, the Pacific & International Cybersecurity Policy
 - Internat'l Dev Instit & Internat'l Econ, Energy & Environ Policy
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - National Security & International Trade & Finance (Ranking Member)
 - Securities, Insurance & Investment
 - Housing, Transportation & Community Development
- Senate Rules & Administration



Bill Hagerty

Senator for Tennessee (R)



Quick Summary

A successful investor and former ambassador who has promoted business-friendly policies and investment in Tennessee, Hagerty won a Senate seat on a pro-Trump platform; in the Senate minority, he has focused on foreign policy and election security

- Began his lengthy business career at Boston Consulting Group and spent three years managing the firm’s clients in Asia as the senior expatriate in the Tokyo office
- Joined the George H.W. Bush White House as a fellow and became an associate director of the Council on Economic Competitiveness under VP Dan Quayle
- Following private sector success, Hagerty became Tennessee’s economic and community development commissioner; supported economic incentives to attract businesses and manufacturers to the state and programs to boost entrepreneurship
- After working as Mitt Romney’s national finance director in 2008 and on his transition team in 2012, Hagerty played a significant role in former President Trump’s 2016 presidential campaign, running his Tennessee Victory Committee and later his presidential appointments team
- As ambassador to Japan, he highlighted security and economic cooperation and supported efforts to negotiate trade agreements to benefit the US agriculture industry in addition to establishing rules for digital commerce; considers Japan a top bilateral partner
- In his 2020 campaign, Hagerty closely embraced Trump’s policy agenda and easily won his solidly Republican state with over 62% of the vote
- After initially joining a group of senators who intended to oppose certifying electors from battleground states won by President Biden,

Hagerty reversed course following the Jan. 6 Capitol riot and voted to confirm the election results

- Early in his term, he has engaged on foreign policy and introduced an election security bill; opposes Biden’s major legislative proposals on infrastructure and the economy, and has voted to reject many of his nominees

Approach and Motivations

Conservative business professional with a strong belief in low taxes and deregulation; nurtures his connection to the party base by maintaining a close relationship with former President Trump and appearing frequently on conservative media outlets

- Business career informs his approach to economic policy, which is based around reducing regulations and corporate taxes and providing incentives to companies; contrasts this approach with Democratic policy that he describes as socialism
- Aligned himself closely with Trump during the campaign and visited him at his Mar-a-Lago residence in April 2021; frequently appears on conservative-leaning news outlets, such as FOX Business and Breitbart, where he sharply criticizes Biden’s policy agenda
- Active on issues that resonate strongly among conservatives like election security, Hagerty has demonstrated some bipartisan inclination on foreign policy early in his term

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John Rose

Representative for Tennessee's 6th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: rose

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: February 23, 1965

Birthplace: Cookeville, TN

Religion: Christian Church

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Vanderbilt University, 1993
- MS, Purdue University, 1990
- BS, Tennessee Tech University, 1988

Family:

1 child

Work History:

- Representative for Tennessee's 6th District, 2019-Present
- Owner, Boson Software LLC
- Farmer
- Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture, 2002-2003
- Founder, Transcender Corp., 1993-2000

Committees:

- House Financial Services
 - Oversight & Investigations (Vice Chairman)
 - Digital Assets, Financial Technology & Inclusion
 - Financial Institutions & Monetary Policy

- House Agriculture
 - Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture & Horticulture
 - Commodity Markets, Digital Assets & Rural Development
 - General Farm Commodities, Risk Management & Credit

Quick Summary

An eighth-generation Tennessee farmer and technologically savvy business person, Rose successfully campaigned for Congress as a political outsider and vocal Trump supporter; as a freshman Republican, advocates for rural policies on the Financial Services Committee

- After graduating law school, he co-founded Transcender Corporation, a technology-training business; in 2000, he and his partners sold the company for \$60 million
- In 2002, was appointed by Gov. Don Sundquist (R-TN) to serve as TN's Commissioner of Agriculture for six months; since the early 2010s, he has chaired numerous TN organizations, such as the Tennessee Future Farmers of America Foundation and the Tennessee State Fair Association, and is currently president of Boson Software LLC, a TN company that trains IT professionals across the US
- Campaign focused on his staunch support for President Trump, desire to repeal Obama-era environmental and business regulations, and to craft immigration policy to secure the nation's borders
- In Congress, serves on the Financial Services Committee where he has proposed legislation to allow entrepreneurs in rural communities to receive capital formation technical assistance; also backed the USMCA, citing its benefits for farmers and the district's manufacturing base
- Staunch supporter of President Trump's immigration and border policies; urges



John Rose

Representative for Tennessee's 6th District (R)



construction of border wall, restricting funding for sanctuary cities, and prosecuting undocumented immigrants

- Co-sponsored a bill expanding veterans suicide prevention programs
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Approach and Motivations

Farming and faith have shaped his core values; experience as a small business owner and farmer, coupled with his conservative platform, connects him with constituents

- Works on his 200-year old family farm in the district; credits farming with instilling notions of individual responsibility and rewarding hard work
- Pragmatic businessman who spearheads initiatives to ensure small, rural businesses receive capital formation technical assistance to help them flourish; repeatedly introduces legislation to address challenges small, rural businesses face on the Financial Services Committee
- Cites his Christian faith as his cornerstone and motivator and feels "called to take the blessings that God gives us and use them to make things better"; active on pro-life policies, having outwardly spoken against and legally combatted Planned Parenthood and urged the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade
- Represents a largely rural district that Trump dominated with 72 percent of the vote in 2016; through his legislation and voting record, Rose continues to push the conservative movement that his constituents identify with, voting in line with President Trump 97.4% of the time

Contact Information

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TEXAS



John Cornyn

Senator for Texas (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KOR-nuhn

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: February 2, 1952

Birthplace: Houston, TX

Religion: Church of Christ

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- LLM, University of Virginia, 1995
- JD, St. Mary's School of Law, 1977
- BA, Trinity University, 1973

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Texas, 2002-Present
- Associate, Thompson and Knight
- Presiding Judge, 4th Administrative Judicial Region, 1989-1992
- Judge, Bexar County 37th District Court, 1985-1990
- Partner and Associate, Groce, Locke and Hebden, 1977-1984

Committees:

- Senate Finance
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness (Ranking Member)
 - Energy, Natural Resources & Infrastructure

- Taxation & IRS Oversight
- Senate Judiciary
 - Immigration, Citizenship & Border Security (Ranking Member)
 - Subcommittee on Intellectual Property
 - Constitution
 - Criminal Justice & Counterterrorism
 - Privacy, Technology & the Law
- Senate Intelligence

Quick Summary

Longtime Senate leader and former judge, who has been leading conservative voice on judiciary issues; uses leadership push for increased border security in addition to trade expansion

- Born in Texas, Cornyn's father was an oral pathologist in the Air Force, and the family relocated to Japan when he was stationed there while Cornyn was in high school
- After a short stint in malpractice law, Cornyn decided early on to run for the district court with the intention of restoring impartiality in the courts; gained a district judge position in San Antonio, often taking a pro-business stance in decisions
- Rose through the Texas judiciary, eventually winning election to the Texas Supreme Court, where he continued his pro-business judiciary philosophy
- After serving one term as the attorney general of Texas, he successfully ran for Senate in 2002 on a platform emphasizing cooperation with the George W. Bush administration
- Prioritizing the Judiciary, Cornyn vocally supported Bush's judicial nominees, and led conservative opposition to Obama's; often supports judges with similar philosophies to his own, prioritizing individual liberty and opposing overregulation of business



John Cornyn Senator for Texas (R)



- Entered GOP leadership during his first term, and upon his third term, became whip under Mitch McConnell, holding the position until 2019; Cornyn has expressed interest in succeeding McConnell as minority leader
- Led GOP in push to maintain conservative stances on immigration policy through his position on the immigration, citizenship, and border security subcommittee
- Supports policies that expand US markets while protecting domestic producers and intellectual property; as the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee's trade subcommittee in the 117th Congress, he has advocated for the US to rejoin the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal
- In the 2020 election, defeated Air Force veteran MJ Hegar (D) by a vote of 53.5%-43.9%

Approach and Motivations

Effective and party-loyal legislator who utilizes consensus building skills to pass legislation

- Approaches legislation with consensus-building and cooperation-oriented mindset, and is often publicly reserved in comparison to more vocal party leaders
- Despite his strong social conservatism, Cornyn frequently collaborates with Democratic colleagues to enact practical, passable legislation; notable examples include the First Step Act in 2018 to reduce recidivism, the Fix NICS Act of 2017 to enhance background checks for some firearm sales, and the USA Telecommunications Act in 2019 to develop 5G technology
- Vocally opposes legislating from the bench: as a judge, often prioritized the written law over popular support, and as a legislator has criticized court decisions that he believes are outside of the law's original intent

Political History

- Associate Justice, TX Supreme Court, 1991-1997
- Attorney General, State of TX, 1999-2002
- Vice Chair, U.S. Senate Republican Conference, 2007-2009
- Chair, National Republican Senatorial Committee, 2009-2012
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure, 2013-2015
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and Border Security, 2013-2015
- Senate Minority Whip, U.S. Senate, 2013-2015
- Senate Majority Whip, U.S. Senate, 2015-2017
- Senate Assistant Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, 2015-2017
- Senate Majority Whip; Senate Assistant Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, 2018

Contact Information

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Ted Cruz

Senator for Texas (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: krooz

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: December 22, 1970

Birthplace: Calgary, Canada

Religion: Southern Baptist

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latin American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Princeton University (NJ), AB, 1992
- Harvard Law School (MA), JD, 1995

Family: 2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Texas (R), 2013-Present
- Partner, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, 2008-2013
- Adjunct Law Professor, Univ. of Texas, 2004-09
- Solicitor General of Texas, 2003-08
- Director, Office of Policy Planning, Federal Trade Commission, 2001-03
- Associate Deputy Attorney General, United States Department of Justice, 2001
- Domestic Policy Advisor and Dept. of Justice Transition Team Leader, Bush Presidential Campaign, 1999-2001
- Associate, Cooper et. al, 1997-1999
- Law Clerk, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, Supreme Court, 1996-1997

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation (Ranking Member)
- Senate Judiciary
- Senate Foreign Relations
- Senate Rules & Administration

Quick Summary

Constitutional lawyer who briefly served as Bush advisor and appointee before taking several cases to the Supreme Court; entered politics through the Tea Party wave and advocates for hardline conservatism

- Born in Canada, Cruz grew up in Texas; both of his parents were involved in the fossil fuel industry
- Became involved in public service working for the Bush campaign and then administration; left his role there to be Texas' Solicitor General
- Argued several high-profile cases to the US Supreme Court as the solicitor general of Texas, supporting conservative causes like maintaining the Ten Commandments on Texas Capitol grounds and protecting the Second Amendment in DC
- Led an underdog anti-establishment campaign in 2012 to replace retiring Sen. Kay Hutchison (R-TX); successfully triggered a run-off against primary opponent Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst (R), which he won
- Displayed hardball tactics early in his Senate tenure; led efforts to de facto repeal the Affordable Care Act in 2013 by threatening a government shutdown by blocking any budget that funded the ACA
- Ran for the Republican nomination in 2016, and outlasted every Republican except for eventual nominee Donald Trump; strongly opposed Trump's candidacy for much of the campaign, but endorsed him in September



Ted Cruz Senator for Texas (R)



2016 and became one of his most ardent supporters

- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election
- In the 117th Congress, Cruz is one of the highest-profile foes of President Joe Biden in the Senate; held up numerous foreign policy nominations over his objection to Biden's initial decision to not sanction the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline between Russia and Germany

Approach and Motivations

Confident and lively legislator who embraces the spotlight; family and constitutional law background inform his policy decisions

- Cruz has already been a strong presidential contender, and embraces controversy and media attention; he is comfortable his profile as one of the most recognizable, in some corners disliked, members of the Senate
- Brands himself as uncompromising outsider, willing to stand up to career politicians who don't want to represent constituent interests
- High school and college careers largely focused around constitutional studies, where he participated in conservative debate groups and economic conferences; Cruz carried much of this constitutional foundation into his legal and political career
- Cruz's father immigrated after fighting authoritarianism in Cuba, worked his way through college, and founded a business; this inspired much of Cruz's policy, encouraging rewards for hard work and determination

Political History

- Domestic Policy Advisor, Bush-Cheney 2000, Inc., 1999-2000
- Team Member, Bush-Cheney Florida Recount Team, 2000
- Department of Justice Coordinator, Bush-Cheney Transition Advisory Committee, 2000-2001
- Solicitor General, State of Texas, 2003-2008
- Candidate, Texas Attorney General, 2009
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness, 2018
- Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution, 2018

Contact Information

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Wesley Hunt

Representative for Texas's 38th District (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: November 13, 1981

Birthplace: Houston, TX

Hometown: Houston, TX

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MILR, Cornell University
- MPA, Cornell University
- MBA, Cornell University
- BS, Leadership and Management with a Field of Study in Mechanical Engineering, United States Military Academy at West Point, 2004

Family: Wife; 2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Texas's 38th District, 2023-Present
- HR Department and Construction, Perry Homes
- Loan Officer and Mortgage Loan Originator, OneTrust Home Loans
- Officer, US Army
 - Aviation Branch Officer
 - AH-64D Apache Longbow Helicopter Pilot
 - Diplomatic Liaison Officer

Committees:

- House Small Business
 - Rural Development, Energy & Supply Chains (Chairman)

- Oversight, Investigations & Regulations
- House Natural Resources
 - Energy & Mineral Resources (Vice Chairman)
 - Oversight & Investigations
- House Judiciary
 - Constitution & Limited Government
 - Immigration, Integrity, Security & Enforcement

Quick Summary

Military veteran who pursued a number of advanced degrees after his service; after an ultimately unsuccessful Congressional bid in 2020, ran again in 2022 to become the representative for Texas's 38th District

- Attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he obtained a BS in Leadership and Management; later earned MBA, MPA, and MILR degrees at Cornell University after his military service
- Service in the US Army included a combat deployment in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom and two deployments in Saudi Arabia, where he served as a diplomatic liaison officer; flew more than 50 air missions as an Apache helicopter pilot
- In his 2020 campaign for Congress in Texas' 7th district, Hunt received 47.5% of the vote and narrowly lost to Rep. Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX7) in the general election
- Prior to launching his Congressional campaign in 2020, Hunt briefly worked in construction and Human Resources at Perry Homes
- Consistent with his previous campaign, Hunt campaigned on a platform focused largely on border security, election integrity, and foreign policy; pursued a grassroots effort to mobilize his voters leading up to the primary



Wesley Hunt

Representative for Texas's 38th District (R)



- After winning the Republican primary over nine other challengers, Hunt won the 2022 general election against Duncan Klusmann (D) to represent Texas's 38th District

Approach and Motivations

Building on his 2020 campaign, Hunt appeals to voters through his background in military service; believes he can expand the GOP coalition to include more voters of color

- Views his 2022 congressional bid as an extension of his 2020 campaign; believes his success in 2022 resulted from running in a new Republican-leaning district, a more “authentic” approach to campaigning, and new campaign leadership
- Stated during his 2020 campaign that he was driven by “Duty, Honor, and Country”, and consistently appealed to voters through his military service and commitment to serving the US
- Knocking on over 100,000 doors, Hunt adopted a grassroots-heavy campaign leading up to the primaries
- Believed that more “black and brown people” are open to Republican economic policies and has stated he is “confident he can help usher in a new wave of Republican voters”

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Contact:

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Beth Van Duyne

Representative for Texas' 24th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: v AE n d OY n

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: November 16, 1970

Birthplace: Ithaca, NY

Hometown: Amsterdam, NY

Religion: Christian - Non-Denominational

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Divorced

Education:

- BA, Government, Cornell University

Education Summary:

- BA, Government and Law, Cornell University, 1995

Family:

- 2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Texas' 24th District, 2021-Present
- Regional Administrator, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2017-2019
- Mayor of Irving, Texas, 2011-2017
- Vice President of Strategic Alliances, Akili Incorporated, 2013-2015
- President, BCI Marketing Group, 2002-2011
- Senior Director of Corporate Communications, LSG Sky Chefs, 2010-2011

- Member/Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, Irving City Council, 2004-2010
- Vice President of Marketing, Akili Incorporated, 2008-2009

Committees:

- House Small Business
 - Oversight, Investigations & Regulations (Chairman)
 - Economic Growth, Tax & Capital Access
- House Ways & Means
 - Oversight
 - Tax

Quick Summary

Two-term mayor and regional Trump administration appointee who prioritized immigration, national security, and nuclear energy investment in her 2020 platform

- Born in New York and moved to Texas as a teenager; worked her way through college, attending Cornell University where she earned a degree in city and regional planning
- Entered politics in 2011, becoming the first female mayor of Irving, Texas; served two terms before joining the Trump administration as the regional administrator for the Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2017
- Frames immigration policies around stopping drug cartels and advocates for laws requiring individuals to seek asylum from outside of the US, citing concerns of child trafficking on the border; supported the Trump administration's Migrant Protection Protocols, also known as the "Remain in Mexico" policy
- Supports a pathway to legal status, not citizenship, for Dreamers and non-criminal undocumented immigrants that would require



Beth Van Duyne

Representative for Texas' 24th District (R)



them to pass a criminal background check, pay fines, and learn English

- Energy platform calls for greater research and investment in next-generation nuclear reactors as well as “clean burning” petroleum plants; as mayor, she supported efforts to create a year-round schedule to conserve water between the cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, and Arlington
- Champions changes to the federal tax law to allow for the creation of Education 401(k) accounts to help individuals better save for college; says that while she is “not a fan” of federal student loan guarantees, they are currently necessary to the higher education industry
- Believes the US is in a technological arms race with China in areas like cybersecurity and artificial intelligence
- In 2020, she beat Democrat Candace Valenzuela to secure the 24th district's seat
- Voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results affirming President Joe Biden's election

Ayanna Pressley (D-MA7), and Rashida Tlaib (D-MI13)

- Tied campaign platform directly to Trump administration accomplishments and policies, such as criminal justice reform and Chinese tariffs, winning her the former president’s endorsement; veers from Trump orthodoxy in her acknowledgement of climate change

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Approach and Motivations

A self-described conservative Republican, Van Duyne embraces the party line on a majority of issues while advocating for market-based policy solutions to climate change

- Cites struggle with her insurance company over coverage of her newborn daughter’s eye surgery in discussions of her health care policy; advocates for association health care plans, where individuals and businesses group together to obtain health care coverage, as an alternative to the ACA
- Branded herself as part of a “conservative squad” of Republican women including Reps. Michelle Fischbach (R-MN7) and Nancy Mace (R-SC1), in response to the progressive “squad” composed of Reps. Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (D-NY14), Ilhan Omar (D-MN5),

VIRGINIA/DC



Bob Good

Representative for Virginia's 5th District (R)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: g u u d

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: September 11, 1965

Hometown: Lynchburg, VA

Religion: Evangelical

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MBA, Liberty University, 2010
- BA, Finance, Liberty University, 1988

Family:

- Wife, Tracey; three adult children

Work History:

- Representative for Virginia's 5th District (R), 2021-Present
- Supervisor, Campbell County, Virginia, 2015-2019
- Sr. Associate Athletic Director for Development and Executive Director of the Flames Club, Liberty University, 2005-2020
- Financial Manager, CitiFinancial, 1988-2005

Committees:

- House Education & Workforce
 - Health, Employment, Labor & Pensions (Chairman)
 - Higher Education & Workforce Development
- House Budget

Quick Summary

Former Liberty University administrator and Campbell County official who is an advocate for conservative social and cultural values and limited government

- From Lynchburg, a mid-sized city in south-central Virginia, Good obtained his bachelor's degree at nearby Liberty University before embarking on his financial management career; returned to Liberty to work as a fundraiser for the school's athletic department, and received his MBA there in 2010
- Served for four years on the Campbell County (VA) board, where he sought to limit an increase in funding for the school system; expressed support for allowing homeschooled students to participate in sports and extracurricular activities offered by schools
- Defeated incumbent Rep. Denver Riggleman (R-VA5) in the 2020 primary for Virginia's 5th Congressional District after Riggleman lost support among the party base for officiating a gay wedding; won a competitive general election race against physician and University of Virginia professor Cameron Webb (D)
- Aligned himself closely with former President Trump's rhetoric, stating that if elected he would support Trump's "America First" agenda, including securing borders and preserving "American jobs for American workers"; opposed birthright citizenship
- Vocally rejected Trump's defeat in the 2020 election, alleging that fraud and irregularities had occurred; voted in Congress on January 6, 2021 to object to the certification of Electoral College results from Arizona and Pennsylvania

Approach and Motivations

A self-described biblical and constitutional conservative, Good sought to energize the party base in a right-leaning district during the 2020



Bob Good Representative for Virginia's 5th District (R)



campaign; closely allied himself with the Republican party's most conservative House members

- Identifies as a “born again Christian” and is deeply connected to Liberty University, one of the most prominent institutions in the evangelical Christian movement and a center of conservative political activity
- During the campaign, he sought to rally conservative Christians around the notion that their rights, way of life, and values were under assault from state and national Democrats, and characterized his opponent Webb as “radical”; closely aligned himself with pro-law enforcement groups, such as the Charlottesville Fraternal Order of Police
- A member of the House Freedom Caucus, Good works with other conservatives on legislation to maintain Trump-era immigration and energy policies, and reduce federal spending; limited in the minority, Good and his allies sound the alarm about Biden policies that he believes constitute a “war” on American voters, workers, and families

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Contact: <https://good.house.gov/contact>



Tim Kaine

Senator for Virginia (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: kain

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: February 26, 1958

Birthplace: St. Paul, MN

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- University of Missouri, AB, 1979
- Harvard Law School (MA), JD, 1983

Family: 3 children

Work History:

- Senator for Virginia, 2013-Present
- Candidate for Vice President, 2016
- Chairman, Democratic National Committee, 2009-2011
- Governor of Virginia, 2007-2011
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, 2002-2006
- Mayor, City of Richmond, 1998-2001
- Member, Richmond City Council, 1994-2001
- Attorney, MS Candich & Kaine PC
- Professor of Legal Ethics, University of Richmond Law School

Electoral Overview:

- Won re-election in 2018 with 57% of the vote
- Initially elected to the Senate in 2012 with 53% of the vote
- Elected to Governor in 2005 by a five-point margin

Committees:

- Senate Armed Services
 - Seapower (Chairman)
 - Personnel
 - Readiness & Management Support
- Senate Foreign Relations
 - West Hem Crime Civ Sec Dem Rights & Women's Issues (Chairman)
 - State Dept & USAID Mngmnt, Internat'l Ops & Internat'l Dev
 - Near East, South Asia, Central Asia & Counterterrorism
 - Internat'l Dev Instit & Internat'l Econ, Energy & Environ Policy
- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Former vice presidential nominee and Governor of Virginia now serving in the Senate; leading bipartisan voice on foreign affairs and workforce development

- Served as an educator and missionary in Honduras before law school, working with a Jesuit organization in a technical school
- Worked as a civil rights attorney after graduating from Harvard Law, fighting against racially discriminatory housing practices
- Was inspired to run for office by his father-in-law, Linwood Holton, who held the VA governorship during integration; first served on Richmond's city council and then as mayor
- Campaigned for Governor of Virginia on quality of life improvements, including infrastructure development; he faced difficulty with Republican majorities in the legislature, who opposed tax increases to fund projects
- Was recruited to run for Senate by President Obama; popularity as a Democratic figure won him the VP nomination in 2016



Tim Kaine
Senator for Virginia (D)



- One of relatively few officials to serve at local, state, and federal levels of government
- Worked to negotiate Biden's Build Back Better Agenda in the Senate and has served as a key leader in ensuring some of the priorities remain in budgetary measures; specifically emphasizes that aspects of the bill's health care, education, and workforce support policies will remain a priority for the Senate

Approach and Motivations

Faith and mission to Honduras formed strong convictions, inspiring stances on workforce development, social policy and foreign affairs

- Service in Honduras influenced path toward public service and empathy for migrants; Kaine was the first senator to deliver a speech completely in Spanish on the Senate floor
- Deeply religious, and holds positions based on his faith; he opposes the death penalty and often takes pro-life stances, but does not rely solely on personal views when crafting policy
- Was governor during the 2007 Virginia Tech shooting; event reinforced his gun control views
- Experience teaching vocational skills and his father's background as an ironworker inform Kaine's emphasis on technical skills-focused workforce development
- Supports the use of foreign aid as a way to promote American interests and security policy; believes US should be leading a global push for democracy through foreign policy

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Jennifer A. Kiggans

Representative for Virginia's 2nd District (R)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Republican Party

Born: June 18, 1971

Birthplace: Tampa, FL

Religion: Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- MSN, Vanderbilt University, 2012
- BSN, Old Dominion University, 2011
- BA, Boston University, 1993

Family:

4 children

Work History:

- Representative for Virginia's 2nd District, 2023-Present
- State Senator for Virginia's 7th District, 2020-2023
- Adjunct Faculty, Old Dominion University School of Nursing, 2016-Present
- Adult-Geriatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGPCNP), Tidewater Family Practice, 2016-Present
- AGPCNP, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Glennan Center, 2013-2020
- AGPCNP, Westminster Canterbury on Chesapeake Bay & Senior Options, LLC, 2012-2016
- Teacher, Japan Exchange and Teaching Program, 1993-1994
- Navy, 1993-2003

Committees:

- House Veterans' Affairs
 - Oversight & Investigations (Chairman)
 - Health
- House Natural Resources
 - Water, Wildlife & Fisheries (Vice Chairman)
 - Federal Lands
- House Armed Services
 - Cyber, Information Technology & Innovation
 - Readiness
 - Seapower & Projection Forces

Quick Summary

Military veteran and geriatric care provider currently serving in the Virginia state Senate; state and congressional platforms focus on health, veterans, and election policy

- Taught English through an exchange program in Japan for one year, after graduating from Boston University with a degree in international relations; served for 10 years in the US Navy, through which she was deployed twice to the Persian Gulf as a helicopter pilot
- Attended graduate school with help from the GI bill, earning a master's degree in elder-focused health care; worked in several geriatric care facilities before joining her current private family practice
- Entered politics in 2019, running for Virginia state Senate in a competitive district encompassing Virginia Beach, which she won with a margin of less than 1%; characterized her military, health, and business background as key to shaping Virginia policy
- Ran for Congress in 2022 in a competitive primary for Virginia's newly-redrawn coastal district; prevailed over Jarome Bell, a Navy veteran backed by far-right figures including



Jennifer A. Kiggans

Representative for Virginia's 2nd District (R)



retired Gen. Michael Flynn, with 55% of the vote

- Congressional platform covered a wide range of issues; emphasized improving services for mental health care, the elderly, and veterans
- Won the general election against incumbent Rep. Elaine Luria (D) in November to represent Virginia's 2nd District, which shifted slightly more conservative after redistricting

Approach and Motivations

Background in health care and the Navy largely influences policy positions; seeks to balance ideologies in her conservative base with more moderate views to appeal to a wider swath of voters

- Driven by a polarized electorate to bridge the gap between moderate suburbanites and more conservative rural communities to secure the GOP nomination; while not as extreme as her primary opponent, Kiggans has advocated for a forensic audit of the 2020 election and increased election security
- A military veteran who is the daughter, wife, and mother of servicemembers, Kiggans seeks to focus on improving resources and benefits for veterans and bolstering national security
- Background as a geriatric health care provider informs her detailed priorities for health and elder care; seeks to improve staffing and prohibit isolation in nursing homes as well as bolster mental health care resources
- Policies considered more moderate relative to other GOP candidates and lawmakers; limited her dialogue on “culture wars” talking points, often emphasizing inflation and global crises as her top priorities and avoiding calls for total bans on abortion

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Mark Warner

Senator for Virginia (D)



Life In Brief

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: December 15, 1954

Birthplace: Indianapolis, IN

Hometown: Indianapolis, IN

Religion: Presbyterian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- JD, Harvard University Law School, 1980
- BA, George Washington University, 1977

Family:

- Wife; 3 daughters

Work History:

- Senator for Virginia, 2009-Present
- Governor of Virginia, 2002-2006
- Chair, National Governors Association, 2004-2005
- Co-Founder, Columbia Capital Corporation, 1989-2001
- Chair, Virginia Democratic Party, 1993-1995
- Campaign Manager, Douglas Wilder for Governor, 1989
- Fundraiser, Democratic National Committee, 1980-1982
- Intern, Office of Sen. Abe Ribicoff (D-CT)
- Intern, Office of Rep. Ella Grasso (D-CT6)
- Intern, Office of Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-CT)

Electoral Overview:

- Won third Senate election in 2020 with 56% of the vote
- First elected to Senate in 2008 with 65.03% of vote, re-elected in 2014 with 49.15%
- Elected governor in 2001 with 52.16% of vote

Committees:

- Senate Intelligence (Chairman)
- Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - National Security & International Trade & Finance (Chairman)
 - Financial Institutions & Consumer Protection
 - Securities, Insurance & Investment
- Senate Rules & Administration
- Senate Finance
 - Taxation & IRS Oversight
 - Health Care
 - International Trade, Customs & Global Competitiveness
- Senate Budget

Quick Summary

Centrist Democrat known for strong bipartisan relationships, who – despite making his fortune as a tech entrepreneur – has become one of the industry’s harshest critics in the Senate

- Politically interested early on, having worked for several Connecticut politicians while completing his undergraduate degree in DC
- In his early career, Warner worked to build his own businesses before founding his own venture capital firm; during that time he also worked in the Virginia political sphere, serving within the state party and on the state transportation board
- After a failed Senate campaign in 1996, Warner ran for governor in 2001, emphasizing rural priorities throughout both races



Mark Warner Senator for Virginia (D)



- As Governor, Warner focused primarily on fiscal issues, working to maintain Virginia's credit rating through balancing the state budget without raising taxes statewide; maintained approval ratings between 70% and 80% by the end of his term
- Ran for Senate in 2008, with the endorsement of the exiting GOP incumbent, and won in a landslide victory with 65% of the vote
- First Senate term heavily focused on financial policy, while second term pivoted to current tech and cybersecurity focus
- Identifies strongly with entrepreneurial and tech communities, particularly in Virginia
- One of the wealthiest members of Congress with an estimated net worth of around \$200 million, primarily from early investments in mobile phone franchise licenses and tech companies
- Has made substantial efforts to build bipartisan coalitions, spending much of his first term as a leader of the Gang of Six focusing on budget reform; in recent years, crossed the aisle to propose tech policy reforms

economy, reflecting his experience as an entrepreneur

- Career involvement in the tech industry has spurred an interest in tech reform initiatives and driven bipartisan collaboration on the issue

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Approach and Motivations

Is a political centrist who avoids partisanship; seeks to bring innovation to public sector

- A moderate Democrat with a keen interest in making government run more efficiently, Warner is known for bipartisan relationships, such as being endorsed by former Sen. John Warner, the Republican whose seat he filled
- In the past, refused leadership positions in Democratic Hill committees due to partisan nature of the role, though he has been Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee as of February 2021
- Believes government must promote and support innovation and entrepreneurship to help people thrive in a new and changing



Eleanor Holmes Norton

Delegate for the District of Columbia (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: NOR-tuhn

Current Title: Del.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: June 13, 1937

Birthplace: Washington, DC

Religion: Episcopalian

Ethnicity: Black/African American

Marital Status: Divorced

Education Summary:

- Antioch College (OH), BA, 1960
- Yale University (CT), MA, 1963
- Yale University School of Law (CT), JD, 1964

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Delegate to the US House of Representatives from Washington, DC, 1991 - present
- Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center, 1982-1991
- Senior Fellow, The Urban Institute, 1981-1982
- Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1977-1981
- Executive Assistant, Office of Mayor John V. Lindsay (NY), 1971-1974
- Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law, New York University Law School, 1970-1971
- Chair, NY Commission on Human Rights, 1970-1976
- Assistant Legal Director, American Civil Liberties Union, 1965-1971

- Law Clerk, Office of the Federal District Court Judge A. Leon Higginbotham, 1964-1965

Committees:

- House Transportation & Infrastructure
 - Highways & Transit (Ranking Member)
 - Economic Dev't, Public Buildings & Emergency Management
 - Water Resources & Environment
 - Aviation
- House Oversight & Accountability
 - Government Operations & Federal Workforce
 - Economic Growth, Energy Policy & Regulatory Affairs

Quick Summary

A constitutional lawyer, feminist, and civil rights advocate with over thirty years of experience representing Washington, DC, Norton focuses her efforts on DC statehood and bringing economic opportunity to the district

- A third generation Washingtonian and daughter of a District government employee and a school teacher; considers herself “deep DC”
- Prior to running for Congress, dedicated her professional career to racial and gender equality, working at the American Civil Liberties Union, the New York City Commission on Human Rights, and as a law professor; at the New York City Commission on Human Rights, held the first public hearings in the country on discrimination against women
- Served as head of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the Carter administration, where she issued the first federal guidelines on what constitutes sexual harassment



Eleanor Holmes Norton

Delegate for the District of Columbia (D)



- Elected in 1990, Norton is a non-voting delegate; vocal proponent of DC statehood, advocating for full congressional representation and ending the need for congressional review of local DC laws
- Focuses on initiatives to grow the District's economy, including through DC homebuyer tax credits, business tax incentives, wage credits for employing DC residents, and scholarships for high school graduates
- Chair of the House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, where she has pushed for green transportation and greater use of technology to reduce congestion
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, 2013
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, 2014
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, 2016
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, 2018

Approach and Motivations

Motivated to give DC residents the same rights and opportunities as other states

- Following years of experience working for racial and gender equality, views the issue of DC statehood and the rights of DC residents through a similar lens; believes DC residents should be treated equally to US residents of other cities and states in terms of representation
- Says she learned to work incrementally to help DC gain additional rights and hopes that battle will culminate in statehood
- Combines outspoken style with passion for social justice, stating she is most comfortable when she is in "fighting-for-justice mode;" Norton has been nicknamed "the Warrior on the Hill" by her constituents

Political History

- Chair, NY Commission on Human Rights, 1970-1976
- Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1977-1981
- Vice Chair, Democratic National Convention Platform Committee, 2000

Contact Information

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WASHINGTON



Maria Cantwell

Senator for Washington (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: KANT-well

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: October 13, 1958

Birthplace: Indianapolis, IN

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Single

Education Summary:

- Attended, Miami University European Center
- BA, Miami University of Ohio, 1980

Work History:

- Senator for Washington (D), 2001-Present
- Senior Vice President, Consumer Products, Real Networks, 1997-2000
- Vice President, Progressive Networks, 1995-1997
- Representative for Washington's 1st District (D), 1992-1994
- State Representative for Washington's 44th District (D), 1986-1992
- Public Relations Consultant, Canwell & Associates, 1981-1987

Committees:

- Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation (Chairman)
 - Tourism, Trade & Export Promotion
 - Space & Science
 - Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change & Manufacturing

- Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovations
- Surface Transportation, Maritime Freight & Ports
- Consumer Protection, Product Safety & Data Security
- Communications, Media & Broadband
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship
- Senate Indian Affairs
- Joint Taxation
- Senate Finance
- Senate Energy & Natural Resources
- Joint Economic

Quick Summary

An Indiana native with a public and private sector background, Cantwell has emerged as a pro-business Democrat and leading voice on coastal management, energy diversification, and Native American affairs

- Born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana, Cantwell observed politics at a young age through her father, a local politician
- First generation college graduate who was awarded Pell grants to attend after an academic course at Luxembourg, Cantwell returned to Ohio to work on the 1982 gubernatorial campaign of former Cincinnati mayor and television personality Jerry Springer
- Moved to Washington to assist with former Sen. Alan Cranston's (D-CA) unsuccessful 1984 presidential bid and became enamored with the Pacific Northwest
- First elected to the Washington State House in 1986 and served two terms before her 1992 election to the House
- After an unsuccessful 1994 re-election bid to the House, she joined software company RealNetworks, formerly Progressive Networks, as senior vice president of consumer products;



Maria Cantwell

Senator for Washington (D)



experience handling consumer, e-commerce, and privacy concerns informed her views on the intersection of business, technology, and government

- Returned to politics and was elected to the Senate in 2000, where she has prioritized legislation to promote coastal management, modernize the nation’s electricity grid, and develop energy cybersecurity
- Champions legislation to improve health care accessibility, boost federal investments in biomedical research, and promote economic growth and self-governance in Native American tribes
- In 2021, Cantwell endorsed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act highlighting its investment in ecosystem restoration, EPA efforts to clean up Puget Sound, and salmon recovery

Chelan, and exploring the Pacific coastline, which informs her policies on coastal management

Political History

- Senator for Washington, 2001-present
- Representative for Washington’s 1st District, 1992-1994
- State Representative for Washington’s 44th District, 1986-1992
- Washington Coordinator, Presidential Campaign of Sen. Alan Cranston (CA-D), 1983-1984
- Staffer, Gubernatorial campaign of Jerry Springer, 1982

Approach and Motivations

Inherited Democratic Ideology from her father; applies an informed, pragmatic approach to tech, economic, and environmental policy

- Political leanings shaped by her father Paul Cantwell, who was a staunch Democrat and served as county commissioner, city councilman, state legislator, and aide to former Rep. Andy Jacobs (D-IN10); as a child, she accompanied her father to rallies, becoming passionate about the party
- Previous position at RealNetworks, where she says some of her young colleagues viewed government as irrelevant, inspired her to run for Senate to make government compatible with the information age
- Self-described New Democrat whose legislative record has remained consistently liberal on social issues but moderate on economic and foreign policy matters
- Enjoys outdoor activities including hiking the Cascades or the Olympics, boating on Lake

Contact Information

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Suzan DelBene

Representative for Washington's 1st District (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: del-BEH-nay

Current Title: Rep.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: February 17, 1962

Birthplace: Selma, AL

Religion: Episcopalian

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Reed College (OR), BA, 1983
- University of Washington, MBA, 1990

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Representative for Washington's 1st District, 2012-Present
- Director, Washington State Department of Revenue, 2010-2012
- Management Consultant and Strategic Advisor, Global Partnerships, 2008-2009
- Corporate Vice President of the Mobile Communications Business, Microsoft, 2004-2007
- President and Chief Executive Officer, Nimble Technology, 2000-2003
- Co-Founder and Vice President, drugstore.com, 1998-2000
- Director of Marketing and Business Development, Interactive Media Group, Microsoft, 1989-1998

Committees:

- House Ways & Means
 - Oversight
 - Trade
 - Tax

Quick Summary

Former Microsoft executive who garnered the support of Democratic party leadership while running for a competitive seat; focuses on fiscal responsibility and health care reform

- Faced economic hardship as a teenager when her stepfather lost his job as an airline pilot; moved around the country frequently as her family looked for work
- Initially aspired to become a veterinarian, but discovered an interest in the technology sector while working for a biotech firm
- Rose through the ranks during her 12 years at Microsoft, beginning as an intern and eventually becoming senior vice president; helped develop several tech startups, including drugstore.com and Global Partnerships, a micro-finance international nonprofit focusing on public-private partnerships in Latin America
- After narrowly losing her first congressional race to a Republican, she was appointed director of her state's Department of Revenue where she sought to balance budgets and support small businesses; she enacted a bipartisan, business-friendly tax amnesty program that generated \$345 million for the state
- Elected in 2012, winning a crowded race for a newly redistricted seat with the support of state Democratic party leaders; secured position on the Ways and Means Committee where she pushed for Medicare and Medicaid reforms to streamline prior authorization and expand mental health service access



Suzan DelBene

Representative for Washington's 1st District (D)



Approach and Motivations

Family's lack of job security growing up informs her business-oriented policies and liberal social values; engages with colleagues across the aisle to pass key legislative measures

- Inspired to enter public service after learning about the role policy plays in creating economic opportunities for families through her work with Global Partnerships
- As a vice chair on the New Democrat Coalition, she emphasizes her commitment to job creation and fiscally responsible policy; introduced the Affordable Housing Tax Credit to build over 9,700 new affordable housing units in Washington, creating 11,000 jobs
- Women's rights advocate who received support from Planned Parenthood, NARAL, and Emily's List; served on the House Panel on Infant Lives that investigated Planned Parenthood where she defended the organization as a provider of accessible reproductive health care
- Focus on data privacy is driven by her background as a tech executive and the recent influx of major technology companies in her district, including Nintendo's North American headquarters; helped introduce the Email Privacy Act, Secure Data Act and LEADs act
- District's dependence on agriculture and lumber sectors influence her policy goals; authored the Timber Innovation Act as part of the 2018 farm bill, which established a research and development program improving tall wood building construction, and has called the Trump administration's Chinese trade tariffs "reckless"

Political History

- Candidate, U.S. House of Representatives, 2010-2010
- Director, WA State Department of Revenue, 2010-2012
- Ranking Minority Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, 2015-2017

Contact Information

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Patty Murray

Senator for Washington (D)



Life In Brief

Phonetic Name: MUR-ree

Current Title: Sen.

Political Party: Democratic Party

Born: October 11, 1950

Birthplace: Bothell, WA

Religion: Roman Catholic

Ethnicity: White

Marital Status: Married

Education Summary:

- Washington State University, BA, 1972

Family:

2 children

Work History:

- Senator for Washington, 1993-Present
- State Senator for Washington's 1st District, 1989-1993
- Certified Parent Education Instructor, Shoreline Community College, 1984-1988
- Legislature Lobbyist, Organization for Parent Education, 1977-1984
- Secretary, Various Companies, 1972-1976

Committees:

- Senate Appropriations (Chairman)
 - Military Construction & Veteran Affairs & Related Agencies (Chairman)
 - Transportation, HUD & Related Agencies
 - Energy & Water Development
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - DOL, HHS & Education & Related Agencies

- Department of Defense
- Senate Veterans' Affairs
- Senate Budget
- Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
 - Children & Families
 - Primary Health & Retirement Security

Quick Summary

A former community college teacher and education activist, Murray has impacted policy areas from education to the budget to trade as a senator; serves in Democratic leadership and chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee in the 118th Congress

- A Washington State native and daughter of a disabled World War II veteran, Murray grew up in a family of nine living on veterans' benefits
- Pushed into politics by budget cuts that threatened the class she taught at a community college; subsequently ran for school board in the Seattle suburb of Shoreline, and then became board president
- Rapidly ascended into the state Senate and then national politics; won the 1992 race to replace Sen. Brock Adams (D-WA), who declined to run following allegations of sexual assault
- As Budget Committee chair, she reached a compromise two-year budget deal with then-House Budget Committee Chair Paul Ryan (R-WI1), signed by President Obama in 2013
- Education ranks among her top priorities; worked with fmr. Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee Chair Lamar Alexander (R-TN) on bipartisan education reform, and strongly opposed Trump's nomination of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos
- The third-longest tenured Senate Democrat, Murray has twice led the Democratic



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Senatorial Campaign Committee—including in 2012, when Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) were elected—and served as assistant Democratic leader

- Supported Biden administration education and social programs as chair of the Senate HELP Committee in the 117th Congress; plans to employ a bipartisan approach in her current role as chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee

Approach and Motivations

Perspective on government benefits shaped by life experience

- After growing up reliant on government benefits and attending college through Pell grants, Murray says she wants to ensure that government is there for families like hers; this outlook drives her approach to economic and fiscal policy
- Soft-spoken leader and party insider who largely avoids the spotlight; attributes her understated, focused style to her time as a preschool teacher
- Operates from progressive principles, but possesses bipartisan negotiating chops; received praise for her working style from past Republican colleagues including Sens. Jeff Sessions and Lamar Alexander
- Attuned to the needs of her state, Murray has successfully procured funding for Washington State infrastructure projects and backed international trade agreements, noting the state economy's dependence on exports

Political History

- Chair, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, 2001-2003 and 2011-2013

Contact Information

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