



NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE: 2016 PENNSYLVANIA SENATE RACE

	Katie McGinty (D)	Patrick Toomey (Incumbent – R)
<p>For mobile-friendly version and other guides, see campuselect.org/guides.html</p> <p>For more detailed information on candidate positions visit their respective pages at votesmart.org and countable.us</p> <p>To volunteer, visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • katiemcginty.com or • toomeyforsenate.com 		
Abortion: Should abortion be highly restricted?	No	Yes
Campaign Finance: Support the DISCLOSE Act, which requires key funders of political ads to put their names on those ads?	Yes	No
Campaign Finance: Support Supreme Court’s <i>Citizens United</i> decision, which allows unlimited independent political expenditures by corporations and unions?	No. Supports constitutional amendment to overturn.	Yes
Climate Change: Believe that human activity is the major factor driving climate change?	Yes	No
Climate Change: Should government limit the levels of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere?	Yes	No
Contraception: Should employers be able to withhold contraceptive coverage from employees if they disagree with it morally?	No	Yes. Viewed Supreme Court decision to allow this as “great news.”
Economy: Support federal spending as a means of promoting economic growth?	Yes	No
Financial Regulation: Support the Dodd-Frank Act, which established the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and increases regulation of Wall Street corporations and financial institutions?	Yes	No
Gay Marriage: Support gay marriage?	Yes	No
Gun Control: Support enacting more restrictive gun control legislation?	Yes	Yes. Selective support of greater restrictions. ¹
Healthcare: Support repealing the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare?	No. Helped expand state Medicaid coverage under Affordable Care Act.	Yes
Healthcare: Did you support shutting down the federal government in order to defund Obamacare in 2013?	No. Implied in other statements & positions.	Yes. Raised some questions about shutdown but voted for it.
Healthcare: Should Planned Parenthood be eligible to receive public funds for non-abortion health services?	Yes	No
Immigration: Support the DREAM Act, which would allow children brought into the country illegally to achieve legal status if meet certain conditions? ²	Yes	Opposed Obama’s Executive Order giving legal status.
Immigration: Should America’s 11 million undocumented residents have an earned path to citizenship?	Yes	No

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Iran: Support the US-Iran treaty that limits Iran’s nuclear capability in return for lifting economic sanctions?	Yes	No
Iraq: Should the US recommit significant additional ground troops to Iraq to combat the success of ISIS?	No. Prefers a focus on other options that could prevent the need for ground troops.	No. Supports air strikes and arming local forces.
Marijuana: Support efforts to decriminalize and/or legalize marijuana?	Yes. Supports medical marijuana legalization and recreational decriminalization.	History of opposition, but openness beginning in 2015 to medical marijuana research.
Minimum Wage: Support raising the federal minimum wage?	Yes. Supports \$15 per hour.	No. Believes it will eliminate a lot of jobs.
Prisons: Switch money from prisons to preventive measures like education and social services?	Yes	Currently unclear. Clearly opposed 15 years ago.
Renewable Energy: Support government mandates and/or subsidies for renewable energy?	Yes	No
Social Security: Support full or partial Social Security privatization?	No	Yes
Student Debt: Support refinancing of student loans at lower rates, paid for by increasing taxes on high earners?	Yes	No
Student Financial Aid: Should federal student financial aid, like Pell Grants, be increased?	Yes	No. Voted against restoring proposed cuts.
Supreme Court: Support Senate hearings to consider Obama Supreme Court nominee Merrick Garland?	Yes	No. Pledged to keep seat open until after 2016 election.
Taxes: Signed Americans for Tax Reform Pledge to oppose any tax increases to raise revenue?	No	Yes
Taxes: Increase taxes on corporations and/or high-income individuals to pay for public services?	Yes	No
Voting Rights: Support stricter voting rules such as voter ID requirements or reduced registration times, even if they prevent some people from voting?	No. Supports extending early voting days and eliminating voter ID laws.	Yes. Defended PA voter ID law that was later struck down by a court, arguing that requirements were minimal. ³

Other senate candidates include [Everett Stern \(I\)](#). Due to limited space, we can’t include his positions, but invite you to check out his website.

Created by the [Campus Election Engagement Project](#), a non-partisan effort to help college and university administrators, faculty, and student leaders engage their schools in the election. Key sites consulted included [Votesmart.org](#), [Ballotpedia.org](#), [Countable.us](#), [OntheIssues.org](#), [FactCheck.org](#), [Politifact.com](#), and public candidate statements. For a guide to all races, see [Vote411.org](#), from the League of Women Voters.

¹ History of [high ratings from gun rights groups](#) and opposition to gun control efforts. Since Sandy Hook, has supported expanding background checks and preventing those on terrorist watch list from purchasing guns.

² Need to have graduated from high school, have a clean legal record, and attend college or serve in the military.

³ Stated that [PA’s voter ID law had easy-to-meet requirements](#) that protected the integrity of the system. Opponents argued that [the law disenfranchised large numbers of otherwise eligible voters](#).