



## NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE: 2018 WEST VIRGINIA SENATE RACE

	Joe Manchin (D – Incumbent)	Patrick Morrisey (R)
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<b>Abortion:</b> Mostly ban or mostly legal?	Mostly ban. Lifelong abortion opponent, <a href="#">but recognizes that Americans are divided on this</a> . Voted for bill prohibiting abortions after 20 weeks & opposes any public funding.	Ban. Overturn <i>Roe v Wade</i> , <a href="#">stop “the pro-abortion agenda” in Congress &amp; legislate nationwide restrictions similar to WV’s.</a>
<b>Campaign Finance:</b> Require political ads to disclose largest funders? Support <i>Citizens United</i> decision, allowing unlimited political donations from corporations & unions?	Yes, disclose funders. No, on Citizen’s United. Says the decision has <a href="#">“destroyed this country.”</a>	Unknown.
<b>Climate Change:</b> Consider climate change a critical threat?	Yes. <a href="#">“I believe climate change is real, &amp; that the more than 7 billion people living on this Earth have contributed to its warming.”</a>	No. <a href="#">“There are many factors involved in the evolution of the earth’s temperature.”</a>
<b>Climate Change:</b> Limit or tax production of greenhouse gases? Support renewable energy?	No to regulating greenhouse gases: <a href="#">“No one is going to stop using fossil [fuels] for a long time.”</a> But required WV utilities to get 25% of energy from renewable sources by 2025.	No to regulating greenhouse gases. <a href="#">Led states suing to overturn Obama Clean Power Plan. Opposed renewable energy mandate in ad against a primary opponent.</a>
<b>Contraception:</b> Allow employers to withhold contraceptive coverage from employees if disagree with it morally?	<a href="#">Yes. Voted for bill to reverse ACA mandate for contraceptive coverage in order to safeguard religious liberty.</a>	Yes. Strong advocate for religious liberty.
<b>Economy:</b> Support federal spending as a means of promoting economic growth?	Yes. <a href="#">Supports infrastructure investment.</a>	Yes. <a href="#">Supports infrastructure investment.</a>
<b>Economy:</b> Support President Trump’s imposition of tariffs on Chinese steel & other products?	Yes. <a href="#">Supports the tariffs 100%. Historically, trade deals have not been good for WV.</a>	Milder support: <a href="#">“The President is...trying to gain a little negotiating leverage. That’s not a bad thing.”</a>
<b>Education:</b> Provide vouchers to parents to send their children to private schools with public money?	No. <a href="#">“Would pull already limited public school resources from the schools, students &amp; teachers that need them most.”</a>	No statement found.
<b>Education:</b> Supported West Virginia teacher’s strike?	Yes. <a href="#">Urged Senate Republicans “to stop playing games &amp; send our kids back to school.”</a>	No. <a href="#">“Breaking the law does not set a good example for our children.” Threatened an injunction.</a>
<b>Gay Marriage:</b> Support gay marriage?	Opposes personally, but accepts as settled law.	No. <a href="#">“Disappointed” with legalization.</a>

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<b>Gun Control:</b> Support more restrictive gun control legislation? Restrict semi-automatic weapons?	Opposes restrictions in most areas. <a href="#">Opposed banning semi-automatic weapons</a> , but supports <a href="#">background checks for gun show or internet sales</a> .	No. <a href="#">Will keep hands of “gun grabbers” &amp; “Washington liberals” off of American guns</a> . A+ rating from NRA.
<b>Healthcare:</b> Support or Repeal Affordable Care Act (ACA), known as Obamacare?	Needs improvement, but supports its <a href="#">preventive care, protections for pre-existing conditions, costs of prescription drugs, &amp; support to fight opioid epidemic</a> . <a href="#">Unacceptable to go back to when 250,000 West Virginians went without healthcare</a> .	Repeal. <a href="#">Joined lawsuit that would end coverage of preexisting conditions</a> . <a href="#">ACA has “utterly failed our country &amp; West Virginia,”</a> causing higher insurance premiums, & leading businesses to drop health care coverage altogether.
<b>Healthcare:</b> Allow Planned Parenthood to receive public funds for non-abortion health services?	Yes. <a href="#">No abortion funding, but committed to “helping women get vital health services, like cancer screenings &amp; preventive care.”</a>	No. <a href="#">“Has opposed all taxpayer funding of Planned Parenthood.”</a>
<b>Healthcare:</b> Should the Federal government support miners’ pensions & health care when companies go bankrupt?	Yes. <a href="#">Spearheaded bill to fund health care benefits &amp; pensions for union miners</a> .	No statement found.
<b>Immigration:</b> Support DREAM Act (DACA), allowing “Dreamers” who arrived illegally as children, to achieve legal status if meet certain conditions?	Yes. <a href="#">Member of bipartisan group who proposed legislation to give Dreamers path to citizenship while allocating \$25 billion for border security</a> .	No. <a href="#">“Lax immigration laws pose a security risk to our homeland.”</a> <a href="#">Joined lawsuit against DACA, calling it an unlawful, unilateral Obama action</a> .
<b>Iran:</b> Support Trump’s withdrawal from treaty limiting Iran’s nuclear capability?	Yes.	Yes.
<b>Minimum Wage:</b> Raise the federal minimum wage?	Yes. <a href="#">Supported 2014 bill to increase from \$7.25 hour to \$10.10 hour</a> .	Unknown.
<b>Net Neutrality:</b> Require internet providers to provide equal access to all users?	Yes. <a href="#">Voted to overturn FCC repeal of net neutrality</a> .	<a href="#">Took no stand after Democratic legislators requested he support net neutrality</a> .
<b>President Trump:</b> Response to President Trump's actions & policies?	Voted <a href="#">61% in support of Trump positions</a> as of August 2018.	<a href="#">“His pro-growth, tax policies &amp; his repeal of illegal &amp; burdensome regulations have significantly benefited our citizens.”</a>
<b>Privatization:</b> Support full or partial privatization of Social Security?	No. <a href="#">Supports expansion</a> .	Unclear. <a href="#">“Consider reforms to keep Social Security &amp; Medicare solvent,”</a> but <a href="#">“not make changes that would negatively impact retirees.”</a>
<b>Student debt:</b> Refinance existing student loans if lower rates exist? Support income-contingent loan repayment? Support & expand Pell Grants?	<a href="#">Yes</a> . Introduced bills to refinance at market rates & to <a href="#">limit repayment to 15% of income</a> . <a href="#">Signed on to support &amp; strengthen Pell Grants</a> .	Unknown. <a href="#">Reached settlement with for-profit online education company to forgive student debt</a> .
<b>Taxes:</b> Support <a href="#">President Trump’s tax cuts</a> ?	No. <a href="#">“The corporations get the greatest cuts, the wealthiest get the greatest benefits...The people that get the least amount..are the people that needed it the most”</a>	Yes. <a href="#">“As a result, West Virginia families are seeing more money in their pockets, unemployment rates continue to drop, &amp; many hardworking West Virginians are receiving bonuses &amp; pay raises.”</a>

Other senate candidates include [Rusty Hollen](#) (Libertarian). Due to limited space, we can only include candidates who poll 15% or higher, but encourage you to check out his website.

Created by the [Campus Election Engagement Project](#), a nonpartisan effort to help college & university administrators, faculty, & student leaders engage their schools in the election. Key sites consulted included [Votesmart.org](#), [OntheIssues.org](#), [FactCheck.org](#), [Politifact.com](#), & public candidate statements. For guides to local races, see [Vote411.org](#) from the League of Women Voters & [Ballotready.org](#).