

**NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE:
2018 MISSISSIPPI SENATE RACE – Baria v. Wicker**

	David Baria (D)	Roger Wicker (R – Incumbent)
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Abortion: Mostly ban or mostly legal?	Legal. Keep safe, legal & woman’s choice. Could support reasonable restrictions on late-term abortions if exceptions for rape, incest, mother’s health & viability of the fetus.	Ban. Introduced bill to declare that constitutional right to life begins at moment of fertilization. In 2011, said “Roe v Wade has led to a 3-&-a-half decades-long holocaust.”
Campaign Finance: Require political ads & contributions to disclose their largest funders? Limit political donations from corporations & unions?	Has offered numerous bills to increase more campaign finance disclosure from lobbyists & candidates. Would limit political donations.	No. Voted against 2012 DISCLOSE Act. Also against limiting political donations.
Climate Change: Consider climate change a serious crisis?	Yes. Has long supported state commission to address it.	No. Human cause “isn’t settled.” In 2014, cast the only Senate vote against saying climate change was real.
Climate Change: Limit or tax production of greenhouse gases?	Yes to limiting greenhouse gases. One of top priorities is protecting the environment.	No on Obama greenhouse gas limits as assault on coal. Urged withdrawing from Paris Climate Accord, saying does no good & will harm US economy.
Contraception: Allow employers to withhold contraceptive coverage if disagree with it?	No specific stand, but strong general supporter of women’s access to contraception.	Yes. “The federal government doesn’t have the right to force Americans to violate their faith.”
Courts: Support Judge Kavanaugh nomination? (before recent allegations)	Won’t prejudge before hearings—part of partisanship poisoning democracy.	Yes. “A well-qualified jurist with a record of upholding the integrity of the law & the Constitution.”
Economy: Support federal spending as a means of promoting economic growth?	Yes. But some hesitancy on size of 2009 Obama stimulus to counter recession.	Generally not, for instance opposed Obama stimulus.
Economy: Support President Trump’s imposition of tariffs on Chinese steel & other products?	No. They have a negative impact on Mississippians.	Knows Mississippi farmers are bracing for negative impacts, but hopes “end results will be greater opportunities”
Education: Provide vouchers to send children to private schools with public money?	No. Opposed.	Yes. Also supported tax-free savings accounts for private school costs in Trump tax plan.
Elections: Support nonpartisan redistricting to address partisan gerrymandering?	Yes. Introduced unsuccessful 2018 bill to create nonpartisan Commission.	No position found.
Financial Regulation: Support cutbacks in Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)?	No. Will oppose any efforts to weaken CFPB.	Yes. “CFPB has been a thinly veiled attempt... to expand federal control over Americans’ financial decisions.”

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Gay Marriage: Support gay marriage?	Yes. Opposed 2016 bill to expand right of government employees & private businesses to refuse services to same-sex couples.	No. “I will continue to work to protect First Amendment rights of those who... oppose same-sex marriage.”
Gun Control: Support more restrictive gun control legislation? Restrict semi-automatic weapons?	Yes to both. Gun owner & hunter, but “common sense gun safety measures” don’t mean “you’re anti-gun or anti-Second Amendment.”	No to both. “Do not feel more gun control laws are the answer to the problems confronting our nation.”
Healthcare: Support or Repeal Affordable Care Act (ACA), known as Obamacare?	Support. “Improving this plan, not weakening it, will be a top priority for me from day one.” Strong supporter of Medicaid expansion.	Repeal. “I am doing everything in my power to delay & repeal this massive overhaul of America’s healthcare system”
Healthcare: Let Planned Parenthood receive public funds for non-abortion health care?	Yes. Allow continued funding. “Women should have access to the best healthcare available.”	No. Signed on to Supreme Court brief arguing for defunding.
Immigration: Support (DACA), allowing “Dreamers” who arrived illegally as children, to achieve legal status? Support earned path to citizenship for America’s 11 million illegal immigrants?	Yes. DACA kids have met the requirements we asked; are in school or working; are paying taxes. Supports practical border security & earned path as part of comprehensive reform.	No. Filed amendment barring the use of federal funds to administer DACA. Voted against immigration reform bills that included earned path to citizenship. Opposes amnesty.
Iran: Support Trump withdrawing from treaty that limits Iran’s nuclear capability in return for lifting economic sanctions?	Unknown.	Yes. “The United States needs to go back to the drawing board & work toward a better deal.”
Marijuana: Legalize or decriminalize marijuana?	Supports medical marijuana legalization. Opposes recreational legalization.	No. Supports federal intervention against states that have legalized medical or recreational marijuana.
Minimum Wage: Raise the federal minimum wage from the current \$7.25/hr?	Yes. Also authored bill to increase Mississippi minimum wage for private employers to \$9 while keeping state employees at \$7.25 federal rate.	Likely no. In 2007 voted against raising federal minimum wage to current \$7.25 level. Didn’t vote on proposed 2014 increase.
President Trump: Response to President Trump’s actions & policies?	“I have been critical of President Trump & will continue to be as long as he demeans the presidency.”	Consistent & vocal supporter. Voted 96% with Trump as of October 1, 2018.
Privatization: Support full or partial privatization of Social Security?	No. Protect Social Security from privatization.	No current statement found, but some previous support for letting workers invest portion in private accounts.
Renewable Energy: Support government subsidies for renewable energy?	Yes. Introduced bill giving tax credits for renewable energy & energy efficiency investments.	Has voted against tax credits for renewables. Supports all-of-the-above plan emphasizing liquified coal as a renewable approach.
Student Debt: Refinance student loans at lower rates, paid for by increasing taxes on high earners (Elizabeth Warren bill)?	Unknown on Warren bill. But supports loan forgiveness program & making 2-year colleges tuition free.	No. Voted against Warren bill.
Taxes: Support President Trump’s tax cuts ?	No. Giveaway to top 1% that increases long-term debt. Instead “require corporations & the very wealthy to pay their fair share while providing real permanent tax relief for low & moderate working people.”	Yes. “An accomplishment of historic proportions... Job creators & small businesses will have more capital to invest & innovate.”

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