



## NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE: 2018 NEW JERSEY SENATE RACE

	Robert Hugin (R)	Robert Menendez (D – Incumbent)
<p>For mobile-friendly version &amp; other guides, see <a href="http://www.guides.vote">www.guides.vote</a>.</p> <p>For more detailed candidate positions visit their pages at <a href="http://votesmart.org">votesmart.org</a></p> <p>To volunteer, visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://bobhugin.com">bobhugin.com</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://menendezfornj.com">menendezfornj.com</a></li> </ul>		
<b>Abortion:</b> Mostly ban or mostly legal?	Legal. <a href="#">“Pro-choice.” Opposes late-term abortions unless life of mother is at risk.</a>	Legal. <a href="#">“Strongly support a woman’s right to choose.” Cosponsored bill preventing medically unneeded restrictions.</a>
<b>Campaign Finance:</b> Require political ads to disclose their largest funders? Support <i>Citizens United</i> decision, allowing unlimited corporate political donations?	No position on disclosure laws or <i>Citizens United</i> .	Yes. <a href="#">Cosponsored DISCLOSE Act</a> requiring disclosure. Says <i>Citizens United</i> <a href="#">“rolled back decades of progress.”</a>
<b>Climate Change:</b> Consider human activity the major factor driving climate change? Limit or tax production of greenhouse gases? Support US participation in Paris Climate Accord despite President Trump’s withdrawal?	Mixed. <a href="#">“Climate change is real. Humans play a role.” Also gave \$500,000 to Heritage Foundation, which rejects the significance of human-caused climate change &amp; opposes regulations to address it. Says Paris Accord “unfairly balanced.” Didn’t support it as written.</a>	Yes. <a href="#">“[W]e, as a global community, have to cut our greenhouse gas emissions &amp; the US must be at the forefront of that effort.” Called withdrawal from Paris Accord a rejection of science.</a>
<b>Contraception:</b> Can employers withhold contraceptive coverage if oppose it?	No stand found.	No. <a href="#">Women have the right to affordable contraceptive services.</a>
<b>Corruption:</b> Scandals being discussed for both candidates.	The pharmaceutical company that Hugin led, Celgene, <a href="#">spent \$2.8 million lobbying to block cheaper generic alternatives to a key drug. Celgene also paid \$280 million to settle claims that its drug marketing defrauded state &amp; federal health programs.</a>	<a href="#">Menendez was charged for allegedly doing political favors for a friend while accepting six-figure campaign contributions &amp; undisclosed gifts like luxury hotel stays. Prosecutor dropped charges after jury hung 10-2 for acquittal &amp; judge said the case didn’t hold up. Senate committee then “severely admonished” him.</a>
<b>Court:</b> <a href="#">Support President Trump’s choice of Brett Kavanaugh for Supreme Court?</a> (After hearings)	Yes. <a href="#">“Based on everything I know now, I would support Judge Kavanaugh.”</a>	No. <a href="#">To confirm “Kavanaugh with what we know now would be to forever tarnish” the Court’s credibility.</a>
<b>Economy:</b> Support President Trump’s imposition of tariffs on Chinese steel & other products?	Yes. <a href="#">“In the end, we’re going to get a better deal with China.”</a>	No. <a href="#">They drive allies “into the arms of our adversaries” instead of addressing China’s economic policies.</a>
<b>Education:</b> Help parents send children to private schools with public money?	No stand found, <a href="#">but supports expanded charter schools.</a>	No. <a href="#">They drain money from public schools.</a>
<b>Environment:</b> Support cutbacks in Environmental Protection Administration (EPA)?	Unclear. <a href="#">“Will encourage the President to enter into agreements that protect our environment” but are fair for American taxpayers &amp; businesses.</a>	No. <a href="#">“Will not sit idly by while this President &amp; his administration undermine the integrity of our agencies.”</a>

	<b>Robert Hugin (R)</b>	<b>Robert Menendez (D – Incumbent)</b>
<b>Financial Regulation:</b> Cut back Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)?	No stand found.	No. <a href="#">Criticizes disbanding of CFPB's Consumer Advisory Board.</a>
<b>Gay Marriage:</b> Support gay marriage?	<a href="#">Yes.</a>	<a href="#">Yes.</a>
<b>Gun Control:</b> Support more restrictive gun control legislation? Restrict semi-automatic weapons?	<a href="#">Supports some measures, including expanded background checks &amp; barring people with mental illnesses.</a>	Yes. <a href="#">Supports universal background checks &amp; closing gun show loopholes. Voted for assault weapons ban.</a>
<b>Healthcare:</b> Support or Repeal Affordable Care Act (ACA), known as Obamacare?	<a href="#">Said Republican repeal effort would be "great for the country." Keep good aspects of Obamacare like protecting people with preexisting conditions.</a>	<a href="#">Supports. Repeal would have "hiked premiums... gutted the guarantee of essential benefits, disproportionately hurt women &amp; the disabled...to pay for a massive tax cut for the richest."</a>
<b>Healthcare:</b> Require people to work to receive Medicaid?	No stand found.	No. <a href="#">"Some Medicaid recipients physically cannot work."</a>
<b>Immigration:</b> Path to citizenship for DACA ("Dreamers"), who grew up in US after being brought here illegally?	Yes. <a href="#">"I support a path to citizenship for people who are here building a constructive, productive life."</a>	Yes. <a href="#">"These kids have grown up as Americans." Also helped craft broader bipartisan immigration bill.</a>
<b>Iran:</b> Support Trump withdrawal from multinational Iran nuclear treaty?	Yes. <a href="#">"Iran has used the resources they received from the United States [as part of the deal] to export terrorism."</a>	No. <a href="#">"Grave mistake to walk away without a plan" to ensure Iran doesn't restart nuclear weapon program.</a>
<b>Marijuana:</b> Legalize or decriminalize marijuana?	<a href="#">Decriminalize small amounts but opposes recreational legalization.</a>	<a href="#">Urged administration to respect state laws &amp; submitted bill to study states that have legalized. Supports giving pot businesses access to banking services.</a>
<b>Minimum Wage:</b> Raise the federal minimum wage from \$7.25/hr?	No stand found.	Yes. <a href="#">Supported 2014 bill to raise to \$10.10/hr within 2 years.</a>
<b>Net Neutrality:</b> Make internet providers provide equal access to all users?	No stand found.	Yes. <a href="#">Otherwise higher prices &amp; higher barriers to small business.</a>
<b>President Trump:</b> Response to President Trump's actions & policies?	Gave <a href="#">\$100,000 to Trump Victory PAC.</a>	Strongly critical. <a href="#">Called Trump's racial remarks "heartbreaking, maddening &amp; disgusting." Voted with Trump 23%.</a>
<b>Privatization:</b> Support full or partial privatization of Social Security?	No stand found.	<a href="#">No. Opposes.</a>
<b>Renewable Energy:</b> Support government subsidies or support for renewables?	Mixed. <a href="#">Supports research in areas like battery technology, but not direct subsidies that pick winners &amp; losers.</a>	Yes. <a href="#">Has supported expanding renewable energy credits by cutting oil company tax breaks.</a>
<b>Saudi Arabia:</b> Should US sell arms to Saudi Arabia? (before Kashoggi murder)	No stand found.	Hesitant. <a href="#">Concerned that Saudi war in Yemen furthers human rights crisis.</a>
<b>Student debt:</b> Refinance student loans at lower rates by raising high-earner taxes (Elizabeth Warren bill)? Increase federal student financial aid, like Pell grants?	No stand found.	Yes. <a href="#">Supports Warren proposal. Backed America's College Promise Act making 2 years of community college free.</a>
<b>Taxes:</b> Support <a href="#">President Trump's proposed tax cuts</a> ?	Yes. <a href="#">Delivers "real relief" &amp; will spur economic growth &amp; job creation. But would reverse state tax deduction cap.</a>	No. <a href="#">"Cannot &amp; will not support a tax bill that reads like one giant hit job on New Jersey's middle class."</a>
<b>Voting Rules:</b> Prioritize preventing possible fraud, even if this limits access?	No stand found.	No. <a href="#">"Must do everything in our power to protect all Americans' right to vote."</a>

Other senate candidates include [Murray Sabrin \(L\)](#) & [Madelyn Hoffman \(G\)](#). Due to limited space, we can only include candidates who poll 15% or higher, but encourage you to check out their websites.

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 [Votemart.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](#).