

**NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE:
2018 WASHINGTON 5th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT RACE**

| | Lisa Brown (D) | Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R–Incumbent) |
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| Abortion: Mostly ban or mostly legal? | Legal. “Roe v. Wade concluded... that women have a constitutional right of privacy over their reproductive health decisions,” she said. “Abortion should be safe & legal.” | Ban, with exceptions for rape, incest, or threat to the life of the mother. |
| Campaign Finance: Require political ads to disclose their largest funders? | Yes. Supports the DISCLOSE Act & exposing “dark-money donations.” | No. Called for more campaign finance transparency. Voted against 2010 DISCLOSE Act & blocked debate on it in 2018. |
| Campaign Finance: Support <i>Citizens United</i> decision, allowing unlimited political donations from corporations, unions & super PACs? | No. “I took the End Citizens United pledge to make it clear to people in the 5th District that PAC money won’t determine who gets in the door.” | Yes. Blocked debate to reverse Citizens United. Doesn’t support regulating indirect campaign contributions from corporations or unions. |
| Climate Change: Consider climate change a serious threat? | Yes. “I believe in science & that climate change is a major issue facing our planet. We need to find solutions to creating a clean-energy economy.” | Unclear. “A number of variables drive the Earth’s cooling & warming. Humans can play a role in reducing carbon emissions.” |
| Climate Change: Limit or tax greenhouse gas production? Support US as part of Paris Accord despite Trump withdrawal? | Yes to taxing greenhouse gas emissions & US participation in Paris Climate Accord. | Mixed. Lower greenhouse gases by reducing regulations on carbon-free energy sources like hydro. Opposes regulating greenhouse gases. No on Paris Accord. |
| Courts: Support President Trump’s choice of Brett Kavanaugh for Supreme Court nominee? | Unclear. Don’t rush to confirm Kavanaugh. Asked Senate to conduct independent investigation. | Yes. “Judge Kavanaugh has devoted his career to public service & is certainly qualified for the job.” Said trusted Senate process on allegations. |
| Economy: Support federal spending as a means of promoting economic growth? | Yes. Supports investments in “infrastructure & education.” | No. Stop “burdensome” regulations. Cut spending. Balance budget. |
| Economy: Support President Trump’s imposition of tariffs on Chinese imports? | No. | Unclear. Opposed tariffs but didn’t back Republican bill to limit new Trump tariffs. |
| Environment: Support cutbacks in Environmental Protection Administration (EPA)? | Likely no. Wants to “ensure strong environmental protections, support clean water, healthy forests.” | Yes. Amended 2019 act to restrict funding from being used to implement EPA’s water quality standard. |
| Financial Regulation: Support cutbacks in Consumer Financial Protection Bureau? | No statement found. | Yes. |
| Gay Marriage: Support gay marriage? | Yes. | No. |

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| Gun Control: Support more restrictive gun control legislation, including semi-automatic weapons? | Yes. Favors “banning bump stocks, closing loopholes in background check system” & raising legal age for owning semi-automatic weapons to 21. | Somewhat. Supports bump stock ban & some background checks, but opposes others, like raising age limit for owning semi-automatic weapons. |
| Healthcare: Support or Repeal Affordable Care Act (ACA), known as Obamacare? | Support. ACA is “far from perfect” but has “greatly improved” access to healthcare. | Repeal & replace. “Replace it with a system that puts the people—not the government—at the heart of healthcare.” |
| Healthcare: Let Planned Parenthood get public funds for non-abortion healthcare? | Yes. | No. Voted to take funding away from Planned Parenthood. |
| Healthcare: Require people to work to receive Medicaid or SNAP? | No for Medicaid & SNAP. | No statement found. |
| Immigration: Support path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, including DACA recipients or "Dreamers," who grew up in US after being brought here as children? | Yes on DACA. Unclear on other illegal immigrants. Calls for "comprehensive immigration bill that is negotiated between... Democrats & Republicans." | Unclear. Has supported path to citizenship for DACA recipients who meet certain criteria. Open to “merit-based visa” for other illegal immigrants. |
| Iran: Support President Trump withdrawing from multinational treaty limiting Iran’s nuclear capability in return for lifting economic sanctions? | No. Implementation & enforcement issues need to be fixed, but unilaterally pulling out without a clear strategy was wrong. | Yes. Treaty was flawed & didn’t do enough to stop Iran. We need a new direction. |
| Marijuana: Should it be legalized? | Yes. Supported Washington legalization. Federal government shouldn’t interfere with laws approved by voters. | No. Marijuana contributes to drug addiction & abuse. Supports Jeff Sessions in cracking down on states that have legalized. |
| Net Neutrality: Require internet providers to give all users equal access? | Yes. Supports “keeping the Internet open & fair for people & businesses.” | No. Says regulations hamper investment & reduce consumer choice. |
| Privatization: Support full or partial privatization of Veterans Affairs? | No for both Social Security & VA. | Yes to partially privatize VA. |
| Renewable Energy: Support government subsidies for renewable energy? | Yes. “Encourage transition to cleaner energy systems through incentives & taxes.” | No. Opposes. |
| Student debt: Refinance student loans at lower rates | Yes. Expand student loan forgiveness programs, support Federal Student Loan Refinancing Act to lower costs. “What does it say about our nation’s priorities when we make it easier to refinance a car loan than a student loan?” | Mixed. Voted against 2014 amendment allowing refinancing at lower rates (though also including issues like minimum wage). Didn’t sponsor Federal Student Loan Refinancing Act. Did extend loan rates in 2012 vote. |
| Student Financial Aid: Increase federal student financial aid, like Pell Grants? | Yes. Federal Pell Grants haven’t kept pace with cost of college, forcing students to take on more debt as they pursue their dreams. | Mostly no. Helped craft budget that cut Pell Grant funding. Did support legislation allowing Pell grants to be used year round. |
| Taxes: Support President Trump’s tax cuts ? | No. “83% percent of the benefits go to the top 1 %percent, and I don’t see that as pro-most families” or pro-economy.” | Yes. “Since the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act was passed, companies are investing in America again.” |
| Voting Rights: Support voting rules that prioritize preventing the possibility of fraud, even if they limit access? | No. “Anything you can do, regardless of what side you are on, to get people to participate, that is really important.” | Mixed. Voted for bipartisan legislation to extend original Voting Rights Act in 2006, but has also voted for stricter voter restrictions, including photo IDs. |

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](#).