



**NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE:
2018 MISSISSIPPI SENATE RACE
FOR NOVEMBER 27th RUNOFF**

	Mike Espy (D)	Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Incumbent)
<p>For online version & other voter guides, click here. For information on voting logistics see vote411.org.</p> <p>Voter ID Rules & polling locations are the same as for the 11/6 election.</p> <p>For more detailed information on candidate positions visit their respective pages at Votesmart. To volunteer, visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • espyforsenate.com/ • hydesmith.senate.gov/ 		
Abortion: Mostly ban or mostly legal?	Legal. "I'm anti-abortion, but I'm pro-choice." "Women should have the basic right to make their own decisions about their personal health."	Ban. "100% pro life." "All children, including the unborn, are guaranteed the right to life by our creator."
Economy: Support federal spending as a means of promoting economic growth?	Yes. Supports federal spending on infrastructure, broadband & childcare, to grow the economy. But rein in "abhorrent" wasteful spending.	Mixed. Sees value in federal spending on local projects . But "controlling spending" is priority. Supports balanced budget amendment, spending cuts.
Economy: Support President Trump's imposition of tariffs on Chinese steel and other products?	No. Tariffs need to come to a halt. They harm Mississippi soybean production.	Yes. Hard for soybean growers, but they "just have to hold on...They will be better off in the long run."
Environment: Support restraints on Environmental Protection Administration (EPA)?	Fought EPA regulations that would have hurt Mississippi's farming industry, but pushed for food safety regulations after an e-coli outbreak.	Yes. Supports deregulatory path taken by Trump EPA.
Financial Regulation: Support cutbacks in Consumer Financial Protection Bureau?	No. "Laws against waste, fraud & corruption... protect the American citizenry.... Wall Street seems immune from any restraint."	Unclear. In 2018 voted to roll back CFPB rule protecting auto purchasers against potentially discriminatory loan rates.
Gay Marriage: Support gay marriage?	Yes. "Committed to ALL Mississippians having access to their rights of citizenship," whatever sexual orientation.	No. "Personally believes marriage is between a man & a woman."
Gun Control: Support more restrictive gun control legislation? Restrict semi-automatic weapons?	Yes, up to a point. "I believe in the Second Amendment....but things have changed. ... anyone who has been declared a danger to himself or others should not own a firearm..." No assault weapons to anyone under 21.	No. Says, "Right to bear arms is essential to American Liberty... No law-abiding Mississippian should EVER be denied their constitutional rights."
Healthcare: Support or Repeal Affordable Care Act (ACA), known as Obamacare?	Support. Protect while expanding mental health & prescription drug coverage & offering preventive services without cost-sharing. Also supports paid family & medical leave.	Repeal. Help families afford health insurance coverage without expanding government role. Repeal Obamacare.

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Healthcare: Allow Planned Parenthood to receive public funds for non-abortion health services?	Probable yes. Says will fight for women's rights & reproductive health care... targeting especially sufficient health insurance coverage & medical services.	No. Does not support allowing public funds to go toward family planning services at healthcare organizations that also provide abortions.
Healthcare: Require people to work to receive Medicaid?	No. "Mississippians should have full access... to expanded funding of Medicaid & CHIP."	Unclear. Did support Lee-Cruz amendment to Farm Bill, adding a work requirement to food stamp programs.
Immigration: Response to family separation policy being used as a deterrent to illegal immigrants. General immigration policies?	"The policy of separating children from their families is misguided. America can do better —we can have secure borders WITHOUT punishing innocent children."	"Distressing to me as a mother, but we cannot lose sight that U.S. immigration laws must be enforced."
Immigration: Position on border all & general policies?	Border wall cost can't be justified, but supports "a secure border and enforced immigration laws that are fairly applied to all."	"I'm pretty firm, firm, firm on the wall." On immigrant workers, "We want them legal. If they are not legal now, get legal."
Marijuana: Legalize or decriminalize marijuana?	Wouldn't say absolutely no. Maybe medical first. "I'd be open to reviewing the facts...I would just have to know if it was safe" & "a financial benefit to the state."	Voted to block amendment that would have allowed banks to work with legitimate cannabis businesses.
Minimum Wage: Raise the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 hr?	Yes. Strongly for increased minimum wage and increased Earned Income tax credit	No position found.
Renewable Energy: Support government subsidies for renewable energy?	No position found.	Supports biofuels. No other position found.
Student debt: Refinance student loans at lower rates, possibly paid for by increasing taxes on high earners?	Unclear. Supports "increasing interest subsidies on student loans." Also protecting students from predatory for-profit schools.	No position found.
Taxes: Support President Trump's tax cut bill ?	Probably would have voted for them but wants to "make sure people see the benefits," not just corporations.	Yes. Supports Trump's tax cuts. Only member of Senate to have voted with Trump's agenda "100 percent" to date.
Voting Rights: Support voting rules that prioritize preventing any possibility of fraud, even if they limit access?	Probable No. Says, "I stand firmly for civil rights, voting rights & women's rights."	Yes. Voted for legislation requiring specific forms of voter identification in order to vote.

Created by [Campus Election Engagement Project](#), a non-partisan effort to help college administrators, faculty, & student leaders engage their schools in elections. Sites consulted included [Votemart.org](#), [OntheIssues.org](#), [FactCheck.org](#), [Politifact.com](#), & public candidate statements. For more local guides, see [Vote411.org](#) from the League of Women Voters.