

New York (NY-17)

US House of Representatives

THE ISSUES

MONDAIRE JONES

DEMOCRAT



MIKE LAWLER

REPUBLICAN • INCUMBENT

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mondaireforcongress.com

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ABORTION

Ban or legal?

Legal. “One of my first [priorities](#) will be to codify Roe v. Wade.” [Sponsored](#) a [bill](#) that protects access to abortion prior to fetal viability, and after viability if the pregnancy risks a woman’s life or health.

Mostly ban. [Voted to](#) prohibit the Defense Dept. from [reimbursing service members](#) for travel costs when they go to another state to get an abortion. “I am personally [pro-life](#), but I do [believe](#) in exceptions.” [Leave](#) abortion up to states.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Should climate change be a top priority?

Yes. “The single most [pressing](#) issue facing our nation and our world is climate change.” [Calls for](#) investing in “clean, renewable energy” and [moving](#) towards “net-zero emissions.” [Voted to](#) [create](#) an Office of Climate Resilience.

Mixed. “Climate change [is](#) real.” Is a [member](#) of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus. [Voted to](#) [roll back](#) Biden’s climate agenda. [Voted to](#) [limit](#) the EPA from regulating vehicle emissions. Supported carbon sequestration [research](#) and [reducing](#) methane emissions.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?

Would “[ensure](#) law enforcement has the resources it needs.” [Sponsored](#) legislation [banning](#) chokeholds and no-knock warrants and requiring body and dash cams. “We must [end](#) qualified immunity,” which restricts lawsuits against police officers.

“We must [provide](#) our police the support they need to keep themselves, their colleagues, and our communities safe.” Police [should](#) be “well-funded,” [not](#) defunded. [Supported](#) cuts to the FBI and the Justice Department. [Supports](#) qualified immunity for police.

ECONOMY

Decrease or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?

Increase. [Supported](#) a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure [bill](#) that included [funding](#) for NY transportation projects: “It’s critical that we invest in a strong, equitable recovery.” [Need](#) stronger antitrust laws, stop corporate price-gouging.

Mostly decrease. [Voted for](#) a [\\$4.5 trillion](#) spending [cut](#). [Supported](#) a bipartisan bill [limiting](#) government spending. Criticizes “trillion dollar [spending](#) sprees” & “inflation-inducing [spending](#).” [Expand](#) Child [Tax Credit](#).

EDUCATION

Limit teaching about racism and gender identity?

Likely no. [Opposes](#) efforts to ban Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in schools. “Today we are witnessing the worst [assault](#) on public education in generations.”

Mostly yes. [Sponsored](#) Parents [Bill](#) of Rights but voted [against](#) the final bill because an [amendment](#) on parental notice of transgender bathroom use “went too far.” [Teach](#) the U.S. as “the greatest force for good, freedom, and democracy in the world.”

ENVIRONMENT

Loosen or tighten environmental regulations?

Tighten. [Criticized](#) the U.S. Supreme Court decision curtailing power of the EPA: “It will gut environmental regulations.” [Called](#) for higher scrutiny of the Line 3 Pipeline transporting [tar sands oil](#) from Canada.

Mixed. [Many regulations](#) “do little to protect the environment while doing much to harm small businesses.” Supported [restoring](#) NY-NJ [watershed](#) and [limiting](#) radiological substance discharge into the Hudson River. [Opposed](#) regulating natural gas and [voted to](#) [limit](#) EPA [regulations](#) on polluting vehicle emissions.

GUN LAWS

Loosen or tighten gun regulation?

Tighten. [Voted to](#) [strengthen](#) “red flag” laws, background checks, and limitations on people convicted of domestic abuse from owning a gun. [Supports](#) an assault-weapons ban and universal background checks.

Mixed. [Supports](#) red flag laws as long as they “mandate due process.” [Opposes](#) the current bill to ban assault weapons, “because it pretty much bans any semiautomatic weapon.” [Introduced](#) a bill extending a law that makes it harder to [sneak](#) firearms past metal detectors.

ISSUES	JONES (D)	LAWLER (R)
HEALTHCARE Increase or decrease government support for healthcare?	Increase. “Health care is a human right. ” Sponsored a bill with funding and regulation flexibility to allow states to create their own universal healthcare systems. Voted to allow the federal government negotiate drug prices and cap insulin at \$35 a month for people on Medicare.	Mixed. Won’t cut Medicare or overturn the Affordable Care Act. Introduced a bill to subsidize travel costs for veterans seeking health care. “I do not support a government takeover of healthcare or the elimination of the private insurance market.”
IMMIGRATION How to handle immigration? Support a path to citizenship for “DACA” participants brought to the US as children?	Would vote for a bipartisan border security bill to strengthen asylum standards and allow the president to shut down the border. Calls for recognizing “the humanity of all people coming to this country.” Urged Biden admin. to extend Obamacare benefits to DACA recipients. Voted to give a path to citizenship to DACA participants.	Would “close the back door of illegal immigration and more broadly open the front door of legal immigration.” Supported a bill building Trump’s border wall, hiring more border agents, limiting access to asylum, returning to the Trump-era remain-in-Mexico policy. Sponsored a bipartisan bill to increase border security and lawful migration, and give DACA Dreamers a path to citizenship.
LABOR Make it easier or harder for unions to organize?	Easier. Supports the PRO Act , which would strengthen collective bargaining and protect organizing rights. “Every worker deserves a strong, fair contract and I’m ready to bring that fight with me to Congress.”	Mixed. Voted against requiring that NY employment contracts be written in plain language. Voted against allowing all NY workers to file PTSD Workers’ Comp claims. Would vote for the PRO Act, making it easier to organize , though says it needs changes.
LGBTQ RIGHTS Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Expand. Sponsored the Respect for Marriage Act, federally protecting same-sex marriages. Sponsored the Equality Act, banning discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.	Mixed. Regarding the Rockland Pride Center being vandalized: “ Hate has no place in the 17th District or anywhere in our country.” Voted for a measure denying transgender care for military personnel. Sexual orientation and gender identity should be protected classes in non-discrimination laws.
MARIJUANA Ban or legal?	Legal. Urged Biden to pardon marijuana convictions: “It’s past time to end the failed, racist war on drugs.” Sponsored bill to protect the banks serving legal cannabis businesses.	Ban. Calls legalization of recreational marijuana a “ disastrous ” policy and “a major public health decision.” “We must tackle the cannabis crisis that is poisoning our youth.”
MINIMUM WAGE Raise the federal minimum from \$7.25 per hour?	Raise. Sponsored a 2021 bill raising the wage to \$15 by 2025. Called the \$7.25 minimum wage “ criminal. ”	No position found.
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID Support lowering interest on student loans and/or forgiving them?	Yes. “ Forgiving student debt would liberate millions of Americans to meaningfully participate in our economy.” In 2020 called for “tuition-free public college.”	No. Voted to repeal the 2022 student loan payment pause and forgiveness plan. Said Biden’s student debt relief violates the Constitution and is unfair.
TAXES Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	Raise. Called for “higher taxes” on the wealthy. Criticized cutting “taxes for the rich.” Supports a proposal to raise the corporate tax rate to 28%.	Lower. Would “reduce... corporate taxes.” Voted to pull back \$45.6 billion that had been allocated to the IRS to enforce tax codes on households earning more than \$400,000.
VOTING RULES Make voting harder or easier?	Easier. Supported a bill expanding voter registration and voting access. Supported a bill establishing Election Day as a federal holiday and requiring federal preclearance for voting practice changes by states.	Harder. Opposed a state bill to require state approval for local voting practice changes and provide legal tools against discriminatory voting provisions. Voted to require documentary proof of U.S. citizenship for voter registration. Yes on photo ID for voting.

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