

Maine US Senate 2026

THE ISSUES

SUSAN
COLLINS

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT

TROY
JACKSON

DEMOCRAT

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ABORTION Ban or legal?	Mixed. Introduced a bill to codify abortion rights, with protections for providers with “religious objections to performing abortions.” Voted against an abortion rights bill ; said it did not include “conscience protections.” Overturning Roe v. Wade was a “radical jolt to the country.”	Legal. “Abortion is health care .” Would “pass a federal right to abortion.” Sponsored a bill to make abortions legal after 24 weeks, when judged necessary by a physician. In 2017, voted against a bill giving legal protections to fetuses, which would criminalize abortions.
CLIMATE CHANGE Should climate change be a top priority?	Mixed. Sponsored a bill to ban offshore drilling in Gulf of Maine. Voted to fund battery production; holds “ great promise in the fight against climate change.” Voted to open up 1.7 million acres of public lands for coal leasing. Voted against \$369 billion in clean energy investments . Voted to not maintain existing wind & solar tax credits. Voted to extend the residential clean energy tax credit.	Mostly yes. “Climate change is a profound threat to our environment and economy.” Voted to boost offshore wind energy in Maine. In 2020, introduced a bill to incentivize the production of wood energy in Maine “to reduce our reliance on heating oil.” Voted to prevent local municipalities from banning any specific type of energy.
CRIMINAL JUSTICE How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?	After George Floyd’s death, sponsored a bill to use incentives to increase use of body cameras, improve training, and diminish chokeholds, without requiring such reforms. Voted against funding local law enforcement hiring programs.	Sponsored a bill to create “a stakeholder group to examine and improve the recruitment, retention and wellness of law enforcement officers.” Sponsored a bill to create a drug treatment court in Aroostook County.
ECONOMY Cut or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?	Mostly increase. Calls for expanded access “to robust workforce training.” Introduced a bill to end trade practices that undercut American specialty crops. Voted for \$1 trillion in new infrastructure projects , including road repair, bridges, broadband internet, and rail lines. Voted to not put funds toward building 7 million homes.	Increase. Would “stop these electricity rate hikes, cut egregious utility profits and reinvest in our grid.” Would “stop Wall Street from buying up Maine” and give “tax credits...and down payment assistance” for housing. Would invest in childcare. Would take on “corporate price-gouging.” Would pass the “Buy American, Build Maine Act .”
ENVIRONMENT Loosen or tighten environmental regulation?	Mostly tighten. Voted to keep a 20-year protection against mining upstream from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Voted against opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge’s Coastal Plain to oil drilling. Voted to undo controls on companies that emit seven major hazardous pollutants	Tighten. Would “stand up to corporate polluters” and “protect our air, drinking water, forests, and farmland from harmful chemicals like glyphosate, PFAS.” In 2021, sponsored a bill to ban synthetic herbicide spraying in the forest industry. Would boost funding to increase conserved land in Maine to 30% by 2030.
GUN LAWS Loosen or tighten gun laws?	Tighten. Voted to expand background checks, add serious dating partners to laws that bar domestic abusers from purchasing guns, and implement red flag laws . Introduced a bill making it a crime to act as a straw purchaser of guns; would reduce violence “without infringing upon...rights.	Mostly tighten. In 2023 voted to not require a 72-hour waiting period after a firearm purchase. In 2024, sponsored a bill requiring a 72-hour waiting period. Voted against a ban on sale of rapid-fire modification devices. Supported Question 2 on 2025 Maine ballot, which enacted a red flag law .

ISSUES	COLLINS (R)	JACKSON (D)
HEALTHCARE Increase or decrease government support for healthcare?	Mostly increase. Voted to extend Affordable Care Act subsidies. Introduced a bill to raise taxes on ultrawealthy income earners to help rural hospitals facing Medicaid cuts. Introduced a bill to lower the cost of insulin. Voted against the Big Beautiful Bill because of “the harmful impact it will have on Medicaid.” Voted against allowing government negotiation of Medicare drug prices.	Increase. “ Healthcare is a human right.” Supports “Medicare for All on the national level” and “a public option here in Maine.” Voted to lower prescription drug prices by requiring plan costs to not exceed the referenced rate . Calls for taking on “big pharma” and going after “private equity in our hospitals.” “Healthcare is not, in my mind, a for-profit industry.”
IMMIGRATION How to handle immigration?	Voted for \$70 billion to fund ICE, and then nearly \$70 billion more for ICE and CPB. Voted to rescind billions of dollars in ICE funding and put those funds to Medicaid. Voted to transfer ICE funds to fund DACA applications, and voted against redirecting ICE funds to child care block grants.	Opposes giving ICE \$70 billion. Would “dismantle and abolish ICE.” Calls for “a humane, civilian agency” to handle immigration. Says people who are “here illegally or have committed crimes while they’re here” should be deported, with a “better process” for deportations.
IRAN WAR Support the war in Iran?	Mixed. In March, voted against limiting Trump’s power to wage war in Iran without congressional approval. In April, at the 60-day mark, supported an effort to end the operation. “Further military action against Iran must have a clear mission.”	No. Calls the war in Iran “foolish” and “illegal.” Would “demand real congressional oversight, put diplomacy ahead of open-ended military intervention.”
LABOR Make it easier or harder for unions to organize workers?	Easier. Voted to restore federal employees’ collective bargaining rights. Sponsored the Protect America’s Workforce Act , to repeal Trump’s executive order restricting union rights at federal agencies.	Easier. “I’m running to... give every worker the freedom to organize a union without intimidation or retaliation.” In 2019, voted to expand access to collective bargaining for Maine public sector workers. Opposed a “ right to work ” bill
LGBTQ RIGHTS Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Mixed. Introduced a bill providing federal recognition of same-sex and interracial marriages. Called it “common-sense legislation” that “provides certainty to millions of loving couples.” Voted for a federal ban on transgender athletes participating in women’s sports .	Expand. Calls his 2009 vote against same-sex legalization “my worst vote ever.” Would “pass comprehensive civil rights legislation protecting the LGBTQ+ community from discrimination.” Opposes banning transgender athletes from women’s sports.
MINIMUM WAGE Raise the federal minimum from \$7.25 per hour?	Yes. In 2023 introduced a bill to gradually raise the federal minimum wage to \$11 by 2028, indexing future increase to inflation. “I recognize the difficulties for anyone who is trying to make ends meet while earning the federal minimum wage.”	Yes. Would “raise wages.” In 2023 voted to raise Maine’s minimum wage to \$15 per hour starting 2024, with yearly increases afterwards, based on cost of living. “We’re getting screwed by the wealthy elite paying poverty wages.”
TAXES Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	Mixed. In 2017 voted for Trump tax cuts, which included the largest one-time cut in the corporate tax rate and large tax breaks for the wealthy. In 2025, voted against extending those cuts. In 2021, voted against increasing taxes on corporations and the wealthy to pay for family services, health, and environment programs.	Raise. Would “tax the billionaires and make sure greedy corporations pay their fair share.” Voted to create a new tax bracket with a higher tax rate for people earning over \$500,000 and expand the bottom tax bracket. “I don’t believe in income tax cuts for wealthy people.”
VOTING RULES Make voting harder or easier?	Mostly harder. Voted to require citizenship proof when registering to vote in federal elections. “The law is clear that in this country only American citizens are eligible to vote in federal elections.” Later voted to not require proof. Supports voter ID. Requiring “an ID at the polls...will improve the security of our federal elections.”	Easier. Opposed Question 1 on 2025 Maine ballot which would eliminate two days of absentee voting, ban requests for absentee ballots by phone or family members, and limit the number of drop boxes. “The last thing we should be doing is making it harder for workers, older folks and Mainers with disabilities to vote.”

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