

## Mississippi US Senate 2026

## THE ISSUES

SCOTT  
COLOM

DEMOCRAT

CINDY  
HYDE-SMITH

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT

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<b>ABORTION</b> Ban or legal?	<b>Mostly legal.</b> “As a <a href="#">Christian</a> ,...I’ve always been pro-life.” As the father of two daughters, “I’m going to <a href="#">trust</a> them to make the choices that are best for them. I believe that’s important, to trust women.” <a href="#">Supports</a> IVF access.	<b>Ban.</b> “ <a href="#">Believes</a> all children, including the unborn, are guaranteed the right to life by our Creator.” <a href="#">Chairs</a> the U.S. Senate Pro-Life Caucus. <a href="#">Opposes</a> taxpayer funding of abortions. <a href="#">Sponsored</a> a <a href="#">bill</a> to provide resources to pregnant college students to enable them to “ <a href="#">nurture</a> life.”
<b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b> Should climate change be a top priority?	<b>No position found.</b>	<b>Mostly no.</b> <a href="#">Voted</a> to <a href="#">end</a> Biden-era clean energy tax credits. <a href="#">Supports</a> Trump efforts to increase oil drilling. <a href="#">Criticized</a> the “Democrats’ radical Green New Deal climate agenda.” <a href="#">Supported</a> incentives to fund a new electric vehicle battery plant.
<b>CRIMINAL JUSTICE</b> How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?	As a district attorney, <a href="#">expanded</a> pre-trial diversion and victims’ advocacy programs. <a href="#">Established</a> Mississippi’s first restorative justice program. Calls for “ <a href="#">alternatives</a> to incarceration for young people...who committed non-violent first offenses.”	<a href="#">Supported</a> funding to improve technology and training for law enforcement. In the wake of George Floyd’s death, <a href="#">sponsored</a> a <a href="#">bill</a> to use <a href="#">incentives</a> to increase use of body cameras, improve training, and diminish chokeholds, without requiring such reforms.
<b>ECONOMY</b> Cut or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?	<b>Increase.</b> <a href="#">Would</a> “invest in good-paying jobs and...education.” <a href="#">Wants</a> to end income tax for teachers and police officers who make less than \$75,000 a year. Will <a href="#">fight</a> “for low gas prices.”	<b>Mixed.</b> <a href="#">Voted</a> against <a href="#">funding</a> infrastructure projects, which <a href="#">included</a> \$4.4 billion for MS. <a href="#">Supports</a> “free markets.” <a href="#">Called</a> for subsidies for farmers due to a drop in commodity prices. <a href="#">Introduced</a> the Buying American Cotton Act, providing <a href="#">tax credits</a> to U.S.-based entities.
<b>EDUCATION</b> Use federal funding to support public education in Mississippi?	<b>Yes.</b> <a href="#">Criticized</a> a Trump administration funding freeze <a href="#">cutting</a> \$137 million for Mississippi school districts. <a href="#">Says</a> funding cuts mean “fewer resources, fewer safeguards, and more young lives at risk.”	<b>Mixed.</b> “The federal government <a href="#">should</a> support states’ efforts to improve educational opportunities...but it should not dictate how they get the job done.” <a href="#">Supported</a> a \$600,000 federal grant for Mississippi charter schools.
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b> Loosen or tighten environmental regulation?	<b>No position found.</b>	<b>Loosen.</b> <a href="#">Voted</a> to <a href="#">end</a> a 20-year protection against mining upstream from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Calls for <a href="#">repealing</a> a Biden-era air quality rule regulating how gasoline is transported to gas stations.
<b>GUN LAWS</b> Loosen or tighten gun laws?	<b>Tighten.</b> Is <a href="#">concerned</a> about the easy availability of guns and lack of background check for gun purchases. “When young people <a href="#">have guns</a> and they have a conflict,...[t]hey make terrible decisions.”	<b>Loosen.</b> “Is a strong <a href="#">advocate</a> for protecting the Constitutional right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms.” <a href="#">Introduced</a> a bill to <a href="#">prohibit</a> states from using federal funds to create gun ownership registries.

ISSUES	COLOM (D)	HYDE-SMITH (R)
<b>HEALTHCARE</b> Increase or decrease government support for healthcare?	<b>Increase.</b> <a href="#">Criticizes</a> the One Big Beautiful Bill <a href="#">Act</a> , which included <a href="#">cuts</a> to Medicaid. <a href="#">Says</a> the Act will worsen rural hospitals' finances. Supports <a href="#">expanding</a> Medicaid and <a href="#">extending</a> Affordable Care Act tax credits. "We have to <a href="#">cancel</a> those healthcare cuts."	<b>Mostly decrease.</b> <a href="#">Voted</a> for the One Big Beautiful Bill <a href="#">Act</a> , which included <a href="#">cuts</a> to Medicaid. <a href="#">Voted</a> against <a href="#">extending</a> Affordable Care Act <a href="#">tax credits</a> . <a href="#">Voted</a> to <a href="#">raise</a> taxes on <a href="#">ultrawealthy</a> income earners to help rural hospitals facing Medicaid cuts.
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> How to handle immigration?	"President Trump <a href="#">has done</a> a good job securing the border...The Democrats have failed at that." <a href="#">Opposes</a> H-1B1 visas, with companies "firing a bunch of American workers and hiring foreign workers...those jobs need to be in Mississippi."	" <a href="#">Believes</a> America has the right to secure its borders and control who enters our country." <a href="#">Supports</a> Trump border wall. <a href="#">Says</a> ICE is "trying to accomplish...law and order." <a href="#">Introduced</a> a bill to expand the E-Verify system, requiring employers to employ only documented workers.
<b>IRAN WAR</b> Support the war in Iran?	<b>No.</b> "I don't <a href="#">know</a> what the objective is right now in the war in Iran." "The Constitution is <a href="#">clear</a> that you're supposed to have Congress declare war." "It's very important that the <a href="#">people</a> have a voice when it comes to a decision like a war."	<b>Yes.</b> <a href="#">Voted</a> against requiring Congressional <a href="#">authorization</a> for U. S. military action in Iran. <a href="#">Says</a> requiring authorization would "embolden our enemies and endanger our brave fighting men and women." "Trump is taking decisive steps" in Iran.
<b>LGBTQ RIGHTS</b> Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	<b>Mixed.</b> In 2021, as a District Attorney, <a href="#">signed</a> a letter condemning "ongoing efforts to criminalize... gender-affirming healthcare." In 2025 said, "I don't think <a href="#">biological boys</a> should be playing girls' sports. I don't think minors should be getting gender-affirming surgery." "We should <a href="#">not criminalize</a> people's identity."	<b>Limit.</b> <a href="#">Voted</a> against federal <a href="#">recognition</a> of same sex and interracial marriages. <a href="#">Said</a> the bill failed to protect those who "believe in the traditional definition of marriage." <a href="#">Introduced</a> a bill defining an individual's sex as the person's biological sex at birth. " <a href="#">Americans</a> ...do not want boys playing in girls' sports."
<b>MINIMUM WAGE</b> Raise the federal minimum from \$7.25 per hour?	<b>Yes.</b> "We haven't raised the <a href="#">minimum wage</a> in close to 20 years, and when you raise the minimum wage, you boost all wages."	<b>No position found.</b>
<b>TARIFFS</b> Support or oppose the administration's tariff policies?	<b>Oppose.</b> " <a href="#">Tariffs</a> have been terrible for Mississippi." Says they are leading "to <a href="#">higher prices</a> " and " <a href="#">devastating</a> " farmers. "If you look at the Constitution, it's very <a href="#">clear</a> that Congress is supposed to determine tariffs."	<b>Support.</b> "I <a href="#">support</a> President Trump's effort." <a href="#">Calls</a> tariffs "a really good tool" to address "unfair trading practices." Regarding the " <a href="#">tough time</a> " caused by tariffs, says "You got a mess before it gets better. And we're in the mess."
<b>TAXES</b> Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	<b>Raise.</b> <a href="#">Criticizes</a> the <a href="#">extension</a> of the 2017 Trump tax cuts, which among other cuts included the <a href="#">largest</a> one-time cut in the corporate tax rate and large tax breaks for the wealthy. Says that extension is "a permanent tax <a href="#">handout</a> to people making more than \$600,000 a year."	<b>Lower.</b> <a href="#">Voted</a> to <a href="#">extend</a> the 2017 Trump tax cuts, which among other cuts included the <a href="#">largest</a> one-time cut in the corporate tax rate and large tax breaks for the wealthy. <a href="#">Says</a> those tax cuts are "helping unleash a wave of prosperity across America."
<b>VOTING RULES</b> Make voting harder or easier?	<b>Easier.</b> <a href="#">Criticized</a> the 2026 U.S. Supreme Court decision weakening the Voting Rights Act. "The <a href="#">right</a> to vote in this state was won at a cost." "We have to <a href="#">protect</a> that progress." <a href="#">Opposes</a> a 2026 Mississippi <a href="#">law</a> requiring verification of citizenship for new voters through a federal database.	<b>Harder.</b> <a href="#">Supports</a> requiring proof of U.S. citizenship in order to register to vote in federal elections. Supports <a href="#">requiring</a> voter ID to vote: "It is lawful, it is fair, and it works."

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