





Vulnerable and Moderate GOP Senators Are Now Willing to Meet With Judge Garland





GOP Senators Expected to Meet With Judge Garland

Senator	2016 Election	Agreed to meet with Garland	Supports vote or hearing on Garland	Open to confirming Garland
 Mark Kirk (IL)	Kirk will be the first GOP Senator to meet with Garland. He is the most vulnerable incumbent Senator up for re-election, running in a blue state and behind in the polls to Tammy Duckworth.	✓	✓	✓
 Kelly Ayotte (NH)	Ayotte is also in a very tight race, and is likely to suffer if Trump is at the top of the ballot in November. She has agreed to meet with Garland only as a courtesy to explain her opposition.	✓	✗	✗
 Lisa Murkowski (AK)	Murkowski is up for re-election, though she is favored to win. She originally favored a hearing on Garland, but has since reversed her position.	✓	✗	✗
 Susan Collins (ME)	Collins is not up for re-election in 2016, but is the most bipartisan Senate Republican. She says she plans to review Garlands rulings before deciding whether to vote in favor of confirming him.	✓	✓	✓

Sources: "Susan Collins Urges Senate To 'Follow Regular Order' On Supreme Court Nominee," NPR, March 16, 2016; Amber Phillips, "Here Are the Republicans Who Could Break Ranks and Give Merrick Garland a Shot at the Supreme Court," Washington Post, March 16, 2016; Jordain Carney, "Obama Court Nominee to Visit Vulnerable GOP Senator," The Hill, March 29, 2016.

Vulnerable and Moderate GOP Senators Are Now Willing to Meet With Judge Garland

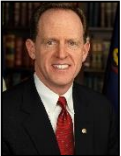



GOP Senators Expected to Meet With Judge Garland

Senator	2016 Election	Agreed to meet with Garland	Supports vote or hearing on Garland	Open to confirming Garland
 Chuck Grassley (IA)	Grassley, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, has said he will only meet with Garland to explain why he does not support a hearing for the judge.	✓	✗	✗
 Lindsey Graham (SC)	Graham originally said he would not meet with the nominee, but has reversed his decision as a courtesy to Garland.	✓	✗	✗
 Rob Portman (OH)	Despite facing a tight election in a state that favors a hearing for Garland, Portman has refused to support a hearing for Garland.	✓	✗	✗
 Ron Johnson (WI)	"We will absolutely not allow the Supreme Court to flip," said Johnson, who is in danger of losing his Senate seat.	✓	✗	✗

Sources: National Journal Almanac, 2016; David Herszenhorn, "Wisconsin Race Frames Dispute Over Supreme Court Nominee," March 24, 2016; Emmarie Huettelman, "In a Reversal, Lindsey Graham Says He Will Meet With Merrick Garland," New York Times, April 7, 2016; "Where Republican Senators Stand on the Supreme Court Nomination," New York Times, April 7, 2016.

Vulnerable and Moderate GOP Senators Are Now Willing to Meet With Judge Garland

GOP Senators Expected to Meet With Judge Garland

Senator	2016 Election	Agreed to meet with Garland	Supports vote or hearing on Garland	Open to confirming Garland
 Pat Toomey (PA)	Toomey has agreed to meet with Garland. He is the one of the most vulnerable Republican Senator up for re-election. His decision follows protests in Pennsylvania pressuring him to act.	✓	?	✗
 James Lankford (OK)	Lankford has agreed to meet with Garland, however, a meeting has not yet been set up. Garlands ties to Oklahoma could be drawn from his involvement in the investigation of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.	✓	✗	✗
 James Inhofe (OK)	Inhofe has also said he is willing to meet with Garland. His office is currently waiting for a call from the White House to schedule the meeting.	✓	✗	✗
 John Boozman (AR)	Boozman said his meeting with Garland is currently being planned. Previously, Boozman released a statement saying that he will block any nominee from Obama.	✓	✗	✗

Sources: Seung Min Kim, “Embattled Toomey Agrees to Sit with Merrick Garland,” Politico, March 23, 2016; Senator John Boozman, “Boozman Statement on President Obama’s Supreme Court Nominee,” Press Releases, March 16, 2016; Sueng Min Kim and Burgess Everett, “More Republicans Agree to Meet with Garland,” Politico, March 31, 2016.