

# **2018 Meet the Freshmen: Senate**

Biographical, electoral, and district data for all new members to the 116th Senate

January 15, 2019

National Journal Presentation Center

---

# Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ)



## Background

Sinema represented Arizona's 9th district in the House from 2012-2019. In 2018, she was elected US Senator for Arizona for the first time. Prior to her public-service career, she worked as a social worker, attorney, professor, and instructor at the Center for Progressive Leadership, a Washington-based institute that trains activists in progressive policies. In 2010, she was elected to the Arizona State Senate, where she sponsored several bills aimed at curbing Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio's immigration policies, including targeted documentation checks. In Congress, Sinema was a member of the Blue Dog Coalition, comprising conservative Democrats, and the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus. She has a center-left voting record. In 2015 and 2016, she did not vote for Nancy Pelosi for majority leader. She has voted with her party 73 percent of the time. In 2017, she voted with President Trump's position roughly half of the time. She is the first openly bisexual Congress member.

## State Profile

State: Arizona

Status: Senior Senator

Serving with: Martha McSally (R)

Cook PVI: R+5

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Hart

Room Number: 825B&C

Phone Number: (202) 224-4521

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Democrat

Birth date: 7/12/1976

Education: PhD, Arizona State University, School of Justice and Social Inquiry, 2009-2012; JD, Arizona State University, 2002-2004; MSW, Social Work, Arizona State University, 1997-1999; Attended, Brigham Young University

Family: Divorced

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Kyrsten Sinema (D) 50%

Martha McSally (R) 48%

## Committees

- Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
- Commerce, Science & Transportation
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- Veterans' Affairs
- Aging

# Sen. Martha McSally (R-AZ)



## Background

A Rhode Island native, McSally came to Arizona in the early 1990s when she was assigned to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson. Two years after graduating from the US Air Force Academy, she received her MPP from Harvard. In 1999, McSally was selected for a Washington, D.C.-based fellowship program, where she served as a national security adviser to then-Sen. Jon Kyl (R-AZ). She served multiple tours in the Middle East and supervised an air campaign in Saudi Arabia for Operation Iraqi Freedom. She drew national attention after she filed—and won—a 2001 lawsuit against the Defense Department to overturn a policy that required US servicewomen based in Saudi Arabia to wear a body-covering Muslim abaya and headscarf. After retiring from the Air Force she ran unsuccessfully in 2012 to replace retiring-Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D), but won in her second attempt in the 2014 general election by 167 votes. She announced in January 2018 that she would run to replace retiring Sen. Jeff Flake (R) and faced fellow Rep. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ-09) in the general election. She lost the general election, but Gov. Ducey (R-AZ) announced in late December 2018 that she would fill the vacant seat left by Sen. Jon Kyl (R), who had himself been appointed by Gov. Ducey to fill John McCain's vacant seat.

## State Profile

State: Arizona

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: Kyrsten Sinema (D)

Cook PVI: R+5

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Dirksen

Room Number: B40D

Phone Number: 202-224-2235

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: N/A

Party: Republican

Birth date: 3/22/1966

Education: Bachelors, US Air Force Academy; Masters, Strategic Studies, US Air Force Air War College; MPP, Public Policy, JFK School of Government, Harvard

Family: Divorced

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Kyrsten Sinema (D)	50%
Martha McSally (R)	48%

## Committees

- Armed Services
- Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Indian Affairs
- Aging

# Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL)



## Background

Scott enlisted in the US Navy after graduating high school, then attended college using the GI Bill. He had a 30-year career in business, first in the healthcare industry and then as a venture capitalist. After being elected governor in 2010, Scott focused primarily on the economy and jobs, with a campaign promise to create 700,000 jobs in the state. During his race for Senate against incumbent Bill Nelson, Scott made his record on job creation and tax cuts a key part of his platform. His 2018 senate run garnered national attention, as the race was too close to call up until the day of the election.

## State Profile

State: Florida

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: Marco Rubio (R)

Cook PVI: R+2

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Russell

Room Number: B3

Phone Number: (202) 224-5274

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Republican

Birth date: 12/1/1952

Education: BS, Business Administration,  
University of Missouri-Kansas City; JD,  
Southern Methodist University

Family: Spouse: Ann; 2 Children: Allison,  
Jordan

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Rick Scott (R) 50%

Bill Nelson (D) 50%

## Committees

- Armed Services
- Commerce, Science & Transportation
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- the Budget
- Aging

# Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN)



## Background

Prior to his 2018 election to federal office, Braun was a member of the Indiana House of Representatives from 2014 to 2017, when he resigned to focus on his Senate campaign. A lifelong Hoosier, Braun grew up in Jasper and attended Wabash College, then Harvard Business School. He is president and CEO of Meyer Distributing, an aftermarket vehicle parts distributor which he joined in 1981 and eventually bought. In his campaign, Braun highlighted his opposition to gun control and promised to push for an economic agenda of regulatory tailoring and tax simplification.

## State Profile

State: Indiana

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: Todd Young (R)

Cook PVI: R+9

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Russell

Room Number: B85

Phone Number: (202) 224-4814

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Republican

Birth date: 3/24/1954

Education: MBA, Harvard College, 1978;  
Bachelors, Economics, Wabash College

Family: Spouse: Maureen; 4 Children: Jason,  
Jeff, Ashley, Kristen

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Mike Braun (R) 52%

Joe Donnelly (D) 44%

## Committees

- Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
- Environment and Public Works
- Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
- the Budget
- Aging

# Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO)



## Background

Hawley was born in Lexington, Missouri and attended high school in Kansas City. He went on to attend Stanford University and Yale Law School. Following law school, Hawley clerked for the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals and then the US Supreme Court. In 2008, Hawley joined Hogan Lovells, LLC as an attorney, and worked there for three years. As a litigator, Hawley argued before the Supreme Court as one of the lead attorneys in the Hobby Lobby case. He later went on to become an associate professor at the University of Missouri School of Law, where he has continued to teach. Hawley is also the founder and president of the Missouri Liberty Project, an organization that aims to defend the US Constitution and fight government overreach. In 2017, Hawley became the attorney general of Missouri.

## State Profile

State: Missouri

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: Roy Blunt (R)

Cook PVI: R+9

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Dirksen

Room Number: B40A

Phone Number: (202) 224-6154

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Republican

Birth date: 12/31/1979

Education: JD, Yale Law School, 2003-2006;  
AB, History, Stanford University, 1998-2002

Family: Spouse: Erin; 2 Children: Elijah,  
Blaise

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Josh Hawley (R) 52%

Claire McCaskill (D) 46%

## Committees

- Armed Services
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship
- the Judiciary
- Aging

# Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND)



## Background

Cramer, a native of Kindred, North Dakota, was elected chairman of the North Dakota Republican Party in 1991, making him the youngest member of the Republican National Committee. During the 1990s, he worked for Gov. Ed Schafer as state tourism director and then state economic development and finance director. In 2003, Gov. John Hoeven appointed Cramer to the Public Service Commission, and he was elected to the position in 2004. In 2012, he was elected to the House, where he has served on the Energy and Commerce Committee and various subcommittees. He has expressed skepticism of climate change and thinks the Environmental Protection Agency often overreaches its authority. Cramer has voted against his party only 2.9 percent of the time, less often than House Republicans' average of 6.5 percent.

## State Profile

State: North Dakota

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: John Hoeven (R)

Cook PVI: R+17

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Dirksen

Room Number: B40C

Phone Number: (202) 224-2043

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Republican

Birth date: 1/21/1961

Education: MA, Management, University of Mary, 2003; BA, Social Work/Pre-Seminary Studies, Concordia College, 1983

Family: Spouse: Kris; 5 Children: Ian, Isaac, Rachel, Annie, Abel

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Kevin Cramer (R) 56%

Heidi Heitkamp (D) 45%

## Committees

- Armed Services
- Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
- Environment and Public Works
- the Budget
- Veterans' Affairs

# Sen. Jacky Rosen (D-NV)



## Background

Rosen was the first in her family to graduate from college, after which she worked as a computer programmer for several companies, including Southwest Gas Company, Citibank, and Summa Corporation. She and her husband went on to start a consulting firm. She was president of Congregation Ner Tamid, Nevada's largest synagogue. Her 2016 House race was one of the closest and most expensive House races that year; she won by just 1 percentage point. In Congress, Rosen was part of the Armed Services and Science, Space, and Technology Committees. She was a member of the Congressional Arts, Asian Pacific American Caucus and Caucus for Women's Issues. Rosen lives in Henderson with her husband and daughter.

## State Profile

State: Nevada

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: Catherine Cortez Masto (D)

Cook PVI: D+1

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Democrat

Birth date: 8/2/1957

Education: BA in Psychology, 1979, University of Minnesota

Family: Spouse: Larry; 1 Child: Miranda

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Jacky Rosen (D)	50%
Dean Heller (R)	45%

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Dirksen

Room Number: G12

Phone Number: (202) 224-6244

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Committees

- Commerce, Science & Transportation
- Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship
- Aging



# Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)



## Background

Blackburn was born in Laurel, Mississippi, and graduated from Mississippi State University with a BS in home economics. After graduation, she worked as a sales manager at Southwestern Company. In 1987, she became the owner of Marketing Strategies, a promotion-event management and consulting firm. Her first foray into politics was in 1998, when she ran for office and won a seat in Tennessee's State Senate. In 2002, she was elected to the US House of Representatives to represent Tennessee's 7th district with 70% of the vote. In 2004, she ran for reelection unopposed. She is a Tea Party Republican. Blackburn occupied her position in the House up until 2018, when she was elected to Senate after defeating Democrat Phil Bredesen in the general election.

## State Profile

State: Tennessee

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: Lamar Alexander (R)

Cook PVI: R+14

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Dirksen

Room Number: B40B

Phone Number: (202) 224-3344

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Republican

Birth date: 6/6/1952

Education: BS, Mississippi State University, 1973

Family: Spouse: Chuck; 2 Children: Mary, Chad

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Marsha Blackburn (R) 55%

Phil Bredesen (D) 44%

## Committees

- Armed Services
- Commerce, Science & Transportation
- the Judiciary
- Veterans' Affairs

# Sen. Mitt Romney (R-UT)



## Background

Romney was born and raised in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. After graduating from a joint JD-MBA program at Harvard, Romney worked as a consultant at Bain & Company; he eventually served as CEO. In 1994, Romney ran for US Senate in Massachusetts. After losing to Ted Kennedy, he resumed work at Bain and became CEO of the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the 2002 Winter Olympics. After successfully helping organize the Winter Olympics, he again ran for office, this time running successfully for governor. As governor, Romney helped develop and sign into law Massachusetts health care reform legislation that established near-universal health care access by providing subsidies and enforcing individual mandates. In 2006, he campaigned for the Republican nomination in the 2008 US presidential election but lost to John McCain. In 2012, he was successfully nominated to be the Republican Party's presidential candidate, but lost to Barack Obama in the general election.

## State Profile

State: Utah

Status: Junior Senator

Serving with: Mike Lee (R)

Cook PVI: R+20

## Official Contact Info

Capitol Hill Office Building: Russell

Room Number: B33

Phone Number: (202) 224-5251

Facebook: TBD

Instagram: TBD

Twitter: TBD

## Biography

First Elected: 11/6/2018

Party: Republican

Birth date: 3/12/1947

Education: JD, Harvard Law School, 1975;  
MBA, Harvard Business School, 1975; BA,  
Brigham Young University, 1971

Family: Spouse: Ann; 5 Children: Tagg, Matt,  
Josh, Ben, Craig

## Election Results

### 2018 General

Mitt Romney (R) 63%

Jenny Wilson (D) 31%

## Committees

- Foreign Relations
- Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship