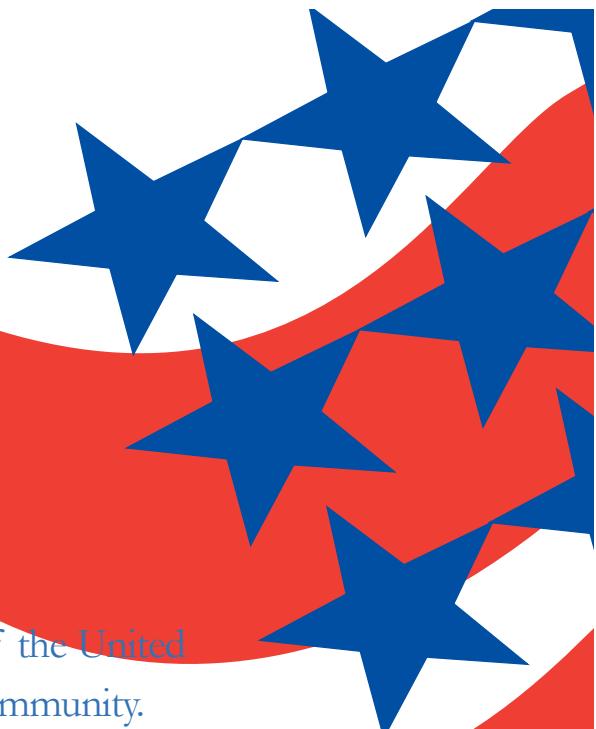


Jewish Community Voter Guide **2010**



This guide contains the voting records of members of the United States Congress on issues of concern to the Jewish community.

Included are key votes on economic recovery, defense policy, financial regulation, tax policy, food safety, and more.

HOW LAWS ARE MADE

Laws may be initiated in either chamber of Congress, the House of Representatives or the Senate. As the majority of laws originate in the House of Representatives, this summary will focus principally on the procedure in that body.

1. When a Representative has an idea for a new law, s/he becomes the sponsor of that bill and introduces it by giving it to the clerk of the House or by placing it in a box, called the hopper. The clerk assigns a legislative number to the bill, with H.R. for bills introduced in the House and S. for bills introduced in the Senate. The Government Printing Office (GPO) then prints the bill and distributes copies to each representative.
2. Next, the bill is assigned to a committee (the House has 22 standing committees, each with jurisdiction over bills in certain areas) by the Speaker of the House so that it can be studied.
The standing committee (or often a subcommittee) studies the bill and hears testimony from experts and people interested in the bill. The committee then may release the bill with a recommendation to pass it, or revise the bill and release it, or lay it aside so that the House cannot vote on it. Releasing the bill is called reporting it out, while laying it aside is called tabling.
3. If the bill is released, it then goes on a calendar (a list of bills awaiting action). Here the House Rules Committee may call for the bill to be voted on quickly, limit the debate, or limit or prohibit amendments. Undisputed bills may be passed by unanimous consent, or by a two-thirds vote if members agree to suspend the rules.
4. The bill now goes to the floor of the House for consideration and begins with a complete reading of the bill (sometimes this is the only complete reading). A third reading (title only) occurs after any amendments have been added. If the bill passes by simple majority (218 of 435), the bill moves to the Senate.
5. In order to be introduced in the Senate, a senator must be recognized by the Presiding Officer and announce the introduction of the bill. Sometimes, when a bill has passed in one house, it becomes known as an act; however, this term usually means a bill that has been passed by both houses and becomes law.
6. Just as in the House, the bill then is assigned to a committee. It is assigned to one of the Senate's 16 standing committees by the Presiding Officer. The Senate committee studies and either releases or tables the bill just like the House standing committee.
7. Once released, the bill goes to the Senate floor for consideration. Bills are voted on in the Senate based on the order they come from the committee; however, an urgent bill may be pushed ahead by leaders of the majority party. When the Senate considers the bill, they can vote on it indefinitely. When there is no more debate, the bill is voted on. A simple majority (51 of 100) passes the bill.
8. The bill now moves onto a conference committee, which is made up of members from each chamber. The committee works out any differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill. The revised bill is sent back to both the House and Senate for their final approval. Once approved, the bill is printed by the Government Printing Office (GPO) in a process called enrolling. The clerk from the introducing chamber certifies the final version.
9. The enrolled bill is now signed by the Speaker of the House and then the Vice President. Finally, it is sent for presidential consideration. The President has 10 days to sign or veto the enrolled bill. If the President vetoes the bill, it can still become a law if two-thirds of the Senate and two-thirds of the House then vote in favor of the bill.

U.S. House of Representatives

DESCRIPTION OF HOUSE VOTES

1. HR 1586 Medicaid and Education Assistance. Obey (D-WI) motion to concur with the Senate amendment to the bill that would provide \$16.1 billion to extend increased Medicaid assistance to states and \$10 billion in funding for states to create or retain teachers' jobs. Motion agreed to 247-161, 08/10/10. Signed into law 08/10/10.

2. HR 6419 Unemployment Benefits Extension. Levin (D-MI) motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill that would extend eligibility for expanded unemployment benefits through February 28, 2011. It would also extend federal funding to states for the costs of additional benefits through March 1, 2011. Motion rejected 258-154, 11/18/10. (A 2/3 majority of those present and voting is required for passage under suspension of the rules.)

3. S 3307 Child Nutrition/Passage. Bill that would reauthorize child nutrition programs through fiscal 2015 and make changes to the programs, including \$4.5 billion in new spending over 10 years. Passed 264-157, 12/02/10. Passed by voice vote in Senate 08/05/10. Signed into law 12/13/10.

4. HR 5281 Immigration Policy Revisions. Conyers (D-MI) motion to concur in Senate amendments to the bill that would add language to allow the Homeland Security Department to grant conditional non-immigrant status to the undocumented children of illegal immigrants if they meet certain requirements, including having been in the United States continuously for more than five years, been younger than 16 when they entered the country and been admitted to a U.S. college or university or enlisted in the military. Motion agreed to 216-198, 12/08/10. Sent to the Senate.

5. HR 2965 Don't Ask, Don't Tell Policy Repeal. Davis (D-CA) motion to concur in the Senate amendment that would allow for the repeal of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy which

prohibits military service by openly gay men and women, after certain requirements are met, including the submission of a written certification, signed by the President, the Secretary of Defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that the repeal is consistent with military readiness and effectiveness, and that necessary policies and regulations are in place to implement the repeal. Motion agreed to 250-175, 12/15/10. Signed into law 12/22/10. (See Senate vote 5.)

6. HR 4853 Tax Rates Extensions. Levin (D-MI) motion to concur to the Senate amendment that would extend the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for all taxpayers for two years, as well as reinstitute the estate tax at a 35% rate on the value of estates in excess of \$5 million. It also would continue expanded unemployment insurance benefits for 13 months. Motion agreed to 277-148, 12/17/10. Signed into law 12/17/10. (See Senate Vote 3.)

7. HR 2751 Food Safety Overhaul. Dingell (D-MI) motion to concur in the Senate amendments to the bill. The Senate amendments would increase the reporting and record-keeping requirements for food facilities. The measure would expand the Food and Drug Administration's oversight authority by increasing the number of required inspections, boosting access to the records of food processors and providing the authority to issue mandatory recalls. Motion agreed to 215-144, 12/21/10. Passed in the Senate by voice vote 12/19/10. Signed into law 01/04/11.

8. HR 847 Sept. 11 Health and Compensation Fund. Pallone (D-NJ) motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill that would create a program to provide medical services and health monitoring for first-responders and others with conditions related to the Sept. 11 attacks. Motion agreed to 206-60, 12/22/10. Passed with amendment in Senate by voice vote 12/22/2010. Signed into law 01/02/11.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ALABAMA								
1 Bonner	N	N	N	N	N	Y	NV	NV
2 Bright	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	NV	NV
3 Rogers	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y
4 Aderholt	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
5 Griffith	N	N	N	NV	N	Y	NV	NV
6 Bachus	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N
7 Davis	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	NV
ALASKA								
a-l Young	NV	N	Y	N	N	Y	NV	NV
ARIZONA								
1 Kirkpatrick	Y	Y	Y	NV	Y	Y	Y	NV
2 Franks	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
3 Shadegg	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	NV
4 Pastor	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NV	NV
5 Mitchell	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NV	NV
6 Flake	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	NV
7 Grijalva	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
8 Giffords	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NV
ARKANSAS								
1 Berry	NV	N	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
2 Snyder	NV	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3 Boozman	N	NV	N	N	N	Y	N	N
4 Ross	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
CALIFORNIA								
1 Thompson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2 Herger	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
3 Lungren	NV	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
4 McClintonck	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
5 Matsui	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
6 Woolsey	Y	Y	Y	Y	NV	N	Y	Y
7 Miller, George	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
8 Pelosi	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NV	NV	Y
9 Lee	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NV	NV
10 Garamendi	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NV
11 McNerney	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
12 Speier	NV	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	NV
13 Stark	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NV	NV
14 Eshoo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
15 Honda	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NV	NV
16 Lofgren	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NV	NV
17 Farr	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
18 Cardoza	Y	Y	Y	Y	NV	Y	N	Y
19 Rodanovich	NV	NV	N	NV	N	Y	NV	NV
20 Costa	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
21 Nunes	N	N	N	N	N	Y	NV	NV
22 McCarthy	N	N	N	N	N	Y	NV	NV
23 Capps	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
24 Gallegly	N	NV	N	N	N	Y	N	NV
25 McKeon	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	NV
26 Dreier	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
27 Sherman	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y

DESCRIPTION OF SENATE VOTES

- 1. HR 1586 Medicaid and Education Assistance.** Reid (D-NV) motion to concur in the House amendment to the Murray (D-WA) substitute amendment that would provide \$16.1 billion to extend increased Medicaid assistance to states and \$10 billion in funding for states to create or retain teachers' jobs. Motion agreed to 61-39, 08/05/10. Signed into law 08/10/10.
- 2. S 3772 Wage Discrimination/Closure.** Motion to invoke cloture (end debate) on the Reid (D-NV) motion to proceed to the bill that would seek to provide comparable wages for women by requiring that employers show that any pay disparity is job-related and not based on gender. Motion rejected 58-41, 11/17/10. Three-fifths of the total Senate is required to invoke cloture.
- 3. HR 4853 Tax Rates Extensions.** Reid (D-NV) motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment that would extend the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for all taxpayers for two years, as well as reinstitute the estate tax at a 35% rate on the value of estates in excess of \$5 million. It also would continue expanded unemployment insurance benefits for 13 months. Motion agreed to 81-19, 12/15/10. Signed into law 12/17/10. (See House vote 6.)
- 4. HR 5281 Immigration Policy Revisions** Motion to invoke cloture (end debate) to concur in the House amendment to the third Senate amendment that would allow the Homeland Security Department to grant conditional non-immigrant status to the undocumented children of illegal immigrants if they meet certain requirements, including having been in the United States continuously for more than five years, having been younger than 16 when they entered the country and having been admitted to a U.S. college or university or enlisted in the military. Motion rejected 55-41, 12/18/10. Three-fifths of the total Senate is required to invoke cloture.

- 5. HR 2965 Don't Ask, Don't Tell Policy Repeal.** Reid (D-NV) motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill with a House amendment that would allow for the repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which prohibits military service by openly gay men and women, after certain requirements are met, including the submission of a written certification, signed by the President, the secretary of Defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that the repeal is consistent with military readiness and effectiveness, and that necessary policies and regulations are in place to implement the repeal. Motion agreed to 65-31, 12/18/10. Signed into law 12/22/10. (See House vote 5.)
- 6. Treaty Doc 111-5. New START Agreement.** Adoption of the resolution of ratification for the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) with Russia. The treaty would restrict each country to a maximum of 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads, a cut of about 30 percent. Adopted 71-26, 12/22/10. (A two-thirds majority of those present and voting is required for adoption of resolutions of ratification.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6
ALABAMA													
Sessions	N	N	N	N	N	N							
Shelby	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
ALASKA													
Begich	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Murkowski	N	NV	Y	Y	Y	Y							
ARIZONA													
Kyl	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
McCain	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
ARKANSAS													
Lincoln	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Pryor	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y							
CALIFORNIA													
Boxer	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Feinstein	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
COLORADO													
Bennet	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Udall	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
CONNECTICUT													
Dodd	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Lieberman	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
DELAWARE													
Carper	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Coons	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
FLORIDA													
LeMieux	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
Nelson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
GEORGIA													
Chambliss	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
Isakson	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
HAWAII													
Akaka	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Inouye	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
IDAHO													
Crapo	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
Risch	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
ILLINOIS													
Durbin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Kirk													
INDIANA													
Bayh	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Lugar	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y							
IOWA													
Grassley	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
Harkin	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
KANSAS													
Brownback	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
Roberts	N	N	Y	N	N	N							

United States Senate

	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6
KENTUCKY													
Bunning	N	N	Y	NV	NV	NV							
McConnell	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
LOUISIANA													
Landrieu	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Vitter	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
MAINE													
Collins	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y							
Snover	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y							
MARYLAND													
Cardin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Mikulski	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
MASSACHUSETTS													
Brown	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y							
Kerry	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
MICHIGAN													
Levin	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
Stabenow	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
MINNESOTA													
Franken	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Klobuchar	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
MISSISSIPPI													
Cochran	N	N	Y	N	N	Y							
Wicker	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
MISSOURI													
Bond	N	N	Y	N	N	NV							
McCaskill	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
MONTANA													
Baucus	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y							
Tester	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y							
NEBRASKA													
Johanns	N	N	Y	N	N	Y							
Nelson	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y							
NEVADA													
Ensign	N	N	N	N	Y	N							
Reid	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
NEW HAMPSHIRE													
Gregg	N	N	Y	NV	NV	Y							
Shaheen	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
NEW JERSEY													
Lautenberg	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
Menendez	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
NEW MEXICO													
Bingaman	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
Udall	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
NEW YORK													
Gillibrand	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
Schumer	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
NORTH CAROLINA													
Burr	N	N	Y	N	Y	N							
Hagan	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y							
NORTH DAKOTA													
Conrad	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Dorgan	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
OHIO													
Brown	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y							
Voinovich	N	N	N	N	Y	Y							
OKLAHOMA													
Coburn	N	N	N	N	N	N							
Inhofe	N	N	Y	N	N	N							
OREGON													
Merkley	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							
Wyden	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y							

key

Democrats

Republicans

Independents

Y = "Yes" (vote in favor of the measure described in vote description)

N = "No" (vote against the measure described in vote description)

NV = No vote recorded on the measure described in vote description

Blank space indicates that person was not in office when votes were cast

HOW TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN CONGRESS

As you read this guide, take note of how your senators and representative voted on issues that matter to you. Contact them regularly and let them know where you stand. Your message may be as simple as the samples below:

Addresses:

The Honorable
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Sample letter/e-mail:

Dear Senator/Rep.
I am writing to ask you to support/vote against
(issue, bill #, if you know it).
This issue is important and deserves your attention.
Sincerely,
Your name, address

Phone: Capitol Switchboard (202) 224-3121

Sample phone call:

"Hello. My name is and I am a constituent.
I would like to register my opinion on the issue of
..... I am in favor of/opposed to it. Please pass
this information along to Senator..... /Rep.
Thank you."

E-mail: www.Congress.org provides access to all elected officials. To contact your senators and representative, just enter your zip code.

Please take the time to communicate with your elected officials after a vote has taken place. Thanking them for favorable votes is as important as expressing disapproval for unfavorable ones.

Calls, mail and faxes are tallied.
They do make a difference.



The Jewish Community Voter Guide is published by the JAC Education Foundation, P. O. Box 541, Highland Park, Illinois 60035. For more information, call (847) 433-0944. Contributions to the JAC Education Foundation are tax deductible for federal income tax purposes as a donation to an organization exempt under IRS code 501(c)(3).

ABOUT THIS VOTER GUIDE

This is Volume VIII, Number 4 of the Jewish Community Voter Guide, published twice a year by the JAC Education Foundation. The Voter Guide is for informational purposes only and is not intended to influence the outcome of any election.

The JAC Education Foundation does not advocate the election or defeat of any candidate and does not endorse any political party. The information in this Voter Guide is provided as a resource to help you understand the issues before the 111th Congress, to communicate your opinions to elected officials on these issues, and to make you an informed participant in the political process.

ABOUT THE JAC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The JAC Education Foundation was formed to educate and engage the Jewish community in electoral politics and issues of Jewish concern. The Jewish community is no longer immune to the apathy and ignorance that affect the nation as a whole. We cannot take elections for granted: we must educate ourselves, register and vote, and urge others to do the same.

The JAC Education Foundation seeks to increase political involvement through knowledge of:

- how to be an effective advocate
- which legislative issues are important
- what Congressional action has been taken

ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL INDEX

This is a record of how each member of the United States Congress voted on issues of concern to American Jewry as identified by the JAC Education Foundation in consultation with recognized authorities who monitor these issues. Read the vote descriptions. Examine the Congressional index to learn how members of Congress voted. These votes indicate where members of Congress stand on key issues.