



Bob Menendez is the Democrat candidate and incumbent of this race. He grew up the son of Cuban immigrants, attending public

school before helping indict corruption in 1992, later becoming a senator. His experience in Congress includes chair of Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Senate Banking Committee. His campaign focuses on economic growth, health care, consumer protection, climate change, immigration, and more.

Source: Bob Menendez Campaign Website



Bob Hugin is the Republican candidate of this race. He was raised in NJ and attended Princeton University before serving in the

Marine Corps until 1983. After earning his MBA, he joined JP Morgan and later became Managing Director. For the last 19 years, he served as chairman and CEO of Celgene, now a large biotech company. His campaign focuses on “[expanding] opportunity for for New Jerseyans across our great state”.

Source: Bob Hugin Campaign Website

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Volunteers Organizing Informed
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New Jersey

Senate Election 2018

Coverage by V.O.I.C.E.



Your free, unbiased guide to the views of the candidates. All sources are cited.

Enjoy, and happy voting!



Bob Menendez's Stance		Issue	Bob Hugin's Stance
Menendez is pro-choice and pro-reproductive health care, and endorsed by Planned Parenthood Action Fund.		Abortion	Bob Hugin is generally pro-choice, however he is against late term abortions if the mother's life is not in danger.
Menendez supports equality of "race, gender, country of origin, religion landl sexual orientation".		Civil Rights	Hugin believes in "equal opportunity to pursue the American Dream free from any discrimination".
Menendez believes in financial reform, investing in infrastructure, and "policies that increase wages, empower the middle class and foster social mobility".		Economy	Hugin believes that retaining wealthy residents will keep NJ affordable and robust. He envisions a growing economy, thriving business, and good paying jobs.
Menendez advocates for expanding early education, making college affordable, teaching skills like STEM for high paying jobs, and standing up for teachers' rights.		Education	Hugin endorses investment in preschools, public schools, charter schools, vocational-technical opportunities, and especially high-quality education for the underprivileged.
Opposes gerrymandering, Pro-campaign finance reform		Electoral Issues	Opposes gerrymandering, Pro-term limits for politicians.
Menendez supports environmental measures such as renewable energy reducing dependence on oil, and restricting industries that cause water and air pollution.		Environment	Hugin supports environmental policies, most notably use of renewable energy with fuels like gas and oil. However, he opposes any environment related tax increases.
Menendez was rated 63% by the USAE in December 2012, indicating a mixed record on trade.		Free Trade	Hugin believes "Trade is important and should be free and but fair", opposing the Chinese trade war and TPP.
Menendez has a history of supporting gun control. He also co-sponsored a law that prohibits the transfer or possession of a large capacity ammunition feeding device.		Gun Control	Hugin believes in the right to own a gun (including for protection and recreation) but also supports background checks and opposes unnecessary public gun exposure.
Menendez supports Obamacare and Medicare and votes as such. He is rated 86% by the American Public Health Association, indicating a pro-public health record.		Health Care	Bob Hugin promises to reform health care, emphasizing the importance of consumer choice, equality of health outcomes, and payment systems based on value.
Menendez supports immigration, DACA, and authorized a bill for an undocumented immigrant citizenship path. His policy is moderate and he opposes family separations.		Immigration Policy	Hugin supports strong borders, and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, but deportation for those who commit a crime. His stance on DACA is unclear.
Menendez supports marijuana legalization.		Marijuana	Hugin is cautiously supportive of marijuana legalization.
Menendez supports Israel but opposes the Iran Deal.		Middle East	Hugin supports Israel but opposes the Iran Deal.
Menendez supports increased cybersecurity, (he sought to punish Russian interference in US elections), maintaining the military, its current spending, and veteran benefits.		National Security	Hugin supports increased military spending, and has also promised to reform background checks and visagreen card programs to prevent terrorist attacks.
Menendez supports negotiations for denuclearization.		North Korea	Hugin supports negotiations for denuclearization.
Menendez was indicted on corruption charges of advancing the interests of a wealthy doctor, Dr. Melgen, who gave him gifts and private flights. Menendez has claimed the two were just close friends, accusing the charges of being a political ploy. Although the jury was locked 10-2 in favor of aquittal, the Senate Ethics Committee has admonished Menendez's actions.		Scandals	Hugin has been criticized for his actions as CEO of Celgene, a pharmaceutical firm, citing price hikes of anti-cancer drug Revlimid, campaigns against legislation that lowers drug prices, and attempts to stifle competition. David Mitchell, cancer patient who launched lawsuit against Hugin, said that "Bob Hugin used cancer patients and Medicare patients like a piggy bank".
Menendez opposes the current tax distribution. He supports the SALT deduction, and opposed the GOP tax bill, calling it a "giant hit job of New Jersey's middle class"		Taxes	Hugin believes the GOP tax bill's concept is beneficial for Americans, but is concerned with its disadvantages for New Jersey like the \$10k tax deductions cap.
Menendez tends to avoid directly opposing the President, instead criticizing his actions on individual issues like foreign policy, tax reform, and immigration.		Trump Administration	Hugin has distanced himself from Trump, publicly opposing some of his policies. However, he also has politically and financially supported his presidency run.

Menendez Sources: Bob Menendez Campaign Website, Planned Parenthood, New York Times, OnTheIssues, Politico, USAE
Hugin Sources: Bob Hugin Campaign Website, OnTheIssues, NJ.com, New Jersey Globe

More in-depth information can be found on our website at voicenj.weebly.com