

U.S. Senator

The U.S. Constitution prescribes that the Senate be composed of two Senators from each State (therefore, the Senate currently has 100 Members) and that a Senator must be at least thirty years of age, have been a citizen of the United States for nine years, and, when elected, be a resident of the State from which he or she is chosen. A Senator's term of office is six years and approximately one-third of the total membership of the Senate is elected every two years.

The Senate has several exclusive powers not granted to the House, including consenting to treaties, a precondition to their ratification consenting or confirming appointments of Cabinet secretaries, other federal executive officials, military officers, regulatory officials, ambassadors, and other federal uniformed officers, as well as trial of federal officials impeached by the House.

Term: 6 years

Katie McGinty

PARTY: Democratic

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: PO Box 22446 Philadelphia, PA 19110

Campaign Phone: (215) 253-6220

Website: <http://KatieMcGinty.com>

Campaign Email: Katie@KatieMcGinty.com

Date of Birth: 5/11/1963

Education: B.S. from St. Joseph's University, J.D. from Columbia University

Qualifications: Former Chair of President Bill Clinton's Council on Environmental Quality; Former Secretary of Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection under Governor Ed Rendell; Former Chief of Staff to Governor Tom Wolf.

Twitter: twitter.com/KatieMcGintyPA

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/katiemcgintypa/>

Municipality: Wayne, Pennsylvania

Questions:

Q: *Partisan gridlock in Washington has brought our government nearly to a standstill. If elected, what steps will you take to reduce partisan gridlock? Please be specific.*

A: My entire career I have worked with both parties to build partnerships to achieve results. As President Clinton's chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, I worked with Newt Gingrich's Republican Congress to make a difference in public health and environmental protection. By building partnerships we strengthened laws keeping our water safe and our air clean, targeted more resources to cleaning up toxic waste sites, and acknowledged the importance of environmental justice in policy making for the first time. I carried that same approach of coalition building to the Department of Environmental Protection under Governor Rendell. Even with a Republican legislature, we were able to direct major new investments to environmental protection and infrastructure improvement, enact tougher standards on toxic emissions, and accelerate the development of clean energy. Track record matters. As Senator, I will use the same approach I've always used to get past partisanship and get results.

Q: *In Shelby County v. Holder, the US Supreme Court invalidated provisions of the Voting Rights Act, which has led to disenfranchised voters across the US. If elected, what will you do to ensure that the voting rights of all Americans are protected?*

A: Voting is a fundamental right for Americans across this country. We must fully restore the Voting Rights Act to protect that right for thousands of Americans who are being disenfranchised. But we must also do more. As Senator, I will stand against partisan attempts to disenfranchise voters through new voter identification laws because we should be encouraging more people to vote, not systematically denying them that right. I also

support reforms that increase accessibility and integrity in our elections like guaranteeing early voting and expanding options for voter registration.

Pat Toomey

PARTY: Republican

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 1180 Welsh Road Suite 100, North Wales, PA 19454

Campaign Phone: (484) 809-7994

Website: <http://www.toomeyforsenate.com>

Campaign Email: info@toomeyforsenate.com

Date of Birth: November 17, 1961

Education: Harvard University

Qualifications: Pat Toomey is the husband of Kris and the father of Bridget, Patrick, and Duncan. He served in the U.S. House, was the president of the Club for Growth, a small business owner in the Lehigh Valley, and worked in the financial services industry.

Twitter: twitter.com/PatToomey

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/patricktoomey/>

Municipality: Upper Milford Township

Questions:

Q: *Partisan gridlock in Washington has brought our government nearly to a standstill. If elected, what steps will you take to reduce partisan gridlock? Please be specific.*

A: In the Senate, you can only make progress by working with people in the other party. That's why I have made bipartisan cooperation a key priority in my first term. I have learned that even in a time noted for partisan gridlock, it is possible to find common ground while sticking to your principles. For example, I helped write the JOBS Act with three Democratic senators, a bill President Obama signed and praised, that is helping small businesses grow and hire more workers. With Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), I was able to pass legislation that keeps our children safer in schools from dangerous predators. I also worked successfully with Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) to improve efforts to keep illicit painkillers off the streets to deal with the prescription drug abuse crisis. Identifying areas of agreement and working together builds a foundation of trust necessary to tackle the issues where the partisan divide is wider. That is how I have worked as a consensus builder on contentious topics like the deficit, gun safety, and tax reform.

Q: *In Shelby County v. Holder, the US Supreme Court invalidated provisions of the Voting Rights Act, which has led to disenfranchised voters across the US. If elected, what will you do to ensure that the voting rights of all Americans are protected?*

A: The right to vote is the sacred foundation upon which American democracy rests. The Voting Rights Act continues to be a crucial component in upholding American citizens' ability to hold their government accountable. I believe that the federal government should vigilantly enforce the Voting Rights Act and other legislation designed to ensure equal access to the ballot box. Furthermore, it is incumbent upon legislators to consider the impact of all new legislation on our voting rights and other constitutional freedoms, and this is a responsibility that I take very seriously. As a senator, it is also my job to ensure we nominate judges and executive officials who will protect these vital rights. In my first term, I have worked across the aisle with Democratic Sen. Bob Casey to successfully confirm 16 qualified individuals to federal courthouses in Pennsylvania, the most of any state with the exceptions of New York and California.

Edward T. Clifford III

PARTY: Libertarian

No response

Pennsylvania Attorney General

The basic duties of the attorney general, as outlined by the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, are to: serve as the Commonwealth's chief law enforcement officer; collect all debts, taxes, and account due to the Commonwealth; represent the Commonwealth and all agencies in any action brought by or against the Commonwealth; administer the provision relating to consumer protection laws; represent the Commonwealth and its citizens in any action brought about for violation of the antitrust laws.

Term: 4 Years

Josh Shapiro

PARTY: Democratic

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 21 E. Airy Street Norristown, PA 19401

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Campaign Email: info@joshshapiro.org

Date of Birth: 6/20/73

Education: B.A. - University of Rochester J.D. - Georgetown Law Center

Qualifications: Chairman, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, 2015-present Of Counsel with Stradley Ronon law firm, 10 years State Representative, 2005-2012

Twitter: twitter.com/JoshShapiroPA

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/JoshShapiroPA>

Municipality: Abington Township

Questions:

Q: *The Attorney General's office has been under a cloud for the last few years. Why do you believe you can restore public confidence in the office, and what steps will you take to make that happen?*

A: Throughout my career, I've been a reformer. In Harrisburg, they didn't like it when I stopped their perks and pushed for reform. In Montgomery County, I cleaned up an ethical mess. I'll bring this same commitment to integrity and reform to the Office of Attorney General. In my Integrity Agenda, I've laid out the steps I will take to restore integrity to the Office of Attorney General. On Day One, I will create a code of conduct and mandate ethics training. I will ban gifts. I will post all expenses online for every Pennsylvanian to see. Additionally, I will professionalize the office's human resources and establish a new Chief Diversity Officer to ensure that the Office of Attorney General looks like the public it is sworn to represent. And I will create the "Casey Commission," named for the late Gov. Robert P. Casey, to issue regular reports on integrity and transparency in our Commonwealth and recommendations for how to improve our laws. For more details on my plan visit www.joshshapiro.org/integrity.

Q: *It is increasingly apparent that Pennsylvania's criminal justice system is deeply flawed. What do you see as the primary systemic problems within our criminal justice system and, if elected, what steps would you take to address them?*

A: We need to treat addiction as a disease instead of a crime and ensure prison is used for those who are violent and pose a risk to others and not the mentally ill or those suffering from drug addiction. Far too many young people—particularly young people of color—get caught up in the system when they should not be there in the first place. This hurts individuals, communities and taxpayers. We need to put in place alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders, drug courts, smart probation and more resources for drug and alcohol treatment and mental health services. In Montgomery County, we have been nationally recognized for reducing our recidivism rate by 30 percent through a comprehensive treatment program in our prison. As Attorney General, I'll reform our criminal justice system so that everyone is treated fairly, we lower the recidivism rate, reduce the number of victims of crime, lower the burden on taxpayers and make our communities safer.

John Rafferty

PARTY: Republican

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 11757 HARRISBURG, PA 17108

Campaign Phone: (570) 690-1933

Website: <http://www.raffertyforag.com>

Campaign Email: info@raffertyforag.com

Date of Birth: 2/7/1953

Education: Bachelor's: University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown Master's: Beaver College Law Degree: Temple

Qualifications: Serving as a State Senator, a Deputy Attorney General, a private practice attorney and a small business owner has given me a wide breadth of experience that few others have. I believe my experience makes me uniquely qualified.

Twitter: twitter.com/RaffertyforAG

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/RaffertyforAG/>

Municipality: Lower Providence Township

Questions:

Q: *The Attorney General's office has been under a cloud for the last few years. Why do you believe you can restore public confidence in the office, and what steps will you take to make that happen?*

A: My first step to regaining the public trust is announcing on day one of my campaign that I pledge to run for Attorney General to be the Attorney General...Not to be an aspiring Governor or United States Senator. If elected, I am committed to serving my full-term of four years and if re-elected eight years as Attorney General. The Office of Attorney General and the citizens of this great Commonwealth deserve nothing less from the next Attorney General. In making such a pledge I am making a full faith commitment to Pennsylvanian's that I will remove all political agenda's from my office. As the highest ranking law enforcement official of our state it is my job to be a faithful custodian of the law by enforcing and prosecuting those that break the laws. Additionally, I will implement a strict ethics code for employees based on guidelines set forth by the United State Department of Justice. I will have the strictest guidelines in the country to ensure the public has full confidence in our office moving forward.

Q: *It is increasingly apparent that Pennsylvania's criminal justice system is deeply flawed. What do you see as the primary systemic problems within our criminal justice system and, if elected, what steps would you take to address them?*

A: I am very supportive of the Justice Reinvestment Act which reduces recidivism, increases public safety and lowers correction costs by investing in communities to defer criminal behavior. Additionally, I am very supportive of the creation of specialty courts, like the Veterans Courts. In fact, I was a member of the Supreme Court's steering committee for Veterans Courts.

Pennsylvania Auditor General

The principal role of the auditor general is to determine whether state funds are being used in accordance with the purpose and guidelines that govern each use of the Commonwealth's dollars. The auditor general conducts financial and performance audits of individuals, state agencies, and organization that receive state funds, including school districts, state liquor stores, and public employee pensions. These audits are designed to measure how effectively government programs are using public money to meet their stated goals and objectives. The office performs more than 6,000 audits each year, and is responsible for auditing all federal funds that are allocated to Pennsylvania state programs

Term: 4 years

Eugene A. DePasquale

PARTY: Democratic

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: PO BOX 391 HARRISBURG, PA 17108

Campaign Phone: (717) 256-2591

Website: <http://www.eugene4pa.com>

Campaign Email: eugene@eugene4pa.com

Date of Birth: 8/3/1971

Education: Widener University, School of Law, J.D University of Pittsburgh, MPA College of Wooster, BA

Qualifications: Auditor General: 2013-present State Representative: 2007-2013 Deputy Secretary, DEP: 2003-2006

Twitter: twitter.com/DePasqualePA

Facebook: <http://DePasqualePA>

Municipality: West Manchester Township

Question:

Q: *What are your top three priorities and how will you accomplish them? Please be specific.*

A: I will continue to ensure schools are held accountable to taxpayers and students through our school district audits. I plan to make sure the taxpayers dollars spent on state programs are spent effectively and efficiently while working to improve those departments. I also plan to help resolve the political budget impasse through drawing attention to lost taxpayer resources and helping the sides come together.

John Brown

PARTY: Republican

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 403 S Main Street Nazareth, PA 18064

Campaign Phone: (717) 585-0480

Website: <http://www.johnbrownforpa.com>

Campaign Email: info@johnbrownforpa.com

Date of Birth: 11/8/1959

Education: University of Notre Dame Bangor High School

Qualifications: Northampton County Executive Mayor of the City of Bangor Worked in the private sector helping to turn around unprofitable businesses helping to make them more effective, efficient and successful.

Twitter: twitter.com/JohnBrownforPA

Municipality: Bangor Boro

Question:

Q: *What are your top three priorities and how will you accomplish them? Please be specific.*

A: No response

John J. Sweeney

PARTY: Green

Biographical Info:

Campaign Phone: (570) 587-3603

Campaign Email: jnln@epix.net

Date of Birth: 8/5/53

Education: Temple University 1971-1974 Philadelphia College of Art 1975 no degree

Qualifications: Only qualifications are age and residency, which I meet. I currently am in my second term as Falls Township Auditor.

Municipality: Falls Township, Wyoming County

Question:

Q: *What are your top three priorities and how will you accomplish them? Please be specific.*

A: The Auditor General is the state's top watchdog when it comes to spending. I would audit the General Assembly operating budget. Return surpluses to the General fund. I would also perform an audit on the pension fund of our elected officials in the General Assembly. The Auditor General also has the responsibility to see that our agencies function properly. I would conduct a performance audit of the Department of Environmental Protection to see if they are fulfilling their mission.

Roy A. Minet

PARTY: Libertarian

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: 623 Skyler Drive Mount Joy, PA 17552

Campaign Phone: (717) 928-6188

Campaign Email: roy.minet@comcast.net

Date of Birth: 07/18/41

Education: Penn Manor H.S. Princeton U. Physics (2Y) Northwestern U. Grad. Sch. of Mgt., Inst. for Mgt.

Qualifications: Designed and developed comprehensive, integrated business software, including all accounting functions. Consultant for multiple businesses regarding overall operations and accounting.

Municipality: East Donegal Township

Question:

Q: *What are your top three priorities and how will you accomplish them? Please be specific.*

A: The two old, declining parties have ruled tag-team style for decades. They have conspired to erect barriers to keep their competition out of office. As a Libertarian, I am not part of this "establishment" and can be a truly independent watchdog. I favor smaller government, lower taxes and more liberty. Thus, all operations will be carefully scrutinized through an entirely new, different and better set of eyes. Governments do not and cannot create productive jobs. Government is purely overhead. Government is needed to the extent that it secures rights, preserves order and provides truly public goods and services. These conditions allow the free market to flourish and create jobs. But governments have exploded way beyond these functions and now confiscate an incredible 31% of all income! The economy struggles to grow at a 1% or 2% rate when growth should be more like 10%. I will diligently seek ways that our state government can perform its proper role, but suck less blood out of the economy and allow it to create more jobs.

Pennsylvania Treasurer

The duty of the Pennsylvania Treasurer is to safeguard the Commonwealth's financial assets, which total more than \$120 billion in public monies. The office manages several programs in order to better serve the financial needs of Pennsylvanians. The Treasury Department is also responsible for: reuniting unclaimed property with its rightful owner; investigating loss, theft, and fraud involving commonwealth checks; reviewing real estate leases and contracts entered into by commonwealth agencies; maintaining the Pennsylvania contracts electronic library. The Treasurer has specific duties in addition to the oversight of the department: serves as Chair of the Board of Finance and Revenue, which selects banks to serve as depositories for state money; sets interest rates paid on commonwealth deposits; hears and decides state tax appeals.

Term: 4 Years

Joe Torsella

PARTY: Democratic

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: PO Box 626 Flourtown, PA 19031

Campaign Phone: (267) 219-5629

Website: <http://joetorsella.com>

Campaign Email: info@joetorsella.com

Date of Birth: Berwick, PA

Education: Graduated with honors from the University of Pennsylvania. Studied at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.

Qualifications: U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. for Management & Reform Chairman of the Pennsylvania State Board of Education. Founding President & CEO of the National Constitution Center

Twitter: twitter.com/joetorsella

Facebook: <http://JoeTorsellaForTreasurer/>

Municipality: Whitemarsh

Question:

Q: *What are your top three priorities and how will you accomplish them? Please be specific.*

A: I've spent my life in public service making public institutions more efficient, more accountable, and more innovative. First, I'll set the toughest ethics standards in the country at Treasury -- by making it easy for citizens to go online and see every dollar in state spending and contracts, including political contributions made by the vendors who got those contracts, by requiring people trading public money in the stock market to disclose the trades they make on their own accounts, and by appointing a Chief Integrity Officer. Second, I'll serve as the independent fiscal watchdog Pennsylvanians deserve in this position. Third, I will work to create more economic opportunity for all Pennsylvanians, by setting up automatic, universal savings accounts for secondary or vocational training for every child born in Pennsylvania.

Otto Voit

PARTY: Republican

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: PO Box 303 Harrisburg, pa 17108

Campaign Phone: (484) 938-8648

Website: <http://Ottovoit.com>

Campaign Email: otto@voitforpatreasurer.com

Education: Pennsylvania State University, BA Saint Joseph's University, EMBA

Qualifications: Otto W. Voit, III is a life-long Pennsylvanian who has answered the call to service time and again and is doing so once more. Otto has the integrity and the business acumen needed to hold Harrisburg accountable.

Municipality: Muhlenberg Township

Question:

Q: *What are your top three priorities and how will you accomplish them? Please be specific.*

A: When elected, Mr. Voit's top three priorities will be to hold Harrisburg accountable, restore integrity, and save the commonwealth 1 Billion dollars. To make Harrisburg more accountable, Mr. Voit has proposed PaCheckbook.com. PaCheckbook.com will be the first of its kind, user friendly website that will show all revenue, every expenditure, the salary and every state contract at all levels of government. This information will be presented in clear everyday language, not in professional jargon. This will empower voters and help them understand what is actually going on in Harrisburg. As an Army Officer and Desert Storm Veteran, Integrity plays a huge role in all aspects of his life. That is why Mr. Voit has pledged not to seek higher office. To truly reform the office, there must be a restored focus on serving the people, not serving political ambitions. Finally, Mr. Voit plans on saving the commonwealth one billion dollars in his first term. Mr. Voit will have a diverse investment committee that will help him find safer and investments

Kristin Combs

PARTY: Green

No response.

James Babb

PARTY: Libertarian

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: PO Box 2106 Southeastern, PA 19399

Campaign Phone: (610) 574-1222

Website: <http://jamesbabb@mac.com>

Campaign Email: jamesbabb@mac.com

Date of Birth: 12/4/2067

Education: College: James Madison University

Qualifications: Taxation is theft.

Twitter: twitter.com/jamescbabb

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JamesCBabb>

Questions:

Q: *What are your top three priorities and how will you accomplish them? Please be specific.*

A: - no response.