

# AIPAC INSIDER

ELECTION 2008



AIPAC

THE AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CONGRESS, CAMPAIGNS AND POLITICS

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# VOTING RECORD DESCRIPTIONS

All references to voting records indicate actual votes or voting patterns and do not constitute a rating or endorsement of any individual member of Congress by AIPAC.

## VOTING RECORD KEY:

- + Either supported pro-Israel position on a bill, resolution or legislation, or signed a letter
- Voted against pro-Israel position
- C Co-sponsored
- DNC Did not co-sponsor a resolution or legislation
- DNS Did not sign a letter
- DNV Did not vote or was absent for vote
- P Voted present rather than supporting or voting against pro-Israel position

## FOREIGN AID ISSUES:

**VOTING HISTORY** (This is not a rating but an indication of voting patterns on all foreign aid-related issues.)

Consistently votes FOR foreign aid

Usually votes FOR foreign aid

MIXED record on foreign aid

Usually votes AGAINST foreign aid

Consistently votes AGAINST foreign aid

**'99 YOUNG AMENDMENT** (House Only)

Vote on the Young Amendment to the Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill appropriating, among other things, \$1.825 billion for the Wye River Accord. (Amendment passed 351-58 with 24 not voting)

## LOAN GUARANTEES:

**'91 KASTEN-INOUE AMENDMENT** (Senate Only)

Co-sponsor of legislation authorizing the US to guarantee \$10 billion in loans to assist Israel in the absorption of Soviet and Ethiopian refugees. (73 co-sponsors)

**'92 SCHUMER/PAXON/OWENS/SAXTON LETTER** (House Only)

Signer of letter to President Bush urging him to submit loan guarantee legislation to Congress. (234 Representatives signed the letter)

## ARMS SALES ISSUES:

**'91 F-15S/'92 F-15S** (Senate and House)

Signer of Senate or House letter to President Bush expressing concern about proposed sale of 72 F-15s to Saudi Arabia. (67 Senators and 237 Representatives signed the letters)

## JERUSALEM:

**'94 MACK-MOYNIHAN** (Senate Only)

Signer of letter to President Clinton urging the Administration to reject U.N. Resolution language referring to Jerusalem as "occupied territory." (83 Senators signed the letter)

**'94 LEWIS-GINGRICH** (House Only)

Signer of letter to President Clinton supporting a united Jerusalem as Israel's capital. (279 Representatives signed the letter)

**'95 EMBASSY RELOCATION ACT**

(Senate and House)

Vote on the Embassy Relocation Act in Senate or House in 1995 stating that Jerusalem should remain undivided, be recognized as the capital of Israel, and that the U.S. Embassy should be established there no later than May 1999. (77 co-sponsors in Senate and 78 in House)

**'99 JERUSALEM LETTER** (Senate Only)

Signature on the 1999 letter expressing disappointment in the President for issuing a national security waiver on the Jerusalem Embassy Act and stating that the waiver applies solely to the funding issue, not to U.S. policy that Jerusalem should remain united and be recognized as Israel's capital, with our embassy located there. (84 Senators signed the letter)

## IRAN:

**'96 IRAN AND LIBYA SANCTIONS ACT**

(Senate and House)

Co-sponsor of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 which mandates that the US impose sanctions on companies that invest significantly in Iran or Libya's petroleum sectors. (45 co-sponsors in Senate and 158 in House)

**‘98 IRAN MISSILE PROLIFERATION  
SANCTIONS ACT** (Senate and House)

Co-sponsor of the Iran Missile Proliferation Sanctions Act of 1998 which requires the President to report and ultimately sanction foreign companies that have transferred missile technology to Iran. (82 co-sponsors in Senate and 271 in House)

**‘99/‘00 IRAN NON-PROLIFERATION ACT**  
(Senate and House)

Co-sponsor of the Iran Nonproliferation Act of 1999 which requires the President to report and ultimately sanction foreign companies that have transferred missile technology to Iran and certify that the Russian government opposes the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction before America provides additional money to the Russian Space Agency for the International Space Station. (230 co-sponsors in the House, 98 Senators voted in favor)

**‘01 RENEWAL OF IRAN AND LIBYA SANCTIONS  
ACT** (Senate and House)

Co-sponsor of 2001 legislation authorizing the 5-year renewal of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act which mandates the imposition of US sanctions on companies that invest significantly in Iran or Libya’s petroleum sectors. (96 co-sponsors in Senate and 409 in House)

**‘04 IRAN RESOLUTION** (Senate and House)

Vote on resolution expressing the concern of Congress over Iran’s development of the means to produce nuclear weapons. The resolution condemns Iran’s continuing deceptions and falsehoods to the International Atomic Energy Agency and international community about its nuclear program. (70 co-sponsors in Senate and 251 in the House)

**‘06 IRAN FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT, H.R. 282**  
(House Only)

Cosponsors of the Iran Freedom Support Act are committed to hindering Iran’s ability to achieve an indigenous nuclear capability. The legislation codifies sanctions under the Iran Libya Sanctions Act (ILSA), would close the loophole whereby foreign subsidiaries of American companies can invest in Iran’s oil and gas sector, and would urge pension and mutual funds to divest holdings in Iran’s energy sector. The bill would also mandate the public listing of companies that invest upwards of \$20 million in Iran and would require portfolio managers to alert their shareholders to which companies are liable to sanctions. (360 co-sponsors; House Vote 397-21)

**OTHER:**

**‘98 PEACE PROCESS LETTER** (Senate and House)

Signature on the 1998 letters urging the President to continue America’s role in the peace process as a facilitator of direct negotiations by the parties themselves

without imposing an American plan. (82 Senators and 236 Representatives signed the letter)

**‘99 OPPOSITION TO UDI** (Senate and House)

Vote on congressional opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state. (Resolution passed 98-1 in the Senate and 380-24 in the House) (96 co-sponsors in the Senate and 262 in the House)

**‘01 PALESTINIAN REASSESSMENT LETTER**  
(Senate and House)

Signer of letter calling for the imposition of sanctions against the PLO and Palestinian Authority (PA) if the President determines that those entities have failed to substantially comply with their commitments under the Oslo Accords to renounce violence against Israel. (87 Senators and 189 Representatives signed the letter)

**‘01 BOND/SCHUMER LETTER** (Senate Only)

Signer of letter urging President to continue policy of not meeting with Chairman Arafat until he has taken the necessary steps to end the violence and terrorism in Israel. (89 Senators signed the letter)

**‘02 SOLIDARITY RESOLUTION** (Senate and House)

Vote on resolution expressing solidarity with Israel in her fight against terrorism (67 co-sponsors in Senate and 112 in the House)

**‘03 SYRIA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**  
(Senate and House)

Vote on the Syria Accountability Act which mandates a presidential report and imposition of sanctions on Syria if they continue to occupy Lebanon, support terrorism, illegally import Iraqi oil, and possess unconventional weapons. (82 co-sponsors in Senate and 296 in the House.)

**‘03 BOXER/MCCONNELL LETTER** (Senate Only)

Signer of the Boxer-McConnell letter which urges the President to adhere to his June 24, 2002 principles for future peace negotiations. The letter expresses support for efforts to resume peace negotiations based upon those principles and guidelines outlined in the roadmap for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. (88 Senators signed the letter)

**‘03 BLUNT/HOYER LETTER** (House Only)

Signer of the Blunt-Hoyer letter which urges the President to adhere to his June 24, 2002 principles for future peace negotiations. The letter expresses support for efforts to resume peace negotiations based upon those principles and guidelines outlined in the roadmap for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. (321 Representatives signed the letter)

**‘04 ICJ LETTER** (Senate Only)

Signer of the Hatch-Schumer-Smith-Clinton letter to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan urging him to reverse support for the International Court of Justice’s consideration of the legality of Israel’s security fence, and to encourage the court not to rule on the matter. The letter supports Israel’s right to self defense and to build

a security fence to protect its citizens from Palestinian terrorism. (79 Senators signed the letter)

**'04 ICJ RESOLUTION** (House Only)

Vote on resolution deploring the misuse of the International Court of Justice by a plurality of the United Nations General Assembly for a narrow political purpose, the willingness of the International Court of Justice to acquiesce in an effort likely to undermine its reputation and interfere with a resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. (164 co-sponsors)

**'04 PEACE PROCESS PRINCIPLES RESOLUTION**

(Senate and House)

Vote on resolutions making clear that the principles President Bush laid out in his April 14 letter to Prime Minister Sharon reflect fundamental U.S. policy on Middle East peace, laying the foundation for current and future American policy toward the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. (Senate vote 95-3; House vote 407-9)

**'05 BLUNT/HOYER RESOLUTION** (House Only)

Commending the Palestinian Authority on its recent elections and urging the Palestinian leadership to dismantle terrorist groups and undertake political reform. (Passed 415-1)

**'05 PRYCE-MENENDEZ AND MCCONNELL-DURBIN LETTER** (House and Senate, respectively)

Signer of the Pryce-Menendez or Durbin-McConnell letter urges President Bush to hold Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas accountable for dismantling terrorist groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad. The letter recognizes the historic opportunity presented by Israeli disengagement from 25 settlements, and recommends that Abbas be pressed for reciprocal peace efforts and democratic reforms inside the Palestinian Authority. (72 Senators signed the letter; 292 House Members signed the letter)

**'05 TALENT/NELSON LETTER** (Senate Only)

Signer of the Talent-Nelson letter which urges President Bush to press PA President Mahmoud Abbas on establishing electoral criteria that would bar terrorist groups such as Hamas from participating in the Palestinian legislative elections if they refused to disarm or recognize Israel's right to exist. The letter stresses the severe policy implications for U.S.-Palestinian relations should terrorist groups be brought into the governing structure of the PA.

(73 Senators signed the letter)

**'05 H. RES. 575** (House Only)

Vote on resolution urging PA President Mahmoud Abbas to establish electoral guidelines barring terrorist groups from participating in the Palestinian legislative elections unless they disarm and recognize Israel's right to exist. The resolution warns that the inclusion of Hamas or any other terrorist organization could undermine the ability of the United States to deal with the PA.

(164 Cosponsors; House Vote 397-17)

**'06 PATA, H.R. 4681** (Senate and House)

The Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act strengthened the ban on direct U.S. aid to the Palestinians—unless the President certifies that the Palestinian Authority is not controlled by a terrorist organization—while permitting humanitarian assistance through non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to continue. The bill maintains the President's flexibility to provide other project assistance through NGOs if he deems it is in the national security interests of the United States and gains Congressional approval. (Passed by Unanimous Consent in the Senate; House Vote 361-37) (88 co-sponsors in the Senate; 295 co-sponsors in the House)

**'06 SMITH/BILL NELSON LETTER** (Senate Only)

Signers of the Smith/Bill Nelson letter urge European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana to add Hizballah to the EU list of terror groups, which would make it illegal for Hizballah to raise funds among EU member-states. (88 Senators signed the letter)

**'06 SOLIDARITY RESOLUTION** (Senate and House)

Vote on House and Senate resolutions condemning Hizballah and Hamas—along with their state sponsors, Iran and Syria—and backing Israel's right to defend itself against their attacks. The resolutions, sponsored by bipartisan leaders in both chambers, also call for Hizballah to be disarmed and for the full weight of American financial, diplomatic and economic sanctions to be imposed on Syria and Iran. (Passed by Unanimous Consent in the Senate; House Vote 410-8)

# SENATE RACES 2008

## Potentially Vulnerable

### ARKANSAS



**Senator Mark Pryor (D)**

Elected 2002; 1st Term

Last Election: 54%

Key Committee(s): Armed Services,  
Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs

Five years ago then-State Attorney General Mark Pryor (D) defeated incumbent Senator Tim Hutchinson (R), 54 to 46 percent, to win a seat in Congress' upper chamber. Pryor was following in the footsteps of his father, David, who represented Arkansas in the U.S. Senate for 18 years before retiring in 1996. The younger Pryor's election was noteworthy in another respect as well; while Democrats were losing their senate majority, he was the only successful Democratic challenger of the 2002 election cycle. In that race, Pryor took social issues off the table by campaigning as a conservative churchgoing Democrat who would bring the concerns of Arkansans to Washington. In a hard fought race, Pryor's personality, political acumen and respected family name were enough to convincingly win him the seat.

In 2008 Mark Pryor seems relatively well positioned to win a second term. However, given their thin numbers in the U.S. Senate, a Democrat from the South can ill afford to take anything for granted. That being said, Arkansas is considered the most Democratic-leaning of the Southern states; in fact, Democrats currently hold the Governor's mansion—along with every other statewide elected office—both houses of the state legislature, and all but one House seat in the state's six-member congressional delegation. Arkansans, however, do not necessarily vote reflexively Democratic; in 2004 George Bush defeated John Kerry here by a 51 to 48 percent margin.

Thus far, no Republicans have stepped forward to challenge Pryor in 2008 and the list of serious potential Republican candidates is thin. Some national and state GOPers were hopeful that former Governor Mike Huckabee (R) would forgo a presidential bid and instead take a shot at Pryor, but his January 28th announcement on *Meet The Press* settled that question. Other names be-

ing mentioned include: 2006 Lieutenant Governor candidate Chuck Banks (R), businessman J. French Hill (R) and former State Senator and 2004 Senate nominee Jim Holt (R). Pryor's fundraising numbers to date may reflect the absence of a strong declared opponent; as of December 31st, he had raised just under one million dollars for the cycle and had \$471,000 cash on hand.

The way things look today, Senator Mark Pryor may not have a serious roadblock put in his path to a second term next year. However, with relatively few vulnerable Democrats to target and just one seat standing between them and a Senate majority, national Republicans could attempt to use a strong presidential showing to make a play in the Natural State. This race has not yet begun to take shape, and as such, Mark Pryor occupies a place in our "potentially vulnerable" column.

#### VOTING RECORD FOR SENATOR PRYOR

Foreign Aid	Voting History	Consistently votes FOR
Iran	'04 Iran Resolution	DNC
Other	'03 Syria Accountability Act	+C
	'03 Boxer/McConnell	+
	'04 ICJ Letter	+
	'04 Peace Process Principles Resolution	+
	'05 McConnell-Durbin Letter	+
	'05 Talent-Nelson Letter	+
	'06 PATA	C
	'06 Smith-Bill Nelson Letter	+

### MONTANA



**Senator Max Baucus (D)**

Elected 1978; 5th Term

Last Election: 63%

Key Committee(s): None

Once considered a safe bet for Republicans, recently Democrats have been on the ascendancy in Montana as of late. In 2004 Brian Schweitzer became the first Democrat to be elected governor of the state in 16 years. Then in 2006, Democrat Jon Tester defeated three-term Senator Conrad Burns (R) to become the state's junior U.S.