U.S. Senate

Sen. Jack Reed seeks a sixth term. Rated Solid Democratic by Cook Political Report (Oct 2026).



Raymond McKay

REPUBLICAN · CHALLENGER

Army veteran and former network and telecommunications manager for the city of Warwick; ran for U.S. Senate in 2024.



Jack Reed

DEMOCRAT · INCUMBENT

U.S. senator since 1997; ranking Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee; former Army officer.

Where the candidates stand on the issues Pope Leo XIV has raised, in their own words and votes. Bracketed numbers link to sources. We do not rate, score, or endorse candidates.

WAR & PEACE

POPE LEO XIV *Leo invited citizens of every country involved in the war with Iran to contact their leaders and members of Congress "to work for peace and to reject war and violence."* Remarks at Castel Gandolfo, Apr. 7, 2026 (Vatican News via The Good Newsroom)

RAYMOND MCKAY

No public position found.

JACK REED

Says Trump "launched this irresponsible war without any coherent strategy" in Iran and that "a diplomatic arrangement is the only real answer."

[1] Reed Senate office: Calls on Trump to end war in Iran (Apr. 2026)
[2] Reed Senate office: Votes to end war in Iran (Apr. 2026)

VOTING RECORD

Yes Iran war powers resolution (H.Con.Res. 86), June 2026
Yes Iran war powers resolution (H.Con.Res. 89), Sept. 2026
Yes Russia sanctions bill (H.R. 5334), Aug. 2026

AI & THE DIGNITY OF WORK

POPE LEO XIV *"No one can be reduced to productivity, to cognitive performance, or to mere data."* Magnifica Humanitas presentation, May 25, 2026

RAYMOND MCKAY

No public position found.

JACK REED

Holds a 100% AFL-CIO rating and sponsored 2021 legislation to strengthen union organizing; no public position on AI regulation found.

[1] OnTheIssues: Jack Reed

THE POOR & THE SAFETY NET

POPE LEO XIV *The preferential choice for the poor is "a source of extraordinary renewal both for the Church and for society."* Dilexi Te, Oct. 4, 2025

RAYMOND MCKAY

Pledges to secure Social Security and Medicare by cutting wasteful programs, stopping fraud and balancing the budget; no stated position on Medicaid or SNAP found.

[1] McKay campaign: Ray's Priorities

JACK REED

Opposed the 2025 reconciliation law, saying it "would take Medicaid from even more Americans who need it" while SNAP faced "massive cuts."

[1] Reed Senate office: Urges Senate to reject bill that cuts Medicaid (June 2025)

VOTING RECORD

No One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), July 2025 — tax cuts with Medicaid and SNAP changes

ELECTIONS & CIVIC LIFE

POPE LEO XIV *Authentic democracy, "far from being a mere procedure," "recognizes the dignity of every person and calls each citizen to participate responsibly in the pursuit of the common good."* Message to the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, Apr. 9, 2026

RAYMOND MCKAY

No public position found.

JACK REED

Says Trump incited the Jan. 6 riot and later pardoned rioters, and hopes the Supreme Court would block any third-term bid. Has sponsored bills for an Election Day holiday and expanded voter registration.

[1] Ocean State Media: Reed slams ICE conduct, eyes another term (Feb. 2026)
[2] OnTheIssues: Jack Reed

VOTING RECORD

No Objection to counting Arizona's 2020 electoral votes, Jan. 6, 2021 — a Yes vote supported the objection (failed, 6–93)

No Objection to counting Pennsylvania's 2020 electoral votes, Jan. 7, 2021 — a Yes vote supported the objection (failed, 7–92)

Yes For the People Act (S. 2093), June 2021 — vote to begin debate (failed, 50–50; 60 needed)

No SAVE America Act (S. 1383), Mar. 2026 — motion to take up the bill requiring proof of citizenship to register and photo ID to vote (passed, 51–48)

No Photo ID amendment to the SAVE America Act, Mar. 2026 — vote to end debate on requiring photo ID to vote (failed, 53–47; 60 needed)

LIFE OF THE UNBORN

POPE LEO XIV *Abortion "cuts short a growing life and refuses to welcome the gift of life."* Address to the Diplomatic Corps, Jan. 9, 2026

RAYMOND MCKAY

No public position found.

JACK REED

Has a long record supporting abortion rights, with a 100% NARAL rating and 0% from National Right to Life; supports federal funding for family planning and contraception.

[1] OnTheIssues: Jack Reed

VOTING RECORD

No Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (S. 6), Jan. 2025 — vote to advance the bill (failed, 52–47; 60 needed)

THE DEATH PENALTY

POPE LEO XIV *Someone who opposes abortion but favors the death penalty "is not really pro-life."* AP via PBS NewsHour, Sept. 30, 2025

RAYMOND MCKAY

No public position found.

JACK REED

Backed requiring DNA testing in federal death-penalty cases (2001); no recent public statement on capital punishment found.

[1] OnTheIssues: Jack Reed

IMMIGRANTS & REFUGEES

POPE LEO XIV *"Defending human life also includes welcoming, protecting and assisting immigrants."* Letter on the 250th Anniversary of the United States, June 25, 2026

RAYMOND MCKAY

"We must remember we are a sovereign nation and secure our borders and enforce our laws." Campaign backs "responsible immigration and enforcement policies" that prioritize Rhode Islanders.

[1] Ballotpedia: Raymond McKay
[2] McKay campaign: Ray's Priorities

JACK REED

Says ICE agents should not wear masks or hide identification and should use body cameras: "We have to get ICE to behave like a law enforcement organization."

[1] Ocean State Media: Reed slams ICE conduct, eyes another term (Feb. 2026)

VOTING RECORD

No Laken Riley Act (S. 5), Jan. 2025 — requires detention of undocumented immigrants charged with theft and certain crimes

No Secure America Act (S. 2), June 2026 — reconciliation funding for ICE and Customs and Border Protection

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY & EDUCATION

POPE LEO XIV *Religious freedom is "the right of every person to worship according to conscience."* Letter on the 250th Anniversary of the United States, June 25, 2026

RAYMOND MCKAY

Campaign supports "personal and parental freedoms" and he signed a Moms for Liberty parental-rights pledge; no stated position on school choice found.

[1] McKay campaign: Ray's Priorities
[2] OnTheIssues: 2026 Rhode Island Senate race

JACK REED

Sponsored 2021 legislation to bar religion-based immigration bans; listed by OnTheIssues as opposing school vouchers.

[1] OnTheIssues: Jack Reed

VOTING RECORD

No One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), July 2025 — created a federal tax credit for donations to K–12 scholarship organizations

CARE FOR CREATION

POPE LEO XIV *"We cannot love God, whom we cannot see, while despising his creatures."* AP, Oct. 1, 2025

RAYMOND MCKAY

Committed to "American energy independence" and the stability of the nuclear and fossil-fuel industries; wants energy sources that sustain themselves "without government subsidies."

[1] McKay campaign: Ray's Priorities
[2] Ballotpedia: Raymond McKay

JACK REED

Called the administration's halt of the nearly complete Revolution Wind offshore project "an excuse, not a reason"; has supported 50% clean electricity by 2030.

[1] Ocean State Media: Reed slams ICE conduct, eyes another term (Feb. 2026)
[2] OnTheIssues: Jack Reed

VOTING RECORD

No Resolution overturning EPA approval of California vehicle-emission rules (H.J.Res. 87), May 2025

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