



2018 Candidate Questionnaire - Senate

Candidate Name: Pat Harris

Campaign Address: 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd. #967, Studio City, CA, 91604

E-mail Address: pat@patharrisforsenate.com

Office for which you are running: US Senate

Date of Election: June 5th

Campaign Manager: Julia Posin

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Progressive Democrats of America (PDA) was founded in 2004 to transform the Democratic Party and our country. We seek to build a party and government controlled by citizens, not corporate elites - with policies that serve the broad public interest, not just private interests. As a grassroots PAC, PDA operates inside the Democratic Party, and outside in movements for peace and justice.

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The Congressional Progressive Caucus

Do you pledge, if elected to this office, to immediately join the Congressional Progressive Caucus?

Yes No If not, why not?

I'm running for U.S. Senate, yes I pledge to join the Senate Progressive Caucus.

Lobbyist

Do you pledge, if elected to this office, to NOT become a paid lobbyist for 5 years after you leave Congress?

Yes No If not, why not?

Yes, I pledge not to become a lobbyist for 5 years after leaving the senate.

PDA Issues

PDA focuses on fundamental issues of concern to voters. The questions are grouped, but all issues are equally important. Your answers to the questions below will be used to help determine whether to endorse you in the race for the nomination for this office.

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Notice to Candidate:

The questions below refer to legislation introduced by bill number in the 115th Congress. By checking YES as your answer, you pledge that, if elected, you will co-sponsor the reintroduced version of these bills in the 116th Congress.

Presidential Fitness

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the Senate identical to current House of Representative bills as shown below:

H.R. 1987 To establish the Oversight Commission on Presidential Capacity, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep. Jamie Raskin

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

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Healthcare:

60 million Americans have no reliable access to health care and millions more have inadequate or overly expensive coverage. Despite spending twice as much as other developed nations on health care, our system performs poorly. Private U.S. insurance gatekeepers soak up one-third of expenditures. Pharmaceutical interests overcharge Americans by avoiding price competition.

S. 1804 Medicare For All Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 2011 Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 41 Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Amy Klobuchar

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 771 Improving Access to Affordable Prescription Drugs
Sponsor: Sen. Al Franken

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Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 337 Family Act
Sponsor: Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

War and Peace

Terrorism should be treated as a crime, not as a pretext for war and global military expansion. Nuclear weapons are too dangerous to serve the strategic interests of any country and must be abolished. Initiatives to promote peace, disarmament, and the rule of international law will allow the US military budget to return to the 1998 peacetime level. We must bring our troops home to their families and redirect wasteful military spending to reinvest in America.

S. 532 Stop Arming Terrorists Act
Sponsor: Sen. Rand Paul

Yes **No** **Comment? (50 word limit)**

Yes.

S. 2016 To prevent an unconstitutional strike against North Korea
Sponsor: Sen. Ed Markey

Yes **No** **Comment? (50 word limit)**

Yes.

S. 200 To prohibit the conduct of a first-use nuclear strike absent a declaration of war by Congress
Sponsor: Sen. Ed Markey

Yes **No** **Comment? (50 word limit)**

Yes.

S. 2047 Preventing Preemptive War in North Korea Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Patrick Murphy

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Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 1723 Strengthening Veterans Health Care Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the Senate identical to the current House of Representative bills as shown below:

H.R. 1229 Repeal of the Authorization for Use of Military Force
Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the Senate identical to the current House of Representative bill as shown below:

H.R. 1111 Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 1723 Strengthening Veterans Health Care Act of 2017
Sponsor: **Sen. Bernie Sanders**

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

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Yes.

Global Warming/The Environment

Environmental degradation and global warming threaten human civilization. Science conclusively demonstrates that global warming results from human activity. Greed and corporate power dominate US policy imposing a

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nearsighted focus on short term profits instead of serving the welfare of future generations of Americans.

S. 987 100 By '50 Act
Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Merkley

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

Do you support, and would you pledge, to author and introduce, legislation in the Senate identical to the current House of Representative bill as shown below:

H.R. 3671 Off Fossil Fuels for a Better Future Act (OFF Act)
Sponsor: Rep. Tulsi Gabbard

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

H.R. 2014 Tax Pollution Not Profits Act
Sponsor: Rep. John Delaney

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

H.R. 3314 100 by '50 Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jared Polis

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

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Yes.

H.R. 2242 Keep it in the Ground Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jared Huffman

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

Election Integrity:

Big-money domination threatens our election system. Incumbents are unfairly insulated by district gerrymandering. Voters face political and racial obstacles to voting and getting their votes counted. Digital voting systems and internet voting are vulnerable to error and manipulation and defy verification. Only an auditable paper ballot can protect our right to vote.

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S. 1588 Democracy Restoration Act
Sponsor: Sen. Ben Cardin

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce, legislation in the Senate identical to the current House of Representative bill as shown below:

H.R. 12 Voter Empowerment Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. John Lewis

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

HR 2840 Automatic Voter Registration Act
Sponsor: Rep. David Cicilline

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

HJ Res. 74 Constitutional Right to Vote
Sponsor: Rep. Mark Pocan

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

HR 1044 Same Day Registration Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

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Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

HR 607 The Voter Access Protection Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes.

Economic and Social Justice:

The enormous wealth disparity between the top 1% and the rest of America is an unsustainable economic and social injustice. Will you work for an economic recovery that employs all those willing and able, that houses all those needing shelter, and that imposes the cost based on the ability to pay.

S. 805 Inclusive Prosperity Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 427 Social Security Expansion Act
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

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Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 2159 ME TOO Congress Act
Sponsor: Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. We need to believe women.

S. 2019 Fair Employment Protection Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Tammy Baldwin

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 1076 Keep Our Pension Promises Act
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 1590 Employ Young Americans Act
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

S. 2095 Assault Weapons Ban of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Dianne Feinstein

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Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes, but we must additionally go further. We need to stop the NRA's ability to give corporate money to politicians and cut them off at the knees.

S. 2165 The Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Equitable Rebuild Act
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes.

EMERGENCY AID FOR NATURAL DISASTERS

The climate change-intensified natural disasters of 2017 have laid bare the federal government's current response as both politicized and racist. How would you identify and legislatively fix underlying structural flaws in federal disaster relief and preparedness funding to ensure more timely, equitable, a effective federal responses to future events? (No more than 250 words)

The impact of man-made emissions on our environment is the single greatest threat facing humanity today. I absolutely support the move to renewable sources of energy, such as solar and wind. Renewable energy is not only safer, but it is getting cheaper and cheaper. Emerging renewable technologies provide job opportunities for displaced workers, making a shift to clean energy good for our economy. We must also secure a clean environment for the world and its children, and ensure that access to clean air and water is a human right. That means regulating the pollutants we allow companies to pump into our soil, water, and air. First step: we must ban fracking.

Corporate Rule

Big corporations and banks dominant our political process, spending billions to lobby for programs against the public interest, and to privatize public services for profit. This erodes the middle class, destroys vital services, increases poverty, and undermines our nation. Congress must work to return our government to the people, improve services, stand up to corporate lobbyists, and stop the privatization of public services. We need a constitutional amendment to establish that corporations are not people and that money does not equal speech.

S.J. Res 8 A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

Sponsor: Sen. Tom Udall

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. The single greatest threat to our democracy is the billions of dollars pouring into our political system as a result of Citizens United. I will not accept any money from Big Oil, Big Pharma or any corporate entity – only individual donations. As your Senator, I pledge that I will not spend one minute in office raising funds or planning for re-election. My votes will be in the interest of the people and not special interest groups. I don't take money from corporations – I take them to court, and I win. I've beaten health insurance companies already, and I plan to do it again by passing Medicare For All. I've beaten Wells Fargo, Pfizer, Bank of America, and the Catholic Church during the abuse of children scandal.

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Mass Criminalization

The United States houses 25% of the world's inmates despite having only 5% of the world's population. The prison industrial complex has a vested interest in keeping people locked up. The growth of private, for-profit prisons has placed incarceration beyond public view. The administration of justice system is prejudiced against the poor and minorities.

S. 411 End Racial and Religious Profiling Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Ben Cardin

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. I have defended hundreds of black and latino people, I've seen first hand the biases in the criminal justice system.

S. 1127 Justice Safety Valve Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Rand Paul

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. I have defended hundreds of black and latino people, I've seen first hand the biases in the criminal justice

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce, legislation in the Senate identical to the current House of Representative bill as shown below:

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H.R. 65 Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support and Education of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. Additionally, we need bail reform. America’s bail system is disastrous and immoral. If you’re accused of a crime, your bail amount shouldn’t be based on your ability to pay – which is our system right now. Instead, it must be based on whether you’re a danger to our community, or a risk of fleeing. Currently, America’s bail system forces people with very little money to stay in jail, sometimes for months or more at a time. Until these Americans go to trial and plea – often to crimes they didn’t commit – they can’t leave jail. If you aren’t a threat to our community, nor a risk of fleeing, it’s ridiculous to make you sit in jail for months waiting to see a judge, meanwhile risking losing your job, your home, or your family simply because you can’t afford to pay bail. We need bail reform now. Ending Private Prisons For Profit It’s time for America to eliminate private prisons for profit, once and for all. Private prisons make money from prisoners, and treat them inhumanely. They cut corners everywhere from safety, to food – even foregoing blankets – just to increase their profits. The Obama administration already eliminated private prisons, but the Trump administration brought them back. America needs to end private prisons for profit, once and for all.

Equality Issues

The belief in equality is a part of the founding documents of our nation and an important part of our national identity. Equality still has not been achieved by most groups in this country. We hope and expect that our endorsed Candidates will sponsor, co-sponsor, and/or support legislation that furthers the reach of equality to any and all groups seeking equal status.

S.J. Res 5 Removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Ben Cardin

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. We must fight to prohibit discrimination on account of sex.

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S. 819 Paycheck Fairness Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Patti Murray

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. The American economy functions at its highest level when everyone is given an opportunity to succeed. For the last several decades, we have seen the effects of “trickle-down” economics, which has only served to make the very wealthy even wealthier and has excluded the majority of Americans. While CEO salaries soar to the hundreds of millions, the men and women who manufacture the products have seen their wages stagnate. A worker who puts in long hours and is loyal to his/her company should be allowed to reap the rewards for their hard work.

Education

Education in the USA is unaffordable for the majority of Americans. The securitization of student debt has placed our students at the mercy of corporate predators. Minorities are denied equal access to education. We work to make our education system accessible and affordable to all.

If elected to this office, do you pledge to cosponsor the following legislation as an original cosponsor, or within 2 weeks of its introduction?

S. 806 College for All Act
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes, I do. I think we can take it even further with a higher tax rate on Wall St. Speculation, but I absolutely support this bill.

Immigration

We strongly support Comprehensive Immigration Reform that promotes fairness, equality, labor rights, family unification, integration, a program for legal residency and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

S. 1615 DREAM Act of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Lindsay Graham

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes. Immigrants come to the U.S. today for the same reasons they have for the last five hundred years –

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to leave behind a difficult situation and to build a better life for their families. They are people who make this country better every single day! We must provide a path to citizenship for those who want to come here and work to make America an even better place. We need to stop tearing families apart by deporting family members for trumped up reasons. No human being is illegal.

S. 349 A bill to clarify the rights of all persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any detention facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Sponsor: **Sen. Kamala Harris**

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes, I support this as a civil rights attorney and candidate.

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the Senate identical to current House of Representative bills as shown below:

H.R. 1036 American Families United Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Beto O'Rourke

Yes **No** **Comment?** (50 word limit)

Yes, I do. Immigrants come to the U.S. today for the same reasons they have for the last five hundred years – to leave behind a difficult situation and to build a better life for their families. They are people who make this country better every single day! We must provide a path to citizenship for those who want to come here and work to make America an even better place. We need to stop tearing families apart by deporting family members for trumped up reasons. No human being is illegal.

General

Please provide us with information in the sections provided below, some information about your campaign:

- Your campaign plan with some *detail*

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- Your capacity to raise the necessary capital to fund the campaign,

My campaign has successfully generated hundreds of thousands of dollars in individual contributions, we accept no corporate money whatsoever. Our average donation is \$90. The campaign's major media push underway now includes advertising statewide on television, radio, and digital media, which will further scale our fundraising efforts.

- grassroots support

I enjoy significant grassroots support from urban and rural communities across the state, who have funded the majority of the my campaign at \$90 average contributions, generating hundreds of thousands of dollars.

- your campaign staff in place

We have a full time campaign staff of 7 people in two offices across California (Studio City and Fresno), as well a large team of dozens of volunteers ranging from high schoolers to senior citizens.



Signature of Candidate

4/3/2018

Date

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.
We believe that an informed electorate is
the greatest assurance of a strong democracy.**