

New Senate Members

California



Kamala Harris the daughter of an Indian mother and a Jamaican American father, earned her Bachelor's degree from Howard University and her J.D. from the University of California's Hastings College of Law. Harris served as the Deputy District Attorney for Alameda County before becoming the Managing Attorney of the Career Criminal Unit in the San Francisco District Attorney's Office. Harris also served as the Chief of the Community and Neighborhood Division of the San Francisco City Attorney's Office. She was elected District Attorney of the City and County of San Francisco in 2003, serving in that role until she was elected the 32nd Attorney General of California in 2010. She was reelected Attorney General in 2014. Harris is the Vice President of the National District Attorneys Association. Kamala Harris is married to Douglas Emhoff, who serves as the partner-in-charge of Venable LLP's Los Angeles office.

Illinois



Tammy Duckworth

Tammy Duckworth was born in Bangkok, Thailand. Due to her father's job with the United Nations and international corporations, the family lived throughout Southeast Asia, leading to Duckworth becoming fluent in Thai and Indonesian. She earned her Bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Hawaii and a Master's degree in international affairs from George Washington University; she later completed her Ph.D. in human services from Capella University. She joined the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps while in graduate school, and was commissioned in the United States Army Reserve as a helicopter pilot. She was deployed to Iraq in 2004 and lost both legs after her helicopter was downed by enemy fire. She received a Purple Heart for her service and was promoted to Major. Duckworth was appointed Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, and later confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Duckworth was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2012. Tammy Duckworth and her husband Bryan, a Major in the U.S. Army, have one daughter.. Additionally, Gallagher served as a staffer on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee focusing on the Middle East, North Africa and Counterterrorism. Gallagher currently works as the senior global market strategist for Breakthrough Fuel.

Indiana



Todd Young

Todd Young earned his Bachelor's degree in political science from the United States Naval Academy, where he was a member of the men's soccer team. Upon graduation, he accepted a commission in the U.S. Marine Corps and served as an intelligence officer specializing in counter-narcotics and anti-terrorism. While in the Marine Corps, Young also completed his Master's degree in business administration from the University of Chicago. He was honorably discharged in 2010 at the rank of Captain and subsequently earned a Master's degree in American politics from the University of London and a J.D. from Indiana University. Young worked briefly at The Heritage Foundation before joining the staff of U.S. Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN). Additionally, he taught as an adjunct professor of public policy at Indiana University and as a management consultant for Crowe Chizek and Company. Young was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2010 and currently serves on the Ways and Means Committee. Todd Young and his wife Jenny live in Bloomington with their four children.

Maryland



Chris Van Hollen, Jr.

Chris Van Hollen, Jr. was born in Karachi, Pakistan. His father was a foreign service officer and served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs; his mother worked for the Central Intelligence Agency. Van Hollen earned his Bachelor's degree in philosophy from Swarthmore College and a Master of Public Policy, concentrating in security studies, from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He worked as a legislative assistant for U.S. Senator Charles Mathias (R-MD) and as a staff member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations before earning his J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center. Van Hollen was first elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1990 and was elected to the Maryland State Senate, in 1995. Van Hollen is serving his 7th term in the U.S. House of Representatives from Maryland's 8th District. While in the House, he served as Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and is currently the Ranking Member of the House Budget Committee. Chris Van Hollen and his wife Katherine have three children.

Nevada



Catherine Cortez Masto

Catherine Cortez Masto Catherine Cortez Masto earned a Bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nevada, Reno and her J.D. from Gonzaga University School of Law. Cortez Masto served as the chief of staff to then-Nevada Governor Bob Miller and an Assistant United States Attorney. She also worked as the Clark County Assistant Manager and was a criminal prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Washington, D.C. Cortez Masto was elected the 32nd Attorney General of Nevada in 2007 and served two terms. Upon leaving office due to terms limits, Cortez Masto was named the executive vice chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education. Catherine Cortez Masto lives with her husband Phil, a former Special Agent in the U.S. Secret Service, in Las Vegas.

New Hampshire



Maggie Hassan

Maggie Hassan earned her Bachelor's degree in history from Brown University and her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law. Before entering public service Hassan worked as an attorney in private practice, including at the Boston law firm of PalmerDodge Advisors and as Associate General Counsel for Brigham and Women's Hospital/Partners Healthcare of Boston. She was appointed to the Advisory Committee to the Adequacy in Education and Finance Commission by then-New Hampshire Governor Jeanne Shaheen (D). Hassan was elected to the New Hampshire State Senate in 2004 and served as Majority Leader from 2008 until 2010. She was also Chairwoman of the Public and Municipal Affairs Committee and Vice Chairwoman of the Energy, Environment and Economic Development Committee. Hassan was elected Governor of New Hampshire in 2012. Maggie and her husband Thomas have two children and reside in Newfields.