

350 Action 2019 Candidate Questionnaire

Ed Markey

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About You

Your Name: Ed Markey (Senate-MA)

What office are you running for, and as which party?: *United States Senate, D-MA*

Policy Positions

Do you support a Green New Deal that ends fossil fuels and provides an immediate and just transition to 100% renewable energy? Explain what that means to you.

I authored the Green New Deal resolution along with my colleague Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. It is time for the sun to set on the dirty energy of the past. The fight for a Green New Deal marks the dawn of a new era of climate action. A Green New Deal is about jobs, and it is about justice. It would be the greatest blue-collar jobs program in a generation and repair the historic oppression of frontline and vulnerable communities that have borne the worst burdens of our fossil fuel economy, all while combatting the existential threat of the climate crisis. Our Green New Deal resolution calls for a historic ten-year mobilization that will mitigate climate emissions and build climate resiliency. Never before have the interests of all Americans been so united in a single issue: climate change. We need to lift up all workers and all communities to confront this crisis. We have met great challenges before, and to meet the challenge of climate change – the great challenge of our time – we will need to transform our economy, society and democracy through the bold, ambitious action that is called for in the Green New Deal. The Green New Deal isn't just a resolution, it is a revolution.

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How will you center racial, economic and social justice in your climate policies?

The Green New Deal, which I co-authored, is about jobs and it is about justice. We have to protect and lift up our vulnerable, frontline communities, which have borne the brunt of our fossil fuel addiction and will be most harmed by climate impacts. That is why the Green New Deal calls for meeting the climate crisis through transparent and inclusive consultation and partnership with frontline and vulnerable communities as we embark on a historic 10-year mobilization. We can meet this crisis by repairing the historic injustices against indigenous peoples, communities of color, migrant communities, de-industrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth.

Do you support a moratorium on all new fossil fuel infrastructure, including pipelines, fracked gas and oil, compressor stations and coal power plants? Please tell us with specifics what you'd do, if elected to stop the expansion of the fossil fuel industry and keep fossil fuels in the ground?

We have to immediately end our fossil fuel addiction and enact a Green New Deal. I co-authored the Green New Deal in order to outline the bold, transformative action that we need to take to combat the climate crisis. I have introduced legislation that would block drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off our coastlines, prevent the Trump Administration from rolling back fuel economy emissions standards that reduce the need to consume millions of barrels of oil a day, promote the development of offshore wind – the next frontier of clean energy, that would ban the export of American oil and gas that is fueling global fossil fuel addiction and fossil fuel infrastructure used for export. I will continue to fight, as I have done for my entire career, for legislation that will end our addiction to fossil fuels, combat the climate crisis, unleash the clean energy revolution and enact a Green New Deal.

Do you support an investigation of the fossil fuel industry's role in causing climate change, blocking climate action, and misleading the public? If so, do you have plans for a process to hold the industry financially accountable for that role and related harms?

Yes. I have spoken on the Senate Floor repeatedly about the fossil fuel industry's web of deceit and denial when it comes to climate change.

Do you pledge to reject any contributions from the fossil fuel industry, as defined by the "No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge"?

Yes

Do you support plans to create an immigration policy that allows a path to citizenship for undocumented people?

Yes

What are your specific plans on addressing the refugees and other migrants at the US borders?

I have visited the southern border three times - once in 2017, once in 2018, and once in 2019 -- to see conditions at ICE and Homeland Security facilities first-hand.

This year, I introduced the Guaranteed Refugee Admissions Ceiling Enhancement (GRACE) Act, legislation that would prevent a U.S. President from setting a Presidential Determination on Refugee Admissions at a level below 95,000 in a given fiscal year. This bill also ensures that each officer responsible for refugee admissions or resettlement treats the Presidential Determination as a goal, and mandates quarterly reports to Congress with specific oversight requirements.

I sent a letter to Donald Trump demanding answers on why he cut food aid funding to Central America. His own administration has found that in Guatemala, for example, it is crop shortages and food insecurity linked to climate change – not just violence – that is fueling new migration to the U.S. southern border.

I joined a group of 34 Democratic senators in calling on President Donald Trump to stop his plan to cut foreign assistance to Northern Triangle countries. I argued that 1) Congress already appropriated these

funds to advance United States' foreign policy priorities related to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, and that 2) these funds were necessary to address the root causes of the migration crisis.

I am a cosponsor of Senator Van Hollen's SECURE Act, which would create a pathway to citizenship for all TPS recipients who were qualified at the beginning of President Trump's term.

Over the course of the last Congress, I sent multiple letters to the Trump administration urging it to maintain TPS for all currently designated countries.

In October 2017, I led the entire Massachusetts delegation in a letter to then-Secretaries Tillerson and Duke calling for the extension of TPS for Haitian nationals residing in the United States. After reviewing DHS documents, I discovered that the subsequent termination of TPS for Haiti may have been unjustified and politically motivated. I then led colleagues in sending a second letter demanding a written, detailed factual basis for the determination that Haiti no longer meets the conditions for TPS designation and that DHS immediately reconsider of the termination.

I have joined colleagues in sending a letter to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) calling for it to review CBP's care and custody of migrants. GAO confirmed last month that it has formed a multidisciplinary team to conduct this review.

I also joined colleagues in sending a letter to the Department of Homeland Security requesting an immediate investigation into Customs and Border Protection detention facilities and conditions for migrants. Homeland Security confirmed two weeks ago that it will be conducting this investigation.

I am a co-sponsor of the Alternatives to Detention Act, which prohibits detention of vulnerable populations, including children, requiring instead that these individuals be placed in an alternative program.

I am a co-sponsor of the Protecting Families and Improving Immigration Procedures Act, which prevents the Trump administration from overturning the Flores Settlement Agreement - an agreement that sets national standards regarding the detention, release, and treatment of all children in immigration detention.

I am a co-sponsor of the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act, which would establish more humane standards for detention facilities and increase oversight of these facilities to ensure compliance.

I voted against both the House and Senate versions of the border funding packages.

I called on the Department of Justice to stop the practice of bringing charges against humanitarian aid workers at the border. In 2017, then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued a memorandum to federal prosecutors, urging them to prioritize for prosecution any cases involving transportation or harboring of aliens. DOJ prosecutors are increasingly using this guidance to bring criminal charges against aid workers at the border for activities related to their humanitarian work.

How do you see climate change impacting mass migrations and what are your plans to address the increase in refugees as a result of the climate crisis?

According to the United Nations, by 2050, there may be as many as 200 million climate-displaced persons worldwide. As populations continue to experience climate-induced disruptions, including weather-related disasters, drought, famine, and rising sea levels, I introduced legislation (S.2565) to create both a global climate resilience strategy and a new humanitarian program for those who have been displaced by environmental disasters or climate change. Climate-displaced persons often lack any formal protection under domestic or international law. Many individuals do not meet the definition of a refugee under U.S. law, and as such, they cannot access resettlement opportunities in the United States. The humanitarian program for climate-displaced persons will function separate from the U.S. refugee admissions program but will afford the same benefits.

I also demanded answers from President Donald Trump about why his administration has cut food-related aid to Central America, noting findings from Customs and Border Protection that crop shortages and food insecurity linked to climate change are driving migration from the region. And I sent a letter to

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo expressing concern that the Trump administration pressured the United Nations' International Organization for Migration (IOM) to remove references to climate change from IOM documents or risk losing funding from the United States.

What are your plans for criminal justice reform?

Last year, I voted for the First Step Act, which would ease mandatory minimum sentences and make retroactive the reforms enacted by the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010, improve conditions for prisoners, promote rehabilitation and prevent recidivism. However, this is the bare minimum of what we need to do to fully reform our criminal justice system. We need to be going much farther.

We need true sentencing reform and to reduce mandatory minimums. We need to invest in programs that facilitate rehabilitation and support reentry into society. We need to require training for law enforcement on fair and impartial policing and have independent investigations and, if warranted, prosecution whenever law enforcement uses excessive force. We need to ensure access to mental health and substance abuse treatment. We need to address the issue of over-criminalization and recognize that our policies have historically disadvantaged and harmed communities of color.

Do you support a worker's right to unionize?

Yes

Do you support a \$15/hour minimum wage?

Yes

How do you plan to address the resurgence of white supremacy in the public discourse? Please tell us your plan to respond to white nationalist terrorist acts in this country?

White supremacy and racism are manifesting themselves at the highest levels of our government. I have spoken out against Donald Trump's hatemongering and perpetuation of racism in our public discourse. I have fought against the Trump Administration's inhumane family separation policy and its deportation army. I will not allow our leaders to engage in rhetoric or actions that incite hate or embolden extremist

views with impunity. No matter how many times this happens we cannot allow this kind of disgusting rhetoric to be normalized and I will not remain silent.

I am an original cosponsor of Sen. Durbin's Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act of 2019, which would require federal law enforcement agencies to assess the threat of white supremacists and other violent extremists and take concrete steps to prevent domestic terrorism by improving the federal government's prioritization, coordination, information sharing, and transparency. I am a cosponsor of the Disarm Hate Act, which would keep guns away from dangerous extremists. I am a cosponsor of the NO HATE Act, which would help combat the recent surge in hate crimes.

What is your plan to reduce gun violence and mass shootings?

Protecting the safety and security of Massachusetts' schools, streets and communities is of the utmost importance to me. I support common-sense gun control reforms, including universal background checks for all firearms sales, re-instituting the ban on assault weapons, making gun trafficking a federal crime, prohibiting high capacity ammunition magazines, closing both the "Charleston loophole" and the "boyfriend loophole," and repealing the law that gives gun manufacturers immunity from lawsuit. In 1994 in the House of Representatives, I was successful in a bipartisan effort to get President Bill Clinton to place an emergency moratorium on the importation of military-style assault weapons from China, including the AK-47 and Uzi. At the time, it was estimated that between 425,000 and two million modified rifles had been imported into the United States since 1991, selling for less than \$130 per gun. More recently, I have introduced the MASS Act, to incentive states to adopt gun licensing standards similar to those in Massachusetts, which has one of the lowest gun death rates in the country. I have introduced the Keeping Gun Dealers Honest Act, which would strengthen accountability measures for gun dealers and equip ATF with the tools to enforce existing law. I have introduced the Gun Violence Prevention Research Act, which authorizes \$50 million in funding a year to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for gun violence prevention research. I have introduced the 3D Printed Gun Safety Act, which would prohibit the distribution of "automatic" instructions – digital code – that can be downloaded and programmed into a 3-D printer to produce a firearm.

Do you support the payment of reparations and/or related structural adjustment to remunerate the descendants of enslaved African Americans to addressing America's history of codified and systemic racism?

I am a co-sponsor of Senator Cory Booker's "Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act" (S.1083), the only reparations bill ever to be introduced in the post-Reconstruction U.S. Senate.

Slavery and a long history of systemically racist policies have physically and economically enslaved generations of African Americans. It is impossible for us to craft an American future that is fair and just without openly acknowledging and confronting its inequalities. This legislation is just the start of a long-overdue national conversation that I am proud to support.

Do you support the return of unceded lands and territory or related royalties to Indigenous Populations as a form of redress for America's history of codified and systemic racism?

After centuries of oppression and discrimination, we owe it to our Native and Indigenous communities to honor tribal treaty rights and sovereignty. For too long, the federal government's relationship with Indigenous and Native communities has been based on paternalism, exploitation, and control. I support

a relationship based on respect, deference, dignity, and support - for their lands, culture, history, and future.

Do you support Medicare for All?

Yes

Do you support a woman's right to choose?

Yes

Race:

White

Gender:

Male