Senator

Cory Booker

Political Experience: Council Member, City of Newark, N.J., 1998-2002; Mayor, Newark, N.J., 2006-2013; U.S. Senator, 2013-present

Education: Stanford University, B.A. in Political Science, M.A. in Sociology; Oxford University, honors degree in U.S. History; Yale Law School, J.D.

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Workers' Voice & Labor

Increasing Minimum Wage: Supports raising the minimum wage to $15 per hour to protect low-wage workers.

Strengthening Unions & Workers: Will empower unions and make it easier for workers to join unions. Also proposes passing a law to hold businesses and employers responsible for pay discrimination.

Labor Law Reform: Proposes universal paid family and medical leave benefits.

Education

Public Education: Proposes raising teacher pay and expanding the Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Education.

Early Education: Proposes universal early childhood education.

College Affordability: [Proposes](#) a path to debt-free college, investing in and strengthening historically black colleges and universities, making community college tuition-free, simplifying the federal financial aid application process, and expanding apprenticeship programs.

Freedom to Teach & Student Testing: [Supports](#) providing financial assistance for teacher certification and licensing.

Teachers Strikes: [Stated](#) he "stand[s] with our teachers—our country must increase investment in our schools and educators," in response to the Los Angeles teachers strike.

Vouchers & Privatization: [Supported](#) and [expanded](#) charter schools, co-founded a voucher program, [extended the](#) D.C. voucher program, and co-founded a group that backed charters and vouchers.

Healthcare & Workplace Safety

"Medicare for All": [Supports](#) a single-payer healthcare system with the goal to ensure that Americans can get the care they need, when they need it, without going into debt.

Public Option: [Supports](#) a public option as the first step to allow Medicare to be available for more people.

Prescription Drug Costs: [Proposes](#) lowering prescription drug costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower prices and import drugs from Canada and other countries. Additionally, he proposes taking patents away from drug companies that sell the same medication for less in other countries.

Opioid Crisis: [Supports](#) treating addiction like a disease, providing resources for communities to heal and repair, and holding pharmaceutical companies accountable.

Gun Violence Reform: [Proposes](#) taking on the National Rifle Association, requiring universal background checks, banning assault weapons, closing loopholes, limiting gun buyers to one gun per month, and increasing funding for community-based violence intervention programs and gun violence research.

Jobs & the Economy

Trump's Tax Cuts for the Wealthy: [Proposes](#) a massive expansion of the earned income tax credit, passing a law to require that corporations share profits not just with shareholders but with workers, and enacting "baby bonds" to close the wealth gap.

Rural America: [Supports](#) investing in rural infrastructure, affordable housing and broadband.

Social Security: [Supports](#) protecting and expanding Social Security.

Infrastructure: [Proposes](#) safeguarding the right to safe drinking water and prohibiting construction of new fossil fuel infrastructure when cost-competitive clean energy alternatives are available.

Democracy

Voting Rights: [Proposes](#) enacting legislation to make Election Day a national holiday, ending gerrymandering and voter suppression, ensuring universal automatic voter registration, and restoring voting rights for formerly incarcerated people.

*Citizens United***:** [Proposes](#) ending big money's role in politics.

Immigration & DACA: [Supports](#) a path to citizenship for immigrants, opposes family separation, proposes creating a dignified asylum process, and supports expanding protections for Dreamers.

Civil Rights: [Supports](#) passing the Equality Act and bills to prohibit discrimination against LGBTQ people, removing barriers to employment for people with criminal convictions, ending mandatory sentencing minimums, and providing better training for law enforcement officers on implicit racial bias, de-escalation and use of force.