



James Merrill Jeffords

Party: Independent • **Chamber:** Senate

State: VT

Service: 1975–2007

Most recent Congress: 109

Biography

A Representative and a Senator from Vermont. Born in Rutland, Rutland County, Vt. , May 11, 1934. Attended public schools. B. S. , Yale University 1956. LL. B. , Harvard University 1962. Admitted to the Vermont bar in 1962 and commenced practice in Rutland. Served in the United States Navy 1956-1959 and later in the Naval Reserve, retiring as captain. Served in Vermont senate 1967-1968. Vermont Attorney General 1969-1973. Delegate to Vermont State Republican conventions 1964, 1968, 1972. Elected as a Republican to the Ninety-fourth and to the six succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1975-January 3, 1989). Elected to the United States Senate in 1988. Reelected in 1994 and 2000, and served from January 3, 1989, to January 3, 2007. Switched to Independent party status effective June 6, 2001. Chair, Committee on Labor and Human Resources (One Hundred Fifth Congress), Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (One Hundred Sixth Congress, One Hundred Seventh Congress [January 3, 2001. January 20, 2001-June 6, 2001]), Committee on Environment and Public Works (One Hundred Seventh Congress [June 6, 2001-January 3, 2003]). Not a candidate for reelection in 2006. Died on August 18, 2014. Interment in Northam Cemetery, Shrewsbury, Vt.

Legislative Activity (1975–2007)

Bills sponsored: 84

Bills cosponsored: 832

Most Recent Sponsored Bills

Bill	Title	Status / Last Action
109 S 2054	A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the State of Vermont.	Held at the desk. Updated Dec 8, 2006
109 S 3591	High-Performance Green Buildings Act of 2006	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 660. Updated Nov 13, 2006
109 S 3698	Global Warming Pollution Reduction Act	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (text of measure as introd Updated Jul 20, 2006
109 S 3689	National Historic Country Store Preservation and Revitalization Act of 2006	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (text of measure as introd Updated Jul 19, 2006
109 S 3654	RISE Act	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7515-7516) Updated Jul 13, 2006

Most Recent Cosponsored Bills

Bill	Title	Status / Last Action
109 S 707	PREEMIE Act	Became Public Law No: 109-450. Updated Dec 22, 2006
109 S 2653	Call Home Act of 2006	Became Public Law No: 109-459. Updated Dec 22, 2006
109 S 843	Combating Autism Act of 2006	Became Public Law No: 109-416. Updated Dec 19, 2006
109 S 2250	Congressional Tribute to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Act of 2006	Became Public Law No: 109-395. Updated Dec 14, 2006
109 S 1120	Hunger-Free Communities Act of 2006	Message on Senate action sent to the House. Updated Dec 8, 2006