



John Forbes Kerry

Party: Democratic • **Chamber:** Senate

State: MA

Service: 1985–2013

Most recent Congress: 113

Biography

A Senator from Massachusetts. Born in Fitzsimons Army Hospital (Colorado), December 11, 1943. Graduated, St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H. , 1962. Graduated, Yale University 1966. Served in the United States Navy 1966-1970, with service in Vietnam. Received numerous awards, including the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart. Graduated, Boston College Law School 1976. Admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1976 and commenced practice in 1976. Assistant district attorney of Middlesex County, Mass. 1977-1982. Lieutenant governor of Massachusetts 1982-1984. Elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate in 1984. Subsequently appointed to the remainder of the term left vacant by the resignation of Paul Tsongas, and took the oath of office on January 2, 1985. Reelected in 1990, 1996, 2002, and again in 2008, and served from January 2, 1985, until his resignation on February 1, 2013, to accept a Cabinet position. Chair, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (One Hundredth Congress), Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship (One Hundred Seventh Congress [January 3-20, 2001. June 6, 2001-January 3, 2003], One Hundred Tenth Congress), Committee on Foreign Relations (One Hundred Eleventh to One Hundred Thirteenth [January 3, 2013-February 1, 2013] Congresses). Was an unsuccessful Democratic nominee for President of the United States in 2004. Secretary of State in the Cabinet of President Barack Obama, 2013-2017. Appointed by President Joseph R. Biden to serve as Special Presidential Envoy for Climate (2021-2024). Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on May 3, 2024.

Legislative Activity (1985–2013)

Bills sponsored: 537

Bills cosponsored: 2472

Most Recent Sponsored Bills

Bill	Title	Status / Last Action
113 S 48	A bill for the relief of Genesisio Januario Oliveira.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Updated Jan 22, 2013
112 S 2318	Department of State Rewards Program Update and Technical Corrections Act of 2012	Became Public Law No: 112-283. Updated Jan 15, 2013
112 S 3331	Intercountry Adoption Universal Accreditation Act of 2012	Became Public Law No: 112-276. Updated Jan 14, 2013
112 S 3702	SERV Act	Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Updated Dec 20, 2012
112 S 3691	STRONG Act	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Updated Dec 19, 2012

Most Recent Cosponsored Bills

Bill	Title	Status / Last Action
112 S 3662	Lieutenant Ryan Patrick Jones Post Office Designation Act	Became Public Law No: 112-280. Updated Jan 14, 2013
112 S 3472	Uninterrupted Scholars Act (USA)	Became Public Law No: 112-278. Updated Jan 14, 2013
112 S 847	Safe Chemicals Act of 2011	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 578. Updated Dec 27, 2012
112 S 3705	Protect our Kids Act of 2012	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. Updated Dec 21, 2012
112 SRES 618	A resolution observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks and commemorating her legacy.	Resolution agreed to in Senate without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent. (text: CR) Updated Dec 19, 2012