



Mr. James E. Risch

Party: Republican • **Chamber:** Senate

State: ID

Service: 2009–2025 (including current term)

Most recent Congress: 119

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Biography

A Senator from Idaho. Born in Milwaukee, Wis. , May 3, 1943. B. A. , attended the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, 1961-1963. B. S. In Forestry, University of Idaho, 1965. J. D. , University of Idaho College of Law, 1968. Ada County, Idaho, prosecuting attorney, 1970-1974. Idaho State senator, 1974-1989 and 1995-2003, serving as majority leader (1976-1982), and as president pro tempore (1982-1989). Lieutenant governor of Idaho, 2003-2006 and 2007-2009. Governor of Idaho, 2006. Elected as a Republican to the United States Senate in 2008. Reelected in 2014, and again in 2020 for the term ending January 3, 2027. Chair, Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship (One Hundred Fifteenth Congress), Committee on Foreign Relations (One Hundred Sixteenth and One Hundred Nineteenth Congresses).

Committee Memberships (Congress 119)

- Africa and Global Health Policy Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Ex Officio**
- East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Ex Officio**
- Energy and Natural Resources Committee – Standing **Member**
- Energy Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Member**
- Europe and Regional Security Cooperation Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Ex Officio**
- Foreign Relations Committee – Standing **Chairman**
- Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Ex Officio**
- Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Ex Officio**
- Public Lands, Forests, and Mining Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Member**
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee – Standing **Member**
- State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Ex Officio**
- Water and Power Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Member**
- Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues Subcommittee – Subcommittee **Ex Officio**

Legislative Activity (2009–2025)

Bills sponsored: 247

Bills cosponsored: 2379

Most Recent Sponsored Bills

Bill	Title	Status / Last Action
119 S 2904	SHADOW Fleet Sanctions Act of 2026	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 326. Updated Feb 10, 2026
119 S 3814	ARC Act of 2026	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Updated Feb 10, 2026
119 SRES 573	A resolution expressing the need for the United States continued leadership on matters of religious freedom.	Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text: CR S8926-8927) Updated Dec 18, 2025
119 SRES 536	A resolution designating December 2, 2025, as "World Nuclear Energy Day".	Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimou Updated Dec 8, 2025
119 S 1228	A bill to amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to modify the cost-sharing requirement for conservation projects carried out by a qualified youth or conservation corps, and for other purposes.	Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining. Hearing Updated Dec 2, 2025

Most Recent Cosponsored Bills

Bill	Title	Status / Last Action
119 SRES 626	A resolution designating March 6, 2026, as "National Speech and Debate Education Day".	Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimou Updated Mar 4, 2026
119 S 3984	A bill to authorize a 2-year extension of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Updated Mar 4, 2026
119 S 3938	A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize representatives of veterans service organizations to participate in presentations to promote certain benefits available to veterans during prepreparation counseling under the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Updated Feb 26, 2026
119 S 3940	A bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 to require the Secretary of the Treasury to testify before Congress, and for other purposes.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Updated Feb 26, 2026
119 SRES 622	A resolution expressing support for the designation of February 21 through February 28, 2026, as "National FFA Week", recognizing the important role of the National FFA Organization in developing the next generation of globally conscious leaders who will change the world, and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the chartering of the State of Alaska as a State FFA Association.	Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimou Updated Feb 26, 2026