



SISTER DISTRICT
PROJECT

Jenn Alford-Teaster

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE SENATE DISTRICT 8

SISTER DISTRICT POLICY SCORECARD

This candidate has pledged commitment to the following statements:

- ✓ We must protect a **woman's right to choose** the health care and reproductive services she wants and needs.
- ✓ We need to protect and expand our **social safety net**, not dismantle it.
- ✓ We should pursue **common-sense gun safety** policies, consistent with the Second Amendment and local community standards and needs, which vary from community to community.
- ✓ Climate change is real and we need to **protect our environment**.

TIMELINE & VOTER INFO

Election Day: November 6, 2018

Last day to register:

Voters may register and vote on Election Day.

Vote by mail / absentee voting: No deadline to request an absentee ballot, but ballots are due by 5:00 p.m. on Election Day (by mail or if delivered by a family member). Received by 5:00 p.m. the day before Election Day (in person).

BACKGROUND

A New Hampshire native, Jenn was raised by her grandmother and mother in a small Seacoast apartment. They struggled just to put food on the table; eventually her mother had to accept welfare and food stamps to support her four children. It was an experience that deeply influenced Jenn's commitment to easing the burdens on families in need.



She also knows how to make a little assistance go a long way. At 18, Jenn moved alone to North Carolina with two suitcases and \$265, and found a job at a coffee shop where she worked for the next decade. There were weeks when she had to choose between buying food and paying utilities; but with the help of her employers, who encouraged her to apply for financial aid, Jenn enrolled in the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees and met her future husband, Jason.

What Jenn learned about resilience and self-sufficiency during those years has fueled her commitment to public service. Back in her beloved New Hampshire, she and Jason have built thriving careers and bought a home where they are raising their daughter. But for Jenn, being comfortable is not enough, not when many families in her community are in trouble.

Through her church, Jenn spent six years volunteering at a community homeless shelter, seeing the opioid crisis from the front lines. She

has led a committee to address emergency relief for local families and, recognizing the particular difficulties facing women, has developed legislation to promote equal pay for equal work. And she wants to do more.

"I grew up in New Hampshire," she says. "I love this state. I believe in the potential of people and I feel like given the right resources, they can surpass their own expectations."

Jenn knows what it is to struggle, but she also knows how to struggle—how to be resourceful and persistent, how to advocate for services and make them count, and how to work hard, and then harder, every single day for a better future.

That's why Jenn is running for the 8th District of New Hampshire State Senate.

ON THE ISSUES

Education

Jenn understands the profound effect that a well-funded public education can have on a child. As a young person, Jenn struggled with a lack of resources at home, but found herself surrounded by caring adults who wouldn't let her potential disappear simply because of lack of money at home. Jenn credits her K – 12 education with providing her with the love of learning, resilience, work ethic, and sense of wonder that built her career.

Public Health

Jenn has dedicated her career to addressing issues related to public health. Jenn has worked in emergency management assisting fire, police, hospital, and municipal organizations to strengthen their ability to respond to disasters. Currently, Jenn focuses her work on cancer control with a particular attention on health care access in rural communities. While in the Senate, Jenn will address gaps in discussion on the opioid crisis by assisting first responders with strengthening their toolkits for response.

Fiscal Responsibility

Growing up without resources, but carefully managing opportunities, Jenn has been able to slowly emerge into middle class. Jenn understands that fiscal responsibility is a key

component of a well-managed government. Jenn believes there are opportunities within the current state budget to better align resources with programs that will ensure financial viability for New Hampshire's future without adding to the financial burden of Granite Staters.

Jobs & Economic Development

With unemployment below the national average, New Hampshire's economy is strong, but it can be stronger.

NH's primary challenge is to train our existing workforce to fill a growing list of good paying jobs. In the State Senate, Jenn will work with NH's business and education leaders to expand vocational training, apprenticeship opportunities and worker retraining opportunities while supporting the needs of working families. Jenn is committed to strengthening early childhood education, family medical leave, and expanding transportation options... all efforts endorsed by business leaders in the Granite State. In the State Senate, Jenn will work to make NH's economy, and our working families, even stronger.

Environment

New Hampshire has a long history of environmental leadership. In recent years, many states across America have been asked to step-up state level efforts to reduce carbon emissions, expand our renewable energy options, embrace clean transportation and implement "smart-grid" technology. Experts agree this sector could create thousands of good-paying jobs. In the State Senate, Jenn will work across party lines to establish New Hampshire as a leader in this renewable economy while fighting to mitigate the impact of climate change.

ABOUT THE INCUMBENT

Ruth Ward served on the planning board of Stoddard, NH, before winning her State Senate seat in 2016. She was born to missionaries in China. When her father was killed, her family fled to England, and later Sweden. She has lived in New Hampshire since 1995.

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

This district is one of 710 state legislative districts that intersects with one or more Pivot Counties.

These 206 Pivot Counties voted for Donald Trump (R) in 2016 after voting for Barack Obama (D) in 2008 and 2012.

WHY IS THIS RACE IMPORTANT?

New Hampshire is currently a trifecta state for the Republicans, which means they control the governorship, the state house and the state senate. In New Hampshire, the state controls redistricting, so even though the state went to Hillary Clinton in 2016, Republicans control majorities in both the state house and the state senate.

This unilateral control of the state government has allowed them to pass harmful and regressive legislation, particularly in the area of voting rights. After the 2016 election, Republicans passed a series of voter suppression laws, including legislation that permits law enforcement officers to investigate anyone who registers within 30 days of an election and a law that is aimed at preventing college students from voting. Democrats must win back power in the state to put an end to these anti-democratic policies and stop the Republicans from suppressing the vote.

Right now, Democrats have 10 seats in the New Hampshire Senate and Republicans have 14 seats. Our goal is to flip the New Hampshire senate blue by flipping three seats blue. All 28 state senate seats are up for election in 2018.

CANDIDATE LINKS

SDP ActBlue: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/sdp-nh-alfordteaster>

Website: www.jennforsenate.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pg/JennForSenate

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/JennForSenate>