



Candidate Questionnaire 2024 Cycle

General Information

Candidate Name: Adam Schiff

Office Sought: U.S. Senate

Proposed Ballot Designation: U.S. Representative, CA-30

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Campaign Team*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Elected Office

Do you currently, or have you ever held public office (elected or appointed)?

Yes

If yes, which public office(s) have you held and when did you do so?

2022-Present: Congressman, 30th Congressional District, California

2010-2022: Congressman, 28th Congressional District, California

2000-2010: Congressman, 29th Congressional District, California

1997-2000: California State Senate, 21st District

Personal and Political Background

Current Occupation: **U.S. Representative**

Are you a registered Democrat? **Yes.**

Have you ever been registered with another political party or selected "Decline to State" or "No Party Preference" for your voter registration party affiliation, and if so, for what period?

No.

In less than 250 words, briefly summarize your personal background (work experience, education, community involvement, etc.).

I proudly represent California's 30th Congressional District and am in my 12th term in the House of Representatives. In Congress, I am the senior member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, and former Chairman of the House Intelligence Community and member of the Select Committee on January 6.

Before serving in Congress, I worked as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Los Angeles, prosecuting Richard Miller, the first FBI agent ever to be indicted for spying for Russia, prosecuting a Mexican drug cartel boss, and starting the first environmental crimes unit in the country that went after companies who illegally dumped chemicals.

In 1996, I was elected to the California State Senate, where I passed dozens of laws, including guaranteeing cost-of-living increases for teacher pensions, enacting a patient's bill of rights, and overhauling state child support laws. During this time, I was also a professor teaching political science courses at Glendale Community College and was a proud AFT union member. After high school in the Bay Area, I graduated from Stanford University and Harvard Law School.

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What endorsements have you received from organizations and prominent individuals?
(You may either use the space below or attach a separate list.)

**You can find my list of endorsements at www.AdamSchiff.com/endorsements.
However, I would like to highlight the following endorsements:**

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi, as well as 60% of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation**
- Eight statewide labor unions, including Teamsters, IATSE and Firefighters**
- Over 225 additional state, local and county elected officials**

How much have you raised?

Our campaign has over \$32 million cash on hand, and has raised over \$20 million this election cycle from over 250,000 unique grassroots donors.

Why did you decide to run for this office

I am running for the U.S. Senate because I have a track record of working with others to solve problems and deliver results for Californians. I'm a proud pro-labor, pro-worker candidate for the U.S. Senate. I've fought for working people my whole life. But more than just fighting, I've gotten things done.

I've taken on powerful special interests, and more powerful Supreme Court Justices. I've taken on corporate presidents. And I've taken on U.S. Presidents. As a young federal prosecutor I took on drug lords, big defense contractors, and big oil companies. And I won.

In the State Senate, I took on big insurance companies and passed a Patient Bill of Rights. I took on the big health care corporations and we got nursing-staff ratios. I got elected to Congress and took on the most unethical president ever and I impeached him. Led the senate trial against him. And when he engaged in insurrection, I investigated him, so there would be justice. And I'll always take on anyone who gets in the way of working people, our health care, our jobs, our rights, our democracy with the same tenacity I took on Donald Trump.

If you are elected what are your top 3 goals?

If elected, my key priorities are the following:

- 1. Creating an Economy that Works for Everyone: We have a once in a generation opportunity right now to build an economy that works for everyone. To invest in our workers and their families. And to put forth and achieve bold solutions.. Let's face it – corporations and**

billionaires should never, ever, pay less taxes than their workers. And in our current tax system, that happens. A lot. We must level the playing field by increasing taxes on the wealthy few so that we can use that extra revenue to invest in our people by:

- Building affordable housing and addressing homelessness.**
- Funding food programs and direct relief to end child poverty as we know it.**
- Canceling student debt for millions of Americans.**
- Rebuilding and investing in public infrastructure.**
- Creating new green jobs and investing in a modern green economy**
- Passing Medicare for All and expanding support for families.**
- Creating an American economy that works for everyone.**

2. Defending Our Democracy: I've stood on the front lines of the fight to defend our democracy against Donald Trump and MAGA Republicans who are hell bent on destroying it. I'll continue to fight to protect our democracy in the Senate by voting to abolish the filibuster so that we can actually pass meaningful legislation, enacting a landmark voting rights bill so that no one can be disenfranchised, and reforming the Supreme Court so that it's no longer stacked with conservative justices. We must also pass my Protecting our Democracy Act, a set of reforms to enshrine our democratic guardrails into law. This bill is designed to restore our system of checks and balances, create greater accountability and transparency, and protect our elections. We must do all we can to preserve our democracy.

3. Protecting Our Planet: We must pass and protect bold climate action legislation like the Green New Deal – of which I am an original cosponsor. And we must answer the urgent call to invest in growing a modern, green economy that is equitable and just for all. I've been fighting for an Apollo project-style investment in millions of green, new jobs since I got to Congress, and will continue to do so in the Senate. We also need to right the decades of harm caused to communities by environmental injustices that disproportionately impact low-income communities of color by passing legislation like the A. Donald McEachin Environmental Justice For All Act, which I proudly cosponsored.

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Previously held positions:

In the 2022-2024 cycle have you:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you affirmed to any other organization to boycott or not take trips to Israel from any particular sponsor to learn about Israel or Palestine?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you affirmed to any other organization that you will oppose police exchange programs for Israel?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you affirmed to any other organization that you support groups like Students for Justice in Palestine (which has urged defunding of mainstream Jewish groups that do not focus on Israel such as Hillel and the JCRC).
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you affirmed to any other organization that you support urging banks, municipal councils, churches, pension funds and universities to withdraw investing in Israel and Israeli companies that "sustain Israeli Apartheid?" Note: the Biden Administration and U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders have both made clear that Israel is not an Apartheid state.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you endorsed, supported or opposed any bills as a result of your position, would reduce, withhold or condition aid to Israel?

In the past five years, have you:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	belonged to an organization that has taken action or formally expressed a viewpoint on Israel or related issues?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	participated in an organized activity, including a forum, on Israel or related issues; or
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	while holding office, introduced or co-sponsored legislation (other than purely ceremonial, supportive measures) on Israel or related issues or the Jewish community?

Explanation:

I have been a member of the Democratic Party since age 18, which has weighed in on issues related to Israel. I take part in numerous policy forums and political forums on issues related to Israel, including a recent meeting of DFI. And I have

looked for opportunities to support Israel through legislation, and foster continued cooperation between the U.S. and Israel.

Policy Questions

Please describe your positions on the following issues. Please limit your responses to 250 words for each response. If you wish, one response may include up to 500 words.

EXPERIENCE AND RELATIONSHIPS

1. Please describe your last trip to Israel and the Middle East, including the year of the trip and any group that arranged or sponsored the trip. If you have not yet been to Israel, when and to where do you plan on going in Israel, and the region generally, for your trip?

I have been to Israel throughout my life and my time in Congress — particularly while I was serving on the House Intelligence Committee. While serving on HPSCI, my trips were sponsored by the U.S. government, not an organization.

My last trip to Israel was in February 2022 with then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi. We met with numerous Israeli officials, including then-Prime Minister Bennett, President Herzog, the foreign and defense ministers, as well as intelligence leaders to bolster mutual aid. Additionally, we traveled to the West Bank to meet with Palestinian Authority President Abbas, and groups doing humanitarian work on the ground. I have also traveled extensively in the Middle East to visit our troops and intelligence professionals as part of my oversight work in Congress.

2. Who do you speak with to develop your positions and views on Israel and the Middle East, including people overseas and local leaders in California?

As a Jewish elected official, I have a unique responsibility to represent and talk with the entire Jewish community in my district and state, a role I take incredibly seriously. I speak to a wide variety of Jewish organizations, elected officials and community leaders that span the ideological spectrum, and seek to foster ties and partnership between them. I have also developed relationships with Jewish leaders across the United States and abroad, and would seek to continue to build more in the U.S. Senate.

3. Please describe your relationship, if any, with the Israeli-American and Jewish community in your community.

I have been a part of the broader Jewish community for my whole life, and had relationships with many Jewish community organizations, synagogues and leaders . My wife and I have raised our children in the Jewish faith, and sought to live a moral life and engage in public service — seeking to foster connections between Jewish organizations and leaders. That will continue in the U.S. Senate.

GOALS AND POLICY

4. If elected, what committees and organizations would you try to be active in, and what policy areas would you try to affect that are relevant to Israel and the Middle East?

I'm focused on winning this campaign, first and foremost, and have not given thought to what Committees I would serve on. In the U.S. Senate, I hope to be able to continue my leadership on national security and foreign policy issues, and would seek out opportunities to serve in a way that would allow me to do that.

In the House, I have served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Appropriations Committee and State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee, and the House Intelligence Committee. These committees allowed me to develop deep experience in national security, particularly related to Israel.

5. Over the past decade, there has been a small but growing movement around the country to divest from Israel. These groups often use anti-Semitic language in their efforts, some target Jewish students on campuses and instead of discussing how to engage the democratic-process to challenge Israeli policies that may be objectionable, they try to delegitimize Israel or question its right to exist. In short, these are frequently attempts to influence state and local governments and their universities and pension boards not to invest in Israeli companies or companies that do business anywhere in Israel.

What is your view on the Israel boycott and divestment movement and what policy steps would you take to address this, if any?

I do not support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanction (BDS) movement against Israel, and have worked to increase partnerships between the U.S. and Israeli governments, universities and private companies. By investing in Israel and its people, we can and do mutually benefit. I would not support efforts to include BDS in any policies in the U.S. Senate.

6. The FBI's Uniform Crime Report for 2014 showed that there were more than 609 anti-Jewish hate crimes in the United States that year and even today, Jews were the most persecuted and targeted religious group in the country.

What steps would you take (for example, in the education and law enforcement arenas) to help prevent current and future anti-Jewish hatred and anti-Semitic activity in your jurisdiction?

We're seeing once again a surge in antisemitism in the wake of horrific attacks in Israel. Police in California are increasing protection for synagogues out of concern for potential violence. In Fresno, we have reports of a temple being vandalized. It's appalling and unacceptable. We must fight back against the threats, vandalism, and bigotry taking place. And we must make it clear that hate has no place in our communities. I'm grateful to see local law enforcement taking this seriously. But we must recognize that this is part of a larger trend across the country — spurred on by the likes of Donald Trump and his supporters. We need to make sure that Trump never again is able to hold office. And we need to enforce limitations on hate speech on social media platforms — something I'm proud to have led the charge on in the House.

7. As a Democrat, what steps can we take to help fight anti-Semitism on both the left and the right?

Throughout my time in Congress, I have sought to be an ally to both the Jewish community in the United States and to Israel. That has required me to call out antisemitism wherever I see it, or hear it, and have hard conversations with my colleagues. Antisemitism can rear its ugly head in many ways. It can appear as caricatures and tropes in daily life and on social media. It can appear as veiled language meant to divide communities. And it crosses both sides of the aisle. It's my job as a Jewish elected representative to call it out when I see it, and seek to educate about how dangerous and harmful those words and actions can be, and how they can enable violence and hate to manifest itself beyond mere words. Finally, I want to state that criticism of Israel or its government are not in and of itself antisemitic. But too often, those who do veer dangerously close to antisemitism or over that line, seek to blur the two. That is why it is so important for elected officials to be mindful of our words, and call antisemitism out clearly and directly when we see it.

8. (answer a or b as applicable to the office you are running for)

a. If a candidate for Federal Office, what limits or conditions do you think should be on aid to Israel?

b. If a candidate to any state office, what are your views on implementing guidelines against antisemitism including recognizing the International Holocaust Remembrance Association (IHRA) definition of antisemitism.

I do not support limits or conditions on aid to Israel, one of our strongest allies and the only true democracy in the Middle East. While I do believe that we sometimes need to speak hard truths to friends, we should not condition aid or military assistance to Israel, particularly as they face existential crisis and the threat of annihilation on a daily basis.

9. (answer a or b as applicable to the office you are running for)

a. if a candidate for Federal Office, we have seen a rise of antisemitism on college campuses and communities, which view targeting Jewish institutions such as Hillel, or the local Jewish Federations as acceptable because they nominally interact with Israel and the Israeli community. What are your views on these tactics and is this acceptable free speech or discrimination?

Discrimination has absolutely no place on our college campuses and identity-based targeting of students seeking the community of an affinity or religious group is unacceptable under any circumstances. Free speech that is used to cause harm by preaching hate fails to capture the First Amendment's intended purpose of open dialogue to reach mutual understanding and respect. We simply cannot allow hate and discrimination to hide behind the guise of freedom of speech and I do not support the targeting of Jewish institutions on college campuses under any circumstances. This is also one of the reasons I do not support the BDS movement. All students deserve to feel safe on their college campuses, and I am committed to ensuring that this includes all Jewish students.

b. If a candidate for state office, DFI-CA supports the state's ethnic studies guidelines which contain clear antisemitism guardrails, however some local school boards have chosen to adopt a highly politicized "Liberated Ethnic Studies" version that

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paints all Jews as white or colonizers (actually over half of Israel's Jews and 33% of US Jews are from the Middle East, Iran, North Africa or Ethiopia). What is your position on supporting or opposing Liberated Ethnic Studies programs,

N/A

10. What other issues do you think are unique or important to the Jewish and pro-Israel community, and how do you propose to make a difference with these issues and keep in touch with the community?

The last few weeks have been incredibly harrowing and gut-wrenching for the broader Jewish community in the United States. We all are one or two degrees of separation from someone who has lost a loved one in the terrorist attacks. It's those tight-knit, cross-border and cross-community bonds that distinguish the Jewish community. We should be seeking to foster and grow those ties, rather than let the events of the last month divide us further.

In terms of policy issues, I believe that one of the most unique challenges and opportunities for both the U.S. and Israel is fostering more engagement between our two countries in ways that are mutually beneficial. I am working on legislation with the input of the Biden Administration and Israeli embassy to create a partnership between the U.S. and Israel on climate change resilience research. We have a plentitude of research organizations and colleges, governmental organizations, and public-private partnerships that we can not only create but enhance over time that will create more jobs, more opportunities, and deeper relationships between our two countries.