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National Politics **I am Hurricane, U.S. Senator for Sierra and proud progressive Democrat standing for re-election. AMA!** (self.california)

submitted 6 hours ago by [hurricaneoflies](#)
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[[-](#)] [Leafen_Silver69](#) 1132 points 4 hours ago

Senator, you'll be in a position to confirm or reject Supreme Court nominees, as we've seen this last session. What qualifications are you looking for in a nominee?

[[-](#)] [hurricaneoflies](#) [[S](#)] 2502 points 3 hours ago

Great question!

I believe that, first and foremost, a judicial nominee needs to be bipartisan. Twice in a row now, President Gunnz has emerged from backroom dealings with members of his party with a full-fledged nominee, without seeking any feedback from either the other side of the floor or the wider legal community. I hope once reelected to use my position on the Judiciary Committee to restore bipartisanship to the process by bringing back the "blue slip" process for a nominee's home-state senators to vet their qualifications.

I also believe that any Supreme Court nominee must respect the institution to which they are appointed, and that their jurisprudence should not be so out of sync with mainstream society as to undermine confidence in the Court. That is why I voted against Mr. Dobs, as his views civil rights lacked social acceptability to millions of queer Americans, Americans of color and other members of disadvantaged groups.

I hope that, after the debacle of the past two nominations, the President will be moving forward in a spirit of bipartisanship this coming term. I look forward to working with him if he does.

[[-](#)] [Nottheinternet](#) 995 points 5 hours ago

During the presidential election of May 2019, your opponent ProgrammaticallySun7 said that Israel was an illegitimate state and the creation of international agencies. At the time, you condemned his statement as antisemitic.

Does this remain your view?

[[-](#)] [hurricaneoflies](#) [[S](#)] 1723 points 5 hours ago

I cannot speak to Mr. Sun's personal views, they are his own.

However, what I can speak to is the dangerous nature of his statement, which unfortunately ties into a long history of antisemitic rhetoric in America and around the world. He must firmly disavow his claim and apologize unreservedly for the pain that it has caused.

The Jewish people have the right to self-determination, and I firmly believe that the state of Israel has the right both to exist and to defend itself.

However, as you know, I also led the GuiltyAir administration's normalization of relations with Palestine. That is because I believe that peace in the Middle East can only come through a diplomatic settlement, and that means putting both the Israelis and Palestinians on equal footing before the community of nations. No ethnic conflict has ever been settled by force of arms, and I remain committed to a two-state solution that builds upon the Oslo framework.

[-] [mancitylover14](#) 974 points 3 hours ago

What's something you want to see accomplished within the first 100 days after the election? Assuming, of course, that you're able to get it through a possibly gridlocked Congress

[-] [hurricaneoflies](#) [\[S\]](#) 2438 points 5 hours ago

As an environmental scientist by training, I have a keen interest in tackling the climate emergency and protecting our beautiful environment for many generations to come.

That's why I introduced the [Climate Adaptation and Research Act](#), a bill that will centralize federal climate and earth research under one roof and ensure that the work of the scientists remains out of the hands of partisan politicians and appointed bureaucrats.

I believe that the goal of improving the study of climate patterns is an issue that all Americans can get behind, and I will be working with my colleagues on the Senate Environment Committee to bring it to the floor as soon as possible.

We have less than 12 years to go before we face the brunt of climate change's impact, and we need to act fast.

[-] [oath4order](#) 930 points 5 hours ago

Does pineapple belong on pizza?

[-] [hurricaneoflies](#) [\[S\]](#) -13 points⁺ 5 hours ago

I love Hawaii. I love Hawaiian pizza.

[-] [SkyDude2169](#) 899 points 5 hours ago

What's the larger geopolitical threat facing the country: China or Russia?

[\[-\]](#) [hurricaneoflies](#) [\[S\]](#) 606 points 5 hours ago

While Russia's threat to our elections cannot be understated, especially in light of the Mueller Report, I believe that China poses the greater threat to America's national security in the long run.

In China, we've seen a worrisome fusion of state and private power to create a lot of tech companies that export data-harvesting products with little oversight. By allowing them access into the American market, we risk destroying the privacy rights of American consumers and helping China expand its worrisome and incredibly authoritarian surveillance state.

I'm happy that Washington is finally starting to address this situation, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate on bipartisan measures to defend America's online sphere from Chinese espionage.

[\[-\]](#) [DominoWarlock](#) 805 points 5 hours ago

I like to get to know my Senators personally. So, Senator, what's your drink of choice?

[\[-\]](#) [hurricaneoflies](#) [\[S\]](#) 1739 points 5 hours ago

I find that a vodka cranberry usually hits the spot just right.

If you're reading this and you're under 21, pretend I said Diet Sprite.

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