

# 2020 Presidential Candidate Tracker



## Bernie Sanders

State Affiliation: Vermont

Background: Senator (D-VT)

Announcement: 2/19/2019



## Positions & Quotes

<p>Co-sponsored S.66- The Assault Weapons Ban of 2019</p>	<p><a href="#">Dianne Feinstein Press Releases</a></p>
<p>"I'm running for president because we must end the epidemic of gun violence in this country. We need to take on the NRA, expand background checks, end the gun show loophole, and ban the sale and distribution of assault weapons."</p>	<p><a href="#">Twitter.com</a></p>
<p>"Gun control legislation should ultimately fall on individual states, with the exception of a federal ban on assault weapons and instant background checks to prevent firearms from finding their way into the hands of criminals and the mentally ill."</p>	<p><a href="#">FeelTheBern.org</a></p>

<p>Voted in favor of requiring background checks, passing a federal ban on assault weapons, and closing loopholes which allow private sellers at gun shows and on the internet to sell to individuals without background checks</p>	<p><a href="https://www.feelthebern.org">FeelTheBern.org</a></p>
<p>"Folks who do not like guns are fine. But we have millions of people who are gun owners in this country - 99% of those people obey the law. I want to see real serious debate and actions on guns, but it is not going to take place if we simply have extreme positions on both side. I think I can bring us to middle."</p>	<p><a href="https://www.feelthebern.org">FeelTheBern.org</a></p>
<p>"We need strong sensible gun control and I will support it. But some people think it's going solve all of our problems, and it's not. You know what, we have a crisis in the capability of addressing mental health illness in this country. When people are hunting and are prepared to do something terrible, we need to do something immediately. We don't have that and we should have that."</p>	<p><a href="https://www.feelthebern.org">FeelTheBern.org</a></p>
<p>"The days of the NRA controlling Congress and writing our gun laws must end. Congress must listen to the American people and pass gun safety legislation. This sickening gun violence must stop."</p>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com">Twitter.com</a></p>
<p>"And I believe that what we need is comprehensive gun legislation that, among other things, provides universal background. We end the gun show loophole. We end the straw man provision. And I believed in 1988 and I believe today that assault weapons—"</p>	<p><a href="#">6/27 Debates</a></p>

<p>"What I believe we have got to do is have the guts to finally take on the NRA. I called for the ban of the sale and distribution of assault weapons. I lost that election. I will do everything I can not only to take on the NRA, but to expand and create universal background checks, do away with the strawman provision, do away with the gun show loophole, and do away with the loopholes that now exist for gun manufacturers who are selling large amounts of weapons into communities that are going to gangs."</p>	<p><a href="#">7/30 Debate</a></p>
<p>"Our corrupt political system, which is controlled by the gun lobby, has a lot of waking up to do. When our children are being shot in places that should be safest, we're failing. Let's get serious about gun control."</p>	<p><a href="#">LA Times</a></p>
<p>(When asked about supporting firearm buybacks) "No. But what I would support, absolutely, is passing major legislation, the gun legislation the people here are talking about... I will not wait for 60 votes to make that happen, and you can do it in a variety of ways"</p>	<p><a href="#">9/12 Debate</a></p>
<p>"what we are looking at is a corrupt political system... you've got an NRA which has intimidated the president of the United States and the Republican leadership. I am proud — I am proud that, year after year, I had an "F" rating from the NRA. And as president, I will not be intimidated by the NRA"</p>	<p><a href="#">9/12 Debate</a></p>
<p>"I don't support, a mandatory buyback is essentially confiscation, which I think is unconstitutional... It means that I am going to walk into your house and take something whether you like it or not. I don't think that stands up to constitutional scrutiny."</p>	<p><a href="#">NRA-ILA</a></p>