

U.S. HOUSE CANDIDATE COMPARISON: NEW JERSEY-07

A Nonpartisan Resource for Voters in the 2024 Election

Catholic Social Justice teaches that we have a responsibility to participate in politics out of a concern for and commitment to the common good. We are called to engage with openness and empathy, inform ourselves about the issues of the day, partake in serious conversations about our nation’s future, and **vote**.

Here is where the U.S. House District NJ-07 candidates stand on the issues.

We invite you to consider this information prayerfully.

To learn more and make your voting plan, head to networkadvocates.org/be-a-voter.



Susan Altman
Democrat
suealtman.com

Election Day:
Tuesday,
November 5th

Thomas Kean, Jr.
Republican
Incumbent
tomkean.com



FREEDOM TO LIVE ON A HEALTHY PLANET	<p>Yes. Climate change is “an existential threat to our communities and wildlife.” “We need bold action” to combat “changing weather patterns” and “life-threatening flooding.”</p>	<p>Environment Should addressing climate change be a top priority?</p>	<p>Mostly no. In 2023 voted to boost U.S. oil and gas production and reverse efforts to address climate change. In 2022 called the Inflation Reduction Act, with \$369 billion in climate provisions, a “liberal spending spree.” In 2018 voted against upholding the Paris Climate Accord. Also said “Climate change is real.”</p>
	<p>Increase. “Will fight in Congress to spur competition in our economy... , fight for a livable wage for all workers, and ensure that homes are bought by humans, not corporations.” Would “hold corporations accountable for price gouging and limiting competition.”</p>	<p>Economy Decrease or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?</p>	<p>Decrease. Rein in “wasteful government spending.” Voted against a bipartisan bill expanding the low-income Child Tax Credit. Supports “removing regulatory barriers to job creation.” “The government’s role must be to remove barriers to success, not generate them.”</p>
FREEDOM FROM HARM	<p>Tighten. Supports “common-sense gun safety reforms” that “stop the spread of gun violence and keep our communities safe.”</p>	<p>Gun Laws Loosen or tighten gun regulations?</p>	<p>Mixed. Voted to classify pistols w/ stabilizing braces as rifles, needing registration. In 2019 opposed a Sandy Hook-inspired bill requiring gun dealers to sell child-proof personalized guns. In 2018 supported background checks, a red-flag bill, and a ghost gun ban. Opposed limiting gun magazine capacity to 10 rounds.</p>
	<p>Expand. Is “honored to earn the endorsement of the [LGBTQ] Human Rights Campaign.” “Build a House majority... to protect the LGBTQ+ community and the freedoms of every American.”</p>	<p>LGBTQ Rights Limit or expand rights for LGBTQ+ people?</p>	<p>Mixed. “I support gay marriage.” Regrets his 2010 vote against it. In 2017 voted to prohibit transgender discrimination in schools. In 2023 voted to block diversity, equity, and inclusion training in the military.</p>
	<p>Would “ensure... local police are fully funded to keep our communities safe, and white collar and political corruption crimes are investigated by law enforcement.” Does “not support defunding the police.”</p>	<p>Criminal Justice How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?</p>	<p>Supported diversity training for police. In 2023 sponsored a bipartisan bill providing grants to local governments with fewer than 200 law-enforcement officers. Condemned calls to defund or abolish the police.</p>

	Susan Altman Democrat	Election Day: Tuesday, November 5 th	Thomas Kean, Jr. Republican Incumbent
FREEDOM TO BE HEALTHY	Increase. "I will never waver in my commitment to <u>protecting</u> Medicare and Social Security." "Our movement is committed to <u>protecting and expanding</u> affordable healthcare and lowering the cost of prescription drugs for all Americans."	Health Care Increase or decrease government support for health care?	Mixed. <u>Opposed</u> expanding Medicaid eligibility. In 2020 <u>opposed</u> a bill letting Medicare <u>negotiate</u> lower drug costs. <u>Replace</u> the Affordable Care Act because it is "partisan." Supported including <u>group</u> prenatal care in Medicaid. <u>Sponsored bills</u> to cap drug costs.
FREEDOM TO LIVE IN A WELCOMING COUNTRY	Mixed: <u>Supports</u> the bipartisan <u>border bill</u> . "The border is a <u>crisis</u> We can't have people being cynically obstructionist." DACA Dreamers " <u>are Americans</u> in the fullest sense of the word;" they need "permanent protections and a pathway to citizenship."	Immigration Defend the right to asylum and support a path to citizenship for DACA participants brought to the U.S. as children?	Opposes: Democrats' policies put U.S. " <u>in danger</u> ." <u>Supported</u> a Republican border <u>bill</u> . Voted to <u>impeach</u> Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas. <u>Supports</u> tougher policies, such as a <u>wall</u> , but " <u>commonsense</u> " protection for DACA kids.
FREEDOM TO PARTICIPATE IN A VIBRANT DEMOCRACY	Easier. <u>Supports</u> national laws "to make voting accessible to all who are eligible." <u>Led</u> a successful challenge to New Jersey election officials' designing ballots to favor candidates endorsed by party leaders.	Voting Rights Make voting harder or easier?	Harder. Voted against <u>easing</u> restrictions on mail-in voting, <u>boosting</u> ballot drop box access, and automatic voter <u>registration</u> .
FREEDOM TO CARE FOR OURSELVES AND OUR FAMILIES	Easier. <u>Supports</u> the Protecting the Right to Organize (<u>PRO</u>) <u>Act</u> and "the right of workers to organize." "Will <u>stand with unions</u> " to create "high-quality jobs" and protect "the right to organize."	Labor Make it easier or harder for unions to organize?	Harder. Opposes the Protecting the Right to Organize (<u>PRO</u>) <u>Act</u> , which would aid union organizing, <u>calling</u> it "job-killing legislation." In 2018 voted <u>against</u> increasing protections for labor unions.
	Yes. <u>Wants</u> "a livable wage for all workers." In 2019: "With every <u>raise</u> in the wage toward our fight for \$15, we secure greater economic justice for working people across New Jersey."	Minimum Wage Raise federal minimum from \$7.25/hour?	Likely no. Voted against raising NJ minimum wage: <u>against</u> \$10.10 in 2016 and <u>against</u> \$15 in 2019. In 2018 said any <u>state raise</u> should be paired with cuts to pension and health benefit costs.
	No position found.	Student Financial Aid Support lowering interest on student loans and/or forgiving them?	No. <u>Voted to</u> block a Department of Education rule that would suspend student loan payments and discharge student debt.
	Raise. In 2019 <u>backed</u> a New Jersey income tax increase on earnings above \$1 million. <u>Pushed</u> for accountability for a bipartisan corporate tax break <u>program</u> that cost New Jersey \$1.6 billion. "The <u>corruption</u> tax is New Jersey's biggest tax."	Taxes Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	Lower. In 2020 <u>voted against</u> a New Jersey bill to increase income taxes on earnings above \$1 million, with an expanded tax credit for working families.