

Illinois U.S. Senate

(show committee information)



Senator Barack Obama (D)

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Born in Honolulu, HI on August 4, 1961; attended from Occidental College; graduated with BA from Columbia University, 1983; earned JD from Harvard Law School, 1991; attorney; lecturer; Senator, Illinois State Senate, 1996-2004; keynote speaker, 2004 ([more](#))

Key Legal Reform Votes 106th - 109th Congresses

Description	Preferred Position	This official's vote compared with the preferred position
Class Action Reform. Vote on S. 5, the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005. Approved 72-26 on Feb. 10, 2005 (Roll No. 9). The NAM supported the bill, which would curb trial lawyer "forum shopping" by shifting most major class actions to federal courts, without altering plaintiffs' right to sue. Signed into law (P.L. 109-2) on Feb. 18, 2005. NAM POSITION: Yes.	Y	
Preventing Regulation Through Litigation. Vote on S. 397, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act. Approved 65-31 on July 29, 2005 (Roll No. 219). The NAM supported the bill, which would forestall lawsuits brought with the intent of shutting down a legitimate and legal industry, while allowing those with merit to proceed. Signed into law (P.L. 109-92) on Oct. 26, 2005. NAM POSITION: Yes.	Y	
Asbestos Litigation Reform. Vote on a procedural motion that would waive a point of order against S. 852, the Fairness in Asbestos Injury Resolution (FAIR) Act. Vote was 58-41, 2 shy of the 60 required under Senate rules, on Feb. 14, 2006 (Roll No. 21). The NAM supported the procedural motion and opposed the point of order, which was based on faulty assumptions. The NAM notified senators that voting "no" on this motion was tantamount to voting against asbestos litigation reform. NAM POSITION: Yes.	Y	
This official's percentage on this voting record:		33%