


***Background on the Senator-elect's statements, positions, and record on diplomacy, international assistance, and U.S. international affairs programs.***

A native of the Granite State and four-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Senator-Elect Pappas comes to the Senate emphasizing that **"American leadership on the world stage is non-negotiable,"** and that we must **"never shrink from our responsibilities as a global force for good."**

With humanitarian crises deepening around the world, Pappas advocates that America's leadership should reflect core values of "democracy, support for NATO and our alliances." Looking ahead to his Senate service, Pappas has pledged to "keep working to ensure the United States remains a leader in defending democratic values, upholding human rights, and addressing global challenges responsibly."

Born and raised in Manchester, Pappas will become New Hampshire's first openly gay Senator. In the House, he serves on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Before entering Congress, he served three terms on the New Hampshire Executive Council and in the New Hampshire House of Representatives. Pappas graduated from Harvard University with a degree in government.

## ON U.S. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE:

- During a February 2025 town hall on the international assistance freeze, Pappas said, "I think the real blunt instrument that this administration is using is not legal and it's not the way to get at the kind of savings that are going to be consistent with our needs, the needs of our partners and allies, and our national security."
- In a June 2025 statement opposing a rescissions package, he said, "These sweeping cuts undermine public media, our ability to foster democracy, and stop the spread of diseases."

## ON GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY:

- During a February 2025 telephone town hall, Pappas defended Food for Peace, saying, "It helps us serve individuals in countries that are going through famine where kids are experiencing hunger." He added, "It's a way that we can counter the growing influence of China around the world."

## ON GLOBAL HEALTH:

- In a January 2025 statement, Pappas said, "PEPFAR has provided lifesaving HIV/AIDS treatment for 20 million people over the last two decades… Halting this program, which has wide, bipartisan support, is cruel and irresponsible."
- In a July 2020 speech urging joint U.S.–Israel research to combat COVID-19, Pappas said, "America can't go it alone in this fight. We are stronger when we join forces with countries that share our values to confront our shared challenges."

## ON RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE:

- Pappas has consistently supported security and humanitarian assistance for Ukraine. In voting for the 2024 national security supplemental, he stated that "U.S. leadership is needed at this critical moment to support our allies and our shared security interests."
- He is a cosponsor of the Ukraine Support Act and the Sanctioning Russia Act which provide security assistance, reconstruction funding, and diplomatic cooperation for Ukraine while including additional sanctions on Russia.
- In an April 2022 statement after Russia's attacks on Ukrainian civilians, Pappas said, "There is no doubt war crimes have been committed and more are in progress, and these atrocities cannot go unanswered."

## ON GLOBAL COMPETITION WITH CHINA:

- He introduced the Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act, which would crack down on foreign drug trafficking and sanction Chinese suppliers of key fentanyl ingredients, and led the STOP CCP Act, which would require financial and visa sanctions on members of the CCP for human rights violations.

## ON ALLIANCES:

- Pappas has emphasized the importance of multilateral cooperation and strong alliances, saying that "at a time when democracy and global security are being tested, American leadership and strong alliances are indispensable."
- As a Co-Chair of the Congressional Hellenic Caucus, Pappas has championed closer security cooperation with Greece, which he has called "an essential partner to the United States in ensuring regional security and prosperity."
- Pappas has consistently voiced support for Taiwan, stating he is "committed to standing with all our democratic allies against threats to their security and sovereignty, and we must continue to strengthen our diplomatic partnership with our democratic ally Taiwan."

## ON CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST:

- In an October 2026 interview on the war with Iran, Pappas said, "We don't need boots on the ground. We don't need continued open-ended military engagement in the region."
- At an October 2026 Senate forum, Pappas opposed Iranian nuclear capabilities but called for a negotiated approach, saying, "I think we have to get back to serious diplomacy.."
- In support of a security supplemental to Israel in November 2023, Pappas stated, "Israel is our steadfast democratic ally and needs our unwavering support in the wake of the brutal Hamas terrorist attacks that shocked the world," adding that Congress should focus on "the destruction of Hamas and the humanitarian needs of those in the region."
- In a September 2026 debate, Pappas was asked about his support of the U.S.-Israel alliance in the face of growing dissatisfaction among some Democrats, and he responded, "I think what's important is both Israelis and Palestinians have security and an opportunity to live in peace... I support a two-state solution. I support increasing aid to the Palestinians right now," and added opposition to certain military sales to Israel, the need for Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu to go, and for Hamas to lay down its arms.