

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

An Allagash logger who spent two decades in Maine's Legislature, including six years as Senate president, Senator-elect Troy Jackson connects foreign policy to working families' costs and security. He says U.S. foreign policy should "**keep our country safe, avoid reckless wars, stand up for working people and reflect our values**."

Jackson's northern Maine roots are especially visible in his views on the importance of America's relationship with Canada and supporting cross-border trade.

Jackson earned an associate degree from the University of Maine at Fort Kent in 2000. He lives in Allagash with his partner, Lana, and has two grown sons.

ON U.S. GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AND AMERICA'S ROLE IN THE WORLD:

- In a September 2026 interview, Jackson said the United States, "used to be something that people could depend on," adding, "I certainly don't see any reason why we can't be allies to people across the world."
- On the Iran war, Jackson believes, "the answer is diplomacy, not bombs," adding that the United States could confront Iran's nuclear ambitions and support Iranians without "sending our sons and daughters to die."
- At an October 2026 debate, Jackson said of military action, "I'm not going to write another blank check to any president, Democrat or Republican."
- In a September 2026 News Center Maine interview, Jackson said he would need the "intelligence community come in and lay out the whole reason beforehand" before supporting authorization of military force, including evidence of threats to Americans or nuclear weapons.

ON GLOBAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT:

- During the campaign, Jackson said his concern about tariffs reflects the border economy's longstanding connections to Canadian customers, workers, and businesses, as reported by the Bangor Daily News.
- In July 2019, while serving in the Maine Senate, Jackson supported legislation to develop a Canadian drug-importation program to lower costs and said, "Mainers deserve to experience that same relief."
- At a September 2026 community conversation, Jackson said, "just unilaterally putting blanket tariffs on Canada is idiotic." He cited lost cross-border shopping and disruptions to Maine lumber, lobster and blueberry trade, and argued that Congress should reclaim its tariff authority.
- At the same community conversation, Jackson said, "We have had a great relationship with Canada. They're our neighbors. They're our partners."
- In a September 2026 interview about the 1998 border blockade, Jackson said, "it's not the Canadian workers." He blamed large landowners for using cross-border labor to undercut wages and said Canadian businesses and workers were welcome on an equal playing field.

ON RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE:

- In an October 2026 News Center Maine interview, Jackson said U.S. assistance to Ukraine should be "at least keeping it where it is," and that he would support an increase if intelligence indicated it was needed. He warned that if Russia wins, "I don't think they'll stop."
- In the same interview, Jackson opposed a proposed U.S. diesel purchase from Russia, saying, "I certainly don't believe in buying anything from Russia, who is our enemy," citing Russia's assistance to Iran.

ON CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST:

- At an October 2026 debate, Jackson called for ending the war with Iran while protecting U.S. troops, saying, "We got to get out, and we got to get out soon." He connected energy costs to Maine livelihoods, warning that "people in the logging, fishing, and forester industry won't be able to run their equipment." The argument places military decisions alongside the fuel costs facing the state's working communities.
- Jackson's platform calls for "No U.S. tax dollars to Israel's military" and describes Israel's actions in Gaza as genocide.
- At a September 2026 town hall, Jackson said, "the United States does have to provide humanitarian aid [in Gaza]," specifying aid for starving children, hungry people and the injured.
- At the same town hall, Jackson urged the United States to use its influence to bring both governments to negotiations, saying they should "come to the table and work out... something that both sides can live with."