

SENATOR SUSAN COLLINS

(R) Maine



With a long track record of supporting legislation that advances the cause of people with various disabilities, Senator Collins of Maine is one of the legislators that amputees can count on.

BACKGROUND:

Senator Collins is a native of Maine, born in Caribou, where her family has lived since 1844. She graduated from St. Lawrence University in New York with a degree in government in 1975 and began her political career as a staff assistant for Senator William Cohen. She served in various capacities in the US House and Senate before accepting a position as the New England Regional Director of the Small Business Administration. Following that and a stint as Massachusetts' Deputy State Treasurer, she returned to Maine in 1994 and became the first woman from a major party nominated for the Governor of Maine. Although she lost that election, two years later, she was elected to fill the vacated Senate seat of her former boss William Cohen, a position she has been re-elected to three times.

Time Magazine has described her as one of "the last survivors of a once common species of moderate Northeastern Republican." She has a 78% approval rating, the highest of any sitting Republican U.S. senator.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

You can let Senator Collins know that you appreciate her support for disabled Americans. You can see the legislation she is currently working to advance and email her office at her website: <https://www.collins.senate.gov/>

You can like her Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/susancollins/>

You can also call her Washington office directly at: (202)224-2523

SUPPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Among the highlights of Senator Collins' support for people with various disabilities:

- She helped lead the effort to fully fund the federal government's share of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Through her sponsorship of the Work Incentives Improvement Act, she worked to tear down the barriers that prevent Americans with disabilities from working
- She worked to pass the Family Opportunity Act to ensure that children with significant disabilities have access to the critical health care services they need without impoverishing their families.
- She was a co-sponsor of the RAISE Family Caregiver Act to develop and sustain a national strategy to support family caregivers.
- She was presented with the "Lead On" Award from United Cerebral Palsy in 2004 in recognition of her work for people with disabilities.
- Named ANCOR's National Advocacy Campaign's 2013 Disability Community Champion for her history of support of people with disabilities.

