

Peter Welch (VT)



Biography

BIRTH DATE

05/02/1947

EDUCATION

JD, Public Interest Law, Univ. of California, Berkeley, 1973; BA, College of the Holy Cross, 1969

FAMILY

Wife: Margaret; 5 Children, 3 Stepchildren

Background

With a background in law and advocacy, Welch embraces progressive goals while seeking bipartisan cooperation on energy efficiency and rural broadband

Began his 30-year legal career as a public defender in Windsor County, VT, would later work as an attorney for the law offices of Welch, Graham, & Manby and Black and Plante

Experience as a community organizer in the 1960s showed him how law and politics can have a positive impact on communities, leading him to establish the Housing and Land Conservation Trust; first entered public service as a state senator in the 1980s and became minority leader after two years

Spent 14 years in the Vermont state Senate, but left politics for a decade after his 1990 gubernatorial campaign and cared for his first wife, Joan, as she battled cancer; appointed in 2001 to fill a vacant state Senate seat by then-Gov. Howard Dean (D-VT) and became president pro tempore again in 2003

Elected to the US House in 2006 after then-Rep. Bernie Sanders (D-VT) decided to run for Senate; Welch's first congressional campaign made strong calls for national health care and energy plans as well as an end to the Iraq War

Following Sen. Patrick Leahy's (D-VT) decision to retire at the end of his term, Welch announced that he would run for Leahy's seat in 2022

State Profile

COOK PVI

N/A

2022 VOTE RATING

Solid D

Election Results

2022 GENERAL

Welch

69%

Malloy

28%

SOURCE Associated Press; Vignette, by National Journal

AP DATA AS OF December 7, 2022 10:42 AM