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Stockton poll finds wider gap between Menendez, Hugin

AVALON ZOPPO Staff Writer Nov 2, 2018



Bob Menendez

Age: 64 **Party:** Democratic Running for re-election Before he became a U.S. senator, Menendez was the mayor of Union City, a New Jersey assemblyman and a state senator. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1993 and served as a congressman before being appointed senator in 2006. He was appointed to the position after Jon S. Corzine resigned to serve as governor and won re-election in 2012.

Associated Press



HUGIN

A new Stockton University poll shows Democratic incumbent Bob Menendez ahead of Republican challenger Bob Hugin by 12 percentage points in the U.S. Senate race.

The poll, which surveyed 598 likely voters in New Jersey, has Menendez leading with 51 percent of the vote. Hugin earned 39 percent.

Three percent of those surveyed support libertarian Murray Sabrin while 6 percent are either undecided or want another candidate.

The university said the results represent a reversal for Menendez, who was ahead by only two points in an earlier Stockton poll released Oct. 1. The new survey shows the Democrat is supported by 87 percent of those in his party, up from 80 percent.

A breakdown of the results suggest President Donald Trump is influencing voter decisions in the New Jersey Senate race, said Michael W. Klein, interim executive director of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy.

Those surveyed were asked to pick from a list the main factor influencing their vote, and 35 percent chose Trump.

“President Trump’s presence appears to be at the top of the ticket in New Jersey,” Klein said in a news release. “Our poll indicates that New Jersey’s voters oppose the president, and the best way to express that opposition at the ballot box is to re-elect Senator Menendez, despite any misgivings they might have about the senator himself.”

The poll showed Menendez has a 15-point edge among women and holds strong leads among racial and ethnic minority voters. Both candidates are tied among white voters.

Menendez leads in North Jersey counties and Hugin in South Jersey.

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