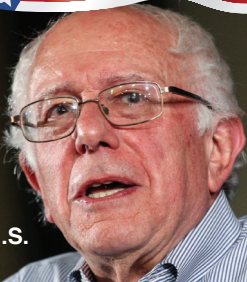




Bernie Sanders

Vermont senator is longest-serving independent member of U.S. Congress



■ **Born:** Sep 8, 1941 in New York, son of Polish Jewish immigrants

■ **Education:** Attends University of Chicago, where he is active in civil rights movement. Graduates in 1964

■ **1970s:** Joins anti-war *Liberty Union Party*, makes several unsuccessful bids for public office

■ **1980s:** Serves four terms as mayor of Burlington, Vermont

■ **1990:** Enters U.S. House of Representatives as independent. Vocal opponent of 2003 Iraq invasion

■ **2006:** Elected to Senate. Gains attention with marathon 2010 speech against proposed tax cuts for wealthy. Re-elected to Senate in 2012

■ **Apr 2015:** Announces bid to seek Democratic presidential nomination