



# They've Lost That Lovin' Feeling

*Democrats Seeking Reelection Used To Be Obama's Best Friends, Now They're Pretending Like They're Just Not That Into Him*

**"Hardly Any" Senators Facing Competitive Elections This Year Want Obama "Anywhere Near Them."** "The White House and Senate Democrats are preparing an extensive midterm campaign strategy built around one unavoidable fact: Hardly any candidates in the most competitive states want President Barack Obama anywhere near them." (Edward-Isaac Dove, Manu Raju, Katie Glueck, "White House's Senate Strategy: Keep Obama Away," [Politico](#), 2/10/14)

**In A Recent Meeting With Senate Democrats, Obama Offered To "Stay Away" From Senate Races In States Where He Is Unpopular.** "President Barack Obama has told Senate Democrats that he's willing to stay away from election battles where his presence would not be helpful, a Democratic source said -- an apparent nod to his poll numbers." (Jim Acosta And Dana Bash, "Source: Obama Offers To Stay Away From Some Senate Races," [CNN](#), 2/6/14)

*Obama Acknowledged What Was Already Happening – Senate Incumbents Are Running Away From Him As Fast As They Can*

**Following The State Of The Union, Sen. Mark Udall (D-CO) Refused To Say Whether He Would Have Obama Campaign For Him As He Seeks Reelection This Year.** BASH: "Is he a liability for you, the president back home?" UDALL: "When the President comes to Colorado, and talks about our all of the above energy approach, we've got lots of natural gas and solar power, that resonates with Coloradans. When he talks about making sure our veterans are treated properly, that resonates with Coloradans." BASH: "Does that mean you're going to campaign with him, or you're going to have him campaign with you side by side?" UDALL: "We are going to be running a strong campaign based on Colorado's interests and Colorado's future. My job, I think, is to protect Colorado's way of life." (Sen. Mark Udall, [CNN Interview](#), 1/28/14)

- **Udall, After Being Asked Three Times About Obama Campaigning With Him: "We'll See What The Schedule Allows."** BASH: "Wow, one more chance, you're not going to say yes or no, are you?" UDALL: "We'll see what the schedule allows. I'm running for reelection, and not the President, in Colorado." BASH: "Wolf, I think that's our answer." (Sen. Mark Udall, [CNN Interview](#), 1/28/14)

**Sen. Kay Hagan (D-NC) Skipped Obama's Speech In Raleigh Last Month.** "One of North Carolina's most prominent Democrats doesn't plan to attend President Barack Obama's speech Wednesday in Raleigh. A spokeswoman for U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan said Monday the senator won't be at the president's event on the North Carolina State University campus because she'll be in Washington as the Senate meets this week." ("Hagan Will Stay In DC While Obama Travels To NC," [The Associated Press](#), 1/13/14)

- **CNN's Brianna Keilar Called Hagan's Excuse "The Congressional Equivalent Of 'I Can't Go, I'm Washing My Hair.'"** CNN's BRIANNA KEILAR: "I know you're saying her office has addressed this – that she's here, and the Senate's in session. But I think people take that as the congressional equivalent of 'I can't go, I'm washing my hair.'" ([White House Daily Press Briefing](#), 1/14/14)

**Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA), Didn't Join Obama At His New Orleans Speech In November.** "When President Barack Obama appears at the Port of New Orleans tomorrow, he won't be joined by Louisiana's only statewide elected Democrat, U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu." (Julia O'Donoghue, "Sen. Landrieu Won't Appear With Obama At Port Of New Orleans," [The Times-Picayune](#), 11/7/13)

- **Landrieu Rode Down To Louisiana With Obama On Air Force One, But Claimed She Couldn't Appear With Him Due To A "Long-Standing Engagement" Elsewhere.** "Landrieu will travel with Obama to New Orleans on the president's plane, Air Force One, but she doesn't plan to attend his speech about boosting exports. The U.S. Senator has a long-standing engagement in Lake Charles that takes place at the same time and she can't be in both places at once, staff said." (Julia O'Donoghue, "Sen. Landrieu Won't Appear With Obama At Port Of New Orleans," [The Times-Picayune](#), 11/7/13)

**When Confronted With Questions, Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) "Tried To Avoid The Topic" Of Campaigning With Obama.** "Most incumbents and hopefuls, though, wouldn't go that far — including generally Obama-friendly Sens. Al Franken of Minnesota and Cory Booker of New Jersey, who stuck with their general policy of not answering questions from reporters in the Senate corridors. Or they tried to avoid the topic. 'You know, I campaigned with the president in 2012,' said Sen. Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire. 'He may come back, I don't know what he's going to do.'" (Edward-Isaac Dove, Manu Raju, Katie Glueck, "White House's Senate Strategy: Keep Obama Away," [Politico](#), 2/10/14)

- **Shaheen: "I Don't Know What He's Going To Do."** (Edward-Isaac Dove, Manu Raju, Katie Glueck, "White House's Senate Strategy: Keep Obama Away," [Politico](#), 2/10/14)

**Pryor Tried To Downplay The Importance Of Surrogates Campaigning For Him, Despite Already Having Bill Clinton Fundraise For Him In Arkansas.** "Clinton — and possibly Biden — will be taking the lead for Democrats in his native Arkansas, with Obama staying far away as Sen. Mark Pryor tries to defend his seat. In an interview, Pryor downplayed the role any surrogate would play in his campaign — even though Clinton has already helped with fundraising. 'I don't get people to come and campaign for me very often,' Pryor said. 'To me, in Arkansas, people don't vote for you because somebody else says vote for you.'" (Edward-Isaac Dove, Manu Raju, Katie Glueck, "White House's Senate Strategy: Keep Obama Away," [Politico](#), 2/10/14)

## **IT WASN'T ALWAYS THIS WAY – SENATE DEMOCRATS USED TO BE EAGER TO TIE THEMSELVES TO OBAMA**

### ***Mark Pryor Campaigned For Obama In 2008 And Claimed There "Is A Destiny About Him"***

**Pryor Asked Obama To Campaign In Arkansas In 2008:** PRYOR: "I look forward to [Obama] getting out, all over the country. And I talked to his people last night about trying to come to Arkansas and trying to win there. And I do think they want to do that." (Sen. Mark Pryor, [Remarks At 2008 DNC Convention](#), 8/27/08)

**Pryor Campaigned For Obama In 2008, Saying: "Barack Obama Has The Leadership, He Has The Vision, He Has The Hope That This Country Needs Right Now."** (Sen. Mark Pryor, [Remarks At Little Rock, AR Obama Rally](#), 10/24/08)

- **Pryor: "Let's Go Out And Work As Hard As We Possibly Can For Barack Obama."** (Sen. Mark Pryor, [Remarks At Little Rock, AR Obama Rally](#), 10/24/08)

**At The 2008 DNC Convention, Pryor Told The Arkansas Delegation That Obama “Is Exactly The Right Guy For This Moment In History.”** “Pryor: You know, he’s the kind of guy that is exactly the right guy for this moment in history.” (Sen. Mark Pryor, [Remarks At 2008 DNC Convention](#), 8/27/08)

- **Pryor: “My Sense Is There Is A Destiny About Barack Obama. I Think There Is A Destiny About Him.”** (Sen. Mark Pryor, [Remarks At 2008 DNC Convention](#), 8/27/08)

**Pryor Said In 2011 That He Thought Obama Deserved Another Four Years In Office.** “Pryor said he thought Obama deserved another four years. ‘I think that President Obama came in [during] an incredibly difficult time, a whole set of circumstances that made his presidency one of the most difficult in American history,’ Pryor said.” (Charlie Frago, “Partisan ‘Games’ Miring Debt-Cap Deal, Pryor Says,” *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, 6/3/11)

**Pryor Voted With Obama 90 Percent Of The Time In 2013, According To The Non-Partisan Congressional Quarterly.** (Presidential Support, [CQ Weekly](#), 2/3/14)

- **Since 2009, Pryor Has Voted With Obama An Average Of 93 Percent Of The Time.** (Sen. Mark Pryor, [Congressional Quarterly](#), Accessed 2/13/14)

***Mark Udall Asked Coloradans To Send Him To The Senate To Give Obama “A Working Majority”***

**Udall Spoke At An October 2008 Obama Rally And Denver And Asked Coloradans To Vote For Him For Senate So He Could Give Obama “A Working Majority In The United States Senate.”** (Andrew Kaczynski, “Democratic Senator Who Campaigned With Obama In 2008 Won’t Say If He Will Again In 2014,” [Buzzfeed](#), 1/29/14)

- **Udall: “Let Me Utter Two Really Sweet Words: ‘President Obama.’”** (Mark Udall, [Remarks At Obama Rally](#), 10/26/08)

**At The 2008 Democratic National Convention, Udall Said The Country Was “Ready For Barack Obama.”** “UDALL: My dad would be so proud to see a new generation gathered here in Colorado, the heart of the west, ready to lead. Ready to make this country work again. Ready for Barack Obama and Joe Biden.” (Mark Udall, [Remarks At 2008 Democratic National Convention](#), 8/28/08)

**Udall At A 2012 Obama/Biden Rally: “We’ve Got To Fight For President Obama Because He’ll Fight For Us.”** (Sen Mark Udall, [Remarks At Obama/Biden Rally](#), 11/3/12)

**Udall Voted With Obama 99 Percent Of The Time In 2013, According To The Non-Partisan Congressional Quarterly.** (Presidential Support, [CQ Weekly](#), 2/3/14)

- **Since 2009, Udall Has Voted With Obama An Average Of 97 Percent Of The Time.** (Sen. Mark Udall, [Congressional Quarterly](#), Accessed 2/13/14)

***Just Last Year, Kay Hagan Said She Would “Be Honored” To Have Obama Campaign For Her***

**In August Of 2013, Hagan Said That She Would “Be Honored” To Have Obama Campaign For Her Next Year.** “In North Carolina, which Obama narrowly carried in 2008 and narrowly lost in 2012, Republicans hope unhappiness with the health care law will topple Democratic Sen. Kay Hagan in November. Hagan, seeking a second term, told The News and Observer of Raleigh in August she would ‘be honored’ to have Obama campaign for her. But Republicans are distributing a WTVD news clip that says Hagan didn’t answer directly when asked if she would appear alongside the president.” (Charles Babington, “Some Dems Keep Distance As Obama Popularity Drops,” [The Associated Press](#), 12/2/13)

**In 2012, Hagan Endorsed Obama And Said Americans “Need President Obama In The White House For Four More Years.”** “I worry about and think about jobs, jobs, jobs, every day. And that’s exactly why we need President Obama in the White House for four more years.” (Sen. Kay Hagan, [ABC News](#), 9/5/12)

- **Hagan Hit The Campaign Trail For Obama The Day Before The 2012 Election.** “This led the Obama campaign to quickly organize the rally in Raleigh, which also featured appearances by U.S. Senator Kay Hagan, Lt. Governor Walter Dalton and former Governor Jim Hunt.” (Brennan McGowan, “Clinton rallies support for Obama in Raleigh,” [Elon Local News](#), 11/5/12)

**Hagan Was Eager To Appear At Obama Rallies During Her 2008 Campaign.** “One clear sign things have changed: Democrats whose names will be below Obama’s on the ballot want to be seen at his rallies. There was state Sen. Kay Hagan, who is trying to unseat U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole, joining Obama at the rally after shooting hoops with him in the Asheville High School gym.” (Jordan Schrader, “NC Democrats Stand With Obama,” *The Asheville Citizen-Times*, 10/6/08)

**Hagan Voted With Obama 96 Percent Of The Time In 2013, According To The Non-Partisan Congressional Quarterly.** (Presidential Support, [CQ Weekly](#), 2/3/14)

- **Since 2009, Hagan Has Voted With Obama An Average Of 95 Percent Of The Time.** (Sen. Kay Hagan, [Congressional Quarterly](#), Accessed 2/4/14)

### ***Mary Landrieu Extolled The “Promise Of Barack Obama” At The 2008 Democratic National Convention***

**At The 2008 Democratic National Convention, Landrieu Extolled The “Promise Of Barack Obama.”** LANDRIEU: “America deserves a President who is willing to lead. Who will cut through the red tape and serve the people, not the bureaucracy. And a President who will stand with mayors and governors, and not against them, to get the job done. That is the hope of the people of America. And that is the promise of Barack Obama.” (Sen. Mary Landrieu, [Address To The Democratic National Convention](#), Denver, CO, 2/26/08)

**During The 2008 Democrat Primary, Landrieu Secretly Committed To Supporting Obama Instead Of Hillary Clinton’s Campaign.** “Mary Landrieu of Louisiana was also among those who led the charge. The drawling daughter of former New Orleans mayor Moon Landrieu had regrets about the primary campaign. She counted herself among Bill Clinton’s biggest supporters and among Hillary’s greatest admirers. But when Obama came calling, armed with the fact that Landrieu was running for reelection and would need a big black turnout in New Orleans and across the state, she had privately committed to vote for him at the convention.” (Jonathan Allen and Amie Parnes, *HRC: State Secrets And The Rebirth Of Hillary Clinton*, 2014)

**Landrieu Voted With Obama 97 Percent Of The Time In 2013, According To The Non-Partisan Congressional Quarterly.** (Presidential Support, [CQ Weekly](#), 2/3/14)

- **Since 2009, Landrieu Has Voted With Obama An Average Of 95 Percent Of The Time.** (Sen. Mary Landrieu, [Congressional Quarterly](#), Accessed 2/4/14)

### ***Jeanne Shaheen Told New Hampshire Voters “We Are Going To Elect Barack Obama”***

**Shaheen In 2008: “I Look Forward To Working With President Obama To Change The Direction Of This Country.”** SHAHEEN: “I look forward to working with President Obama to change the direction of this country. To get our economy back on track. To expand affordable health care.” (Jeanne Shaheen, [2008 Victory Speech](#), 11/4/08)

**At A 2008 Rally Shaheen Exclaimed “We Are Going To Elect Barack Obama.”** SHAHEEN: “Next Tuesday, New Hampshire voters have the chance to stand up, to speak out, and to demand a new course



for our country. We are going to elect Barack Obama the next President of the United States. And we are going to get the new direction that we so desperately need.” (Jeanne Shaheen, [2008 Rally](#), 10/28/08)

**Shaheen Served As A National Co-Chair Of Obama’s 2012 Campaign.** (Press Release, “Obama For America Announces National Campaign Co-Chairs,” [Obama For America](#), 2/22/12)

- **Shaheen: “President Obama Has The Right Vision For This Country. I Am Proud To Support A Campaign That Embraces Investment In America’s Future And Support A Leader In Innovation, Education, And Energy.”** (Press Release, “Obama For America Announces National Campaign Co-Chairs,” [Obama For America](#), 2/22/12)

**Shaheen Opened A 2012 Obama Reelection Rally.** SHAHEEN: “What a great crowd. You all are terrific. I am so glad you’re here, that we’re all here to welcome the President, Barack Obama. The First Lady, Michelle. The Vice President, Joe Biden. And Jill Biden. To the greatest state in the nation. We are so excited to have the fab four in New Hampshire.” (Jeanne Shaheen, [Obama 2012 Rally](#), 9/7/12)

- **Shaheen: “Barack Obama’s Values Are Our Values.”** (Jeanne Shaheen, [Obama 2012 Rally](#), 9/7/12)

**Shaheen Voted With Obama 99 Percent Of The Time In 2013, According To The Non-Partisan Congressional Quarterly.** (Presidential Support, [CQ Weekly](#), 2/3/14)

- **Since 2009, Shaheen Has Voted With Obama An Average Of 98 Percent Of The Time.** (Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, [Congressional Quarterly](#), Accessed 2/13/14)

***Mark Warner Claimed “We Need Barack Obama As The Next President Of The United States”***

**Warner Spoke At The 2008 Democratic National Convention, And Proclaimed “We Need Barack Obama As The Next President Of The United States.”** WARNER: “We need a President who understands the world today, the future we seek, and the change we need. We need Barack Obama as the next President of the United States.” (Mark Warner, [2008 Democratic National Convention](#), 8/26/08)

- **Warner: “We Must Elect Barack Obama As Our Next President.”** (Mark Warner, [2008 Democratic National Convention](#), 8/26/08)

**Warner Campaigned For Obama In Virginia In 2008, And Introduced Him At Get Out The Vote Rallies.** WARNER: “At this moment for our nation, we need a President that can find common ground. We need a President who understands that America can’t leave anyone behind. We need a President who will look at any good idea, doesn’t matter if it’s got a ‘D’ or an ‘R’ next to it. We need a President who will ask us to step up, not as Democrats, not as Republicans, but first and foremost as Americans. And that man is Barack Obama. My fellow Virginians, my fellow Americans, please give a great Virginia welcome to the next President of the United States, Barack Obama.” (Warner, [2008 Obama Rally](#), 10/22/08)

**Warner Continued To Appear At Rallies For Obama In 2012, Telling Audiences That “In 2008 We Changed The Guard, In 2012 We’re Gonna Guard The Change.”** WARNER: “So here we are again, Virginia. The eyes of the nation are going to be on us again. Are you prepared to do your part? You know, in 2008 we changed the guard. In 2012 we’re gonna guard the change.” (Mark Warner, [2012 Obama Rally](#), 7/13/12)

**Warner Voted With Obama 97 Percent Of The Time In 2013, According To The Non-Partisan Congressional Quarterly.** (Presidential Support, [CQ Weekly](#), 2/3/14)

- **Since 2009, Warner Has Voted With Obama An Average Of 97 Percent Of The Time.** (Sen. Mark Warner, [Congressional Quarterly](#), Accessed 2/13/14)