





"I believe in healthcare decisions being between a woman and her doctor," Booker said. "If you believe in liberty, give liberty back to women."

"I believe in the sanctity of life," Lonegan said.

The debate was similar to last week's debate in Trenton, in which the candidates agreed on virtually nothing and sparred at every turn. Each candidate continued to call the other extremist in his views.

"We need to send more people to Washington to work together, not more Tea Party candidates who will shut down the government," proved to be a phrase Booker would use more than once throughout the course of the debate.

"He calls me a right wing extremist and our views are 180 degrees apart, so he must be a left wing extremist," Lonegan said.

Booker pointed to Lonegan's opposition to federal aid following Superstorm Sandy as proof of what he called Lonegan's extremism.

"We have someone running for senator in New Jersey who opposed aid for the state's residents following Sandy," Booker said.

"I didn't agree with the rush for the money, and I didn't know where the money was coming from," Lonegan said.

The two sparred on the government shutdown, Affordable Care Act, abortion, gun laws, education and briefly on national defense.

But both candidates came away with confidence, and both were prepared to leave the decision to the voters.

"The New Jersey voters can make the decision and send a message to America," Booker said. "Do we want someone who's going to pour gasoline on the fire or do we want someone going to Washington with a record of being able to work with everyone?"

"My message represents the mainstream of New Jersey voters," Lonegan said. "I'm not going to convince all the voters in New Jersey to agree with me, but they will know what I believe in and where I stand. I will respect the decision of the voters."

The candidates are seeking the Senate seat left vacant when Frank Lautenberg died of pneumonia in June. The election is Oct. 16.

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