

JERRY MORAN (R-KS)**IN OFFICE**

Up for re-election in 2016

1st Term






Elected in 2010

SENIORITY RANK

60

Out of 100

CONTACT

| | |
|--|--|
|  Email | Contact Form http://www.moran.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/connect?p=email-jerry |
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BGOV BIOGRAPHY

By Brian Nutting, Bloomberg News

Kansas Republican Jerry Moran casts conservative votes on both fiscal and social issues, constantly warning that Congress and the president must take action to implement long-term changes to lower the national debt. In his view, those fixes must rely mostly on spending cuts.

At the same time, as a senator from a state that relies on government spending in such diverse areas as farm programs, subsidized small-town airline service and rural health care for veterans, Moran has been an advocate for constituent needs. He was a member of the Agriculture Committee in the 112th Congress -- his first two years in the Senate -- and joined the Appropriations Committee in the 113th Congress. On Appropriations, he got a seat on the Agriculture Subcommittee.

In the Senate, where he has served since 2011, and earlier in 14 years in the House, Moran has shown himself willing to go against the party grain when doing so benefited the interests of his rural constituents.

He voted for a multiyear farm bill in 2013, noting that it contained two elements important to Kansas farmers and ranchers -- strong crop insurance and disaster programs. He also voted for a 2012 farm bill that was never enacted. In both cases, he was in the minority of Republicans who supported the measure.

With an eye to increasing farm exports, he favors opening trade with Cuba.

In 2013 he was a leader in the fight to give the Federal Aviation Administration flexibility in making sequestration-mandated spending cuts in order to avert the closing of more than 100 air traffic control centers at small airports around the country, including seven in Kansas. Likewise, he has been a champion of the FAA's Essential Air Service program, which provides subsidies for passenger airline service in small communities, including six in Kansas.

Bio-Defense Facility

Bloomberg GOVERNMENT

He has championed the selection of Manhattan, Kansas, the home of Kansas State University, as the site of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility. The center, a joint project of the Department of Homeland Security and the Agriculture Department, will conduct research on veterinary and agricultural terrorism threats to national security.

In 2013, he proudly announced that McConnell Air Force Base, near Wichita, was in line for substantial funding to upgrade the facilities to accommodate new KC-46A tankers.

Moran is a low-key lawmaker with a big second job: He is chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee for the 2013-2014 election cycle, with the task of recruiting top candidates and helping them with funding and advice so that Republicans can take control of the Senate in the 114th Congress.

In spite of his long congressional tenure, Moran was little known in political circles outside Washington when he got the NRSC chairmanship.

‘Not My Motivation’

He told National Journal that he’s not bothered by that, and that while “many people may seek the NRSC position to advance their own agenda, to advance their own future careers, that’s not my motivation.” He said he intends to largely stay out of next year’s primary battles for the party’s Senate candidates.

A self-described conservative, Moran says he tries not to be overly partisan. He boasts a 90 percent lifetime score from the American Conservative Union and opposes abortion, same-sex marriage and gun control. His votes in his first two years in the Senate put him solidly in the middle of the Republican pack.

The national debt is a major focus of Moran’s criticism of big government. “Members of both political parties have ignored this growing fiscal crisis and left it up to others in the future to deal with,” he said on the Senate floor in 2011. He went on to say, “Americans are looking for leadership in Washington to help create jobs and get our economy back on its feet. But lately, all they have heard is a lot of partisan rhetoric, and all they have seen is more government spending.”

He proudly notes that “I voted against every stimulus and bailout plan to have come before Congress.” Not surprisingly, he has signed the “no new taxes” pledge sponsored by the anti-tax advocacy group Americans for Tax Reform.

Early Years

Moran, born in a small town in west central Kansas, was the first member of his family to go to college. His father worked in the oil fields; his mother was a secretary for the electric company.

As a college student, Moran was an intern in the Capitol Hill office of his congressman, Republican Keith Sebelius. He was in Washington during the summer of the Watergate impeachment hearings of President Richard Nixon and worked alongside his future colleague in the Senate, Pat Roberts.

Moran attended Fort Hays State College and graduated from the University of Kansas, then worked as a small-town banker before receiving a law degree from KU. He returned to Hays, where he had begun his college education, to open a law office.

In 1988, he waged an uphill campaign for the state Senate against a heavily favored Democratic incumbent. He narrowly won that race and went on to serve eight years, the last two as majority leader.

When Roberts relinquished his House seat representing western Kansas’s “Big First” congressional district to run for the U.S. Senate in 1996, Moran ran to succeed him. In the solidly Republican 1st District, he had no trouble winning election, garnering 73 percent of the vote. Moran served seven terms, always winning with at least 70 percent of the vote; in several of those elections, the Democratic Party didn’t even field a candidate.

He conducted annual “listening tours” every year in which he visited every county in his congressional district. In his last eight years in the House, that meant visits to 69 counties. As a senator, he expanded that practice, traveling to all of the state’s 105 counties.

In 2006 he considered a run for the governorship, deciding instead to continue in the House. Four years later, when Republican Sam Brownback opted to run for governor instead of for re-election to the Senate, Moran and his House colleague Todd Tiahrt both sought the GOP nomination. After a hard-fought primary campaign in which they both sought to claim the mantle of the true conservative in the race, Moran was victorious, defeating Tiahrt by five percentage points.

That was tantamount to election in November; Kansas hasn’t elected a Democrat to the Senate since 1932. Moran was in no danger of breaking that string, collecting 70 percent of the vote against first-time candidate Lisa Johnston, an administrator at Baker University.

Updated Aug. 21, 2013

BIO FROM REPRESENTATIVE'S WEBSITE

From the Senator's Website

Raised in Plainville, Kansas, Senator Jerry Moran was taught from an early age the value of a hard day's work, looking after one's neighbors, and serving his community. These same values guide him today as he serves Kansans in the United States Senate.

Senator Moran is a leading advocate in the U.S. Senate for protecting and preserving the special way of life in Kansas. He has a long history of opposing reckless spending on Capitol Hill, and forcefully advocates for spending cuts, tougher funding standards, and broad reform as a member of the Appropriations Committee. Through his work on the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, Senator Moran continues his long-time commitment to strengthening the economy, opening up foreign markets to U.S. exports, and fostering the growth of small businesses. Also, as a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, one of his top priorities is improving the quality of life for the nearly 250,000 veterans living in Kansas.

Since joining the U.S. Senate, Senator Moran has also been a leading advocate for issues related to entrepreneurship, job creation, and innovation. He is committed to putting policies in place that foster a pro-growth environment where businesses can succeed without government imposed barriers. As Ranking Member on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, he is a firm supporter of medical research and believes our nation's consistent support of medical research is essential to saving and improving lives, reducing health care costs, and strengthening America's position as a global leader in medical innovation.

In November 2012, Senator Moran was unanimously elected into Senate Republican Leadership by his colleagues to serve as Chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC). In this new role, Moran is working to recruit the most qualified and dynamic candidates and to raise the resources necessary to make a difference in the 2014 election.

Prior to his election to the Senate in November 2010, Moran served Kansans in the 'Big First' Congressional district for seven terms in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as eight years in the Kansas State Senate ^ spending the last two years as Majority Leader.

As a senior member of the House Agriculture Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives, then-Congressman Moran worked with colleagues to craft legislation that allowed Kansas farms and ranches to remain viable in today's competitive global marketplace. Moran was also an active member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, where he served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Health.

Since first working on Capitol Hill in 1997, Senator Moran has made it a priority to stay connected to the people he represents. Despite the distance of more than 1,000 miles between Washington, D.C., and Kansas, he returns home each weekend to meet with Kansans. The conversations he has with Kansans during his travels around the state greatly impact the work he does in Washington.

Before his election to public office, Jerry Moran attended Fort Hays State University and later the University of Kansas, where he completed a degree in economics in 1976. After an early career as a small town banker, he received his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1982.

Jerry and his wife Robba continue to live in Kansas. They have two daughters, Kelsey and Alex. Kelsey is a graduate of Kansas State University and now attends Georgetown Law in D.C. Alex is studying veterinary medicine at Kansas State University.

PERSONAL PROFILE

COMMITTEES

[Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs](#)

[Senate Committee on Appropriations](#)

[Senate Committee on Veterans'](#)

Birthdate 05/29/1954

Birthplace Great Bend, KS

Political Party Republican Party

Marital Status Married

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Education

University of Kansas

Bachelor's Degree 1976

Affairs

Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation

Spouse

Robba

Univ of Kansas Schl of Law
JD 1981

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

Family

2 children

Fort Hays State Univ

CAUCUSES

Senate Hunger Caucus

Senate Community Pharmacy
Caucus

Senate Economic Mobility Caucus

1982 - 1985 Special Assistant Attorney Gen,
State of Kansas 1987 - 1995 Deputy
Attorney, County of Rooks KS 1989 - 1993
State Senator, (KS)Senate 1993 - 1995
VP/State Senator, (KS)Senate 1995 - 1997
Majority Leader/State Senator, (KS)Senate
01-03-1997 - 01-03-2011
Representative:Kansas, (US)House of
Representatives 2011 - Present
Senator:Kansas, (US)Senate