

NEBRASKA

(Population 2000, 1,711,263)

SENATORS

BEN NELSON, Democrat, of Omaha, NE; born in McCook, NE, May 17, 1941; education: B.A., 1963, M.A., 1965, J.D., 1970, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE; honorary degrees, Creighton University, 1992; Peru State College, 1993; College of Saint Mary, 1995; Midland Lutheran College, 1998; Dana College, 1999; professional: attorney; Director, Nebraska Department of Insurance; President and CEO of the Central National Insurance Group; Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Kennedy, Holland, DeLacy, and Svoboda (law firm); Governor of Nebraska, 1991–99; awards: American Legislative Exchange Council, Thomas Jefferson Freedom Award; National Guard, Charles Dick Medal of Merit; American Legion, Nebraska Chapter, Outstanding Service and Assistance to Veterans; Business Industry Political Action Committee, Adam Smith Award; U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Spirit of Enterprise Awards; National Association of Manufacturers, Award for Manufacturing Legislative Excellence; Independent Bankers Association, Hon. Horst G. Denk Congressional Award; Small Business Survival Committee Award; National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, Benjamin Franklin Public Policy Award; Coalition for Medicare Choices, Leadership Award; American Hospital Association, Appreciation for Distinguished Leadership; National Rural Health Association, Rural Health Champion Award; Nebraska Rural Health Association, President's Award; Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, Madonna Spirit Award; American Network of Community Options and Resources, Congressional Award; American Association of Community Colleges' Council for Resource Development, Congressional Award; Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, Housing Champion Award; National Council for Adaption, Hall of Fame Award; Indian American Friendship Council, Recognition of Service Award; Pheasants Forever, Conservation Service Award; Renewable Energy Alliance, Renewable Energy Leadership Award; American Farm Bureau, Friend of Farm Bureau Award; National Farmers Union, Presidential Award for Leadership and Golden Triangle Awards; Agricultural Retailers Association, Legislator of the Year; Nebraska Wheat Growers Association; Man of the Year Award; Water Systems Council, Wellcare Leadership Award; University of Nebraska Alumni Association, Founders Medallion Award; George W. Norris Award; Nebraska Broadcasters Association, Friend of Nebraska Broadcasters Award; Governors' Ethanol Coalition Award; Nebraska Groundwater Foundation Achievement Award; National Insurance Regulatory Examiners Society, Schrader-Nelson Award; National Eagle Scout Association, Distinguished Eagle Award; married: Diane; four children; committees: Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Rules and Administration; elected to the U.S. Senate on November 7, 2000; reelected to each succeeding Senate term.

Office Listings

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MIKE JOHANNIS, Republican, of Omaha, NE; born in Osage, IA, June 18, 1950; education: B.A., St. Mary's College, Winona, MN, 1971; J.D., Creighton University, Omaha, NE, 1974; professional: Lancaster County Board, 1983–87; Lincoln City Council, 1989–91; Mayor of Lincoln, 1991–98; Nebraska Governor, 1999–2005; Secretary of Agriculture, 2005–2007; Senate Community College Caucus, Senate Impact Aid Coalition, Rural Health Caucus, Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, Parkinson's Action Network, Army Caucus, Air Force Caucus, Senate Cultural Caucus; Congressional Vision Caucus; Farmer Cooperative Caucus; religion: Catholic; married: Stephanie Johannis; two children, five grandchildren; committees: Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Commerce, Science and Transportation; Indian Affairs; Veterans' Affairs; elected to the U.S. Senate on November 4, 2008.