

SENATOR MICHAEL BENNET

Senator (D-CO) since 2009

Primary Date: 6/28/2022

Cook PVI: D+03

Bipartisan Lugar Score 0.33242

(Any score above zero is considered good)



Committees: *Member - Senate Committee on Finance*

Member - Senate Select Committee on Intelligence

Member - Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Caucuses: *Member - Bipartisan Climate Caucus*

Bills Related to the Reduction of Greenhouse Gases:

Cosponsor - Energy Storage Tax Incentive and Deployment Act (H.R. 1684 & S. 627)

Sponsor - The Carbon Capture Improvement Act (S. 1829 & H.R. 4408)

Cosponsor - Growing Climate Solutions Act S.1251

Cosponsor - Energy Sector Innovation Credit Act S.2475

Cosponsor - Financing Our Energy Future Act S.1034

Cosponsor - Repairing Existing Public Land by Adding Necessary Trees Act S.866

Websites: [Campaign Website](#) [Website](#)

Overview

Senator Michael Bennet is a staunch advocate for bipartisan, enduring action to protect our climate and simultaneously strengthening energy independence. While in the Senate, he has passed more than 100 pieces of legislation, often with bipartisan support (he is ranked as the 29th most bipartisan Senator in the most recent report by the Lugar Center). Senator Bennet was in private industry before becoming Superintendent of Denver Public Schools, where he served from 2005 to 2009, when he entered the US Senate.

Positions on Energy and Climate

Senator Bennet has been very clear on his views regarding climate change. He advocates for practical solutions that work within our existing systems; for example by helping farmers move toward carbon-storing practices. Further, he has introduced legislation that would create long-term sustainable funding for communities that have historically relied on revenue from fossil fuel energy production.

Senator Bennet views climate change as a major issue that we must address quickly and has said “Climate issues are here today.” Without action against climate change, we will leave a less safe and healthy planet for our children and future generations, saying “We are being overrun by climate change.” He has repeatedly said that he will work with anyone to break through the current gridlock in Washington surrounding the climate, while he knows that there must be a transition from our current economy which is dependent on fossil fuels to one with a modern energy system, with low-cost renewables, strengthened energy independence, strong domestic supply chains, and reliable, clean, and affordable energy.

Why we support Senator Michael Bennet

Michael Bennet is a leader in the Senate, actively seeking durable and meaningful legislation to address climate change. He works across the aisle, with a focus on finding bipartisan solutions that have a meaningful impact on reducing carbon emissions.

Senator Bennet understands the critical role that our utilities must play in the energy transition and the role of natural gas and its associated infrastructure in that transition. He is clear about the role of private investment and market led solutions, proposing a smaller role for the Federal Government with the creation of a climate bank to spur private investment. He is supportive of a price on carbon. His views on climate are highly informed by the State he serves in Colorado understanding and advocating for forest mitigation in response to wildfires and working to support fossil fuel veterans as the State's coal mines close.

Senator Bennet is a member of the Select Committee on Intelligence and so knows the importance of climate and energy in our relationships with the rest of the world, commenting “Climate change is a national security threat.” Senator Bennet is also on the Finance Committee and so has a clear view of the costs and benefits of acting on climate change. He knows that we must find a way to grow the economy while tackling the challenges we face on climate today.