

Byron Dorgan

Former U.S. Senator (D-ND)

Innovate Our Way Out of the Energy Problem. A former member of the Senate Energy Committee and the head of the Bipartisan Policy Center's energy project, Senator Byron Dorgan has a unique perspective on the energy issues facing our country. He shares insights on creating a comprehensive energy plan that outlines specific and actionable strategies for our country to implement in the pursuit of energy security. Dorgan pushes for innovative ideas that can solve the nation's energy crisis and advocates for further development of renewable energy sources like wind, solar energy, and biofuels, and clean coal research that will help us find better ways to use these resources to fulfill 50 percent of our nation's energy needs. He also addresses the challenges and geopolitical issues surrounding a comprehensive energy policy.

Responsible Economics. Dorgan worked for common-sense economic policies in the Senate. He outlines the details of our economic situation and discusses potential long-term solutions. He also covers the likely political path that any legislation will take and handicap its odds of passage. At the same time, Dorgan dissects the various groups and issues – like taxes, the deficit, defense, the fiscal cliff, and entitlements – impacted by any potential legislation, addressing where we can cut back to fix the deficit and incorporating how our energy concerns affect economic policy and growth.

Politics Today. A 30-year veteran of the U.S. Congress, Sen. Byron Dorgan has been privy to some of our countries most heated and important discussions on policy and witnessed the political wrangling and rancor amongst parties. While he believes in finding the best ideas from both parties to create legislation that works for the American people, he shares insights into what is going on behind the scenes on today's hottest issues.

Finance and Taxes Issues. Dorgan served for 10 years on the House Ways and Means Committee (during which time he was a major contributor to the Tax Reform Act of 1986) and also served as the state tax commissioner for North Dakota. With that extensive finance and tax background, he is well versed in nearly all areas of finance and taxation and can address them from both broad, high-level and granular, detailed-oriented perspectives. In this presentation, Dorgan addresses tax reform – which he sees as an "inevitable" issue, discussing what is currently in the tax code, what is likely to change, what should change, and how these issues specifically affect his audience.

Additional Topics. Senator Byron Dorgan can also discuss agriculture issues, defense policy and weapons programs, nuclear weapons policies, telecommunications and technology issues, water policy, Indian affairs, airline and aviation issues, hunger issues, travel and tourism issues, and China.