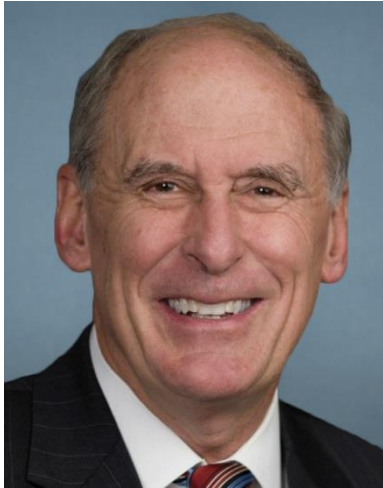


Senator Dan Coats



Biography

The senior senator from Indiana is Republican Dan Coats, elected in 2010 to a second stint in the Senate. He had served from 1988 to 1998, and then was a lobbyist and diplomat before running successfully for the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Evan Bayh. Coats grew up in Jackson, Mich. When he was nine, his mother, a Swedish immigrant, took him to see President Dwight Eisenhower. Coats still remembers touching the president’s sleeve and cites him, along with Winston Churchill, as his political idols. In college, he considered becoming a doctor but decided against it. He joined the Army, went to law school, and worked for an insurance company. In 1976, he turned down a job offer from a bank to work for a young Republican member of Congress named Dan Quayle. Four years later, Coats was elected to succeed Quayle in the House. In 1988, he was appointed to succeed him in the Senate when Quayle was chosen as the GOP vice presidential nominee. One of the causes he championed while in the Senate was the line-item veto, which he said would help curb federal spending. Coats served on the Armed Services Committee, the Labor and Human Resources Committee, and, starting in 1997, the Intelligence Committee. He compiled a conservative voting record. He strongly opposed abortion rights and was a leader on a ban on research using fetal tissue. Coats is a reliably business-friendly conservative. Coats’ first major speech on returning to the Senate was a call to reform the entitlement programs Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

Biography

Currently:
 Senator, Indiana
 Elected: 2010

Education:
 Wheaton College, B.A.
 1965; Indiana U., J.D. 1971

Religion: Presbyterian

Family: Married (Marcia Anne Crawford) , 3 children, 8 grandchildren

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Stance on Issues

- Supported the ban on assault weapons
- Voted in favor of the Family and Medical Leave Act
- Proposed increasing the age of Medicare eligibility from 65 to 67
- Coats is open to new taxes to avert the “fiscal cliff” of automatic tax hikes and spending cuts
- Favors expanding the military
- Opposes same-sex marriages
- Strong supporter of pro-choice initiatives and bans on fetal tissue research

Committees

- Joint Economic Committee
-
- Committee on Intelligence
-
- Committee on Finance
-

Election Results

2012 General		
Dan Coats (R)	Votes: 952,116	Percent: 54.6%
Brad Ellsworth (D)	Votes: 697,775	Percent: 40.0%
Rebecca Sink-Burris	Votes: 94,330	Percent: 5.41%

Sources: National Journal Almanac, 2016. Ballotpedia 2016.