

Senator Conrad Burns (R-Montana)

In 1989, Conrad Burns defeated a Democratic incumbent and became only the second Republican Senator in Montana's history. Now in his third-term, he is the longest-serving Republican Senator in Montana history.

In 1997, Senator Burns, a member of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, became chairman of the Communications Subcommittee. Since then, he has been praised as "one of the fathers of the modern Internet," standing for deregulation, the roll-out of broadband in rural areas, and pushing for new Internet and mobile phone technologies. He authored section 706 of the 1996 Telecommunications Act and in 1999 unveiled the "Digital Dozen" proposal of telecom legislation. During the 107th Congress, Senator Burns pushed his "Tech 7" agenda, designed to bring greater security to the Internet. Last year, Senator Burns unveiled his "NexGenTen" Tech Agenda, ten top priority items to strengthen security and usher reform for 21st century communication.

On the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Burns serves as Chairman of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee and on the Defense Subcommittee.

After serving in the Marine Corps, Burns entered broadcasting, establishing his reputation as the voice of Montana agriculture and he founded a radio network that grew to serve radio and TV stations across Montana and Wyoming.

Burns and his wife, Phyllis, have a daughter, Keely, and a son, Garrett.

