



RuralPower

Iowa's electric
cooperatives

Energizing rural
economic growth

2020

CONGRESSIONAL VOTER GUIDE

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Iowa Rural Power is a grassroots campaign run by member-consumers of Iowa's electric cooperatives. The **2020 Congressional Voter Guide** is intended to provide information for Co-op Voters on congressional candidates' plans for rural Iowa and the future of energy in the United States. The information in this Voter Guide is based on candidate questionnaires that were made available to all candidates and information from each candidate's website.





REPUBLICAN - RED OAK

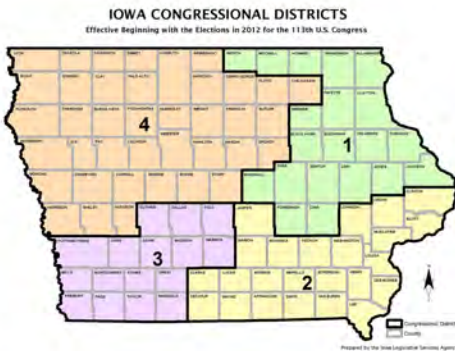
JONI ERNST

U.S. SENATOR

Senator Joni Ernst, a native of Red Oak, Iowa, has dedicated her life to her state and country, having served in the military for over 23 years and now in the United States Senate. In November 2014, Senator Ernst was elected as the first woman to serve in federal elected office from the State of Iowa and also became the first female combat veteran elected to serve in the United States Senate.

In Washington, Joni serves on five Senate committees of major importance to Iowans: Armed Services; Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; Environment and Public Works; Judiciary; and Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

After graduating from Iowa State University, Senator Ernst joined the U.S. Army Reserves. In 2003, she served as a company commander in Kuwait and Iraq, leading 150 Iowa Army National Guardsmen during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Senator Ernst retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Iowa Army National Guard after 23 years of military service.





How will your energy plans provide affordable and reliable power to rural Iowa?

I will continue to support policies that give rural electric cooperatives the flexibility to utilize a diverse set of resources to provide affordable and reliable power to their customers.

Iowa's electric co-ops are successful proponents of renewable energy resources. However, obstacles still remain for shifting to a 100% renewable portfolio. How will your energy plan compensate for electricity needs on days when the sun isn't shining, wind isn't blowing, and cold temperatures limit energy storage?

I support an all-of-the-above energy approach that increases America's domestic production and promotes energy independence. Using our plentiful fossil fuel reserves, increasing utilization of renewables, and building on advances in energy efficiency, we have the ability to pursue an energy strategy that creates jobs and provides reliable, sustainable, and affordable energy for American families and businesses.

Policymakers must acknowledge each state's unique energy resources and needs, and as the transition to renewables continues, we must be cognizant of how energy and tax policies will impact the reliability and affordability of electricity. For this reason, I have supported policies that incentivize renewable energy, like the wind production tax credit, not policies that mandate it, like the Obama Administration's Clean Power Plan.

Click here to view Joni Ernst's complete Candidate Questionnaire.



THERESA GREENFIELD

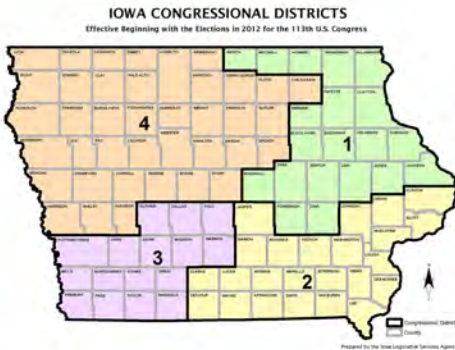
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER

DEMOCRAT - DES MOINES

Theresa Greenfield grew up on a family farm, where she and her four siblings learned the value of hard work and self-reliance. Her father encouraged his daughters to do everything the boys did on the Greenfield farm, and at 16, Theresa and her sister began helping with the family crop-dusting business.

When the farm crisis of the 1980s hit rural families like Theresa's, she did not give up on her dream to attend college. With the help of financial aid and multiple part-time jobs, she put herself through school. Theresa married and as she and her husband were expecting their second child, he was killed in an accident at his job as a union electrical worker. As a young widow, times were tough but Theresa set out on a path to provide for her two boys as a single mom.

More recently, Theresa Greenfield worked as an urban planner and has worked in real estate and development in Iowa.



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@theresagreenfield



How will your energy plans provide affordable and reliable power to rural Iowa?

Iowa is already a leader in renewable energy, as we get about 40% of our electricity from wind. I'd like to continue making key investments and incentivizing continued economic growth in that sector. My "Small Towns, Bigger Paychecks" plan to grow our economy prioritizes rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure - which I believe is a great opportunity to continue investing in renewable energy. And quite frankly, I'm frustrated with both parties for failing to make these crucial investments, as our roads, electric grids, and rural broadband need to be improved and modernized. Additionally, the damage from the derecho is another reminder that we need to strengthen our electric grid to prepare for natural disasters and ensure we're building our communities to be climate resilient.

I'd also like to make conservation a major economic opportunity for our farmers and rural communities. As my "Fair Shot For Our Farmers" plan outlines, when we incentivize best practices and invest in the research for soil health, sequestering and storing carbon, capturing and converting methane - it will also create new conservation and energy markets for our farmers, shorten supply chains, and launch a new business in our rural communities.

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We need to invest in research and development for energy and conservation, including advancing battery technologies to enable long-term storage. We also need to make sure our grids and infrastructure are climate resilient and prepared for disasters and additional changes to the climate. I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and work with anyone to get this done.

Click here to view Theresa Greenfield's complete Candidate Questionnaire.



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