

[The Omaha World-Herald](#)  
**Deb Fischer Push Back**

CLAIM	REALITY
<p>Actions speak louder than words. Nebraskans are honest, hardworking, and resilient, and we should demand the same from our elected officials.</p> <p>When I first ran for the United States Senate in 2012, I made a commitment to you: I would tell the truth. I would work hard for all Nebraskans. And I would protect the values that make our state the best place in America to live, work, and raise a family. And in my time as your U.S. Senator, I've had one mission: delivering real results for working families across all 93 Nebraska counties.</p> <p>Bruce and I raised our sons on our family ranch south of Valentine. It was hard work, but we did it to build a better life for the next generation.</p> <p>Before I ask for your vote once again, I need to prove to you that I've done the same in the U.S. Senate — that I have delivered results that will make Nebraska better for the next generation.</p>	<p><b>Fischer Cosponsored Bill for Congressional Term Limits.</b> In 2015, Fischer cosponsored resolution to limit congressional terms. Fischer said, "Once again, I'm proud to join my colleagues in co-sponsoring a term limit proposal that will bring common sense to governing. This legislation will help ensure our tradition of a citizen legislature remains firm for future generations." [Fischer Press Release, <a href="#">01/07/15</a>]</p> <p><b>Fischer Launched Campaign for Third Term in U.S. Senate.</b> According to KETV, "Nebraska Republican U.S. Sen. Deb Fischer makes it official: She's seeking another term in Washington, D.C. With an introduction by former governor Kay Orr and flanked by a host of state Republicans, Fischer launched her new campaign at the state capitol in Lincoln. Fischer, who has been a U.S. senator since 2013, explained why she wants a third term in Washington...In 2015, she co-sponsored a term limit bill to limit terms in the U.S. Senate to just two. At the time, she said that was to bring 'common sense' to governing." [KETV, <a href="#">06/28/23</a>]</p> <p><b>Fischer Ranked 44<sup>th</sup> in Effectiveness.</b> According to the Center for Effective Lawmaking, Fischer was ranked 44 out of 50 for effectiveness in the 117<sup>th</sup> Senate. [Center for Effective Lawmaking, <a href="#">117<sup>th</sup> Senate</a>]</p> <p><b>Only Six Bills Sponsored by Fischer Became Law in Nearly 12 Years in the U.S. Senate.</b> From 2013-2024, only six bills sponsored by Fischer became law. [Congress.gov, <a href="#">2013-2024</a>]</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fischer’s S.546 Became Public Law in 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.</b> In the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, Fischer’s bill 1. S.546 — 118th Congress (2023-2024), Recruit and Retain Act, Sponsor: Fischer, Deb [Sen.-R-NE] (Introduced 02/28/2023) Cosponsors: (11) Committees: Senate – Judiciary Latest Action: 05/24/2024 Became Public Law No: 118-64. [Congress.gov, <a href="#">2013-2024</a>]</li> </ul>
<p>Let’s start where most families are suffering right now: soaring prices. Last year, I led legislation to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from making our gas and groceries even more expensive. Working with independent Sen. Angus King, I also passed the first ever national paid family and medical leave legislation. I’ve also secured \$2 million to expand early childcare in rural and urban Nebraska.</p>	<p><b>Fischer Voted Against Lowering Costs for Americans.</b> In 2021, Fischer voted against the American Rescue Plan, which included a number of measures to lower costs for families. The bill passed 50-49. [H.R. 1319, <a href="#">Vote #110</a>, 03/06/21]</p> <p><b>Voted Against Lowering Cost of Food:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voted against USDA efforts “to respond to COVID-19 disruptions in our food supply chain and make long-term investments to strengthen our food system.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> <li>• Voted against “U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program to expand critical infrastructure and leverage private investments—thereby saving taxpayers’ money. This investment will help address supply chain issues and lower food costs.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> <li>• “Opposed the U.S. Department of Agriculture support for small and regional meat processing facilities that will</li> </ul>

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	<p>create more competition and lower costs.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voted against measure “establishing the Restaurant Revitalization Fund to help local restaurants stay open, keep their workers employed, and alleviate rising operating costs.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> </ul> <p><b>Voted Against Lowering Health Care Costs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Voted against larger ACA tax credits to lower health care costs. These credits, combined with other Administration actions, mean that nearly 4 in 5 Americans who bought health insurance through the Marketplace in 2021 paid \$10 or less per month in premiums.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> <li>• “Voted against incentives for states to expand Medicaid, which could provide health insurance coverage and lower costs for nearly 4 million Americans, including 640,000 frontline or essential workers.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> <li>• “Voted against continued 100% COBRA health insurance premium support for people who have lost their job.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> </ul> <p><b>Voted Against Lowering Child Care Costs:</b></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Voted against lowering the cost of childcare or other caregiving through an expanded Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, a fully refundable credit up to \$4,000 for one child and \$8,000 for two or more children.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> </ul> <p><b>Voted Against Lowering Housing Costs for Families:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Voted against the Emergency Rental Assistance program made available to states, local governments, and tribal governments through to help households behind on or struggling to keep up with rent and utility payments. More than 665,000 households had received assistance as of November 2021.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> <li>• “Voted against the Homeowner Assistance Fund made available to states and tribal governments to help millions of Americans who are behind on or struggling to keep up with their mortgage, utility, or other housing payments to avoid delinquency and foreclosure during the pandemic.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> </ul> <p><b>Voted Against lower energy costs for families.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Voted against the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to help low-income families lower their energy bills, including the 1 in 5 Americans unable to cover their utility bills last year.” [DPCC, <a href="#">02/01/22</a>]</li> </ul>
<p>But families also can’t thrive unless their communities are safe as well as affordable. Throughout my time in the Senate, I’ve</p>	

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<p>been focused on keeping our communities safe and advocating for our first responders. I supported the Back the Blue Act, and I've always defended qualified immunity. I also supported the Social Security Fairness Act and introduced legislation to reauthorize the Firefighter Cancer Registry. And just this year, I worked with Nebraska's law enforcement to pass a new law that makes it easier to recruit and retain new police officers.</p>	
<p>Protecting our communities also means securing our borders. I've been to the border, so I know for a fact that the open-border policies of this administration have brought in crime and drugs, not to mention added stress to our social services. I've opposed every border security half-measure—we shouldn't settle for anything less than a fully secure border.</p>	<p><b>Fischer Voted Against Bipartisan Border Security Bill.</b> In 2024, Fischer voted against a bipartisan border security bill. According to NBC News, "bill was crafted to reduce border crossings, raise the standard for migrants to qualify for asylum and empower officials to rapidly send away those who fail to meet that standard. It would give the president power to shut down the border if migration levels exceed certain thresholds. On the brink of its release earlier this year, Lankford [James Lankford, R-Okla.] told NBC News it was 'by far the most conservative border security bill in four decades.'" The motion failed 43-50. [S. 4361, <a href="#">Vote #182</a>, 05/23/24]</p>
<p>But we must also protect the American way of life from rising threats, like communist China. That's why I've voted for pay raises for our troops and helped pass bills that make major investments in our national defense, including a strategic hub right here in our own backyard: Offutt Air Force Base.</p>	<p><b>Fischer Voted Against Brining Semiconductor Supply Chains Back to the US and Protect National Security.</b> In 2022, Fischer voted against the CHIPS and Science Act, which included "investing nearly \$53 billion in funding to bring semiconductor supply chains back to the U.S, create jobs, support American innovation, and protect our national security." The motion passed 64-33. [HE 4346, <a href="#">Vote #271</a>, 07/27/22]</p>
<p>After the devastating floods of 2019, which damaged a third of the base, I wanted Offutt rebuilt stronger than ever. Working</p>	

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<p>closely with local, state, and federal officials, I secured hundreds of millions of dollars to repair and modernize Offutt, including a full runway replacement. This wasn't just to rebuild what was lost, but to make Offutt more resilient for the future.</p>	
<p>Working with former Congressman Brad Ashford, I also helped pass the 2016 CHIP IN for Vets Act. This bill created public-private partnerships to build new facilities at the Omaha and Lincoln V.A.'s to ensure better care and support for our veterans.</p>	<p><b>Fischer Voted Against Veterans Health Benefits.</b> In 2014, Fischer voted against the Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014. "The Comprehensive Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act would improve and enhance veterans' access to health care, extend training programs for servicemembers who are transitioning to civilian life, expand veterans' educational and job training benefits, improve benefits for survivors, and make the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) more transparent and efficient." The motion failed 56-41 (required 3/5 majority). [S1982, <a href="#">Vote #46</a>, 02/27/14; DPCC, accessed <a href="#">10/06/24</a>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to Once a Soldier, "In 2014, Senate Republicans shot down one of the largest pieces of veterans legislation in recent history. The Comprehensive Veterans Health Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014 would have repealed the military retiree cost-of-living adjustment reduction, and would have protected veteran pensions and educational payments from future Congressional budget fights. It would have also authorized the construction of more than 20 community-based outpatient clinics to serve veterans in rural and remote areas." [Once a Soldier, <a href="#">08/10/22</a>]</li> </ul>

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<p>Another issue near and dear to my heart is agriculture. With nearly one in four jobs in Nebraska tied directly to this critical industry, it's important to have an ag producer representing us in the United States Senate. I worked with President Donald Trump to pass the 2018 United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), so our farmers and ranchers have better opportunities. I also helped write and pass a Farm Bill that ensures the best deal for Nebraska. And I've pushed back on out-of-control regulations like Waters of the U.S. and emissions rules from the EPA.</p>	<p><b>Between 2012 and 2022, Nebraska Lost 6,560 Farms Categorized as "Family or Individual."</b> In 2012, there were 42,543 farms labeled "Family or individual" (farms by legal status for tax purposes). In 2022, there were 35,983 farms labeled "Family or individual" (farms by legal status for tax purposes). [USDA, <a href="#">February 2024</a>]</p> <p><b>Fischer Received \$1.4 Million in Contributions from Agribusiness.</b> According to Open Secrets, throughout her federal career, Fischer has received \$794,142 in contributions from the Agribusiness sector PACs. She also received \$629,503 from Agribusiness individuals. Her career total from the Agribusiness sector is \$1,423,645. [Open Secrets, <a href="#">2011-2024</a>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2024 Cycle: Fischer Received \$258,000 from Agribusiness PACs.</b> During the 2024 election cycle, Fischer received \$258,000 from Agribusiness sector PACs. She also received \$105,893 from Agribusiness individuals. For the 2024 cycle, Fischer received \$363,893 from the Agribusiness sector. [Open Secrets, <a href="#">2024</a>]</li> </ul>
<p>But perhaps more than anything else, I have championed the need for investing in modernized and robust infrastructure. It's personal to me. My dad was a former Director of the Nebraska Department of Roads, and he instilled in me a passion for infrastructure and transportation from a young age.</p>	<p><b>Fischer Voted Against Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.</b> In 2021, Fischer voted against the INVEST in America Act. According to PBS News, "The bill would authorize nearly \$550 billion in federal funding over five years for infrastructure projects, such as road and bridge repair, public transportation and rail service... the legislation would target investments to areas of persistent poverty, tribal communities, rural</p>

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<p>Without reliable infrastructure, industries small and large across Nebraska would be unable to transport their goods to market. Without reliable broadband, many businesses would be unable to efficiently operate and expand, community growth would be stunted, and our ag producers wouldn't have the necessary precision ag technology to feed the world. And without clean drinking water, families across our state couldn't live healthy lives.</p> <p>Years ago in the Nebraska Legislature, I wrote and passed the Build Nebraska Act. And in the United States Senate, I helped craft and pass the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure law. Together, both pieces of legislation invested nearly \$4 billion in Nebraska to repair highways and local roads including the Lincoln South Beltway, rebuild bridges, expand broadband access and reliability, ensure safe drinking water, and modernize airports across Nebraska, including Omaha's Eppley Airfield and the Lincoln Airport.</p>	<p>communities, and other continually disadvantaged areas." The cloture motion to proceed failed 49-51. Fischer also voted against the motion to proceed, which passed 66-28. [HR 3684, <a href="#">Vote #276</a>, 07/21/21; HR 3684, <a href="#">Vote #288</a>, 07/30/21; PBS News, <a href="#">6/30/21</a>]</p> <p><i>NOTE: Fischer ultimately voted for final passage, which passed <a href="#">69-30</a>.</i></p> <p><b>Fischer Voted Against Infrastructure Improvements.</b> In 2017, Fischer voted against a motion, which would have "sent the tax bill, S. 1 (115), back to the Senate Finance Committee and order the committee to report back in three days with a plan that would 'designate the revenue raised by the deemed repatriation provisions of the bill for infrastructure improvements.' The motion's goal was 'to fix and enhance our country's infrastructure, help create jobs, and responsibly use one-time revenue for one-time spending.'" The motion failed 43-57. [HR 1, <a href="#">Vote #292</a>, 12/01/17; Politico, <a href="#">12/01/17</a>]</p>
<p>Whether you're raising a family in Omaha, running a small business in Lincoln, or ranching in the sandhills of Cherry County, I've kept my promise to never stop fighting for you and your community. I am asking for your support in this election so that together, we can continue to build a better future for all Nebraskans.</p> <p>Thank you, and may God bless the great state of Nebraska.</p>	<p><b>Fischer Received Over \$6.6 Million from Political Action Committees.</b> According to Open Secrets, throughout her federal career, Fischer has received \$6,625,692 in contributions from Political Action Committees (PACs). [Open Secrets, <a href="#">2011-2024</a>]</p> <p><b>Fischer Received \$1.4 Million in Contributions from Agribusiness.</b> According to Open Secrets, throughout her federal career, Fischer has received \$794,142 in contributions from the Agribusiness sector PACs. She also received \$629,503</p>



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	<p>the 2024 cycle, Fischer received \$187,342 from the Health sector. [Open Secrets, <a href="#">2024</a>]</p> <p><i>NOTE: Pharmaceutical companies, physicians and health professionals are the largest source of federal campaign contributions in this sector.</i></p> <p><b>Nebraska Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> Most Expensive State for Healthcare.</b> According to Forbes, Nebraska is the third in a ranking of the most expensive state for healthcare with a score of 93.09 out of 100. According to Forbes, “Healthcare expenses are also high in the Cornhusker State. Nebraska residents face these key metrics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The state has the third highest percentage of children whose families struggled to pay for their child’s medical bills in the past 12 months (12.1%).</li> <li>• Nebraska is noted for having the seventh highest annual premium for both single health insurance coverage (\$1,796.33) and plus-one health insurance coverage (\$4,530.67) through an employer.</li> <li>• It ranks eighth highest for average premium for residents with family health insurance coverage through an employer (\$6,766.33 annually).</li> <li>• It also has the eighth highest health insurance premium for those with silver plans in the Affordable Care Act marketplace (\$570 annually).” [Forbes, <a href="#">03/18/24</a>]</li> </ul>