



116TH CONGRESS IN REVIEW 2019-2020



Senator Mike Crapo





Senator Crapo speaks at a committee hearing



Senator Crapo meets with the Idaho Potato Commission



Senator Crapo meets with the National Prayer Center



Senator Crapo speaks at the Almo town hall



Senator Crapo presents the City of Carey with a Congressional Record Statement celebrating their Centennial

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME LETTER.....	2
ABOUT MIKE	3
LEGISLATION	5
NATURAL RESOURCES	5
NUCLEAR ENERGY	6
VETERANS	8
USMCA.....	11
U.S. CHINA PHASE ONE TRADE DEAL	12
SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL	12
IMPEACHMENT	13
COVID-19	14
COMMITTEES	16
BANKING, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS.....	17
FINANCE	23
JUDICIARY.....	25
BUDGET	27

January 2021

Dear Fellow Idahoans:

Throughout the 116th Congress (2019-2020), the Senate passed substantive legislative successes, many on a strong bipartisan basis. This report contains a compilation of some of these important accomplishments.

These laws include the enactment of a bipartisan law focused on new protections for taxpayers. This restructuring of the Internal Revenue Service builds on the enactment in the last Congress of the first comprehensive pro-growth reform of our tax code in 30 years that reduced tax bills for American families. Bipartisan retirement savings legislation was signed into law to increase financial security for American workers and families. The Senate confirmed a record number of judges, advancing a court system that preserves our constitutional rights.

The Natural Resources Management Act was enacted and contains boundary changes important to the implementation of the Owyhee Initiative, which is providing exemplary collaborative resource management of a special part of our great state. And, we enacted the Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act to help rebuild our military by restoring military readiness, implementing a National Defense Strategy to confront adversaries, and most importantly, caring for U.S. troops and their families. We were able to reauthorize Secure Rural Schools funding and advance legislation to protect people from the nuisance of robocalls, but we have more important work to do.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the world, our economy was the strongest it has ever been. Unemployment was down, average hourly earnings were up, and small business owners were reporting record-level employee compensation and more job openings than qualified applicants. While nothing could have prevented the pandemic from taking a sledgehammer to our economy and fiscal outlook, the pro-growth policies from this Congress and President Trump's Administration the last few years put us in a better position to continue to rebound from this crisis.

Thank you for your help and guidance as I continue efforts in Washington, D.C., to make advancements for the betterment of our communities and country.

Sincerely,



Mike Crapo
United States Senator

About Mike

As a lifelong Idahoan, Mike Crapo has learned that a willingness to listen makes for a more effective leader and lawmaker. Mike's commonsense approach and collaborative, creative problem-solving have enabled him to achieve lasting solutions to issues of importance to Idahoans and the nation. Mike ranks 15th in overall Senate seniority in the 116th Congress.

Experience and Education

Prior to his service in Congress, Mike was a partner in the law firm of Holden, Kidwell, Hahn & Crapo. He is a member of the Idaho and California Bar Associations and the Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court. He received his Juris Doctorate cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1977, and he graduated summa cum laude from Brigham Young University in 1973 with a B.A. in political science. Following graduation from law school, he served a one-year clerk ship with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Idaho Legislature

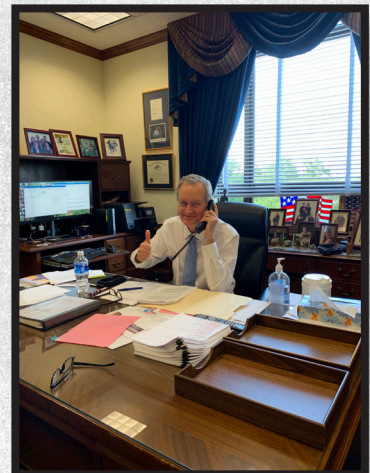
Before being elected to the United States Senate in 1998, Mike served three terms as the 2nd District Representative for Idaho in the U.S. House of Representatives. Previously, he served in the Idaho State Senate from 1984 to 1992, and spent his final four years in the Idaho Legislature as Senate President Pro Tempore.

Leadership

Mike's sensible approach has earned him the respect of his colleagues, and he has been selected to serve in various leadership roles. Mike continues to serve as Chief Deputy Whip among Senate Republicans for the 116th Congress. During Mike's tenure in the House, he served on House Leadership as New Member Leader, Strategic Planning Leader and Deputy Whip for the Western Region.



Senator Crapo attends a committee hearing



Senator Crapo joins Governor Brad Little's AARP telephone town hall

Awards

Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service

On September 30, 2020, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars presented the Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service to Senator Crapo. Senator Crapo, as Chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, was recognized for helping craft the bipartisan legislation, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, that provided relief to those suffering from hardships during the pandemic. Previous recipients of The Woodrow Wilson Award include former Vice President Dick Cheney, former Secretaries of State Dr. Henry Kissinger, General Colin Powell, Hillary Clinton, Condoleezza Rice, and Rex Tillerson, and former Secretaries of Defense Ash Carter and Chuck Hagel, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Ambassador Nikki Haley.



Congressional Management Foundation

On May 30, 2019, the Congressional Management Foundation (CMF) awarded Senator Crapo with the “Life in Congress” Workplace Environment Award. The CMF recognized Senator Crapo’s office for creating a positive environment of inclusion, recognition and dedication. With a low attrition rate for staff, a bank of institutional knowledge helps guide policy decisions and constituent outreach on behalf of Idahoans.

Other Awards

Other recognitions Senator Crapo has received in the 116th Congress for his work on behalf of Idahoans include:

- American Farm Bureau Federation’s Friend of the Farm Bureau Award;
- NFIB’s Guardian of Small Business Award;
- Parents as Teachers Award;
- Medicare Advantage Champion of the year Award;
- Champion of Health Care Innovation Award;
- Edna Shattuck Advocacy Award and many others.

Legislation

During the 116th Congress, Senator Crapo sponsored **19** pieces of standalone legislation, **three** Senate Resolutions and **17** Amendments. Additionally, he co-sponsored **143** pieces of standalone legislation, **64** Senate Resolutions and **38** Amendments.

Natural Resources

Two-year Authorization of the Secure Rural Schools Program

Congress passed a two-year authorization of the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program in December 2019. The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act was enacted in 2000 to financially assist counties with public, tax-exempt forestlands. Since then, Senators Crapo, Jim Risch (R-Idaho), Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) and Jeff Merkley (D-Oregon) have worked in a bipartisan manner to extend the SRS program and address long-term solutions for rural counties with large tracts of federal lands.

SRS payments help bridge funding gaps to keep rural schools open, provide road maintenance, support search and rescue efforts and other essential county services.

“The Secure Rural Schools program provides critical funding streams for rural Idahoans. A two-year extension of SRS funding is one step closer to a more predictable source of funding for rural communities and school districts encompassed by federal land.”

– Senator Crapo



Senator Crapo speaks at a SRS rally in Boise

Boundary Changes for Three Wilderness Areas in Owyhee County

S. 47, the Natural Resources Management Act, was signed into law on March 12, 2019. Commonly referred to as the “lands package,” S. 47 contained various public lands, natural resources and water bills. Important to Idaho, this legislation contained language authored by Senator Crapo that established boundary changes for three wilderness areas in Owyhee County.



Senator Crapo attends Wild Idaho

“President Trump’s signature on S. 47 is a major milestone, and I will continue to work with each of the local interests to ensure full and complete implementation of the Owyhee Initiative laws.”

– Senator Crapo

Nuclear Energy

The Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act (NEIMA)

On January 14, 2019, President Trump signed S. 512, the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act, or NEIMA, into law. NEIMA has promoted innovation in the nuclear energy sector by encouraging public and private investment in nuclear research and spurring the development of a regulatory framework necessary for licensing advanced nuclear reactors, enabling more research performed at the Idaho National Lab (INL) to reach the commercial market. Senator Crapo was a strong proponent and original co-sponsor of S. 512.

The Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act (NEICA)

As a result of Senator Crapo's bill, the Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act (NEICA), becoming law in 2018, the Department of Energy (DOE) launched the Versatile Test Reactor (VTR) in March 2019 and authorized the National Reactor Innovation Center (NRIC). The VTR project paves the way for a new generation of clean, advanced nuclear power and NRIC provides resources for public-private collaboration to test and demonstrate new, advanced nuclear technologies. NEICA underscored the strong bipartisan agreement in Congress that nuclear energy is a reliable, safe, clean and efficient part of our national energy portfolio. The work done at INL leads the way in maintaining U.S. leadership in nuclear innovation, and the VTR project and NRIC set an important milestone in enabling a robust future of advanced reactors.



The DOE National Labs Jobs Apprenticeships for Complete and Committed Employment for Specialized Skills (ACCESS) Act

The U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources unanimously passed S. 1739, the DOE National Labs Jobs ACCESS (Apprenticeships for Complete and Committed Employment for Specialized Skills) Act, out of the Committee on November 19, 2020. The DOE National Labs Jobs ACCESS Act establishes apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeship programs between the national laboratories and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and universities, community colleges, local high schools and intermediaries. Around 40-50 percent of the nuclear workforce is eligible to retire in next the five years in both the private and public sector, creating increased demand for skilled workers both with advanced degrees and with technical training. S. 1739 would establish a 5-year grant program run by the DOE, in consultation with the U.S. Department of Labor, to facilitate the creation of apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs to help fill critical nuclear energy jobs. Grantee organizations would be required to cover at least 25 percent of the cost of the programs, and each grant would not exceed \$500,000. Programs that serve veterans, young people and individuals with barriers to employment would receive priority consideration in grant awarding.

The American Nuclear Infrastructure Act (ANIA)

In addition, the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) passed S. 4897, the American Nuclear Infrastructure Act (ANIA), out of the Committee on December 2, 2020, on a bipartisan basis. Senator Crapo joined EPW Chairman John Barrasso (R-Wyoming) and Senators Sheldon Whitehouse (D-Rhode Island) and Cory Booker (D-New Jersey) in introducing this bipartisan legislation to revitalize the United States' nuclear infrastructure. ANIA would enable U.S. international nuclear leadership, preserve America's nuclear fuel supply chain, reduce carbon emissions and strengthen the nation's economic, energy and national security.

Senator Crapo has long supported efforts and policies at the federal level to ensure the research conducted at the INL continues to contribute to a diverse domestic energy portfolio and keeps the U.S. at the forefront of nuclear innovation. Empowering a long-term, qualified workforce at INL remains critical to its ongoing success.

Veterans

Senator Crapo has long worked to help ensure federal policies respect veterans' service. Veterans enrich our communities with a deep sense of commitment to their fellow Americans, and federal policies must adequately address their needs.

The Improving Preparation and Resources for Occupational, Vocational, and Educational (IMPROVE) Transition for Servicemembers Act

Senator Crapo has helped lead an Idaho coalition, the Veterans Workforce Development Coalition, focused on implementing improvements to support veterans transitioning from military service to civilian life. His work on the Coalition led to the introduction of the bipartisan S. 1555, the IMPROVE Transition for Servicemembers Act, which would enhance assistance to servicemembers returning to civilian life and their families. Similarly, the introduction of S. 666, the Helping Unleash Benefits and Services (HUBS) for Veterans Act of 2019, which Senator Crapo co-led, would provide federal grants to community-based organizations that assist servicemembers transitioning to civilian life.



Senator Crapo meets with members of the Idaho VFW



Senator Crapo thanks a local police officer



Senator Crapo meets with Capt. Anneliese Satz and her husband

The Show Esteem and Respect for Veterans by Increasing Care and Equity (SERVICE) Act

Senator Crapo co-led the introduction of S. 1594, the Show Esteem and Respect for Veterans by Increasing Care and Equity (SERVICE) Act, which addresses the alarmingly high veteran suicide rates. This legislation would allow veterans open access to mental health care at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), regardless of how long after service they seek treatment. This bill builds on continued attention by Congress and other federal actions to combat veteran suicide.

The National Suicide Hotline Designation Act

S. 2661, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act, which Senator Crapo co-sponsored, was signed into law on October 17, 2020. This legislation requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to designate 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline. This law makes it simpler for Americans in crisis to access the help they need and decrease the stigma surrounding suicide and mental health issues.

The Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019

Senator Crapo co-sponsored S. 785, the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019. This legislation increases the VA's mental health workforce and access to healthcare for veterans' living in rural areas. Additionally, it expands veteran' access and options to alternative and local treatments like animal therapy, outdoor sports, and acupuncture. The important legislation was signed into law on October 17, 2020. The sacrifices families make when their loved ones serve in our nation's Armed Forces are incredibly understated. Military families raise children and hold together households while their loved ones are far from home. They shoulder the price paid for the defense of our freedoms and the safety of Americans at home and abroad. Congress has worked to ensure the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made are not forgotten.

The Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act

The Senate unanimously passed S. 1370, the Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act, a bill Senator Crapo co-sponsored, which would ensure Gold Star families do not face unintended and unfair tax penalties on their survivor benefits.

The Military Widow's Tax Elimination Act

Additionally, Senator Crapo helped lead S. 622, the Military Widow's Tax Elimination Act, in the Senate, which sought to repeal the unfair law that prevents as many as 65,000 surviving military spouses nationwide from receiving their full Department of Defense (DOD) and survivor benefits. The Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act phased out the Military Widow's Tax.

The Bring Our Heroes Home Act (BOHHA)

Senator Crapo introduced S. 2794, the Bring Our Heroes Home Act (BOHHA), which seeks to provide for an expedited and consolidated process for declassifying and collecting records of POW and MIA personnel. According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, 359 Idahoans are listed as missing during their service in the United States Armed Forces. We owe it to the families and survivors of the brave women and men in uniform to bring home their loved ones who sacrificed so much for our country.



Senator Crapo meets with Mr. & Mrs. Kitzhaber



Senator Crapo meets with Idaho VFW Jr. Vice Commander Melanie Foster



Senator Crapo and Latah County Sheriff Richard Skiles

The Major Richard Star Act

Senator Crapo co-lead introduction of the S. 3393, the Major Richard Star Act, which seeks to provide combat-wounded veterans with less than 20 years of service, also known as Chapter 61 Veterans, both their disability compensation and retired pay. If enacted, this bill will affect roughly 42,000 medically retired and combat-injured veterans. Senator Crapo is dedicated to ensuring all active and retired military personnel receive the care and benefits they deserve.

The State Veterans Home Inspection Simplification Act

Senator Crapo has also introduced S. 3350, the State Veterans Home Inspection Simplification Act. This bipartisan legislation would simplify the inspection process at State Veterans Homes (SVH) to help the nation's veterans continue to receive high quality care by facilities unburdened by bureaucratic overlap. If enacted, this bill will allow SVH staff to dedicate more time to their daily duties of caring for our nation's heroes.



Pocatello Spirit of Freedom Award Recipients



Senator Crapo meets with veteran Danny Pugmire



Senator Crapo signs U.S. Marshall Brent Bunn's blue slip



Lucile Summerlin receives the Spirit of Freedom Award

USMCA

The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) became law on January 29, 2020. The new trilateral agreement updates the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by bringing the deal into the 21st Century and providing U.S. farmers with valuable new export opportunities. The USMCA has expanded market access for farmers and addressed longstanding non-tariff barriers restricting U.S. producers' ability to export wheat and wine to Canada. The USMCA contained a win for Idaho's dairymen by eliminating Canada's Class 6 and 7 milk-ingredient price programs that hindered U.S. exports to third-country markets. The changes under the USMCA have the potential to increase U.S. dairy exports to Canada by \$227 million and Mexico by \$50.6 million.

Free and fair trade is vital for Idaho's \$4 billion export industry. Canada and Mexico are Idaho's number one and five overall trading partners respectively, with the countries being the top two destinations for nearly half of Idaho's roughly \$2 billion food and agricultural export industry. The USMCA has provided Idaho farmers, ranchers, and small businesses with a trade agreement that has opened new trading pathways while maintaining existing channels for top exports including potatoes, canola, and beef cattle.

The USMCA is also the first U.S. free trade agreement with a digital trade chapter, fostering U.S. growth in the digital economy for firms of all sectors and sizes.



Senator Crapo attends a USMCA event at the Idaho Capitol building



“Signing this agreement into law is a step forward in ensuring improved access to valuable export opportunities for Idaho’s farmers and ranchers.”

– Senator Crapo

U.S. China Phase One Trade Deal

President Trump signed a trade agreement with China on January 15, 2020. The Phase One trade deal with China takes a meaningful step forward in improving trade relations with one of the United States' biggest trading partners. Expanded market access and increased prices for Idaho wheat, dairy and beef producers is welcome news. The work of Idaho agricultural producers is paramount to our state economy and feeding our people. Working with the current and previous administrations to implement more transparent and efficient systems for the review of agricultural biotechnology products is important to Idaho producers.

President Trump reaffirmed his promise to keep American interests at the forefront of any trade negotiations. By signing the Phase One trade agreement with China, President Trump demonstrated this commitment.



Support for Israel

On September 15, 2020, the Abraham Accords Peace Agreement was signed at the White House. This historic peace deal normalized diplomatic, commercial, security and other relations between Israel, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain. One of the greatest world challenges of our time, without a doubt, has been the pursuit of peace in the Middle East. Although we have seen progress at various times, lasting, concrete peace has eluded world leaders, and its attainment has eclipsed administrations. The recent Abraham Accords Peace Agreement is a significant step in bringing this important part of our world closer together, and it is worthy of commendation.

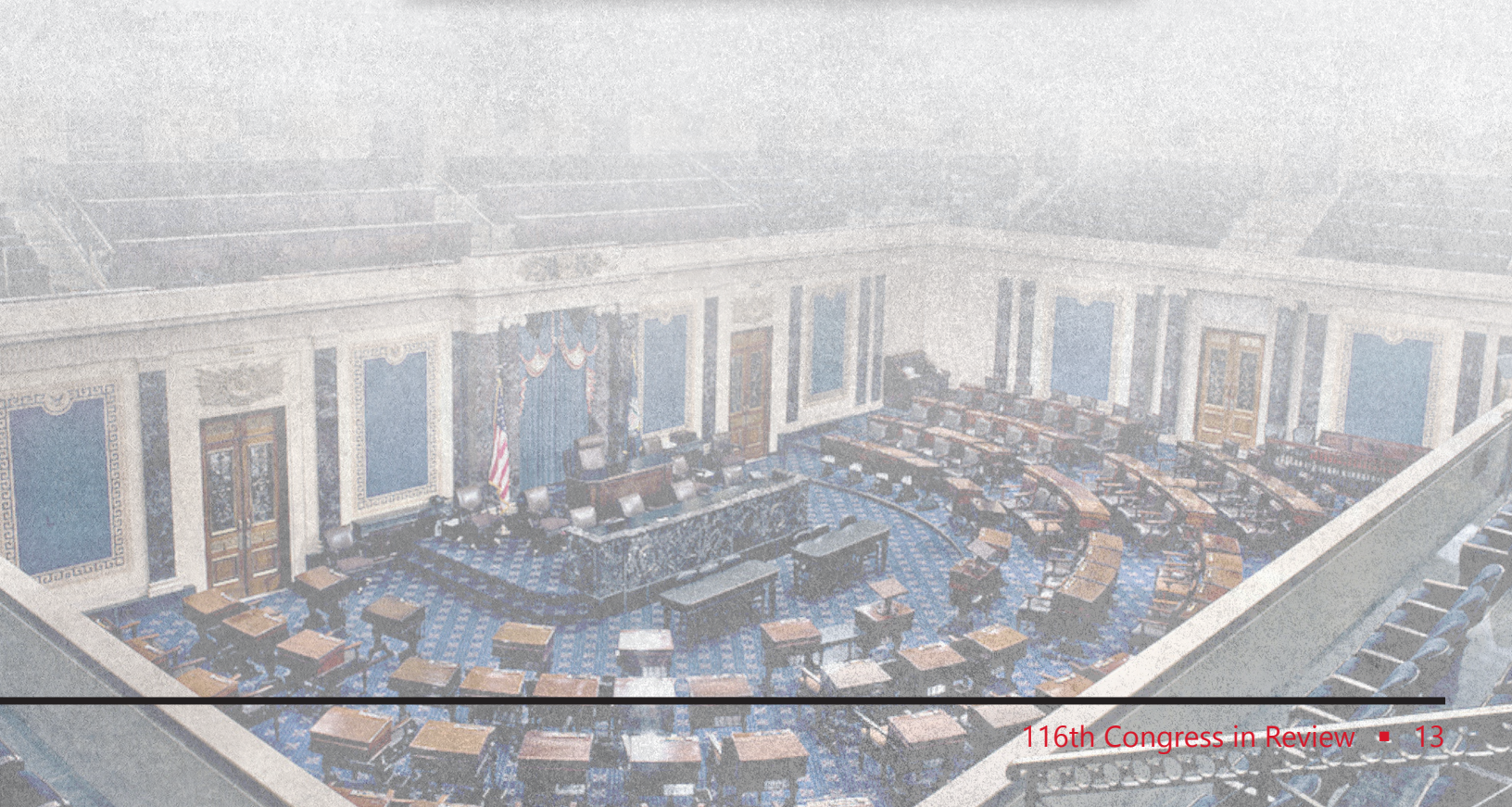
This followed the August 13, 2020, announcement of Israel and the UAE's agreement on full normalized relations and the September 11, 2020, announcement that Bahrain also agreed to normalize relations with Israel. Through the agreements, the UAE and Bahrain joined Egypt and Jordan in increasing the number of Arab countries with full diplomatic ties with Israel to four. The UAE and Bahrain are also the first of the Gulf Arab states to formalize relations with Israel.

Senator Crapo commends the Administration for being a conduit for normalizing relations between Israel and the UAE and Bahrain. This brings hope that this accord will broaden opportunities for negotiations in the region and be a means for full peace in the Middle East.

2020 Impeachment

On February 5, 2020, Senator Crapo voted to acquit President Donald J. Trump on both Articles of Impeachment submitted by the U.S. House of Representatives. The highly partisan impeachment in the U.S. House of Representatives sought to remove President Trump from office for 1) improper motives in conducting an otherwise legal act in furtherance of legitimate national foreign policy interests, 2) holding a meeting at the United Nations in New York rather than at the White House in Washington, D.C., and 3) for asserting Executive Privilege against the House of Representatives.

The case of the House managers did not even purport to allege a crime in either Count I or Count II. Moreover, the allegations fell far short of the high threshold for removal of a U.S. President from office, and undermines Americans' constitutional right to elect their president at the ballot box.



COVID

At the national, state, local and even household level, the effects of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, pandemic has challenged our sense of normalcy and tested every institution of daily life we know. Senator Crapo and Congress passed several emergency relief packages to assist in the fight against the pandemic:

- **Phase One:** Provided supplemental funding to help bolster states' responses to the virus, advance research to develop a vaccine, fund community health centers and provide for other emergency response mechanisms.
- **Phase Two: H.R. 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act**, provided states with additional coverage for coronavirus testing without cost sharing; expanded emergency nutrition assistance; ensured diagnostic testing for TRICARE recipients; created an emergency paid leave program under the Family and Medical Leave Act; tax credits to employers to cover certain wages paid to employees under the sick and family leave programs; and additional funding to states to process unemployment benefits.
- **Phase Three:** As Chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, Senator Crapo led the economic response to the pandemic in the **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act**. The CARES Act took a number of bold steps to preserve and protect economic foundations of the country and to help those on the front lines of fighting this pandemic. It included direct financial help for the American people; relief for small businesses through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP); expanded unemployment assistance; bolstered telehealth capabilities and additional flexibilities; and more support for the brave health care professionals and the patients fighting the coronavirus on the frontlines. More on Senator Crapo's work in the CARES Act can be found in the Committee section of this booklet.
- **Phase Four: H.R. 133, Consolidated Appropriations Act**, provides support for small businesses with another round of the PPP; helps states with COVID-19 testing and tracing and vaccine development, manufacturing and distribution; enhances assistance under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) to support specialty crop, non-specialty crop, livestock, dairy, and poultry producers; and ensures direct financial help to the American people.

One of the largest provisions of the CARES Act was the PPP, and its purpose was clear: get immediate funding into the hands of small business owners impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic so their employees could stay on the payroll and maintain benefits. Senator Crapo and fellow Idaho Senator Jim Risch advocated for paperwork relief to streamline the PPP loan forgiveness application.

Even in these uncertain times, as the pandemic has torn across our world taking lives and destroying livelihoods, Idahoans are moving forward. Senator Crapo has worked closely with Governor Brad Little and fellow members of Idaho's Congressional Delegation, Senator Jim Risch and Representatives Mike Simpson and Russ Fulcher, to support Idahoans throughout the state's response to the pandemic.

From the beginning, the Idaho Congressional Delegation worked with the Governor's office to assist with testing capabilities the state and cut through federal red tape to obtain needed medical supplies, such as masks and personal protective equipment. They navigated conflicting federal guidelines to help get a shipment of KN-95 masks into the country for St. Luke's Health System. The delegation partnered to obtain White House Coronavirus Task Force recognition of the serious need for certain testing in rural areas, such as those in Idaho. Elevating this to the attention of the Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence, was important to ensure tests were directed to rural areas more in need of critical testing than larger, more populous states with bigger hospital systems and more testing capacity. Senator Crapo also partnered with the Idaho delegation to advocate for an elimination of payment limits under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, which provided direct relief for specialty crop, livestock and dairy producers.



Committees

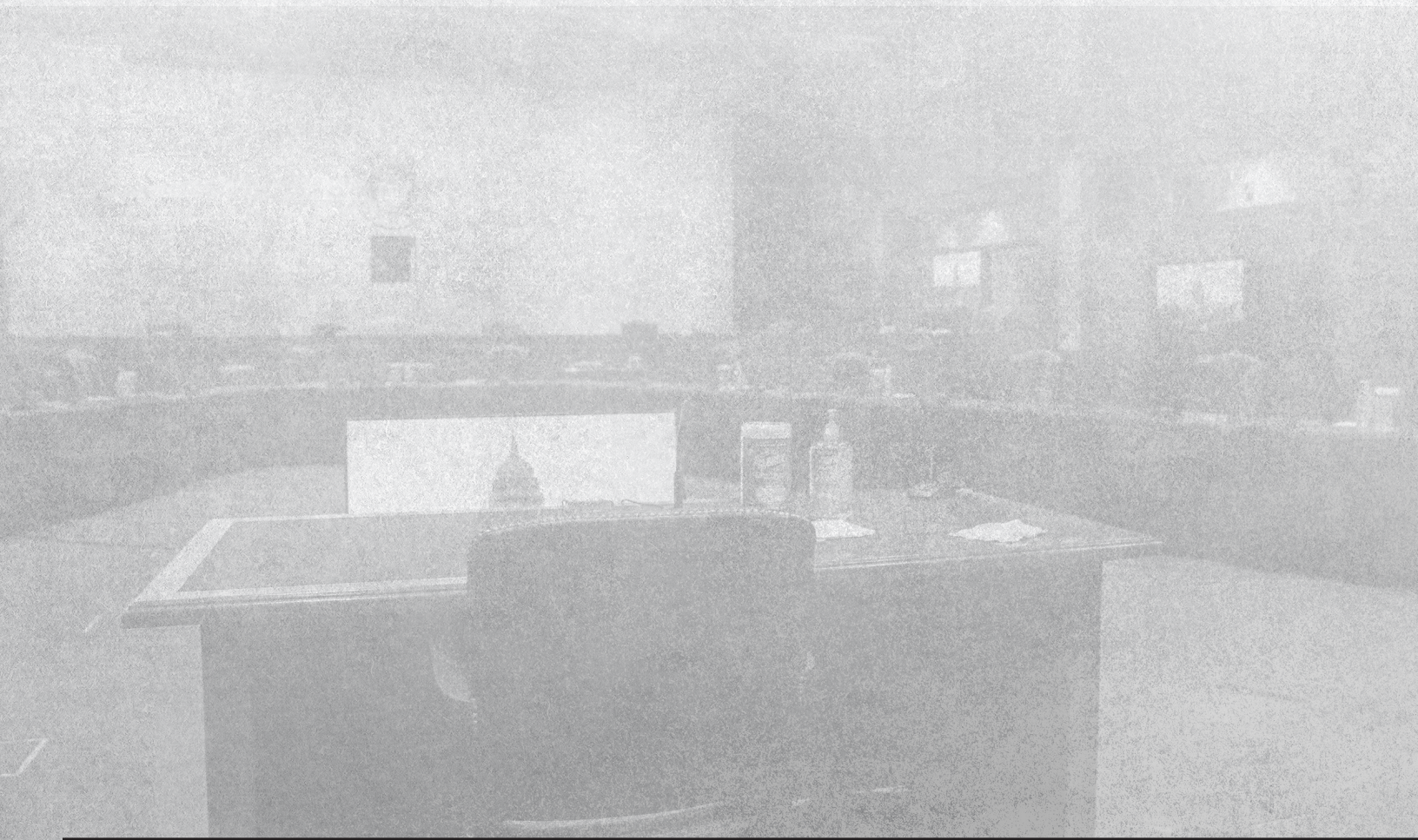
Committees are an essential part of the legislative process. Senate committees provide oversight of federal governmental operations, identify issues suitable for legislative review, gather and evaluate information and recommend courses of action to the Senate.

Senator Crapo served on **four** committees during the 116th Congress, including:

- **Chairman of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee;**
- **The Budget Committee;**
- **The Finance Committee; and**
- **The Senate Judiciary Committee.**

Senator Crapo also Chaired the Committee on Committees and continued to serve as the Chief Deputy Whip among Senate Republicans, a leadership position that assists Senate Republican Whip John Thune (R-South Dakota) in the primary legislative messaging role among his peers.

The following are some highlights of his work on the committees.



Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee

In the 116th Congress, Senator Crapo served his second term as the Chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, which has jurisdiction over efforts to promote the stability of the financial system and responsible lending to families and businesses.

A large portion of Chairman Crapo's second term focused on the implementation and oversight of laws that had been passed in the previous session of Congress, as well as several important reauthorizations. However, as the coronavirus pandemic spread rapidly across the world, Crapo became one of the lead negotiators in crafting major COVID-19 relief legislation, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

BANKING COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

49 Committee Hearings

6 Nomination Hearings

29 Confirmed Nominees



Senator Crapo chairs a Banking hearing



Senator Crapo chairs a Banking hearing



Senator Crapo and Senator Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio)
at a Banking hearing

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

As Banking Committee Chairman, Senator Crapo worked diligently on the Senate task force charged with addressing small business and market liquidity issues, and led negotiations on a provision designed to provide significant economic support to severely distressed sectors of the U.S. economy. This provision of the CARES Act provided the U.S. Treasury Department, in coordination with the Federal Reserve, funds that would be leveraged to stabilize markets, facilitate credit flow and provide liquidity. It also provided the vast majority of American homeowners with the opportunity to hit the pause button on their mortgage payment, and temporarily halted evictions on all federally-backed rental units. The Wall Street Journal editorial board summed it up well when they said, “The programs worked. Even as the pandemic and government shutdowns have waxed and waned, financial markets have healed. Lending spreads have fallen, and liquidity is ample in nearly all markets.”



Senator Crapo chairs a Banking hearing

Chairman Crapo also secured \$25 billion for public transportation systems to help prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19 in the CARES Act. These supplemental funds were distributed through existing formulas, while providing complete flexibility for systems to decide how to use the funds to address their most urgent needs.

Crapo also worked closely with the Small Business Committee on aspects of the aforementioned Paycheck Protection Program, which served as a lifeline for many small businesses. He has championed policies to streamline forgiveness, providing financial and administrative relief to America’s smallest businesses, and also promoted more targeted relief for certain industries.

Because he played a critical role in shaping many of the provisions of the CARES Act designed to provide significant economic support to severely distressed sectors of the U.S. economy, Crapo was tasked by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to lead oversight efforts of CARES Act implementation.

McConnell Announces Oversight Plans for Historic CARES Act

“I’m glad a leader like Chairman Crapo is stepping up to coordinate our Senate-wide effort. The Banking Committee already has jurisdiction over the largest parts of the legislation, including economic stabilization and the Federal Reserve. Now Chairman Crapo will also work closely with the chairs of other committees of jurisdiction as they supervise their own portions of the CARES Act. He will help quarterback all our oversight Senate-wide.”

Protecting Our National Security Interests

The Banking Committee has broad jurisdiction over matters that directly affect our national security interests, such as sanctions or issues that affect the United States' global competitiveness. Several pieces of legislation in the Committee's jurisdiction were signed into law that will help to protect our markets and communities against bad actors, and hold our foreign adversaries accountable.

- **North Korea Sanctions, the Otto Warmbier Nuclear Sanctions and Enforcement Act of 2019:** This legislation strengthens and expand U.S. sanctions on North Korea and its financial facilitators and supporters.
- **Fentanyl Sanctions Act:** This legislation authorizes new streams of funding and give the Administration more tools to combat the trafficking of opioids into the United States from China, Mexico and elsewhere.
- **The Transit Infrastructure Vehicle Security Act:** This legislation would prevent federal funds from being used by transit agencies to purchase rail cars or buses manufactured by Chinese owned, controlled, or subsidized companies. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Conference Report included a provision to address this critical issue, which was signed into law on December 20, 2019.
- **The Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020:** This bill gives law enforcement agencies long overdue authorities, resources and tools needed to protect our markets and communities against bad actors and threat networks. It also includes provisions to limit compliance burden, and adds strong protections and safeguards for small businesses' data. It was included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) reauthorization.



Senator Crapo swears in nominees at a Banking confirmation hearing



Senator Crapo chairs a Banking hearing

Reauthorizations

There is no such thing as a simple reauthorization process for expiring federal programs. However, Chairman Crapo secured several long-term reauthorizations for programs in the 116th Congress, which included important reforms.

- **Export-Import Bank:** The Export-Import Bank's charter was reauthorized for seven years. The reauthorization included reforms to help the U.S. better compete against foreign governments, like China, and increased support for U.S. small business.
- **Terrorism Risk Insurance Program:** The Terrorism Risk Insurance Program was reauthorized for seven years. This program makes coverage for terrorism risk insurance more available and affordable to the businesses that need it, and also preserved important taxpayer reforms.
- **National Flood Insurance Program:** The National Flood Insurance Program was designed to expand homeowners' access to flood insurance in exchange for local communities reducing their exposure to flood risk. Chairman Crapo secured a provision to extend the National Flood Insurance Program through September 30, 2021.
- **FAST Act:** Chairman Crapo played an instrumental role in providing certainty to our nation's transportation infrastructure by extending the current surface transportation authorization bill, the FAST Act, through September 30, 2021.

Implementing Pro-Growth Policies

One of Crapo's greatest achievements as Chairman of the Banking Committee was securing passage of the bipartisan Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act, signed into law on May 24, 2018. This bill provided significant regulatory relief to community banks and credit unions, which had been crushed by a regulatory regime designed for the largest, most complex financial institutions. In the 116th Congress, Chairman Crapo worked closely with federal banking regulators on the implementation of this legislation, as well as a number of other important regulatory initiatives.

Chairman Crapo also led Banking Committee Republicans in consistently pushing the Federal Reserve, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to explore additional ways that regulations should be further tailored to spur economic growth. The agencies responded by right-sizing several regulations, resulting in pro-jobs, pro-growth policies.

Crapo worked closely with the Securities and Exchange Commission to finalize a number of proposals to expand access to capital markets, streamline the exempt offering framework, modernize shareholder proposal thresholds and proxy voting rules, finalize standards of conduct for investment advisers, and establish inter-agency coordination regarding initial coin offerings and other cryptocurrency matters.

Oversight

- **Facebook Cryptocurrency:** In 2019, it was reported that Facebook was recruiting financial institutions and online merchants to help launch a cryptocurrency-based payments system, Libra, using its social network. Chairman Crapo quickly called for transparency and accountability surrounding the project, convening a hearing with the head of Facebook’s project. The hearing focused on concerns surrounding money laundering, financial instability, regulatory compliance, and customers’ privacy. The increased scrutiny from Congress and U.S. and global financial regulators ensured that the company practice due diligence before launching a new crypto-currency, and the project remains in limbo two years later.
- **Fair Access to Banking:** Over the last few years, there has been a disturbing trend in the financial services industry – the intentional discrimination of entire industries, such as firearms manufacturers, by the largest banks in the United States. Chairman Crapo has consistently raised concerns over this development, and has urged banks to focus on profit, safety and soundness, and to not target industries, especially those having a meaningful benefit in rural communities, based on political views. Crapo has likewise urged regulators to communicate sound guidance to those they regulate, and to support fair access to banking for legally-operating businesses.



To address these concerns from Crapo and other legislators, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, which regulates the nation’s largest banks, recently proposed a rule on “Fair Access to Banking,” signaling to banks that they should not discriminate against legal businesses and individuals, nor should banks be making national policy decisions about what legal products and services should be available to consumers and markets. This is an issue that Crapo will continue to monitor closely.



“I commend the OCC for reaffirming that banks must not deny services or limit fair access to legal businesses and individuals. Business lending decisions should be based on creditworthiness, rather than politics or political pressure. This has long been a priority of mine, especially since the inception of Operation Choke Point.”

– Senator Crapo

Eliminating Barriers to Affordable Housing Development

Housing affordability is a critical issue in Idaho and all across the country. Nationwide, there is a shortage of millions of affordable rental homes available to lower-income Americans, and the gap between the demand for affordable homes and the supply of new ones being built increases each year. Addressing the housing affordability crisis requires innovative, outside-the-box approaches, as well as collaborative efforts at the local, state and federal level, and public/private partnerships.

In August 2019, Chairman Crapo invited Department of Housing and Urban Development head Secretary Carson to Idaho to meet with local leaders and discuss some of the ways leaders in government and in the private sector are addressing challenges in the housing market.

“Everyone agrees we must try to make more affordable housing available. Here in Idaho, home prices are on the rise and demand is high. We all want to share in the American Dream of having our own place to live. That means we must diversify our approach and find new and innovative ways to expand affordable housing venues.”

– Senator Crapo



Senator Crapo, HUD Secretary Ben Carson and Representative Russ Fulcher tour indieDwell in Caldwell, Idaho

Finance Committee

Senator Crapo served as the second-ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, giving Idaho a strong voice in legislation relating to federal tax policy; federal social safety net and health care programs, including Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid; and implementation of reciprocal foreign trade agreements. Senator Crapo also continued serving on the Joint Committee on Taxation, a bipartisan committee with members of both the House and Senate who work collaboratively on the tax legislative process.

Lower Costs More Cures Act

During the 116th Congress, the President called on Congress to support efforts to lower the costs of health care and prescription drugs. Senator Crapo introduced **S. 3129, the Lower Costs, More Cures Act**, to lower prescription drug prices, bring greater transparency to the prescription drug industry and encourage American ingenuity in the development of new treatments and cures. In February 2020, the United States Chamber of Commerce endorsed Senator Crapo's Lower Costs, More Cures Act.

The Lower Costs, More Cures Act, among other things, would:

- Modernize payments for drugs delivered in the doctor's office under Medicare Part B;
- Incentivize lower-cost alternatives, or biosimilars;
- Establish an annual out-of-pocket cap of \$3,100 for Medicare Part D enrollees and allow certain patients to pay in monthly installments;
- Place an out-of-pocket cap of \$50 on insulin and insulin medical supplies;
- Decrease beneficiary cost sharing from 25 percent to 15 percent of costs before the out-of-pocket cap is reached;
- Allow prescription drug plan sponsors to offer, at minimum, up to four Part D plans per region, spurring competition and innovation;
- Prevent the upcoming spike in costs for Medicare Part D beneficiaries that reach their annual maximum payment amount;
- Provide greater flexibility for individuals to use Health Savings Accounts to purchase over-the-counter drugs;
- Make permanent the 7.5 percent adjusted gross income for the purposes of the medical expense deduction in the tax filing season;
- Create a trade negotiator solely dedicated to putting American patients first in government trade negotiations related to medicines in order to prevent foreign free-loading off America's investment; and
- Require drug manufacturers to provide pricing information on all direct-to-consumer advertising.

Short Line Rail Credit Permanence

For a number of years, Senator Crapo has been the lead sponsor of important legislation to ensure a critical tax credit used to repair and upgrade short line railroads is made permanent. For the 116th Congress, Senator Ron Wyden (D-Oregon), joined Senator Crapo as the leaders of this bipartisan effort. The 45G tax credit provides short line and regional railroads a tax credit for railroad track maintenance expenses, up to \$3,500 per mile of track owned or leased by the railroad. The short line railroads ensure that small manufacturers' products can get to markets in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The incentive is credited with a number of rail expansion projects benefiting communities across Idaho and Oregon, and the permanent extension will allow communities to repair, maintain and upgrade additional short line railroads nationwide. Congress has acted periodically since 2006 to extend the credit, often retroactively. Earlier this Congress, Senator Crapo and Senator Wyden introduced S. 203, the Building Rail Access for Customers and the Economy (BRACE) Act to make the extension permanent. The BRACE Act had an additional 61 bipartisan co-sponsors in the Senate, and the House of Representatives companion legislation had garnered 303 bipartisan co-sponsors. A permanent extension of the 45G credit, based on the Crapo/Wyden proposal, was included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 omnibus package, which was signed into law in December 2020.

As a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Crapo will continue to work closely with colleagues to advance policy solutions that lower costs and adhere to market-driven principles.



Senator Crapo attends a committee hearing

Judiciary Committee

The Senate Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction over several matters including the processing of nominations for Supreme Court Justices and judges for appellate and district courts. It also has oversight responsibility for numerous federal departments, such as the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), and jurisdiction over immigration and matters related to the U.S. Constitution.

As a former practicing attorney in Idaho Falls before entering public service, Senator Crapo plays an active role on this Committee.

Judicial Appointments:

The Senate Committee on the Judiciary has advanced a historic amount of judges in the 115th and 116th Congresses. As of October 26, 2020, the Senate has confirmed:

- **Three** Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States;
- **54** judges for the United States Circuit Court of Appeals,
- **174** judges for the United States District Courts; and
- **3** judges for the United States Court of International Trade.

Advocating for a third federal judge for Idaho

As a member of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Senator Crapo has highlighted the need to put aside partisan differences and create a third federal district judgeship in Idaho. At the start of the 116th Congress, Senator Crapo and fellow Idaho Senator Jim Risch introduced S. 103, legislation establishing an additional federal district judges in Idaho for the first time in more than 60 years.

Idaho is in a precarious position with only two authorized federal judges, and faces further difficulties and shortages with current judges reaching retirement eligibility. In fact, Idaho is one of only three states that only has two authorized judgeships. The state was allocated its two federal judge positions when the state had a population of 600,000 people. Today, the population of Idaho is rapidly approaching 1.7 million--nearly three times higher. Yet, it still only has two judgeships and the state increasingly has to rely on visiting judges to meet caseload needs.

Senator Crapo will continue to work with his colleagues in Congress on both sides of the aisle for enactment of this important legislation.



Senator Crapo listens to Supreme Court Nominee Amy Coney Barrett's confirmation hearing



Senator Crapo questions Supreme Court Nominee Amy Coney Barrett

Debbie Smith Act

Senator Crapo is an original co-sponsor of S. 820, the Debbie Smith Act, which passed the Senate unanimously. The House counterpart to this measure, H.R. 777, was then **signed into law by President Donald Trump on December 30, 2019**. This important legislation reauthorizes the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program, credited with empowering state and local crime laboratories to process hundreds of thousands of cases and uploading DNA profiles in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) DNA database.

Senator Crapo remains a strong advocate for continued focus on the impact of crime on individuals, families and communities and any needed steps to improve response and recovery.

“Ensuring adequate resources are in place to support prompt and thorough forensic investigations to bring perpetrators of crime to justice remains a critical component of obtaining justice for crime victims and stopping criminals from their ability to act again”

– Senator Crapo

The Mueller Report and Cross Fire Hurricane

During a June 3, 2020, hearing, Senator Crapo joined fellow Judiciary Committee members in questioning Attorney General William Barr about the Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election. Senator Crapo expressed concerns with regard to continued unauthorized leaks of internal information at the FBI and instances of individuals at the agency displaying political bias.

Senator Crapo read the entire Mueller Report and stands by Attorney General Barr's assessment that no credible evidence supports a charge of collusion or conspiracy of the Trump Campaign with the Kremlin.



Senator Crapo attends a committee hearing



Senator Crapo and HUD Secretary Carson speak before a committee hearing

Budget Committee

The Budget Committee's principal responsibility is to develop a concurrent resolution on the budget to serve as the framework for congressional spending, revenue and debt-limit legislation. Working in tandem with the House of Representatives, the Senate establishes a joint agreement, a "budget resolution," that sets the spending levels for its specified timeframe. The Budget Committee tracks the appropriations and legislative processes throughout the year to ensure spending levels conform to the levels set forth in the resolution. Senator Crapo has authored and supported countless common-sense fiscal policies aimed at balancing the federal budget. Addressing our national debt remains a top priority for Senator Crapo.



Senator Crapo meets with Betsy Russell of the Idaho Press



Senator Crapo visits the Hailey Friedman Airport



Senator Crapo speaks at a USMCA event in Idaho



Senator Crapo speaks at a Blair Farms town hall



Senator Crapo speaks at the Clementsville town hall



Senator Crapo meets with George Uribe and family



Senator Crapo meets with the Boise Black Knights



Senator Crapo talks with Bret Kugelmass of the Titans of Nuclear podcast



Senator Crapo speaks at the Springdale town hall



Senator Crapo meets with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin



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