

## Joni Ernst Initiatives and Victories – 2018

*"2018 was one for the books!" - Senator Joni Ernst*

### Senator Joni Ernst's Top 2018 Accomplishments:

- ✓ **Cedar Rapids:** Secured \$117 million in federal funds for Cedar Rapids flood mitigation.
- ✓ **Regulatory Reforms:** Held the U.S. EPA to fulfilling President Trump's promise to provide E15 year-round, as well as repealing and replacing the 2015 "waters of the United States Rule" (WOTUS).
- ✓ **National Security:** As a member of the conference committee, secured a number of provisions in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that help bolster our nation's security and support our military.
- ✓ **Trade Deals:** Pushed the administration to open up new markets and finalize trade deals, including the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS-FTA) to ensure the success of Iowa and America's agricultural economy.
- ✓ **Historic Opioid Legislation:** Supported and helped pass historic opioid legislation that included her Access to Increased Drug Disposal Act, which will increase participation in federal prescription drug take-back programs, and her Education Disposal of Unused Opioid Act, which requires Medicare Advantage plans and prescription drug plans to provide information on safe disposals.
- ✓ **Making 'em Squeal:** Successfully pushed Senate Leadership to cancel August "recess" and stay in session to work on our nation's budget and spending bills.
- ✓ **Supporting Veterans:** Helped secure final passage of the VA MISSION Act, a bipartisan bill signed by President Trump that included Senator Ernst's bipartisan VETS Act, which will finally allow rural or homebound veterans in Iowa, and across the U.S., to receive necessary care from the comfort of their homes.
- ✓ **Zero Tolerance on Sexual Harassment:** Ensured that members of Congress hold themselves to the same standards as the rest of the country, through Senate passage of an anti-sexual harassment bill, the bipartisan Congressional Accountability Act (CAA) of 1995 Reform Act.



### Introduction

U.S. Senator Joni Ernst works hard every day to fight for Iowans' best interests. Whether it is listening to constituents at 99 County Tour stops, engaging with Iowans during her weekly "constituent coffees" in Washington, or pushing her Senate colleagues and the administration to take action, Joni Ernst is effectively delivering on her promises to those who elected her.



**"I love Iowa. I love the people of Iowa. We have certainly, of course, I believe, the best people in the nation, and I am very proud to represent them."**

- Des Moines Register (12/07/18)

## **Finding Solutions for Rural America**

### **Working Hard for the 2018 Farm Bill**

Farmers and ranchers are the backbone of our economy, and it's our responsibility to provide them with the certainty and predictability they deserve.

After months of hard work and negotiation across the aisle, the U.S. Senate passed the 2018 Farm Bill with a number of Senator Ernst's priorities. From strengthening conservation programs in the GROW Act of 2018 to providing critical mental health support through her FARMERS FIRST Act, the 2018 Farm Bill is "farmer-focused."



### **Redefining "waters of the United States"**

In 2015, the Obama administration finalized a rule that expanded the definition of "waters of the U.S." (WOTUS), creating confusion and burdensome red tape for the agriculture industry and many others.

Understanding the problems the expanded definition of WOTUS posed for Iowa's farmers and ranchers, Senator Ernst led the fight against this federal overreach in Congress. Senator Ernst joined EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler, as he released the replacement rule, which will establish clear and reasonable definitions of what qualifies as 'WOTUS.' Iowa's farmers, ranchers, manufacturers and small businesses can breathe a sigh of relief knowing that, going forward, a tire track that collects rain water won't be regulated by the federal government.

### **Securing E15 Year-Round**

After tirelessly urging the Trump administration to remove the outdated restriction on the sale of E15 year-round, Senator Ernst joined President Donald Trump at the White House,

as he announced his directive to expand the Reid vapor pressure (RVP) waiver to fuel blends up to 15 percent ethanol throughout the year.

Granting the sale of E15 year-round means that lowans will see an increase in farm income, increased ethanol production and consumption and a boost in our economy. E15 year-round also gives people across the country more choice at the pump.

### **Protecting and Expanding Rural Broadband**

To compete in today's economy, small businesses and rural communities in Iowa need access to quality broadband. Currently, rural telecom providers throughout Iowa face the threat of costly U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) reporting requirements, making it more difficult to invest in broadband throughout Iowa, and across the country.

Senator Ernst and Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) introduced bipartisan legislation to encourage investment in high-speed internet and protect and expand access to broadband in our rural communities.

The Access to Capital Creates Economic Strength and Supports (ACCESS) Act allows these businesses to focus on expanding access to broadband instead of complying with red tape.

### **Making 'Em Squeal**

#### **Holding the Administration Accountable**

From the EPA Administrator to the White House trade advisor, Senator Ernst was not afraid to hold the administration accountable when they stepped out of line.



When, Senator Ernst became frustrated with former EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's handling of the U.S. biofuel mandate, she called him out for "undermining" the president's commitment to support ethanol. And, when White House trade advisor Peter Navarro said that the economic impact of the trade war was a mere "rounding error," Senator Ernst stuck up for farmers caught in the crosshairs of the trade war, by calling his "offhand comments" out-of-touch, stating that "real people – lowans – are waiting for terms to be negotiated, for new deals to be finalized." She called on the administration to lessen the pressure on hard-working farmers, and to let them sell their goods.

#### **Reforming Presidential PERKS**

This year, Senator Ernst continued her push to reform the outdated system that provides former U.S. presidents with post-presidency benefits. Her legislation, the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act, would establish a cap on former presidents' monetary allowances, which are currently unlimited and fund resources like office space, staff salaries, cell phone bills and more. It would then reduce the allowance dollar-for-dollar by each dollar of income a former president earns in excess of \$400,000.

As Senator Ernst has said, “The national debt is nearly \$22 trillion – we cannot afford to generously subsidize the perks of former presidents to the tune of millions of dollars.” The bill passed the House and out of committee in the Senate, but was then blocked on the Senate floor. Senator Ernst will re-introduce this bill in the next Congress.

### **Preventing Senators from Traveling Until Their Work is Done**

Hardworking Iowans know that you don’t take a break until the job is done. Senator Ernst’s No Budget, No Vacation Act would prohibit Senators from traveling during August recess until the budget and appropriations process is completed.

Senator Ernst was successful in urging Senate Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) to cancel August Recess, through a letter with her colleagues stating “We are united in our belief that we must work with a sense of urgency to deliver conservative solutions for pressing legislative issues on behalf of the American people.”

### **Getting Back Unused Funds**

Senator Ernst worked with Senator Mike Lee (R-UH) and other colleagues to introduce a bill to address Washington’s spending problem by formally rescinding the \$15 billion in unneeded spending identified by the White House.

### **Relocating Federal Agencies**

The headquarters of nearly all executive branch agencies are clustered around Washington, D.C., concentrating hundreds of thousands of jobs. That’s why Senator Ernst introduced the Strategic Withdrawal of Agencies for Meaningful Placement (SWAMP) Act, legislation that would move the new headquarters of federal agencies

outside of Washington and establish a competitive bidding process to allow states, cities and towns across the country to compete to be an agency’s new home.

### **Banning Earmarks**

Senator Ernst was sent to Washington by Iowans to cut wasteful spending and protect taxpayer dollars. In keeping that promise, she fought to permanently ban earmarks. Senator Ernst, along with a bipartisan group of her colleagues, introduced a bill to make permanent the temporary moratorium on congressional earmarks, which has been in effect since 2010.

### **Caring for our Veterans and Servicemembers**

#### **Improving Veterans’ Access to Health Care**

We can and we must do better for our veterans. That’s why Senator Ernst, a combat veteran, worked hard to ensure that the VA MISSION Act, bipartisan legislation that improves veterans’ access to health care services, passed the Senate and was signed into law by President Trump.

The VA MISSION Act included Senator Ernst’s bipartisan VETS Act, which will allow rural or homebound veterans to receive necessary care from the comfort of their homes.



And, after alarming discoveries of improper hiring at the Iowa City VA, Senator Ernst introduced bipartisan legislation that requires third-party clinical reviews of patient care by a health care provider that was hired illegally.

### **Improve Servicemember Blast Exposure Injury Prevention**

Since 2000, more than 370,000 servicemembers have received a first-time diagnosis of traumatic brain injury, in many cases due to the use of improvised explosive devices (IED) in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Senator Ernst explains, “As a grateful nation, it is our job to ensure the safety and health of our men and women in uniform as they defend our country.” That’s why she introduced the Blast Exposure and Brain Injury Prevention Act to address the serious threat posed by traumatic brain injury (TBI) in combat and in training, and to provide the Department of Defense with greater guidance to treat, but most importantly prevent, TBI. This passed into law in the final passage of the bipartisan Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

### **Addressing the Mental Health Crisis and Helping People with Disabilities**

#### **Mental Health Support**

A 2016 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that agricultural workers have high suicide rates. To assist these farmers in crisis, Senator Ernst developed bipartisan legislation to provide seed funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture to state departments of agriculture, state extension services and non-profits to establish helplines, provide suicide prevention

training for farm advocates, create support groups and reestablish the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network.

The bipartisan Facilitating Accessible Resources for Mental Health and Encouraging Rural Solutions For Immediate Response to Stressful Times (FARMERS FIRST) Act, which was included in the final 2018 Farm Bill, will provide our nation’s agricultural community with critical mental health support and resources.

### **Supporting Families & Defending Life**

#### **Seeking to Defund Planned Parenthood**

Senator Ernst believes that states should be able to fund health centers that provide the best and most comprehensive care, without being forced to use taxpayer money for organizations that provide abortions, like Planned Parenthood. That’s why she joined a Senate effort supporting state laws to defund Planned Parenthood. In 2018, she joined an amicus brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review the case of *Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast v. Gee*. A Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in the case currently prohibits states from eliminating taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood through Medicaid.



### **Protecting our Most Vulnerable**

Senator Ernst reaffirmed her commitment to fighting for babies after the U.S. Senate failed to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. She stated, “At five months, we know that babies can yawn, make faces, wiggle their ten fingers and ten toes, and feel pain. At just five months gestation, Micah Pickering from Newton, Iowa proved that a baby this small is so full of life. The United States is only one of seven countries that allows abortions after about five months, putting us in the company of countries like China and North Korea. I am deeply saddened ... that some of my colleagues chose to stand with North Korea instead of innocent life. I cannot believe this is who we want to be as a nation.”

The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act prohibits abortion after about five months post-fertilization, the point in development that science has shown unborn children can feel pain.

### **Restoring Title X Decisions to the States**

Taxpayers should not be forced to fund abortion because of misguided regulations that blur the line between family planning and abortions. Senator Ernst applauded the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ action in 2018 to propose regulation that would change how Title X grants are awarded. In this change, the health of mothers and babies are prioritized. It also clarifies the policy that abortion is not a family planning method. Senator Ernst explained: “The clarification and separation between family planning and abortion has been restored – protecting taxpayer dollars and, most importantly, our unborn children. The redirection of these Title X funds to other entities, such as federally qualified

community health centers, which continue to outnumber Planned Parenthood agencies in Iowa, will provide better and more comprehensive care for women and families, regardless of a person’s ability to pay.”

### **Pushing for Paid Family Leave**

The issue of paid leave is incredibly important. Millions of families across the country struggle with the realities of childbirth and infant care, while also working hard to put food on the table and raise strong and healthy families. It is long overdue that Congress not just have a conversation on these matters, but get serious about a path forward. That’s why Senator Ernst has been working with her colleagues and Ivanka Trump to explore ways new parents could elect to receive a paid leave benefit through Social Security.

Senator Ernst testified before the Senate Finance Committee Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions about Paid Family Leave, saying, “As a conservative, I want to craft a paid leave policy that can not only attract consensus, but is viable for families, employers and the economy, recognizing that working parents by definition are an essential part of many businesses.”



## **Fighting Against Sexual Assault and Violence**

### **Congressional Anti-Harassment Rules**

Everyone deserves to work in an environment free from harassment and discrimination. Twenty-two Democratic and Republican women of the U.S. Senate, including Senator Ernst passed the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA) of 1995 Reform Act. This legislation will update and strengthen the procedures available to survivors of sexual harassment and discrimination in congressional workplaces before the full Senate.

### **Calling for Investigations**

Following criminal reports about a systematic cover-up of sexual abuse of female gymnasts at the hands of ex-team USA Gymnastics doctor Larry Nassar, Senator Ernst, along with her colleague Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), called for a special committee to investigate the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and USA Gymnastics. Their resolution to establish the special committee has extensive bipartisan support with 17 cosponsors. During her Senate testimony, Senator Ernst described the Olympic culture as one that “prioritizes winning medals over the health and welfare of the athletes.”



Senator Ernst applauded the decision by the current USOC CEO Sarah Hirshland to essentially shut down USA Gymnastics following the way the organization botched the handling of Larry Nassar.

### **Demanding Transparency about the Risk of Sexual Assault on Military Bases**

Senator Ernst, a member of the Armed Services Committee, demanded that the Pentagon release a report that rates the risk of sexual assault at military bases around the world, following a USA TODAY report showing that the “military has struggled to combat sexual assault in its ranks for decades.”

The study was released following a letter from Senator Ernst and her colleagues sent stating, "Since this type of information is available, the Department should not only release it, but also use it to better understand what it can do at the installation level to be more effective in preventing and responding to sexual assault."

### **Introducing Critical School Safety Legislation**

Senator Ernst joined her bipartisan colleagues in introducing the Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Act of 2018, legislation that funds school security improvements and invests in early intervention and prevention programs to stop school violence before it happens.

The legislation, which was signed into law this year, authorizes the Department of Justice to make grants for the purposes of training students, school personnel and law enforcement to identify signs of violence and intervene to prevent people from hurting themselves or others. In addition to prevention efforts, the legislation funds evidence-based technology and equipment to improve school security and prevent school violence.

## Investing in Infrastructure

### Securing Funding for Cedar Rapids

In addition to efforts by the city and state governments, for years, Senator Ernst pushed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to review its flawed benefit-cost ratio (BCR) metrics, which disadvantage projects in rural states, and to find a way to fund projects like the Cedar Rapids flood mitigation project. This year, the combined efforts of Senator Ernst and the Iowa delegation paid off, with the city of Cedar Rapids receiving \$117 million in funding that will not only protect the city, but also give businesses the certainty they need to confidently invest in the Cedar Rapids community.



## Protecting America and Her Global Interests

### Sustaining and Strengthening our National Security Against Global Threats

It's Congress' duty to provide the necessary funding to our servicemembers who sacrifice daily to protect our country and maintain our freedoms. The bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act sustains and strengthens our national security against global threats. A number of Senator Ernst's priorities to help bolster our nation's security and support our military were included in the final bill.

Notable priorities of Senator Ernst's that were included in the NDAA are: her bipartisan legislation to treat and raise awareness for traumatic brain injuries among servicemembers, specifically in training environments; and, an additional \$31 million in research funding for physiological episodes plaguing our servicemembers.

### Preparing the U.S. for Advances in Artificial Intelligence

Our nation has made extraordinary advancements in technology in the 21st Century, and we must ensure the United States is prepared to take advantage of the next major technological boom: artificial intelligence.

As Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee, Senator Ernst introduced bipartisan legislation to spur much needed attention to maintaining America's competitiveness in artificial intelligence (AI), in support of U.S. national security and economic interests, as well as to maintain a competitive advantage over other nations in the use of this cutting-edge technology. This became law in this year's National Defense Authorization Act.



## **Helping Fight the Opioids Crisis**

### **Tackling the Opioid Epidemic**

No one should lose a parent, a child, a spouse or a friend to opioid abuse. The Trump administration and Congress committed to working together to combat America's opioid crisis this year. The President signed the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act into law this year.

This historic legislation will clamp down on illicit opioid shipments, increase funding for research of non-opioid pain treatments and encourage the development of non-opioid, non-addictive products. It also increases access to Medicare and Medicaid treatment and recovery support services for beneficiaries with substance abuse problems.

The law includes Senator Ernst's Access to Increased Drug Disposal (AIDD) Act, which will increase drug take-back programs. It also includes her Education for Disposal of Unused Opioids (EDU) Act, which requires Medicare Advantage plans and prescription

drug plans to provide information on the safe disposal of prescription drugs.

## **Reducing Recidivism and Improving Fairness in Federal Sentencing**

### **Helping Mothers in our Justice System**

There is an overwhelming trend over the past few decades showing that women, especially mothers, are going to prison at higher and higher rates. One of the reasons that Senator Ernst became an original cosponsor of the First Step Act is because she believes we need to address this disturbing statistic, and help these women in our justice system.

The First Step Act, which passed the Senate with strong bipartisan support, aims to reduce recidivism and improve fairness in sentencing of federal crimes. The comprehensive and bipartisan legislation provides opportunities for low-risk inmates to rejoin society, while ensuring that dangerous criminals stay behind bars.

## **Senator Ernst Awards and Accolades – 2018**

- ✓ Named a Conferee on the Bipartisan, Bicameral Farm Bill Conference Committee
- ✓ Voted by her colleagues to join Senate Republican Leadership as the Vice Chair of the Republican Conference
- ✓ Appointed as a new member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Observer Group
- ✓ Presented the Growth Energy 2018 Fueling Growth award for her work on the Renewable Fuel Standard
- ✓ Recognized as a "Hero of Main Street" by the National Retail Federation (NRF) for consistently supporting public policy priorities important to the retail industry and its millions of small businesses
- ✓ Named to serve on the bipartisan, bicameral Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform, focused on fixing the broken budgeting process

## 99 County Tour

- ✓ 53 visits to Iowa companies, schools, facilities, farms
- ✓ 20 town hall meetings
- ✓ 7 roundtables
- ✓ 6 main street tours
- ✓ 13 other community outreach events

### [Albia News](#): Sen. Ernst holds town hall meeting.

“No one is better equipped to meet the needs of a troubled veteran than a veteran who has successfully dealt with the same problems,’ she said. ‘Rebuilding the military after eight years of the previous administration dismantling it is part of the solution to veteran health care,’ said Ernst.” (11/01/18)

### [Emmetsburg Reporter Democrat](#): Ernst talks small business in Graettinger.

“As part of her 99 county tour, United States Senator Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, met with company heads and employees at Energy Panel Structure (EPS) in Graettinger. Ernst wanted to update constituents on what has been happening and to answer questions.” (10/31/18)

### [Estherville Daily News](#): Ernst visits Holiday Express.

“Tuesday, Iowa Senator Joni Ernst visited Holiday Express Trucking Company in Estherville Iowa. Joni toured the facility, as she walked out to the shop she breathed in deep and said ‘I love the smell of machine shops.’... “Ernst listened with an open ear and it was made very clear the changes that need to be made when it comes to regulations.” (10/23/18)

### [Journal-Eureka](#): Ernst gets feedback on tax reform.

“Ernst met with banking officials in a closed-door roundtable for approximately one hour discussing a variety of issues, including what the Trump administration has said concerning progress was being made in the various trade agreements.” (08/17/18)

### [KSFY](#): Sen. Ernst meets with producers to talk trade, tariffs, and other concerns.

“Iowa Sen. Joni Ernst met with ag producers in Sibley on Monday night for a roundtable on multiple issues the industry is facing...Ernst spent nearly two hours with producers for Osceola County on Monday night. Tim Peelen, who produces corn, soybeans, alfalfa and has livestock, said it's important those in Washington, D.C., listen.” (08/07/18)

### [Hamburg Reporter](#): Students impress Ernst at Friday program.

“Students from the Marnie Simons School in Hamburg, home to students from pre-K through eighth grade, hosted Iowa Senator Joni Ernst for a tour of the Farm School...Ernst, who had a few more stops Friday as part of her yearly tour of Iowa's 99 counties, said she was very impressed by the Hamburg Farm School and that it was a unique arrangement that she had not seen anywhere else in the state.” (08/01/18)



**[Twiner-Herald](#): Senator Ernst visits Mosaic in Logan.**

“On Friday July 27, Senator Joni Ernst visited Mosaic in Logan. She received a tour and she and the staff discussed the mission of the organization, issues Mosaic and other non-profit service providers are facing, and how to partner to continue to create meaningful lives for people with intellectual disabilities.” (07/31/18)

**[Southwestern Community College News](#): Ernst and Shipley visit campus Wednesday.**

“Joni Ernst, United States senator for Iowa, and Tom Shipley, Iowa senator, were on the Southwestern Community College Creston campus Wednesday, May 30, 2018, to meet with college employees and community leaders. Their discussion included training for students, economic development, and career paths to assist students in the direction of high-demand professions.” (05/31/18)

**[The Clayton County Register](#): Infrastructure a hot topic during Ernst visit to Pattison Sand.**

“During the one-hour stay, Ernst toured the Pattison site, learning about the operation’s history and its products. ‘It’s interesting,’ she shared. ‘This is my first time down here. They’ve grown so much...They’ve done well with taking challenges and making them into opportunities.’” (05/08/18)

**[Kalona News](#): Ernst hears value of ISU research.**

“While Congress was on break, Sen. Joni Ernst visited with farmers and researchers at the Iowa State University Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm in Crawfordville on Tuesday, April 3. Ernst heard comments on the necessity of funding the type of work and research done at the ISU farm.” (04/12/18)

**[Waukon Standard](#): Iowa Senator Joni Ernst hears from area dairy farmers.**

“[Ernst] said, ‘I was very impressed with the center and its operation. I grew up on a livestock farm, but I am aware of the challenges that face dairy farmers as well as all in the dairy industry. As I am sure most of you know, I, along with Senator (Chuck) Grassley, serve on the Senate Agriculture Committee and, as a member, I try to look at ways to help with rural development ideas and trade issues in the dairy industry.’” (05/09/18)

**[Ottumwa Courier](#): Senator tours college’s entrepreneur center.**

“‘I love the community college system,’ said Ernst after meeting with IHCC administration and touring Iam Aagtech at the college’s Regional Entrepreneur Center. ‘When you look at the value you get at a community college, it’s fantastic.’ Ernst would like to see more people take advantage of the regional two-year schools, she said. She’d also like to find ways to develop jobs in rural areas to keep those graduates in the state.” (04/05/18)

**The Gazette:** Sen. Joni Ernst talks water quality regulations in Tipton.

“Ernst said small towns across the state are finding themselves in similar situations... ‘It seems the regulations are becoming more stringent and of course the systems are becoming more costly and that’s prohibitive for smaller communities. They want to do the right thing, but perhaps we have to look at other ways, other methods of treating our water.’” (04/04/18)



**Ames Tribune:** Ernst finishes 99-county tour with stop in Ames

“Cold winds and grey skies didn’t keep residents from the last county town hall held by U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst Friday morning at the Ames City Hall.” (11/09/18)

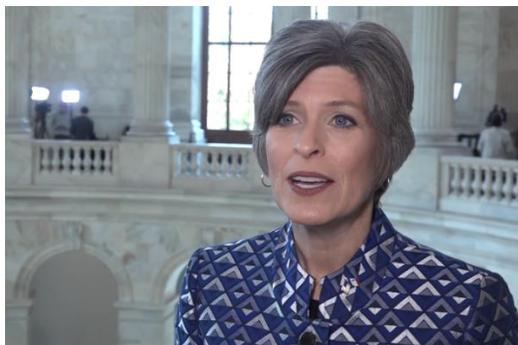


## Media Highlights

### IOWA TV:

#### **Gray TV: Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA) to join Senate GOP leadership.**

“Ernst said, ‘The opportunity to take Iowa’s voices and present them on the leadership team, I think there’s a lot we can collaborate on.’ ...Ernst is the first woman elected to Republican Senate leadership since 2010. She said, ‘I think it’s long overdue. I do.’” (11/14/18)



#### **KWWL: Joni Ernst selected to Senate GOP leadership.**

“Joni Ernst will be the vice chair of the Republican for the 116th Congress. The Iowa Republican will be the first-ranking member of the party’s leadership in the Senate next year. Ernst is the first woman to serve in a leadership capacity for the party since 2009.” (11/14/18)

#### **KCRG: Senator Ernst talks with KCRG about the Farm Bill Conference Committee.**

“I hear a lot about conservation as I am crossing the state of Iowa, making sure that we are focusing on protecting vulnerable acres, highly erodible acres and not putting whole farms into conservation programs... that is cutting our young and beginning farmers out of acreage.” (09/06/18)

#### **KCRG: Dozens of Larry Nassar abuse survivors share story on Capitol Hill.**

“Sen. Joni Ernst. (R-IA) was also at the news conference, and praised the survivors for speaking up. ‘Your bravery to come forward is exactly why we are here today. There are more than 80 survivors here today, a testament to the Olympic community, but also the damage under the Olympic umbrella,’ Ernst said.” (07/25/18)

#### **KWWL: On 10 Year Anniversary, Ernst reflects on 2008 Cedar Rapids Flood.**

“What we saw after the flood embodied the people of Iowa. We saw resilience, kindness and generosity. The community came together to rebuild and help others in need.” (07/15/18)

#### **KWQC: Women on Capitol Hill unite against common enemy, breast cancer.**

“Iowa Senator Joni Ernst (R) says she’s playing in honor of a dear friend and colleague who survived breast cancer. She’s also paying tribute to the women and men who died fighting it. ‘We have Democrats, Republicans playing together - women from the House, women from the Senate - we are playing the media and we are going to win - not just in the ball game but in this fight against breast cancer.’” (06/21/18)



**KWWL: Sen. Ernst says trade tensions will hurt U.S. farmers most.**

“... ‘Farmers need trade, not aid. These tariffs are nothing more than a tax on Iowa farm families and the escalating trade war is putting the livelihoods of our rural communities in the crosshairs.’” (06/19/18)



**KCRG: Two Iowa Vietnam veterans recognized decades after service.**

“Senator Joni Ernst presented service medals to veterans Harry Joe Wray of Des Moines and Larry Spaur of Knoxville. Spaur received a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. The machine gunner spent nearly eight months in a hospital after a North Vietnamese rocket hit him.” (02/09/18)

**IOWA PRINT:**

**KMALand: Senate GOP peers elect Grassley and Ernst to leadership positions.**

“Joni Ernst, Iowa’s other senator, today was elected vice chair of the Senate Republican Conference. She now ranks sixth on the leadership roster for Senate Republicans. She’s the first woman to be elected to Senate GOP leadership since 2010.” (11/15/18)

**Dickinson County News: Ernst seeks industry input from Rosenboom.**

“‘We really rely on our employers as subject matter experts,’ Ernst said. ‘They know what works for their businesses, and they know what they would like to see out of the federal government. If there’s a way we can go back, research and see if we can find a solution or a path forward, we certainly want to do that.’” (10/31/18)

**The Gazette: Ernst, Grassley question Iowa City VA about cancelled exams.**

“U.S. Sens. Joni Ernst and Chuck Grassley sent a letter Tuesday to the Iowa City Veterans Affairs Health Care System with questions about allegations of improperly canceled diagnostic exams. ‘Iowa veterans rightly expect the VA to properly manage crucial medical appointments, especially with follow-ups, lab or imaging tests,’ Ernst said in a prepared statement. ‘I remain concerned about the level of care that our veterans are receiving.’” (10/05/18)

**Omaha World-Herald: New North American trade agreement is ‘leveling the playing field,’ Sen. Joni Ernst says.**

“Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, said Tuesday there’s excitement back home about the new North American trade agreement President Donald Trump announced this week. ‘This is a good deal for farmers and ranchers,’ Ernst told The World-Herald. ‘It’s leveling the playing field for our wheat farmers, for gaining access for dairy, poultry, eggs.’” (10/03/18)

**[Mason City Globe Gazette:](#) Tariffs, sexual assault, Kavanaugh: Sen. Joni Ernst fields questions from North Iowans.**

“Ernst said there are ‘lots of delegations working’ on resolution with China. ‘They are coming to the table and negotiating more,’ she said. The country is dealing with African Swine Flu, which could cause them to turn to the U.S., according to Ernst.” (09/22/18)

**[The Des Moines Register:](#) Joni Ernst remembers John McCain as mentor and role model, even when they quarreled.**

“... ‘He wasn’t used to people standing up to him,’ Ernst said. ‘But at the same time, I loved him very dearly, and I know he returned that affection. We didn’t always agree on everything, but we had a deep respect for each other in spite of that.’” (08/29/18)



**[NWestIowa.com:](#) Ernst encourages open markets.**

“‘We do need good trade deals out there and in particular I always point to China because China has been a horrible trade partner to the United States for a long time,’ Ernst said. ‘We’ve encouraged the president to hurry up with these trade deals. The good news is that we have the EU (European Union). That negotiation is going quite well.’” (08/17/18)

**[KMAland:](#) Ernst extols Opportunity Zones’ virtues.**

“[The] Red Oak Republican and a colleague are coming to Iowa Friday to promote the state's applications. Ernst and South Carolina Senator Tim Scott visit the New Life Center in Des Moines and the Phenix House in West Des Moines as part of an ‘Opportunity Tour.’” (07/19/18)

**[KMAland:](#) Ernst calls on Senate to ‘pick up the pace.’**

“Congress has a lot of work to do with little time remaining before the end of the current fiscal year. That's according to Iowa Senator Joni Ernst, who called on Senate leaders to ‘pick up the pace’ in a recent press conference alongside Republican colleagues. ‘Besides providing for our national defense, one of the most fundamental responsibilities of Congress is to fund the government,’ Ernst said. ‘Yet, since 1974, we have passed all of our appropriations bills just four times.’” (05/17/18)

**[Telegraph Herald:](#) Ernst talks health insurance, infrastructure during visit to Clayton County Company.**

“Business is booming at Pattison Sand Co. But rising health care costs and transportation hurdles could hinder continued business growth, company officials told U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, during a tour Friday afternoon” (05/05/18)

**[The Daily Iowan](#): Ernst supports more funding for sexual assault prevention, accountability.**

“Funding is very tight, I understand that,’ Ernst said. ‘That’s why we at the federal level, too, are making sure we are allocating the necessary dollars to make sure we are supporting the organization, but it has to be on multiple levels, you can’t rely solely on federal spending or state spending, it’s going to have to come from community and from many [many] partners.’” (04/28/18)

**[The Hawk Eye](#): Ernst sees federal dollars at work in new dental clinic.**

“Ernst, Iowa’s junior U.S. senator, toured the work-in-progress facility...and met with local stakeholders in the project. Federally-qualified Community Health Centers serve predominantly low-income populations because of their sliding fees scale and ability to accept Medicaid recipients. [Ernst] said she was a member of a select, bipartisan committee of House and Senate members working on a budget reform proposal to bring before both chambers of Congress for a vote.” (04/05/18)

**[Quad-City Times](#): Joni Ernst ‘appalled’ by budget process.**

“It’s a huge concern that the budget process has been left up to those big decision-makers in leadership, and there has been no inclusion of individual members.’ ... ‘Voters in the state of Iowa did not send me to make jump decisions about really large packages that I haven’t been involved in putting together,’ the freshman senator said.” (03/22/18)

**[Sioux City Journal](#): Ernst seeks to move federal offices, jobs out of the Washington ‘bubble.’**

“Sen. Joni Ernst is proposing to move executive branch agencies out of the Washington ‘bubble insulated from common sense’ to parts of the country where the cost for office space and salaries is less... ‘This legislation will help to ensure agencies focus on the stakeholders and not on bureaucracy within the D.C. Beltway, while also bringing good, stable government jobs to new parts of the country,’ Ernst said on a conference call with reporters.” (03/22/18)

## Sioux City Journal

**[The Gazette](#): Ernst’s voice vital to sex crime debate.**

“U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst has staked out fighting sexual misconduct as one of her biggest policy priorities in the Senate. She has repeatedly shown a refreshing interest in working across party lines, introducing legislation to help combat this pressing issue. Ernst’s voice is crucial to policy conversations on sexual misconduct, as one of only five Republican women in the Senate, and arguably the most conservative among them. Even Iowans who seldom agree with the junior senator can be proud of her role as a leader against sexual misconduct.” (02/15/18)

**Carroll Daily Times Record: ‘I love it. So many things right here.’**

“When the quilting bug hits Iowa’s junior senator she knows where to go. And if U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, wants a respite, a calm place to escape the storms of an increasingly and bitterly divided Washington, D.C., she can find a spot with inspiring organ music close to the Capitol. Ernst learned all this and more during a two-hour tour of Lake City Saturday morning. The Red Oak Republican visited businesses on the square and met with local development officials at City Hall.” (02/12/18)

**Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier: Ernst, others call for investigation of U.S. Olympic committee.**

“U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, joined a bipartisan group of senators Wednesday to call for a congressional investigation of the U.S. Olympic Committee and USA Gymnastics in the aftermath of the Larry Nassar sexual abuse scandal...Ernst said she was ‘disgusted’ at the idea the allegations of abuse surfaced three years ago, and she questioned why Nassar wasn’t removed from his position.” (02/07/18)



**Newton Daily News: 72 years in the making.**

“More than 70 years later a local veteran received recognition for serving in World War II. Newton native Kenneth Arthur, 92, was full of joy when he found out his wait was over — he was awarded six medals... ‘This is 72 years in the making,’ Ernst said. ‘Unfortunately, he never received the medals he had earned, so his son reached out to our office, and I am so honored to present these medals to him.’” (01/15/18)

**IOWA RADIO:**

**Iowa Public Radio: Senator Ernst to give address at commissioning of the USS Sioux City.**

“Iowa’s junior Republican U.S. Senator Joni Ernst will deliver the principal address at the commissioning ceremony, marking the beginning of the ship’s service. Ernst says it’s an honor for the ship to share a name with the state’s 4th largest city and engage with Iowa’s heritage. ‘So we certainly want to share that with the sailors of that ship and make sure they understand how important they are to us,’ she says.” (11/16/18)

**Iowa Agribusiness Radio: Senator Ernst co-sponsors bipartisan rural broadband legislation.**

“They say the world is getting smaller and more connected. This may be true if you live in a large city. However, if you live in a rural area, you may feel more isolated and disconnected. Quite frankly, it’s frustrating. Iowa Senator Joni Ernst is co-sponsoring legislation aimed at helping change this disconnect.” (11/16/18)

**Radio Iowa: Self-described ‘fierce competitor’ Ernst elected Senate GOP Conference Vice Chair.**

“Ernst was elected during a private meeting of the Republicans who’ll be serving in the U.S. Senate in January. Ernst told the group she is a ‘fierce competitor.’ ‘And I said it’s o.k. to be fierce and be a woman,’ Ernst said. ‘We also can be extremely compassionate and caring and kind.’ (11/14/18)

**Iowa Agribusiness Radio: Senator Ernst applauds USMCA trade agreement.**

“Iowa Senator Joni Ernst is pleased with the progress on trade in general and US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) in particular. Senator Ernst says with the USMCA, President Trump has delivered on his promise to modernize the old North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Ernst says while agriculture did benefit from NAFTA, there are better deals in USMCA especially in dairy.” (10/02/18)

**Radio Iowa: Senator Ernst among supporters of rural mental health services bill.**

“We do require the Farm and Ranch Stress Committee to develop a long-term strategy to address the issues of farmer mental health. Because we do know in those rural areas we are lacking services that you might be able to find in the greater metro areas of our rural states,’ Ernst says.” (04/21/18)

**Senator Ernst among supporters of rural mental health services bill**

APRIL 21, 2018 BY DAR DANIELSON



Senator Joni Ernst.

Iowa’s Joni Ernst is among a group of bipartisan U.S. Senators who have introduced legislation to provide more federal money for mental health services to rural residents.

Ernst, a Republican from Red Oak, says a 2016 study by the CDC found ag workers have a higher suicide rate than any other occupation. She says the bill would establish helplines, provide suicide prevention training for farm advocates, create support groups, and reestablish the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network

**KIOW: Peters and Ernst request information on costly taxpayer-funded administration travel.**

“U.S. Senators Gary Peters (D-MI)...and Joni Ernst (R-IA) sent a letter to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Mick Mulvaney seeking clarity on Trump administration officials’ compliance with federal travel spending policies. ‘It is our duty to provide oversight and ensure that taxpayer money is spent responsibly, without waste, fraud, or abuse,’ wrote the Senators. ‘We owe it to the American people to ensure with the utmost vigilance that tax dollars are being spent appropriately.’” (03/20/18)

**Radio Iowa: Senator Ernst says there’s more work ahead in and out of military to end sexual assault.**

“I do think that it is important that our public is aware that again, it’s never okay to sexually harass someone. It is never okay to assault someone in any circumstance. We’ve got to start teaching this from a very young age, just the respect and dignity of all people.” (01/12/18)

OP-EDs:

**The Wall Street Journal: Trump gives farmers a jolt of fuel.**

“Biofuels are a part of everyday life in Iowa, the top corn- and ethanol-producing state in the U.S. Ethanol supports more than 43,000 Iowa-based jobs and 350,000 jobs throughout the country, directly and indirectly. Ethanol contributed \$44.4 billion to gross domestic product and \$5 billion in federal tax revenue in 2017. Year-round E15 sales will bring increased stability to the market and create new growth opportunities.” (10/17/18)

**Fox News: Sens. Tim Scott and Joni Ernst: Why we believe so strongly in the power of ‘opportunity zones.’**

“Opportunity Zones will help unlock the potential of these communities, from the heart of Des Moines to rural areas across the state. The U.S Treasury Department continues working to finalize the rules, and we anticipate projects ranging from investing in small businesses and entrepreneurs, to educational programs for our children and affordable housing for our families to infrastructure and high-speed internet projects. The potential is truly amazing. Perhaps our favorite part of the Opportunity Zones program is that it is powered from the ground up, not the federal government in Washington, D.C.” (07/20/18)

OPINION · Published July 20

**Sens. Tim Scott and Joni Ernst: Why we believe so strongly in the power of 'opportunity zones'**

**Fox News: Sen. Joni Ernst: Congress needs to pass a budget or cancel vacations.**

“Congress only has a few weeks to finish a dozen spending bills before the end of the fiscal year. We also have many presidential nominations to confirm, and have a number of other important ‘must pass’ legislative initiatives from the Farm Bill to the National Defense Authorization Act. Commonsense begs the question: When we have unpassed appropriations and no budget, on top of a long legislative to-do list, why are we packing our bags and heading home for the entire month of August?” (06/01/18)

**The Des Moines Register: Current internet laws make way for innovation.**

“Representing Iowa means that we pay careful attention to how public policy affects those who live and work in Rural America. From federal spending formulas to federal regulations that impact health care, transportation, energy, education and infrastructure, we work hard to make sure Iowans don’t get the short end of the stick. The same goes for accessible and affordable broadband services. We have seen investments stifled in Iowa because of the 2015 rule.” (05/29/18)

**Ames Tribune: Sens. Joni Ernst and Charles Grassley: Setting the record straight on the GROW Act.**

“The GROW Act attempts to tackle a problem that we hear about often as we speak to farmers and ranchers in every corner of the state. Young and beginning farmers are having an increasingly difficult time finding land to farm...The bill not only encourages additional conservation buffers and waterway habitats through these conservation programs, but also increases

the grasslands protection option within CRP, which we know is a high priority for the wildlife community.” (05/18/18)

**[Iowa City Press-Citizen](#): Drug take-back programs can fight the growth of opioid addiction.**

“The opioid epidemic affects people from every background. From rural America to the coasts, and everywhere in between, it is ruining the lives of individuals, their families and entire communities. There’s no quick fix. The problem won’t be solved overnight. But critical preventative measures like drug take-back programs can go a long way in helping to stem the progression and spread of addiction.” (04/27/18)

**[The Peninsula](#): Agriculture is the clear-cut winner with sound trade policy.**

“Keeping the U.S. globally competitive has many levers. We recently passed a tax reform bill that will provide Americans needed tax relief while allowing our U.S. businesses to remain competitive and chart a path of expansion. I was proud to work with my Republican colleagues and President Trump to get this across the finish line.” (03/14/18)

## **The Des Moines Register**

**[The Des Moines Register](#): Senators Ernst, Shaheen seeks bipartisan justice for our young Olympians.**

“Over the past year, Americans have experienced an awakening about the pervasiveness of sexual harassment and assault in the workplace; the complicity of organizations and executives in these crimes; and the system that imposes silence

on victims. It is time, now, to expose the scope and nature of sexual abuse committed against vulnerable girls and boys under supervision of the USOC and its affiliates. These athletes represent America and all Americans at the games – it is our responsibility to ensure they are protected.” (02/09/18)

**[Cedar Rapids Gazette](#): Tax Cuts and Jobs Act means new opportunities for Iowans.**

“Whatever Iowans’ financial goals might be in 2018 and beyond, this new law will help put more money into paychecks each month. Meanwhile, job creators of all sizes will be more competitive and can reinvest in their most important resource – their employees. This includes large and small companies. We have already seen major companies giving back to their employees.” (01/04/18)

### EDITORIALS:

**[The Messenger](#): Iowa’s senators move up.**

“Sen. Joni Ernst was elected this week by her Republican colleagues to be vice chairwoman of the Senate Republican Conference. This makes her part of the Republican leadership team in the Senate for the 116th Congress, which convenes in January... The Messenger congratulates Grassley and Ernst on their selection for these new jobs. Their service in Washington has already made Iowans proud. We expect that pride to only grow as they undertake these new roles.” (11/18/18)

**[The Washington Post](#): Congress forced scrutiny of USA Gymnastics. The USOC should be next.**

“All we understand has come thanks to independent investigations and congressional testimony, much of it compelled. Sens. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) and Joni Ernst (R-Iowa), take a bow, too. You were the first ones to call for Congress to intervene with subpoenas.” (11/07/18)

**[Townhall](#): Post-presidency perks are ripe for reform.**

“Given the wealth and earning potential for modern-day former presidents, the time has come to reduce the burdens they place on ordinary taxpayers. Relief could come in the form of the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act, introduced in the House by Rep. Jody Hice (R-GA), and in the Senate by Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA).” (10/15/18)

**[NWestIowa.com](#): Editorial: Ernst correct on views.**

“We strongly agree with U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst on a pair of topics she addressed at a town hall gathering earlier this month in Sanborn. Ernst, a first-term Republican, said she favors market solutions for farmers, not government assistance. ‘What I am hearing from groups all across the state of Iowa is that’s not what we want to see. We don’t need any more support programs for farmers. We really just want the trade,’ she said. ‘Let us raise our products and let’s sell them to a global market.’” (08/27/18)

**[The Messenger](#): Good news for ethanol industry.**

“Sens. Charles Grassley and Joni Ernst, the two Republicans who represent the Hawkeye State in the United States Senate, are both strong champions of Iowa’s evolving ethanol industry. They are working collaboratively to make sure that our state’s ethanol producers do not face marketing obstacles as a result of unnecessary federal government regulations.” (05/21/18)

# THE Messenger

**[Sioux City Journal](#): Joni Ernst’s SWAMP Act deserves more discussion.**

“Imagine moving U.S. Department of Agriculture headquarters to Iowa, in the heart of farm country. Far-fetched? Perhaps. Still, in our minds, it’s an idea with merit. That’s why we are intrigued with a bill sponsored in the Senate by Republican Joni Ernst of Iowa called the Strategic Withdrawal of Agencies for Meaningful Placement, or SWAMP, Act.” (03/29/18)

## NATIONAL TV:

**CBS Face the Nation:** Senator Ernst joined Margaret Brennan to discuss her role in Senate leadership, trade and news of the day. (11/18/18)



**Fox News:** Senator Ernst discusses the confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh. (10/06/18)



**CBS This Morning:** Ernst Joins CBS This Morning to discuss USMCA.

“After joining President Trump in the Rose Garden for the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement announcement (USMCA) yesterday, Senator Joni Ernst joined CBS This Morning to discuss the trade deal... ‘Absolutely. This is a great opportunity. And I want to thank the President and our United States Trade Rep Bob Lighthizer for working so hard on this deal to bring Canada and Mexico together with us. But this does expand opportunity for our dairy farmers; for eggs and poultry going into Canada.’ (10/02/18)

**Fox News, Outnumbered Overtime:** Senator Ernst interviews with Harris Faulkner on Fox News’ Outnumbered Overtime with regard to Sarah’s Law and immigration. (08/22/18)

**Bloomberg TV:** Senator Ernst on transparency with the RFS: ‘All of this should be no-brainer stuff.’

“Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA) joined Bloomberg TV yesterday to discuss the latest with regard to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)... ‘We continue to push the president. I specifically push him on E15 year-round, getting the Reid vapor pressure waiver done so we can sell product and open up for consumer choice regardless of what month they are purchasing their fuel in...We would love to see more transparency in the way the renewable identification numbers are used. We’d also like to see more transparency on how the small refinery waivers are being granted by the EPA. All of this should be no-brainer stuff.’” (09/14/18)

**Fox News, America's Newsroom:** Senator Ernst joined Sandra Smith on America’s Newsroom to discuss government funding and trade. (08/01/18)

**Bloomberg TV:** Senator Ernst: ‘I would love to see the EU buying more soybeans from the U.S.’

“Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA), in an interview with Bloomberg TV, stated she would ‘love to see the EU buying more soybeans from the U.S.’” (07/26/18)

**Fox News, Fox and Friends:** Senators Ernst and Scott join Fox and Friends to discuss opportunity zones. (07/20/18).



**MSNBC, Morning Joe:** Senator Ernst discusses a host of issues on Morning Joe. (07/19/18)

**CBS News, Face the Nation:** Senator Ernst talks trade and tariffs on CBS Face the Nation.

“Senator Joni Ernst joined Margaret Brennan on ‘Face the Nation’ to discuss how tariffs are affecting Iowa and her expectations for President Trump’s upcoming trips to Brussels and Helsinki... ‘America’s farmers and ranchers are always the first to be retaliated against in these types of trade negotiations, and the tariffs that have been imposed and the retaliation stemming from that puts us in a very vulnerable position as our markets go down. So I would just encourage the president, of course we want great deals, and I know he’ll be able to negotiate those, but we would like to see a number of these trade agreements wrapped up in short order. The sooner the better.’” (07/09/18)

**Fox Business, Varney & Co.:** Senator Ernst discusses No Budget, No Vacation Act on Fox Business. (06/05/18)

**CNN Newsroom:** Senator Ernst joins CNN Newsroom to discuss North Korea and national security. (05/16/18)



**Fox News, Your World with Neil Cavuto:** Senator Ernst discusses Iran Nuclear Deal withdrawal with Neil Cavuto on Fox. (05/10/18)

**Fox News, Special Report with Bret Baier:** Senator Ernst discusses trade with Bret Baier on Fox News. (04/17/18)

**CNN, Erin Burnett OutFront:** Senator Ernst joins CNN to discuss Syria. (04/10/18)

**Fox News, The Story with Martha MacCallum:** Senators Ernst and Shaheen join Martha to discuss United States Olympics Committee and USA Gymnastics special investigation. (02/08/18)

**Fox News, Fox News at Night with Shannon Bream:** Senator Ernst joins Shannon ahead of the State of the Union address. (01/30/18)



## NATIONAL PRINT:

**Bloomberg: Trump plans ethanol boost amid farm belt voters in Iowa, sources say.**

“If you look at where he’s making the announcement -- in Iowa, the largest ethanol-producing state in the United States -- it sends a very clear message that he is behind the American farmer, he is behind our renewable fuels and he is ready to make it happen,’ Ernst said in an interview. ‘He’s fulfilling his promise, and I appreciate him for doing that.’ (10/05/18)

**The Daily Signal: Rating of US Military Strength as ‘marginal’ is worrisome, Sen. Joni Ernst says.**

“As the index indicates, the United States is facing increasing global threats in all domains of warfare,’ Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, said of the 2019 Index of U.S. Military Strength during an event marking its release Thursday at the think tank’s Capitol Hill headquarters. ‘I will be the first to admit that the world has changed since I have served in the military,’ said Ernst, who served for more than 23 years, including as a company commander in Iraq and Kuwait, leading 150 soldiers from the Iowa Army National Guard during Operation Iraqi Freedom.” (10/04/18)

**The Washington Examiner: Military sex assault study released after pressure from Congress.**

“Release of the politically charged data had been delayed by the Pentagon as it questioned the methodology, but Senate Armed Services Committee members Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, and Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., pushed for it to be made public, according to USA Today.” (09/21/18)

**Fox News Insider: ‘Congress needs to act:’ Iowa Sen. Joni Ernst calls for passage of Sarah’s Law after Mollie Tibbetts’ murder.**

“We need them if we are planning on safeguarding our American homeland.’ [Ernst] added that Sarah’s Law would be vital in preventing illegal immigrants responsible for crimes from fleeing the country without repercussion. ‘We need to have it codified,’ she said, noting that President Trump signed an executive order in January of 2017 that implements portions of the law. ‘Congress needs to act.’” (08/23/18)

**Ag Web: Joni Ernst’s Squeal Award goes to the U.S. Senate.**

“Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA) helped introduce the President’s rescission package in the Senate, which would have rescinded \$15 billion in unspent funds, she explained in a recent email to constituents... ‘At a time when we are \$21 trillion in debt, this bill would have been a small step in the right direction, cutting unobligated funds that are not necessary to administer programs and services. Unfortunately, some of my colleagues were unwilling to cut even unspent and unnecessary dollars,’ Ernst said.” (08/15/18)

**USA Today: Sexual assault study by base must be released by Pentagon, senators say.**

“Transparency and accountability are critical in addressing the continued challenge of sexual assault in the military,’ wrote Gillibrand and Ernst, who are members of the Armed Services Committee. ‘Since this type of information is available, the Department should not only release it, but also use it to better

understand what it can do at the installation level to be more effective in preventing and responding to sexual assault.”(07/22/18)

**[ABC News](#): Republican senators push proposed paid leave solution for new parents.**

“Common sense tells us that it's important for parents to spend time with their newborn. The bond that is formed when parents first lay eyes on their child only becomes stronger the longer the time they have to spend together,’ Ernst said in her opening remarks. ‘As a conservative, I want to craft paid leave policy that can not only attract consensus, but is viable for families’ employers and the economy, recognizing that working parents, by definition, are an essential part of many businesses.” (07/11/18)

**[The Washington Examiner](#): Joni Ernst: US should continue military exercises with South Korea if North Korea talks fail.**

“I think we should continue with military exercises,’ Ernst told CBS on Sunday. ‘Obviously I believe that they have a purpose in keeping the peninsula safe and making sure that should anything ever happen, we’re well-rehearsed with our allies to engage. So I would say soon if we don’t see those talks continue.” (07/08/18)

**[The Washington Examiner](#): Tariff fears replacing ethanol woes in farm country, says Joni Ernst.**

“The tariffs will drive up costs, both for the manufacturers of farm equipment, and the farmers themselves, she said. ‘Prices have gone up 50 percent’ for manufacturers in her state, she said. ‘So, that’s significant for

those folks. And then the cost is passed on to our farmers.’ ‘If the manufacturer feels like they have to pass it on, they pass it on to the farmers,’ Ernst explained.” (07/02/18)

**[The Blaze](#): Five minutes with: Iowa Republican Sen. Joni Ernst.**

“From providing necessary equipment and resources, to ensuring our servicemembers are in top condition, this year’s National Defense Authorization Act improves military readiness. The FY19 NDAA that the Senate Armed Services Committee passed included over 30 measures that I worked hard to secure to strengthen our nation’s security and support the people who defend our nation.” (06/20/18)

**theblaze** TV Channels Radio

**Five minutes with: Iowa Republican Sen. Joni Ernst**

© Jun 20, 2018 9:00 am



**[Bloomberg](#): Republican Senator calls Pruitt ‘as swampy as you get.’**

“Republican Senator Joni Ernst blasted allegations of ethical misconduct by EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt... ‘He is about as swampy as you get here in Washington, D.C., and if the president wants to drain the swamp, he needs to take a look at his own cabinet,’ said Ernst, of Iowa.” (06/05/18)

**Ag Pro: Rural banks, credit unions get a break.**

“Our credit unions and community banks are an invaluable part of Iowa’s economy, supporting the entrepreneur looking to start their own business, a family looking to buy their first home, or the family farm in need of new equipment ahead of harvest,’ Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA) wrote in a letter to constituents. She noted that, according to the FDIC, community banks alone provide nearly half of all small business lending and agricultural loans in the United States, making them an integral part of many Iowan’s financial security and success. (05/28/18)

**The Guardian: Is help finally at hand for suicide crisis on America’s farms?**

“Recently, Senator Joni Ernst – a sponsor of the Farmers First Act – called Ginnie to talk about the federal legislation. ‘I’m grateful that someone is finally paying attention,’ Ginnie told me on the phone. ‘This could be the difference between life and death for many.’... ‘We were able to get through the 1980s farm crisis, but I couldn’t get through my farmer in crisis,’ Ginnie told Ernst. ‘If the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network had been funded in 2008, Matt might still be alive.’” (05/23/18)

**Ripon Advance: Ernst fights to prevent traumatic brain injuries among U.S. soldiers.**

“Traumatic brain Injury (TBI) is a nearly invisible, yet very serious physical trauma with long-term effects that has become prevalent among hundreds of thousands of service members in recent years,’ said Sen. Ernst, who in 2014 became the first female

combat veteran elected to serve in the U.S. Senate... ‘As a grateful nation, it is our job to ensure the safety and health of our men and women in uniform as they defend our country,’ said Sen. Ernst, the original cosponsor of S. 2883, which was introduced by U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA).” (05/22/18)

**THE  
RIPON ADVANCE**

**Breitbart: #MakeCongressWorkAgain: Drain the swamp by working nights, weekends, through August recess.**

“If we take another August off we will likely find ourselves, once again, relying on these horrible continuing resolutions, which have a devastating effect on our military and create billions in waste across our federal government,’ Ernst said.” (05/15/18)

**Agri-Pulse: Bipartisan Senate bill refocuses conservation programs.**

“The Give Our Resources the Opportunity to Work (GROW) Act would freeze the Conservation Reserve Program at a maximum of 24 million acres while more tightly restricting payment rates and the types of land that can be enrolled in the program. The bill, being introduced by Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa...would keep the Conservation Stewardship Program and Environmental Quality Incentives Program as separate programs and maintain CSP’s annual enrollment targets and EQIP’s funding.” (03/15/18)

## Bipartisan Senate bill refocuses conservation programs

02/15/18 12:00 AM By Philip Brecher

KEYWORDS: BOB CASEY CHARLES GRASSLEY CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM FARM BILL JONI ERNST SHERRILL BROWN USDA



### **Townhall: New Bill Would Extend Child Tax Credit to Include Unborn Babies.**

“Congressional members from both houses are supporting a bill that would enlarge the scope of the Child Tax Credit to include unborn babies. The bill in the Senate is backed by Senators Steve Daines (R-MT), Deb Fischer (R-NE), Joni Ernst (R-IA) and James Lankford (R-OK).” (02/15/18)

### **NATIONAL RADIO:**

#### **CBS, The Takeout Podcast: Deep Dishing with Senator Joni Ernst.**

“Iowa Sen. Joni Ernst, a Republican, says the Senate was ‘damaged’ by the partisan and at times vitriolic process to confirm Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh. Ernst spoke with CBS News' Major Garrett for ‘The Takeout’ podcast on Thursday at Uno Pizzeria and Grill in Union Station, discussing politics over a Chicago-style pizza pie.” (10/12/18)



### **Hugh Hewitt: Iowa Senator Joni Ernst on Judge Kavanaugh.**

“Well, just look around, Hugh. It’s all about obstruction. It’s about resistance. It is about what can we stop and put in the president’s way. What can we put in Congress’ way to stop them from doing a better job for the United States of America? I mean, look at our economy and how strong we are doing right now, and no thanks to our counterparts across the aisle. They have tried to slow us down, stop us at every opportunity whether it’s getting rid of unnecessary regulation, whether it is stopping the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Whatever it is, they try and delay, delay, resist, and that’s exactly what they’re doing in the House. If they take the House, we can expect that for the next two years.” (10/03/18)