

Article 1: Senate confirms Doug Burgum as interior secretary to pursue Trump pro-drilling agenda

Publication Date: 2025-01-30

Article URL:

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/energy-and-environment/3305737/senate-confirms-doug-burgum-trump-pro-drilling-agenda/>

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Burgum sailed smoothly through his confirmation hearings in committee earlier this month. Last week, the Senate Committee of Energy and Natural Resources met to discuss advancing Burgum's nomination to the floor, with only two members voting against.

Several Democrats, including Sens. Martin Heinrich (D-NM) and JOHN HICKENLOOPER (D-CO), have said they believe the Republican to be well qualified for the position.

Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) said before the vote that Burgum "will play a critical role in balancing the importance of conserving our wildlife and natural resources while also assisting in the enhancement of domestic energy production."

TOTAL MENTIONS: 1

Article 2: RFK Jr., Trump's HHS pick, interrogated on vaccine views at second confirmation hearing

Publication Date: 2025-01-30

Article URL:

<https://www.statnews.com/2025/01/30/rfk-jr-confirmation-hearing-day-2-health-secretary-nominee/>

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Sen. JOHN HICKENLOOPER (D-Colo.), who had asked RFK Jr. to pledge he would not "twist the results" of any NIH research, even appeared somewhat surprised by the pledge.

"That shows that this is the first time you're being considered for a Cabinet

position, because no other person would ever solicit and willingly approve our participation,” he said.

“I’ve spoken to President Trump about negotiations. He’s absolutely committed to negotiating lower drug prices,” RFK Jr. said.

Sen. JOHN HICKENLOOPER (D-Colo.) asked RFK Jr. to elaborate on a statement the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released yesterday that seemed to state that the administration will continue the second round of Medicare drug price negotiations that the Biden administration kicked off.

RFK Jr. appeared to confuse the CMS statement with an executive order during his confirmation hearing Wednesday, as he said an executive order was forthcoming about Trump’s support for Medicare drug price negotiation. Such an executive order has not been released. The Department of Health and Human Services did not respond to a request for clarification.

TOTAL MENTIONS: 2

Article 3: How the Senate Voted to Confirm Doug Burgum as Interior Secretary

Publication Date: 2025-01-30

Article URL:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2025/01/30/us/politics/burgum-senate-confirmation-vote.html>

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No mentions identified. Reviewing for relevance is recommended.

Article 4: Governors loom large over ‘26 Senate map

Publication Date: 2025-01-30

Article URL:

<https://punchbowl.news/article/senate/governors-eye-2026-senate-map/>

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A note of caution: There are plenty of examples of popular governors falling short when they try to flip a Senate seat in their home state. Former Maryland GOP Gov. Larry Hogan couldn’t cut it in 2024. Former Montana Democratic Gov. Steve Bullock lost in a blockbuster 2020 contest, while former Tennessee Democratic Gov. Phil Bredesen lost during his 2018 Senate race.

But there have been bright spots in recent years, too. Former Colorado Democratic Gov. JOHN HICKENLOOPER unseated former Sen. Cory Gardner (R-Colo.) in 2020. Former West Virginia GOP Gov. Jim Justice coasted to victory in November after scaring off former Sen. Joe Manchin (I-W.Va.) from a brutal contest.

Twelve former governors currently serve in the Senate.

TOTAL MENTIONS: 1

Article 5: RFK Jr faces tough questions in second confirmation hearing

Publication Date: Unknown

Article URL:

<https://www.newsbreak.com/the-center-square-509740/3784382763341-rfk-jr-faces-tough-questions-in-second-confirmation-hearing>

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Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., asked whether Kennedy would rescind a Biden-era HHS rule prohibiting transgender discrimination in federally funded medical care. Kennedy responded that the rule was "anti-science."

On drug prices, Sen. JOHN HICKENLOOPER, D-Colo., asked if Kennedy would commit to negotiating lower costs, citing the Biden administration's Medicare negotiations. Kennedy said, "I've spoken to President Trump about negotiations; he's absolutely committed to negotiating lower drug prices."

Sen. Ed Markey, D-Mass., confronted Kennedy over his 2019 trip to American Samoa, where he allegedly expressed vaccine skepticism months before a deadly measles outbreak. Markey cited this as a reason he would not vote for Kennedy's confirmation.

TOTAL MENTIONS: 1

Article 6: Title Unavailable

Publication Date: Unknown

Article URL:

<https://www.axios.com/pro/energy-policy/2025/01/29/barrasso-airs-concerns-about-iea-projections>

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Article text unavailable. See the link above to extract manually.

Article 7: US mother accused of killing 2 of her children faces return to America after fleeing to London

Publication Date: Unknown

Article URL:

<https://www.aol.com/news/us-mother-accused-killing-2-212307299.html>

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Fitzgerald said that despite an option for a Colorado governor to commute her sentence at some point, it would be “political suicide” to do so.

Experts for the defense had originally said that a life sentence had never been commuted in Colorado. But prosecutors later found that Gov. JOHN HICKENLOOPER in 2018 commuted life sentences of five men convicted of murder.

Singler’s attorney had argued that sending her back to the U.S. would violate European human rights law. AP

TOTAL MENTIONS: 1

Article 8: Senate hearing Day 2: Spotlight on RFK Jr.’s vaccine views intensify again

Publication Date: 2025-01-30

Article URL:

<https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/regulatory/live-updates-rfk-jr-senate-confirmation-hearing-day-2>

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Updated 12:03 p.m. ET

RFK Jr. reiterates to Sen. JOHN HICKENLOOPER, D-CO, that President Trump wants to lower drug prices.

HICKENLOOPER asked how money saved from the drug price negotiation program could be put toward prevention.

RFK Jr. answers by saying some agencies should curtail toxins, while CMS should continue moving toward value-based care.

It’s a far less accusatorial line of questioning from HICKENLOOPER than other

Democrats, but he pushed more strongly on his comments yesterday over Lyme disease. He said he hasn't researched the issue deeply enough.

Updated 12:00 p.m. ET

TOTAL MENTIONS: 3

Article 9: President Trump Committed To Negotiating Lower Drug Prices

Publication Date: Unknown

Article URL:

<https://www.inkl.com/news/president-trump-committed-to-negotiating-lower-drug-prices>

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During his confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, Health and Human Services secretary nominee Robert F. Kennedy Jr. stated that President Donald Trump is dedicated to negotiating lower drug prices. Kennedy emphasized Trump's commitment to this cause, assuring senators that the President wants to engage in negotiations to reduce drug costs.

When questioned by Sen. JOHN HICKENLOOPER about the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act provision allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices, Kennedy affirmed that Trump has expressed a strong desire to pursue negotiations in this area. He reiterated this sentiment to Sen. Bernie Sanders, emphasizing that Trump is keen on negotiating drug prices.

TOTAL MENTIONS: 1