South Dakota Senator Mike Rounds
Republican (@SenatorRounds)

502 Hart Senate Office Building
202-224-5842

South Dakota Current Volunteers: 10
(South Dakota Volunteers in 1967: 44)
South Dakota Volunteers Since 1961: 675

Began Service in the Senate: 2015

State Offices: Pierre, Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Aberdeen

Committee Assignments: Armed Services; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Environment and Public Works; Veterans’ Affairs

Key Staff: Peter Petrasco (Foreign Policy Issues)

Meeting History with the Peace Corps Community (* Denotes Constituent Meeting):
- DC Meetings With Lawmaker: 2016*
- DC Meetings With Staff: 2016, 2017, 2019
- District Office Meetings: None

From the Website (http://www.rounds.senate.gov/ and https://roundsforsenate.com/):

Rounds previously served as the 31st governor of South Dakota from 2003 – 2010, easily winning reelection in 2006. From 1991 to 2000, he was elected five times to the South Dakota State Senate. In 1995, his colleagues selected him to serve as Senate Majority Leader, a position that he held for six years.

Among successes during his time as governor were enhanced economic development and tourism, university and technical school scholarship programs, greatly increased research, and beginning construction of a science and engineering laboratory in the Homestake Mine at Lead.
(Senator Mike Rounds)

On the Issues

Peace Corps Funding
● Signed Senate “Dear Colleague” Letters on Peace Corps Funding:
  2006-12, 2014, 2016: N/A
  2017, 2018: NO

International Affairs Funding
● Signed Senate “Dear Colleague” Letters supporting robust international affairs funding
  2017, 2018: YES

Other

Peace Corps Mission Accountability Act (S.2320) - Legislation opposed by NPCA
● 116th Congress (2019-2020): Not currently a co-sponsor

  Sam Farr/Nick Castle Peace Corps Reform Act of 2018 (S. 2286)
  (signed into law in 2018)
● 115th Congress (2017-18): Did not co-sponsor

  Peace Corps Equity Act of 2014 (S. 2291)
● 113th Congress (2013-14): N/A

  Peace Corps Commemorative Legislation (S. 230)
  (Signed into law 2014)
● 113th Congress (2013-14): N/A

  Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011
  (Signed into law in 2011)
● 112th Congress (2011-12): N/A

  Peace Corps Improvement and Expansion Act
  (Not signed into law)
● 111th Congress (2009-10): N/A
South Dakota Senator John Thune
Republican @SenJohnThune

511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
202-224-2321

South Dakota Current Volunteers: 10
(South Dakota Volunteers in 1967: 44)
South Dakota Volunteers Since 1961: 675

Began Service in the Senate: 2005

State Offices: Aberdeen, Rapid City, Sioux Falls

Committee Assignments: Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; Commerce, Science and Transportation; Finance

Key Staff: John Abdnor (Foreign Policy Issues)

Meeting History with the Peace Corps Community (* Denotes Constituent Meeting):
- DC Meetings With Lawmaker: None
- District Office Meetings: None

From the Website (www.thune.senate.gov):

John received his undergraduate degree at Biola University and his Master’s degree in Business Administration from the University of South Dakota. Upon completion of his Master’s Degree in 1984, he married Kimberley Weems, a native of Doland, South Dakota.

John’s attraction to public service took him to Washington, D.C. to work for that sports enthusiast and then-U.S. Senator Jim Abdnor. He then served at the Small Business Administration under an appointment from President Ronald Reagan. In his free time, John enjoys spending time with his family, pheasant hunting, and running.

www.peacecorpsconnect.org Updated February 2020
(Senator John Thune)

On the Issues

Peace Corps Funding

- Signed Senate “Dear Colleague” Letters on Peace Corps Funding

International Affairs Funding

- Signed Senate “Dear Colleague” Letters supporting robust international affairs funding
  2017, 2018: NO

Other

Peace Corps Mission Accountability Act (S.2320) - Legislation opposed by NPCA

- 116th Congress (2019-2020): Not currently a co-sponsor

Sam Farr/Nick Castle Peace Corps Reform Act of 2018 (S. 2286)
  (signed into law in 2018)

- 115th Congress (2017-18): Did not co-sponsor

Peace Corps Equity Act of 2014 (S. 2291)

- 113th Congress (2013-14): Did not co-sponsor

Peace Corps Commemorative Legislation (S. 230)
  (Signed into law 2014)

- 112th Congress (2011-12): Part of unanimous vote that passed the legislation
- 113th Congress (2013-14): Part of unanimous vote that passed the legislation

Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011
  (Signed into law in 2011)

- 112th Congress (2011-12): Part of unanimous vote that passed the legislation
- Senator Thune also signed a 2014 letter urging U.S. law enforcement to assist with the Kate Puzey murder investigation

Peace Corps Improvement and Expansion Act
  (Not signed into law)

- 111th Congress (2009-10): Did not co-sponsor

www.peacecorpsconnect.org    Updated February 2020
South Dakota Representative
Dustin “Dusty” Johnson (@repdustyjohnson)
Republican—At Large

1508 Rayburn House Office Building
202-225-2801

South Dakota Current Volunteers: 10
(South Dakota Volunteers in 1967: 44)
South Dakota Volunteers Since 1961: 675

Began Service in the House of Representatives: 2019

District Offices: Sioux Falls; Aberdeen

Committee Assignments: Agriculture; Education and Labor

Key Staff: Darren Hedlund (Foreign Policy Issues)

Meeting History with the Peace Corps Community (* Denotes Constituent Meeting):
- DC Meetings With Lawmaker: None
- DC Meetings With Staff: 2019
- District Office Meetings: None

From the Website (https://www.dustyjohnson.com):

I grew up in central South Dakota in a working class family, and with five kids total, times weren’t always easy. We struggled from the same problems and pitfalls many working class folks do, but I learned from those experiences. I got my first job at 14 and opened my first business at age 16. After high school, I attended USD in Vermillion, where I met Jacquelyn, my wife. After graduate school in Kansas, we knew it was time to move home.

I helped run the Republican Office in Mitchell during the 2002 election. Shortly after, newly-elected Governor Mike Rounds asked me to join his policy staff in Pierre. Governor Rounds taught me a great deal, and when I asked him about running against an 18-year incumbent for a seat on the Public Utilities Commission, he gave me the best piece of advice I have ever received: “work hard and be yourself.” After twelve years in state government, I wanted to return to the challenges of the private sector. Luckily, there was a good opportunity close to home. The leaders at Vantage Point Solutions, a 200-person strong telecommunications engineering and consulting firm based in Mitchell, wanted me to come on board.
(Representative Dusty Johnson)

On the Issues

Peace Corps Funding
- Signed House “Dear Colleague” Letters on Peace Corps Funding:
  2018: N/A
- 6/18/19 House vote on Walker Amendment, which included eliminating FY2020 Peace Corps Funding: YES (Final vote was 110 Yes, 315 No...Walker amendment was not passed)

Peace Corps Caucus
- 116th Congress (2019-2020): Not currently a member
- 115th Congress (2017-18): N/A

Peace Corps Reauthorization Legislation (HR 3456)
- 116th Congress (2019-2020): Not currently a co-sponsor

Respect for Peace Corps Volunteers Act (HR 1411)
- 116th Congress (2019-2020): Not currently a co-sponsor
- 115th Congress (2017-18): N/A

Peace Corps Stamp Act (HR 325)
- 116th Congress (2019-2020): Not currently a co-sponsor
- 115th Congress (2017-18): N/A

Other
Sam Farr/Nick Castle Peace Corps Enhancement Act (HR 2259)
(Signed into law in 2018)
- 115th Congress (2017-18): N/A
- 114th Congress (2015-16): N/A

Peace Corps Equity Act of 2014 (HR 4578)
- 113th Congress (2013-2014): N/A
  Peace Corps Commemorative Legislation (HR 915)
  (Signed into law in 2014)
- 113th Congress (2013-14): N/A

Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011
(Signed into law in 2011)
- 112th Congress (2011-12): N/A