



Michael was appointed to fill a vacancy in the U.S. Senate for Colorado in 2009.

Polls gauged his name recognition at a whopping 3%. Republicans called him **the “accidental Senator.”** Even a national political website greeted his new position with the headline: “WTF?!!.”

And it’s true. Michael did not come from politics. **Prior to being appointed, Michael served as the Superintendent of Denver Public Schools** and had spent part of his career in the private sector.

But, he went to Washington and got to work.

He quickly established himself as a pragmatic leader and independent thinker – who delivers tangible results for the people of Colorado.

He was elected for a full term in 2010 and then again in 2016.

Michael tells it like it is. His “Ted Cruz speech” showed his ability to get attention and break through the noise. In a matter of hours, it became the most watched Senate floor speech in history. Given his reputation for not grandstanding, the speech struck a chord in part because it was an impromptu and refreshing moment in our politics. It was completely consistent with his record of being genuine and brutally honest.

Throughout his years in the Senate, Michael has built a reputation for listening to Coloradans letting their needs guide his agenda in Washington, and **working with Republicans and Democrats to address Colorado and our nation’s greatest challenges—including child poverty, education, climate change, immigration, health care, and national security.**



Driven by an obligation to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and create more opportunity for the next generation, Michael has spearheaded policies like the expanded **Child Tax Credit** which will cut child poverty by nearly half; **Medicare-X** which will help achieve universal, affordable, accessible health care; and the **CORE Act** which will protect Colorado’s public lands for generations to come.

If re-elected in 2022, Michael plans to continue delivering for Colorado alongside his wife Susan and their three daughters, Caroline, Halina, and Anne.

Learn more about Michael at www.michaelbennet.com