

# Ripon Profile

**Name:** John Hoeven

**Hometown:** Minot, North Dakota

**Occupation:** Governor of North Dakota

**Previous Jobs:** President, Bank of North Dakota; Executive Vice President, First Western Bank & Trust.

**Individual(s) who inspired me as a child:** My parents. They truly inspired me and have always been people of great character.

**Historical figure(s) I would most like to meet:** George Washington. He epitomized true leadership in so many ways and more than any other single figure, he led the way forward in the founding of our great nation.

**Issue facing America that no one is talking about:** We must create more legal, tax and regulatory certainty, so that businesses can invest and hire people. Right now, investment by business enterprises both large and small is held on the sidelines because business leaders face an unfriendly business environment. One example is in the energy industry, where utility, energy and venture capital companies are holding off on investing in new technologies that could produce more domestic energy with better environmental stewardship. They do not know what the rules of the road are for recoupment of their investment. We must do better in creating a responsible, dependable business environment at all levels of government to get our economy moving again, and get people back to work.

**What the GOP must do to reclaim its majority:** Republicans must present our solid solutions for growing the economy, reforming health care and reducing the deficit in a strong and positive way, and act on them.

