Last Thursday, U.S. Senator Deb Fischer was officially sworn-in as a United States senator in the U.S. Capitol by Vice President Joseph Biden.

Fischer was escorted by Nebraska's senior senator, Mike Johanns, and former Nebraska Senator David Karnes.

The ceremony marked the official commencement of Fischer's six-year term, as well as the start of the 113th Congress. Senator Fischer, a lifelong Nebraskan and former two-term state senator, was joined for the swearing-in ceremony by her husband, Bruce, family and friends.

Upon conclusion of the ceremony, Senator Fischer released the following statement:

"Today, I placed my hand on the Bible and swore to 'support and defend' the Constitution—a sacred charge I take with great humility. I am committed to working with my colleagues—Republicans and Democrats—to restore America's fidelity to her constitutional principles.

This requires policies that limit the size of government, revitalize our ailing economy and respect the liberties and hard-earned money of American taxpayers. The road ahead requires tough choices, and I will cast my votes solely on the merits of policies and their impact on Nebraskans and the nation.

"I look forward to serving all Nebraskans and encourage them to remain engaged in the democratic process beyond just participating in elections. A healthy democracy requires an ongoing conversation between lawmakers and constituents. I will actively reach out to citizens across Nebraska as we seek to shape public policy. In turn, I hope that constituents will contact me directly through phone calls, letters, and e-mails. Their wisdom comes from years spent running businesses, maintaining farms and ranches, and raising families—not time in Washington. Together, we can bring a strong dose of Nebraska common sense to Washington, D.C.," she said.

Fischer said she is thankful for this opportunity and honored by the trust placed in her to represent Nebraska.

Fischer has been assigned to the following committees: Armed Services; Commerce, Science and Transportation; Environment and Public Works; Small Business; and Indian Affairs.

To contact Senator Fischer in her Washington office, call 202-224-6551.