**RELEASE IN FULL** 

From:

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Sent:

Tuesday, January 5, 2010 7:11 PM

To:

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Cc: Subject: Abedin, Huma

Dorgan Retiring

You may have already heard this, but wanted to alert you that Senator Dorgan this evening announced that he would not seek reelection and is retiring.

He would have been up for reelection in November but his numbers were solid and he wasn't facing a particularly strong field.

Below is a copy of his statement:

"Over this holiday season, I have come to the conclusion, with the support of my family, that I will not be seeking another term in the U.S. Senate in 2010. It is a hard decision to make after thirty years in the Congress, but I believe it is the right time for me to pursue these other interests. Let me be clear that this decision does not relate to any dissatisfaction that I have about serving in the Senate. Yes, I wish there was less rancor and more bipartisanship in the U.S. Senate these days. But still, it is a great privilege to serve and I have the utmost respect for all of the men and women with whom I serve."

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