



**DT:** May 28th, 2024.

**TO:** Interested Parties.

**FR:** David Bergstein, DSCC Communications Director.

**RE:** Senate Republican recruits have a candidate quality problem.

Senate Republicans once again have a [“candidate quality”](#) problem with their recruits.

Their candidates were already known for being carpetbaggers with [“rich people problems”](#) and [“suspect ties to the states they’re running in.”](#)

Now the damaging revelations emerging about the GOP’s Senate recruits have grown to include their lies about their biographies on the campaign trail, scandals stemming from their finances and a lifetime of unvetted statements and policy positions.

That’s prompted analysis from the [Associated Press](#), [Roll Call](#) and [others](#) detailing how Senate Republicans are [“elevating untested candidates who might not be prepared for the scrutiny,”](#) that GOP recruits are [“feeling the heat in the media,”](#) and how [“in Senate races, GOP haunted anew with ‘candidate quality’ issues.”](#)

See for yourself:

#### **In Montana:**

- *The Washington Post* revealed over several investigations that Tim Sheehy [lied about how he received a gunshot wound](#), [“offered inconsistent accounts of his war wounds”](#) and [“offers varying accounts of how he was shot,”](#) leading Montana reporters to conclude Sheehy’s [“Bullet Story Doesn’t Add Up.”](#)
- *Vanity Fair* [reported](#) Sheehy lied about being a rancher, citing Montanans who describe him as a “Wannabe Cowboy,” while *NBC* [reported](#) how Sheehy is “a threat to public land access.”
- *The Daily Beast* [reported](#) Sheehy lied about growing up in rural Minnesota, [and](#) how he started his business, [and](#) that his story of leaving the military is “contradicted by Sheehy’s own written account.”

#### **In Ohio:**

- *The New York Times* [reported](#) Bernie Moreno “tells a riches-to-rags-to-riches tale. But the reality isn’t so tidy” – he engaged in “a calculated process of self-creation,” lying about his upbringing, his immigration story and even his housing.
- *The Guardian* [reported](#) Moreno lied about his family fleeing socialism.
- *Spectrum News* [reported](#) Moreno lied about refusing to sell Chinese-made cars.
- The *Columbus Dispatch* [reported](#) Moreno lied about closing the Confucius Institute in Cleveland, part of a “string of inconsistencies” about his biography.
- *Business Insider* [detailed](#) how Moreno shredded documents to avoid paying employees overtime.

**In Pennsylvania:**

- The *Associated Press* [reported](#) McCormick lied about living in Pennsylvania.
- The *New York Times* [reported](#) McCormick lied about growing up on a farm under “modest” circumstances, giving “a misleading impression about key aspects of his background.”
- *CNN* [reported](#) McCormick oversaw a 108,000% increase in Chinese investments, *Bloomberg* [reported](#) McCormick directed investments in Chinese military companies and *HuffPost* [reported](#) McCormick “Profited From China Trade Policies He Helped Shape.”

**In Wisconsin:**

- *The New York Times* [reported](#) Hovde's California bank was sued for elder abuse at a senior living facility it owned, underscoring how “Hovde may be developing a problem with older voters.”
- Multiple outlets revealed comments from Hovde saying [seniors shouldn't vote](#), [farmers are lazy](#), [attacking single mothers](#), [insulting young people](#), calling [Americans “deplorable.”](#) [opposing the sale of alcohol](#), stating [obese people should pay more for health care](#), and having a [“history of Invoking Antisemitic Slurs.”](#)

**In Arizona:**

- Where to begin? The *Republic* [wrote](#) “Lake's chances of winning...seem dimmer by the day.”
- The *Copper Courier* [revealed](#) she wants sheriffs to enforce the 1864 abortion ban.
- *and The Washington Post* [reported](#) that even Trump is turned off by her out-of-state travel.

**In Nevada:**

- *The Los Angeles Times* [reported](#) Brown supported allowing nuclear waste storage at Yucca Mountain, “a third rail in Nevada politics.”
- The *Nevada Independent* [reported](#) Brown backed a Texas abortion ban without exceptions for rape or incest, one of [“the toughest restrictions on abortion in the country.”](#)
- *Newsweek* [reported](#) Brown filled out a questionnaire opposing abortion without exceptions.

**In Michigan:**

- *The Detroit News* [reported](#) Rogers enriched himself through ties to Chinese companies.
- *Business Insider* [reported](#) Rogers got rich going through “the revolving door,” while *The Gander* [reported](#) “Rogers voted against reining in special interests.”
- *The Michigan Advance* [reported](#) Rogers has been living in Florida.

**The bottom line:** It's only May, and it's already clear Senate Republicans recruited inferior candidates they failed to vet. Their lies and liabilities pose major vulnerabilities and will form an important part of the case Democrats will utilize to disqualify GOP Senate candidates with voters in each race.