

Senator **Tom Saxhaug** (D) – District 5

Senator Saxhaug was elected in 2012 to the newly created Senate District 5. This new district includes portions of Itasca, Cass, and Beltrami counties whose county seats are Grand Rapids, Walker, and Bemidji. The district surrounds the Chippewa National Forest and the Leech Lake Band Indian Reservation in north central Minnesota. Senator Saxhaug was first elected in 2002 and was re-elected in 2006 and 2010.

Senator Saxhaug is a member of the Senate's Finance Committee, E-12 Division, Environment, Economic Development and Agricultural Division, Subcommittee on Legacy, and is the Chairman of the State Departments and Veterans Budget Division. He also sits on the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, Explore Minnesota Tourism, and the Iron Range Resources Board.

Senator Saxhaug completed his secondary education at Grand Rapids High School and later received his B.A. in History from St. Olaf College in Northfield. Prior to his election to the Senate, he served on the Grand Rapids City Council from 1995 to 1997, and was an Itasca County Commissioner from 1997 to 2003 and has been an Independent Insurance agent for 36 years.

Tom served on the International Legislators Forum Steering Committee from 2005 through 2013. He and his wife Nancy have two grown children.