

GOVERNOR MARK SANFORD



Mark Sanford represented the First District of South Carolina, which covers the Lowcountry of the state, from 1995-2001 and again from 2013-2016.

As the 115th Governor of South Carolina, serving from 2003 until 2011, he accomplished a long list of firsts, such as cutting the marginal income tax rate, the largest recurring tax cut in state history, first of its kind tort reform, workers' compensation reform, and bringing about the first statewide charter school district in the nation. All these actions were aimed at making the state a more inviting place in which to invest and build a business, and cumulatively led to \$24 billion in capital investment - more in his governorship than during any other administration in South Carolina's history.

He has always focused on stopping wasteful spending. He proposed the first operational executive budget in South Carolina's history and over his time in office closed nearly a billion dollar funding hole that he inherited upon arriving in Columbia. Mark was the first governor in the nation to refuse federal stimulus funding, and fought against the stimulus all the way to the South Carolina Supreme Court. By the end of his second term, the CATO Institute had ranked Mark as the most fiscally conservative governor in the country.

Prior to serving as governor, Mark represented South Carolina's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, DC from 1995 until 2001, where he was ranked by Citizens Against Government Waste and the National Taxpayers Union as the most financially conservative member in all of Congress for his efforts to rein in wasteful spending and reduce the national debt.

Mark attended Furman University where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Business. He later received a Master of Business Administration from the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. Mark has four sons, Marshall, Landon, Bolton, and Blake. He currently lives in Mount Pleasant.