

2010 REPUBLICAN PRIMARY CANDIDATES

I. GOVERNOR

A. Gresham Barrett.

1. Bio- Born in Westminster, Bachelors degree from The Citadel. Served 4 ½ years in the U. S. Army. In 1987 he returned home and later purchased the family furniture store. In 1996 elected to the State House of Representatives where he served until 2002. In 2002 he ran for the United States House of Representatives where he still serves. He is married with three children.
2. Fiscal and Social Conservative. 98% lifetime score from the American Conservative Union, 4th most conservative member of the U. S. House according to the National Journal. Opposed President Obama's stimulus package. Pro-Life. As our next Governor Barrett states that he will reduce wasteful government spending, restructure our state's punitive tax system and return dollars and decisions to families and small businesses.

B. Andre Bauer

1. Bio- Born in Charleston, graduate of University of South Carolina. He was self employed until he was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1996. In 1999 he was elected to the South Carolina Senate in a special election and served until 2003. He was elected as Lt. Governor and inaugurated in Jan. 2003.
2. He is Pro-Life, believes in the second amendment, lowering taxes and commonsense government. He also supports helping South Carolina move forward on renewable and alternative energy sources. He supports prevention and personal responsibility in health care.
3. He has called for a Constitutional Convention as a method to abolish ObamaCare. Many people feel that calling for a Constitutional Convention is a very dangerous thing to do as there is no way to restrict the agenda to just one issue. It would also have only one chamber not two as our House and Senate, so the big population states would control and the small states such as South Carolina would be irrelevant.

Nikki R Haley

- 1 Bio- Born in Bamberg, the daughter of Indian immigrants. Her first job was keeping the books for her family's clothing store at the age of 13. Graduated from Clemson with a B.S. degree in accounting and went to work for FCR. Inc. She then went back to her family business as it grew into a multi-million dollar business. She was elected as a South Carolina legislator in 2004 where she is still serving. She was named "Friend of the Taxpayer" (2009) by the S.C. Association of Taxpayers and a "Taxpayer Hero" (2005) by Gov. Mark Sanford. She is married and has two children.

2. She is Pro- Life and believes in the Second Amendment. She also believes in term limits and in reforming the S.C. tax code. She believes that government must rein in spending and that government works for the people, not the other way around. She is also a strong supporter that every vote should be on the record and has fought hard to pass legislation to that effect.

C. Henry McMaster

1. Bio- Born in Columbia, he received his Bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina and then graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law. He was admitted to the S. C. Bar later that year. He was appointed U.S. Attorney for the District of South Carolina in 1981 and held that position until 1985. In 1993 he was elected Chairman of the S.C. Republican Party. He was elected the Attorney General of S.C. in 2002 and has held that position since being inaugurated in Jan. 2003. He is married and has two children.
2. He is Pro Life and has staunchly defended the Second Amendment. He has signed the "No New Tax Pledge" and supports comprehensive tax reform. He is working with other State Attorney Generals to defeat President Obama's health care legislation by filing a lawsuit in Federal Court.

II. LT. GOVERNOR

A. Ken Ard

1. Bio- Born in Pamplico, small business owner, college drop-out, elected to County council in 2004, elected Chairman of Florence County Republican's in 2009. Married with three children.
2. He is Pro-Life and has signed the "American's for Tax Reform" pledge to never raise taxes. However in the time that he was on the Florence Country Council, their government grew 72% in 3 years. He also campaigned to raise taxes in 2006 as a Florence County Councilman.

B. Bill Connor

1. Bio- Born in Hawaii, graduate of The Citadel, he was in the army from 1990-2002. He attended and earned his J.D. from the University of South Carolina and then worked as a lawyer. In 2008 he volunteered for deployment in Afghanistan and earned a Bronze Star. He is married with 3 children.
2. He is Pro-Life. He wants to end the State tax on military and law enforcement retirement. He wants to end state corporate and income taxes. He has signed the S.C. Association of Taxpayers "Taxpayer Protection Pledge". He supports energy independence through nuclear energy and natural gas exploration. He supports State Sovereignty. He believes in school choice through Charter Schools and tax credits for private and home schooling.

C. Eleanor Kitzman

1. Bio- Graduate of the University of Houston in 1984. Graduate of South Texas School of Law in 1986. Joined a law firm in Austin, TX. She then headed an insurance company in Louisiana and started an insurance company in 1999 in South Carolina. In 2005 she was tapped by Governor Mark Sanford to head the S.C. Dept. of Insurance, which she held for two years. She is the single mother of one.
2. This is Eleanor's first run for public office. There is not much about her except that she Supports phasing out corporate income taxes on some businesses, but not all.

D. Larry Richter

1. Bio- Charleston native, Graduate of University of North Carolina, J.D. from University of South Carolina School of Law. Member of S.C. bar for 39 years. Municipal Judge for 5 years, Family Court Judge for 2 years, Circuit Court Judge for six years. Elected to South Carolina Senate in 1992. Married with three children and two grandchildren.
2. Allegations that he colluded with the Judge in a case involving sexual abuse. Allegations of offering cocaine to a college student that derailed his judicial career.

III. STATE TREASURER

A. Converse Chellis

1. Bio-Graduate of The Citadel in 1965. He is a CPA. He was elected to the General Assembly of S.C. in 1996 and served for 10 years. Elected State Treasurer by the General Assembly on Aug. 2, 2007 to fill a vacancy. Recently received the "Friend of the Taxpayer's Award" by the S.C. Association of Taxpayers. Married with two children and one grandchild.
2. He has used \$964,390 in public funds for television ads featuring himself.
3. On April 14, 2010 the State Board of Economic Advisor's disclosed that \$60 million was missing from the State General fund due to errors within the State Treasurer's office.
4. He has proposed an eleven-point fiscal responsibility plan and presented it to the State Assembly. The eleven points are:
 - a. Increase the size of the General Reserve Fund
 - b. Delay use of the Capital Reserve Fund during the fiscal year
 - c. Respond more quickly to reduced revenues projections
 - d. Create a government streamlining commission
 - e. Eliminate the TERI program
 - f. Reinstate 30-year retirement. (As opposed to 28 year now in effect)
 - g. Create a Department of Administration
 - h. Shorten the legislative session
 - i. Enact a biennial budget
 - j. Reform and streamline the capital improvement project process
 - k. Implement zero-based budgeting

B. Curtis Loftis

1. Bio-Graduate of University of South Carolina in 1981. He was a business owner and engaged as a real estate investor and developer. He ceased day-to-day association with his business and is now actively involved with the Saluda Charitable Foundation.
2. He pledges transparency, stewardship and term limits for himself. He proposes creating an Inspector General and a Fraud Detection Team in the State Auditor's office.

IV. ATTORNEY GENERAL

A. Robert Bolchoz

1. Bio- He grew up in Charleston and graduated from The Citadel and the university of South Carolina Law School. He has been in private practice as well as served South Carolina as Assistant Solicitor, Deputy Solicitor, Special Assistant United States Attorney and Chief Deputy Attorney General. He is married with four children.
2. He is Pro-Life and he believes that President Obama's health care legislation is unconstitutional and will pursue any legal actions to prevent the citizens of South Carolina from being forced to buy health insurance or be penalized.

B. Leighton Lord

1. Bio-Born in Hawaii, raised a self-described "army brat", attended the University of Delaware before getting his law degree at Vanderbilt. He went into private practice and then in 1990 served as staff council to a Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigation. In 1993 he moved to Columbia and went to work for a private law firm Nexsen Pruet where is currently the Managing Partner. He is married with three children.
2. His priorities are to make South Carolina safer, protect our natural resources, fight internet crimes against children, fight domestic violence, combat gangs and organized crime, combat frauds against South Carolinians and empower local law enforcement to combat foreign-born criminal aliens.

C. Alan Wilson

1. Bio- He graduated from Francis Marion University in 1996. He joined the National Guard where he has served for over 14 years and was promoted to the rank of Major where he currently serves as a Judge Advocate General. He has been the Assistant Attorney General and Assistant Solicitor in Lexington. He currently works in private practice at Willoughby & Hofer, a civil litigation firm in Columbia. He is married with two children. His father is Joe Wilson our Representative in Congress.
2. He is Pro-Life. He believes that President Obama's health care legislation is unconstitutional and will pursue any legal actions to prevent the citizens of South Carolina from being forced to buy health insurance or be penalized. He believes in State Sovereignty and the literal interpretation our Constitution

V. **COMPTROLLER GENERAL**

A. Richard A Eckstrom

1. Bio- Born in Duluth, MN. Graduated from University of South Carolina in 1971, earned an MBA from the University of South Carolina in 1977, and his Master of Accountancy from the University of South Carolina in 1978. He is a CPA and served in the U.S. Navy Reserve from 1973-1995. He was the South Carolina State Treasurer 1994-1998 and the SC Comptroller from 2003 to the present. He is married.

B. Mike Meilinger

1. Bio- He graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Business administration in 1993. He worked as a staff accountant for three years before starting his own business. He is married.

VI. **STATE SUPERITENDENT OF EDUCATION**

A. Gary L Burgess

1. Native of Inman, graduate of Wofford and Converse College. He received his doctoral degree from the University of South Carolina in 1999. He started his career as a secondary school teacher and moved up to Assistant Principal and then Principal. He then moved to Assistant Superintendent and then Superintendent. He is married with three children.
2. He believes in parental choice regarding their child's learning environment (tax money follows the child.) He has an entire list of ideas, which he claims are tax neutral. He also advocates the abandonment of programs that do not add value.

B. Elizabeth Moffly

1. Bio-She is a small business owner and President of Moffly Construction and Real Estate. She is married with four children and lives on a farm in Awendaw.
2. She believes that South Carolina should offer both college prep and vocational educational routes to a high school diploma. She wants to revise the Standards of learning to provide a strong foundation in the basics reading, writing and arithmetic.

C. Brent Nelsen

1. Bio- He graduated from Wheaton College. For 20 years he has studied and taught politics at Furman University in Greenville. He is married with three children.
2. Senator Jim DeMint has endorsed his candidacy.
3. He believes in Parental Choice and freedom and accountability for teachers and administrators. He believes that we need to cut all the wasteful spending in education and reform the way the schools are funded. "We don't need to spend more money. We need to better spend what we have."

D. Kelly Payne

1. Bio- She earned a degree in Political Science in 1991 from the University of South Carolina. In 2005 she received her Masters in Education. She is a high school social studies teacher. She has three children.
2. She believe that money should be removed from general administration and overhead and not the classroom. She wants to refocus on teaching fundamentals in the primary years.

E. Glenn C Price

1. Bio- He is a native of Kershaw County and received his Bachelor of Music Education from East Carolina University. After teaching for several years he became the Director of Bands at Lugoff-Elgin High School, a position he has held for 35 years.

F. Mick Zais

1. Bio- He graduated from the United States Military academy at West Point with an engineering degree. He also earned his masters and doctorate degrees in Social psychology from the University of Washington. He served in the Army for 31 years and retired as a Brigadier General. Since 2000 he has been President of Newberry College. He is married with two children.
2. His platform is: a.) Every classroom in South Carolina is safe and orderly. b.) Every child and every parent should expect academic progress every year. Foundational to this is proficiency in reading. c.) Every dollar that is spent on education must be accounted for and be directly connected to the classroom of our state.

VII. U. S. SENATE

A. Jim DeMint

1. Bio- Born in Greenville, BS from the University of Tennessee in 1973 and an MBA from Clemson University in 1981. He was the owner of a market research company The DeMint Group from 1983-1998. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1998-2004 and was elected as Senator from South Carolina in 2004. He is married with four children and one grandchild.
2. He has become the Conservative Movements effective leader in the Senate. He has a 99% rating from the American Conservative Union and a 100% rating for 2009. He is currently working to stop the financial overhaul that would create a permanent bail out fund. He is also committed to repealing Obama's health care legislation. He is committed to fighting wasteful spending and is a leader in the fight against amnesty for illegals. He has a 100% pro-life voting record and believes in strong families. He believes in meaningful tax reform and expanding the use of nuclear energy. He also believes in a strong national defense and that terrorism is the greatest threat posed to America.

B. Susan McDonald Gaddy

1. She is a Charleston Attorney
2. She is a well-known Democrat. Until recently she was a high-ranking local official in the Berkeley County Democratic Party. She has been a vocal supporter of numerous Democratic campaigns including the campaign of President Barack Obama.

VIII. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 2

A. Phil Black

1. Bio- Born in Barnwell, graduated from the University of Georgia. He is a retired employee of the federal Small Business Administration and part owner of a Barnwell hardware store. He is married.
2. He wants to change how things are done in Washington and bring the focus back to the people. He has some interesting ideas such as using the Medicare billing system for all private insurance companies, which he claims, would save overhead of 30%.

B. Joe Wilson

1. Bio- Born in Charleston, Graduated from Washington and Lee University in 1969 and earned his J.D. from the University of South Carolina Law School in 1972. He was in the S.C. Army National Guard from 1975-2003 where he earned the rank of Colonel. He was a Springdale Town Judge from 1977-1980 and a founding partner/attorney in Kirkland, Wilson, and Moore. He was a member of the South Carolina State Senate for 17 years. He has been the District 2 Representative from 2001 to the present. He is married with four sons and four grandchildren.
2. He opposed Obama's health care bill, wants to strengthen our national security, he believes in energy independence by exploring for oil as well as looking for renewable sources of energy. He supports tax relief, and is against cap and trade and card check. He has earned a 94% lifetime score from the American Conservative Union and a 96% 2009 score.

Two questions that will be asked in the Republican Primary

Here are the questions as they'll appear on the Republican ballot June 8:

Question 1:

The [healthcare reform](#) bill recently signed into law by President Obama requires all American citizens to purchase health insurance or else to pay a fine to the federal government. The legislation also contains tax benefits and other inducements that apply only to certain states, benefits that were apparently designed to persuade those states' Senators or Representatives to vote for President Obama's healthcare reform Bill.

Therefore be it resolved: The South Carolina General Assembly should defend the freedom of all South Carolinians to make their own [health care](#) decisions by enacting legislation making it illegal to force the citizens of South Carolina to purchase health insurance or participate in a health care plan against their will, or to comply with any of the provisions or mandates of nationalized health care that do not apply equally to all states. Do you agree with the resolution above?

Yes

No

Question 2:

Growth of state spending should not exceed the growth of the economy. Therefore, be it resolved: The South Carolina General Assembly should enact legislation to limit state spending growth in South Carolina to a growth rate not to exceed the lesser of the annual percentage growth in income of the State's citizens, or the growth in population plus inflation. Do you agree with the resolution above?

Yes

No