



State of South Carolina

Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR

PO Box 12267
COLUMBIA, SC 29211

FACT SHEET: 2006-2007 Executive Budget

- Fiscal Responsibility:*** Gov. Sanford's FY 2006-07 Executive Budget is a balanced, \$5.9 billion spending plan that holds government growth to population plus inflation. In addition, the governor's budget directs the complete repayment of trust and reserve funds (\$173 million), corrects the GAAP deficit (\$105 million), accelerates other debt repayment for recurring savings (\$16 million repayment for a \$4.6 million recurring savings), and limits annualizations to their lowest level in more than a decade (\$66 million).
- Taxpayer Dividend:*** By holding the line on spending to just over 5.5 percent growth, Gov. Sanford's budget will allow a \$151 million tax rebate to the people of South Carolina that can be used for immediate property tax relief, ease the burden of higher energy costs, or address other household needs – all without raising any other taxes.
- Job Creation:*** The Executive Budget recommends an additional \$11.5 million for the S.C. Department of Commerce for a first-ever closing fund (\$7 million) to assist the Executive Branch in finalizing projects, and additional employees to focus on industry recruitment and marketing. In addition, the budget includes \$2 million for Clemson's International Center for Automotive Research, \$400,000 for agricultural marketing, and an additional \$1.6 million for advertising and marketing at the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.
- Savings:*** Gov. Sanford's FY 2006-07 Executive Budget proposes over \$113 million in specific savings to the taxpayer and reinvests those funds in priority areas of education, job creation, healthcare and public safety.
- Restructuring:*** As part of the overall cost savings, Gov. Sanford's budget recommends agency realignment resulting in \$19 million in recurring savings.
- Education:*** The governor's budget fully funds the Base Student Cost with an additional \$120 million in recurring funds, and recommends better allocation and coordination of early childhood education resources to begin addressing the recent education equity ruling.
- Law Enforcement:*** The Executive Budget includes funding for 320 new law enforcement officers, including 100 new Troopers. In addition, it recommends spending \$2.2 million to fund an additional domestic violence prosecutor in each of the state's 46 counties.
- Healthcare:*** The budget recommends a \$109 million increase in Medicaid funding, as well as \$5 million in prevention grants. The budget also proposes an increase of \$2 million for adoption subsidies for special needs children.
- Natural Resources:*** Gov. Sanford's budget plan includes \$4 million in recurring funding to bolster water quality efforts, provide improved permitting services for businesses and expedite hazardous site cleanup. In addition, the budget calls for \$10 million for timber tract preservation.