

Parris N. Glendening, Maryland's 59th Governor, is the only Democrat east of Oregon who won a vacant gubernatorial seat in the 1994 elections.

Since his election, Governor Glendening has been working hard to move Maryland forward into the 21st Century. His priorities include improving public education, creating and maintaining good-paying, family-supporting, private sector jobs, making Maryland's communities safer, and protecting Maryland's treasured environment. During the 1996 legislative session, the Governor successfully implemented several economic development programs, including a job-creation tax credit to attract and retain private sector employment in Maryland. He also was successful in implementing a tax reduction totaling \$15 million. This was one of ten targeted business-tax cuts the Governor has advanced in the last two years that has saved Maryland businesses \$124 million. To improve education, he proposed legislation that addresses the problem of disruptive students and puts teachers and principals back in control of the classroom, and establishes an incentive program for individual schools to improve their scores on statewide tests. He also allocated more than \$140 million for elementary and secondary school construction, the most in two decades. Although the Governor increased investment in public education, economic development, and public safety, his Fiscal Year 1997 operating budget of \$14.6 billion is less than the previous year's budget, the first such reduction since the 1930s.

Governor Glendening was graduated from Florida State University where he received a bachelor's degree (1964), a master's degree (1965), and in 1967 became the youngest student in the University's history to receive a Ph.D. in political science. That same year, he joined the faculty of the University of Maryland at College Park, where he taught for 27 years, until his election

as Governor. His textbooks on government and politics have been used in more than 400 colleges, and he has earned a national reputation for his expertise in government finance.

The Governor began his public service in 1973 as a City Councilman in Hyattsville. He was elected to the Prince George's County Council in 1974 and twice served as Council Chair. In 1982, he was elected County Executive of Prince George's County and became the only County Executive in Maryland history to serve three terms (1982-1994).

Innovative education initiatives, enhanced public safety programs, and an extensive citizen involvement program led Prince George's County to national recognition in 1986 as the "All American City" by the National Civic League. His leadership, innovation, and effectiveness also were recognized by *City and State* magazine, which in 1990 named him the "Most Valuable County Official" in the nation.

Currently, the Governor is the Chair of the Southern Regional Education Board. He serves on the Executive Committee of the National Governors Association, and is a member of the Democratic Governors Association and the Southern Governors Association. In 1996, he received the Dr. Nathan Davis Award for outstanding Governor from the American Medical Association. He also received the Donald T. Stone Award from the American Society for Public Administration. Recently, the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington honored Governor Glendening with the Breslau-Goblman Award for his dedication to social justice.

The Governor and his wife, Frances Anne, an attorney with the Federal Elections Commission, live in University Park, with their son, Raymond, a senior at DeMatha High School.