## U.S. Senator Mark Begich – biography 2013

Senator Mark Begich is in his fifth year representing Alaska in the U.S. Senate, where his primary focus is building a strong Alaska economy.

Already in his time in the Senate, Senator Begich has risen to key positions for Alaska. In the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress, he received positions on the Senate Appropriations committee and the Committee on Indian Affairs. He is chairman of the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard, which has broad jurisdiction over important Alaska issues. Senator Begich works on behalf of Alaska's servicemen and women on the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and also serves on the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

As part of the majority leadership, Senator Begich has the opportunity to educate others on the unique needs of Alaska.

Senator Begich was elected to the Senate in 2008 after serving as mayor of Anchorage for nearly six years. Born and raised in Anchorage, Senator Begich's other priorities include reducing the national deficit, tax reform, and building a national energy policy that emphasizes Alaska's oil and gas resources, an Alaska natural gas pipeline and the state's many renewable resources.

A lifetime member of the NRA, Senator Begich is a strong advocate for the 2nd Amendment and the rights of Alaskans and all Americans to keep and bear arms.

A businessman since age 14, Senator Begich brings both his business experience and commonsense approach to the Senate. His extensive experience in public office, along with service to dozens of non-profits and community groups, all add to his know-how and ability to get things done.