

## **Elected to Congress**

Although relatively progressive as a governor, with a platform that included aid to black educational institutions, fair wages for women and rent control, he was opposed to his party's Civil Rights program and led the walkout of the Southern Democrats at the 1948 convention. He campaigned for the presidency that year under the States' Right Democratic (aka "Dixiecrat") Party, ultimately losing by a large margin to President Harry S. Truman.

Originally appointed a Democrat to the U.S. Senate in 1954 under a write-in campaign, he was elected again in 1956; switching to the Republican Party in 1964, he continued to be re-elected for decades, and became a prominent force in the emergence of a conservative Republican Party in the South.

"Strom Thurmond Biography." *Biography.com*. A & E Television Network, n.d. Web. 16 June 2016.