

As a forty-year career politician, Sanford Bishop has voted to give himself a pay raise nine times while the national debt has increased by over twenty-six trillion dollars.

BACKUP:

Sanford Bishop has served in political office for forty years:

- **Sanford Bishop was a member of the Georgia General Assembly between 1977 and 1992.** “Bishop was first elected to Congress in 1992 after serving in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1977 to 1990 and in the Georgia Senate from 1991-1992.” (Congressman Sanford Bishop, [About](#), Accessed 8/31/2022)

Editor’s Note: Sanford Bishop’s combined experience in several political offices since 1977 amounts to about 45 years.

- **Sanford Bishop was first elected to Congress in 1992.** “Rep. Sanford Bishop, a Black Democrat first elected in 1992, has been rated among the most vulnerable House Democrats in the fall midterms by his own party.” (Russ Bynum, “Georgia’s senior congressman facing toughest race since 2010,” [AP News](#), 5/20/2022)
- **Sanford Bishop was first inaugurated into the House of Representatives in 1993.** (Congress.gov, [Members – Representative Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.](#), Accessed 8/12/2022)

Representative Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (1947 -)
In Congress 1993 - Present | [Get alerts](#)

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Party Democratic

House Georgia, District 2 103rd-117th (1993-Present)



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Sanford Bishop voted for a Congressional pay raise on nine separate occasions:

- **In June 2007, Bishop voted for a bill that would appropriate \$43.9 billion in FY 2008 for the Treasury Department, OPM, other agencies, and Washington, D.C.** “Matsui, D-Calif., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment) on adoption of the rule (H Res 517), with an amendment, to provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would appropriate \$43.9 billion in fiscal 2008 for the Department of the Treasury, Office of Personnel Management and other agencies, and the District of Columbia.” The motion was agreed to by a 244-181 vote.” (H.R. 517, [Roll Call Vote #580](#): Adopted 244-181; R 99-98, D 145-83, 6/27/07, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/5/22)
 - **According to the Associated Press, “Despite record-low approval ratings, House lawmakers [...] voted to accept an approximately \$4,400 pay raise that will increase their salaries to almost \$170,000.”** “Despite record-low approval ratings, House lawmakers Wednesday voted to accept an approximately \$4,400 pay raise that will increase their salaries to almost \$170,000. The cost-of-living raise gets lawmakers back on track for automatic pay raises after a fight between Democrats and Republicans last year and again in January killed the pay hike due this year. That was the first interruption of the annual congressional pay hike in seven years. The blowup came after Democrats last year fulfilled a campaign promise to deny themselves a pay hike until Congress raised the minimum wage. Delays in the minimum wage bill cost every lawmaker about \$3,100 this year. On a 244-181 vote Wednesday, Democrats and Republicans alike killed a bid by Reps. Jim Matheson, D-Utah, and Lee Terry, R-Neb., to get a direct vote to block the COLA, which is automatically awarded unless lawmakers vote to block it. The Senate has not indicated when it will deal with a similar measure.” (“House Members Allow Themselves A Raise,” [The Associated Press](#), 6/28/07)

- **In June 2006, Bishop voted to advance a bill that would provide FY 2007 funding for the Transportation Department, Treasury, and Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the judiciary and Washington D.C.** “L. Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and the possibility of amendment) on adoption of the rule (H Res 865) to provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would provide fiscal 2007 funding for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development as well as the judiciary and the District of Columbia.” (H. Res. 865, [Roll Call Vote #261](#): Adopted 249-167; R 130-92, D 119-74, I 0-1, 6/13/06, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)
 - **According to the Associated Press, “Despite record low approval ratings, house lawmakers Tuesday embraced a \$3,300 pay raise that will increase their salaries to \$168,500.** “Despite record low approval ratings, House lawmakers Tuesday embraced a \$3,300 pay raise that will increase their salaries to \$168,500. The 2

percent cost-of-living raise would be the seventh straight for members of the House and Senate. Lawmakers easily squelched a bid by Rep. Jim Matheson, D-Utah, to get a direct vote to block the COLA, which is automatically awarded unless lawmakers vote to block it.” (“House Lawmakers Give Themselves \$3,300 Raise,” [The Associated Press](#), 6/13/06)

- **In June 2005, Bishop voted to advance a bill that would provide \$139.1 billion in FY 2006 for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, as well as the judiciary and Washington, D.C.** “L. Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and the possibility of amendment) on adoption of the rule (H Res 342) to provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would provide \$139.1 billion in fiscal 2006 for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development as well as the judiciary and the District of Columbia.” (H. Res. 342, [Roll Call Vote #327](#): Adopted 263-152; R 136-87, D 127-64, I 0-1, 6/28/05, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)
 - **The House voted to increase Congressional salary by \$3,100 To \$165,200.** “Congress has approved a pay raise giving members a raise of \$3100 or so. With no discussion or argument, the pay for most rank-and file Congressmen went up to \$165,200 a year... The raise is in the appropriations bill covering the Transportation, Treasury and Housing and Urban Development departments, Judiciary, District of Columbia and independent agencies. It was approved in the House by a vote of 392-31. It passed in the Senate by voice vote.” (Ralph Smith, “2006 Pay Raise Moves Forward in Congress,” [FedSmith](#), 11/21/2005)
- **In September 2004, Bishop voted to advance a bill that would appropriate \$89.8 billion in FY 2005 for the Departments of Treasury and Transportation, as well as related agencies.** “Reynolds, R-N.Y., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment) on adoption of the rule (H Res 770) to provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would appropriate \$89.8 billion in fiscal 2005 for the departments of Treasury and Transportation and related agencies.” (H. Res. 770, [Roll Call Vote #451](#): Adopted 235-170; R 121-91, D 114-78, I 0-1, 9/14/04, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)
 - **According to the Associated Press, House members voted to raise their pay by about \$4,000.** “With little debate, House lawmakers on Tuesday included themselves as part of a pay raise that all federal employees will receive next year. The cost-of-living raise would be the sixth straight for members of the House and Senate, boosting the salaries of lawmakers, now \$158,100, by about \$4,000 in the new calendar year.” (“House Gives Itself Pat On Back,” [The Associated Press](#), 9/15/04)
- **In September 2003, Bishop voted to advance a bill that would appropriate \$89.6 billion in FY 2004 spending, including \$27.5 billion in discretionary spending for the Departments of Treasury and Transportation, as well as related agencies.** “Reynolds, R-N.Y., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of

amendment) on adoption of the rule (H Res 351) to provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would appropriate \$89.6 billion in fiscal 2004 spending, including \$27.5 billion in discretionary spending, for the departments of Treasury and Transportation and related agencies.” (H. Res. 351, [Roll Call Vote #463](#): Adopted 240-173; R 122-92, D 112-80, I 0-1, 9/4/03, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)

- **In July 2002, Bishop voted to advance a bill that would allocate \$35.1 billion in FY 2003 Treasury-Postal Appropriations.** “Linder, R-Ga., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment) on adoption of the resolution (H Res 488) to provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would allocate \$35.1 billion in fiscal 2003 Treasury-Postal appropriations.” (H. Res. 488, [Roll Call Vote #322](#): Adopted 258-156; R 128-84, D 129-71, I 0-1, 7/18/02, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)
 - **House members voted to raise their pay by \$5,000 per year.** “Lawmakers appear ready to give themselves another pay raise, their fourth in four years. If the raise, about \$5,000 a year, goes into effect, rank-and-file members of Congress would receive \$155,000, an increase of more than \$20,000 over the past decade. Under a 1989 law, congressional pay raises, determined by a complicated formula that includes a measure of private industry employment costs, go into effect automatically unless lawmakers vote to block it. House lawmakers cleared the way Thursday for the salary hike.” (“House Opens The Way For Fourth Straight Raise In Pay,” [The Associated Press](#), 7/19/02)
- **In July 2001, Bishop voted to advance a bill that would appropriate \$32.7 billion in FY 2002 for the Treasury Department, Postal Service, independent agencies, and certain offices in the Executive Office of the President.** “Linder, R-Ga., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and the possibility of amendment) on adoption of the rule (H Res 206) to provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would appropriate \$32.7 billion in fiscal 2002 for the Treasury Department, U.S. Postal Service, various offices of the Executive Office of the President and certain independent agencies.” (H. Res. 206, [Roll Call Vote #267](#): Adopted 293-129; R 152-63, D 141-64, I 0-2, 7/25/01, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)
 - **H.R. 2590 raised the pay of civilian federal employees by 4.6%.** “The House voted overwhelmingly Wednesday night to give civilian federal employees a 4.6 percent average pay raise next year. On a 334-94 vote, the House passed the \$32.7 billion fiscal 2002 Treasury-Postal appropriations bill, (H.R. 2590), which contained language approving the raise.” (“House Approves 4.6 percent pay raise,” [Government Executive](#), 7/26/01)
- **In July 1999, Bishop voted to advance a bill that would appropriate \$28 billion for the Treasury Department, Postal Service, and general government operations.** “Sessions, R-Texas, motion to order the previous question on adoption of the rule (HRes246) to provide for floor consideration of the bill to appropriate \$28 billion for the Treasury

Department, Postal Service, and general government operations.” (H. Res. 246, [Roll Call Vote #300](#): Adopted 276-147; R 142-78, D 134-68, I 0-1, 7/15/99, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)

- According to the Associated Press, “the House voted overwhelmingly... to give Members of Congress a \$4,600 pay raise in January.” “The House voted overwhelmingly Thursday to give members of Congress a \$ 4,600 pay raise in January and to double the next president’s salary to \$ 400,000. Members voted 276-147 to increase their own pay and then 334-82 to reject an effort by conservatives to prevent the increase in the president’s pay.” (“Lawmakers Vote To Increase Their Pay,” [The Associated Press](#), 7/16/99)
- In September 1997, Bishop voted against blocking a congressional pay raise. “Hoyer, D-Md., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and the possibility of amendment) on the Hoyer motion to instruct conferees to increase funding for the Exploited Child Unit of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. A ‘nay’ vote would have allowed Smith, R-Wash., to offer an amendment to block a cost-of-living adjustment for members of Congress.” (H.R. 2378, [Roll Call Vote #435](#): Adopted 229-199; R 114-110, D 115-88, I 0-1, 9/24/97, Bishop Voted Yea; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/18/22)
 - House members voted to increase their pay by \$3,072. “After a debate during which the words “pay raise” were never mentioned, the House approved a Treasury spending bill that will hike members’ salaries 2.3 percent. The AP reports that the stealthy floor action came after weeks of whispering among senior leaders from both parties. House members now make US\$133,600, and the increase - based on a presidential recommendation for all federal workers - would boost their salaries by \$3,072.” (Wired Staff, “House Votes Pay Hike,” [Wired](#), 9/18/97)

Since Sanford Bishop has been in office, the national debt has risen by twenty six trillion dollars:

Editor’s Note: Sanford Bishop was sworn into [office on January 3, 1993](#).

Editor’s Note: National debt numbers for the exact date Sanford Bishop was inaugurated into Congress are not available. The below backup, and the numbers provided, are based on when the national debt data was released.

- On September 30, 1993, the national debt was measured to be \$4,411,488,883,139.38. (Treasury Direct, [Historical Debt Outstanding - Annual 1950-1999](#), Accessed 8/12/2022)

Date	Dollar Amount
09/30/1999	5,656,270,901,615.43
09/30/1998	5,526,193,008,897.62
09/30/1997	5,413,146,011,397.34
09/30/1996	5,224,810,939,135.73
09/29/1995	4,973,982,900,709.39
09/30/1994	4,692,749,910,013.32
09/30/1993	4,411,488,883,139.38
09/30/1992	4,064,620,655,521.66
09/30/1991	3,665,303,351,697.03
09/28/1990	3,233,313,451,777.25

(Treasury Direct, [Historical Debt Outstanding - Annual 1950-1999](#), Accessed 8/12/2022)

- **As of August 10, 2022, the total public debt outstanding is \$30,656,481,655,127.17.** (Fiscal Data Treasury.gov, [Debt to the Penny](#), Accessed 8/12/2022)

Record Date	Debt Held by the Public	Intragovernmental Holdings	Total Public Debt Outstanding
8/10/2022	\$24,028,355,531,684.22	\$6,628,126,123,442.95	\$30,656,481,655,127.17

(Treasury Direct, [Historical Debt Outstanding - Annual 1950-1999](#), Accessed 8/12/2022)

Editor's Note: \$30,656,481,655,127.17 minus \$4,411,488,883,139.38 equals \$26,244,992,771,987.79, hence the 26 trillion dollar number.