



## Jennifer M. Granholm

Former Governor of Michigan

Distinguished Practitioner of Law and Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley

Regular contributor on NBC's "Meet the Press"

Jennifer M. Granholm was elected governor of Michigan 2002. In 2006, she was re-elected with the largest number of votes ever cast for governor in Michigan. As Governor, Granholm led the state through a brutal economic downturn that resulted from a meltdown in the automotive and manufacturing sectors. She worked relentlessly to diversify the state's economy, strengthen its auto industry, preserve the manufacturing sector, and add new, emerging sectors, such as clean energy, to Michigan's economic portfolio.

In addition to diversification, Granholm focused on creating jobs, attracting international investment, improving education, and training Michigan's workers to promote Michigan's long-term economic health. She pushed the state to double the number of college graduates and signed into law a college prep curriculum for every high school student in Michigan in addition to some of the toughest turnaround requirements for low-performing schools in the nation. In 2007, she launched No Worker Left Behind, a program that gave unemployed and under-employed citizens the opportunity to attend community college or technical school to receive training for high-demand jobs by offering state-paid tuition to Michigan's displaced adults. The program enrolled more than 147,000 people, with a 75 percent job placement or retention rate—the best results in the nation. Community college enrollment in Michigan increased by 50 percent between 2000 and 2010.

Under her leadership, Michigan had the second highest rate of child health care coverage in the nation despite the economic challenges. She received praise for her commitment to the cultivating new jobs in Michigan. During her tenure as governor, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation brought in almost 4,000 companies or expansions projected to create 653,000 jobs. While serving as governor, Michigan was repeatedly named one of the top three states in the nation for business locations or expansions and was twice recognized by The Pew Center on the States as one of the best-managed states in the nation. Granholm was also a fiscal hawk—cutting a greater percentage from state government than any state in the nation and resolving more than \$14 billion in budget deficits. For example, she eliminated 25 percent of state departments, shut down 13 prison facilities, and reformed public employee benefits and pensions.

Prior to becoming governor, Granholm served as a judicial clerk for Michigan's 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. She became a federal prosecutor in Detroit in 1990, and in 1994, she was appointed Wayne County Corporation Counsel. Granholm was elected Michigan's first female attorney general in 1998.

Governor Granholm is a Distinguished Practitioner of Law and Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. She is a regular contributor to NBC's political talk show, "Meet the Press," speaks across the country about creating jobs in the manufacturing and clean energy sectors, is authoring a book with her husband on the lessons Michigan's experience can offer to America, and serves on several corporate and nonprofit boards.

Granholm is an honors graduate of both the University of California at Berkeley and Harvard Law School. She and her husband, Daniel G. Mulhern, have three children.