



SC “Governors’ Grade” Slips Under Nikki Haley

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“TEA PARTIER” SCORES WELL BELOW MARK SANFORD ON FISCAL REPORT CARD

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley – who ran as a Tea Party conservative – hasn’t carried the fiscal conservative mantle the way her predecessor Mark Sanford did. At least that’s according to a new “Governors’ Report Card” issued this week by the Cato Institute. Haley scored a “55” on the Cato report – giving her a “B” grade. That puts her toward the lower end of all “Republican” governors. In fact fifteen GOP governors received better marks than Haley, two received the same score and nine received worse grades on the Cato report – which ranks governors based on their tax and spending policies.

One Democrat (New Hampshire's John Lynch) also scored better than Haley, while Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick received the same score. In contrast to Haley's performance, Sanford led the nation in 2010 with a "74" score – nineteen points higher than Haley. The previous survey – in 2008 – he scored a "68" to rank second in the nation. Frankly, based on **these numbers** we're shocked Haley scored as well as she did on this report