



Since 2007, Mark Strand has been President of the Congressional Institute, overseeing the non-profit founded in 1987 that is dedicated to helping Members of Congress better serve their constituents and helping their constituents better understand the operations of the national legislature.

Strand is a 2017 Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics Fellow. He is also an adjunct professor of legislative affairs at George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management, and the coauthor of the book *Surviving Inside Congress*. He also writes on *The Sausage Factory* blog, which provides an inside look at legislative strategies and procedures.

Strand spent nearly 24 years on Capitol Hill in both the House and the Senate, most recently serving as Chief of Staff to Senator Jim Talent (R-MO). He served as the Staff Director of the House Committee on Small Business when Talent was Chairman. He has also served as a Legislative Director and a Press Secretary on Capitol Hill. During a brief interlude from the Hill from 2001-2002, Strand was Vice-President of Government Affairs for the American Water Works Company, the largest publicly held water utility in the United States.

Strand holds a Master's Degree in Legislative Affairs from George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management and an M.B.A. in Marketing from the University of Phoenix. He graduated from Excelsior College of the University of New York with a Bachelor's Degree in both Political Science and History.