



2020 Legislative Session Recap



Last Friday, 6/26 we adjourned the Legislative Session Sine Die which ends the 2020 biennial. There was much work to be done in the final two weeks after being suspended for three months. Many days lasted over 18 hours and included a historic Saturday session. I am very proud of the work we completed while navigating a worldwide pandemic.

My service to you continues all year working on committees, ongoing budget updates, constituent services, community events and more. I look forward to hearing from you how we can continue to keep Georgia as the best place to live, work and play. Please join me for my 10th Town Hall this year on July 2nd (details below).

I am proud of my younger son Ryan who is attending an Emergency Medical Technician class prior to heading off to college this August. He and his brother Will continue our generations of family tradition of First Responders.

Balancing the Budget

The state budget was significantly impacted by Covid-19. However, we were able to find some alternate sources of revenue and saw increases with the unemployment rate rebounding quickly. Ultimately, the overall budget was cut 10% and with matching CARE Act grants will greatly help some of my major priorities including education, special needs, public safety, etc. Specifically our K-12 schools received over \$400 million in funds to help.



Leading by example, we approved a 10% pay cut for legislators. I am also donating my entire legislative salary this year to help those in need.

Business & HOA Liability

A top priority was language I authored for a Business Immunity Bill to assist with protecting our businesses, HOAs and others from frivolous lawsuits. Many of us worked closely with the NFIB, Chambers of Commerce, healthcare professionals, the legal community and other key stakeholders to ensure a positive result.

We added this language to several bills and ultimately passed Senate Bill 359 assuring our businesses could operate without fear, HOAs can open pools and our economy can recover quickly and safely.



HB 426 & HB 838

I was proud to vote for HB 426 the Georgia Hate Crimes law. It was a historic moment and a great opportunity to listen, educate, hold accountable, heal and move forward in a meaningful way.

I was equally proud to vote for HB 838 which updates the language of the Office of Public Safety Support that assists with PTSD and crisis counseling, allowing peace officers to file a civil suit against those making false claims against them. It also provides for additional penalties to a person convicted of a crime with bias motivated intimidation, malicious intent to intimidate, harass or terrorize a First Responder.

I am gratified by the teamwork and it was a great day for Georgia.



Protecting Seniors & Children

I was honored to assist Attorney General Chris Carr, the Governor and First Lady Marty Kemp and others to sponsor important legislation protecting our senior citizens and children.

Those who prey on our children or aging population will feel the full extent of the law to proactively protect as well as severely prosecute criminals.

Surprise Medical Billing Passed

Have you ever received a large surprise medical bill? There can be great frustration and disbelief of going to an in-network facility for a medical procedure or emergency services and then weeks or months later receiving a bill to learn one of the providers was out of network. I was proud to cosponsor legislation which passed to make this a thing of the past. For emergency services, all out of network providers must send the invoice to the insurance company and not the patient. For non-emergency services the patient must provide verbal & written consent before receiving services from an out of network provider. This needed transparency and collaboration will improve the



TOWN HALL

CONFERENCE CALL



Senator John Albers

Join Senator John Albers and the Senate President Pro Tempore, Butch Miller for a recap of the 2020 legislative session and other important updates.

Thursday – July 2nd
5:00 pm

Dial In: (267) 930-4000
Passcode: 914-787-887

Email questions to:
info@senatorialbers.com

SenatorAlbers.com



Senator Butch Miller
President Pro Tempore

Covid-19 Cases by City & Zip code

Governors Executive Order - 6/1/2020

GA Dept. of Health Status Page

Department of Labor CARES Act Information

SenatorAlbers.com

Senator John Albers to Donate Legislative Salary to First Responders and Others in Need

During this difficult time, it is important now, more than ever, that we look after those who have dedicated their lives to looking after us. As Chairman of the Senate Public Safety Committee and as a volunteer firefighter, I have witnessed first-hand the sacrifice that so many of our law enforcement officers, emergency medical services personnel, firefighters and so many others make on a daily basis. Their ability to adapt to an ever-changing health crisis is commendable and deserves nothing short of our praise and recognition.

In addition, this pandemic has upended the lives of many Georgians and caused financial hardship for many. While this gesture may not be enough to bring economic security to every Georgian, it is my sincere hope that my legislative salary will benefit our first responders and others who are in need as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please join me in being generous wherever you are able.

Sincerely,
John



Capitol Address

Senator John Albers
421 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404)463-8055
Legislative Assistant: Ali Farmer
Ali.Farmer@senate.ga.gov
www.legis.ga.gov



District Address

Senator John Albers
101 Vickery Street
Roswell, GA 30075
(678)667-3656
info@senatoralbers.com
www.senatoralbers.com

[Website](#)