



March 2018 Newsletter

It has been a very productive legislative session and I have passed 13 bills out of the Senate over to the the House of Representatives. This is hefty workload and important work to protect homeowners, support families and businesses as well as all those who protect us in uniform. I am very proud of the work which will keep Georgia as the #1 place to do business, live, work and play.

March is the busiest month of the year for me juggling my elected duties, work-life and family. Serving as your Senator is a tremendous honor and sacrifice. I am so thankful for the support of my family, friends and business partners. I look forward to continuing my service to you.



Income Tax Cut

I have been working diligently to lower the income tax in Georgia; and I serve as the vice chairman of the Senate Finance committee. I am proud to report we passed a historic tax cut which is the largest income tax reduction in history for our state. It impacts every taxpayer lowering the rate from 6% to 5.75% and then 5.5%. With this momentum it is my high priority and intention to continue lowering the rate to 0%. We also doubled the standard deduction for Georgia. This huge tax cut will put money back into the hands of our families!

Promise Made - Promise Kept!



School Safety

Like all Americans, I was devastated to learn of the tragedy in Parkland, Florida. As a father, husband, elected official and first responder, I will do my part to help protect our students and educators. I authored Senate Resolution 935 to create a Senate Study Committee on School Safety.

The purpose of this committee is to engage students, parents, teachers, first responders, and others to

make recommendations for assuring school safety. In 1995 after the Oklahoma City Bombing the nation studied and made changes to government buildings. Following 9-11-2001, we did the same to secure airports and airplanes. Now, we need to do the same for schools. A full report and list of actionable recommendations will be delivered upon completion.



My Priorities

I have authored and sponsored many important pieces of legislation this year. Several important bills help families such as lowering taxes and updating adoption laws. Business is critical and we are the #1 state for the past 5 years now. We are continuing our hard work by reducing burdensome regulations, fees and taxes.

We have also passed numerous bills supporting our military and first responders. I am working closely with the GBI and other agencies to curb the opioid crisis.

Lastly, my efforts are making great progress to measure and assure a return on investment for all tax credits and incentives. These foundation changes will provide benefits for generations to come.



Fulton Property Tax Bills

In January I passed bills in the Senate to provide a long-term fix to the cities in North Fulton County as well as Fulton County Schools to address the tax assessment fiasco. This legislation will provide a floating homestead exemption or maximum cap of 3% on all three portions of your residential property tax bill. We want our home values to increase, but not at the penalty or expense to our families. This allows everyone to budget and provide the fairness and transparency needed. These bills have now passed the House of Representatives and will have one final step this week prior to the Governor's signature. You will have the final say and need to vote in favor of this important change on the November 6th ballot. I am very proud of this work.



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Honoring "Be the Voice"

I was proud to honor my friends Debbie Cwalina and Michael Schoppenhorst with Be THE Voice® a bystander-empowerment campaign born in Roswell that has proven successful in defusing bullying. The program has impacted over 25,000 students with many more schools signing-up for the Fall.

To learn more about the Be THE Voice® initiative please go to BTVStopBullying.com.



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