



October 2017 Newsletter

Continued good news for Georgia as the Governor announced 1,300 new jobs & highlighted Georgia's ranking as the #1 state to do business. The unemployment rate continues to fall and we continue to be the capitol of the south. We have worked hard to create the environment for success, but it is ultimately the people of our great state who start and lead companies, add jobs, innovate and propel us forward. Well done Georgia!

The fall is my favorite time of year. Our oldest son Will turns 22 this month and we are looking back in amazement of how quick life is moving. Pumpkins and Halloween are almost here!



Storm Review

Hurricane and then Tropical Storm Irma severely impacted Georgia, Florida and the Caribbean. Sadly, at least three people died in Georgia. Please consider helping directly or through one of the disaster relief organizations listed below.

Thank you to everyone who was responsible and listened to the Governor and other emergency experts cancelling events, closing schools, businesses, etc. this week. While these challenges can cause inconveniences, it ultimately protects lives and property. Our first responders and power linemen continue to do an extraordinary job and please take a moment to thank them for their service.



Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief
The Salvation Army
Samaritan's Purse

Study Committee Continues

As mentioned in prior editions, I sponsored and passed SR 222 this year creating the Georgia

Senate Special Tax Exemption Study Committee. I serve as chair of the six member study committee. Members of the study committee and a team of people are examining the costs and benefits of all state tax exemptions and credits. Additionally, the goal of the study committee is to ensure that each exemption has the potential for a Return on Investment (ROI).

Our last meeting was in Savannah which hosts the 3rd largest port in America as well as other major industries in Georgia. The committee will report findings and recommendations early next year.



High Tech Business Growth

Amazing things are happening in the technology city of the south. I was pleased to attend the Alpharetta Technology Commission Dinner which unveiled a new name and brand - Tech Alpharetta. With over 600 technology companies, Alpharetta boasts one of the largest concentrations of the high-tech firms in a single community.



Riverside Military Academy

I had the pleasure to visit Riverside Military academy in North Georgia. During my visit and tour, I was able to meet with retired Major General Mark Hertling. General Hertling served 37 years in the U.S. Army and retired after serving as the Commanding General of the US Army Europe and the Seventh Army. He is a true American hero.

Riverside Military Academy, established in 1907, is one of the nation's premier all-boys college preparatory schools. I have several young men from my district attending Riverside and was very proud to see the honor and commitment.

I learned some interesting facts as well. Riverside has sent countless young men to the Naval, Air Force, Coast Guard academies and West Point in addition to the six senior military academies including our own University of North Georgia.



City & Special Elections

All six cities in North Fulton County and the city of Woodstock in Cherokee County will have elections this November. We will also have a special election for the Fulton County Commission Chairman. You can learn more about voting precincts and questions at the Secretary of State website [HERE](#). Specific information for your county is located via the links below.

Fulton Elections
Cherokee Elections





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