

SENATOR  
TIM BEARDEN

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

**2025 Legislative Recap**



## Senator Bearden's Legislative Accomplishments

2025 was a busy session in the State Senate. I'm proud to have the honor of representing you in Atlanta, and I'm excited about the results we accomplished for District 30.

Republicans in the State Senate delivered on many conservative priorities. Below are a few of the bills that I am proud to have championed!

### **Riley Gaines Act of 2025 - Senate Bill 1**

Protecting women and girls is a simple matter of right and wrong. That's why I cosponsored this bill, to ensure that girls in schools of all levels always have the right to use their own bathrooms, locker rooms, and other sex-specific quarters in privacy and safety.

### **Fentanyl Eradication and Removal Act - Senate Bill 79**

Fentanyl continues to be a threat to communities across Georgia, which is why I was proud to increase penalties on its trafficking to lower the amount of fentanyl that constitutes a felony and to increase the minimum sentences for those trafficking in fentanyl.

### **Georgia Religious Freedom Restoration Act - Senate Bill 36**

Our First Amendment right to religious freedom is at the heart of our values as Georgians. That's why I co-sponsored this bill: to increase protections and ensure that our freedom of religion is always protected from the abuse and overreach of the state.





# REPUBLICAN RESULTS

In addition to the legislation that I personally lead on, the Republican majority in the State Senate took advantage of the mandate we received from voters across Georgia.

We achieved several major victories as part of our “Senate Secure” legislative priorities, and we delivered on a host of issues that will make our state safer and stronger.

## Supporting Our Students:

Supporting our students and ensuring that every child has access to a quality education is always a priority.

This year, we took several steps to expand school safety. From expanding alert systems and threat detection to increasing mental health support and violence prevention, we’re keeping our schools safe (HB268).

We also banned cell phones and other personal electronic devices during the school day for grades K-8, to ensure our students aren’t distracted throughout the day (HB340).



Finally, we expanded the Georgia Student Finance Authority’s tuition grant program to the spouses and children of first responders who are killed or disabled in the line of duty (SB20).



## Insurance and Tort Reform:

Keeping Georgia competitive with other states is critical to supporting a pro-business and pro-family environment so that our state and communities will continue to grow. That's why Republicans supported and enacted common sense reform of our lawsuit laws. This will stabilize insurance costs for businesses

and families across the state, and will lead to more economic growth (SB68).

We also improved patient eligibility requirements and informed consent rules for access to experimental treatments. This will allow for greater access to newer treatments for those in dire health situations, while maintaining protections to prevent abuses (SB72).

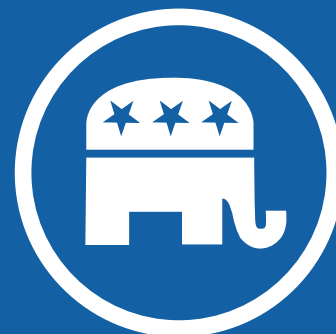
Finally, we protected the families of our service members by requiring that life insurance companies cover individuals unless their death is caused by an act of war (SB109).

## Lowering Costs and Cutting Taxes:

President Trump has been working hard since his first day in office to lower costs for Americans nationwide, but there is still more work to be done. That's why Republicans in Atlanta prioritized additional tax cuts, refunds, and credits, so that Georgians can keep more of their hard-earned money.

This year, we decreased the individual income tax rate from 5.39% to 5.19% (HB111), and also passed a one-time tax refund for tax year 2024 (HB112). In addition, we increased the tax exemption for income received as a retirement benefit from military service to \$65,000 (HB266).

Finally, we made revisions to the laws surrounding the statewide homestead exemption, as well as special district sales and use taxes (HB92).







## Defending Georgia from Foreign Threats:

Protecting citizens from foreign threats is one of the primary roles of government, and the Georgia Republicans took several steps to do just that. We prohibited state agencies from purchasing certain goods from certain foreign countries. This is to protect our technology and intellectual

property from the predations of our adversaries (HB113).

We also required that the University System of Georgia report all funding over \$1,000 received from certain foreign sources, to ensure that our enemies are not infiltrating our education system (HB150).

## Georgia and America First:

Georgians believe in common sense. That is why Senate Republicans prohibited the use of any state funds from being used to support gender ideology in our prison system. Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on sex reassignment surgeries, hormone replacement, or cosmetic surgeries for individuals. From now on, they won't be.



Finally, we created the America First License Plate for everyone who wants to express their pride in our great nation (SB291). I strongly encourage everyone interested to acquire one!

Republican  
**TIM BEARDEN**  
——— State Senate ———