



Senate District 15 — June Update — 2018

Study Committees

Many have asked what legislators do in service of our communities after the completion of our 40-day session? Although we spend January-March on Capitol Hill, our work is far from over. For the remainder of the year we focus our efforts on constituent services, legislative panels, district tours, as well as, study committee work. Much like we are appointed to standing committees every two-year election cycle, many of us are also appointed to serve on Study Committees. Study Committees focus on research regarding specific areas where our state lacks. In fact, 2018 boasts 37 total groups between House and Senate Study Committees, as well as, Joint Committees.

Study committees are put in place to further discuss, research and hear expert opinion on the subject area that may be affected by legislation. Further, these committees play an essential role in helping us eliminate unintended consequences of legislation passed. Depending on subject matter, committees are formed separately in the House and Senate. At times, joint study committees are put in place and members from each respective chamber will participate in the discussion. These committees tackle complex issues and are often the “make it” or “break it” moment for future legislation. If you are interested in learning more about our study committees, you can visit the Georgia General Assembly website. Committee meetings are open to the public and I encourage you to attend if there is a subject you are interested in learning more about!

Last year, I had the pleasure to serve on the Senate study committee focused on Rural Georgia. This committee was instrumental in passing pro-rural legislation last session regarding healthcare access, economic growth incentives, broadband access and education, to name a few. We will continue our work in this area in hopes of bringing resolution to key areas of importance. Senate leadership is expected to appoint study committee assignments soon.

As for the last couple of months, I have had a great time making my way around the district and representing our citizens at various meetings! As always, I will continue to keep you updated on major happenings under the Gold Dome. In the meantime, if you need anything at all, please feel free to reach out to me anytime. It is a pleasure to work on your behalf and an honor to represent the 15th district, as well as, the great state of Georgia!