



Senate District 15 – Summer Update – 2017

One of the most common questions I receive out of session is, “what do you do the rest of the year?” While we may not be on Capitol Hill year-round like our Federal counterparts, our work continues over the remaining 9 months, after the completion of our 40-day session. April through December we focus our efforts on constituent services, touring our districts, 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. 2017 boasts 20 total groups between House and Senate Study Committees, as well as, Joint Committees and working groups.

Study committees are put in place to further discuss, research and hear expert opinion on the subject area that may be affected by a piece of legislation. Further, these committees play an essential role in helping to eliminate unintended consequences of legislation we pass during session. Depending on the subject matter, committees are formed separately in the House and Senate. At times, joint study committees are put in place and member representatives 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. 2017 committees are discussing a number of pressing issues from tax reform and healthcare to cyber technology education. For a full listing of 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!

Currently, I have been appointed to serve on the Senate study committee on Rural Georgia. This committee will focus on issues such as healthcare access, economic growth incentives, broadband access and education, to name a few. I look forward to future meetings, where we will work to bring resolution to key areas of importance. Aside from beginning work on the Rural Georgia Study Committee, I have had a great time making my way around the district over the last couple of months! I truly enjoy attending events and appreciate the invitations that many of you have extended. I will continue to keep you updated on major happenings within state politics and in the meantime, if you need anything at all, please feel free to reach out to me. As always, it is a pleasure to work on your behalf and an honor to do so. God bless the 15th District and God bless the great state of Georgia!