

Congresswoman Nikema Williams' Congressional Bio

Congresswoman Nikema Williams has been a fierce advocate for social justice, women and families throughout her political and professional career. As a former grocery store cashier, union member, special needs educator in Georgia's Fulton and Clayton Counties, caregiver to her mother and a mother of a young Black son; Congresswoman Williams understands the issues most important to Georgia's 5th Congressional District. These experiences fuel her journey in Congress.

As a Member of Congress, Congresswoman Williams continues to uplift the legacy of her mentor and predecessor Congressman John Lewis by fighting to prevent voter suppression and expand free and fair access to the ballot box.

She always centers the voices of those who are most marginalized. She brings this concern to Congress having seen firsthand how women and people of color continue to fight for racial and social justice in our country.

Congresswoman Williams was elected as the Freshman Class President for the 117th Congress. As President, she organizes and advances the interests of her Freshmen Democratic colleagues to fulfill their oath to work for the people. She currently sits on the exclusive Financial Services Committee and the influential Transportation and Infrastructure and Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress. She has membership in several caucuses including the Congressional Black Caucus, Democratic Women's Caucus, Congressional Progressive Caucus, Voting Rights Caucus, LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus and the HBCU Caucus.

Congresswoman Williams has a passion for a number of legislative issues including voting rights, reproductive justice, social justice, economic justice and healthcare—her work addresses delivering on the promise of America for all.

Congresswoman Williams has a history of advancing the issues that matter to Georgians and underserved people across the country, regardless of their bank account or ZIP code. Before her congressional service, Congresswoman Williams served in the Georgia State Senate. As a State Senator, Williams got in the "Good Trouble" Congressman Lewis spoke about. In the wake of the disastrous 2018 Georgia elections, marked with rampant voter suppression, she was arrested at the Georgia State Capitol while peacefully protesting with her constituents, demanding that every vote be counted.

In addition to fighting for voting rights and racial justice, Congresswoman Williams has never wavered in her conviction that every woman should have bodily autonomy and control their personal health care decisions. Prior to her service in Congress, Williams was Vice President of Public Policy at Planned Parenthood Southeast. During Congresswoman Williams tenure with PPSE, not a single, major piece of anti-choice legislation was passed in Alabama, Georgia, or Mississippi.

Her desire to enhance the lives of working families led Congresswoman Williams to serve as Deputy Director at National Domestic Workers Alliance, the country's leading organization for domestic workers, and Deputy Executive Director at Care in Action, the advocacy and political arm of NDWA.

Congresswoman Williams was born in Columbus, GA and raised by her grandparents in Smiths Station, Alabama. She attended Talladega College – a liberal arts Historically Black College (HBCU) in Talladega, Alabama – where she was initiated into Chi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

Congresswoman Williams has been recognized as one of Georgia Trend magazine's 100 Most Influential Georgians, Forty under Forty, Power 30 Under 30, Outstanding Atlanta, and Who's Who in Black Atlanta. As State Senator, she received the Freshman Legislator of the Year award from the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus and the 2020 Pinnacle Leadership Award from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Recently, she was awarded the ACLU of Georgia's Dare to Create – Liberty Award.

Congresswoman Williams and her husband, Leslie Small, reside in Atlanta with their son, Carter.