

**Senator Don Balfour** *Senate District 9* 

**Senator Don Balfour** of Snellville was first elected to the Georgia Senate by Gwinnett County in 1992 and has served consecutively for 21 years. He is the longest serving Republican in the State Senate.

Senator Balfour chairs the Reapportionment and Redistricting committee. In addition, he serves on the Appropriations, Health and Human Services, Redistricting, and Banking and Financial Institutions Committees.

He is an executive with Waffle House, Inc., and has worked for them for more than 25 years. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

Senator Balfour was elected President of the National Conference of State Legislatures in 2009, the premier state legislative organization. He was the first legislator from Georgia to hold the position of NCSL President since it was founded in 1975.

Senator Balfour serves on the Council of State Governments, the Southern Legislative Conference, and the Republican Legislative Campaign Committee. He is also a member of the American Legislative Exchange Council.

In 2000, Senator Balfour passed a bill that froze property tax values for Gwinnett County homeowners, eliminating backdoor property tax increases. It has been estimated to have saved citizens of Gwinnett County more than \$1.2 billion since it went into effect.

In 2005, he led the fight to pass one of the strongest eminent domain laws in the nation to protect property owners.

Over the past few years, Senator Balfour has worked to strengthen laws against illegal immigrants in Georgia. Today, Georgia has some of the strongest immigration laws in the nation.

Senator Balfour is a graduate of Bob Jones University with a Bachelors of Science in Accounting and Fairleigh Dickson University with a Masters of Business Administration. He and his wife, Ginny, are the proud parents of Trey, who is currently serving in the Georgia National Guard and did a tour of duty in Afghanistan. They attend Grace Fellowship Church in Snellville.

