



**Senator John Wilkinson**  
*Senate District 50*

Senator John Wilkinson, a Republican from Toccoa, was first elected to the State Senate for Georgia's 50th District during a special election in 2011 and has been reelected to serve in three subsequent elections. Senator Wilkinson represents Banks, Franklin, Habersham, Rabun, Towns, Stephens and portions of Hall and Jackson counties.

In 2014, Senator Wilkinson was elected by his colleagues to serve as the Majority Caucus Secretary. He also serves as the Chairman of the Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee and as Vice-Chairman of the Education and Youth Committee. In addition, Senator Wilkinson is a member of the Committee on Assignments and the Administrative Affairs Committee. He is also a member of the Appropriations and Natural Resources and the Environment Committees. Senator Wilkinson is an Ex-Officio member of the Rules Committee and was appointed to serve on the COPS Task Force in 2017.

In October 2017, the Peace Officers Association of Georgia (POAG) awarded Sen. Wilkinson with an honorary lifetime membership for his dedication to public safety and support of officers across Georgia. Recently, Senator Wilkinson received an "A+" rating on the Georgia Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Scorecard for the 2018 Legislative Session. In 2015, Senator Wilkinson was awarded the ACCG Legislative Service Award and the Award for Legislative Advocacy by the Association County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council (GHRAC), respectively. He was also named "Policy Maker of the Year" by the Georgia Association for Career and Technical Education in 2012.

In July 2017, he was presented the Outstanding Service Award by the Georgia Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association (GVATA) and was later named the Region V national award winner by the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE). The University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences honored Senator Wilkinson with an Award of Excellence in 2009. In addition, he is a member of the Georgia Agricultural Education Hall of Fame and was recognized as the Outstanding Member of the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education in 2006.

Senator Wilkinson's government experience extends to his previous career as a program manager at the Georgia Department of Education, where he oversaw the state's agricultural education programs. He also worked as the executive secretary for the Georgia FFA Association.

He received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Masters in Education at the University of Georgia. He and his wife, Debbie, have been married for forty years. They have two adult children and five grandchildren. The Wilkinsons attend Tates Creek Baptist Church, where Sen. Wilkinson serves as a Deacon.



*May 2018—Senate Press Office*