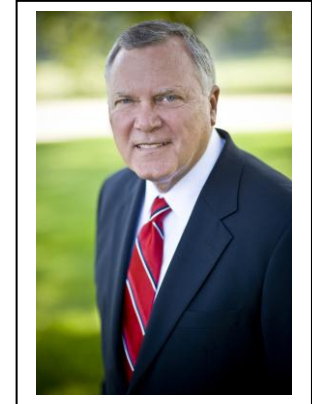


2010 candidate questionnaire

NAME: Nathan Deal

PARTY: Republican

SEEKING: Governor



Why are you seeking your office?

Georgia faces its most trying time in the modern era, and I have the experience, vision and credentials needed to lead this state through rough waters. I'm the only candidate who served this nation in uniform; in addition to running small businesses, I have served Georgia at the local, state and federal level as a prosecutor, judge, state senator and congressman. I'm seeking this office because I have a passion for serving the people of Georgia, and I want to go right to work creating jobs and a better future for families.

What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I want people to know: We mean business here in Georgia. I will transform Georgia into the most attractive state in the Southeast for businesses to start or relocate, by Georgia cutting taxes to give us an edge over surrounding states and by serving as this state's chief ambassador and salesman. I want to improve our east-west transportation routes, particularly focusing on cross-state routes (such as the Fall Line Freeway) south of Atlanta to reduce truck traffic in the metro area. As a longtime leader on immigration reform, I'd also work for an Arizona-like immigration law.

What distinguishes your candidacy?

I'm a native Georgian and a graduate of a Georgia high school and university who served our nation in uniform. I'm the only candidate who has served Georgians at the local, state and federal levels. Another thing that distinguishes me is my expertise in health care as the former chair of the Health Care Subcommittee in the House – and a chief opponent of Obamacare. The next governor will deal with Obamacare's repercussions and no one in this field in either party comes close to my experience and background on this critical issue.

What are the key issues in your race?

Our state budget has shrunk from \$21 billion to \$15 billion. The next governor will face quite possibly the most challenging fiscal environment of any governor serving this state. We need tax reform to attract new jobs and get our economy humming. We need zero-based budgeting to maximize funding for our top priorities. We need to prioritize as best we can our funding for education, transportation, health care and public safety. I will seek to make Georgia a leader in the biotechnology field and in boosting energy independence by using resources such as our vast pine tree forests.

Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

Creating jobs. Period. No other issue comes close to its importance to Georgians in these tough times. I will actively recruit businesses in the medical technology fields, particularly those in high-tax, high-regulation states such as California, New Jersey and Massachusetts. I will lower the corporate tax and give a grace period on taxes to new business. Georgia's diverse population and business-friendly climate combined with our strong health care infrastructure make Georgia an ideal location to relocate or start a business. Also, the Wounded Warriors program is coming to Fort Gordon, which will attract new research and innovation.

Quick summary of background

A native of Sandersville, Ga., I'm the son of public school teachers and husband of a public school teacher. I am a graduate of Mercer law school, and I served in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of captain. My wife and I started our family in Gainesville. I owned a law practice and served as a prosecutor, judge, state senator and U.S. congressman. In the Senate, I chaired the Judiciary Committee and served as pro tem. In the House, I chaired the Health Subcommittee on Energy and Commerce. My wife and I have four adult children and six grandchildren.