

NAME: Dean Heard
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: Georgia House District 94



Why are you seeking office?

I'm in this competition for public office because too many of my neighbors, colleagues and friends who like me, grew up in this community, feel that current elected leadership is absent from our concerns. Not just disconnected – but absent. I'm running because the good people of this district and this community need visionary direction, accountability and strong leadership on a higher level than just personal popularity and longevity in office. I'm running to bring new energy to the job and visible results home to our people.

What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

If elected I will work to sponsor a new bill every new session as a direct result of feedback from constituents during interactions with them throughout the year. Initially, I will push legislation to support seniors in their choice to continue living in their homes as they age and protect seniors from tax hikes as neighborhood property values increase. I will force a working connection between education systems and workforce development agencies for more open access to better job placement options and visible results. I will push legislation to force coordination of all agencies to get rid of our obvious (100)

What distinguishes your candidacy?

My candidacy is already distinguished by my energy and presence throughout the entire district, including remote areas in Gwinnett county. As I canvass each and every precinct area in this voting district, too many regular voters are not aware of the incumbent or how the incumbent's work has advantaged them. Unfortunately, this is especially true of areas in Gwinnett County. My candidacy is distinguishable in the same ways as what shall distinguish my work in office: I'll make sure that you see evidence of my hard work for you – every step of the way. The most effective leadership for our (100)

How can we improve school safety?

Parents and communities are in need of the kind of leadership that does not lay dormant until catastrophe happens – then they react. We should be energetic in pushing for single entry access at every school, fortified with state-of-the-art metal and chemical scanners and detection devices. School grounds should also be

equipped with surveillance technology that links real time with local law enforcement. Bipartisan funding to accelerate such measures should be a priority.

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

Especially in DeKalb County, businesses packing up and leaving without notice to the community has become somewhat of an out of control phenomenon. I will push legislation and lead cooperative activism to force major merchandisers to openly plan along with local communities, any expansion of business as well as any probability of business location closings. Such legislation could be a "Commerce for Community Investment Act." It would require major merchandisers and industries seeking licensing and other considerations from the state, to conform to tailored planning partnerships with local governments and communities to implement similar commercial development in other needy sections (100)

Please give a 100-word summary on your background.

Dean earned an Associate's Degree in Radiology from Emory University and a Bachelor's Degree in Biological Science at Georgia State. Dean later earned a Master's Degree as a Medical Physicist at Emory. He completed Georgia Tech's certification program which prepared him to become the first minority contractor in the state, installing and consulting the use of diagnostic imaging systems.

Dean continues to be involved with American Scientific Technology as an owner, broker and consultant for Major Medical Imaging Equipment in the delivery of Diagnostic Imaging Services to underserved communities throughout the United States, as well as overseas with Americans' Medical Team