NAME: Gloria Butler PARTY: Democratic

**SEEKING: Georgia Senate, District 55** 

## Why are you seeking your office?

I am seeking re-election because I believe I have made a great impact in the State Senate. I have the courage to speak out on the tough issues and have established myself as a respected and trustworthy legislator. "My votes and my out-spokenness prove that I am an advocate for Women's rights, and a fighter for children that deserve a quality education. I support raising the minimum wage to \$15.00 and advocate for equal pay for women.

## What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

When I am re-elected I will continue to support legislation that will increase access to the ballot box by eliminating hurdles to voting. Continue to focus on building strong families; creating an educated workforce; and stand up for working families who are struggling to pay their mortgage, buy health insurance and put food on their tables. Re-introduced my bill to require companies that receive special tax subsidies to create jobs, hire, and retain people for those jobs.

# What distinguishes your candidacy?

20 years of experience, highest ranking female in the Senate, # 3 in seniority, served 12 years as Deputy Whip, presently serving as Chair of Fundraising. Passed legislation that seeks to protect students from losing their ability to take advantage of state financial aid at Herzing University. Herzing transition from a for profit institution to a not for profit. Passed legislation that prohibits insurance companies from denying coverage of asthma inhalers. Passed the "Kellen Edwin Bollen Act" which allows children suffering from Asthma to administer medication on their own while at school.

### How can we improve school safety?

Recent incidents have caused legislatures across the country to take action in relation to school safety. We can address school resource officers regulations and training, developing and requiring funding for emergency and safety drills to prepare students that might face harmful situations, and strengthening building security such as metal detectors.

I will first introduce a study committee to look at the creation of a Earned Income Tax Credit(EITC) for Georgia, modeled after the federal EITC that will benefit low income families and workers. The EITC creates tax credits based on income. Introduce a bill to create the EITC.

# Please give a 100 word summary on your background

#### 2018 GwinnettForum Candidate Questionnaire

Born and raised in Daytona Beach, FL, moved to GA in 1977. Mother of two daughters, Felicia and Leslie, grandmother of two, grandson Corey, granddaughter Courtney, and eight great-grand children. Attended college at Florida A & M University, Bethune Cookman University and after moving to Georgia, received an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Perimeter College. Employment: Emory University, Washington, DC Congressional Office of Cynthia McKinney, 1996 Olympic Games, and the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office. Elected to State Senate in 1998.