

**NAME: Rebecca Mitchell**  
**PARTY: Democratic**  
**SEEKING: House District 106**

**1. Why are you seeking your office?**

I'm honored to serve you as the current State Representative for District 106. Together, we've made progress towards our goals of a stronger, more equitable Georgia —from strengthening our public schools to keeping Georgians safe from COVID-19 to improvements in healthcare affordability and criminal justice reform.

But the work we started together is far from done — I'm committed to being the hard-working, successful legislator who listens to your concerns, advocates tenaciously, and legislates responsibly with Snellville's needs always at the heart of my work.

**2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

In a nutshell, I will continue my work towards advancing the following goals in these top issues:

Healthcare: fully expand Medicaid, lower healthcare costs, improve health outcomes for all Georgians, and protect reproductive healthcare.

Voting rights: repeal recent voter suppression laws and make it easier for citizens to vote.

Education: fully fund preK-12 public education, prevent increased vouchers/waivers, retain high quality educators, and ensure honest and complete instruction in our classrooms.

Public Safety: implement common-sense gun safety measures, strengthen public health resources, and modernize criminal justice.

**3. What distinguishes your candidacy?**

We need to keep expert, effective and engaged leaders representing us. And I am that candidate. From my deep understanding of public policy, my record reflects the know-how to effectively create responsible legislation and how to defend against bad bills, even in the minority party.

I've been heavily engaged in the Snellville community outside of the Capitol too. From navigating the COVID-19 pandemic to helping with unemployment requests and championing our local causes, I've been with you through thick and thin the last two years. I'll never quit on providing you the representation you deserve.

**4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

Parents are concerned about the growing class sizes in our public schools. This problem is just one result from our decades-long drain on public school fundings to private and charter schools. That's why I authored bills to limit schools' ability to increase class size or waive other requirements, provide guardrails on for-profit school takeovers of non-performing schools, and I am working towards removing conflicting standards between charter, public and private schools. I was honored to receive leadership awards from the Georgia Educators Association in 2021 and 2022 for my efforts. I will continue to lead on this issue if re-elected.

### **5. What are your ideas on curbing all the many area-wide shooting?**

A list of some of my favorite ideas:

1. Reduce easy access to weapons and promote a gun safety culture; enact gun safety laws.
2. Recognize gun violence as a public health crisis and make violence prevention a priority through our healthcare system.
3. Develop and invest in community-based intervention strategies.
4. Expand access to mental health support and address the impact of trauma on individuals and communities.
5. Provide the CDC and other agencies with funding for gun violence research and allow for science-based recommendations.
6. Address social inequalities, including poverty, racism, sexism, oppression.
7. Provide accountability and training (100).

### **6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background**

Prior to serving you at the State House, I spent 15 years as an epidemiologist focused on infectious disease research that helps drive positive changes in our public health policy. Most recently, I was a Visiting Assistant Professor at Emory University, and before that I was a Fellow at the CDC. My research has informed our understanding of vaccines and other interventions, advanced diagnostic testing development, and shaped public health detection and prevention strategies of infectious diseases. In addition, my husband and I are proud parents to four young children, including twins!