

NAME: Sam Park
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: House District 107

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I am running for my 4th term in the Georgia House of Representatives to empower Georgia voters and build a new majority in the People's House that reflects the will of the people. I will continue the work to strengthen our Democracy and the right to vote; expand Medicaid to increase access to healthcare; fully invest in public education from Pre-K to higher education; address the affordable housing challenge; and work to expand economic opportunities for all Georgians to pursue their American Dream and thrive.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I expect to make progress on all the issues I have discussed. While it has been challenging serving in the minority party, over the past six years, I have been successful in finding common ground and making incremental progress on various issues including healthcare matters such as expanding Medicaid coverage for pregnant mothers and passing good legislation to help end the HIV epidemic. I will also stand and fight back against legislation that may undermine local control, harm those I serve such as efforts to put more guns on our streets, and efforts to discriminate against vulnerable, minority communities.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

As an experienced legislator and nonprofit attorney, I have the knowledge, skills, and passion to serve my constituents and district. As Chair of the Gwinnett State House during redistricting, I worked in an inclusive and transparent manner to build a diverse coalition, and demonstrated fearless resolve to fight partisan power grabs. As Deputy Whip, I fought bad legislation such as efforts to loosen gun safety laws and undermine the right to vote, and successfully passed bipartisan legislation on issues that touch upon healthcare and the economy.

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

If re-elected, I will continue to work on addressing Georgia's healthcare challenges because that remains one of our biggest unmet needs. Medicaid expansion remains good public policy, as demonstrated in 38 other states. Covering our uninsured population would reduce billions in uncompensated healthcare costs that have forced many hospitals in Georgia to close, and expand access to preventative care that will improve health outcomes in a fiscally responsible manner. Medicaid expansion would also strengthen our

public health system; and help Georgia end its HIV epidemic or decrease new HIV diagnoses by 90% by 2030.

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

There are many common sense gun safety laws that we can enact to reduce gun violence and take meaningful steps to end the epidemic of gun violence. I support universal backgrounds and closing any loopholes that make it easier for criminals to carry loaded weapons in our communities. I also introduced legislation to implement a waiting period before you can purchase a gun. This provides additional time to perform an accurate background check and create a “cooling off” period, which has been shown to decrease acts of violence and suicide attempts.

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background

Representative Sam Park is the first Asian American Democrat and the first openly gay man elected to the Georgia State Legislature. He is the grandson of refugees from the Korean War and son of Korean immigrants. Sam was born and raised in Georgia, and became the first lawyer in his family. Sam serves as Chair of the Gwinnett State House Delegation, and on the Boards of the Community Foundation of Northeast Georgia and the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce. In his professional capacity, Sam serves as General Counsel for a nonprofit health center, Positive Impact Health Centers.