

NAME: Kim Jackson
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: Ga. Senate District 42

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I am running for Senate because I want to ensure that every Georgian has the opportunity to thrive. I know that if we work together, we can make a safer, fairer, and more prosperous Georgia for all.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

In my first term, I defended our voting rights against relentless attacks; authored life-saving legislation for stalking victims (SB 75 "Lease Release") which was enacted into law; secured unprecedented funds for Black farmers; started serving as the founding co-chair of the Mental Health Policy Caucus and earned an appointment to the Georgia Commission on Family Violence. I plan to continue working legislation that moves us towards a more prosperous and just Georgia.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I grew up in rural South Carolina and watched my parents model what it means to serve the community at large. My dad was a social worker for more than 30 years, including for Child Protective Services and from him, I learned the importance of advocating for the vulnerable and neglected. My mom, a retired nurse and a professor of nursing, served as a community nurse for economically disadvantaged families living with Sickle Cell Disease. From her, I learned the importance of expanding access to quality early childhood education and health care. These experiences shape my consistent work towards improving (100).

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

Affordable housing and homelessness.

I recently participated in a Senate Study Committee investigating the impacts and possible solutions for unhoused individuals across Georgia. Increasing costs of living with minimal increases in wages have proven to be detrimental to our communities. Home and food insecurity have far-reaching impacts on mental health, education, and job opportunities. Continuing to participate, propose, and support legislation while leading discussions to promote socio-economic growth and development are all ways I work to advocate for my constituents and communities.

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

We need sensible gun control legislation. We also must repeal the permit-less carry bill that Gov. Kemp signed into law this year. This is not to say that all guns need to be taken from those who can be trusted to be responsible with them. We do, however, need comprehensive background checks, mental health requirements, and community safety programs and training offerings. It is currently far too easy for those who should not have access to acquire weapons that should not be on our streets or in our **schools.**

6. Give a 100-word summary on your background.

I am an Episcopal priest from the rural South who made Georgia my home well over a decade ago. I serve as Senator for Georgia State Senate District 41, representing portions of DeKalb and Gwinnett counties. As the Vicar of the Church of the Common Ground, I co-create church with people who are experiencing homelessness in downtown Atlanta. Over the past 12 years of ministry, I have served as a college chaplain, consultant, and parish priest. I work to bring the diverse voices of my district to the Capitol: immigrants, refugees, and people living on the margins.