



2020 Georgia State House & Senate Candidate Questionnaire

Senator John Albers

Background Information

Education: Senator Albers earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Leadership from the University of Louisville. Albers also graduated from the University of Georgia, Legislative Leadership Institute and the Cybersecurity program at Harvard University.

Where is home? Roswell, GA

Do you currently hold a public office? If so, how long have you held your current office? Georgia Senator – District 56 (since 2011)

Past public offices held: N/A

Additional background information you'd like to share:

I grew up in a farming community, my Mom worked in the office for a local farm and I showed cows at our annual agriculture fair. I have worked very closely with our Ag Committee, Department of Ag and the Governor to help our farmers. This is our largest and most important industry in Georgia!

Georgia in General

Briefly share your qualifications for the office.

I have represented the 56th District, which includes portions of Fulton and Cherokee County for 10 years. I serve as chairman of the Public Safety committee and the vice chairman the Finance committee and member of the Rules, Appropriations, Veterans, Military and Homeland Security, and Regulated Industry committees. I am also a member of the Senate leadership serving as the Chief Deputy Whip. I am a



small business owner and executive and serve on numerous boards of companies and charities.

Please indicate the reasons you are seeking election and your priorities, overarching policy interests, and any solutions for district-specific challenges.

Georgia is the best place to do business and we need to keep moving forward. We still have too many regulations and need less taxes. We need to support our small businesses and families.

Agriculture & Rural Georgia

What do you think are the three greatest issues facing Georgia agriculture?

We need funding (tax exemption and business loans/grants) especially for those impacted by Hurricane Michael. High speed broadband is necessary for innovation in farming. Lastly, fully funding the department of Ag.

What is your position on the Conservation Use Value Assessment (CUVA) for property taxes and the Georgia Agriculture Tax Exemption (GATE) program for exemption from sales tax for input costs? Do you support these programs? Do you believe any changes to the programs are necessary? If so, what and why?

Yes and I have support CUVA my entire time in office. I added exceptions for weddings, rodeo's, etc.

House Bill 545, also known as the Right to Farm Bill, was supported by all of the major agricultural organizations in the state throughout the 2019-2020 Legislative Biennium. Does traditional agriculture and our state's right to farm laws deserve protection, and what role do you think the State should play in such protections?

Yes and I hope we can get a good bill passed in 2021.

Animal agriculture is a significant part of Georgia's economy. Animal rights groups are enacting laws around the country to regulate animal husbandry practices. Do



you support the laws being enacted, which posture animal rights equal to human rights, or do you see these laws as threats to Georgia's agriculture interests?

I am very concerned about these groups and we need to leave farming to our farmers whether it is animals or crops!