



**Senator Tonya P. Anderson**  
*Senate District 43*

Enthusiastic, strong, motivated, visionary are just a few powerful words to describe **Senator Tonya P. Anderson**. Sen. Anderson was first elected to the Georgia State Senate to represent Georgia's 43rd Senate District in 2016. Her district includes parts of DeKalb, Rockdale, and Newton counties.

She began her elected public service as a City Councilmember for the city of Lithonia from 2006-2008, then as Mayor from 2008 to 2011. Sen. Anderson then went on to serve as a State Representative for House District 92.

Sen. Anderson currently serves as the Chair of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus (GLBC) and as Secretary of the Senate Special Judiciary Committee. She is also a member of the Senate Economic Development and Tourism, Regulated Industries and Utilities, Reapportionment and Redistricting, MARTOC, and Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security Committees.

Sen. Anderson retired in 2012 from the United States Air Force Reserve after more than 21 honorable years of service and continues to volunteer and advocate for veterans' services. In addition, she volunteers in the community through local senior centers, The National Council of Negro Women, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Junior League and United Way VIP as well as several non-profit boards. As a former board member, she continues to serve as a volunteer for the DeKalb County Board of Health through the Live Healthy DeKalb Initiative.

Sen. Anderson is the recipient of numerous awards over the years by many world renowned organizations including the National Disabled American Veterans, Women Veteran's Social Justice, awarded the Woman of Excellence Award by The National Foundation of Women Legislators; and awarded The Who's Who in Black Atlanta award.

During the 2020 legislative session, Sen. Anderson authored and championed a criminal justice reform bill—Senate Bill 288. This bill allows for the restriction and sealing of criminal records of most misdemeanor convictions. Previously in Georgia, any criminal record stays on record for life. SB 288 affects 4.3 million Georgians and will create additional opportunities for employment, housing and education. SB 288 went into effect January 1, 2021.

Sen. Anderson is an ordained minister and is very active in her church. She holds a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management from Alabama State University as well as a Masters of Divinity from Luther Rice University. In April 2018, she earned a Humanitarian honorary doctorate degree from The Global International Alliance. Currently, she is pursuing another business degree.

