

SENATOR SONYA HALPERN

GEORGIA'S 39TH SENATE DISTRICT

Sen. Sonya Halpern, a Democrat representing Georgia's 39th Senate District in Fulton County, was elected to the Georgia State Senate in 2020. A passionate leader, Sen. Halpern blends business and political acumen with a heart for community service. She serves as Vice Chair of the Senate Democratic Caucus and Chair of the Fulton County Senate Delegation.



As a strong advocate for public education, Sen. Halpern has been instrumental in championing initiatives to enhance Georgia's educational and economic landscape. She serves as Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Urban Affairs and Chair of the Senate Study Committee on HBCUs. Additionally, she is an active member of the Education and Youth Committee, underscoring her dedication to shaping policies that promote educational excellence and equity. Her comprehensive approach to legislative work is evident in her roles on the Appropriations, Banking and Financial Institutions, and Health and Human Services committees. As an Ex-Officio member of the Public Safety Committee, she contributes to critical discussions on safety and security.

Sen. Halpern also co-chairs the General Assembly Working Group on Addiction and Recovery and the Georgia-Israel Legislative Caucus. She is an active member of various influential caucuses, including the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, Women's Legislative Caucus, and Working Families Caucus. These roles reflect her broad ability to address key societal challenges while advocating for underrepresented groups.

Sen. Halpern's engagement with the community extends beyond politics. Her involvement with the Andrew J. Young Foundation and the YMCA of Metro Atlanta highlights her passion for civic responsibility. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Massachusetts and an MBA from the University of Hartford, complementing her professional background in communications, advertising, and marketing.

In 2019, Sen. Halpern founded Whiskey in a Teacup, a cultural consultancy and communications firm. Her achievements include being named YMCA's Volunteer of the Year, a "Woman of Achievement" by the YWCA of Greater Atlanta, and being featured on the "Top 100 Black Women of Influence" list by the Atlanta Business League. She has also received the "Nikki T. Randall Servant Leadership Award" from the Georgia Legislative Women's Caucus and the "Sandra Anderson Bacchus Legacy Award" from the National Black Arts Festival.

Sen. Halpern resides in Atlanta with her husband and their three children.

