



**Rep. Alvin Payton, Jr.
District 32**

Biography

Dr. Alvin Payton, Jr. was elected on June 9, 2026, in a special election runoff to complete the term of Dexter Sharper as state representative for House District 177. Rep. Payton is not new to elected service. He served on the Valdosta City Council for twelve years. He spent ten of those years as mayor pro tempore, a position selected by his fellow council members and the mayor. Rep. Payton follows in his father's, Alvin Payton, Sr., footsteps, of civic engagement as Payton, Sr. was the first African American elected to the Lowndes County Commission.

Rep. Payton was born in Valdosta, Georgia and is a graduate of Valdosta High School. He was captain of the 1971 state and national champions Wildcat football team. His mother engrained in him the importance of education. He is a graduate of Northeastern State University with a degree in Business Administration and Management. He is also a graduate of Valdosta State University, with a master and doctorate degrees in Public Administration. After his retirement from Wiregrass Georgia Technical College, he earned applied science degrees in Horticulture and Culinary Arts. While on Valdosta City Council, Rep. Payton obtained the highest level of training provided by Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), a certificate of dedication.

Rep. Payton has years of experience in corporate management, entrepreneurship, education and administration. He was a manager for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and general manager for Payton Floor Service/Covering, a family business his mother and father had for fifty-five years. While employed at Valdosta Technical College, which later became Wiregrass Georgia Technical College, Rep. Payton was a full-time GED instructor, director of Adult Education, vice president of Adult Education Services and retired as vice president of Minority Recruitment and Community Affairs.

He is a member of the Payton African Methodist Episcopal Church, life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., life member of the Sons of Amvets, life member of the United States Tennis Association, past president of Azalea City Kiwanis Club, served on the Board of Directors for the YMCA, member of the Valdosta Lowndes Park and Recreation Authority, past member of Valdosta Teachers' Credit Union Supervisory Committee and past member of the Regional Library Board.

Rep. Payton has been married for 49 years to his college sweetheart, Lynda. They have a son, Alvin III, a daughter, Ciera, and a daughter-in-law, Bebe. He also has two grandsons, Alvin IV and Avery.

A few words to describe Rep. Payton are integrity, stability, experience, leadership, entrepreneur, businessman, educator, administrator, concerned citizen and retired!