



Rep. Dave Belton
R- 112

Biography

Dave Belton was born in the Philippine Islands during the Vietnam War. As his father was career submarine officer and Dave served in the military for over 20 years, he's lived in fifteen places in four different countries.

Dave earned a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of Oklahoma in 1986. He then became a Naval Aviator, fighting in the Lebanese Civil War, the Liberian Civil War, the Persian Gulf War, Operation Provide Comfort, and the Bosnian conflict. He's flown almost 14,000 hours in fifteen different aircraft, and was Instructor of The Year and Chief of Naval Training Master Training Specialist in 1994. He's flown missions for President George H. W. Bush, Vice President Dan Quayle, and Secretary of State James Baker. He was decorated over twenty times, and retired from the United States Air Force Reserves at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. He's currently a Captain for Delta Air Lines where he's responsible for 200 people in an Airbus 320 series jet airplane.

Dave had the privilege of serving on the Morgan County School Board for 8 years. Prior to that, he served as PTO Treasurer and Secretary, and Band Booster President for many years. During his tenure, the amazing teachers of Morgan County won many awards, including *Best PTO in the Nation*, Best Principal in the Nation, and Best Assistant Principal in Georgia among countless others. More importantly, these teacher professionals earned the top 8% county graduation rate in Georgia twice, as well as the top 5% School District in Georgia, the 10th best system in Georgia, and the best Charter System in Georgia.

When a student died in a texting-while-driving incident, the slain boy's mother asked Dave to campaign for a law to prevent further tragedies. Dave took that challenge, lobbying state legislators for four months. On the day of the vote, Dave enlisted the help of twenty high school students along with local television channels to highlight the need for this law. Due to their combined efforts, "Caleb's Law" was passed in Georgia. Dave and Caleb's family were honored by the Governor for their important work.

Dave became the first Morgan County resident in 30 years to be elected to the General Assembly when he won three House District 112 races in 2014. He passed "Kelsey's Law" his first Session, a measure that protects teenage girls from having their personal information or facial image put on a pornographic website. Since then, he's passed several education bills, one which was honored by the *ExcelinEd* National Summit.

As Chairman of Military Affairs, Dave inspired the passage of 23 new laws to help our military service members and their families. He also led the formation of the new Georgia Defense Commission to protect our state from a possible BRAC.

Dave is the author of four teen novels based on Greek mythology. *The Divine Masquerade Series* champions literacy, female empowerment, and Christian values. He talks about mythology at schools upon request.

Dave was very fortunate to marry Theresa Johnson Belton from Charleston, South Carolina. They've been married over twenty seven years and have three children. Daniela graduated with High Honors From UGA and is working for the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. Caitlin is a high school teacher. Young David is in high school.

Dave plays banjo with the Buckhead Bluegrass Boys. He enjoys water skiing on Lake Oconee and traveling. He sings in musical plays and is very involved in his church. He is also the pilot leader of a group of Delta employees who provide for an 800 children Christian orphanage in Peru. The "Caring Crew" is one of Delta's "Force for Global Good" charities.

Rep. Belton is the Chairman of the Special Rules committee as well as the Chairman for the Education Subcommittee of Academic Innovation.