



**Rep. Pat Gardner  
D-57**

### Biography

Pat Gardner was first elected to the House in a 2001 special election. Representative Gardner is currently serving on the Appropriations Committee, Health Subcommittee of Appropriations, Ethics, Higher Education, Natural Resources and the Environment and the Transportation Committee. She is Secretary of the House Minority Caucus, chairs the City of Atlanta Delegation, and is Treasurer of the Working Families Caucus.

An advocate for universal access to health care, Pat has initiated efforts to make the current Medicaid system available to every Georgia family. As a longtime advocate for integration of mental health into the health care system of care, she recently chaired a study committee of the Fulton Delegation looking into the coordination of mental health care in that county.

She received commendations from the Georgia Conservation Voters, the Georgia Network of Mental Health Consumers, the National Mental Health Association, the Breast Cancer Coalition, All About Developmental Disabilities, and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. The Women's Policy Group awarded Pat their legislative award in 2004.

Gardner was the Executive Director of the Georgia Psychological Association for nearly 30 years and has been a tireless advocate for mental health services. As a Certified Association Executive (CAE), she has worked in leadership positions with the Georgia Association of Association Executives and as President of the American Psychological Association's Council of State Executives. Her interest in international affairs comes from living and travelling abroad and teaching Spanish for a number of years.