



Rep. B.J. Pak
R-108

Biography

In November 2010, B.J. was elected into the Georgia General Assembly from House District 108 (formerly 102), which encompasses the City of Lilburn, and unincorporated areas of Lilburn, Mountain Park, Norcross, Lawrenceville, and Stone Mountain. He is a former federal prosecutor whose family immigrated to the US when he was 9 years old. He is the first American of Korean descent to be elected into the Georgia General Assembly. As State Representative, B.J. currently serves as a Deputy Majority Whip, as the Vice Chair of the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee, as Secretary of the Code Revision Committee, and as a member of the Health and Human Services Committee. He is also a member of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, where he serves as the Vice Chairman of the Income Tax subcommittee, and as a member of the Sales & Use Tax, and Public Finance and Policy subcommittees.

He also serves on Governor Nathan Deal's Judicial Nominating Commission, and the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform. Speaker David Ralston appointed B.J. to serve on the Public Defender Standards Council Legislative Oversight Committee and on the National Conference of State Legislators' Law and Criminal Justice Committee.

B.J. has been honored with numerous awards throughout his political career. He was named as one of Georgia's Most Influential Legislators by *James Magazine*, as a "Georgia Rising Star" by Political Commentator Chuck Todd -- the host of "The Daily Rundown" on MSNBC, as a Defender of Liberty by the American Conservative Union, and as a Business Champion by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. *Georgia Trend Magazine* named B.J. as one of "40 under 40: Georgia's Best and the Brightest," and *Georgia Asian Times* has consistently listed him among the 25 Most Influential Asian Americans in Georgia.

Professionally, B.J. is listed in the prestigious *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*; as a "Georgia Super Lawyer" in the area of Litigation: White Collar Defense by *Atlanta Magazine*, and named to The Legal 500 US for litigation. He was recognized as one of the Best Lawyers Under 40 by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association; and as one of "13 Georgia Lawyers Under 40 to Watch" by the *Fulton County Daily Report*. In 2006, Mr. Pak was awarded the Regional Award for the Organized Crime Drug Task Force Case of the Year for his work in dismantling a major Mexican cocaine trafficking organization operating in Texas, Georgia, and Tennessee. In 2007, Mr. Pak was awarded the Crime Victim Rights Award for his outstanding advocacy on behalf of crime victims.

He earned his Juris Doctorate, *summa cum laude*, and Order of the Coif, from the University of Illinois College of Law, where he was a Harno Scholar, served as the Notes Editor for the Recent Decisions Section of the Illinois Bar Journal, and as a member of the Elder Law Journal. In 2013, he was named "Distinguished Alumnus of the Year" by his law school. Upon graduating from law school, he then went on to clerk for the Honorable Richard Mills, United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois. He is a graduate of Stetson University in DeLand, FL, where he was a

Florida Academic Scholar, a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa, and was on the Interfraternity Council.

B.J. is a registered Certified Public Accountant, and a Litigation Partner with the national law firm of Ballard Spahr LLP, where he works to assist his clients (ranging from small business owners to Fortune 500 Corporations) solve complex business, regulatory, and criminal issues.

BJ and his wife, Sandra, have three daughters and reside in Gwinnett County, Georgia. The Paks are members of the St. John Neumann Catholic Church, in Lilburn, Georgia.