



**Rep. Tom Taylor**  
**R-79**

### Biography

Tom Taylor represents Georgia House District 79, which includes the entire City of Dunwoody, part of Chamblee, and part of Doraville in North DeKalb County. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 2010. He is currently serving as the Chairman on the MARTOC Committee. He also serves as a member of the Economic Development & Tourism, Governmental Affairs, and Regulated Industries committees and the Appropriations Human Resources subcommittee. In addition to these standing committees, he also serves as the sole Legislative appointee to the MARTA Ethics Board and is a member of the Georgia Based Film Production & Post Production Study Committee.

Tom serves informally as a Legislative outreach person to the diplomatic corps of the 79 foreign consulates and missions in Atlanta for the purpose of promoting trade and cultural relations between Georgia and these countries. Since 2011, he has hosted over a dozen foreign delegations at the Georgia Capitol, up to and including at the ambassadorial level. Tom was also selected for two overseas trade / legislative exchange delegations, to Taiwan in 2011 and was the senior member and delegation leader to Turkey in 2013.

Following Tom's first year (2011) in the General Assembly, the Georgia Chamber of Commerce honored Tom by declaring him "Rookie Legislator of the Year" for his support of pro-business, pro-free market principles.

In 2008 Tom was elected to Dunwoody's initial City Council and was instrumental in the successful startup of the new government. Prior to his elected service in Dunwoody, Tom served as Vice President and then President of Citizens for Dunwoody, Inc. and was a founding board member of that organization. Tom was a driving force in that organization and provided leadership for many key endeavors, including the legislative process and incorporation effort where he set the political strategy and formed and served as President of the Dunwoody Action Committee PAC. He led multiple initiatives during the city's planning and implementation process, including serving as Chairman of the Police Task Force.

Tom's proudest accomplishment as he left city government for the State House was that the new city of Dunwoody had improved service delivery and responsiveness exponentially without raising a single tax or fee. The ultimate evidence attesting that conservative local governance is successfully serving the people of Dunwoody is that in 2015 the city moved into its sixth consecutive year of operations, having had a budget surplus every year and operating at the same millage rate since the day of incorporation.

One of Tom's notable accomplishments was serving as lead advocate for the city in the Georgia General Assembly that resulted in passage of HB-203 in the 2010 session. This legislation transferred the county-owned parks and other properties within the city limits to Dunwoody, as well as \$7 million in bond proceeds for Brook Run, Dunwoody's largest park.

Representative Taylor brings extensive, hands-on business and financial management experience to the table. Beginning his civilian career in the telecom industry with AT&T, Tom transitioned to the defense and military contracting industries in the early 1990's. In senior management roles with Rockwell International Tactical Systems, Boeing and DynCorp International, Taylor managed a variety of sensitive defense and intelligence programs with multi-million dollar budgets for both the U.S. government and international government and corporate customers.

Tom is a veteran of the United States Navy, with 21 years of combined active and reserve service globally on every continent. He earned an undergraduate degree from Georgia State University in International Relations and Economics and an MBA in International Business.

In addition to Citizens for Dunwoody and later Dunwoody City Council, Taylor served as a board member on the Dunwoody Homeowners Association and the Executive Committee of the DeKalb Republican Party and has served as a board member as well as both as Vice President and President of the Georgia Wildlife Club. He has worked as a parent volunteer at Kingsley Charter Elementary and Peachtree Charter Middle Schools. He also coached youth soccer at the Ashford-Dunwoody YMCA for 18 seasons. Taylor is a native of Boca Raton, Florida and has lived in Dunwoody for 26 years. He and his wife of almost 31 years, Wendi, have a 23-year-old son Keith. The Taylors have also hosted and served as a cultural liaison for students from Thailand, Germany, Brazil, Egypt, China, Indonesia, Turkey, Japan, Sri Lanka, and Zimbabwe. This year they have a 17-year-old hosted daughter Cindi who is from Sumatra, Indonesia and is currently a junior at Dunwoody High School.