



**Rep. Erica Thomas
(D-39)**

Biography

The Honorable Erica Thomas has taken an fastidious global approach to the economic and environmental development of the world. As an innovative trailblazer and entrepreneur with a passion for inspiring others, Rep. Thomas has founded two nonprofits focusing on public speaking, leadership development, training and advocacy. Speak Out Loud, a local nonprofit is dedicated to giving a voice to foster children who have been silenced by their circumstances. Speak Out Loud has expanded and organized across the country and has chapters in Botswana and Nigeria.

Thomas is an author speaker, mentor, philanthropist and Georgia State Representative, representing Georgia's 39th house district in Cobb County. At the age of 29, Rep. Thomas remains one the youngest members of the Georgia General Assembly while gaining national recognition as the nation's first orphan to hold political office and the sixth youngest State Representative in America.

In 2013, Rep. Thomas was awarded the Ambassador for Peace Award from the Global Peace Foundation. She has also worked to establish libraries in various locations in Africa. Thomas has was awarded the 100

Black Men of America's Image award, Who's Who of Atlanta Most Influential and recently (2016), TV One's Triumph Award through the National Action Network founded by The Rev. Al Sharpton. Additionally, she is the co-founder of Young Professionals of Cobb County. As she is soaring through life, Rep. Thomas is currently in flight school and is ranked as a Major in the United States Air Force Civil Air Patrol.

Her philanthropic interests are centered around the goals of education and child safety. One of her lifelong interests was the establishment libraries in Africa and she is now working to build an orphanage in Dibette Village, Botswana. Rep. Thomas has traveled all over Africa helping orphans for this is her life's work. She resides in Austell, GA with her daughter Dakota.