



**Rep. Patty Bentley
(D-139)**

Biography

Patty James-Bentley began her career of public service while working as Chief Registrar for the Taylor County Board of Registrars in 1996. She was elected to the Taylor County Board of Commissioners in 2004 and re-elected in 2008. She announced her candidacy for Georgia House District 139 on September 26th, 2011. In a run-off election on August 21, 2012, she won her bid to become the State Representative for HD 139. House District includes, Taylor, Macon, and Dooly Counties and the south portion of Peach County. She is the first woman elected to this position in this district of the state. Rep. Bentley ran un-opposed in 2014 and began her second term of office in the Georgia General Assembly in 2015. She serves on the following boards and committees:

- House Agriculture Committee,
- Higher Education,
- Intragovernmental Coordination Committee,
- State Retirement Committee
- Rural Caucus
- Women Caucus
- Working Families Caucus
- CARET Rep.(Council for Agriculture, Research, Extension, and Teaching) for the College of Agriculture of Fort Valley State University
- Fort Valley State University Foundation Board

Mrs. James-Bentley is a proud member of the 2007 class of Leadership Georgia and 2006 class of Leadership Taylor. She completed the Georgia Academy for Economic Development in 2006 and completed the Basic Course for Economic Development at Georgia Tech in March 2008.

Bentley was featured in Georgia Trend magazine in October 2006 for the "40 Under 40" Rising Stars in Georgia.

She has served as Chairman for the Economic Development/Transportation Committee for the Association of County Commissioner of Georgia & and co-founder of the Taylor County Chamber of Commerce.

She has served as President for the Georgia Association of County Commissioners Black Caucus. Rep. Bentley is currently a member of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus.

Under Bentley's leadership the County Commissioners Black Caucus Summer Training sessions were held on several college campuses; such as Albany State University, Fort Valley State University, and Mercer University and with students of Savannah State University.

Bentley has served the people of Taylor County through the American Red Cross. She has been a Red Cross volunteer for 15 years. Patty is married to Darryl Bentley and together they have five children and one grandbaby. They are members of New Piney Grove Baptist Church of Macon, Georgia. Mr. and Mrs. Bentley are owners of Bentley Montford Mortuary, LLC located in Butler, Georgia. Rep. Bentley can be heard every Sunday morning at 9:00AM on 94.3FM.