

Biography of
THE HONORABLE BOB BALLINGER
ARKANSAS STATE SENATOR



CHAIR OF JOINT ENERGY COMMITTEE
SENATE DISTRICT 5

Senator Bob Ballinger was elected to the Senate in November 2018. He is serving his first term as a state senator representing District 5, which includes parts of Carroll, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Sebastian and Washington Counties and all of Madison County. Senator Ballinger is chair of Joint Energy Committee.

Senator Ballinger is also a member of the Judiciary Committee, State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee, Joint Budget Committee and Arkansas Legislative Council and several other sub-committees. He was first elected to the House of Representatives from 2013 - 2018. As a House member Senator Ballinger served as chair of the House State Agencies and Governmental Affairs committee, co-chair of the ALC-Litigation Reports Oversight Subcommittee and chair of the Joint Energy committee.

During the 2019 Regular Session, Senator Ballinger sponsored several bills that became law. The Acts covered a wide range of topics from power plant emission plans, amending the law for elections and to naming the Alligator Gar as the Official Primitive Fish of Arkansas. Senator Ballinger also co-sponsored several pro-life bills. Being an attorney, Senator Ballinger sponsored legislation that dealt with criminal records, impact statement in a criminal trial and a bill that concern the cost of a mental health examination of a criminal defendant. These bills were signed by the Governor.

Senator Bob Ballinger, who lives in Ozark, graduated from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where he served as President of Phi Alpha Theta (a historical honor society) and was a member of the Redmen Football team. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with his BA in Social Studies. He taught and coached in the public schools of Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

He earned his J.D. degree from the University of Arkansas Law School at Fayetteville, where he was a member of the Law Review, a recipient of the Charles Thomas Pearson Fellowship for promoting Professional Ethics in the Legal Profession, and served as Executive V.P. of the Federalist Society. He received the Legal Research & Writing II Top Oral Argument Award. Senator Ballinger is an attorney with the Story Law Firm.

Senator Ballinger has been a member of the Kiwanis Club and the Berryville Chamber of Commerce, where he served as President in 2011. He and his wife, Jessica, have three sons and five daughters. Senator Ballinger is a Baptist and a leader in his church's ministry to help people free themselves from addiction.