

Biography of
THE HONORABLE BEN GILMORE
ARKANSAS STATE SENATOR



CO-CHAIR ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
SENATE DISTRICT 1

Senator Ben Gilmore was elected to the Senate in November 2020 and was sworn in on the first day of the 93rd General Assembly.

Senator Gilmore represented District 1, which included Ashley, Bradley, Chicot and Cleveland Counties and parts of Drew, Grant, Jefferson and Lincoln Counties.

His Senate colleagues elected Senator Gilmore to serve as the Senate co-chair of the Arkansas Legislative Council for the 95th General Assembly. He was also chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth.

Senator Gilmore was a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Senate Agriculture, Forestry and Economic Development Committee, the Joint Retirement and Social Security Committee, the Joint Budget Committee and Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

In 2025, Senator Gilmore was the lead sponsor of legislation to create a more sustainable system of property insurance for public schools and state-supported institutions of higher education. This legislation was focused on slowing the growth of insurance premiums and help these institutions control costs.

Additionally, in 2025, Senator Gilmore was the lead sponsor of legislation to address recidivism and passed legislation to help stop organized retail crime that leads to higher costs of goods and services.

In 2023, Senator Gilmore was the lead sponsor of the Protect Arkansas Act, bringing comprehensive reform to Arkansas's criminal justice system, among other bills to target fentanyl trafficking and those who traffic illicit drugs to Arkansas's children.

Senator Gilmore has also passed legislation to enhance our pro-life laws, helping keep Arkansas the most pro-life state in the nation. He has advocated for removing burdens on Arkansas's businesses, passed legislation to reform public assistance programs that put Arkansans back to work.

In 2023, Senator Gilmore was the lead sponsor of a bill repealing the burdensome "Throwback Tax," ultimately saving Arkansas businesses \$75 million in additional taxes. As the former chair and currently the vice-chair of the Arkansas Forestry Caucus, Senator Gilmore has led on policy strengthening Arkansas's forestry and agriculture sectors.

Senator Gilmore was selected as the GOPAC Emerging Leader for Arkansas in 2023 and received the Jay Dickey Party Builder Award for helping strengthen the Arkansas Republican Party.

Before being elected, Senator Gilmore served as Deputy Chief of Staff and Communications Director for then Lieutenant Governor Tim Griffin. He previously served on the staff of Fourth District Congressman Bruce Westerman, where he worked on issues facing the forestry and agricultural industries.

While attending the University of Arkansas at Monticello, Senator Gilmore worked at the Crossett Public Library, serving in the outreach role and helping build the Ashley County Imagination Library. Before serving at the library, he was a licensed electrical apprentice.

Senator Gilmore resigned effective June 30, 2026, to join Attorney General Tim Griffin's office as Senior Advisor.