

SEN. NAN ORROCK AND REP. JOHN CARSON RECEIVE 2021 LEGISLATIVE SERVICE AWARDS

GSRA is privileged and delighted to present our 2021 legislative service awards to two most deserving recipients, Sen. Nan Orrock and Rep. John Carson.

Sen. Orrock has actively supported GSRA since our founding. There is no better indication than she became a life-time member almost as soon as that option was offered. In 2021 she outdid herself by authoring SB 167 to mandate COLAs in all but the most extreme economic conditions and to accomplish GSRA's long term goal of authorizing COLAs to be paid to GSEPS retirees. She did this in concert with Senate Retirement Committee chair Randy Robertson and obtained sponsors from both parties. She spoke eloquently for the bill in committee which approved the measure for actuarial analysis. Sen. Orrock also, as in years past, was in constant contact with the legislative team offering constructive suggestions and support along the way.

A native of Virginia, and long-time community and workplace organizer, Senator Orrock first was elected to the Georgia House of Representative in 1987. She was elected to the Senate in 2007, where she represents the 36th District in the East Atlanta area.

Rep. John Carson was newly appointed as chair of the House Retirement Committee in 2021. He actively engaged with GSRA as well as ERS to learn everything he could about retirement in general and the history of ERS benefits in particular. He always has been very accessible to the GSRA team. He was directly responsible for the passage of HB 173 which provides for GSRA to have input into the selection of two of the seven ERS board of trustees, a long-time goal of GSRS. In doing this, Chair Carson also supported a GSRA-advocated amendment which excluded ERS from placing up to 10% of our pension fund in alternative investments.

Representative Carson is a Certified Public Accountant by profession, with banking and commercial real estate finance experience. He was first elected to represent the 46th District in 2011. A native of the Atlanta area, he currently resides with his family in Marietta.

GSRA is deeply appreciative of all the good works of these two fine public servants.