

Biography of
THE HONORABLE PAUL BOOKOUT
ARKANSAS STATE SENATOR



CHAIRMAN – ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ALC)
SENATE DISTRICT 21

Senator Paul Bookout represents Senate District 21, which includes Jonesboro and portions of Craighead County. Currently in the 89th General Assembly, he serves as chairman of Arkansas Legislative Council and vice-chairman of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Labor and Senate Efficiency committees. He is a member of Senate Insurance & Commerce, Joint Energy, Joint Budget Committee (JBC), JBC–Special Language, Legislative Joint Auditing, Arkansas State Game & Fish Commission Oversight Committee, and Economic and Tax Policy Committee.

Senator Bookout came to the Senate with a wealth of legislative experience. From 1999-2004 he represented the Jonesboro area in the Arkansas House of Representatives. He was elected to the Arkansas Senate by special election in 2006 after the death of his father, longtime State Senator and former President Pro Tempore Jerry Bookout. Senator Paul Bookout was the President Pro Tempore of the Arkansas Senate for the 88th General Assembly. After Paul was elected Pro Tempore by his Senate colleagues, Paul and Jerry Bookout became the first father and son in Arkansas history to both serve as President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

In addition to his duties as Pro Tempore of the 88th General Assembly, Senator Bookout served on the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee and the State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee. He was a member of the Senate Efficiency Committee, the Joint Budget Committee, the Arkansas Legislative Council, the Joint Interim Committee on Legislative Facilities and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

Regionally and nationally, Senator Bookout works with legislators as a member of the Energy Council, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the Council of State Governments (CSG) and the Southern Legislative Conference (SLC). Throughout his legislative career, he has served on the Budget and Review Committee and Legislative Effectiveness Committee of NCSL, Associates Advisory Council of CSG, and Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and Human Services and Public Safety Committee of SLC.

Senator Bookout's public service extends beyond the legislature. He has served on several boards, including the executive board of the Jonesboro Comprehensive Learning Center and St. Bernard's Hospice Board, where he served as president.

Born in El Dorado, Arkansas, Senator Bookout holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Arkansas State University. He is the administrative director for system relations at St. Bernards Healthcare in Jonesboro. He and Sherry, his wife, have one son and one daughter.