

Biography of
THE HONORABLE JAKE FILES
ARKANSAS STATE SENATOR



CHAIRMAN – SENATE REVENUE & TAX COMMITTEE
SENATE DISTRICT 8

Senator Jake Files represents Senate District 8, which is comprised of a portion of Sebastian County and the majority of the City of Fort Smith. Elected in 2010 and re-elected in 2012, he is serving his second term in the Arkansas Senate. He is chairman of the Senate Revenue and Tax Committee. In the current 90th General Assembly, his committee memberships include: Senate Transportation, Technology and Legislative Affairs; Senate Efficiency; Legislative Joint Auditing; Joint Advanced Communications and Information Technology; Legislative Joint Auditing-Educational Institutions; Joint Budget Committee (JBC); JBC-Peer Review; Intermodal Transportation and Commerce Task Force and Economic and Tax Policy.

During the 89th General Assembly, he was chairman of the Senate Revenue & Tax Committee. He served on Senate Transportation, Technology & Legislative Affairs, Senate Efficiency, Legislative Joint Auditing, Joint Advanced Communications and Information Technology, Joint Budget Committee (JBC), Legislative Joint Auditing-State Agencies, Economic and Tax Policy and JBC–Peer Review.

Nationally, Senator Files works with legislators across the country as a member of National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), where he serves on the Labor and Economic Development Standing Committee. He is also a member of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), where he serves on the Communications and Technology Task Force; the Council of State Governments (CSG) where he serves on the Transportation Public Policy Committee and the Economic Development, Transportation and Cultural Affairs Committee of the Southern Legislative Conference.

Senator Files is a recipient of the 2013 *Champion of Small Business Award* from the National Coalition of Capitol. He was also named *State Legislator of the Year* by Novogradac & Company LLP for his strong impact in the community development field by assisting in the advancement of policy and legislative priorities at the state. In 2011, he received the Arkansas Prosecuting Attorneys Association *Advocate of Justice Award*, the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce *Legislative Leadership Award*, and the 2011 Arkansas Municipal League *Distinguished Legislator Award*.

Senator Files was elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives in 1998 to serve House District 12, where he served two consecutive terms.

Professionally, Senator Files is the owner of a general construction firm and real estate development company. His past professional experience includes a term as president and superintendent of the Fort Smith Christian School and working for ERC Properties, Inc. He also holds an active Real Estate License.

Born in Norman, Oklahoma, Senator Files has a bachelor's degree in accounting and is a cum laude graduate of Arkansas State University. He is married to the former Michaela Mitchell, and together they have three daughters, Kate, Liz and Bella and one son, Mitchell. The Files family attends Grand Avenue Baptist Church. Senator Files enjoys singing and playing the guitar, flying and coaching youth sports teams.