

# Beth Mizell

## Positive change for Louisiana



District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell

### District 12 Senator seeking third term

Southeast Louisiana parishes like Washington, Tangipahoa and St. Tammany face a golden opportunity to see incredible positive change for the state of Louisiana in the next four years.

And considering the incredible track record of accomplishments that District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell has produced in her first two terms in office, she wants more than ever to bring her experience to a final four-year term and be part of “bringing real change to Louisiana for our kids and our families.”

Beth is seeking the support of the District 12 voters one final time in the Oct. 14 election, which begins with early voting on Sept. 30 and runs through Oct. 7.

*‘I plan to go in with a flame thrower to be part of radically changing our state for the better, so our kids don’t have to keep leaving for jobs in other states.’*

**--Sen. Beth Mizell on plans for a third term**

Beth is being challenged for the District 12 Senate position by two Democrat candidates, leaving her the only conservative Republican in the field.

“We will undoubtedly have a Republican governor next year and that means we have an opportunity like never before to bring the change to Louisiana that we need. I plan to go in with a flame thrower to be part of radically changing our state for the better, so our kids don’t have to keep leaving for jobs in other states,” she said.

Beth pointed out that Louisiana is the only state in the nation that does not have a car manufacturer here, and it is just one of the reasons Louisiana is the only southern state that is seeing population decline, while other southern states are growing.

(See Mizell, Pg. 8)

### Guiding Principles

#### By Beth Mizell

- The Bible
- Ten Commandments
- Louisiana and U.S. Constitutions
  - Family Values
  - Right to Life
- Traditional Marriage
- Sanctity of Home and Property
  - Right to Self Defense
  - Tough on Crime
- Efficient Government
- Cut Wasteful Spending
  - No Tax Increases
  - Free Markets
- Promote Existing Local Businesses
  - No giveaways to Big Business
- Require Able-Bodies to Work as Prerequisite to Welfare Benefits
  - Support Law Enforcement
- Fair Treatment of State Employees
- Honesty and Ethics in Government
  - Open Public Records



Sen. Beth Mizell leads a session of the Louisiana Senate.

### Beth voted #2 ranking Senator

While the number of women in the Louisiana Legislature seems to be near a record low, District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell continues to buck that trend by getting more respect than ever in state leadership roles.

After already being elected Chairwoman for the Louisiana Women’s Caucus Foundation, Beth has now been voted in as the Senate Pro Tempore, meaning she is the second ranking senator in the entire Louisiana Senate.

She is the first Republican woman to be elected to the

position and steps in to run the Senate proceedings any time the Senate President is absent, a position she has had to assume many times.

“Becoming the Senate Pro Tem is another way to use a conservative woman’s voice in our state,” Beth said, already authoring many bills in the past eight years that aimed at improving women’s rights.

As the Chairman for the Women’s Caucus Foundation, she leads the goals of that group to prepare and develop women leaders in Louisiana to be significant contributors and achievers

in society.

Besides those two major leadership roles, she also serves on:

- Senate Committee on Education
- Senate Committee on Retirement
- Senate Committee on Health & Welfare
- Senate Judiciary Committee
- Senate Select Committee on Women and Children
- Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget
- Legislative Audit Advisory Council
- Legislative Budgetary Control Council





# Worship Protected:

Beth’s Senate bill expected to guarantee church gatherings

Three years after COVID changed life for the world as we know it, there are many aspects of the government response that have been criticized. From masks to mandated vaccines to business closures, time is proving that much of what the government forced on the people was wrong. But ranking right at the top of that list was the way many state governors forced churches to close, even as they were allowing some specific businesses to remain open.

“That never should have happened,” said Sen. Beth Mizell. “And we need to make sure that we never let the government tell us again that we can’t gather as believers to worship.”

To put some muscle to that promise, Beth led dozens of state lawmakers who co-authored a Constitutional Amendment that will be on the ballot this November, which gives churches, and the right of believers to gather and

worship, the highest priority from the government.

When voters go to the polls this November, they will be asked to vote “yes” or “no” on the following Constitutional Amendment:

Do you support an amendment to provide that the freedom of worship in a church or other place of worship is a fundamental right that is worthy of the highest order of protection?

If passed, the Constitutional Amendment would state that no law can be enacted restricting or prohibiting the free exercise of worship.

The bill authored by Beth had support from over two-thirds of the Louisiana Legislature and is expected to pass with voters this fall by a wide margin.

“No longer will we have any government shutdown and be told we can’t gather in churches,” Beth strongly stated.



Sen. Beth Mizell with Pastor David Baudoin and his wife, along with Senate President Cortez in a Legislature visit.



Beth invites constituents to the Legislature as much as possible, such as this group of royalty from Tangipahoa Parish.

## ‘Fortify Homes’ helps homeowners

There can’t be anything tougher than taking on the attorney lobby when it comes to bills which might affect their business. But that’s what Sen. Beth Mizell has done on two fronts, seeking any way to try and lower homeowners and automobile insurance rates.

One of the bills she helped to pass provides grants to fortify roofs to higher standards, which requires insurance companies provide a discount on the homeowner policy.

The Louisiana Fortify Homes Program can

also now be utilized in new construction, which will also bring about lower premiums.

Another bill might be the “game changer” needed for Louisiana in that it incentivizes insurance companies that quit writing policies here to return to the state.

“If we can get more companies back here it will reduce premiums across the board,” she remarked. “But anything that might affect lawsuits for attorneys always face a very difficult fight.”

### Beth’s 8-Year Accomplishments

- Sen. Beth Mizell has been a busy lawmaker in the past eight years, authoring 57 bills in the Louisiana Legislature. Among some highlights have been:
- Passed “Freedom to Worship” bill as Constitutional Amendment to be voted on, protecting right to attend church even if there is a government shutdown.
  - Passed Fairness in Women Sports bill.
  - Passed several Pro-Life bills to protect rights of women and the unborn.
  - Passed Title IX bill to provide greater support for women on campus who are victims of sexual assault.
  - Continued work to bring Broadband and Wi-Fi to rural parishes, obtaining millions of state and federal dollars for the effort aiming at a 2025 conclusion.
  - Passed legislation that ended the wasteful Washington Parish Reservoir Commission, re-allocating the remaining \$700,000 for improvements at Bogue Chitto Park.
  - Acquired funding to begin building the Hwy. 3241 state highway to connect St. Tammany Parish to Washington Parish.
  - Led the effort that brought the Vietnam Wall to Washington Parish, followed by construction of Veterans Memorial Park.
  - Brought Operation Angel to District 12 that offers drug addicts a direct route to rehab help without facing the threat of prosecution.
  - Passed a bill that mandates Louisiana public schools begin teaching cursive writing again.





# Beth leads way to bring broadband

Funding secured,  
work moving on

The day that all residents in Washington, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes can easily use their cell phone, and access Wi-Fi in their homes, will be a day of celebration. And they will have District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell to thank for it. One of the top goals for Beth when she was elected to the Louisiana Senate in 2015 was to bring rural areas of the country into the 21st Century. And that means to have Wi-Fi and cell phone

coverage at the tips of their fingers. It may come as a surprise to those in highly-populated cities or parishes to learn that many Americans live in rural areas that do not have the infrastructure needed to bring good cell phone coverage, or Wi-Fi to their homes. One study noted that 80 percent of Americans without Wi-Fi lived in rural areas. That's why Beth took on the gargantuan problem for her district when she passed legislation in 2019 to create the Task Force on Access to Broadband High-Speed Internet Services. In the past four years there have been great advances in tackling the problem, with state and federal funding now in place, due largely in part to Beth's leadership. "We have money that started coming

from Washington in the Trump administration, and now we have money in Louisiana that has been allotted to this," she said. "Charter-Spectrum has most of the money and is bringing the infrastructure near us as we speak that will give us good cell phone coverage, as well as Wi-Fi services." After forming the Task Force, Beth brought together representatives from cellular, cable and Internet companies, as well as reps with the Public Service Commission, the Louisiana Economic Development Department, the Northshore Business Council, the North Louisiana Business Development group and electric cooperatives. The Task Force meetings led to the

creation of a master plan, which was necessary to get federal funds rolling to Louisiana. "This is not a black-white or a Republican-Democrat problem," Beth added. "It's also a reason younger people don't want to live in rural areas, and that's another reason we had to get this addressed." Beth said there is a deadline of 2025 to finish the work since some grant monies have a stipulation for the infrastructure to be in place by that deadline. "It's still been too slow for me, but we are getting there and soon this will no longer be a problem for residents of District 12," she stated.

### Beth Mizell Endorsements



## Special bills show respect Beth has for police, military

If there is an opportunity to show respect to first responders or American service members, Sen. Beth Mizell wants to do it. That was the reason she saw the importance during her second term to have three highways in District 12 re-named in honor of policemen or military men killed in the line of duty. "Some people may wonder why this is so important to do?" Beth said. "But if you would talk to the families and loved ones of these individuals, you understand it is a way to keep their son or daughters name alive." The three highways re-named are: --A portion of Hwy. 38 in Washington Parish named the "Lance Corporal Larry L. Wells Memorial Highway." Wells, from Mount Hermon, was killed by a sniper while serving with the Marines in Iraq after he volunteered to join the Armed Forces.

--A portion of Hwy. 38 in Tangipahoa Parish named the "Deputy R.A. Kent Memorial Highway." Kent, an 18-year veteran with the Tangipahoa Sheriff's Office, was shot and killed in 1985 during a robbery call, leaving behind a pregnant wife and a son. --A portion of U.S. Hwy. 51 in Tangipahoa Parish named the "Deputy Ed Toefield, Jr. Memorial Highway." Toefield was killed in 1984 while trying to arrest a bank robbery suspect in Amite. "These three men were all heroes to our communities," Beth stated. "When people drive past those highways and see the signs with names on them, a lot of people will Google the name and hear the story. It will keep their names alive." Beth said the ceremony to erect the sign was so important to Wells' unit that the entire group of Marines traveled to Mount Hermon to attend the gathering.

## Keep Beth Mizell Working for You In the Capitol

### Contribute

You can support Beth Mizell's re-election effort to the Louisiana Senate by contributing to her campaign.

- 1) Go online to: [bethmizell.com](http://bethmizell.com) and make a donation.
- 2) Send a check to: "Beth Mizell for Louisiana," P.O. Box 16, Franklinton, La., 70438. Contribution limits are \$2,500 for each person or corporate entity.

### Volunteer

To become a volunteer for Beth, call 985-515-0927.

### Yard Signs

To request a yard sign, go online to: [bethmizell.com](http://bethmizell.com), or call 985-515-0927.

### Facebook

Support Beth by "liking" her on Facebook:  
[Facebook.com/bethmizell](https://www.facebook.com/bethmizell)

### Website

More information at: [bethmizell.com](http://bethmizell.com)

### To Reach Beth

--By e-mail: [mizellbeth@gmail.com](mailto:mizellbeth@gmail.com)  
--By phone: 985-515-0927  
--By mail: P.O. Box 16, Franklinton, La., 70438

**Vote on Saturday, Oct. 14**  
**Early Voting: Sept. 30-Oct. 7**

**Vote Beth Mizell**  
**State Senator – District 12**

**Paid for by Beth Mizell for Louisiana**





# BETH'S SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## District 12 Election: Oct. 14





Senator Sharon Hewitt and Senator Beth Mizell welcoming Louisiana Republican women in the Senate Chamber during the 2023 session.

# Pro-Life issues remain key priority

When it comes to the Pro-Life issue, there can be no mistaking where Sen. Beth Mizell stands.

Since winning election in 2015 as the freshman senator from Washington Parish to represent Senate District 12, Beth has made the Pro-Life topic one of her top issues.

The facts behind that statement can be clearly seen in the number of bills she has filed, and had passed, in the Louisiana Legislature.

In her first four years she passed several bills that all were in support of life, particularly a major bill that allowed Louisiana voters to decide on a Constitutional Amendment at the polls. That bill was the key point in now making abortions illegal in Louisiana, since the legislation was tied to the Roe v. Wade landmark case which legalized abor-

tion.

When the Supreme Court struck down Roe v. Wade, Louisiana had already passed the bill that stated abortion would be illegal if the Supreme Court ever made that decision.

"We were ready for that decision," said Beth. "When the Supreme Court struck down Roe v. Wade, Louisiana already had a Constitutional Amendment in place which immediately made abortion illegal here. That bill is something I'm very proud of having worked on."

After having several other Pro-Life bills passed in her first four years, Beth went even further during the past four years in passing more legislation that supports the rights of women and is now aiming at helping pregnant women and their newborn babies.

Senate Bill 41, passed this spring, gives tax credits to those who donate money to pregnancy resource centers. To receive the tax credit, a help center must meet a higher standard of service.

"It's all about providing more services to pregnant moms and their babies, all the way up until the child is two," said Beth. "With abortion illegal now, we want to do more to help mothers who are about to have a baby, and even after they have their baby."

For a center to be able to offer the tax credit, a few of the requirements include:

- Help a mother with their baby until age 2.
- Offer supplies and other resources to the age of 2.
- Teach moms how to sign up for

Medicaid, if needed.

- Offer free pregnancy tests.
- Teach moms how to parent.

"This bill raises the standard for all centers in the state. The result of that will be more services for expectant moms, before and after they have their baby," Beth added.

Washington Parish will soon benefit from this as there is a Pro-Life group here now that has begun accepting donations. The name of the group is the Southeast Louisiana Pregnancy Center.

Beth added that a key reason she is now working to support moms and newborns is that Louisiana ranks among the lowest states for maternal wellness.

"This bill helps all women and their babies," she said.



Beth was among thousands who got a chance to cheer on the LSU Women's Basketball team in the Semi-Finals in Baton Rouge.

## Small, but important issues, still getting Beth's attention

Beth's SB104 was passed to give pregnant women access to their phones if they go into an abortion clinic.

"I was shocked to find out that when a woman enters an abortion clinic she cannot have her phone," Beth stated. "It's outrageous to think they can't talk to a friend or family member during such an emotional time."

Beth said she learned about the matter from a Pro-Life advocate.

"The opposition to the bill claimed the woman might video something or take pictures of something confidential," Beth explained.

Beth said she has learned that many of the women who enter an abortion clinic are still uncertain what to do. But

without their phones, they cannot call anyone to discuss a possible change of heart.

"And what about trying to get information on something they learn when they go in there?" she added. "I really couldn't believe it when I heard a woman cannot take her phone in with her. It's just another ploy by the abortion advocates to get women to have abortions."

Beth said that in her research to learn more about the abortion industry, she found that some women who go for an abortion are actually victims of sex trafficking.

Another bill she had passed requires clinics to report if they believe there might be any sex trafficking connected to a woman who

enters the clinic.

"The clinic technicians learn about that when they start asking questions," she said. "Now, they have to report any possible sex trafficking cases they encounter."

In Beth's first term in Baton Rouge, she also had a bill passed that outlaws abortions once any "fetal heart-beat" is detected, something that usually occurs around six months.

However, since the Constitutional Amendment was passed with 85 percent of Louisiana voters supporting it, abortion is now illegal in the state after the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade.





# BETH'S SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## District 12 Election: Oct. 14



# Beth passes ‘Fairness in Women’s Sports’ bill

A few decades ago, the idea of men competing against women in sports would have been laughed away. Not anymore. Since the transgender issue has become so public now, Sen. Beth Mizell knew she needed to protect female athletes with a bill that took two years to pass in the Legislature.

The “Fairness for Women Sports” bill was introduced by Beth in 2021, simply stating that athletes should compete in men or women sports on the basis of their sex at birth. “The idea that a biological man can decide to become a woman, then compete as a woman in sports is blatantly

unfair,” Beth said. “This bill was to create a level playing field and thankfully, after two years and against the wishes of the governor, we passed it.” After seeing incredibly unfair situations around the country, even in the Olympics, when men who had transitioned to be women were allowed to

compete in sports against women, Beth’s bill was passed in 2021, only to be vetoed by Gov. John Bel Edwards, who called it, “a mean-spirited bill.” Beth was not deterred and brought the bill back again in 2022, “and the support was so strong that it was veto-proof and is now law in the state.”



Women’s issues have always been important to Beth. Here she is celebrating with some fans of the LSU Women’s Basketball Championship.

## Beth stands for women with sexual assault reporting bill

There have been many great victories by Sen. Beth Mizell in the past eight years of work in the Louisiana Legislature, and even though she had one win in 2021 on a key issue in support of women, she isn’t shying away from stating, “there is still a lot of work to do on this.” Senate Bill 230 did pass in the Legislature and was signed by the governor. It provides for more complete reporting from all state colleges or universities when it comes to any kind of sexual assault or harassment allegation being made. The matter rose into the public spotlight when former LSU head football coach Les Miles and other administrative officials at the school were named in a lawsuit by former LSU athletic administrator Sharon Lewis. She claimed in the suit there were numerous cases of sexual harassment and discrimination at the school, with little done related to the allegations. Beth filed a bill that requires LSU and other state schools to meet all Title IX requirements and guide-

lines, something she said was not being done at the time, and still isn’t being done completely. “The bill protects the assault victim by forcing LSU to report it, something that is still not being followed up effectively enough today,” she said. Beth made her point crystal clear when noting that last year at LSU there were 300 sexual assaults reported on the campus, but only eight disciplinary actions of any kind from all the reports. “They are still not respecting the victims of sexual assault,” she stated. “I heard about one case where a counselor came to take the report from the victim, and after not doing anything about it, reported the girl for having a candle in her dorm room. “That’s the way it has been for years and it’s going to take more pressure on them, and other schools, to support the sexual assault and harassment victims in a fair way. And I can promise my constituents that I plan to stay on this case,” she added.

# ‘Madison Brooks Bill’ took on powerful lobby

There are plenty of powerful lobby groups at any state Legislature, but few would rank as strong as the alcohol industry lobbyists. That didn’t stop Sen. Beth Mizell from taking them on in the 2023 legislative session when she sponsored Senate Bill #194, dubbed the “Madison Brooks bill.” Brooks was a student at LSU early in the year when she was killed after being dropped off in a Baton Rouge neighborhood, then was fatally struck by a car because she was four times the legal limit for alcohol intoxication. The death followed several men getting her into their car to “take her home,” but then stopping on the side of the road and raping her before she was dropped off in a local neighborhood. Beth said the problem began when Brooks was at a Baton Rouge bar and



Madison Brooks

was served 20 drinks, even though she was 19 years old—below the legal drinking age. Her alcohol level was .31,

high enough to die of alcohol poisoning. Beth filed her bill that sought to first try and change the age limit for going into a bar since presently you can enter a bar if you are 18, although you are not legally allowed to purchase a drink. It’s generally agreed that many of those underage individuals still end up getting drinks. The bill had “great pushback from the alcohol lobby from the start,” Beth said, leading to several changes and amendments to the bill before it finally died in a House committee. State law also currently allows a bartender to be 18 to 21, giving him the right to work and serve alcohol, although he cannot drink. Beth’s bill also sought to raise the age for employment as a bartender to 21. Finally, the bill attempted to allow the

establishment to be sued if they served anyone too much alcohol that resulted in an injury afterward. “We had plenty of arguments, such as hurting the bar’s employment situation, making insurance go up for bars, and essentially shutting bars down that couldn’t afford the insurance,” Beth said. “But we had to try to do something to have some responsibility on the bar and bartenders for serving underage kids.” Beth had several mothers testify on the bill who had lost children in the same way as the Madison Brooks family lost their daughter. “I can’t believe bars can’t be held responsible for this kind of situation,” Beth said. “I promised Madison’s family that we will come back next year and try again.”





BETH'S SENATE  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

District 12 Election: Oct. 14



# Five bills filed to stop sex trafficking

The more information that is becoming public about the horrendous crime of human sex trafficking, the more Sen. Beth Mizell has sought ways to help victims and prosecute those who are behind it.

Beth has authored five different Senate bills in recent years on the topic as authorities are making it more-and-more clear how many underage individuals are being forced into the sex trafficking underworld.

In 2022, Beth had two bills that passed the Senate and were both signed by the governor.

SB #115 mandates training for peace

*'We especially need to help the victims of this terrible crime, and that's what I was targeting with a couple of bills.'*

**--Sen. Beth Mizell**

officers investigating human trafficking, helping them be aware of signs that would indicate the crime is happening.

SB #148 that year was aimed at helping victims of sex trafficking by allow-

ing their records to be expunged if they were convicted of a related crime, thereby helping them get normal jobs or rent a home.

In 2023, Beth passed SB #31 that created a database for human trafficking arrests, convictions, restitution requirements, fines and civil asset forfeiture.

Beth already authored a bill that provided immunity from prosecution for victims if they testified so that law enforcement could convict a sex trafficker, while she also had a bill that required the training for investigators to be reported.

"Thankfully, we are seeing more

focus on ways to combat this evil," she said. "We especially need to help the victims of this terrible crime, and that's what I was targeting with a couple of bills."

"This crime has to be approached from every angle possible and I plan to do more to put the offenders in jail, and help those who are victims," she added.

To really understand all she can about sex trafficking, Beth has created a Task Force to get information on the lack of arrests. She said that last year there were 632 children trafficked in Louisiana, but very few arrests.

## Women's Issues

### Sex assault reports

Some of the things Sen. Beth Mizell has learned since joining the Louisiana Legislature have been downright shocking to her.

Add to that list the fact victims of sexual assault were previously not allowed to get the medical report after having an exam.

No longer is that the case after Beth filed Senate Bill #147 in 2022, and passed a new law which requires health care agencies performing sexual assault exams to provide a copy of the test results to the victim.

"Once again, it was surprising to me when I learned victims of sexual assault were not allowed to have their test reports," Beth said. "One of the people who fought against passing the law actually said the victims couldn't handle reading the report."

"I told them, 'They just lived through a sexual assault and survived. I'm sure they can handle reading the report that they requested.' Even if you have a purse snatched you are allowed to get a copy of the police report," Beth added.

Beth said it was "incredible" to learn about the previous situation, but the new bill requires agencies to provide the sexual assault report to the victim.

### Rape kit reports

There can be no more traumatic experience to a woman than suffering the brutality of rape.

Yet, previous Louisiana law had no tracking system for the rape kits used for an exam after the crime. Sen. Beth Mizell was surprised to learn how easily rape kits got lost in the system and knew there needed to be a better way to keep track of them, leading her to file and pass Senate Bill #169.

After the bill passed in 2023, rape kits now have to be tracked through whatever agencies they are sent to.

"The results of the kit could be at a doctor's office, a police station, or maybe passed to a D.A., but previously, victims had trouble locating their own kits and the results," Beth said. "Not only did we pass a bill giving sexual assault victims the right to have their medical report from the attack, but this bill forces agencies to keep track of where the kits are. That's important for victims to know."

State Police were given the responsibility to oversee the tracking of where the rape kits are at.



Senator Beth Mizell

## Results, Results, Results



District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell has been one of the most active state lawmakers, filing 57 bills in just the last four years during her second term, with dozens of them passing to affect positive change on conservative issues, as well as important matters that affect everyone. Key issues like bringing broadband to her district, passing a Constitutional Amendment to be voted on in November to guarantee church worship in any government action are just a couple of the high-profile bills. She asks for your support for her third term when you head to the polls on Oct. 14. Here she is seen in the Louisiana Senate, working with the top leaders on key legislation, part of what led her to be voted by her colleagues in the number two Senate position as Pro Tempore.





BETH'S SENATE  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

District 12 Election: Oct. 14





The newly-finished Veterans Memorial Park is open for visitors on Hwy. 25 between Bogalusa and Franklinton.

# Veterans Memorial opened following Vietnam Wall visit

It was five years ago when Sen. Beth Mizell took the lead that brought the traveling Vietnam Wall to Washington Parish. Thousands came to Franklinton for the powerful and emotional display that one particular Vietnam veteran said, “helped a lot of Vietnam veterans heal.”

But it wasn’t the end of Beth’s work to honor veterans. Along with a great supportive committee of volunteers, there would be more for veterans.

“We raised about \$8,000 to bring the Vietnam Wall here, but then we had about \$4,000 left, so we used the money to secure land and build what is now the only Veterans Memorial Park in the area,” she said.

Memorial Park is now erected on a spot-on Hwy. 25 that is right between Bogalusa and Franklinton. There are high-flying flags of the United States, state of Louisiana and Vietnam War that can be seen from far away as you travel that highway.

Committee members making it all happen included Lynette Sharp, Phillip Bedwell, Joannie Miller, Justin Brown, Penny Jones, Carley King, Donna Simmons and Matt Parker.

Now the group is selling memorial bricks that will be paved around the centerpiece with the flags, followed by monuments for each branch of the military.

“There is such support for veterans in this area,” Beth said. “And I will always do anything I can to show support for our military men and women. I love coming down that highway now and seeing the flags.”

# Education gets lots of attention from Beth

The problems behind the low state ranking in Louisiana for education have to be attacked from many angles and Sen. Beth Mizell has been among the legislative leaders in trying to find ways to improve public schools in the state.

Beth has led the way on several bills concerning education, but at the top of her goals is a two-fold strategy.

“The illiteracy rate in Louisiana makes us one of the worst states in the

nation. Our kids can’t read and write effectively, and that especially becomes a huge problem by the time they graduate, and they want to go to work, or go to college,” she explained.

Beth carried a House bill in the Senate that did pass, requiring any third graders be held back if they do not score well on a reading test.

“When Mississippi passed a similar bill it changed the entire state, and I think this is going to be huge to help

our kids read well enough to score better in all subjects,” she added.

Her main goal in her education bills is so student’s graduate 12th grade and are ready for the real world.

“When you get a diploma, it should mean you have the skills to go to college or into the work world,” she stated.

Beth also has been involved in passing a bill that increased Social Studies

standards, mandated kids having recess, and a bill that will attack the high state truancy rate, which she attributes to parents not ensuring their children go to school every day.

“Who would think we have a problem with parents not making sure their kids are up and heading to school?” she said. “Or, that kids didn’t need recess? But they do, and that bill mandated the kids get out and exercise.”

## Beth Mizell Awards

- 2023
- HBPA Gold Standard Recipient Award  
Horseman’s Benevolent & Protective Assn.  
La. Ambassador for Promoting Tourism
- 2022
- LABI MVP: Valuable Policymaker  
LAPCS Charter Champion Award  
La. Public Charter Schools  
La. Family Forum—Family Advocate Award  
La. Family Forum—Life & Liberty Award
- 2021
- LABI MVP: Valuable Policymaker  
La. Academy of Family Physicians—Legislative Champion of Medicine Award  
La. School Board Assn.—Legislator of the Year
- 2020
- LABI MVP: Valuable Policymaker



District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell





BETH'S SENATE  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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# Beth files 57 bills in four years

## Windfall Elimination

One thing you have to say about District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell—when she sets her sights on fixing a problem she doesn't try once and quit.

That is certainly the case with a law that is hurting the surviving spouses of state employees, and Beth has been working on fixing that problem for the past five years—still seeking more support in Congress to get it done.

"If a state employee had previously worked a different job and paid money into Social Security, but then works for the state and dies, their spouse has to pick Social Security or the state benefit," Beth explained. "You can't get both even though you paid into both."

"It's really outrageous that they are doing this," she said. "The way the law is written, you can pay into both, but only get to take one or the other."

She has pushed a bill called the Windfall Elimination Provision, which she became aware of when talking to a constituent.

"A woman worked at the Sheriff's Office and her husband was a state employee. When he died, she quit her job expecting to get his Social Security. Then she was told she wasn't entitled to it."

"When I first heard about this, I thought someone was making it up," Beth said. "There are a lot of state employees being hurt by this, especially a lot of teachers, but it can only be fixed by a change at the federal level. And I don't plan to quit pushing until this is changed."

Louisiana is one of only 14 states that currently have such a provision.

## Even honey bees get attention from Sen. Beth

Don't think District 12 Sen. Beth Mizell is only focused on the big issues for the state of Louisiana. If there is a way to help the littlest person, or animal, she is ready to do so.

How about honey bees?

Yes, Beth saw a way to encourage more college students to consider a career that would help save honey bees and she passed Senate Bill #17 to do so.

The bill directs the proceeds from "Save the Honey Bee" license plates

to the Louisiana Beekeepers Association, headed by Jennifer Brown from Washington Parish. The proceeds are used as financial assistance for any student studying about honey bees.

"Why is that important?" Beth said. "Most people don't realize that solar panels kill honey bees—they fry them. And we need honey bees because they pollinate numerous plants and crops."

The USDA stated that three-fourths of the world's flowering plants, and about 35 percent of the world's food crops, rely on pollinators like honey bees or they would not produce food.

"Honey bees are critical to our world, so we need more college students who consider that career," Beth said. "The license plate proceeds will help that to happen."

## Beth's Growing Family



Bobby and Beth Mizell were blessed to have two children and now eight grandchildren. In top photo is their daughter Julie and her husband Sean, along with the five kids (from left): twins Ian and Vivian, then Sophie and Wes, with young Evan in front. Ian was diagnosed with Leukemia at the age of six, but after three years of chemotherapy treatment he continues to be in remission. In right photo are the three children from their son, Josh, and his wife Madeleine. They are (from left) Lewis, the newest grandchild, along with Lilou and Tristan.



### MIZELL: Sen. Beth Mizell seeks third term to help lead change for Louisiana

**(From Pg. 1)**

"Louisiana still has too many obstacles to grow business and improve our quality of life. But with the makeup of the Legislature and the governor's office next year, we have nothing stopping us from making dramatic changes to our state," she said. "Shame on us if we can't do it now, and I want to be a part of making that happen."

Judging from the past eight years during her first two terms, Beth has unquestionably proven to be one of the most respected members of the Louisiana Legislature.

She was voted as the Senate Pro Tempore during her second term, meaning

she is the number two ranking Senator in the state, and the top-ranking Republican female.

"That is important since it gives us more of a voice for conservatives," she said.

Beth didn't imagine during her earlier years of life that she would one day be a Louisiana senator.

After co-owning a daycare and preschool for 17 years in education, she and her husband bought a 90-acre cattle ranch in Franklinton, which became a focus in her life until her husband Bobby, of 42 years, passed away in 2012 from cancer.

Beth had always been active in her community, including as head of the

Republican Women and the local Tea Party, which played a key part in her decision in 2011 to run for state office. After losing by only 352 votes to an incumbent, she came back in 2015, running again and winning her first term in the Senate.

Four years ago, she won her second term by receiving 68 percent of the vote and has been named a top state lawmaker year-after-year.

But more than anything, Beth has proven to be a woman of action. In the past four years she authored 57 bills that covered topics of all types.

She has been a staunch conservative, fighting for the rights of families, the unborn and women, while also taking

on issues to support our United States military, and stand among the state leaders in the fight against drugs.

Running for her third and final term, she seeks the support of the voters in her three-parish district and promises she won't let them down.

"Since I became a state senator, I have seen the way I can help so many people, taking on very big issues to some much smaller ones that were still important to the people of our district," she said. "I'm looking forward to four more years in the Legislature where I can do even more for my own community and the many people I have come to know and love."