

Kay R. Hagan

U.S. Senate, North Carolina

For more than a decade, U.S. Sen. Kay R. Hagan has worked for the people of North Carolina as a champion for working families, quality education, sound fiscal policy and a clean environment. In 2008, Hagan was elected to the U.S. Senate by North Carolinians wanting active, effective leaders who work tirelessly on the issues that matter to the state.

Hagan was born in Shelby, North Carolina. A graduate of Florida State University and Wake Forest Law School, she worked at North Carolina National Bank (a predecessor to Bank of America) for 10 years. In 1998, Hagan ran for the North Carolina State Senate, where she served for 10 years.

A champion of education throughout her career in public service, Hagan has supported the expansion of high-quality early childhood education; innovative learning programs like North Carolina's "Learn and Earn" program; and dropout prevention measures. She also wrote the law that requires all high school students in North Carolina to complete a course on financial literacy before graduating from high school. As an appointed member of the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Hagan continues her efforts to make education more accessible and affordable.

Hailing from a proud military family, Hagan is a strong supporter of the military and our veterans and is committed to maintaining North Carolina's status as the "most military-friendly state in the nation." Hagan's father-in-law was a retired two-star Marine general, her father and brother both served in the Navy, and her husband, Chip, himself a Vietnam veteran, attended Wake Forest Law School with help from the GI Bill. Currently, Hagan has two nephews serving on active duty in our nation's Armed Services. She was a staunch supporter of the armed forces in the North Carolina legislature, allocating funding to create three family assistance centers in the state and granting in-state tuition rates at universities for troops and families stationed in North Carolina. As an appointed member of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, Hagan already has made it a point to visit several North Carolina military facilities, and continues to do so regularly. She will continue her strong support of the military through her work on the Armed Services Committee and membership in the Senate's bipartisan National Guard Caucus.

Understanding that healthy small businesses drive economic growth in North Carolina and across the country, Hagan has been supportive of economic incentive packages that encourage businesses to relocate to and expand in North Carolina. During her time as a state senator, North Carolina was repeatedly named as one of the best states in the country in which to do business by *Forbes.com*, as well as by *Site Selection* magazine. Hagan has worked to make rural areas more competitive, supporting funding for initiatives such as the Rural Economic Development Center. As a member of the U.S. Senate Small Business Committee, Hagan continues to support initiatives that create jobs in North Carolina and foster individual entrepreneurial spirit.