EVERYDAYNOMICS® Engagement Partner

Building Economic Understanding of Place



The Honorable
"Able" Mable Thomas

- **Public Servant**
- **Economic Development Advocate**
- **Community Leader**

The Honorable "Able" Mable Thomas has dedicated more than three decades to advancing economic opportunity, community development, and equitable public policy. Served as Georgia state representative and Atlanta citywide councilmember, her work connects public investment with neighborhood preservation, workforce stability, and access to essential services.

During her four years representing Atlanta's Post 1 At-Large district, Thomas used the city budget process to advocate for employee pay increases of up to 5%. She helped secure $4.9 million for green space and conservation. She championed efforts to address the effects of gentrification and played a significant role in community advocacy for the Historic Westside Revitalization Project.

As founder of the Greater Vine City Opportunities Program, Inc. (GVCOP), Thomas has supported youth and family enrichment, education, and neighborhood development. Through the nonprofit, she purchased the historic English Avenue School for $1 million, demonstrating her commitment to preserving community assets. In the Georgia General Assembly, Thomas served on committees addressing economic development and tourism, science and technology, natural resources and the environment. She chaired the study committee on Minority Participation, Diversity and Inclusion in Georgia's film and television industry, working to expand access to jobs and business opportunities.

Her legislative work also addressed the economic burden of inadequate healthcare. She passed legislation for mandated coverage of mammograms, pap smears, and prostate cancer screenings. She worked with legislative colleagues in 2020 to expand postpartum Medicaid coverage and fund maternal health. Representative Thomas and colleagues allocated $500,000 for Morehouse School of Medicine in the budget and leveraged $60 million total for maternal health.

Thomas's national leadership includes serving as Rev. Jesse Jackson's top presidential delegate at the 1984 Democratic National Convention. In July 1994, while serving as consultant to the National Black Women's Health Project, "Able" Mable attended a conference sponsored by the Ms. Foundation in Chicago. Recognizing the need for dialogue, she convened the only twelve Black women from across the country in attendance. These women collectively coined the term "reproductive justice" and became known as the Twelve Mothers of the Reproductive Justice Movement in America.

Recognized by the Georgia General Assembly Women's Caucus, Clark Atlanta University, the NAACP, and numerous community organizations, Rep. Thomas brings extensive experience in legislative advocacy, budget negotiations, and community partnerships.

In 2026, Thomas received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Park Pride, recognizing her longstanding commitment to our environment.

Her distinguished record of public service reflects a commitment to directing resources toward investments that strengthen families, preserve neighborhoods, and broaden economic participation.