

## **Wengay M. Newton, Sr.**

Born and raised in Midtown South St. Petersburg, the most impoverished area in Pinellas County. I was one of eight siblings being raised by a single divorced mother. I learned early on the value of challenging work and perseverance. My Mother, Susie Mae Wilson-Newton, worked as a domestic, sewing, cooking, cleaning, and rearing affluent people's children in Snell Isle and Shore Acres. She went home to Glory in 1985 at the early age of Forty-seven.

After graduating from Northeast High School in 1981, I attended ITT Technical Institute where I received an Associate Arts Degree in Electronics Engineering in 1983. I also attended Hillsborough Community College and St. Petersburg College.

In 1983 I started an eighteen-year career with Xerox Corporation as a Senior Printing Systems Engineer. There I met and married my soulmate, Melissa Newton. We have four adult children and seven grandchildren. This year we will celebrate 32 years of marital bliss.

Elected to St. Petersburg City Council in 2007 and re-elected to a second term in 2011. I was term limited on January 2nd, 2016.

Elected to the Florida House of Representatives November 2016 and re-elected August 2018 to a second term. I served in the Florida House of Representatives until November 2020.

Twelve consecutive years of Governance, it is my pleasure to continue serving.

### **Education:**

Northeast High School, Class of 1981 Diploma ITT Technical Institute, A.S.  
Degree in Electronic Engineering, Class of 1983  
Xerox Corporation Management Training Graduate 1996  
Microsoft MCSE SPC 2001 CONA Leadership Graduate, Class of 2006

### **Local Committees:**

Community Development Block Grant Committee  
Consolidated Plan Ad Hoc Application Review Committee  
Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority  
PSTA Legislative Committee  
PSTA Nominating Committee, Chair  
Youth Services Committee  
Budget, Finance and Taxation  
Public Services and Infrastructure  
Housing Services  
Emergency Medical Systems Ad-Hoc  
Co-Sponsored Events

Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations  
Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Pinellas Planning Council  
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council  
TBRPC Legislative Subcommittee  
Florida League of Cities – Personal, Finance and Taxation  
Florida League of Cities – Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (FBC-LEO)  
City Council Vice-Chair 2012

**Local Awards:**

2006 City of St. Petersburg Neighborhood Association Awards  
Up and Coming Neighborhood - Westminster Heights Neighborhood  
2007 City of St. Petersburg Neighborhood Association Awards Association  
President of the Year, Honorable Mention Best Neighborhood Newsletter,  
Honorable Mention  
2008 Central Oak Neighborhood Award for Outstanding Service  
2009 Gibbs High School Class of 1959 Outstanding Community Service Award  
2010 NAACP Presidents Award for Public Service  
2010 Human Rights Walk-A-Thon Outstanding Support Award  
2010 Pinellas County Job Corp 1st Graduating Class Award  
2010 Pinellas County Schools CAC Fairmont Park Elementary  
2011 Childs Park Rattlers Youth Athletic League Outstanding Community  
Service  
2012 New Faith Free Methodist Church Community Service Award  
2012 Carrera After School Program Outstanding Service Award  
2012 Boley Summer Youth Intern Program Outstanding Service Award  
2012 Family Resources Great Chefs of Tampa Bay Award  
2012 Pinellas County Urban League Work Readiness Program Service Award  
2012 Bethel A.M.E. Church Torch Award  
2013 Boley Summer Youth Intern Program Outstanding Service Award  
2013 Florida Campaign for Juvenile Justice Award  
2013 Bethel A.M.E Dine with Men Who Cook Honorable Mention Trophy  
2013 St. Petersburg Housing Authority Outstanding Community Service Award  
2013 ITT Technical Institute Outstanding Community Service Award  
2014 Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Community Service Award  
2014 Pinellas County Job Corp Center Elected Official Award  
2015 Metropolitan Planning Organization Outstanding Service Award  
2015 St. Petersburg Fire Ops 101 Training Completion Award

**State Committee Assignments:**

Government Accountability  
Health Quality Subcommittee  
Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining  
PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee  
Transportation & Infrastructure

Higher Education Appropriations  
State Affairs (Ranking Member)  
Children, Families and Seniors  
Business & Profession (Ranking Member)

**State Legislative Awards:**

First Amendment Foundation & Florida Society of News Editors (2018 – “A” Grade)  
Florida Association of Counties 2017 Home Rule Hero  
Florida Association of School Board Members 2018 Legislator of the Year  
Florida Gulfcoast Commercial Association of Realtors  
HIPPIE Hero Award 2017  
The Florida League of Cities, Inc 2018 Legislative Appreciation Award  
Keiser University Commencement Speaker

**State Leadership:**

Democratic Minority Whip  
Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation - Chair