



Maryland Senator William C. Smith, Jr.

Senator Smith is a U.S. Navy veteran of Operation Freedom's Sentinel (OFS). In March of 2019, Senator Smith deployed to Afghanistan in support of OFS, serving in Kabul, Afghanistan until October of 2019. In Afghanistan Senator Smith served as the Branch Chief for the Governance and the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) divisions within the Combined Joint Intelligence Operations Center- Afghanistan (CJIOC-A). As Branch Chief, Senator Smith ensured key leaders and planners maintained continuous situational awareness of emergent Afghan government and security force issues by providing timely and well-researched intelligence assessments and products during a particularly demanding and volatile period in Afghanistan's political history. Senator Smith drove Command understanding of the Afghan presidential election, a Commander Resolute Support Priority Intelligence Requirement, by collaborating with the Combined Joint Operations Center (CJOC), North Atlantic Treaty Organization analytical fusion cell, and other coalition-partner organizations to provide timely intelligence and advice to senior leaders. Prior to his service in Afghanistan Senator Smith supported his unit's Afghanistan/Pakistan task force, and supported NATO Headquarters Allied Maritime Command in support of Operation Active Endeavor in Europe. He currently serves as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy Reserves.

Senator Smith was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in November 2014, succeeding Heather Mizeur. He served on the House Judiciary Committee and quickly became one of the most effective legislators in Annapolis. Following Jamie Raskin's election to the United States House of Representatives, Senator Smith was appointed to the Maryland Senate in December 2016 and represents District 20. He is a member of the Legislative Black Caucus, one of the first men to join the Women's Caucus, and is the Chair of the Veterans' Caucus. In December 2019, Senator Smith was appointed to be Chair of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.

Senator Smith was born and raised in Silver Spring, Maryland. His parents were young adults during the height of the civil rights movement. It was their struggle and sacrifice that opened doors of opportunity for him. His parents taught him the importance of a good education and showed him the benefit of living in a caring, engaged community. With the support of his family, Senator Smith became a first-generation college student when he attended and graduated from the College of William and Mary. He would go on to earn a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University and a law degree from William and Mary. After college, Senator Smith enrolled in AmeriCorps where he worked as a community engagement leader for IMPACT Silver Spring and worked at the ACLU as a Legislative Assistant.

Smith currently resides in Silver Spring, Maryland with his wife and daughter.