

NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of Georgia's
13th Lt. Governor Burt Jones



2025 Legislative Priority: Supporting Georgia Families

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On **Thursday, December 12**, the Senate Study Committee on Access to Affordable Childcare met for the final time and adopted recommendations for the 2025 session. Lt. Governor Burt Jones appointed the committee during the interim as a priority to support Georgia families and to increase access to affordable and quality child care for Georgia's workforce.

Lt. Governor Burt Jones issued an Op-Ed in conjunction with the final report and announced **three legislative priorities for the 2025 Legislative Session**. For more information, please see the statement below and [you can find the link to the Op-Ed in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution here.](#)

Study committee information, meeting archives and the final report can be found here: [Senate Study Committee on Access to Affordable Childcare](#)

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“While I am proud of the significant strides that we have made for Georgia students, educators, and parents over the past several years, I realize there is more to be done. My priorities for the upcoming session are simple; supporting Georgia's educators, businesses who employ them and parents who are entering or already in the workforce.

I look forward to prioritizing a number of initiatives from the Senate Study Committee on Access to Affordable Childcare's final report and recommendations during this upcoming session. **This includes proposing an increase in the tax credit for child and dependent care expenses, the creation of a Georgia Child Tax Credit of \$250 per child under age 7, and expanding the credit amount and eligibility requirements for Georgia's tax credit for employer-sponsored child care.**

In Georgia, we will continue to take a strong stand to empower parents, schools and employers. This will benefit our children and state for generations to come.”



2025 Legislative Priority: Protecting Women's Sports

On **Friday, December 13**, the Georgia Senate Special Committee on the Protection of Women’s Sports adopted final recommendations for the 2025 Legislative Session.

“I want to thank Chairman Greg Dolezal for his leadership on this important committee, and I appreciate all of the hard work from the entire membership. The Senate continues to lead on efforts to protect women’s sports and all of the work they put into competing and becoming elite athletes. Ensuring that, in the future, females participating in Georgia sports are protected at any level will be a priority during the 2025 session.”

The committee adopted the following recommendations:

- 1.Repeal the delegation of authority by the General Assembly to high school athletic associations to regulate participation in women’s sports. This is an issue that should be decided by the people’s elected representatives.
- 2.Provide protections in statute for the protection of women’s sports in Georgia at the secondary and collegiate levels for public high schools, colleges, and universities and private institutions that compete with and against public schools in sports. This should include rules providing that, based on the athlete’s biological sex at birth, men cannot compete in sports designated for women.
- 3.Require schools that host or sponsor sporting events to provide separate changing and dressing facilities for male and female athletes based on their biological sex at birth.
- 4.Provide enforcement options for rules regarding women’s sports participation and separate changing and dressing facilities, including grievance proceedings and civil remedies for aggrieved participants and the authority to withhold state funding from schools who fail or refuse to abide by these rules.
5. Adopt other rules, as necessary, to ensure that the regulation of sports is based on promoting and preserving competitive fairness and protecting student safety and that female student athletes have fair opportunities to demonstrate their strength, skills, and athletic abilities and to obtain recognition, accolades, college scholarships, and the numerous other long-term benefits that result from participating and competing in sports.



Lt. Governor Burt Jones with Riley Gaines, Kylee Alons, Grace Countie, and Kaitlynn Wheeler at the first committee meeting on August 27th.

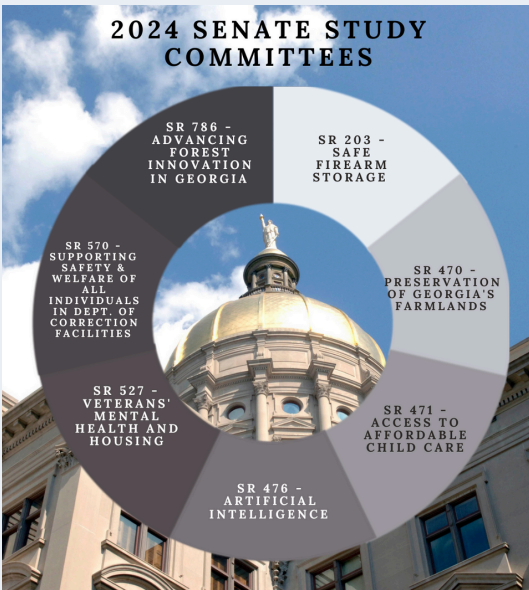
2024 Study Committee Reports

Over the past several weeks, the Georgia Senate Study Committees appointed during the 2024 Legislative Session finished their work and submitted their final reports, which include recommendations to consider for the 2025 Legislative Session. During the interim, committee members met across the state and heard from local elected officials, stakeholders, advocates and constituents on a variety of issues.

Please see below the message from Lt. Governor Burt Jones on the work of the committees:

“I want to extend my appreciation to all of the appointed members for their work to thoroughly and efficiently analyze their respective issues and topics. In addition to the members, all of the staff who helped administratively, with media or with research, were instrumental in making this process possible. I am grateful to all of the staff who helped and recognize that the work the Senate does could not be possible without you all. Thank you, everyone, for a successful 2024 interim. I am looking forward to a great 2025 Legislative Session.”

Meeting archives, presentations and final reports for the appointed study committees can be found at the following link: [2024 Georgia Senate Study Committee Information](#)



Events Around the State

- Lt. Governor Burt Jones and staff members traveled around the state to meet with constituents, hear about their concerns and also present proclamations to outstanding organizations and Georgia citizens who are making a difference from the north Georgia mountains to the coast.



Lt. Governor Jones attended the Annual Salute to Georgia's Sheriffs event to thank them for their service and bravery.



Lt. Governor Jones joined AG Commissioner Tyler Harper at the Annual APAW conference on the panel addressing animal rights and issues.



Lt. Governor Jones attended the Alpharetta Rotary Meeting to speak with business owners on issues impacting them.



Brad Vaughan (General Counsel and Legislative Director) served as a judge for the Youth Assembly Judicial Program.



Brad Vaughan speaking at the Technology Association of Georgia Legislative Summit.



Luke Hetland (Field Representative) joined the GA Green Industry Association Tour with Senators Nikki Merritt and Sheikh Raman.



Denese Sampson (Director of Constituent Services) receiving a Proclamation from the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities.



Lt. Governor Jones speaking with students at a Georgia State University leadership class.



Luke Hetland with USG Chancellor Sonny Perdue at the Columbia County Chamber Legislative Breakfast.