VOL.22 APRIL 17, 2025

# NEWSLETTER

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



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# 2025 Legislative Priorities Receive Final Passage

On April 4, 2025, the Georgia General Assembly adjourned Sine Die. At the beginning of the 2025 Legislative Session, Lt. Governor Burt Jones announced his legislative priorities. Of those announced, 15 of these received final passage and are awaiting action by Governor Brian Kemp. To learn more, please review the graphics below, visit the website (https://ltgov.georgia.gov/priorities), or scan the QR code.

Please review the graphics below for a complete list of Lt. Governor Jones' priorities that received final passage.

Information on legislation that has been signed by Governor Brian Kemp during the 40 day signing period can be found here: https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/legislation/signedlegislation/2025



#### **FINAL PASSAGE 2025 REPORT** Lt. Governor Burt Iones and the GA Senate

ROTECT WOMEN'S SPORTS

Riley Gaines Act of 2025" - bans biological males from participating in w

REDUCING STATE INCOME TAX
Accelerate the reduction in the state income tax rate contemplated by curre For tax year 2025, the income tax rate will be 5.19% (rather than 5.29%, as

vide a tax rebate to qualified taxpayers, individual taxpayers who filed an ne tax return for both 2023 and 2024.

#### INCREASING SCHOOL SAFETY ACROSS GEORGIA

Require all Georgia schools to install mobile panic alarm systems directly linked

BURT JONES

# directed toward schools will be offenses for which juveniles will be tried as

PUBLIC SAFETY
"Fentanyl Eradication and Removal Act" - establishes stiffer criminal

FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES:
Fully restored funding for the Georgia Promise Scholarship at \$141M pursi

from \$10M to \$12.5M. This is a Lt. Governor Jones' priority from the Senate
Study Committee on Access to Affordable Childcare recommendations.



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## 2025 Legislation Signing Begins

On **Tuesday**, **April 15**, Lt. Governor Burt Jones joined Governor Brian Kemp, Speaker Jon Burns, elected officials, business leaders and constituents at a bill signing for House Bill 111 and House Bill 112.

"Putting money back in taxpayer pockets and delivering on our promise to further cut the state income tax is a priority I am glad we all can agree on. With Governor Kemp's leadership, Georgia continues to serve as an example for the rest of the nation on how to reduce taxes and give more than a billion dollars back to our citizens, while having a healthy reserve and fiscally sound budget. These bills becoming law today bring us one step closer to eliminating the state income tax, a priority I have always been a proponent of. We are able to do this because we are focused on a stable and prosperous future for all Georgians, while making financial choices that will ensure Georgia's ongoing viability and financial stability. We will continue to make this a priority, and I look forward to seeing more of this great work in the future."

House Bill 111 accelerates the reduction in the state income tax rate contemplated by current law. Under House Bill 111, for tax year 2025, the income tax rate will be 5.19% (rather than 5.29%, as provided in current law). The rate will continue to drop in increments of 0.10% per year until reaching a terminal rate of 4.99% (as provided by current law). For the full language of HB 111, please follow this link: <a href="https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/69464">https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/69464</a>

House Bill 112 provides a tax rebate to individual taxpayers who filed an income tax return for both 2023 and 2024. This tax rebate is non-refundable and cannot exceed the taxpayer's tax liability for 2024. For the full language and details of HB 112, please follow this link: <a href="https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/69465">https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/69465</a>



# GEORGIA WIND WORLD COMPANY OF THE C

Field Reps visited 26 counties as of April 17 with over 10 office hours planned for next month.

# 2025 Mobile Office Hours

Each Field Representative will hold weekly mobile office hours throughout their assigned regions and will respond to constituent requests and questions. Community members will be able to contact their designated representative for event and meeting attendance.

Please visit this <u>dedicated page</u> for contact information for each representative, Georgia's map detailing each region, and a constituent contact form. This page will be updated with future meetings, town halls, and other events held in each region throughout the year.

#### T.J. Hudson

South Georgia Field Director/ Counties Region 2 <u>TJ.Hudson@ltgov.ga.gov</u>

#### Luke Hetland

North Georgia Field Director/Counties Region 1 <u>Luke.Hetland@ltgov.ga.gov</u>



TJ Hudson with attendees at Berrien County MOH.

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# Thank You - We've Adjourned Sine Die

#### A message from the Lt. Governor:

"As we enter the interim and prepare for our work over the summer to serve citizens across Georgia, I want to take a moment to thank everyone who made the 2025 Legislative Session a huge success. To all 56 Senate members, the Senate President Pro Tempore's Office, Majority Leader's Office and Minority Leader's Office, I want to share my gratitude for all of your diligent work, long hours and commitment to serving and representing citizens across Georgia. While some days were long and issues were debated into the night, I am proud of the work we all accomplished together on behalf of Georgians who will benefit now and into the future because of the policy decisions made in the Senate Chamber. I am proud of all of the members, and you should be proud of your work!

And to all of the staff, aides, interns and Senate Offices (Administrative Assistants, Budget & Evaluation Office, Press Office, Office of Policy and Legislative Analysis and Office of Secretary of the Senate) – **THANK YOU!** The Senate's success would not be possible without your work, dedication and support. I am grateful for all that you do and want to thank you from the bottom of my heart."



First Day of Session - 1/13/25



Sine Die 2025 - 4/4/2025



Georgia Dept. Of Labor Commissioner Bárbara Rivera Holmes Swearing in Ceremony



LG Office Staff and 2025 Legislative Session Interns



Annual Senate vs. House Kickball Game



Valdosta State University Blazers Visiting the Senate Chamber



HOPE Animal Assisted Crisis Response Day in the Senate