

NEWSLETTER

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



2025 Legislative Priorities Receive Final Passage

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2025 THANK YOU AND SINE DIE



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/signed-legislation/2025>



FINAL PASSAGE 2025 REPORT Lt. Governor Burt Jones and the GA Senate

PROTECT WOMEN'S SPORTS

"Riley Gaines Act of 2025" - bans biological males from participating in women's sports across Georgia.

REDUCING STATE INCOME TAX

Accelerate the reduction in the state income tax rate contemplated by current law. For tax year 2025, the income tax rate will be 5.19% (rather than 5.29%, as provided in current law).

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

INCREASING SCHOOL SAFETY ACROSS GEORGIA

Support Governor Brian Kemp's allocation of \$50 million in the amended fiscal year 2025 budget for one-time additions to school safety grants.

Require faster transfer of records when students move to a new school system.

Require all Georgia schools to install mobile panic alarm systems directly linked to emergency responders and state and local law enforcement.



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INCREASING SCHOOL SAFETY ACROSS GEORGIA CONT'D

Strengthen Georgia's law so that attempted homicides and terroristic acts directed toward schools will be offenses for which juveniles will be tried as adults.

PUBLIC SAFETY

"Fentanyl Eradication and Removal Act" - establishes stiffer criminal penalties for fentanyl trafficking.

CHILD TAX CREDIT AND CHILDCARE TAX PROGRAMS

Create a child tax credit and expand existing childcare tax programs.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES:

Fully restored funding for the Georgia Promise Scholarship at \$141M pursuant to Senate Bill 233.

Increase funding for out-of-school care for statewide and community grantees from \$10M to \$12.5M. This is a Lt. Governor Jones' priority from the Senate Study Committee on Access to Affordable Childcare recommendations.

\$1M for 6 perinatal regional centers for clinical care for high-risk infants and training residents in complex care.

Fully funded wraparound services program for the Department of Children and Family Services.

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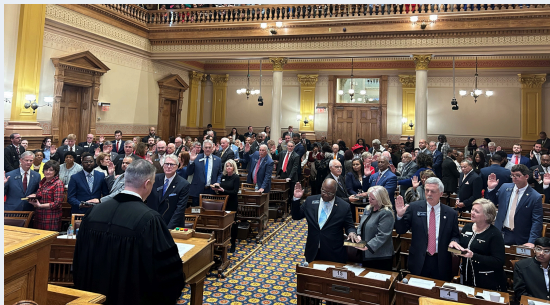
Field Reps visited 26 counties as of April 17 with over 10 office hours planned for next month.

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