

# NEWSLETTER

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



## 2026 Priority: Largest Income Tax Cut In State History

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On **Thursday, February 2026**, Lt. Governor Burt Jones celebrated the Georgia Senate passage of two income tax proposals, unanimously backed by the Senate Republican Caucus, to maximize relief for hardworking Georgians. Each piece of legislation would independently be the largest financial return to Georgia taxpayers in history.

*"I am proud to deliver on my promise to put money back in the pockets of Georgia's families and our state economy. The Senate is leading the effort to continue making significant cuts to our income taxes, while maintaining the fiscal soundness of our state. I look forward to working with the House and Governor on how to maximize tax relief and get an income tax cut over the finish line immediately."*

Lt. Governor Burt Jones has consistently led on reducing the tax burden and has returned billions to taxpayers as part of Georgia's conservative budget strategy. Last year, Lt. Governor Jones created the Senate Special Committee on Eliminating Georgia's Income Tax to examine ways to put the state on the path to eliminate the income tax as part of his commitment to the people of Georgia. After months of research, fact finding, and expert consultation, the committee delivered its report on January 7th, 2026.

The full text and additional information on **Senate Bill 476/House Bill 134** can be found here: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/72977>

The full text and additional information on **Senate Bill 477/House Bill 463** can be found here: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/72976>

Additional information on Lt. Governor Burt Jones' 2026 Legislative Session Priorities can be found using the QR code below or here: <https://ltgov.georgia.gov/priorities>



## 2026 Priority: Georgia's Children and Families

On **Friday, February 6, 2026**, Lt. Governor Burt Jones issued a statement supporting the Georgia Senate's passage of three legislative initiatives addressing priorities for the 2026 session - providing resources and services to all of Georgia's children, including those in and aging out of the foster care system.

*"The Senate will continue to lead the way, while working with President Trump's Administration, to ensure we are delivering on behalf of Georgia's most vulnerable - our foster care children and families. Over the past four years, I have committed to ensuring that children in foster care receive the proper care, support, and resources at every stage of life, and my resolve on this issue will not waver. I will continue to prioritize legislation and funding because these children and families deserve a champion who will never give up on them. I am committed to ensuring they are heard, supported, and never forgotten."*

During the 2025 Legislative Session, Lt. Governor Burt Jones prioritized the creation of the Senate Study Committee on Additional Services and Resources for Transition Age Youth. Last year, the study committee filed its recommendations and during this session, Lt. Governor Jones is prioritizing the following study committee recommendations:

**Senate Bill 402** - Continue current pilot programs screening foster youth for autism spectrum disorder and collect additional data for the pilot by implementing screening in two additional DFCS regions. This legislation passed with a bi-partisan vote of 48-0 and is now in the House Judiciary Juvenile Committee.

**Senate Bill 431** - Ensure school districts are in compliance with enrollment requirements for children in the foster care system. This legislation passed with a bi-partisan vote of 49-0 and is now in the House Education Committee.

**Senate Resolution 622** - Joint Study Committee on Evaluating Escalating Costs in Georgia's Foster Care System. This legislation passed with a bi-partisan vote of 49-0 and is now in the House Judiciary Juvenile Committee.



**Lt. Governor Jones with Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick and HUD Regional Administrator Christopher M. Patterson meeting on foster care housing vouchers**

## 2026 Priority: Georgia Senate Passage of Property Tax Reform

On **Tuesday, February 3, 2026**, Lt. Governor Burt Jones applauded the Georgia Senate's passage of a key priority for the 2026 Legislative Session - property tax reform. The Senate passed **Senate Bill 382**, which would make annual caps on increases in home values mandatory across the state, with a bi-partisan vote of 31-19.

*"I want to thank the Senate for taking quick action on a priority that we can all agree on - protecting homes and putting more money back in taxpayer pockets and for passing property tax reform three years in a row. This legislation is about maintaining both local control and local accountability for property taxes and ensuring transparency when local governments seek to raise property taxes. I encourage the House to join the Senate in passing this legislation, so we can continue to keep costs low and put more money back in Georgians' pockets."*

In 2024, the Senate passed **Senate Bill 349** with bi-partisan support, a vote of 42-7, in an effort to address rising property taxes. It did not reach final passage. This session, the key elements of that bill are back for consideration in **Senate Bill 382**, sponsored by Senator Chuck Hufstetler (R - Rome). This legislation would make annual caps on increases in home values mandatory for any jurisdiction that does not already have such a system in place and would eliminate the ability of local governments to opt-out of the annual caps, as current law allows.

The full text and additional information on **Senate Bill 382** can be found here:  
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/72161>

### PROPERTY 2026 SENATE PRIORITY TAX REFORM



# Events Under the Gold Dome

The 2026 Legislative Session began on **Monday, January 12, 2026** and will end on *Sine Die* - scheduled for **April 2, 2026**.

For additional information on the Senate Committee schedule, please follow this link: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/schedule/senate>.  
For information on legislation that has been introduced, please follow this link: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/all>.



**Lt. Governor Jones meeting with students from the Georgia Technology Student Association.**



**Lt. Governor Jones joined Speaker Burns and others to celebrate Georgia Military College Day at the Capitol.**



**Lt. Governor Jones served as the keynote speaker at the Georgia Forestry Association Capitol event and received an award.**



**Lt. Governor Jones spoke and met with members of the Georgia Farm Bureau.**



**Lt. Governor Jones and Sen. Randy Robertson honoring Georgia's heroes in blue on Chiefs of Police Day at the Capitol.**



**Lt. Governor Jones and Senator Elena Parent honoring parents and patients during CHOA - Congenital Heart Defect Week.**



**Meeting with parents and students on Decoding Dyslexia Georgia Day at the Capitol.**