

NEWSLETTER

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



2026 Priority: Georgia Gas Tax Suspension

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CONSTITUENT VISITS AROUND THE STATE



On **Monday, May 18, 2026**, Lt. Governor Burt Jones issued a statement in support Governor Brian Kemp extending the Georgia gas tax suspension for an additional two weeks.

"I want to thank Governor Brian Kemp for extending the gas tax suspension and putting more money back in the pockets of hardworking Georgians. I was proud to help lead the legislature's efforts to suspend it for the past two months, and I commend the Governor for providing relief at the pump for an additional few weeks."

Georgia's current motor fuel excise tax is 33.3 cents per gallon for gasoline and 37.3 cents per gallon for diesel. On Friday, May 15, 2026, Governor Brian Kemp signed an executive order declaring a state of emergency and suspending the state's gas tax for two weeks. **This suspension will go into effect at 12:01 a.m. on May 20, 2026 and run through June 3, 2026.**

Read the governor's executive order [HERE](#).



2026 Priorities: Lowering Taxes and Economic Development

On **Monday, May 11, 2026**, Lt. Governor Burt Jones issued a statement commending Governor Brian Kemp for signing legislation that will lower taxes, expand the GOAL scholarship tax credit, and support economic development.

"I am proud that we have cut taxes every year I've been Lt. Governor, and I want to thank Governor Kemp for leading the charge. The bills being signed into law today help every family and business in Georgia. We are also supporting school choice and parents who want to decide on what's best for their child's educational needs by expanding the GOAL scholarship tax credit. This is a great day for Georgians."

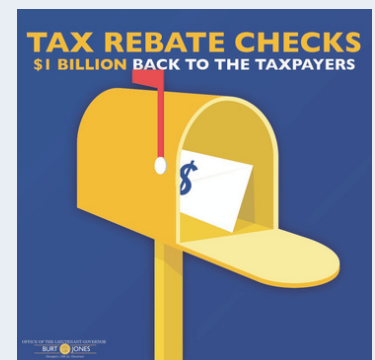
The legislation signed into law was passed during the 2026 Legislative Session. Additional information for all legislation can be found [HERE](#).

Senate Bills:

- **SB 33:** Property Tax Reform
- **SB 111:** Rural Hospital Tax Credit

House Bills:

- **HB 328:** SSO Tax Credit Increase
- **HB 445:** Allow Qualified Hearing Officers to review Certain Tax Reassessment Disputes
- **HB 463:** Income Tax Cut
- **HB 987:** Voluntary Portable Benefit Plans
- **HB 1129:** Enterprise Zones
- **HB 1185:** Business Court Reform
- **HB 1209:** Sales Tax Exemption for Construction Materials for project in Savannah



2026 Legislative Session: Vetoes and FY27 Budget Updates

On **Tuesday, May 19, 2026**, Governor Brian Kemp signed the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget and issued his veto statements for the 2026 Legislative Session. This was the deadline for the Governor to sign any legislation passed this session. Details, highlights, and helpful information can be found below:

Information on legislation that was signed into law, including effective dates, can be found here: <https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/legislation/signed-legislation/2026>

Governor Kemp issued 12 veto statements and two signing statements. The Governor's veto messages and signing statements can be found here: <https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/legislation/vetoed-legislation/2026>

Highlights from the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget disregard letter, statements and line item vetoes can be found here: <https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/legislation/vetoed-legislation/2026>

- **34** budget items were addressed with language considered non-binding with instructions on how state agencies should address specific appropriation items.
- State agencies were instructed to disregard the language and withhold spending the appropriation included in **113** line items.
- **11** items were vetoed by the Governor.



Constituent Visits Around the State

On **Friday, May 1, 2026**, Lt. Governor Burt Jones delivered the Reinhardt College Commencement for the graduating class of 2026. The 140th commencement ceremony at Reinhardt University recently took place at Ken White Stadium in Waleska, Georgia. Lt. Governor Jones addressed approximately 280 graduates and offered advice on navigating life's challenges. President Dr. Mark Roberts congratulated the students on their academic achievements and resilience.



Lt. Governor Jones visited Evans Tool & Die, Inc. with SBA Administrator Kelly Loeffler.



Lt. Governor Jones served as the keynote speaker at the Spalding Airport Groundbreaking.



T.J. Hudson, Field Representative, attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the Dental College of Georgia in Savannah.

On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, Governor Brian Kemp issued a proclamation calling state lawmakers to a special legislative session beginning **June 17, 2026**. During the special session, lawmakers will address the redrawing of maps, and clarifying rules QR codes and ballots.

For additional information on the proclamation, please click here: <https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/proclamations>