

# NEWSLETTER

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



## 2026 Joint and Senate Study Committee Appointments

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Earlier this summer, Lt. Governor Burt Jones announced legislative appointments to three 2026 Joint and Senate Study Committees.

*"I am happy to announce my appointments for the 2026 Joint and Senate Study Committees. I look forward to each member contributing their expertise to the work of these study committees and on critical issues facing constituents across Georgia. I also want to thank each of the members who sponsored the resolutions creating these study committees. I look forward to learning more from the committees' findings and working with the members to ensure that Georgia remains the best state in the nation to live, work, and raise a family."*

**Joint Study Committee on Evaluating Escalating Costs in Georgia's Foster Care System.** The following members serve on the committee: Senator Kay Kirkpatrick, District 32, who serves as co-chair; Senators John Albers, District 56; Bo Hatchett, District 50; RaShaun Kemp, District 38; Ben Watson, District 1; and Kenya Wicks, District 34.

**Joint Study Committee on Generational Sustainability of Family Farms.** The following members serve on the committee: Senator Russ Goodman, District 8, who serves as co-chair; Senators Drew Echols, District 49; Freddie Powell Sims, District 12; and Sam Watson, District 11.

**Senate Study Committee on Adoption and Permanency Affordability.** The following members serve on the five-member committee: Senator Randy Robertson District 29, who serves as chair; Senators Kim Jackson, District 41; Kay Kirkpatrick, District 32; Michael 'Doc' Rhett, District 33; and Shawn Still, District 48.

Dates and locations for meetings of each of the study committees can be found here: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/schedule/senate>

For all of the information related to this year's Senate study committees, please follow this page: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/other-committees/senate/2026>

## 2026 Annual Book Drive in Support of the Georgia Council on Literacy

Over the past several months, the Lt. Governor's Office held the fourth annual book drive in support of the Georgia Council on Literacy. This year, the office was able to donate over **12,000 books** to the Council. The Department of Driver Services donated over **10,000 books**. The office wants to thank everyone who donated and made this book drive a success every year!

Since the start of the book drive four years ago, the office has donated over **45,000 books** in support of literacy efforts across Georgia. Literacy is fundamental to a child's intellectual development and putting books in the hands of Georgians is one way to ensure that the love of reading and literacy is shared with all of Georgia's children.

Along with donating books, the Lt. Governor's Office is proud to support Georgia Reads Week from September 21 - September 25. Georgia Reads, an initiative of the Georgia Council on Literacy, has recognized and awarded communities across the state that are building locally driven collaboratives to improve literacy outcomes for children and families.

Additional information on this important week, along with the Georgia Reads Community Collaborative, can be found here: <https://georgiareads.org/>

Additional information on the Georgia Council on Literacy can be found here: <https://goews.georgia.gov/georgia-council-literacy>



Georgia Reads Community Awards  
Information and Resources



## Constituent Visits Around the State



Lt. Governor Jones served as the keynote speaker at the Entertainment Tourism Alliance of Georgia annual event.



Lt. Governor Jones presented a proclamation at the 200<sup>th</sup> Celebration of the Macedonia Baptist Church in Jackson, GA.