

# NEWSLETTER

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



## IN THIS ISSUE

### CON STUDY COMMITTEE UPDATE

### WORKFORCE STUDY COMMITTEE UPDATE

### MOBILE OFFICES HOURS UPDATE

### CAPITOL UPDATES

### EVENTS AROUND THE STATE

## Senate Study Committee on Certificate of Need Update

On Monday, August 28, the Senate Study Committee on Certificate of Need (CON) met in Columbus, GA. Committee members heard stories from local community members on how the current certificate of need laws are impacting their access to healthcare services. Additionally, local providers shared personal stories highlighting how CON laws hindered their abilities to expand or open new services in Columbus and the surrounding communities.

Expanding access to healthcare and reviewing how current CON laws are hindering this process is the focus of this study committee. The committee will also review recent legislative changes around the nation - like South Carolina - as they prepare final recommendations for the 2024 Legislative Session.

**The next meeting will be held in Savannah, GA on Monday, October 16th.** All of the information related to this study committee can be found here: <https://www.senate.ga.gov/committees/en-US/2023StudyCommittees.aspx>



Sen. Ben Watson (R - Savannah)



Sen. Ed Harbison (D - Columbus)

## Senate Study Committee on Expanding Georgia's Workforce

On August 22, the Senate Study Committee on Expanding Georgia's Workforce met in West Point, GA. This is the third meeting for this study committee. Several businesses, associations, and industries shared information on their efforts and initiatives to increase workforce across Georgia.

The goal of the study committee is to examine Georgia's current practices, pilot programs, and public-private partnerships and initiatives regarding workforce development across the state. At the final meeting on Tuesday, November 14, members will share recommendations to develop a modern and experienced workforce, both of which are critical to growing and sustaining Georgia's business environment.

The following meetings have been set for the study committee:

- **Thursday, October 26, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**  
The fifth meeting will take place in Dalton, GA.
- **Tuesday, November 14, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**  
The final meeting will take place at the Georgia State Capitol.

Additional information for the study committee can be found here:

<https://www.expandinggeorgiasworkforcestudy.com/>

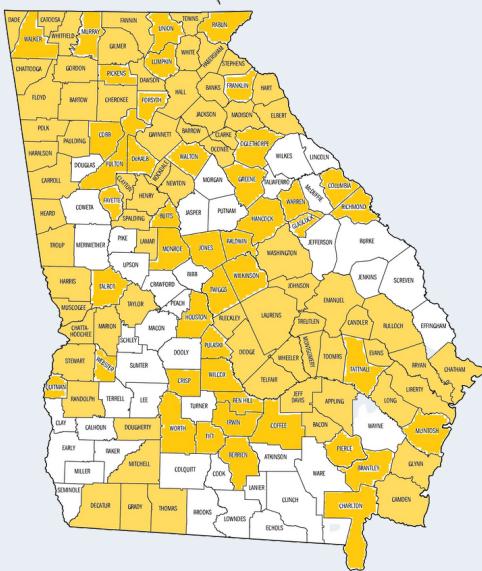


## Mobile Office Hours Monthly Update

Each Field Director continues to 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 dedicated page 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: <https://ltgov.georgia.gov/constituent-services-0/statewide-field-representatives>



### Counties visited as of Sept. 22, 2023

**116 out of 159. Field Reps visited an additional 16 counties in the past month.**



**Sen. Max Burns (R - Sylvania)  
Luke Hetland - North GA Field Rep**

## Capitol Updates

Last month, Lt. Governor Burt Jones sent Secretary Cook a letter in support of the installation of a lifesaving Narcan Overdose Reversal box in the Senate ante room as well as by the security desk at the public check in area. Shortly after the Lt. Governor's letter and the support of the 40 member organizations of the Georgia Substance Use Disorder Policy Partnership and the 20 member organizations of the Mental Health Policy Partnership, the box was installed in the Senate.

Recent data has shown that the number one cause of death in the United States of Americans between 18 and 45 is fentanyl overdose. The Capitol and the Senate are open to the public which allows thousands of people to tour and visit both areas throughout the year. Now, the Senate is prepared if a medical issue involving an overdose occurs.



## Events Around the State

- Lt. Governor Burt Jones and Mrs. Jan Jones joined members of the GRACE Commission for a meeting at the Governor's Mansion. The Georgians for Refuge, Action, Compassion, and Education Commission (GRACE) was created to combat the threat of human trafficking in the State of Georgia.
- On August 31, Lt. Governor Burt Jones attended a Q&A on the Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program. The Lt. Governor answered questions from the crowd and discussed school choice as a priority.
- Lt. Governor Burt Jones and several staff members attended a tour of the Shepherd Center. The group learned about the center's mission and work to deliver life-renewing neurorehabilitation with unwavering heart, humor, and hope.



**Members of the GRACE Commission**



**GOAL Conference**



**Shepherd Center Tour**