

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**February 3, 2025**

Now that we are 3 weeks into the legislative session, I can officially stomp out my annual flame of mythological thinking. You see, those of us who return to legislative sessions year after year after year are the kind of people who are victims of a condition called Advocacy Amnesia. Each January, we show up bright and cheery, certain that we can collectively achieve those things that have been elusive in the past. “Surely they will pass both budgets by March 7 and adjourn early.” “Surely the Senate Judiciary Committee will set their meetings for 2pm instead of 4pm.” “Surely I’ll remember which end of the Capitol is the North side and which is the South side.” “Surely the lawmakers will vote however I want them to.” And “Surely these cute shoes won’t give me four blisters, two bunions and a shin splint before I reach the capitol from the parking deck.” In all honesty, I think I could have kept my mythological thinking going if it weren’t for that last blister. But when I finally pried my shoe off late that night, I realized that it was yet another session comprised of hard floors, late nights, and complicated conversations with hundreds – no, thousands – of humans in the same 2 buildings, for forty long legislative days and sometimes nights. For about three straight months, we all show up; we think real hard; and we try to make the 8<sup>th</sup> biggest state in the nation better, whatever “better” looks like. And most of all, we NEVER finish the session early, even when everyone is getting along. So, kind of like my footwear, lawmaking can look nice on the outside, but be kind of messy and painful on the inside, but you can’t just walk around in your socks, so you just keep going until it’s over. If you are lucky, by the time you score the post-session foot massage and bubble-wrap slippers, you will have forgotten all about the blisters and just remember those groovy kicks you were wearing, and how cute they will look next year when you show up at Senate Judi at 2.

But until then, slide on, strap in, lace up and check out the bills and action alerts below.

Stepping out for now-

--Polly

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## Justice, Public Safety, & School Discipline

- [HB 123](#)** (Werkheiser- 157th) In criminal cases involving a capital offense for which the death penalty is sought, the bill allows an accused person to file a pretrial notice of intent to raise a claim of intellectual disability. Such notice shall state that the accused has intellectual disability.  
STATUS: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee
- [HB 138](#)** (Neal-79th) Adds de-escalation techniques and training that include scenario-based training and methods to training for all POST certified peace officers.  
STATUS: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee
- [HB 179](#)** (Smith-18th) Permits digital recording of certain trial proceedings for felony cases.  
STATUS: House Judiciary Committee
- [HB 194](#)** (Byrd-20th) Revises standards of self-defense or self-defense of self or others to exclude the use or threat of force against a law enforcement officer in a public location.  
STATUS: House Hopper
- [HB 214](#)** (Bell-75th) Prohibits creative or artistic expression (i.e., the expression or application of creativity or imagination in the production or arrangement of forms, sounds, words, movements, or symbols, including music, dance, performance art, visual art, poetry, literature, film, and other such objects or media) as admissible evidence at trial.  
STATUS: House Hopper
- [SB 25](#)** (McLaurin-14th) Allows offenders who have either maxed out their performance incentive credits or are serving life sentences and up for parole consideration to request a video conference with the parole board at least 30 days before their tentative parole date. During this meeting, they can present information regarding their offense, rehabilitation efforts, community support, and the impact of their release. Additionally, offenders can request written findings explaining the board's decision, including input from the victim's side and prosecution. If three board members tentatively deny parole, the remaining two members have 14 days to review and discuss before the decision is finalized.  
STATUS: Senate Public Safety Committee
- [SB 29](#)** (Williams-25th) Requires the collection of DNA samples of individuals arrested for the commission of a felony at the time such individuals are booked or otherwise processed by a detention facility. This includes children who are under the age of 17 who have allegedly committed a felony. A detention facility is defined as "any place of confinement for juvenile or adult individuals accused of, convicted of, or adjudicated for violating a law of this state or an ordinance of a political subdivision of this state."  
STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee

**SB 32** (Williams-25th) Increases the sentence for any person who willingly resists, obstructs, or opposes any law enforcement officer by committing violence to such officer from 3-15 years to 10-20 years.

STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee

**HB 61** (Dolezal-27th) Revises and adds to the set of offenses for which youth ages 13 to 17 are tried and sentenced as adults. The bill would require that, in addition to the existing nine offenses, youth alleged to have committed any of the 23 following offenses would be treated the same as adult criminal defendants: aggravated assault with a firearm, terroristic threats or acts upon a school, attempt to commit or conspiracy to commit murder, attempt or conspiracy to commit rape, attempt or conspiracy to commit aggravated sodomy, attempt or conspiracy to commit aggravated child molestation, attempt or conspiracy to commit aggravated sexual battery, attempt or conspiracy to commit armed robbery with a firearm, attempt or conspiracy to commit aggravated assault with a firearm, attempt or conspiracy to commit aggravated battery upon a public safety officer, and attempt or conspiracy to commit a terroristic threat or act upon a school. Cases involving the added offenses may be transferred to the juvenile court by the superior court after indictment for further proceedings. The bill also amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-67 to require any student in grade 6 or higher to authorize the release of records pertaining to any class A or class B designated felony acts subject to a misdemeanor punishable by \$1,000 fine or 30 days imprisonment, community service, or a combination. Further, the bill amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-701 to require courts and state child-serving agencies to notify the local school system whenever a child is subject to electronic monitoring, an intensive supervision program, or home confinement program and authorizes the school to use the information for the purpose of school safety. A new Code Section 20-2-1181.1 is added to create the offenses of a terroristic threat of a school and a terroristic act upon a school and provide for punishment of such offenses as a misdemeanor unless the threat suggested death of a person, which is a felony punishable by \$1,000 fine or imprisonment for 1-5 years, or both. If a person suffers a serious physical injury as a result of the threat, the felony punishment increases to a fine of \$250,000 and 5-40-years imprisonment, or both. Finally, O.C.G.A. 20-2-1185, relating to school safety plans and drills, is amended to require an annual site threat assessment of school buildings, facilities, and campuses by law enforcement, appropriate government agency, or certified individual or entity, to be included in the school safety plan submitted to the GaDOE. (A huge thank you to Barton Child Law and Policy Center for this excellent summary.)

STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee



## Child Welfare & Protection

**HB 57** (Cameron-1st) Expands the definition of incest to include step-grandparents and step-grandchildren.

STATUS: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

- HB 136** (Newton-127th) Expands tax credits to qualified organizations for expenses relating to wrap around services for justice involved youth and expands the wraparound services that are qualified expenditures. The bill also provides for such tax credits to be used by certain insurance companies against insurance premium tax liability.
- STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this MONDAY.
- HB 171** (Thomas-21st) Prohibits distribution of computer-generated obscene material depicting a child and provides penalties and probation for such obscenities.
- STATUS: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee
- HB 191** (Moore-91st) Permits the court to deliver a citation by certified mail, directly to the party's place of employment, known relative, or by any other reasonable means to either party if found to be avoiding delaying a hearing.
- STATUS: House Judiciary Committee
- SB 8** (Kirkpatrick-32nd) Adds juvenile court judges to the list of judges who may issue a warrant for the arrest of any offender against the penal laws, based on probable cause either on the judge's own knowledge or on the information of others given to the judge or officer under oath.
- STATUS: Senate Children and Families Committee
- SB 9** (Albers-56th) Prohibits distribution of computer-generated obscene material depicting a child and provides penalties and probation for such obscenities.
- STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this MONDAY.
- SB 27** (Albers-56th) Establishes the offense of 'doxxing' by criminalizing the malicious publication of private information online to intimidate, harass, or harm someone. Offenders face a misdemeanor for first-time offenses and a felony (1-10 years imprisonment) for serious harm, repeat offenses, or if an adult targets a minor. Victims can seek protective orders and sue for damages, including legal fees. Legal action can be filed where the communication originated, was received, or where the victim lives.
- STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee
- SB 42** (Hatchett-50th) Eliminates ambiguity in sentencing laws for the offenses of prostitution, keeping a place of prostitution, pimping, and pandering. The rule of lenity, which now could allow for lighter sentencing, will no longer be an option for traffickers of minors.
- STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee



## Health & Behavioral Health

**HB 19** (Scott-76th) Requires DBHDD to create an electronic inpatient psychiatric bed registry to identify availability for psychiatric beds for inpatient facilities. Additional data sharing shall be reviewed and set by the department.

STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee

**HB 20** (Scott-76th) Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules requiring all certificated public school personnel to receive annual training in depression and suicide awareness and prevention. The bill also establishes the Student Mental Health Screenings Grant Program, and requires GaDOE to develop a model policy for student depression and suicide awareness, plus help schools establish certain healthcare related partnerships to conduct mental health screenings.

STATUS: House Education Committee

**HB 24** (Scott-76th) Establishes a school-linked behavioral health grant program under DBHDD to identify early interventions in K-12 schools for students that may have mental health or substance use disorders.

STATUS: House Education Committee

**HB 26** (Scott-76th) Requires DBHDD to establish a school-linked behavioral health grant program to identify early interventions in K-12 schools for students that may have mental health or substance use disorders.

STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee

**HB 59** (Glaize-67th) Reduces the legal counselor ratio from 1 counselor to 450 students to 1 counselor to 250 students.

STATUS: House Education Committee

**HB 81** (Ballard-147th) "Interstate Compact for School Psychologists"- Joins Georgia to state pathway that allows school psychologist to obtain and practice in schools in any member state. If passed, the Act would become effective once 7 states are in the compact.

STATUS: House Education Committee

**HB 83** (Au-50th) Increases the taxes on packs of cigarettes from 37¢ to 57¢ per pack.

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

**HB 84** (Au-50th) Increases the taxes on packs of vapor products from 7% of the wholesale price to 15%.

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

- [HB 87](#)** (Clark-100th) Requires health insurance benefits to cover medically necessary orthotic devices and prosthetic devices for affected persons during a three-year period. Additionally, healthcare insurance beneficiaries are to be provided with at least two distinct healthcare professionals under their coverage for each issuance and renewal of their coverage.  
STATUS: House Health Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this MONDAY.
- [HB 96](#)** (Park-107th) Increases the taxes on packs of cigarettes from 37¢ to \$1.37 per pack.  
STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee
- [HB 97](#)** (Park-107th) Provides the expansion of Medicaid for low-income individuals making less than 138 percent of the (FPL).  
STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee
- [HB 100](#)** (Douglas-78th) Requires that health insurers cost share the price of prescription drugs with enrollees, covering at least 80% of the rebates they receive or anticipate receiving for each drug.  
STATUS: House Insurance Committee
- [HB 101](#)** (Douglas-78th) Requires for the Board of Community Health to report annually the amount of prescription drug rebates and related concessions applied to the premium reductions for state health benefits plan participants.  
STATUS: House Insurance Committee
- [HB 102](#)** (Cooper-45th) Facilitates the establishment of the Georgia Quality Reporting Project, which would gauge the quality of treatment for opioid use disorder and healthcare overall, improve the quality of care, reduce the overall cost of medical treatment, and foster clinical research.  
STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee
- [HB 109](#)** (Bonner-73rd) "EmPATH Georgia Act" - Creates a five-year pilot program for people experiencing psychiatric emergencies. This program will operate for adults 18 years or older seven days a week and provide intensive short-term, noninstitutional treatment.  
STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee
- [HB 124](#)** (Scoggins-14th) Requires the State Health Benefits Plan to cover healthcare services for pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infection (PANDAS) and pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) in accordance with nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines.  
STATUS: House Insurance Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this MONDAY.
- [HB 139](#)** (Jones-25th) Prohibits drug manufacturers and wholesalers from withholding or limiting the supply of medications to pharmacies which participate in the federal 340B drug discount program.  
STATUS: House Health Committee

- [HB 144](#)** (Newton-127th) Includes dentistry in the tax credit for medical preceptor rotations, providing \$1,000 per physician or licensed dentist and \$750 per APRN, with a total annual cap of \$6 million.  
STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee
- [HB 154](#)** (Richardson-125th) Designates ambulance services as essential services.  
STATUS: House Health Committee
- [HB 170](#)** (Mathiak-82nd) Healthcare benefit providers must provide a written record of all payments and reimbursements made to an injured party within 30 days of receiving a written request from the treating healthcare provider.  
STATUS: House Insurance Committee
- [HB 196](#)** (Kelley-16th) Insurers must reimburse pharmacies for drugs dispensed to state health plan beneficiaries at the national average drug acquisition cost or 4% of that cost, or \$50—whichever is less—or a professional dispensing fee. The cost share is based only on the dispensing fee  
STATUS: House Hopper
- [HB 197](#)** (Hawkins-27th) Implements a callback telecommunications system or website in which a provider or provider's appropriately qualified designee can communicate a potential treatment plan for a patient.  
STATUS: House Hopper
- [HB 209](#)** (Romman-97th) Declares ambulance service, whether provided by a public, private nonprofit, or private for-profit entity, as an essential service.  
STATUS: House Hopper
- [HR 8](#)** (Schofield-63rd) Creates the "State Workgroup to Increase Chronic Disease Information and Screening in Communities of Color."  
STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee
- [HR 72](#)** (Hawkins-27th) Creates a House Study Committee on Cancer Care Access.  
STATUS: House Health Committee
- [SB 5](#)** (Kirkpatrick-32nd) Provides that each insurer that utilizes prior authorization requirements shall implement and maintain a program that allows for the selective application of reductions in prior authorization requirements based on the stratification of healthcare providers performance and adherence to evidence-based medicine. Such program shall promote quality, affordable healthcare and reduce unnecessary administrative burdens for both the insurer and the healthcare provider.  
STATUS: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee. The bill moves on to Senate Rules Committee.

**SB 30** (Watson-1st) Prohibits the prescription or administration of puberty-blocking medication to a minor if such procedure or treatment is performed, prescribed, or administered for the purpose of attempting to alter the appearance of or affirm such minor's perception of his or her sex if such appearance or perception is inconsistent with such minor's sex.

STATUS: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

**SB 39** (Tillery-19th) Prohibits coverage of expenses for gender-affirming care under the state health benefit plan or with any state funds, and prohibits state healthcare facilities and healthcare providers employed by the state from providing gender-affirming care. Exceptions are made for medically necessary treatments unrelated to gender dysphoria, disorders of sex development, partial androgen insensitivity syndrome, and similar conditions permitted under the state health benefit plan as of January 1, 2025.

STATUS: Senate Insurance and Labor Committee

**SB 50** (Lucas-26th) "PeachCare Plus Act of 2025"-Expands Medicaid eligibility for individuals earning less than 138% of the federal poverty level. Mandates that by October 31, 2026, Georgia's Department of Community Health will submit a federal waiver request to enroll eligible individuals in state or federal marketplace healthcare plans, covering all associated premiums and costs. The program will remain in effect as long as federal funding covers at least 90% of expenses, with state savings directed to the Indigent Care Trust Fund. The bill also establishes an Advisory Commission on the PeachCare Plus Program, to assist in drafting, reviewing, and implementing the waiver request and provide ongoing recommendations for program success.

STATUS: Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee

**SB 60** (Hufstetler-52nd) Increases regulation and duties of pharmacy benefits managers to include the duties to balance the interest of the care of the insured, health plans, and providers.

STATUS: Senate Insurance and Labor Committee



## Maternal & Infant Care

**HB 25** (Scott-76th) Allows GA DHS to apply for a waiver allowing SNAP and WIC beneficiaries to purchase diapers and menstrual hygiene products with the benefit once the US Department of Agriculture makes such an application available.

STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee

**HB 46** (Davis-87th) Ensures additional representation of healthcare and mental health experts, community members, and relevant nonprofits on the Maternal Mortality Review Committee. Also addresses Committee vacancies and establishes privacy protocols.

STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee



**HB 89** (Cooper-45th) Amends the duties of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee to review psychiatric or other clinical records provided by healthcare facilities. Additionally, this bill establishes the "Regional Perinatal Center Advisory Committee" which shall advise the Commissioner of Public Health on related perinatal centers and adequacy of the regional perinatal system. The bill also sets provisions for the consideration of any hospital wishing to be designated as a regional perinatal center.

STATUS: Recommended Do Pass by the House Public and Community Health Committee. The bill moves on to House Rules Committee.

**HB 94** (Lumsden-12th) Requires health insurance benefits to cover standard fertility preservation services when medically necessary treatments such as radiation therapy, and chemotherapy have potentially infertility side effects.

STATUS: House Health Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this MONDAY.

**HB 149** (Barnes-86th) Creates a three-year pilot program to provide postpartum care program through mobile health clinics in counties that do not have a hospitals or birth centers offering obstetric care or fewer than 60 obstetric providers per 10,000 births.

STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee



## Early Childhood Education & Out-of-School Time

**HB 118** (Townsend-179th) Requires childcare learning centers and family child care learning homes maintain at least one portable airway clearance device and each employee that cares or supervises children be trained in CPR.

STATUS: House Education Committee

**HB 175** (Jones-25th) Revise the provisions to require comprehensive background checks for early care and education programs and Head Start programs. Further, it requires all early care and similar programs to provide documentation of each background check on personnel or risk revocation of licensure.

STATUS: House Education Committee



## K-12 Education

- [HB 12](#)** (Cannon-172nd) Reduces the minimum required millage rate from 14 mills to 10 mills for a school system to qualify for equalization grants.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 20](#)** (Scott-76th) Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules requiring all certificated public school personnel to receive annual training in depression and suicide awareness and prevention. The bill also establishes the Student Mental Health Screenings Grant Program, and requires GaDOE to develop a model policy for student depression and suicide awareness, plus help schools establish certain healthcare related partnerships to conduct mental health screenings.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 23](#)** (Scott-76th) Requires schools to provide progress reports to parents or legal guardians of students in the early intervention program, and requires the GaDOE to collaborate with the Professional Standards Commission to improve and update professional development opportunities for teachers that specifically relate to supporting limited-English-proficient students.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 24](#)** (Scott-76th) Establishes a school-linked behavioral health grant program under DBHDD to identify early interventions in K-12 schools for students that may have mental health or substance use disorders.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 26](#)** (Scott-76th) Requires DBHDD to establish a school-linked behavioral health grant program to identify early interventions in K-12 schools for students that may have mental health or substance use disorders.  
STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee
- [HB 27](#)** (Scott-76th) Provides for grants by the State Board of Education to local units of administration to support students living in poverty under QBE funding formula for schools.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 37](#)** (Leverett-123rd) Requires each school system to provide a notice of whether: 1. Social Security taxes will be withheld from the employee's pay, 2. The employee is eligible to be included in a plan with coverage for the benefits of Title II and, 3. if the employee is eligible to be included in one or more plans. This applies to new, current, and nearly new employees of local school systems.  
STATUS: House Education Committee

- [HB 42](#)** (Davis-87th) Revises the calculation for student transportation programs and remove the requirement of regular transportation services to be funded prior to other transportation services. Requires the State Board of Education to collaborate to determine actualized costs for transportation programs.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 47](#)** (Davis-87th) Provides QBE funding to eligible public schools to enhance safety and infrastructure.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 48](#)** (Davis-87th) Establishes the Refugee and International Students Equalization (RISE) program to provide comprehensive wrap-around services for eligible K-12 students from other countries.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 59](#)** (Glaize-67th) Reduces the legal counselor ratio from 1 counselor to 450 students to 1 counselor to 250 students.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 81](#)** (Ballard-147th) "Interstate Compact for School Psychologists"- Joins Georgia to state pathway that allows school psychologist to obtain and practice in schools in any member state. If passed, the Act would become effective once 7 states are in the compact.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 104](#)** (Cox-28th) Establishes regulations requiring that interscholastic sports competitions be categorized based on the student-athletes sex assigned at birth rather than gender. Sports are designated as male-men, or boys, and female-women, or girls, or coed.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 105](#)** (Wade-9th) Increases payment of indemnification for public school personnel in the event of death or disability from \$75,000 to \$150,000.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 106](#)** (Barnes-86th) Authorizes local school boards and related bodies to offer driver education training courses as an elective to high school students.  
STATUS: House Education Committee
- [HB 127](#)** (Cox-28th) Increases the number of accumulated sick leave days teachers and other school personnel may take each school year for personal or professional reasons from three days to five days.  
STATUS: House Education Committee

**[HB 133](#)** (Clark-100th) "Student Character Development Act" - Requires (by August 1, 2025) that all local education agencies adopt policies allowing students to be excused for at least one hour per week to attend religious moral instruction, known as a "released time course." Participation requires parental consent, and transportation must be arranged by parents or the sponsoring organization, which also assumes full responsibility for the student during the course. Public school funds cannot be used for these programs, except for minimal administrative costs, and courses cannot be held on school property unless under a neutral equal-access policy. Schools may grant academic credit for completed courses, evaluated using secular criteria such as instruction hours, syllabus content, assessment methods, and instructor qualifications. Students attending these courses will not be marked absent, and GaDOE will ensure schools maintain state and federal funding regardless of participation levels.

STATUS: House Education Committee

**[HB 173](#)** (Taylor-173rd) Requires the DOE to provide all parents and guardians of students entering sixth grade with information on recommended adolescent vaccinations for meningococcal meningitis disease, HPV, and TDAP.

STATUS: House Education Committee

**[HB 192](#)** (Gambill-15th) Revises from a graduation plan to an individual college and career plan for students and now includes grades 6–12. Requires the State Workforce Development Board to create a High-Demand Career List, which must be shared with the State Board of Education to guide the implementation of these plans. QBE grants must align with the High-Demand Career List, and the career plans will incorporate Georgia MATCH and GAFutures accounts.

STATUS: House Hopper

**[HB 198](#)** (Chastain-7th) Encourages principals to use funding for access to patriotic societies like the Boy Scouts of America. Denials must be provided in writing to the requesting entity.

STATUS: House Hopper

**[HB 200](#)** (Bazemore-69th) Establishes a three-year pilot immersive writing program for public school students for 2nd to 5th grade to improve literacy skills.

STATUS: House Hopper

**[HB 202](#)** (Hilton-48th) Establishes a program for the purposes of promoting and supporting the approval of new local charter school petitions by local boards of education and provides incentive grants to local boards of education that approve new local charter school petitions.

STATUS: House Hopper

**SB 1** (Dolezal-27th) "Fair and Safe Athletic Opportunities Act"- Establishes regulations requiring that interscholastic sports competitions be categorized based on the student-athlete's sex assigned at birth. Sports are designated as male, female, or coed, depending on the student-athletes actively participating in interscholastic competitions. Provides guidelines and restrictions for reasonable accommodations for student-athletes, including access to single-occupancy restrooms, changing areas, or sleeping quarters as needed. Extends the right to appeal decisions made by a covered entity to the superior court of the county where the local school is located for any student aggrieved by such decisions. The bill states that judgements on a student's ability to play will not be based on "visual inspection of such student's exterior sex organs." Additionally, the bill applies to local school systems, public schools, and participating private schools, as well as postsecondary schools.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 4** (Dolezal-27th) Provides for public complaints against school board members and makes changes to required and prohibited topics for school board member training.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 17** (Anavitarte-31st) "Ricky and Alyssa's Law"- Requires local school systems to implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting directly to emergency services and first responders. The bill also authorizes the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency to adopt rules and regulations for the requirements for school mapping data.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 22** (Tillery-19th) Requires the DOE to publish federal guidance documents within 15 calendar days.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 38** (Dolezal-27th) Imposes educational development impact fees on high-growth school systems experiencing a 20% or greater student enrollment increase over a 10-year period. The affiliated Constitutional Amendment is SR 52.

STATUS: Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this WEDNESDAY.

**SB 41** (Jackson-41st) Requires public schools to provide equal accommodations for teams of both genders, including equivalent funding, facility access, and the like.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 44** (Watson-11th) Reduces the minimum required millage rate from 14 mills to 10 mills for a school system to qualify for equalization grants.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 54** (Jones-10th) Requires the State Board of Education to establish a statewide emergency alert system by 2026 for schools to notify law enforcement and first responders of threats. By 2027, a secure threat database will track verified school safety threats, with students only added after investigation and social worker evaluation. Schools must provide mental health support for affected students, and the Board may consult state security agencies to implement these measures.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 63** (Dixon-45th) Requires each local school system that offers the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, PreACT, or ACT or an advanced placement exam to students enrolled in such local school system post the exams on their school system websites and make them free of charge for home school students who reside in that local school system.

STATUS: Senate Education and Youth Committee

**SB 65** (Mallow-2nd) Mandates that all children prior to their fifth birthday be enrolled and attend a full day kindergarten program for one school year prior to enrolling in the first grade which shall be provided for all public schools of the state.

STATUS: Senate Hopper

**SR 52** (Dolezal-27th) Constitutional Amendment-Imposes educational development impact fees on high-growth school systems experiencing a 20% or greater student enrollment increase over a 10-year period. The enabling legislation is SB 38.

STATUS: Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee



## Higher Education

**HB 7** (Kendrick-95th) Provides for a \$4,000/year tax credit (3 year maximum) for workforce-ready graduates employed in high-tech full-time jobs in rural counties for at least 40 weeks during a 12-month period.

STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee

**HB 18** (Sainz-180th) States that eligible Dual Enrollment high school students must currently be and remain legal residents of Georgia while in the program.

STATUS: House Higher Education Committee

**HB 38** (Martin-49th) Alters the definition of an "eligible student" for a need-based financial aid program to include a person who has also completed 70% of the credit requirements for a four-year program instead of 80%, and includes students who have completed 45% of the credit requirements for a two-year program.

STATUS: Recommended Do Pass by the House Higher Education Committee. The bill moves on to House Rules Committee.

**[HB 56](#)** (Petrea-166th) Expands tuition grants to include spouses of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and prison guards who were killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty.

STATUS: House Higher Education Committee

**[HB 130](#)** (Jasperse-11th) "Pay As You Earn Education Program (PAYE)"-Establishes a student loan program under the Georgia Student Finance Authority. Georgia residents attending eligible institutions can receive loans, contributing \$1,000 annually while repaying 3% of their income for 15 years post-graduation or opting for a 10-year fixed repayment with interest. Schools must enroll at least 1% of their freshman class, and participating private institutions receive a \$1,000 tax credit per student. Eligibility excludes non-citizens, defaulters, certain felons, and incarcerated individuals.

STATUS: House Higher Education Committee

**[HB 150](#)** (Fleming-114th) Requires the university system to produce quarterly reports related to funding from the People's Republic of China or any entity or official of the People's Republic of China or the Chinese Communist Party.

STATUS: House Higher Education Committee

**[HB 203](#)** (Griffin-149th) Requires the Board of Regents to include graduates from historically black college or university (HBCU) that is a unit of the University System of Georgia.

STATUS: House Hopper

**[HB 206](#)** (Bell-75th) Removes provisions making students ineligible for HOPE scholarships or grants based solely based on a conviction for an offense involving marijuana or a controlled substance.

STATUS: House Hopper

**[HR 99](#)** (Schofield-63rd) Constitutional Amendment authorizing baby bond saving programs in which public funds can designated for qualified expenses such as paying for higher education, purchasing a home, investments, and other permitted purposes for the beneficiary coming of age. (Enabling legislation has yet to appear in the hopper.)

STATUS: House Appropriations Committee



## Environmental Safety

- HB 1** (Au-50th) Establishes the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child (except where possession of a firearm by a child is lawful) by charging a person with criminal negligence when a child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm, and such person failed to secure the firearm or left the firearm in a place to which the person knew or should have known the child could gain access. The bill also provides for an affirmative defense to prosecution in certain circumstances. The bill also requires gun dealers to post a sign saying, "IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE, TRANSPORT, OR ABANDON AN UNSECURED FIREARM IN A PLACE WHERE CHILDREN CAN OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE FIREARM."
- STATUS: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee
- HB 2** (Au-50th) Provide a tax credit for firearm safe storage devices of up to \$300. This tax credit must be pre-approved and can only be applied once in a taxpayer's lifetime.
- STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee
- HB 3** (Au-50th) Prohibits the transfer of firearms except when facilitated by a dealer and requires a universal background check for the transfer of firearms. Exceptions are made in certain circumstances.
- STATUS: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee
- HB 4** (Au-50th) Requires a three-day waiting period for the purchase or transfer of certain firearms.
- STATUS: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee
- HB 9** (Schofield-63rd) "Safer States Act" - Repeal and reduces the manufacturing and selling of chemical flame retardants or chemicals in such things as bedding, carpeting and certain children's products.
- STATUS: House Natural Resources and Environment Committee
- HB 63** (Oliver-84th) Provides that any owner who fails to secure a loaded or unloaded firearm with knowledge that either a minor or any other person can possess such firearm will be guilty of a misdemeanor of when the firearm is obtained by a minor and exhibited in a public place or while making a threat of violence or by any individual, regardless of age, and used during the commission of a crime or during an act which results in the injury or death.
- STATUS: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee



**[HB 64](#)** (Oliver-84th) Requires assault weapon owners to maintain liability insurance in an amount not less than \$1 million for unintentional death, injury, or disability to a human being and for damage to property per incident arising out of the ownership, maintenance, operation, or use of an assault weapon. Failure to provide proof of minimum liability insurance will result in a misdemeanor. Exceptions or affirmative defenses may apply.

STATUS: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

**[HB 79](#)** (Newton-127th) Provides a tax credit for firearm safe handling instructional courses and firearm secure storage devices of up to \$300. This tax credit must be pre-approved and can only be applied once in a taxpayer's lifetime. The aggregate limit of tax credits is capped at \$10 million per year.

STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee

**[HB 80](#)** (Westbrook-163rd) Permits law enforcement agencies the option to destroy or sell certain firearms if left unclaimed.

STATUS: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

**[HB 207](#)** (Crawford-89th) Requires handguns and long guns in motor vehicles to be stored in a locked compartment.

STATUS: House Hopper

**[HR 9](#)** (Moore-91st) Constitutional Amendment creating the "Safe Water and Toxic Enforcement Fund." The enabling legislation is HB 193.

STATUS: House Natural Resources & Environment Committee

**[SB 19](#)** (Lucas-26th) Requires a ten-day waiting period for the purchase or transfer of certain firearms.

STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee

**[SB 47](#)** (Anavitarte-31st) Exempts sales taxes for eleven days each year on firearms, ammunition, gun safes, and related accessories, starting on the second Friday of October.

STATUS: Senate Finance Committee

**[SB 49](#)** (Parent-44th) Establishes the offense of making firearms accessible to a child by failure to secure the firearm or leaving the firearm in a place where a child can knowingly gain access; a person commits the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child if such child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm, and the person with criminal negligence Requires firearm dealers to display a conspicuous notice that reads: IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE, TRANSPORT, OR ABANDON AN UNSECURED FIREARM IN A PLACE WHERE CHILDREN ARE LIKELY TO BE AND CAN OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE FIREARM.

STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee

**[SB 53](#)** (Jones-10th) Requires the GA Department of Public Safety, in coordination with GaDOE, to develop a program to educate the public on safe storage of firearms, contingent upon funding.

STATUS: Senate Public Safety Committee

**SB 66** (Parent-44th) Prohibits persons convicted of misdemeanor crimes of family violence or persons subject to family violence protective orders from receiving, possessing, or transporting a firearm.  
STATUS: Senate Hopper



## Shelter & Nutrition

**HB 14** (Carpenter-4th) Designates cornbread as the official Georgia state bread.  
STATUS: House Special Rules Committee

**HB 21** (Scott-76th) "Healthy Food Access Tax Credit Act" - creates a tax credit of 15% of incurred expenses for the development or improvement of a property that sells healthy foods in a less developed area.  
STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee

**HB 60** (Barnes-86th) Ensures that all public school students have access to high-quality and high-nutrition free breakfast and lunch.  
STATUS: House Education Committee

**HB 65** (Moore-91st) Designates collard greens as the official Georgia state greens, and 'potlikka' as the official Georgia state dipping sauce of the official Georgia state bread. (See HB 14)  
STATUS: House Special Rules Committee

**HB 183** (Seabaugh-34th) provides guidance on the termination and removal of unauthorized guests by an innkeeper, allowing them to request removal by a peace officer five days after giving notice of payment to the guest.  
STATUS: House Judiciary Committee

**HB 188** (Lim-98th) Permits an adult resident, or the parent/guardian of a minor resident, who has obtained a civil or criminal court order, to submit a written request to terminate their rental agreement.  
STATUS: House Judiciary Committee

**HB 193** (Moore-91st) "Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 2025" prohibits businesses from knowingly discharging, releasing, or exposing individuals to chemicals known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without providing a reasonable warning. It also requires the Governor to compile and maintain a list of chemicals linked to these health risks. The associated Constitutional Amendment is HR 9.  
STATUS: House Hopper



## Miscellaneous

- [HB 34](#)** (Washburn-144th) The Secretary of State shall create a professional licensing board tracking solution that will track the compliance of all licenses and continuing education requirements for license renewal beginning on January 1st, 2026.  
STATUS: House Regulated Industries Committee
- [HB 98](#)** (Hugley-141st) Provides for a state income tax credit equal to 10% of the federal child tax credit  
STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee
- [HB 99](#)** (Hugley-141st) Increases state income tax credit from 30% to 100% based on the federal child/dependent care tax credit. The bill also states that if the total amount of the tax credit exceeds the taxpayer's income tax liability for a taxable year, the excess funds shall be refunded to the taxpayer.  
STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee
- [HB 107](#)** (Ballard-147th) Permits the use and creation of digital verifiable professional licenses for spouses of servicemembers.  
STATUS: House Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.
- [HB 111](#)** (Hong-103rd) Reduces the state income tax rate from 5.39% to 5.19% until January 1, 2026, upon which such rate shall be reduced by 0.10% annually.  
STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this MONDAY.
- [HB 112](#)** (McDonald III-26th) Provides a one-time tax credit to individuals who filed on time tax returns for 2023 and 2024.  
STATUS: House Ways and Means Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this MONDAY.
- [HB 122](#)** (Byrd-20th) Recognizes that life is protected and valued at the time of moment of conception and is afforded all the rights and privileges of the U.S Constitution.  
STATUS: House Public and Community Health Committee
- [HB 147](#)** (Thomas-21st) Requires Georgia Technology Authority an annual inventory of artificial intelligence usage by state agencies.  
STATUS: House Technology and Infrastructure Innovation Committee

- [HB 161](#)** (Crowe-118th) Permits Georgia Bureau of Investigation to issue electronic subpoenas for cyber enabled threats with the exception of disclosing ongoing investigations. Revises the definition of domestic terrorism and establishes new penalties including life imprisonment or death for cases of fatalities.  
STATUS: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee
- [HB 166](#)** (Franklin-160th) Recognizes the fourth Friday in November as "National Sugarcane Syrup Day" in Georgia.  
STATUS: House Special Rules Committee
- [HB 177](#)** (Cooper-45th) Provides protection for household pets in both family violence and dating violence protective orders.  
STATUS: House Judiciary Committee
- [HB 181](#)** (Ehrhart-36th) Creates the issuance of a "Certificate of Foreign Birth" by the state registrar in which the child must have automatically acquired U.S. citizenship following a foreign adoption and possess a Certificate of Citizenship.  
STATUS: House Judiciary Committee
- [HR 120](#)** (Holly-116th) Constitutional Amendment extending the regular legislative sessions from a maximum of 40 legislative days to 90 legislative days. (Enabling legislation has yet to appear in the hopper.)  
STATUS: House Hopper
- [SB 21](#)** (Tillery-19th) Requires sheriffs, jailers, and deputies to honor immigration detainer requests issued by the Department of Homeland Security.  
STATUS: Senate Public Safety Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this MONDAY.
- [SB 36](#)** (Setzler-37th) "Georgia Religious Freedom Restoration Act"- Mandates that the government cannot substantially restrict a person's religious practice unless it can prove the restriction serves a compelling governmental interest and is implemented in the least restrictive way possible. These protections apply specifically to Georgia's state and local governments. Individuals who believe their religious rights have been violated can file a legal claim or defense and seek relief, including attorney's fees. However, the bill clarifies that it does not alter the Establishment Clause, meaning it does not require government funding or benefits for religious activities.  
STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee
- [SB 37](#)** (Albers-56th) Creates the Georgia Board for Artificial Intelligence and requires that all governmental entities develop and maintain artificial intelligence system usage plans which are published on their website.  
STATUS: Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee

- [SB 46](#)** (Harbin-16th) Establishes a State Government Service Delivery Lead to coordinate improvements in public services across Georgia agencies. Each agency must appoint a service delivery official to enhance efficiency, transparency, and accessibility. Agencies will submit annual improvement plans.
- STATUS: Senate Government Oversight Committee
- [SB 55](#)** (Hickman-4th) Phased out the payment of subminimum wage to persons with disabilities and repeals provisions concerning exemptions to the state minimum wage law for persons with disabilities. The bill also states that no employer shall utilize a certificate issued by the United States Department of Labor pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 214(c) to pay individuals with disabilities less than the federal minimum wage.
- STATUS: Senate Insurance and Labor Committee
- [SB 57](#)** (Tillery-19th) Prohibits financial institutions and utility providers from denying services based on a person's social credit score or constitutional rights, such as free speech, religious beliefs, firearm ownership, or refusal to adopt certain policies on environmental, diversity, or healthcare issues. The law applies to large financial institutions (assets over \$1 billion) and utility providers offering electricity, water, gas, or broadband services. Violations are classified as unfair business practices, allowing affected individuals to sue for damages up to \$150,000, injunctive relief, and legal fees.
- STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee
- [SB 67](#)** (Parent-44th) Establishes a state tax credit equal to 20% of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for eligible taxpayers. If the credit exceeds the taxpayer's state income tax liability, the excess amount will be refunded.
- STATUS: Senate Hopper
- [SB 68](#)** (Kennedy-18th) Introduces significant changes to civil practice, tort law, contracts, and motor vehicle regulation. Limits owner liability for injuries that occur on their property, prevents plaintiffs' lawyers from suggesting a monetary value to compensate for pain and suffering, and enables trials to be split into multiple stages so that juries can determine liability and damages separately. This is part of the Administration's tort reform effort.
- STATUS: Senate Hopper
- [SB 69](#)** (Kennedy-18th) This is part of the Administration's tort reform effort: Requires any third-party entities to be registered with the Department of Banking and Finance and limiting their ability to exert influence over the plaintiffs' legal decisions, such as when and how plaintiffs settle a case, and prevents foreign governments from becoming litigation financiers.
- STATUS: Senate Hopper



## Advocacy Ask

### [Ask #1: School Social Workers](#)

### [Ask #2: Out-of-School Time Funds and Liaison](#)

#### [Ask #1: School Social Workers](#)

##### **The Ask:**

Ask members of the House Appropriations - Education Subcommittee to fund School Social Workers with an additional \$5 Million in the FY 2026 Budget (under the Dept. of Education).

##### **What Do School Social Workers Do?:**

School Social Workers (SSWs) are essential in managing issues such as truancy, bullying, mental health, and crises like family instability - all of which directly impact student performance and well-being. Social workers play a vital role in supporting students' mental health, addressing behavior issues, and connecting families with essential resources.

##### **The Why:**

- Georgia averages one SSW per 1,911 students!
- While Georgia has approximately 14,300 licensed social workers across various fields, a shortage exists in K-12 settings because many school districts are unable to meet the recommended social worker-to-student ratio of 1 for every 250 students. This limits the ability of social workers to provide individualized attention and comprehensive services and leaves students without sufficient access to mental health and social support.

##### **The Message:**

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_,

Please support this request for an additional \$5 million in the FY 2026 budget to fund School Social Workers under the Georgia Department of Education. School Social Workers play a critical role in promoting school safety by addressing truancy, bullying, mental health crises, and family instability—issues that can escalate into safety concerns if left unaddressed. Currently, Georgia averages only one School Social Worker per 1,911 students, far below the recommended ratio of 1:250. This shortage hinders the ability to identify and intervene in potential safety risks, leaving students and schools vulnerable. By increasing funding, we can ensure more robust support systems that contribute to safer and more secure learning environments for all.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests and thank you for all you do every day on behalf of Georgia's children and families.

##### **The How (a.k.a. Who to Contact):**

Call members of the House Appropriations Education Subcommittee:

Rep. Matt Dubnik, Chair	404-463-2246	<a href="mailto:matt.dubnik@house.ga.gov">matt.dubnik@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Will Wade, Vice Chair	404-651-7737	<a href="mailto:will.wade@house.ga.gov">will.wade@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Kimberly Alexander	404-656-7859	<a href="mailto:kimberly.alexander@house.ga.gov">kimberly.alexander@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Robert Dickey	404-656-5099	<a href="mailto:robert.dickey@house.ga.gov">robert.dickey@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Chris Erwin	404-656-7850	<a href="mailto:chris.erwin@house.ga.gov">chris.erwin@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Leesa Hagan	404-656-0177	<a href="mailto:leesa.hagan@house.ga.gov">leesa.hagan@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Edna Jackson	404-656-0265	<a href="mailto:edna.jackson@house.ga.gov">edna.jackson@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Jan Jones	404-656-5072	<a href="mailto:jan.jones@house.ga.gov">jan.jones@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Todd Jones	404-656-9210	<a href="mailto:todd.jones@house.ga.gov">todd.jones@house.ga.gov</a>

## **Ask #2: Out-of-School Time Funds and Liaison**

### **The Ask:**

Ask members of the House Appropriations - Education Subcommittee to:

1. Fund afterschool and summer learning programs by funding the Georgia Dept. of Education's BOOST 2.0 grants in the FY26 budget at \$20 million.
2. Create an Out-of-School Time liaison position to coordinate afterschool and summer learning policy across the state agencies that handle such programs: GaDOE, Dept. of Human Services, Dept. of Early Care and Learning.

### **What is BOOST?**

For the last three years, GaDOE, in partnership with GSAN, used a total of \$85 Million in COVID relief funding to create the Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) grant program, which has funded evidence-based afterschool and summer learning programs. The federal funds for the program have expired, but the BOOST outcomes for kids have been amazing! (SEE THIS MEMO!) SW pls add that new memo Uzma did on the 3 year results *Therefore, in order to keep the progress for kids going*, Georgia needs to target dollars into more grants, which we are calling "BOOST 2.0".

### **The Why:**

The BOOST 2.0 Grant Program, (housed at the Georgia Department of Education) will build off the existing infrastructure and partnerships of BOOST. This will:

- Create a statewide framework that expands access to and assures quality of afterschool and summer learning opportunities.
- Prioritize funding support to OST programs that serve vulnerable youth, such as those who are economically disadvantaged, have a disability, and English language learners.
- Use existing state infrastructure to provide training and technical assistance to OST providers fiscal administration, quality measurement, program effectiveness, and provider leadership.
- Leverage program evaluation and evidence collection strategies embedded within the BOOST grant to determine how to best serve current and prospective afterschool and summer learning providers in the future.

An Interagency Liaison can coordinate afterschool and summer programming between the Georgia DECAL, DHS/DFCS, and GaDOE. If such a liaison is placed in Georgia Department of Education (Office of Whole Child Supports), efficiencies and communications can be maximized in:

- Alignment and coordination of OST services provided to youth and families;
- Development of reliable protocols for interagency communication regarding implementation of similar youth enrichment programs;
- Streamlining of grant application and administration to help both large and small organizations; and
- Streamlining of training, technical assistance, and professional learning provided to organizations funded and/or licensed by the agencies.

For more on OST Funding and Programs in GA, [check out this Brief](#) from the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network!

### The Message:

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_,

Please include funding in the FY26 budget to continue the BOOST (Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time) grants, which have been critical to student success and are no longer supported by federal COVID relief dollars. These funds have supported afterschool and summer learning in 115 of Georgia's 159 counties and served about 80,000 kids K-12 year round. Additionally, please fund an interagency liaison to coordinate afterschool and summer programs across GaDOE, DHS, and DECAL. BOOST supports working parents while enhancing student literacy, mental health, and career-ready skills.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests and thank you for all you do every day on behalf of Georgia's children and families.

### The How (a.k.a. Who to Contact):

Call members of the House Appropriations Education Subcommittee:

Rep. Matt Dubnik, Chair	404-463-2246	<a href="mailto:matt.dubnik@house.ga.gov">matt.dubnik@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Will Wade, Vice Chair	404-651-7737	<a href="mailto:will.wade@house.ga.gov">will.wade@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Kimberly Alexander	404-656-7859	<a href="mailto:kimberly.alexander@house.ga.gov">kimberly.alexander@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Robert Dickey	404-656-5099	<a href="mailto:robert.dickey@house.ga.gov">robert.dickey@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Chris Erwin	404-656-7850	<a href="mailto:chris.erwin@house.ga.gov">chris.erwin@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Leesa Hagan	404-656-0177	<a href="mailto:leesa.hagan@house.ga.gov">leesa.hagan@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Edna Jackson	404-656-0265	<a href="mailto:edna.jackson@house.ga.gov">edna.jackson@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Jan Jones	404-656-5072	<a href="mailto:jan.jones@house.ga.gov">jan.jones@house.ga.gov</a>
Rep. Todd Jones	404-656-9210	<a href="mailto:todd.jones@house.ga.gov">todd.jones@house.ga.gov</a>



## Resources You May Find Helpful



- [Find Your Legislator](#)
- [Contact Your Legislator](#)



## Upcoming Events

### January 2025

Thursday, January 23 – POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

- Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies: Maternal Health Awareness Day (MHAD) 2025
  - Time: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
  - Location: Georgia State Capitol, 206 Washington Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30334
  - Register: [Maternal Health Awareness Day](#)

Tuesday, January 28 or Friday, January 31

- Strolling Thunder™ (Part 1) – Virtual Training
  - January 28: 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM
  - January 31: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
  - Register: [Strolling Thunder Training](#)

Wednesday, January 29th

- PAGE State Budget Education Webinar
  - Time: 5:00PM-7:00PM EST
  - Location: Virtual via Zoom
  - Register: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

### February 2025

Thursday, February 6

- Strolling Thunder™ (Part 2)
  - Time: 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
  - Location: The Freight Room at Georgia Freight Depot, 65 MLK Jr. Dr. SW, Atlanta, GA 30303

Tuesday, February 11

- Justice Reform Partnership: Talk Justice Tuesday – Caught In-Between Youth and Criminalization of Immigration
  - Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Virtual)
  - RSVP: [Talk Justice Tuesday](#)

Wednesday, February 12

- Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network: Afterschool Day at the Capitol 2025
  - Time: 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
  - More Info: [Afterschool Day at the Capitol 2025](#)

- Georgia Child Care Association: GCCA Day at the Capitol

- Time: 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- Location: 206 Washington Street, Atlanta, GA 30334
- Register: [Event Registration](#)

#### Tuesday, February 18th

- PAGE: PAGE Day at the Capitol
  - Time: 8:00AM-2:00PM
  - Location: Sloppy Floyd Building - West Tower, 162 Jesse Hill Jr Dr SE, Atlanta, GA 30303
  - Register Here: [PAGE Events & Merchandise – Event Registration](#)

#### Thursday, February 20th

- Georgia Association of Educator: GAE Day at the Capitol
  - Time: 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM
  - More Info: [Events | Georgia Association of Educators](#)
- Legislative Reception for Children: Voices for GA Children
  - Time: 5:00PM-8:00PM
  - Location: City Hall
  - *More Information to Come*

#### Tuesday, February 25

- Justice Reform Partnership: Justice Day 2025
  - Time: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
  - Location: 201 Washington Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
  - Register: [Justice Day](#)

#### Tuesday, February 26

- Georgia ACT 2025 Housing Day at the Capitol
  - Time: 7:00AM - 3:00PM
  - Location: Central Presbyterian Church, 201 Washington St SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
  - Register here: [Georgia ACT 2025 Housing Day at the Capitol](#)

### March 2025

#### First Week of March

- Pre-K Week Launch: Voices for GA Children
- *More Information to Come*

#### Thursday, March 6th Crossover Day

#### Sunday, March 9th

- Atlanta Community Food Bank: Hunger Walk Run
  - Time: 12:00PM- 4:00PM
  - RSVP: [Hunger Walk Run 2025 General - Atlanta Community Food Bank](#)

#### Tuesday, March 11

- Justice Reform Project: Talk Justice Tuesday – Post Cross Over Review
  - Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Virtual)

- RSVP: [Talk Justice Tuesday](#)

## April 2025

**Friday, April 4th**

**Sine Die (Last Day of Legislative Session)**

Tuesday, April 8

- Justice Reform Project: Avoiding Burnout – Surviving Triumph
  - Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Virtual)
  - RSVP: [Talk Justice Tuesday](#)