AUGUST 21, 2023 VOL. 4

NEWSLETTER

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



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2024 Legislative Priority to Address Social Media and Cyberbullying

On Monday, August 7, Lt. Governor Burt Jones and Senate Majority Caucus Chair Senator Jason Anavitarte (R – Dallas) announced a 2024 legislative priority to address teenage social media use and cyberbullying.

"Social media touches every part of our daily lives, and while it certainly has its benefits, the potential negative impacts it has on our children cannot be dismissed," said Lt. Governor Burt Jones. "Our goal is to ensure we're safeguarding students against the harmful aspects of social media while maintaining their ability to learn, grow, and connect with the world around them. It is time for policymakers to prioritize real solutions for parents, and in Georgia, we are committed to leading the way."

The proposed legislation would:

- Require social media companies to take concrete steps to verify the age of their users.
- Existing rules requiring schools to monitor bullying and to educate students and teachers on this issue would be updated to reflect the realities of modern technology.
- Additionally, social media companies would be required to remove features they know or find to be addictive to children.



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DeKalb & Fulton Constituent Services Day

On Thursday, August 17, Lt. Governor Burt Jones hosted mobile office hours for constituents in DeKalb and Fulton Counties. Members of the DeKalb and Fulton County Legislative Delegations, City of Atlanta, DeKalb and Fulton County Representatives, and several state agencies were in attendance. State agencies staffed tables for constituent questions and requests.

Lt. Governor Jones also hosted his first-ever book drive in support of the Georgia Council on Literacy. The Council Chairman, Scott Johnson, Miranda Williams from GOSA, and other Council members attended the event today to receive the donated books. The Lt. Governor's Office was able to collect and donate over **2,600 books** to the Georgia Council on Literacy. Photos from the event can be found <u>here</u>.







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 August 21, 2023 100 out of 159. Field Reps visited an additional 14 counties in the past month.



Sen. Jason Anavitarte (R – Dallas) Luke Hetland - N. GA Field Rep



Sen. Randy Robertson (R - Cataula) Ben Garcia - W. GA Field Rep

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Capitol Events and Meetings

On July 27, Lt. Governor Burt Jones hosted the first meeting for Senate appointees to the Georgia Council on Literacy. The meeting was attended by Georgia Council on Literacy Senate appointees, including Chairman of the Council, Scott Johnson, Senator Clint Dixon (R - Gwinnett) and Senator Billy Hickman (R - Statesboro). The Council discussed their goals for the upcoming year and initiatives they plan to propose to increase literacy rates across Georgia.





Events Around the State

- Lt. Governor Burt Jones joined Speaker Jon Burns (R Newington) at the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government Georgia Legislative Leadership meeting. Lt. Governor Jones served on the panel and shared his perspective on what it means to be an effective leader.
- Lt. Governor Burt Jones joined Senator Russ Goodman (R Cogdell) at the Georgia Forestry Association Annual meeting. They learned about the associations' projects and met with staff.
- TJ Hudson, Georgia Field Representative Program Director, attended the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) meeting in Warner Robins Georgia. TJ met with NAMI staff, legislative members and key stakeholders to discuss initiatives related to substance abuse and mental health.
- Lt. Governor Burt Jones and Luke Hetland, North Georgia Field Representative, toured the University Cancer & Blood Center (UCBC) in Athens. They toured the facility and met with staff to learn more about their work as a national leader for cancer treatment.



CVIOG Leadership Panel Athens, GA

GA Forestry Jekyll Island, GA





NAMI Meeting and Tour Warner Robins, GA

UCBC Athens, GA

