



2020

capitol watch

Legislative Day 4

The 2020 Georgia General Assembly legislative session convened for the first legislative day on Monday, January 13th. The legislators set their calendar for the first 14 days of the session as follows:

Monday, January 13th - Legislative Day 1
Tuesday, January 14th - Legislative Day 2
Wednesday, January 15th - Legislative Day 3
Thursday, January 16th - Legislative Day 4
Monday, January 27th - Legislative Day 5
Tuesday, January 28th - Legislative Day 6
Wednesday, January 29th - Legislative Day 7
Thursday, January 30th - Legislative Day 8
Friday, January 31st - Legislative Day 9
Monday, February 3rd - Legislative Day 10
Tuesday, February 4th - Legislative Day 11
Wednesday, February 5th - Legislative Day 12

Thursday, February 6th - Legislative Day 13
Monday, February 10th - Legislative Day 14

Governor Kemp gave his State of the State address on Thursday morning laying out his vision for the State of Georgia.

To see a video of the speech, click [HERE](#). To see the full text of the State of the State speech, click [HERE](#).

A few highlights of Governor Kemp's budget:

- Calling for the state's public school teachers to receive raises next year of \$2,000
- Push this year for an overhaul of the state's adoption and foster care system, including a call to triple the tax incentive some adoptive parents now receive
- The Georgia House and Senate voted to force 'marketplace facilitators' — entities that use websites or apps to sell goods or services produced by others — to collect and remit sales taxes
- Signaling that his top priority includes cracking down on sex trafficking
- Backing legislation to bring an end to surprise billing for health care

Joint Budget Hearings will be held next week (January 21st - 24th)

To view the Amended Fiscal Year 2020 Budget and Fiscal Year 2021 Budget, please [click here](#).

Actions of The Week

[HB 725](#) by Rep. Darlene Taylor - Dental CMO Contracting
Current Status: House Health and Human Services

[HB 739](#) by Rep. Rick Jasperse - Surgical Technicians Certification via Georgia Composite Medical Board
Current Status: House Health and Human Services

[HB 744](#) by Rep. Mike Wilensky - Opioid Prescribing Regulations
Current Status: Unassigned

[HB 759](#) by Rep. Butch Parrish - Dangerous Drug Update
Current Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil

[HB 760](#) by Rep. Sharon Cooper - Peace Officers: Mental Health Transport

Current Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security

[SB 293](#) by Sen. Chuck Hufstetler - Balance Billing Consumer Protection Act
Current Status: Senate Insurance and Labor

[SB 303](#) by Sen. Ben Watson - Georgia Right to Shop Act (Transparency Prices for Non Emergency Health Care Services)
Current Status: Unassigned

To find any bill, go to www.legis.ga.gov and use the search box at the top left of the page. There is also an advanced search option that allows you to find bills by keyword or sponsor.

News of The Week

Atlanta Journal Constitution

[State auditors examine Georgia hospitals' expenses on lobbying](#)

Georgia Health News

[Surprise billing, maternal mortality, PBMs: Lawmakers talk health care agenda](#)

Watch the General Assembly LIVE! Each day that the General Assembly is in session, you can watch the proceedings live via the internet at: <http://www.legis.state.ga.us/>. Click the Live Broadcast option. You can also watch the *Prime Time Lawmakers* daily broadcast on Georgia Public Broadcasting each evening the General Assembly is in session.

[Find My Legislator](#)

If you have personal relationships with any state elected officials, please help us by making us aware of these crucial relationships.

More information: Please reach out to our office at 770.435.5586 or reach out to us personally via our cell phones.

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to help protect our interests and our patients!

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