

CAPITOL BUZZ



Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol
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FOLLOW

Today marks the thirtieth legislative day.

Last Wednesday was Crossover, the day by which all legislation must pass the originating chamber to continue on for consideration this session.

On Thursday, the House agreed to the Senate substitute of the amended FY 2018 budget.

It is expected that the Senate will agree to the final version of the AFY18 budget early this week.

Buzzing under the Gold Dome



On Tuesday, February 20, Georgia Tech students swarmed the State Capitol with their counterparts from Georgia's four research institutions. This was the second annual joint event during which students met with legislators and staff in support of Georgia Tech and higher education in Georgia. The event culminated with an alumni panel event with state officials sharing their experiences in public service.

First Lady Val Peterson honored at Foster Care Day at the Capitol



Georgia Tech's First Lady Val Peterson was an honored guest speaker at the first ever Foster Care Day at the State Capitol held last Monday, February 26. At the day-long event, attendees were recognized in the House chamber, and met with elected leaders and advocates from across the state. Mrs. Peterson was a keynote speaker at the foster care ceremony held in the North Atrium of the Capitol, during which she spoke about her and President Peterson's years of experience fostering children in their home.

Mrs. Peterson is pictured left with Sen. Nikema Williams, Rep. Erica Thomas, Rep. Dexter Sharper, and Sen. Lester Jackson.





Intern Spotlight



Lauren Bohling is a Business Administration major from Atlanta, GA. This session she is working for the Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Jack Hill (R-4).



Kyle Green is a Business Administration major from Lawrenceville, GA. This session he is working for Senate Public Safety Committee Chair John Albers (R-56).



Lucy Groves is a History, Technology & Society major from Canton, GA. This session she is working for House Speaker David Ralston (R-7).

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP >>>

Updates on bills and resolutions from our watch list:

- HB 218** **Will not move forward this session**
Provides that an eligible University System employee may revoke his or her election to participate in the Regents Retirement Plan in lieu of the Teachers Retirement System.
- HB 683** **House agreed to Senate Substitute as amended**
Amended Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations bill.
- HB 684** **Assigned to House Appropriations**
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2019.
- HB 700** **Assigned to Senate Veterans, Military, & Homeland Security**
Expands current service cancelable educational loans to include graduate degree programs.
- HB 702** **Will not move forward this session**
Creates a service cancelable loan program for students in STEM fields working in federal civil service positions at defense installations in Georgia.
- HB 951** **Assigned to Senate Economic Development**
Establishes the Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation at the University System of Georgia.
- SB 315** **Assigned to House Judiciary**
Establishes new provisions related to unauthorized computer access and penalties.
- SB 339** **Assigned to House Judiciary**
Establishes requirements for free speech policies for institutions of the University System.
- SB 348** **Assigned to House Public Safety**
Reduces campus police jurisdiction from 500 yards to 500 feet beyond university property.
- SB 357** **Assigned to House Health & Human Services**
Establishes the Health Coordination and Innovation Council.
- SB 405** **Assigned to House Higher Education**
Provides criteria for grants for certain eligible students with demonstrated financial need who are enrolled in an institution of the University System of Georgia.
- SR 400** **Passed**
Recognizes Georgia Tech for contributions to the state on Research Institutions Day at the Capitol.
- SR 821** **Assigned to House Economic Development**
Recognizes Augusta and Savannah as official innovation corridors.