Today marks the ninth legislative day.

House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees are currently reviewing the amended FY 2016 budget. It is expected to move forward in the House this week.

The General Assembly adopted an adjournment resolution last week setting the legislative calendar through day 40 for Sine Die on March 24th. To view the adjournment resolution, visit www.legis.ga.gov.

Governor Nathan Deal addresses a joint session of the Georgia General Assembly in his sixth State of the State address.

Governor’s budget also includes new Formula Funding and $60 million in bonds for Major Repair and Rehabilitation funds for the USG. Chancellor Hank Huckaby presented the University System’s budget to a Joint House and Senate Appropriations committee last week, and highlighted the importance of Governor Deal’s recommendation for $55.4 million for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives within the USG for FY17.

For a list of bills carried forward from the 2015 legislative session watch list, check the Sine Die issue of Capitol Buzz online at www.gov.gatech.edu/capitol-buzz-newsletter-archives. Updates on legislation from last year’s watch list will be reported in this section of the 2016 Capitol Buzz newsletter.

**Bills and Resolutions from our watch list:**

HB 745.............................................................Assigned to House Budget & Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee
Renews provision allowing USG institutions to carry forward a small amount of funds from one fiscal year to the next.

HB 750.............................................................Assigned to House Appropriations Committee
Amended Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations bill.

HB 751.............................................................Assigned to House Appropriations Committee
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2017.

HB 779 ............................................................. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee
Provides definitions and regulations related to the use of unmanned aircraft systems and images captured by such systems.

HB 792............................................................. Assigned to House Public Safety Committee
Permits the carrying, possession, and use of electroshock weapons by students or employees at a public university.

HB 801............................................................. Assigned to House Higher Education Committee
Revises current provisions regarding the HOPE scholarship to include certain STEM-related courses as optional rigor requirements.

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**LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP**

Please join us in the South Atrium of the Capitol on February 1 for the annual Georgia Tech Student Day at the Capitol.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

GEORGIA TECH STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

**STUDENT DAY AT THE CAPITOL**

Evan Long is an International Affairs major from Lilburn, GA. This session Evan is working in the Office of the Senate Majority Whip Steve Gooch (R-51).