

Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)

January 29, 2023

FOP Lobby Day is the morning of February 8. Please make plans to attend to represent your industry!

This past week saw the House and Senate announce Committee Chairs, Committee members, and office assignments for legislators. It was a very busy week with informal meetings all day long and Committee meetings beginning to start. The House Appropriations Subcommittees held meetings all week as well reviewing the Governor's proposed budget, and the House will make its amendments and changes to the budget soon and send it over to the Senate.

The Governor gave his state of the state address on Wednesday. He focused on

- Reducing crime, addressing prosecutors to act with urgency with criminals
- Using a Rural Workforce Housing Fund that the state could use to partner with local governments to develop home sites so more workers can live in "quality homes where they can raise a family in the same community where they work."
- Calling attention to his plan to fully fund the state's K-12 system and pump more money into the HOPE scholarship, reversing cuts to the popular program enacted in 2011
- Promoted a new \$2,000 raise for all state employees and teachers after obtaining \$5,000 in pay increases for K-12 educators during his first term
- And more

State Senate Republicans, who hold a majority in the Senate, announced plans to focus on economic growth, education and public safety this session including:

- Planning a "prudent" income tax reform and tax credit review
- Wanting to reduce and eventually eliminate personal and corporate income tax
- Laying the groundwork for more electric vehicles in Georgia
- Improving education and literacy rates
- Pushing for bail bond reforms
- And more

New House Speaker Jon Burns announced plans to look at:

- Considering a proposal to eliminate general-election runoff in Georgia
- Look at overhauling the state's decades-old k-12 student funding formula
- And more

Thrash-Haliburton is diligently watching and working to stop any detrimental legislation to our industry and push the legislation we support. Our governmental affairs team continues every day to work on, look out for and answer requests, needs and interests, as we act at the direction of the group's leadership. Please find legislation affecting our industry below:

2023 Regular Session

We are monitoring the following legislation, and watchful for any bills that may impact our industry.

Bill	Summary	House Comm	Sen Comm	House Sponsor	Sen Sponsor
HB 56	grants to children of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and prison guards killed in the line of duty	Higher Ed		Petrea	