

## News from GATES...

Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports



# THE GATES PORTAL

## ACTION needed TODAY



By Dawn A. Randolph, MPA  
GATES Legislative Consultant

The House Human Resources Budget Subcommittee met late Tuesday and passed out the FY 2012 Budget. They made no changes to the Voc Rehab Contract cuts. Which means the approximate 11% cut to contracts remained for the next fiscal year. We need all voices to speak up on the FY 2012 Budget. Our message is the same, targeted at the House leadership and each of your own State Representatives. Here is the link to all House members: [CLICK HERE for all House Members](#) The full House Appropriations Committee is set to meet at 7:30am on Thursday for the budget to be voted on by the House either Friday or early next week.

### The Message:

*Voc Rehab community providers are taking a bigger cut than most areas of state government and should not be hurt greater than other programs. Please be fair when voting on cuts and restore funding to these vital programs. We serve people with disabilities to develop successful employment. These cuts hurt the consumer directly in a time of economic instability. (Insert your program's example of how the cut will hurt people).*

### House Budget Leadership

- Speaker David Ralston (R-Ellijay) at 404-656-5020 (Best to call with your message)
- Appropriations Chair Terry England (R- Auburn) at 404-463-2245 or [englandhomeport2@windstream.net](mailto:englandhomeport2@windstream.net)
- House Majority Leader Larry O'Neal (R-Bonaire) at 404-656-5052 or [larry.oneal@house.ga.gov](mailto:larry.oneal@house.ga.gov)

### In This Issue

#### Action Needed TODAY

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#### Special Announcements



**State Use  
Council Meeting**  
Thursday, Mar. 24  
10 AM  
Floyd Tower

**Working  
Wonders Day  
Luncheon**  
Thursday, Mar. 24  
12 Noon  
Floyd Tower

**GATES Board  
Meeting**  
Friday, Apr. 29

- Speaker Pro Tem Jan Jones (R-Milton) at 404-656-5072 or [jan.jones@house.ga.gov](mailto:jan.jones@house.ga.gov)
- House Minority Leader Stacy Abrams (R-Atlanta) or [Stacey.abrams@house.ga.gov](mailto:Stacey.abrams@house.ga.gov)

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## Call for Information

*THE PORTAL* is a communication tool for GATES and GATES members. If you have stories about your organization, staff announcements, program descriptions, or other information you want to share with other GATES members, please send the info to Charles Hall, [chall@asginfo.net](mailto:chall@asginfo.net)



9:30 AM  
Location - TBA

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*THE PORTAL* is a regular publication of GATES. If you have staff or others associated with your organization that you would like to receive *THE PORTAL*, please send their email address to: Charles Hall, [chall@asginfo.net](mailto:chall@asginfo.net)

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## GATES

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