

## News from GATES...

Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports



# THE GATES PORTAL

## Budget is Approved - NEW \$\$\$ for VR program included



### Senate & House Finalize Budget

by Dawn A. Randolph, MPA  
April 1, 2015

#### **This may be the best April 1st EVER!**

The House and Senate voted the budget complete yesterday, March 31st, with the funding increase for GVRA-VR program approved.

**\$900,000 state funds = Increase funds to assist training and employment support for Georgians with disabilities.** This will pull down \$3,600,000 federal funds for a total \$4,500,000 You can reference the [Final Bill Conference Committee FY 2016](#) on page 129 line 197.7. **(also shown below in this email)** Honestly I can't stop looking at the budget line, all our hard work over the past three years really paid off! **Thank you for taking the time each step of the way to make a call, visit with a legislator, collect data and share stories.**

#### **THANK YOU TO THE SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES**

Our Thank YOU Message - Please contact your legislator to thank them for supporting this funding and then make an extra call or email to the House and Senate Conferees (below).

#### **Message:**

Your name/Your Org/Your phone number

#### In This Issue

[Budget is Approved](#)

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Special  
Announcements



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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*

*"We are very pleased YOU supported the additional funds toward assisting people with disabilities with training and employment supports in the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Program. The \$900,000 in state funds will match federal dollars 1:4 and serve over 1,400 more Georgians, several hundred in our community. With the federal funding we will have a total of \$4.5 million to invest across Georgia in creating jobs and putting people to work. Thank you Senator OR Representative [NAME] for making this happen. We appreciate your support and investment and hope you will come out to see our program this year".*

**Special Thank You to the House & Senate Conference Committee**

Senate [Appropriations Chairman Jack Hill](#) (R-Reidsville)  
Capitol Ofc 404-656-5038, District 912-557-3811  
[jack.hill@senate.ga.gov](mailto:jack.hill@senate.ga.gov)

[Majority Leader Bill Cowsert](#) (R-Athens)  
Capitol Ofc 404-463-1366, District (706) 543-7700  
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[Speaker Pro Tem David Shafer](#) (R-Duluth)  
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House Appropriations Chairman [Terry England](#) (R-Auburn)  
Capitol Ofc 404.463.2247  
[englandhomeport2@windstream.net](mailto:englandhomeport2@windstream.net)

Speaker Pro Tem [Jan Jones](#) (R-Milton)  
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Chairman [Jay Powell](#) (R-Camilla)  
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PORTAL, please  
send their email  
address to:  
Charles Hall,  
[chall@asqinfo.net](mailto:chall@asqinfo.net)

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HB 76 (FY 2016G)

|                                     | Governor    | House       | Senate      | CC          |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>TOTAL AGENCY FUNDS</b>           | \$9,507,334 | \$9,507,334 | \$9,507,334 | \$9,507,334 |
| Reserved Fund Balances              | \$465,286   | \$465,286   | \$465,286   | \$465,286   |
| Reserved Fund Balances Not Itemized | \$465,286   | \$465,286   | \$465,286   | \$465,286   |
| Sales and Services                  | \$9,042,048 | \$9,042,048 | \$9,042,048 | \$9,042,048 |
| Sales and Services Not Itemized     | \$9,042,048 | \$9,042,048 | \$9,042,048 | \$9,042,048 |
| <b>TOTAL PUBLIC FUNDS</b>           | \$9,507,334 | \$9,507,334 | \$9,507,334 | \$9,507,334 |

**Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency: Vocational Rehabilitation Program** **Continuation Budget**

*The purpose of this appropriation is to assist people with disabilities so that they may go to work.*

|   |              |              |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS</b>                      | \$17,806,918 | \$17,806,918 | \$17,806,918 | \$17,806,918 |
| State General Funds                           | \$17,806,918 | \$17,806,918 | \$17,806,918 | \$17,806,918 |
| <b>TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS</b>                    | \$70,804,214 | \$70,804,214 | \$70,804,214 | \$70,804,214 |
| Federal Funds Not Itemized                    | \$70,804,214 | \$70,804,214 | \$70,804,214 | \$70,804,214 |
| <b>TOTAL AGENCY FUNDS</b>                     | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  |
| Sales and Services                            | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  |
| Sales and Services Not Itemized               | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  |
| <b>TOTAL INTRA-STATE GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS</b> | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    |
| State Funds Transfers                         | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    |
| Agency to Agency Contracts                    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    |
| <b>TOTAL PUBLIC FUNDS</b>                     | \$93,771,132 | \$93,771,132 | \$93,771,132 | \$93,771,132 |

|                            |  |             |             |             |
|----------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>197.1</b>               | <i>Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Employees' Retirement System.</i>  |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        | \$232,009  | \$232,009   | \$232,009   | \$232,009   |
| <b>197.2</b>               | <i>Increase funds for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives effective July 1, 2015.</i>   |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        | \$220,312  | \$220,312   | \$220,312   | \$220,312   |
| <b>197.3</b>               | <i>Increase funds to reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered self insurance programs.</i>  |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        | \$2,178  | \$2,178     | \$2,178     | \$2,178     |
| <b>197.4</b>               | <i>Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in Teamworks billings.</i>  |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        | \$5,687  | \$5,687     | \$5,687     | \$9,060     |
| <b>197.5</b>               | <i>Increase funds for telecommunications.</i>  |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        | \$52,592   | \$52,592    | \$52,592    | \$52,592    |
| <b>197.6</b>               | <i>Transfer funds from the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency: Departmental Administration program to the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency: Vocational Rehabilitation program to provide additional services to consumers.</i> |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        | \$71,809   | \$71,809    | \$71,809    | \$71,809    |
| <b>197.7</b>               | <i>Increase funds to assist training and employment support for Georgians with disabilities.</i>   |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        |  | \$900,000   | \$900,000   | \$900,000   |
| Federal Funds Not Itemized |  | \$3,600,000 | \$3,600,000 | \$3,600,000 |
| Total Public Funds:        |  | \$4,500,000 | \$4,500,000 | \$4,500,000 |
| <b>197.8</b>               | <i>Reduce funds for one-time funding for Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC) for equipment. (CC: Utilize existing funds for equipment for Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC))</i>                                   |             |             |             |
| State General Funds        |  | (\$30,000)  | \$0         | \$0         |

**197.100 Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency: Vocational Rehabilitation Program** **Appropriation (HB 76)**

*The purpose of this appropriation is to assist people with disabilities so that they may go to work.*

|   |              |              |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS</b>                      | \$18,391,505 | \$19,261,505 | \$19,291,505 | \$19,294,878 |
| State General Funds                           | \$18,391,505 | \$19,261,505 | \$19,291,505 | \$19,294,878 |
| <b>TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS</b>                    | \$70,804,214 | \$74,404,214 | \$74,404,214 | \$74,404,214 |
| Federal Funds Not Itemized                    | \$70,804,214 | \$74,404,214 | \$74,404,214 | \$74,404,214 |
| <b>TOTAL AGENCY FUNDS</b>                     | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  |
| Sales and Services                            | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  |
| Sales and Services Not Itemized               | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  | \$4,360,000  |
| <b>TOTAL INTRA-STATE GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS</b> | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    |
| State Funds Transfers                         | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    | \$800,000    |

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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)



## GATES

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