

News from GATES...

Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports



THE GATES PORTAL

Setting an End Date



by Dawn A. Randolph, MPA

February 6th, 2018

Key Events This Week

Tuesday Feb 6th the Senate Budget Subcommittees begin hearing from State Agency Officials

Week 5 of the session they are meeting Monday - Thursday with Feb 8th as the 18th day of the session.

Adjournment Resolution Establish March 29th as Sine Die

We always hold our breath to see what the House and Senate leadership will set as the working calendar for the session. Early last week the Senate took the lead with [SR 631](#) to establish the calendar for the remainder of the session. This is what we call the adjournment resolution and it sets up February 28th as cross over day when all bills must leave one Chamber for consideration to the next before the final day of March 29th, or sine die. The schedule has them working most weeks as 4-day weeks with Friday off for most of February and then taking off all Tuesday's in March and some Friday's. The desire to be done to raise money for this big election year will move the schedule along. It also helps that Easter arrives early, April 1st, and the Master' Tournament in Augusta is the following Sunday, April 8th.

Budget Process

The House Budget Subcommittees worked quickly last week to pass out the amended FY 18 budget from the House Appropriations Committee on January 31st. We expected a floor vote within a day or

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Special
Announcements



**State Use
Council
Meeting
Thursday,
March 22nd
2018**

10:00 AM

Location: Sloppy
Floyd Building,
West Tower,
Conference Room
1816-B,

two but it has not been placed on the House Rules Calendar yet for a full floor vote. There were only very, very minor changes to the amended budget so it is a mystery what is taking them so long to pass it along to the Senate. Still no new money for GVRA.

Legislation

We are finally seeing some bills of interest being introduced.

Last week [HB 794](#) and a companion resolution [HR 991](#) were introduced by Rep. Sandra Scott (D-Rex) to create the "Georgia Lottery for Assistance of Homeless Military Veterans Act" to designate lottery game(s) for the purpose of providing funding for programs to address homelessness among the veteran population in Georgia. Both the bill and resolution have the same set of Democratic Representatives. ***The bill has been assigned to the House Higher Education Committee.***

Senator Michael 'Doc' Rhett (D-Marietta) is sponsoring [SB 360](#), a bi-partisan bill to direct the Department of Administrative Services to ensure that 10 percent of its contracts and purchases are from small business owned by veterans with disabilities. ***The bill has been referred to the House Economic Development and Tourism Committee.***

Governor Deal mentioned in his State of the State Address that he would be moving The State Workforce Development Board and its programs to the Technical College System of Georgia to create a symbiotic relationship with future employees and employers. New Senator Brian Strickland (R-McDonough) has introduced [SB 377](#) to codify the transfer into law. ***The bill has been assigned to the Senate Higher Education Committee on February 1, 2018.***

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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



200 Piedmont Ave.
Atlanta, GA

Working Wonders Recognition Luncheon

Mar. 23, 2018

Noon

Sloppy Floyd Building, West Tower, Empire Room 200
Piedmont Ave.
Capitol Square
Atlanta, GA

GATES Board of Directors Meeting

Friday,
April 27th,
2018

10:00 AM

Location: TBD

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Charles Hall,
chall@asginfo.net

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