

# Legislative Update

For the Week of: January 14 - 18, 2013  
Legislative Days: 1 - 4

January 18, 2013

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For More Information on  
Legislation, please visit:  
[www.ers.ga.gov](http://www.ers.ga.gov)

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## 2013 Legislative Session Convenes

The House and Senate officially convened on Monday, January 14th for the first day of the 2013 Legislative Session. Members of the House Senate were promptly sworn into office.

The House elected Representative David Ralston (R-Blue Ridge) as Speaker of the House and also elected Representative Jan Jones (R-Milton) as Speaker Pro Tempore.

Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle's administrative powers that were removed during the 2011 Legislative Session were restored by the Senate. Senator David Shafer (R-Duluth) was elected President Pro Tempore.

The Senate Rules were amended to cap gifts from any registered lobbyist at \$100 per item, event, or meal. Any violations of the gift cap will be subject to review by the Senate Ethics Committee. These changes do not impact House members.

## Legislative Adjournment Schedule Announced through January 28th

January 14	Legislative Day 1
January 15	Legislative Day 2
January 16	Legislative Day 3
January 17	Legislative Day 4
January 18-27	Recess*
January 28	Legislative Day 5

\* Recess is when the General Assembly is not in Session.

## New House and Senate Committees

The 2013 Legislative Session brings several changes to the membership of Legislative Committees in the General Assembly. Representative Paul Battles (R-Cartersville) will now Chair the House Retirement Committee. Other new members were also appointed to the Committee. Please click [here](#) for a full listing of House Retirement Committee members.

Senator Fran Millar (R-Dunwoody) will now Chair the Senate Retirement Committee. Other new members were also appointed to the Committee. Please click [here](#) for a full listing of Senate Retirement Committee members.

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## Governor Nathan Deal Gives State of the State

Governor Nathan Deal gave his third State of the State Address as members of the House and Senate convened for a joint session on Thursday, January 17th, at 11AM. Governor Deal welcomed members to the 2013 Legislative Session and highlighted his budget proposal for the upcoming year.

To view the full text of the Governor's State of the State Address, click [here](#).

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## *Legislative Log*

The Legislative Log will resume when new retirement legislation has been introduced. Summaries and links to legislative bills (when introduced) may also be found on the Legislation section of our website at [www.ers.ga.gov](http://www.ers.ga.gov).

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