



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

LEGISLATIVE DAY 8 OF 40

Hello Partners! Welcome back to the *Night Owl* 🐠, your nightly recap of need-to-know information and intel on what's happening under the Gold Dome.

Today brought no shortage of developments as the legislature continues to move at a steady pace. News broke that the FBI conducted a raid at Fulton County's election operations center, removing roughly 700 boxes of 2020 ballots in an action tied to long-standing, unproven claims of election fraud. The move appears designed to disrupt more than clarify, reopening questions around an election that has already been reviewed, audited, and litigated.

House Speaker Jon Burns unveiled a proposal to eliminate property taxes on primary residences, a plan that would fundamentally change how schools and local governments are funded across Georgia and phase out more than \$5 billion in annual revenue by 2032.

Alongside these headline moments, more bills were dropped and several moved through committee, setting the stage for what is shaping up to be a consequential stretch of the session.

All of this to say what we already know, that it is never a dull moment in Georgia politics.

We hope you enjoy *The Night Owl*. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for additional content!

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE DAY

[HOUSE FLOOR SESSION LD 07](#) [SENATE FLOOR SESSION LD 07](#)

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCES

- [Budget Week Schedule](#)
- [Adjournment Resolution](#)
- [Senate Rules](#)
- [House Rules](#)
- Committee Chairs and Office Assignments will be updated once available!
- [PGA Legislative Resources](#)
- Please let us know about any 2026 lobby/advocacy days and events [here](#).

IMPORTANT LINKS, RESOURCES, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Need access to one of our resources or want to share an event you're hosting? Get access or share any events using [this link](#). Our resources include:
 - The Night Owl Newsletter
 - 2026 Legislative Calendar
 - This calendar includes legislative information and advocacy days
 - The "GA Rapid Response" Signal chat
 - Press Clips (Tuesday & Thursday)
 - Bill Tracking
 - If you want bills to be included in The Night Owl or our coalition-wide tracker, [please submit them by clicking here!](#)
 - Bill Analysis Sign-up: We need volunteers to help analyze bills throughout the legislative session. Many of our partners are on the ground at the Capitol lobbying for the issues we all care deeply about, and they need your help! If you love reading legislation, putting together summaries, and highlighting important points about what bills say, this project is for you! Some of you may already be doing this anyway. Please share your knowledge with us so we can assist our partners in being the strongest advocates they can be.
- Join Photo Circle and share any legislative session photos [here](#).
- Open to uplifting rapid-response posts and calls to action on your personal social media accounts? [Share your personal social media handles here](#).

CTAs

- Stand With Minnesota Press Conference - Join Rep. Romman, Rep. Lim, AAAJ, MESE, Dialogue Collaborative, and GLAHR for a press conference in solidarity on Thursday, January 29th at 10:15 AM at the Capitol.
- [Asian American Advocacy Fund](#) - Please join us in demanding justice and accountability from our federal legislators for the murder of Renee Nicole Good. As the Jan 30th CR deadline looms, Congress must not approve more funding for DHS/ICE.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- The Georgia Immigrant Rights Alliance will host [Immigrant Rights Thursdays](#) on **January 29th at 8:30 AM**.
- Environmental Justice Day will be held on **Thursday, January 29**. [Click here](#) for more information.
- GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students will be hosting their 9th Annual Strolling Thunder event for parents and children on **Thursday, January 29th, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM** (PLEASE NOTE: There are two virtual training sessions beforehand). Here is the [sign-up link](#).
- Georgia Alliance for Progress is hosting the Legislative Priority Breakfast this **Friday, January 30, 10 AM - 12 PM** at the IBEW Building. This event is open to all partners and grantees. Please RSVP [here](#).
- GCV will host its 100% Day advocacy day on **February 3rd**. Here is the [sign-up link](#), and for more information, please contact Connie Di Cicco (connie@gcvoters.org).
- Latino Day at the Capitol, hosted by GALEO and LCF Georgia, will be held on **February 5th from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**. Please contact Darrick Alvarez (dalvarez@galeoimpactfund.org), Jerry Gonzalez (jerry@galeo.org), or Jean-Luc Rivera (jean-luc@lcfgeorgia.org) for more information. [Sign up here](#).
- Georgia Equality will host the AIDS Watch 2026 under the Gold Dome on **February 5th, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**. Here is the [link](#) to sign up!
- CSRA will be hosting a New American Celebration event at the Capitol on **February 12th**. Here is the sign-up [link](#).
- The Georgia NAACP State Conference will host their day at the Capitol on **February 12th**. More details to come soon!
- The Georgia Muslim Voter Project and American-Islamic Relations Georgia will be co-hosting Muslim Advocacy Day at the Georgia Capitol on **February 12th**. You can sign up using this [link](#)!
- GYJC will have a Youth at the Capitol day [every Thursday](#) during session. For more information, please contact Melody Oliphant (melody@georgiayouthjustice.org)
- Black Voters Matter will host a Black Voters Matter Day at the Capitol on **February 24th** (new date!). Please contact Dr. Melinee Calhoun (melinee@blackvotersmatterfund.org) for more information.
- Amplify Georgia will be hosting Repro Justice Accountability Day at the Capitol on **February 26th, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM**. A link to sign up will be coming soon, so stay on the lookout!
- The Georgia Water Coalition will be hosting their Capitol Conservation Day on **February 26th, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**, and you can [sign up here](#)!
- Fair Fight Action will be hosting their Fair Fight Action 2026 Lobby Day on **February 26th, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**. For more information, please contact Kelsey Hanna Beck (kelsey@fairfightaction.com).
- Asian American Advocacy Day, hosted by Asian American Advocacy Fund, will be on **March 5th, 2026!** Here is the [link](#) to sign up!
- Black Male Initiative will host Black Men & Boys Day at the Capitol on **March 9th, starting at 8:30 AM**. For more info, please contact D'ante Fair (dfair@bmigeorgia.org).
- Infant Emergency Preparedness Advocacy Day will be held on **March 9th**, by Khari's Calls.
- Pride to the Capitol, hosted by the Human Rights Campaign, will be on **March 10th from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**. [Sign up here](#) and contact Bentley Hudgins (bentley.hudgins@hrc.org) for more info.

BILL KEY

	ISSUE		STATUS
📚	Education	👍	Support
❤️	Reproductive Rights	👎	Do not support
🌈	LGBTQIA+	🏃	Moving quickly
😷	COVID-19	⏰	Recent Activity
🏥	Healthcare	🛑	Not likely to move
🗳️	Voting Rights/Elections/Democracy	📢	Time to take action!
⚖️	Criminal Justice/Public Safety	😈	Bad bill
🏡	Housing	👼	Wonderful bill
❤️	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	🤝	Bipartisan Support
🌐	Environment	👽	Zombie Bill
🙏	Religion		
🌿	Marijuana		
💰	Economy/Labor/Employment		
🗣️	First Amendment		
🌍	Immigration		

FAVORABILITY OR DISAPPROVAL ON THE LEGISLATION LISTED BELOW HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY OUR COALITION'S PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS FROM THEIR LEGISLATIVE CONCERNS AND PRIORITIES. IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL INSIGHT ON ANY LEGISLATION INCLUDED BELOW OR HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO Nicole Henderson. **IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL BILLS YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE IN OUR BILL MONITORING THAT AREN'T LISTED, PLEASE [FILL OUT THIS FORM](#).**

BILL TRACKING

Bills highlighted in blue have been updated or recently added.

Bill	Key	What's the deal?	Tracking
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REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

HB 1069		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill amends Chapter 10 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, which governs vital records, to require the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) to publish and maintain statistical reports on induced terminations of pregnancy (abortions). 	House Hopper
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ENVIRONMENT

<u>HB 1012</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes a temporary moratorium on new data center construction in Georgia. 	House First Readers
<u>SB 94</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill looks to reestablish a consumer utility counsel to represent consumers in matters before the Public Service Commission or other agencies concerning public utilities; to create the Office of the Consumers' Utility Counsel; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. 	Senate Recommitted
<u>SB 34</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes to amend Georgia's Public Service Commission statutes to address how electric utilities can recover costs associated with serving large commercial data centers. 	Senate Recommitted
<u>SB 421</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bill prohibits Georgia local governments and authorities from signing nondisclosure 	Senate Read and Referred

		<p>agreements that would prevent them from disclosing information about any entity's electricity or water usage.** This transparency measure, titled "The Data Center Transparency Act," appears designed to ensure public access to utility consumption data, particularly for large consumers like data centers.</p>	
<u>SB 410</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This bill proposes to **repeal the sales and use tax exemption for data center equipment** in Georgia • Eliminates Future Tax Exemptions**: The bill repeals the existing tax exemption (paragraph 68.1 of Code Section 48-8-3) that currently allows high-technology data centers and their customers to avoid paying state sales and use taxes on equipment. • The bill takes effect upon the Governor's approval (or automatically if it becomes law without approval). 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>SB 408</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This bill proposes to **accelerate the expiration date** of a tax exemption for data center equipment in Georgia. • The bill amends Georgia's sales and use tax statute, specifically the provision dealing with data center equipment tax exemptions (Code Section 48-8-3, paragraph 68.1, subparagraph H). • Data centers in Georgia would lose their sales and use tax exemption on equipment purchases 5 years sooner than under current law, potentially increasing their tax burden starting in 2027 instead of 2032. 	Senate Finance Committee 1/28

EDUCATION

<u>SB 412</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This bill amends Part 4 of Article 17 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sick, personal, and 	Senate Ed 1/27
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		maternity leave for teachers and other school personnel, to increase from three to five the number of accumulated sick leave days teachers and other school personnel may take each school year for personal or professional reasons; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.	
<u>HB 1009</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill expands Georgia's personal electronic device ban from K-8 to include high school students (grades 9-12) 	House First Readers
<u>HB 1051</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill changes how law enforcement officers are used in Georgia public schools, aiming to limit police involvement in routine student discipline and increase oversight and accountability. 	House Hopper

HOUSING

<u>SB 413</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes to expand tenant protections in Georgia by allowing early termination of residential leases in cases of firearm violence, in addition to existing protections for family violence and stalking. 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>SB 414</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes to amend Georgia's "Fair Business Practices Act of 1975" to regulate rent pricing transparency for residential properties. 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>HB 1007</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows residential tenants with the right to complete repairs required by the landlord and offset rental installments by the reasonable cost of such repairs under certain circumstances 	House First Readers

HEALTHCARE

<u>HB 965</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bill proposes to amend Georgia's health records statute to grant parents and legal guardians 	House Second Readers
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		enhanced access to their unemancipated minor children's medical records	
<u>SB 427</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address physician shortages in rural Georgia by creating a supervised pathway for qualified international physicians to practice and eventually obtain full licensure. The program only becomes effective if **specifically funded** through state appropriations and automatically repeals if funding is not maintained. 	Senate Hopper

CRIMINAL JUSTICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

<u>SB 390</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricts the deployment of armed military forces from other states into Georgia unless the Governor of Georgia gives explicit permission. The bill reinforces state sovereignty and civilian control, ensuring that Georgia's governor retains authority over when and how armed forces from other states can operate within Georgia's borders. 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>SB 398</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates new criminal offenses related to "virtual peeping", specifically targeting the nonconsensual use of generative artificial intelligence to create realistic images of real people. 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>HB 994</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes to significantly increase penalties for the offense of riot in Georgia. 	House Second Readers
<u>SB 383</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill modifies the review to be conducted by local child fatality review committees. 	Senate Read and Referred

IMMIGRATION

<u>SB 389</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires certain immigration enforcement officers operating in Georgia to be clearly identifiable to the public while performing immigration enforcement duties. 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>SB 391</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricts immigration enforcement activities in certain locations unless law enforcement has a judicial warrant. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> areas include schools, hospitals, places of worship, libraries, and family violence shelters to protect due process, child safety, and community stability 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>SB 397</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates a civil cause of action against federal officials who violate constitutional rights 	Senate Read and Referred
<u>SB 116</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill relates to DNA sampling, collection, and analysis, so as to require the collection of DNA samples from any individual in a detention facility charged with a misdemeanor or felony who is subject to an immigration detainer notice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bill expands mandatory DNA collection to include individuals who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are charged (not convicted) with misdemeanors or felonies Are subject to immigration detainer notices Are held in detention facilities (including newly-added county jails and municipal facilities) 	Passed out of Committee

VOTING RIGHTS/ELECTIONS/ DEMOCRACY

<u>SR 563</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urges the Georgia Secretary of State to immediately and fully comply with a request from the U.S. Department of Justice to securely produce Georgia's voter registration list. 	Senate Committee Favorably Reported
<u>SB 392</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes Georgia's budgeting process by requiring the state to use zero-based budgeting when developing the budget. 	Senate Read and Referred

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead of starting each year's budget by adjusting last year's spending, agencies must justify their funding from scratch May also be known as "Waste Reduction Act of 2026." 	
<u>SB 214</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows voters to cast a physical (paper) absentee ballot on request as an alternative to other authorized methods of in-person voting. 	House Second Readers
<u>HR 1033</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes a constitutional amendment to restrict when Georgia's legislative and congressional district maps can be redrawn. 	House First Readers
<u>HB 903</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes to significantly expand the scope of the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act by changing which state agencies must comply with it. 	House Second Readers

ECONOMY

<u>HB 947</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would prohibit the purchase of certain food and beverage items with SNAP benefits 	House Second Readers
<u>HR 1032</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A RESOLUTION creating the House Study Committee on Raising the Minimum Wage in Georgia 	House First Readers
<u>HB 140</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill prevents municipalities from over-relying on fines and forfeitures as a revenue stream (capping it at 10% of budget), with the stated goal of discouraging "taxation by citation" practices. Any excess revenue goes to the state rather than to the local government. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>GBPI Report</u> 	Governmental Affairs Committee Mtg 1/28
<u>HB 1001</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill proposes to **simplify and accelerate Georgia's income tax rate reduction. Instead of a gradual, conditional reduction over multiple years (potentially 2026-2029 or longer if delayed), this bill jumps directly to the final 4.99% rate in 2026, providing an immediate tax cut and 	House First Readers

		removing economic performance conditions that could postpone the reduction.	
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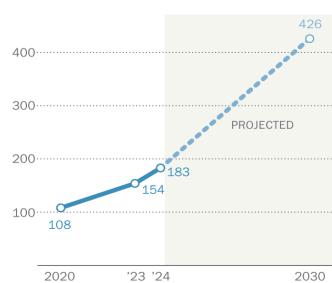
NEWS AND UPDATES

- [Students claimed fewer than half of budgeted Georgia Promise scholarships](#)
- [Cobb County school officials threaten to punish students joining ICE walkout](#)
- [Georgia Senate investigators want testimony from Stacey Abrams](#)
- [Lawmakers seed study to deepen Savannah port amid environmental questions](#)
- [Georgia Dems try to turn tables on GOP over gun rights following ICE shooting](#)
- ['Affordability' is the political buzzword of 2026](#)
- [ICE opens satellite field office south of Atlanta](#)
- [Appeals court rules in favor of Georgia election takeover and photography ban laws](#)
- [1 person in critical condition after shooting involving Border Patrol agent in Arizona](#)

RESEARCH AND POLLING

Electricity consumption at U.S. data centers is expected to more than double by 2030

Total electricity consumption by U.S. data centers (terawatt-hours)



Note: 2030 projection is based on IEA's "base case" scenario, which assumes current industry forecasts and regulatory conditions persist.

Source: International Energy Agency, "Energy and AI," April 2025.

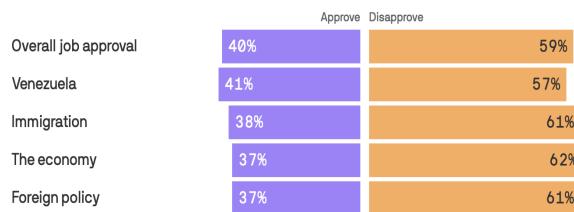
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

What we know about energy use at U.S. data centers amid the AI boom

U.S. data centers consumed 183 terawatt-hours (TWh) of electricity in 2024, according to IEA estimates. That works out to more than 4% of the country's total electricity consumption last year – and is roughly equivalent to the annual electricity demand of the entire nation of Pakistan. By 2030, this figure is projected to grow by 133% to 426 TWh.

Share who say they approve or disapprove of Trump's job in select areas

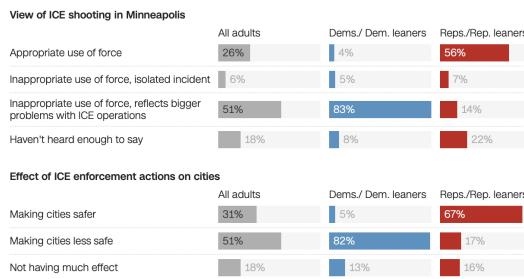
Survey of 1,203 U.S. adults conducted Jan. 8-11, 2026



Data: AP-NORC; Chart: Axios Visuals

Trump underwater on issues that got him elected, polling shows

The other side: Only 37% of Americans approve of Trump's handling of the economy overall, while 62% disapprove, the AP-NORC poll shows. More than half, 53%, of Americans believe the economy and country are somewhat or much worse off since Trump took office in 2025.

Most Americans call shooting by ICE agent in Minneapolis an inappropriate use of force


Note: The CNN poll was conducted by SSRS from January 9-12 among a random national sample of 1,209 US adults drawn from a probability-based panel. Surveys were either conducted online or by telephone with a live interviewer. Results shown in this chart have a margin of sampling error of up to ±4.9 percentage points. Some results may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Most Americans call shooting by ICE agent in Minneapolis an inappropriate use of force

Most Americans see an immigration officer's fatal shooting of Minneapolis resident Renee Good as an inappropriate use of force, a new CNN poll conducted by SSRS finds. Roughly half view it as a sign of broader issues with the way US Immigration and Customs Enforcement is operating, with less than one-third saying that ICE operations have made cities safer.

SOCIAL LISTENING & MIS- AND DISINFORMATION TRACKING

- Highlights:
- **INSTAGRAM: [FBI raids Fulton County Election Office.](#)**
 - As of 1/28 @ 2:00 PM
 - Views: 437k
 - Likes: 33.6k
 - Comments: 2k
 - Reshares: 7k+
- **INSTAGRAM: [ICE expansion facility in Atlanta- WABE reports.](#)**
 - As of 1/28 @ 11:00 AM
 - Views: 28.1k
 - Likes: 1,137
 - Comments: 34
 - Reshares: 1,216
- **BLUESKY: [Warnock ICE statement.](#)**
 - As of 1/28 @ 4:00 PM
 - Views: n/a
 - Likes: 190
 - Comments: 17
 - Reshares: 67

GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON TWITTER

- [Georgia House of Representatives](#)
- [Georgia House Democrats](#)
- [House Budget & Research Offices](#)
- [Georgia State Senate](#)
- [Georgia Senate Democrats](#)
- [Georgia Senate Republicans](#)

KEY DATES TO WATCH

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				01 New Year's Day 	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12 LD 1	13 LD 2	14 LD 3	15 LD 4	16 LD 5	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 BUDGET WEEK	21 BUDGET WEEK	22 BUDGET WEEK	23	24
25	26 LD 6	27 LD 7	28 LD 8	29 LD 9	30	31

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
01	02 LD 10	03 LD 11	04 LD 12	05 LD 13	06 LD 14	07
08	09 LD 15	10 LD 16	11 LD 17	12 LD 18	13	14 
15	16 Presidents' Day	17 LD 19	18 LD 20	19 LD 21	20 LD 22	21
22	23 Committee Work Day	24 LD 23	25 LD 24	26 LD 25	27	28

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
01	02 Committee Work Day	03 LD 26	04 LD 27	05 Committee Work Day	06 Crossover Day (LD 28)	07
08	09 LD 29	10 LD 30	11 Committee Work Day	12 LD 31	13	14



LEGISLATIVE DAY 8

JANUARY 28, 2026

15	16 LD 32	17 Committee Work Day	18 LD 33	19 LD 34	20 LD 35	21
22	23 LD 36	24 Committee Work Day	25 LD 37	26 Committee Work Day	27 LD 38	28
29	30	31 LD 39				

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			01	02 Sine Die! 🎉 (LD 40)	03	04

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