

# GA NABIP Annual Convention 2024

## Legislative Update

June 13th, 2024  
By Laura Norton



# » PGR Team



- Combined 50 years of experience in government
- Consistently voted one of the top Lobbying Firms of Georgia by JAMES Magazine
  - Principal Don Bolia - Named #1 Top Lobbyist in Georgia - 2020
- Deep relationships at all levels including Georgia's Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, and State Agencies
  - Department of Transportation
  - Department of Community Affairs
  - Office of Planning and Budget
- Strong track record on transportation, economic development, appropriations, and enhancing Georgia's business climate
- Only lobbying firm in Georgia that represents Cities, Counties, School Systems, and businesses before the General Assembly
  - Navigate every political subdivision and lead by building political coalitions

## » Senate Majority Leadership

- Lieutenant Governor - Burt Jones
- Senate President Pro Tempore - John Kennedy
- Senate Majority Leader - Steve Gooch
- Majority Whip - Randy Robertson
- Caucus Chairman - Jason Anavitarte
- Vice Caucus Chairman - Matt Brass



## » Senate Minority Leadership



- Minority Leader - Gloria Butler (retiring)
- Minority Whip - Harold Jones
- Caucus Chairman - Elena Parent
- Caucus Vice-Chairman - Sonya Halpern
- Caucus Secretary - Nan Orrock



## » House Majority Leadership

- Speaker of the House - Jon Burns
- Speaker Pro Tempore - Jan Jones
- Majority Leader - Chuck Efstration
- Majority Whip - James Burchett
- Caucus Chair - Bruce Williamson
- Caucus Vice-Chairman - Houston Gaines
- Secretary/Treasurer - Ginny Ehrhart



## » House Minority Leadership



- Minority Leader - James Beverly (retiring)
- Minority Whip - Sam Park
- Caucus Chairman - Billy Mitchell
- Caucus Vice-Chairwoman - Karen Bennett
- Caucus Secretary- Park Cannon



# » Insurance Commissioner

- Commissioner John King
  - 2019 Georgia Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner
  - 2022 elected Insurance Commissioner
  - First Hispanic statewide elected official



# » Chairmen of the Insurance Committees



House Insurance Committee  
Chairman: Rep. Eddie Lumsden



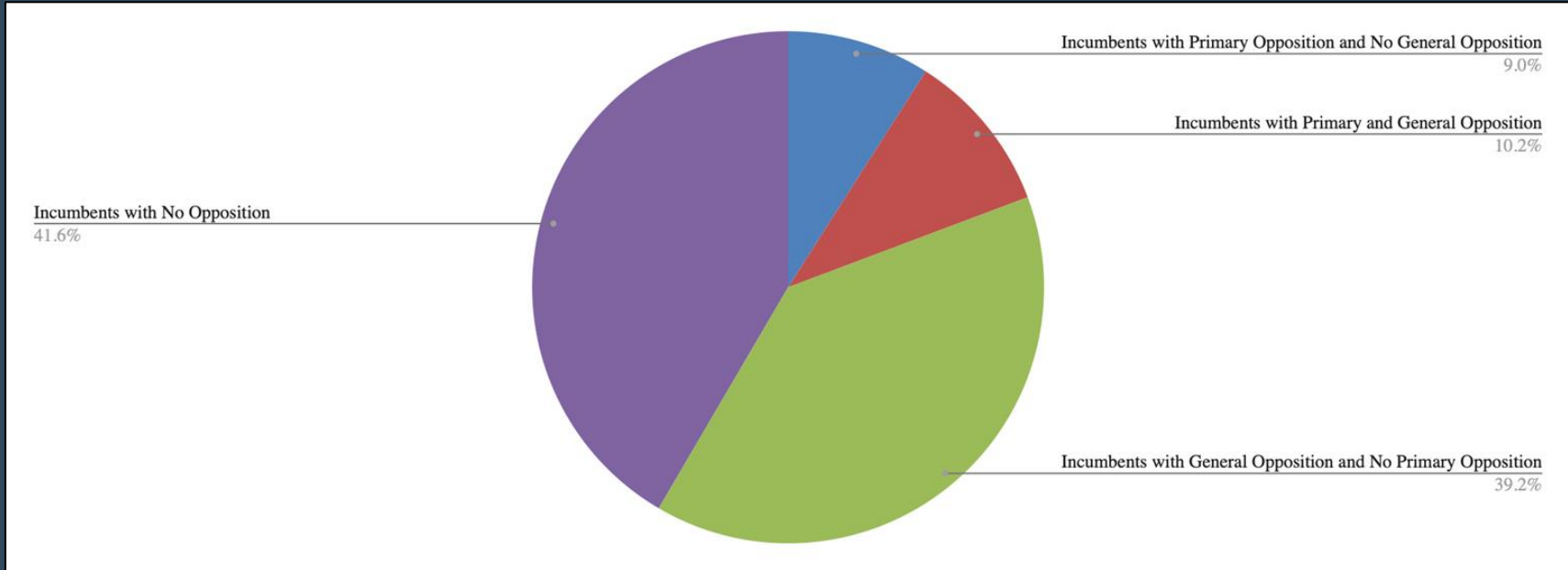
Senate Insurance and Labor Committee  
Chairman: Sen. Larry Walker



# » 2024 Qualifying Overview

**91.1% of House Incumbents Returning**

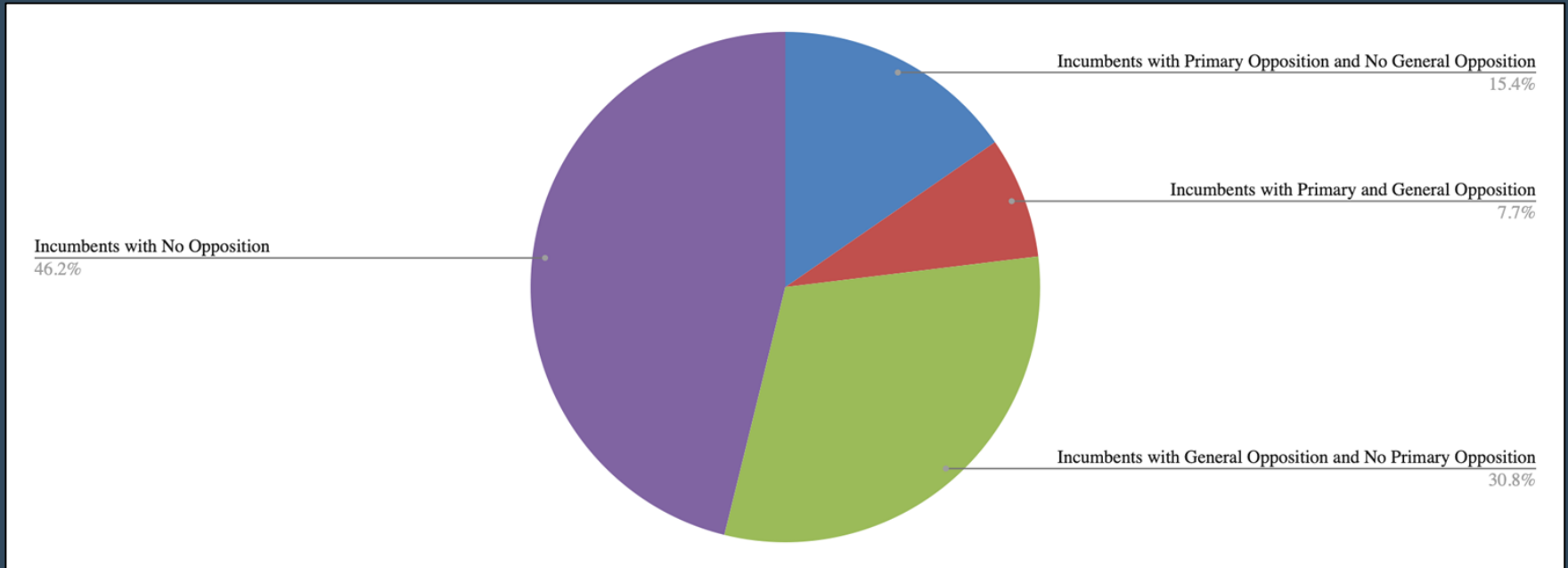
**8.9% of House Incumbents not Returning**



# » 2024 Qualifying Overview

**92.8% of Senate Incumbents Returning**

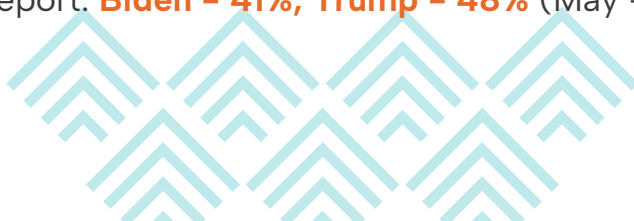
**7.2% of Senate Incumbents not Returning**



# » Presidential Polling Across the States

Presidential Polling (not all polls include Kennedy as an option)

- Georgia
  - NYT/Siena College: **Biden - 41%, Trump - 50%** (April 28 - May 9)
- Alabama
  - Not Competitive (Trump Strongly Favored)
- Tennessee
  - Not Competitive (Trump Strongly Favored)
- Florida
  - YouGov: **Biden - 45%, Trump - 54%** (May 10 - May 16)
- South Carolina
  - Not Competitive (Trump Strongly Favored)
- North Carolina
  - Cook Political Report: **Biden - 41%, Trump - 48%** (May - May 13)



# » Swing State Polling

- Arizona
  - NYT/Siena College: Biden - 43%, Trump - 49% (April 28 - May 9)
- Nevada
  - NYT/Siena College: Biden - 38%, Trump - 51% (April 28 - May 9)
- Georgia
  - NYT/Siena College: Biden - 41%, Trump - 50% (April 28 - May 9)
- Pennsylvania
  - NYT/Siena College: Biden - 45%, Trump - 48% (April 28 - May 9)
- Michigan
  - NYT/Siena College: Biden - 47%, Trump - 46% (April 28 - May 9)
- Wisconsin
  - NYT/Siena College: Biden - 46%, Trump - 47% (April 28 - May 9)



## » 2024 States with RFK on the Ballot

- California (pending)
- Delaware
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Iowa
- Michigan (swing state)
- Nebraska
- Nevada (swing state)
- New Hampshire
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Utah



## » 2023-2024 Session Biennial

- The Georgia Legislative process operates as a biennial and 2024 was the second of the 23-24 biennial
- What does this mean?
  - Bills that were tabled or did not make it through both chambers during the 2024 session are officially dead and must completely restart the process in a future session.



## » 2024 Governor Signing Period

- Governor Kemp has 40 days to sign or veto bills that passed both chambers during the 2024 Session.
- Bills that do not receive a signing or a veto will automatically become law after 40 days
- 40 day signing period: March 29th to May 7th



# » 2024 Important Legislative Happenings

- FY 2025 Budget
  - **Education priorities:** literacy initiatives, student transportation, teacher/staff pay raises, public school enrollment growth
  - **Mental Health and Public Safety:** additional beds at specific facilities, behavioral crisis center funding
    - DBHDD funding
    - State Health Benefit Plan funding
  - **Healthcare:** Medicaid and PeachCare funding, disability waiver program

# » 2024 Important Legislative Happenings

- Sports betting
  - SB 386: regulation and taxation of sports betting in this state
  - SR 579: Sports Betting Constitutional Amendment
  - Both passed the Senate, Tabled in the House and did not pass
- Certificate of Need
  - HB 1339: CON reformation, providing for CON exemptions
  - Signed by the Governor

## » NABIP Legislation

- HB 1049- Rep. Bruce Williamson
  - Insurance Business Transfer Act
  - Signed by the Governor
- HB 557- Rep. Ron Stephens
  - Allowing APRNs and NAs to prescribe Schedule II controlled substances
  - Signed by the Governor
- SB 334- Sen. John Albers
  - Helping Firefighters Beat Cancer Act; revising qualifications for insurance coverage for firefighters diagnosed with cancer
  - Signed by the Governor

## » NABIP Legislation

- HB 1326- Rep. Ron Stephens
  - Adding drugs to the list of Schedule I, Schedule III, and Schedule IV controlled substances
  - Signed by the Governor
- HB 945- Rep. Lee Hawkins
  - State health benefit plan insurance bill, covers when in network hospital becomes out of network
  - Passed House and Senate committee, Senate tabled

## » NABIP Legislation

- HB 143- Rep. Danny Mathis
  - Including continuous glucose monitors as a pharmacy benefit for Medicaid recipients
  - Language in the bill passed under a separate bill, SB 35
- HB 1077- Rep. Sharon Cooper and Sen. David Lucas
  - Medicaid Expansion alongwith Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce and the creation of a grant program to fund additional behavioral health workforce training positions
  - House passed, Did not make it out of the Senate Committee

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# Thank You!

Questions?

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