Fiscal Year 2024 – Senate Changes to House Revisions
to the Governor’s Recommendations
Total: $32.45 Billion
(Decreased from the governor’s Amended FY23 estimate of $32.56 Billion)

Yellow = House Changes
Turquoise = Senate Changes

Multi-Agency Budget Info

Statewide: Added $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs. This includes certified Pre-K teachers, assistant Pre-K teachers, certified K-12 teachers and certified K-12 employees.

Base Salaries Adjusted by $2,000 for certified K-12 teachers, certified K-12 employees, certified Pre-K teachers and assistant pre-k teachers (GaDOE, DECAL, DJJ, GA Military College Prep School) effective September 1, 2023.

Base Salaries Adjusted by $6,000 for Public Safety POST-certified state employees

Council of Accountability Court Judges

$97,331 Added for one Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Statewide Coordinator position

Juvenile Courts

$0 Added for grants to counties for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit (Governor had recommended $25,000)

$200,000 Reduced due to utilization and reporting levels concerning dependency case backlog.

Dept. of Administrative Services

$51.23 Million one-time funding Eliminated for the NextGen ERP Cloud Modernization project ($50 Million) to reduce state financial system costs and improve service delivery, and the All-Payer Claims Database ($1.23 Million) to enable analysis and public reporting of health care costs and utilization for medical, dental, and pharmaceutical services (under the Georgia Technology Authority)

Dept. of Agriculture

$0 Added to implement the 'Georgia Raw Dairy Act' (2022 Session). (House had added $637,232 but the senate cut the full amount)

$25,000 Added for the Georgia Grown Farm to Food Bank Program.
Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

**Budget Note:** “Change the name of the Adult Developmental Disabilities Services - Special Project program to Adult Developmental Disabilities Respite Services program.”

$10.95 Million Added to annualize the cost of 513 New Options Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) slots for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This amount in an increase from the governor’s recommendation of $10.18 Million. (Adult Developmental Disability Services)

$9.4 Million Added for 500 additional slots for the New Options Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and provide administrative workload support. The governor had recommended adding $4.2 Million for 250 additional slots; then the House added $8.06 Million bringing the total up to 375 slots; then the Senate increased that. (Adult Developmental Disability Services)

**Budget Note:** “Begin implementation of the 2022-2023 provider rate study pending approval by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).” (Adult Developmental Disability Services)

$200,000 Added for Citizen Advocacy to restore previous cuts and expand services. (Adult Developmental Disability Services)

$0 Added for an additional five forensic evaluators and four forensic peer mentors. The House had added $1.22 Million but the Senate cut it. (Adult Forensic Services)

$277,000 Added to increase salaries for forensic peer mentors. (Adult Forensic Services)

$10.15 Million Added to increase salaries for state psychiatric hospital staff to address agency recruitment and retention. (across DBHDD)

$6.29 Million Added for additional mobile crisis teams to address increasing demand (Adult Mental Health Services)

$7.03 Million Added to annualize the operating cost of a 24-bed and 16 temporary observation chair behavioral health crisis center at Serenity Behavioral Health Systems in Augusta. The governor had recommended adding $2 Million. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$5.69 Million Added for a 15-bed and 18 temporary observation chair behavioral health crisis center in Fulton County. The governor had recommended adding $5.69 Million; then the House added $6.65 Million for more beds, and the Senate returned to the Governor’s recommendation. (Adult Mental Health Services)
$10.82 Million Added to convert a crisis stabilization unit at CSB of Middle Georgia in Dublin to a 24-bed and 16 temporary observation chair behavioral health crisis center. The governor had recommended adding $5.41 Million. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$932,300 Reduction for one-time funds for a study on reimbursement rates for behavioral health providers (Adult Mental Health Services)

$2.25 Million Added for additional program and administrative support to manage the national ‘988’ hotline. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$0 Added to convert a crisis stabilization unit at Highland Rivers to a 32-bed and 16 temporary observation chair behavioral health crisis center. The House had added $4.56 Million, but the Senate cut it. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$1.9 Million Added for the Georgia Housing Voucher program to support the requirements of the Department of Justice (DOJ) Settlement Agreement. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$0 Added for the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network for peer services. The House had added $2.77 Million, but the Senate cut it. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$8.07 Million Added to support private psychiatric contract beds. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$825,000 Added for one-time funding to coordinate outreach to address homelessness in the Atlanta area. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$277,519 Added to create a crisis response team at View Point Health. (Adult Mental Health Services)

Budget Note: “The department is directed to work with the Department of Community Health (DCH) to increase Medicaid PRTF rates up to 75% of Medicare Inpatient Facility Rates, contingent upon Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval and agreement by facilities to follow DCH-defined payment polices that prioritize Georgia’s youth for placement.” (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

$600,000 Added for one-time gap funding for Georgia psychiatric residential treatment facilities receiving less than $500 per patient per day while under current cost report reimbursement methodology. (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

$100,000 Reduced for delayed contract implementation. (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

$1 Million Added for the Multi-Agency Treatment for Children (MATCH) teams to support collaboration across state agencies to meet the treatment needs of children. (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)
Budget Note: “Utilize funds in the Adult Mental Health program for mobile crisis for children and family response.” (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

$261,823 Eliminated from DBHDD departmental administration. These funds were originally appropriated to pay for administrative infrastructure necessary to implement the terms of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation settlement, the Georgia Opioid Abatement Trust funds, and the activities of the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory (ORRFA) Council. But... see next entry>>>

$0 Added to support operations personnel for the administration of federal opioid settlement funds. The House had added $300,000, but the Senate cut it.

$650,000 Added to support DBHDD agency operations.

$200,000 Added to expand the Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) program. (GA Council on Developmental Disabilities)

$1.6 Million Transferred to the Adult Developmental Disabilities Services – Special Project program to consolidate funds for respite services

Dept. of Community Affairs

$200,000 Added for the Helping Hands Ending Hunger program expansion to increase access to food, reduce food waste, and encourage better educational outcomes and sustainability.

$1 Million Added for the Home Access Program to increase the number of awarded grants to individuals requiring home accessibility modifications. The House had added $200,000 and the Senate increased it.

$200,000 Recognized in Base Funds for the Helping Hands Ending Hunger program expansion to increase access to food, reduce food waste, and encourage better educational outcomes and sustainability. The House had recommended adding $200,000 in state dollars, but the Senate said “No.”

$15 Million Added for Payments to Georgia Environmental Finance Authority to provide a grant program for natural gas pipeline expansion and capacity expansion for non-Universal Service Fund (USF) eligible entities.

Dept. of Community Health

$6.5 Million Eliminated to replace the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) with the Medicaid Enterprise System Transformation (MEST)
$1 Million Reduction of one-time funds for a study on reimbursement rates for mental health care providers (Departmental Administration)

**Budget Note:** “The Department shall submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to change any rules, regulations, or policies necessary to allow for reimbursement of Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) and Physical Therapy Assistants (PTAs) providing services for Medicaid members receiving Children's Intervention Services (CIS).”

**Budget Note:** “Establish the Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) designation for non-family-based placements to serve children in a trauma-informed model of care designed to address the needs, including clinical needs, of children with serious emotional or behavioral disorders or disturbances, and request necessary approvals with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) by December 31, 2023.”

$1 Million Added with the following direction: “The Department shall implement a remote maternal/fetal health monitoring program for Medicaid eligible high-risk pregnant mothers. The Department of Community Health (DCH) will work with Medicaid Care Management Organizations (CMOs) to develop a model for potential recipient program eligibility and requirements.”

$800,000 Transferred from DCH Departmental Administration to the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination (OHSC) to establish operational funds for the All-Payer Claims Database

$6 Million Reduced for Rural Hospital Stabilization Grants in anticipation of the new hospital directed payment program. The House sought to reduce it by $3 Million, but the Senate reduced yet further.

$500,000 Eliminated one-time start-up funding for federally qualified health centers.

$500,000 Added for two federally qualified health center start-up grants. The House has added $750,000 for three federally qualified health center (FQHC) start-up grants for primary care in Union County, behavioral health expansion at Christ Community Health Services of Augusta, and a school-based health center in Emanuel County. The Senate reduced the addition and did not specify where the FQHC’s would be.

$500,000 Added for charity clinics statewide. The House had added $250,000 and the Senate doubled it.

$950,000 Added for Mercy Care Atlanta to support increased patient volume. The House had added $500,000 and the Senate increased it.

$409,000 Added to support existing and new housing with the Area Health Education Centers (AHEC).
$0 Added in one-time funds for Colquitt Regional Medical Center for medical education training equipment and clinical space. The House had added $1.24 Million, but the Senate directed “utilize anticipated increased funds from Directed Payment Program funding which exceeds requested amount.”

$0 Added in one-time funds for St. Francis Hospital to support graduate medical education facility expansion. The House had added $425,000, but the Senate directed, “Fund residency capitation for St. Francis Hospital in Georgia Board of Healthcare Workforce: Graduate Medical Education Program.”

Budget note: “Utilize anticipated increased funds from Directed Payment Program funding which exceeds requested amount for St. Francis Hospital for medical education training equipment and clinical space.”

$0 Added for Archbold Medical Center for infrastructure support for new residency programs. The House had added $1.2 Million, but the Senate directed, “Utilize anticipated increased funds from Directed Payment Program funding which exceeds requested amount…”

$250,000 Added to implement and regulate the new licensure category for adult residential mental health programs as established by HB 1069 (2022 Session)

$79.16 Million Added for growth in Aged Blind Disabled (ABD) Medicaid based on projected utilization. The governor had added $79.16 Million but the House eliminated that and reduced it further, but then the Senate restored the governor’s recommendation.

$199,578 Added to increase reimbursement rates for developmental and behavioral screening and testing. (ABD = $28,136; LIM = $159,455; PeachCare = $11,988)

$1.28 Million Added for reimbursement of Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) and Physical Therapy Assistants (PTAs) providing services for Medicaid members receiving Children's Intervention Services (CIS). (ABD = $466,926; LIM = $408,729; PeachCare = $408,729)

$1.79 Million Added for adult coverage of dental services. ($1.39 Million for ABD, $1.4 Million for LIM)

$1.09 Million Added for a 5% increase to emergency medical services (EMS) reimbursement rates. ($650,651 for ABD, $442,464 for LIM, $11,243 for PeachCare)

$5.26 Million Added for a 2% rate increase for home and community-based service providers. (ABD)

$854,167 Added for a 5% rate increase for Georgia Pediatric Program (GAPP) providers. (ABD)

$621,296 Added to increase the dispensing fee to $11.50 for low-volume pharmacies that fill under 65,000 prescriptions per year. ($308,666 for ABD, $312,630 for LIM)
$7.24 Million Added to increase reimbursement rates for speech-language pathology, audiology, physical therapy, and occupational therapy providers. ($2.2 Million for ABD, $5.04 Million for LIM)

**Budget Note:** “Submit a State Plan Amendment to adjust psychiatric residential treatment facility (PRTF) rates up to 75% of Medicare Inpatient Facility Rates, contingent upon CMS approval and agreement by facilities to follow DCH defined payment policies that prioritize Georgia’s youth for placement.: (ABD)

$871,029 Added to reimburse for family psychological and therapy services. (LIM)

$0 Added to remove the five-year waiting period for pregnant women and children who are lawful permanent residents. The House sought $584,061, but the senate eliminated it and said “Utilize $698,571 from HB911 (2022 Session) to remove the five-year waiting period for pregnant women and children who are lawful permanent residents” (LIM)

$18.72 Million Added to increase select primary care and OB/GYN codes to 2021 Medicare levels. (LIM)

**Budget Note:** “The department shall require Medicaid managed care organizations to reimburse at no less than 100% of the state Medicaid program Durable Medical Equipment fee schedule for the same service or item of durable medical equipment, complex rehab technology, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies. This shall also apply to managed care contractor subcontractors and third-party administrators.” (LIM)

**Budget Note:** “Increase employer contribution per-member, per-month (PMPM) rate for the State health benefits Plan for Certified and Non-Certified school employees to $1,580 effective January 1, 2023.” (SHBP)

**Budget Note:** “It is the intent of the General Assembly that the department shall make annual recommendations to adjust State Health Benefit Plan employer and employee contributions as needed to maintain the financial stability of the plan and report to the Office of Planning and Budget, the House Budget and Research Office, and the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office by September 1.” (SHBP)

Recognize Reduction in ABD Medicaid ($74.65 Million), LIM ($74.25 Million), and PeachCare ($624,600) from HB 81 (2021 Session) to reflect the temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase provided by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) through December 31, 2023 (ABD Medicaid)

Recognize $65.46 Million from HB 81 (2021 Session) and Add $52.22 Million in new dollars to implement the Georgia Pathways to Coverage program established by the Patients First Act (2019 Session), effective July 1, 2023 (LIM)
Georgia Board of Healthcare Workforce (GBHW) (administratively attached to DCH)

$180,000 Added for additional staff and technology to assist with loan repayment program expansion.

$100,000 Added for one-time funding for a statewide Neurology assessment to evaluate current and future needs.

$2.01 Million Added for 116 new residency slots in primary care medicine. The Governor had recommended $1.77 Million for 102 slots.

$0 Added for five Graduate Medical Education (GME) feasibility grants to assist hospitals in establishing or expanding GME programs. The governor had asked for an addition of $375,000.

$153,352 Transferred from the Morehouse School of Medicine Grant program to GBHW Graduate Medical Education program for nine psychiatry residency slots and provide funds for one additional psychiatry resident position.

$240,000 Transferred from the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce: Morehouse School of Medicine Grant program to the GBHW Graduate Medical Education program for child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship positions.

$35,000 Eliminated one-time funds for a statewide dental workforce assessment.

$216,169 Added for six child and adolescent psychiatry fellows at the Medical College of Georgia. The House had added $648,507 but the Senate reduced it.

$150,000 Added for a Maternal Fetal Medicine fellowship at the Medical College of Georgia.

$240,000 Added to support the start-up of a new rural OB/GYN graduate medical education program to address maternity care deserts in rural Georgia at Morehouse School of Medicine. This replaced the $240,000 which the House Added to support the start-up of a new rural OB/GYN graduate medical education program to address maternity care deserts in rural Georgia.

$663,100 Added for the fourth year of the seven-year plan for Mercer School of Medicine’s medical school campus in Columbus.

$240,000 Added to support the start-up of a new rural OB/GYN graduate medical education program to address maternity care deserts in rural Georgia.

$0 Added to support the increase of the Morehouse School of Medicine class size and expand rural clinical training. The House had added $1.5 Million, but the Senate eliminated it.
$850,000 Added to establish a loan repayment program for mental health professionals. (Physicians for Rural Areas)

$0 Added to establish the medical examiner loan repayment program. The governor had recommended adding $190,000 but the House noted “Reflect in the Georgia Student Finance Commission’s Service Cancelable Loans program”. (Physicians for Rural Areas)

$1.96 Million Added for the physician loan repayment program to increase award amount and update program guidelines. The governor had recommended $2.04 Million; then the House decreased it to $.56 Million and the Senate upped the House’s amount. (Physicians for Rural Areas)

$440,000 Added for additional loan repayments for five physician assistants and 39 advanced practice registered nurses (Physicians for Rural Areas)

$250,000 Added to establish the nursing faculty loan repayment program. The governor had recommended $1.05 Million; The House reduced it to $500,000 and the Senate reduced further. (Undergraduate Medical Education)

$0 Added for Georgia medical student capitation payments to the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM). The House had added $636,341 but the Senate removed it.

$1 Million Added for equipment and operating grants for nursing programs with wait lists and additional student capacity.

$431,836 Added for personal services to support increased licensure application volume. The House had added $314,373 and the Senate increased it. (GA Composite Medical Board)

Dept. of Corrections

$25.15 Million Added for physical health and pharmacy services contracts

$20.9 Million Reduced to reflect the closure of Georgia State Prison

$2.68 Million Added for safety and security technology projects

$26. Million in bond funds for emergency maintenance and repairs

Dept. of Early Care and Learning

$179,000 Reduced in formula funds for training and experience for Pre-K teachers.

$8.18 Million Added to reflect an increase in the employer contribution for State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) from 18.534% to 29.454% of salary to maintain formula fidelity. The House had added $11.93
Million Added to reflect an increase in the employer contribution per-member per-month (PMPM) rate for lead and assistant teachers at public Pre-K providers effective January 1, 2023, but the Senate reduced it as noted.

$14.04 Million Added for classroom operations and redirect existing funding to Pre-K lead teacher salaries.

**Georgia Dept. of Education**

$481,786 Transferred from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of Education for the AmeriCorps Math Corps and Reading Corps programs. (Note: The only amount specified for this transfer in the DCA section of the budget is $240,894, so I am not sure where the other half of the total came from.)

$506,730 Added to reflect an increase in the employer contribution per-member per-month (PMPM) rate for certified school employees to $1,580 effective January 1, 2023. (Ag Education)

$114,000 Added for 12 new extended day/year programs. House had asked for 18 programs at $171,000. (Ag Education)

$96,000 Added for an oversight position in Barrow, Lowndes, and Hall counties. House had asked for $288,000 and three young farmer positions. (Ag Education)

**Budget Note:** “The Department of Education is authorized to establish a pilot program consisting of a representative sample of schools and school systems to study whether the use of advanced technologies capable of reliably detecting children at potential risk of harming themselves or others based on their internet use patterns is effective at reducing rates of youth suicide and violence; provided, however, that such study is limited to internet use on school-issued devices.” (Central Office)

$0 Removed for one-time funds in the GaDOE Central Office. The House sought to remove $75,000, but the Senate directed GaDOE to recognize $75,000 in base funds for outdoor learning grants instead.

$0 Added for Plasma Games statewide rollout and evaluate usage and effectiveness after one year. The House added $3 million, but the Senate cut it. (Central Office)

$100,000 Added for one-time funding to conduct study and host meetings with House and Senate committees and stakeholders concerning Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) formula funding. (Central Office)

$1.7 Million Added for charter facility grants pursuant to HB 430 (2017 Session). (Charter Schools)
$0 Added for Communities in Schools for additional affiliates. The House had added $262,000, but the Senate cut it.

$0 Added for life science industry certification for rural school districts. The House had added $200,000, but the Senate cut it and directed GaDOE to use base funds instead. (Curriculum Development)

$904,903 Reduced from GNETS.

$4.71 Million Reduced for enrollment and Training and Experience decline in GNETS

$211,250 Added for Sparsity Grants based on enrollment data (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$152,463 Reduced formula funds for Residential Treatment Facilities based on attendance. The governor had recommended a reduction of $406,200. (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$0 Added for feminine hygiene grants due to inflation and increased enrollment. The House had added $200,000, but the Senate cut it and directed GaDOE to use base funds instead. (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$4.97 Million Added for Dyslexia Screening pursuant to SB48 (2019 Session). (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$3.96 Million Added for school nutrition with a note from the House saying “for the cost of breakfast and lunch for reduce-paying students”. The governor had recommended adding $1.58 Million; then the House increased it to $6.33 Million; and the Senate reduced that amount.

$1.6 Million Added for a 5.1% salary increase for school nutrition workers

$4.47 Million Added to Preschool Disability Services

$1.34 Million Added for pupil transportation. The governor had recommended adding $1.6 Million.

$4.65 Million Added for a 5.1% salary increase for school transportation workers. The governor had recommended adding $14.32 Million.

$122.28 Million Added in formula funds for QBE Equalization grants

$155 Million Added for enrollment growth and training and experience (QBE Program)

$13.28 Million Added in formula funds for the State Commission Charter School supplement. The governor had recommended adding $20.67 Million. (QBE Program)
$43.87 Million Reduced for State Charter Supplement funds for Mountain Education (($18,543,435)) and Coastal Plains (($9,447,172)) and Foothills Charter High School (($15,874,465)). The governor had recommended a reduction of $26.07 Million which included an increase for Foothills. (QBE Program)

$27.75 Million Reduced in QBE formula funds due to expiration of state charter contracts for Mountain Education and Coastal Plains pursuant to SB 153 (2021 Session) (QBE Program)

$8.67 Million Added to provide a salary supplement of $1,000 to all custodians.

$296,000 Added in formula funds for the charter system grant (QBE Program)

$188,500 Added in formula funds for the local charter school grant (QBE Program)

$464,969 Reduced in formula funds for differentiated pay for newly certified math and science teachers. The governor had recommended reducing the funds by $655,100. (QBE Program)

$26.93 Million Added to fully fund school counselor ratio at 1:450 for all QBE student categories pursuant to HB 283 (2013 Session) (QBE Program)

$49,493 Added to provide a military counselor to Chattahoochee County and evaluate the utilization of existing grants for military counselors. The governor recommended using existing funds. (QBE Program)

$73,853 Added for RESAs based on enrollment growth. This nearly doubled the governor’s recommended addition

$482,496 Added for a 5.1% salary increase for RESAs.

$1.8 Million Added for a 5.1% salary increase for school nurses, along with a Budget Note to maintain current funding and hold harmless for formula reduction for school nurse funding.

$495,700 Added in formula finds for Training and Experience in State Schools

$0 Added for construction industry certification. The House had added $711,000, but the Senate cut it. (Technology/Career Education)

$1 Million Added for a construction ready pre-apprenticeship program. (Technology/Career Education)

$873,215 Eliminated to reflect testing contract (i.e., fewer tests).
Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget

$1.95 Million Transferred from the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget to reflect funds appropriated for the Georgia Data Analytic Center.

**Budget Note:** “The Office of Health Strategy and Coordination is directed to support the transition of Child Caring Institutions (CCIs) to Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs).”

$58,000 Added for operations and maintenance for GEMA/HS South building at Georgia Public Safety Training Center. The House had added $40,000 and the Senate increased it.

$2.5 Million Added to deploy Formulytics in gang database statewide.

Governor’s Office of Student Achievement

$0 Added to support the implementation of a digital learning-based Pre-K through 5 program that teaches language and literacy curriculum for all students to increase their ability to meet grade-level reading standards. The House had sought $1 Million, but the Senate eliminated it.

$250,000 Added for the Literacy Lab's Leading Men Fellowship program.

$1 Million Added to provide personnel and operations for the Georgia Council on Literacy ($251,108) pursuant to SB211 (2023 Session) and to support implementation of effective methods which additionally includes digital learning-based learning curriculum for Pre-K through 5 ($750,000).

Dept. of Human Services

$185,000 Added to reflect FY 2022 collections of marriage and divorce filing fees pursuant to HB 511 (2021 Session) (Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention)

$400,000 Added to expand services for at-risk girls at Pace Center for Girls.

$500,000 Added to the court appointed special advocates (CASA) to enhance statewide capacity. The House had added $1 Million but the Senate reduced it.

$20,000 Added to operate the Georgia Commission for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

**Budget Note:** “The Department shall work with the Department of Community Health to transition Child Caring Institutions (CCIs) to Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs) by December 31, 2023.”

$11.15 Million Added to annualize funds provided in Amended FY 2023 to support the staffing of 450 case managers, 75 supervisors, and one district manager for Medicaid redeterminations due to...
Legislative Update – March 27, 2023

the Public Health Emergency (PHE) expiration. The governor had recommended an addition of $3.24 Million for 300 additional Medicaid eligibility caseworkers.

$5 Million Added to provide alternative housing options for youth with complex needs. The House simply noted this, but the Senate added the money. (Out-of-Home Care)

$18.17 Million Added to provide state funds for loss of federal Foster Care Title IV-E funds to Child Caring Institutions for a portion of the year. (Out-of-Home Care)

$500,000 Reduced for non-programmatic expenditures in Out-of-School Care Services.

$1 Million Added to Out-of-School Services to bridge the education gap.

$160,000 Added to Out-of-School Services for community center after school programs.

$89,600 Added to reflect FY 2022 collections from the Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Children Fund Commission

$3.38 Million Added to assist in the rehabilitation of children, youth, and adult victims of sexual trafficking (Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Children Fund Commission)

$20,000 Reduced for the Georgia Commission for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Office of the Commissioner of Insurance

$173.1 Million Added for the state reinsurance program. The governor had recommended an addition of $92 Million, the House decreased it to $61 Million and the Senate significantly increased the amount.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (administratively attached to the GA Bureau of Investigation)

$94,250 Added for one position to administer the sexual assault kit tracking system

$4.57 Million Added for personal services and operations for the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund.

$5 Million Reduced one-time funds for training grants. The House had reduced the funding by $7.5 Million, but the Senate lessened the reduction.

$0 Added for sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) coordinators and improve access to SANE resources for sexual assault centers. The House had added $2.53 Million, but the Senate cut it.
**Dept. of Juvenile Justice**

*Budget Note:* “The department shall study recruitment and retention strategies to reduce turnover and report back to the Office of Planning and Budget and the chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees by July 1, 2023.”

**Dept. of Law**

$90,800 Added for one business operations analyst position in the human trafficking unit

**Dept. of Public Health**

$363,675 Added for the Sickle Cell Foundation of Georgia

$250,000 Added for pregnancy and parenting grant programs. The House had added $500,000 and the Senate reduced it.

$50,000 Added for the Georgia Council of Lupus Education and Awareness to support research, data collection, awareness, and education.

$150,000 Added for the Georgia Poison Center. The House had added $250,000 and the Senate reduced it.

$1.69 Million Added for a pilot to provide home visiting in at-risk and underserved rural communities during pregnancy and early childhood to improve birth outcomes, reduce preterm deliveries, and decrease infant and maternal mortality.

$804,842 Added to increase reimbursement rates for speech-language pathology, audiology, physical therapy, and occupational therapy providers in the Babies Can't Wait program. The House had added $402,421 and the Senate doubled it.

$1.7 Million Removed one-time funds provided by the General Assembly for infrastructure and support disregarded and redirected to general grant-in-aid formula grants to counties.

$6.65 Million Reduced for the Georgia Coordinating Center to reflect projected expenditures. The House had reduced by $2.3 Million and the Senate reduced it further.

$692,516 Reduced that were previously awarded to Wellstar - Atlanta Medical Center for Level 1 Trauma Center.
Dept. of Public Safety

$2.07 Million Added for equipment, installation, and training associated with a new statewide public safety radio network to achieve statewide interoperability.

$292,000 Added for annual CPR training for dispatchers. (GPSTC)

$0 Reduced for driver's education and training. The governor recommended a reduction of $2.9 Million.

University System of Georgia

$600,000 Transferred for K-12 rural Georgia computer science pilot program to the Public Service/Special Funding Initiatives program. (GA Tech Research Institute)

$9.88 Million Added to reflect a 2.3% decrease in enrollment with an increase in higher-cost program areas ($7,568,313) and 0.6% increase in square footage ($2,313,040). The governor recommended adding $12.65 Million. (Teaching Division)

$0 Million Reduced (“adjusted”) in formula funds for enrollment growth to reflect corrected credit hour data for Georgia Institute of Technology. The governor recommended adding $2.76 Million.

$2.45 Million Decreased for the Augusta University / University of Georgia Medical Partnership Expansion

$540,159 Transferred for the Fort Valley State University land-grant match requirements to the Teaching Program (the funds were transferred from Agricultural Experiment Station ($378,752) and from Cooperative Extension Service ($161,407))

$59,625 Added for the public libraries’ formula based on an increase in state population.

$1.11 Million Added for public libraries for materials grants by 5 cents from $0.60 to $0.67 per capita. House had increased from $0.60 to $0.65 per capita ($556,796) and the Senate increased that.

$1.4 Million Added for K-12 rural Georgia computer science pilot program at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

$90,000 Added for the STEM Teacher Academy through the Georgia Youth Science Technology Center.

$1.19 Million Added for Middle Georgia Aviation to support increased enrollment. The House had added $814,761 and the Senate increased it.
$0 Added to expand the Archway Partnership into five additional communities. The House had added $775,000 and the Senate cut it.

$1.5 Million Added to support operations and address a backlog of projects at the Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation. The House had added $750,000 and the Senate doubled it.

$87 Million Reduced from the Teaching Division (which funds student instruction and to establish and operate other initiatives that promote, support, or extend student learning.)

$250,000 Added for the Anne Frank Holocaust Education Center. The House had added $344,500 and the Senate reduced it.

$3.75 Million Reduced from payments to Georgia Public Telecommunications Commission. Agency-wide cut of funding for the employer share of health benefits in USG.

Secretary of State

$129,196 Added for two nursing analysts and one full-time educator for the Georgia Board of Nursing to address increased licensure and complaint volume. The House had added $191,915 and the Senate reduced it.

$123,584 Added for five analysts to address increased licensure volume. The House had added $308,959 and the Senate reduced it.

Georgia Student Finance Commission

$1.82 Million transferred for postsecondary gap funding grants from the Low Interest Loans program to the College Completion Grants program to reflect increased utilization. The House had added $10 Million and the Senate reduced it.

Budget Note: “Utilize other existing funds to support commission operations and student access to financial aid programs, including the Behavioral Health Service Cancelable Loan program as established in HB 1013 (2022 Session), and the law enforcement and medical examiner loan repayment programs.”

$6.6 Million Reduced in Dual Enrollment based on projected need.

$1.62 Million Reduced for administrative costs associated with service cancelable loan programs and utilize existing funds to implement loan repayment programs for mental health professionals.

$0 Transferred from Engineer Scholarship to Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG) program based on 2017 Department of Audits and Accounts Performance Audit. The House added the note: “Recognize existing funds for the Scholarship for Engineering Education at Mercer University, which
is designed to incentivize students to pursue a career in engineering and remain in Georgia upon graduation.” The governor had recommended transferring $315,000.

$3.23 Million Added to meet the projected need for the HOPE Grant program at a factor rate of 100% and reduce out of pocket needs for students in Commercial Drivers’ License and Law Enforcement programs at TCSG. The governor had recommended adding $3.23 Million or a factor rate of 100%; the House reduced that factor rate to 95% (1.92 Million) and the Senate put it back to 100%.

$0 Added to increase the HOPE Private Zell award from $2,977 to $3,100 and adjust the HOPE Private award amount to 95% of the Zell award, increasing it from $2,282 to $2,945. The House had added $15.37 Million and the Senate reduced it.

$1.45 Million Added to meet the projected need for the HOPE Scholarship at private institutions.

$57.9 Million Added to meet the projected need for the HOPE Scholarships programs at factor rate of 100% at public postsecondary schools. The governor had recommended adding $57.9 Million or a factor rate of 100%; the House reduced that factor rate to 95% ($31.93 Million) and the Senate put it back to 100%.

$955,830 Added for IPSE grants to be awarded to eligible students enrolled in IPSE programs at postsecondary institutions across the state.

**Budget Note:** “Utilize state and other funds to fully fund REACH program needs.”

$1.7 Million Reduced funds associated with the Leo Scholarship Grant Service Cancelable Loans (HB 1319 of the 2022 Session, which was not enacted into law)

**Budget Note:** “Utilize existing other funds to support the Georgia Military College Transfer Service Cancelable Loan.”

$3.2 Million Added to provide up to $20,000 maximum loan repayments across five years of service to support recruitment and retention of public law enforcement officers across the state.

$140,000 Added and recognize in existing funds to establish the medical examiner loan repayment program.

**Budget Note:** “Utilize existing funds ($10,000,000) to provide service cancelable loans to Georgia residents enrolled in degree programs in qualified behavioral health professions pursuant to HB 1013 (2022 Session).”

**Technical College System of Georgia**
$8.98 Million Reduced to reflect a 3.5% decrease in credit hours (-$9,292,213) with an increase in funds to reflect a 2.1% increase in square footage ($315,390) (Technical Division)

$325,000 Added for a Quick Start style program to address healthcare shortages throughout the state.

$7.58 Million Added for the first year of a three-year phase-in for increased credit hour earnings for the Commercial Driver’s License, and Nursing programs to reflect the high-cost nature of providing these programs. The House had added $8.23 Million and included Aviation programs, but the Senate eliminated Aviation and reduced the overall amount.

$1.1 Million Added to implement the Tools for Success matching grant program.