

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



GA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES **SCOTT HILTON** HOUSE DISTRICT 48

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your State Representative. It is an honor of a lifetime to be your voice in state government.

On March 29, the Georgia General Assembly adjourned Sine Die for 2024 after forty days of session. I am excited to share with you details on common sense legislation that will keep our community safe, schools strong and economy growing.

My number one job is to serve you, below are just a few ideas on how you can engage with our office:

- ✓ Capitol Tours for students or families; serve as a House Page (ages 12 - 18)
- ✓ HOA or Neighborhood In-person Town Hall
- ✓ House Resolution honoring an individual, team accomplishment, or Eagle Scout
- ✓ Medicaid Enrollment, Dept. Of Revenue, or other state government agency support

You are always welcome to reach out to me personally. I treasure hearing your ideas and insights as we work together to keep our community strong.

Most Sincerely,

Scott Hilton



Priorities This Session

FIGHTING INFLATION

As families struggle with persistent inflation and higher prices, we took action in the State House. I sponsored and voted for legislation to cut state income tax by \$1.1 billion, double the homestead exemption to \$4,000 (first increase since 1978), and raise the child tax deduction by \$1,000 per child. Now, Georgia boasts one of the nation's strongest economies.

SECURING OUR BORDER

Our Federal Government is failing to protect our southern border, resulting in a humanitarian crisis that is now impacting Georgia. We are witnessing an increase in fentanyl overdoses, gang activity and threats to national security. We passed H.B. 1105, requiring law enforcement to report illegal immigrants in custody to federal officials. Never again do we want to experience a tragedy like the one in Athens involving a young college student.

PROMOTING EDUCATION

As Vice-Chairman of the House K-12 Education Committee, I am passionate about our students' success. Recognizing each family's unique needs, we passed the Georgia Promise Scholarship Act, empowering parents with school choice. We expanded Pre-K space, allocated \$45,000 for security at each public school, and increased teacher pay by \$2,500, making our teachers the highest paid in the Southeast.

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Our first responders need our support - which is why I joined a bipartisan coalition including Governor Brian Kemp and Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens to support the new Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. A highly-trained police force will lead to safer communities for everyone. We increased pay for state law enforcement and toughened penalties on rioting and burning police cars. I authored and passed H.B. 218, providing valuable protections for seniors and mentally incapacitated adults from physical abuse. We created the Commission on Maternal & Infant Health to improve health outcomes for new mothers.

Significant Legislation Passed In The 2024 Session

HB 581 - Property Tax Cap With voter approval in November, would create a constitutional amendment to limit the appreciation of property values for tax purposes to the inflation rate – shielding taxpayers from runaway property taxes

HB 30 - Standing Against Antisemitism Creates a definition of antisemitism and protects Georgia's Jewish community from the recent rise in hate crimes

HB 1017 - Squatter Reform Act Addresses the issue of squatting by creating the offense of unlawful squatting when someone enters and resides in a home without the owner's rightful knowledge or consent

SB 351 - Protecting Minors on Social Media Removes social media platforms from school-owned devices, updates Georgia's cyber-bullying policies and requires parental consent for children under the age of 16 to create a new social media account

HB 993 - Human Trafficking Penalties Creates a criminal penalty for adults who groom a minor to engage in a sexual offense or in human trafficking

HB 189 - Election Integrity Increases 3rd Party ballot access, removes QR code from the ballot, and requires absentee ballots to be calculated by 8PM on Election Day

HB 1023 - Small Business Support Simplifies Georgia's tax code for entrepreneurs by matching the business income tax rate to the individual income tax rate

HR 1719 - In-vitro Fertilization (IVF) Resolution I introduced to make it clear that Georgia supports IVF, signed by Speaker Jon Burns and House leadership

HB 1339 - Expanding Healthcare Cut regulations to make it easier to open a new healthcare facility, funding for a new medical school at UGA and teaching hospital at Morehouse



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ABOUT SCOTT

Scott Hilton is honored to represent House District 48, which includes the beautiful communities of Johns Creek, Peachtree Corners, Alpharetta and Roswell. Scott and his wife, Meredith, live in Peachtree Corners where they raise their three children Trent (17), Chase (15) and Caroline (12). Scott serves in a number of leadership roles within the State House - including Vice Chairman of Education and Creative Arts & Entertainment. Scott also sits on three other integral committees: Public Health, Urban Affairs and MARTA Oversight.

Scott holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Georgetown University, a master's degree in business from Emory University, and is a graduate of Leadership Georgia. Scott also volunteers his time for several local organizations, including the Fowler Family YMCA, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), and Wesleyan School. Scott and his family are active members of Perimeter Church in Johns Creek.