

[View this email in your browser](#)



# Senator John Albers

March 2023  
Newsletter

[Website](#)



## Welcome

We are in the final weeks of the 2023 Legislative Session moving one step closer to Sine Die on March 29, the final day of session. My Senate colleagues and I remain studious in our endeavors to ensure all legislation is properly vetted and voted upon to improve the life of Georgians. I have many important bills and resolutions which are working through the legislative process. Weekly updates during the legislative session are posted on my website: [SenatorAlbers.com](http://SenatorAlbers.com).

I love the spring with new signs of life everywhere and a little warmer temperatures. Kari and I look forward to planting our garden soon and enjoying more time outdoors.

---

# Amended Budget

Below are several highlights from the AFY 2023 budget signed by Governor Kemp on Friday, March 10:



- \$950 million for a one-time Homeowner Tax Relief Grant (HTRG) program to provide a credit on the assessed home value for each homestead for tax year 2023.
- \$115.7 million to fund school security grants in the amount of \$50,000 per school.
- \$5 million to support paraprofessionals with bachelor's degrees seeking teaching certificates.
- \$3.5 million in grant funding to assist nursing programs with current wait lists and increase student capacity.
- \$92 million for the state reinsurance program to reduce insurance premiums statewide.
- \$35.7 million for the Rural Workforce Housing Fund.

---

## Crossover Day

Monday, March 6 marked the important Legislative Day 28, Crossover Day, which symbolizes the deadline to have legislation pass through the Senate Chamber in order to be voted upon in the House. On Crossover Day alone, we passed 50 measures to be voted upon in the House. In total, 54 measures were passed this week. I am pleased to provide you with updates on a few bills of note.

On Crossover Day, Senate Bill 217, passed in the Senate with bipartisan support. It was an honor to sponsor SB 217, which creates penalties for individuals who 'ghost' their license plates. I would like to give credit to my Senate Intern Shaun Cunningham who came up with this bill, spoke to the respective parties, worked diligently alongside Legislative Counsel to draft the bill and even testified on its behalf during the committee process. I always ask my interns to come up with great ideas and Cunningham did a phenomenal job every step of the way.

SB 217 creates stiffer penalties for individuals who hide their license plate by adding a dark film or reflectors, making it harder for law enforcement to identify who the car belongs to. This can be incredibly dangerous and puts the safety of law enforcement and citizens at risk.

Penalties will reflect the same standards as the penalties for DUI's, sending a strong message to criminals that their antics will not be tolerated in our great state.



---

## Tax Refunds



The Senate & House have both approved the tax cuts from Governor Kemp.

\*Income tax refund of \$250 per individual, \$275 head of household, \$500 joint

\*Property Tax refund of \$500

These fiscally conservative programs will help Georgia families deal with a 40 year high inflation.

---



Website