



2016



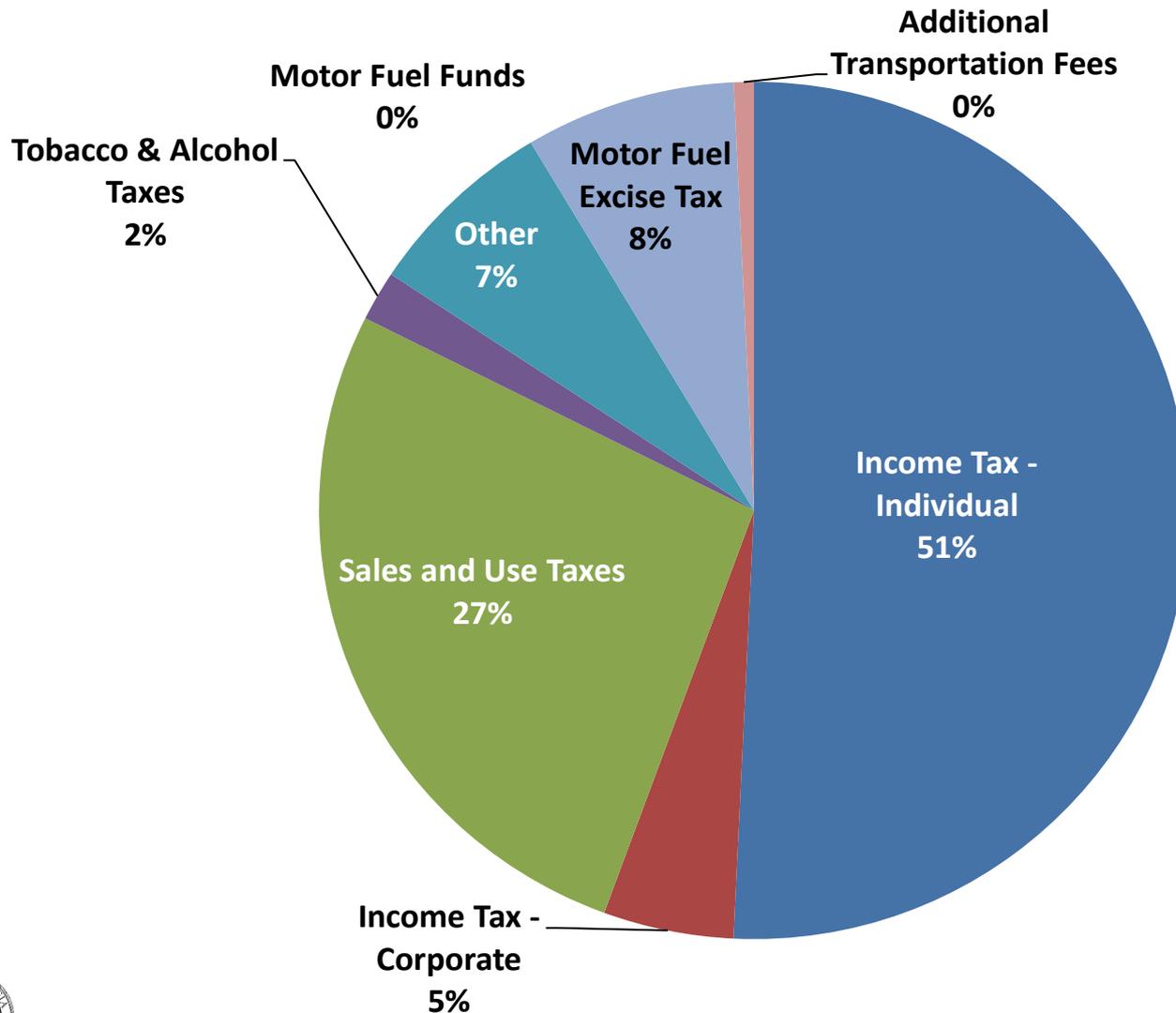
Legislative Session Issue Overview



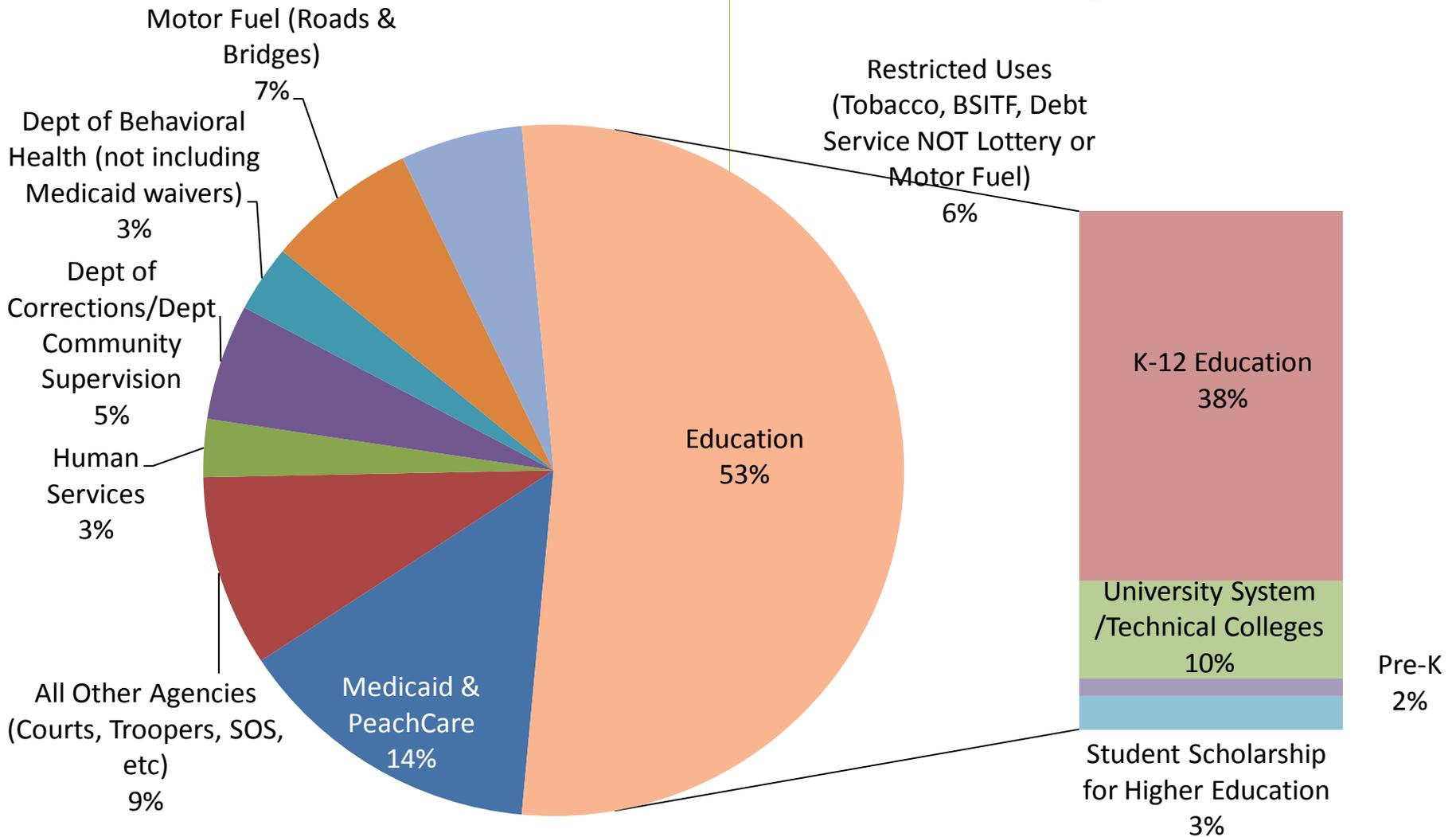
2017 Budget

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

FY17G Department of Revenue Collections Estimate by Source



Components of the State Funds Budget: FY17G



EDUCATION ISSUES

What was Accomplished?



STEM STUDIES INCENTIVE

House Bill 801: Rewards Georgia college students for taking academically rigorous STEM classes that ultimately lead to employment in a high-demand Science, Technology, Engineering & Math fields.



House Bill 801

Teacher Evaluation Reform

Reduced Student Testing



SB 364 revises annual evaluation for public school teachers and administrators.

- Lowers the test component for administrator evaluations from 70% to 40%.
- Reduces the number of state mandated tests to 24 by removing social studies and science milestone tests in grades 3, 4, 6, and 7.

Senate Bill 364

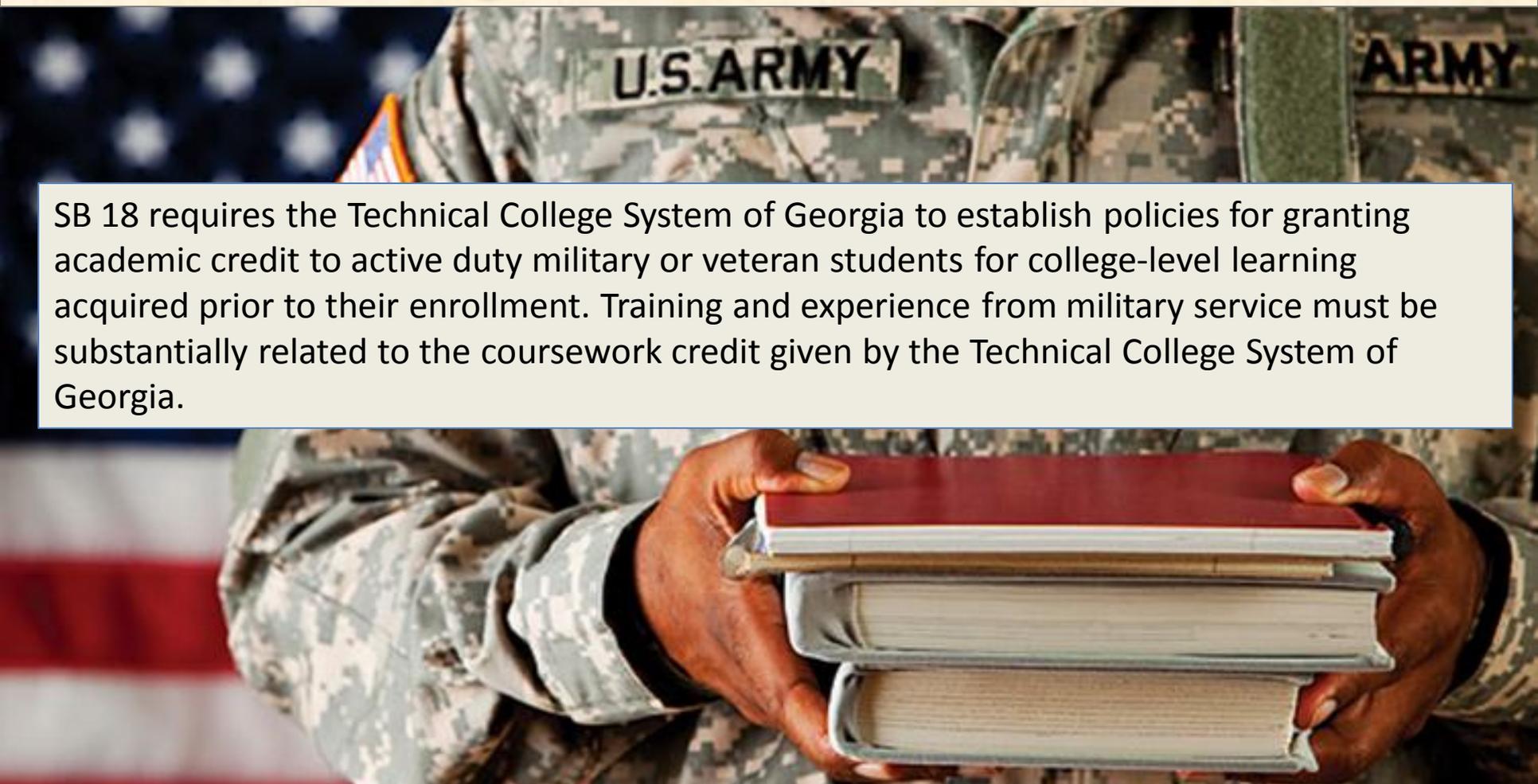
K-12 Financial Transparency

- Requires school systems to make financial information available for public access to promote more transparency in the public school system.
- School districts required to send budget information to the Department of Education using uniform reporting standards.
- Results will be published on Governors, Office of Student Achievement, website.



House Bill 659

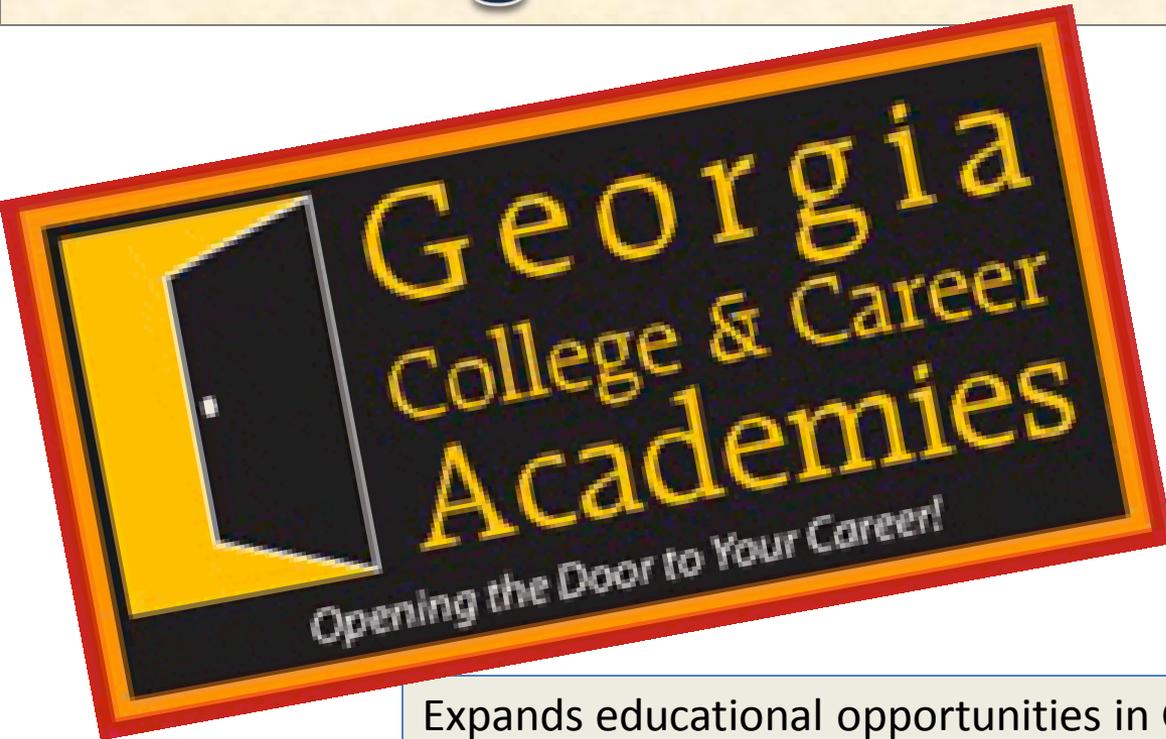
Rewarding Veterans in Education



SB 18 requires the Technical College System of Georgia to establish policies for granting academic credit to active duty military or veteran students for college-level learning acquired prior to their enrollment. Training and experience from military service must be substantially related to the coursework credit given by the Technical College System of Georgia.

Senate Bill 18

College & Career Academies



Expands educational opportunities in Georgia by easing the process for the creation of college and career academies. A college and career academy operates as a partnership and collaboration between businesses, high schools and post-secondary institutions to advance work force development and work based learning programs.

Senate Bill 348

PUBLIC SAFETY



Commitment to Citizen Safety

Move Over Law Expanded



Adds utility service vehicles and workers in the fields of electric, natural gas, water, waste-water, cable, telephone, or telecommunication services to the list of those covered under Georgia's "Spencer Pass Law." The law requires drivers to make a lane change when approaching any stationary towing, recovery or highway maintenance vehicle parked on the shoulder of the highway.

House Bill 767

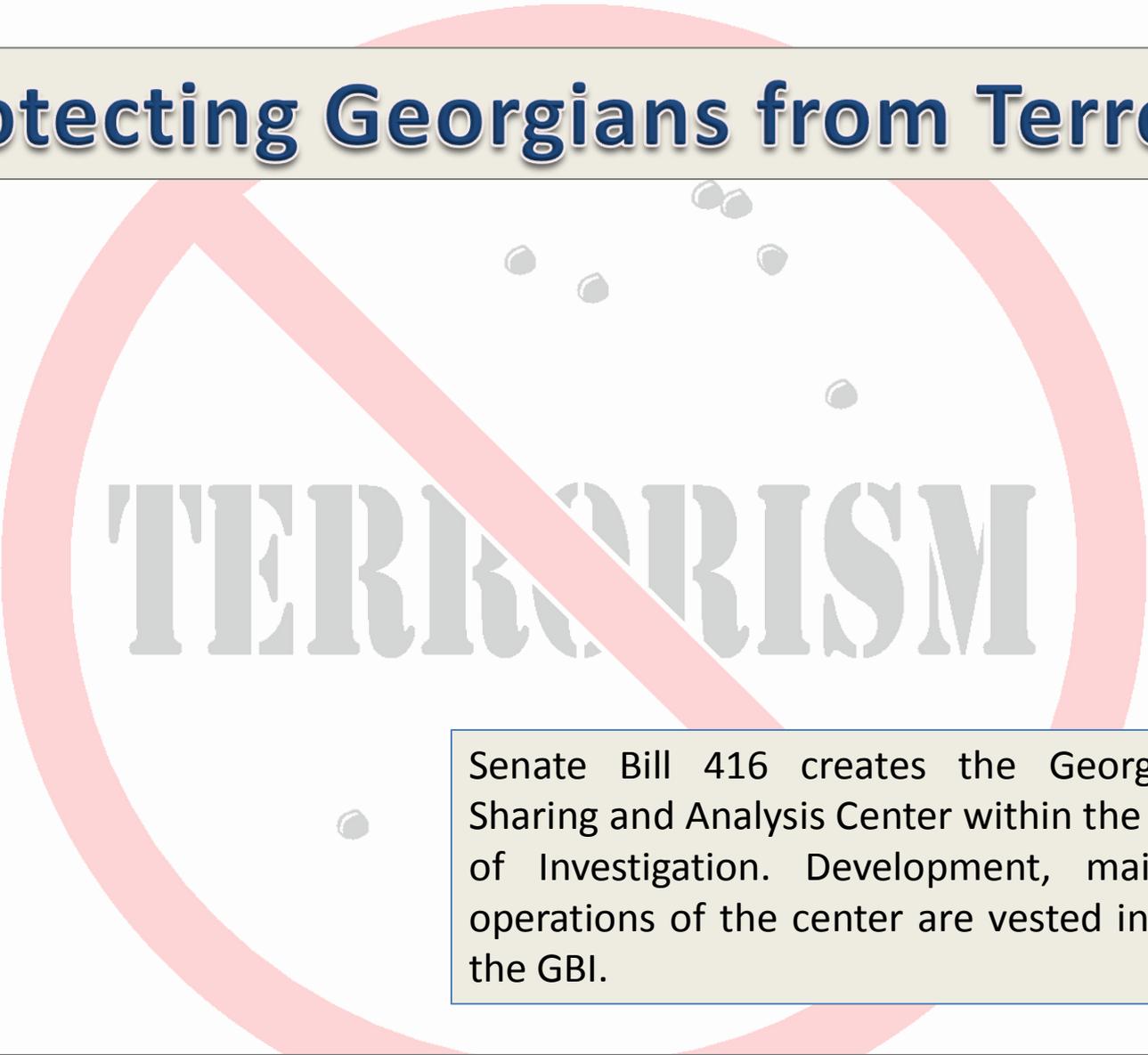
Denial of Parental Rights for Rapist

SB 331 allows the termination of a father's parental rights when, by unquestionable evidence, the father caused his child to be conceived as a result of non-consensual sexual contact.



Senate Bill 331

Protecting Georgians from Terrorism



TERRORISM

Senate Bill 416 creates the Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center within the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Development, maintenance, and operations of the center are vested in the director of the GBI.

Senate Bill 416

Georgia Gun Law Update



Prohibits any person, unless otherwise precluded by law, to refuse to provide financial services or terminate existing services to a person or trade association solely because they are engaged in the lawful commerce of firearms or ammunition.

Allows new Georgia residents with a carry permit from another state to carry their firearm for 90 days after which they must submit an application for a Georgia weapons carry license.

Provides immunity from civil liability to firearms safety instructors should one of their students fail to use a firearm properly or lawfully.

Exempts retired law enforcement carry privileges to include officers who are citizens of this state and have an aggregate of ten years in law enforcement with arrest powers, separated from service in good standing, and have an identification card for retired law enforcement.

House Bill 1060

Campus Taser Bill



HB 792 allows anyone at any postsecondary education institutions to carry electroshock weapons (i.e. stun gun or taser) on campus. The bill requires the use of that weapon to be only in self-defense or the defense of another.

House Bill 792

Penalty Increase for Human Trafficking

HB 770 expands the victim class for human trafficking to include those with developmental disabilities and ensures that offenses perpetrated against victims with developmental disabilities will be sentenced consistent with offenses against minors – punishable by a felony and 25 to 50 years or life in prison and a fine not exceeding \$100,000.



STOP
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING

House Bill 770

METH Protection



Requires an electronic logging system by pharmacies to monitor consumer purchases of over-the-counter medicines containing pseudoephedrine. This system will generate a "stop sale" alert to notify a pharmacy that a purchase of pseudoephedrine has exceeded the legal limit already in place. Customers will be required to present a valid government ID when purchasing these drugs.

House Bill 588

Healthcare Initiatives



Jimmy Carter Cancer Treatment Act



Provides that no health plan issued in Georgia will deny coverage for an FDA-approved prescription drug for Stage 4 metastatic cancer. Doctors gain flexibility to recommend the treatment they feel will yield the best results.

House Bill 965

Rural Healthcare Tax Credits



Provides tax credits to individuals who donate to rural "health care organizations," which are located in rural counties and participate in both Medicaid and Medicare. Further, at least 10 percent of the facilities gross net revenues must come from the treatment of indigent patients.

Senate Bill 258

Georgia Right to Try Act

Allows terminally-ill patients faster access to experimental drugs and procedures that have passed the first of three phases in the FDA drug approval process. Also, gives patients the option of trying experimental treatments that have passed the FDA's Phase 1, meaning treatments have met required safety precautions.



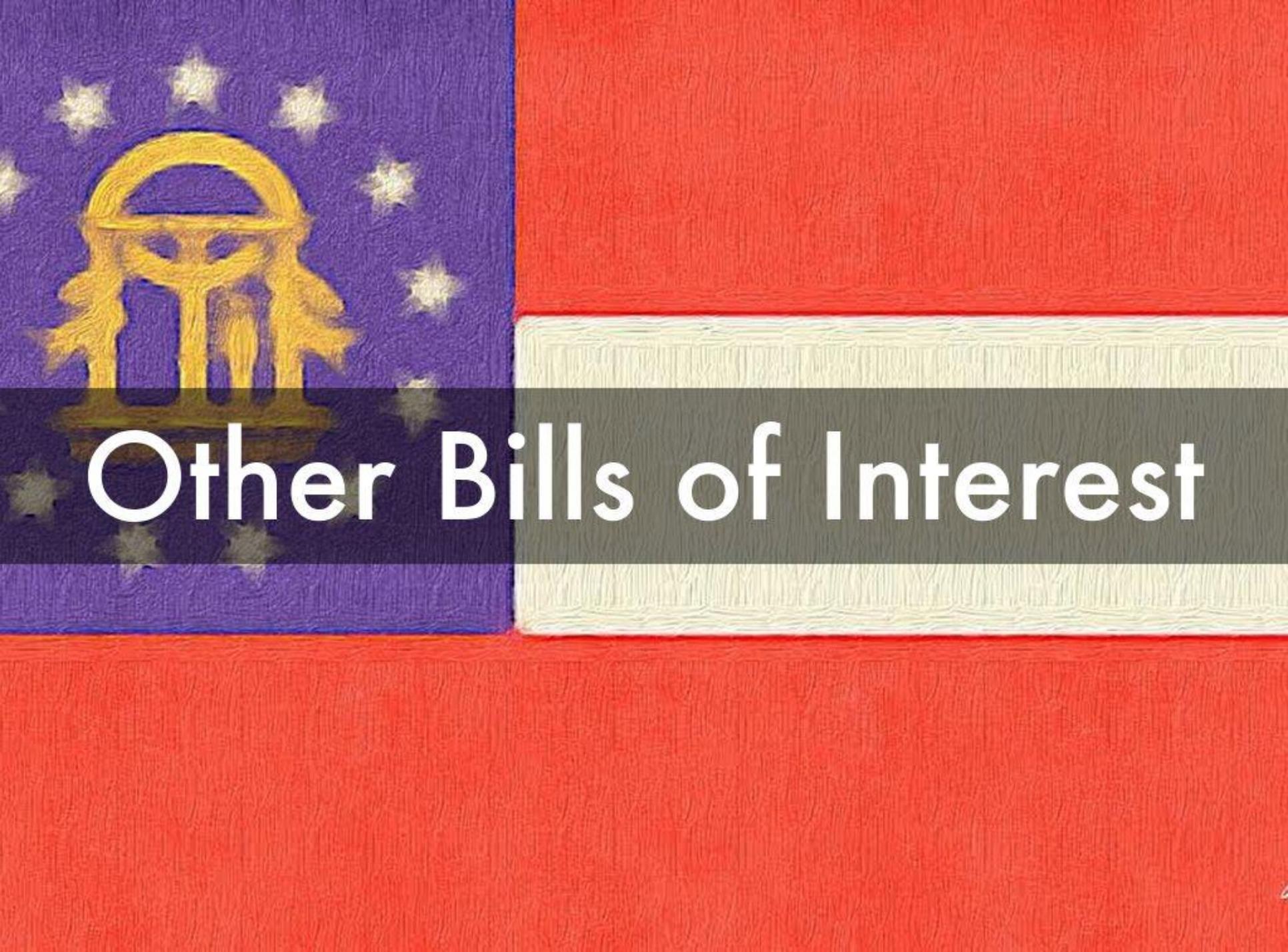
Senate Bill 258

GEORGIA ABLE ACT

A stack of US one hundred dollar bills is shown on the right side of the image, fanned out. The background is a solid blue color with a large, white, stylized letter 'E' on the left side. The bills are slightly overlapping and show the portrait of Benjamin Franklin.

Creates the Georgia ABLE Program ('Georgia Achieving a Better Life Experience'), modeled after education savings plans whereby disabled individuals can save private funds in tax-exempt accounts to pay for qualified disability expenses.

Senate Bill 258



Other Bills of Interest