Action Alert State Edition

Expansion of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

The Ask:
Call members of the House Rules Committee and ask that they put House Bill 500 on the floor before Crossover Day (that's THIS THURSDAY!).

What the Bill Does:
House Bill 500 updates Georgia's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) law so that it can better support families'- and LOTS of children's! - overall well-being. This is what the bill does:

- Expands family's access to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) by extending the lifetime maximum time that a family can receive assistance from 48 months (4 years) to 60 months (5 years)
- Increases the monthly benefit amount to 40% of the federal poverty guidelines
- Increases the resource limit of an applicant to $5,000, excluding the value of a vehicle if it is used for activities related to work, training, or education. (If there is an additional vehicle not used for these purposes, a $4,650 exclusion is applied.)

The Why:

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a cash support program, with an employment component, for families with very low incomes
- The Georgia Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program is designed to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency. States receive grants to design and operate programs that accomplish one of the purposes of the TANF program.
- To be eligible for Georgia TANF, you must be a resident of Georgia, and a U.S. citizen, legal alien, or qualified alien. You must be unemployed or underemployed and have low or very low income.
- You must also be one of the following:
    - Have a child 18 years of age or younger, or
    - Be pregnant, or
    - Be 18 years of age or younger and the head of your household.

The Message:
Dear Representative _____,
Please vote to put House Bill 500 on the House floor before this Thursday, March 6 (Crossover Day). This bill updates Georgia's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) law so that it can better support families'- and LOTS of children. This bill adjusts for inflation and also excludes the value of a vehicle if it is used for activities related to work, training, or education. This is important because TANF is designed to help low income families achieve self-sufficiency, and is *temporary.* Thank you for all you do daily for Georgia's children and for your thoughtful consideration with regards to H.B. 500.

The How (a.k.a. Who to Contact):
Call members of the House Rules Committee:

Last Name	First Name	Party	District	House Phone	Legislative Email
Ballinger	Mandi	R	23	404.656.7153	mandi.ballinger@house.ga.gov
Blackmon	Shaw	R	146	404.656.5103	shaw.blackmon@house.ga.gov
Burchett	James	R	176	404.656.5025	james.burchett@house.ga.gov
Carson	John	R	46	404.656.7855	john.carson@house.ga.gov
Cooper	Sharon	R	45	404.656.5069	sharon.cooper@house.ga.gov
Dempsey	Katie	R	13	404.463.2248	katie.dempsey@house.ga.gov
Drenner	Karla	D	85	404.656.0202	karla.drenner@house.ga.gov
Efstration	Chuck	R	104	404.656.5052	chuck.efstration@house.ga.gov
Erwin	Chris	R	32	404.656.7850	chris.erwin@house.ga.gov
Evans	Stacey	D	57	404.656.0116	stacey.evans@house.ga.gov
Greene	Gerald	R	154	404.656.9210	gerald.greene@house.ga.gov
Gunter	Stan	R	8	404.656.5125	stan.gunter@house.ga.gov
Hatchett	Matt	R	155	404.463.2245	matt.hatchett@house.ga.gov
Hawkins	Lee	R	27	404.656.7855	lee.hawkins@house.ga.gov
Hitchens	Bill	R	161	404.656.5126	bill.hitchens@house.ga.gov
Holcomb	Scott	D	101	404.656.6372	scott.holcomb@house.ga.gov
Hugley	Carolyn	D	141	404.656.0109	carolyn.hugley@house.ga.gov
Jackson	Mack	D	128	404.656.7153	mack.jackson@house.ga.gov
Jasperse	Rick	R	11	404.656.7153	rick.jasperse@house.ga.gov
Jones	Jan	R	47	404.656.5072	jan.jones@house.ga.gov
Leverett	Rob	R	123	404.656.5132	robert.leverett@house.ga.gov
Lumsden	Eddie	R	12	404.656.7850	eddie.lumsden@house.ga.gov
Martin	Chuck	R	49	404.656.5146	chuck.martin@house.ga.gov
Miller	Tanya F.	D	62	404.656.0298	tanya.miller@house.ga.gov
Newton	Mark	R	127	404.656.7853	mark.newton@house.ga.gov
Park	Sam	D	107	404.656.5059	samuel.park@house.ga.gov
Parrish	Butch	R	158	404.656.5141	larry.parrish@house.ga.gov
Powell	Alan	R	33	404.463.3793	alan.powell@house.ga.gov
Smith	Lynn	R	70	404.656.7149	lynn.smith@house.ga.gov
Stephens	Ron	R	164	404.656.5115	ron.stephens@house.ga.gov
Taylor	Darlene	R	173	404.463.2246	darlene.taylor@house.ga.gov
Williams	Al	D	168	404.656.6372	al.williams@house.ga.gov
Williamson	Bruce	R	112	404.656.5025	bruce.williamson@house.ga.gov