



DAVID RALSTON
SPEAKER

House of Representatives

332 STATE CAPITOL
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Date: Thursday, April 30, 2020
From: Speaker David Ralston
To: All House Members & Staff
RE: Resuming the 2020 Legislative Session

We suspended our 2020 legislative session after the 29th legislative day on Friday, March 13, in light of the coronavirus pandemic. While we continue to deal with the virus and resulting public health needs, we have turned our attention to resuming our legislative session as we still have several pressing public policy issues and, most importantly, a revised FY21 state budget on which to work.

We remain mindful that the coronavirus still poses a risk and we will alter our policies and procedures accordingly. To that end, I have asked Majority Leader Jon Burns and Minority Leader Bob Trammell to co-chair a committee to advise me on how we can safely conduct our business.

As we look forward, I am instructing our committee chairmen that they may begin holding virtual committee meetings via online meeting platforms beginning on Monday, May 4. The House Media Services Office will work with committee chairmen to facilitate these meetings and stream them for the public to view.

We are planning toward having the House staff transition back to working in the Capitol on Monday, May 18, provided they are healthy and able to do so in accordance with any applicable public health directives. Guidelines for employees will be provided in advance of a final decision on the staff report date. We plan to permit the resumption of in-person committee meetings at the Capitol on Tuesday, May 19. Those meetings will be subject to the provisions of any applicable public health directives.

However, please note that votes or formal action on business may not be taken until after the session resumes. Prior to the resumption of session, you may hear testimony and discuss legislation in your committee meetings.

We are still working with the Lt. Governor and Senate to finalize a date to resume session, but I anticipate we will reconvene on Thursday, June 11, for the 30th legislative day. Bear in mind that date is subject to change and we will advise you promptly of any change to that date.

Thank you for your continued service to our state and its citizens. I look forward to seeing you again soon and wish you and your families continued good health and safety.

Sincerely,

David Ralston, Speaker
Georgia House of Representatives