

Georgia's New Leadership



Governor Nathan Deal is Georgia's 82nd governor. He was sworn in Jan. 10, along with 49 new members of the General Assembly and 185 returning lawmakers.

The House has 35 new members and the Senate has 14. With 236 total seats, Georgia's General Assembly is one of the largest in the country and has continuously operated since 1777, when Georgia became one of the 13 states that revoked their status as British Colonies.

Nine Georgia legislators left the Democratic Party recently to join the Republican Party. The Georgia House of Representatives now has 114 Republicans, 63 Democrats, one independent, and two vacancies, while the Senate has 35 Republicans and 21 Democrats.

(There are no term limits in the state's General Assembly.)



Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal, left is sworn in by his son Hall County Superior Judge Jason Deal, as the 82nd Governor in the House chamber, Monday, Jan. 10, 2011 in Atlanta. Behind Governor Deal, from left, is his wife Sandra Deal, Mary Emily O'Bradovich, Carrie Deal Wilder and Katie Deal Wright.

The House Republican and Democratic Caucuses have both elected new leadership. Representative Larry O'Neal (R) is Majority Leader and Representative Stacey Abrams (D) is Minority Leader. There are no changes in the Senate leadership.

Visit The General Assembly website - www.legis.state.ga.us .

Governor-Elect Nathan Deal named several new appointees and reappointed one commission to state departments since the election.

Here is a list of several department appointments of interest:

Department of Community Health : David Cook

Department of Human Services : Clyde Reese III

Department of Juvenile Justice: Amy Howell

DHS Director for Family and Children Services: Rachelle Carnesale

Office of the Child Advocate: Tonya Boga

Dept of Behavior Health and Developmental Disabilities: Dr. Frank Shelp (reappointed)

Department of Early Childcare and Learning: Not yet named

Department of Community Affairs: Mike Beatty (reappointed)