



In-Session Newsletter

February 25th, 2022

PROGRESS

DV/SA Funding

We continue to make progress on our ask for increased/stop-gap funding for DV programs and sexual assault centers. GCADV's lobbyist organized for multiple programs to meet with Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Terry England. During the meeting, ED's educated Chairman England on how deep funding cuts will impact their programs and communities. Sympathetic to our cause, he encouraged us to seek several means of plugging the holes- including reaching out to our counties to ask for ARPA funds and meeting with First Lady Marty Kemp. When asked if he would support Gov. Kemp, soon to be circulated and signed by his legislative colleagues, Chairman England agreed to support it. He suggested that another round of ARPA grant funding is likely.

Address Confidentiality

The bill for an Address Confidentiality Program is officially being drafted by Legislative Counsel. Chairman Houston Gaines (District 117/Athens) has agreed to sponsor.

[HB847](#)

This bill, sponsored by Rep. Michael Smith (District 41/Marietta), was sent to House Industry and Labor committee. This bill would allow victims of DV/SA to take time off from work without being subject to termination or other adverse employment action. We have spoken to Rep. Smith about devising a strategy for getting this bill passed and are looking to meet with him soon to discuss strategy.

ON THE LOOKOUT

[HB359](#)

This bill is sponsored by Sen. John Albers (District 56/Roswell) and would provide mandatory minimums for persons convicted of possession of a firearm by convicted felons when a person has been previously convicted of a forceful felony, domestic violence or been involved family violence.

ACTION ALERT

Rep. Gambill (15th district/ Cartersville) has begun circulating a letter to Gov. Kemp on our behalf asking for his support. Look out for an email from us with the letter to share with your legislators!