

GOP Elects Internal Leadership

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2022

Following the General Election on November 8, members of both the Senate and House Republican Caucuses met separately to select their internal leadership for the upcoming legislative session, which begins January 9. Newly elected Lt. Governor **Burt Jones** (R) will preside over the Senate.

STATE SENATE



John Kennedy (R-Macon)

President Pro Tempore

Kennedy has most recently served as Majority Caucus Chair and was Chair of the Senate's redistricting committee. He must be elected by the membership of the entire chamber but his position is all but certain given that Republicans hold a 33-23 majority.



Steve Gooch (R-Dahlongea)

Majority Leader

Gooch has been promoted from Majority Whip to Majority Leader. He has served in the Senate since 2010.



Randy Robertson (R-Cataula)

Majority Whip

Robertson replaces Gooch as Majority Whip. Having been elected in 2018, this is his first post in leadership.



Jason Anavitarte (R-Dallas)

Majority Caucus Chairman

Anavitarte replaces Kennedy as Caucus Chair.



Matt Brass (R-Newnan)

Majority Vice Caucus Chairman

Brass replaces Sen. Larry Walker as Majority Caucus Vice Chair.



Dean Burke (R-Bainbridge)

Majority Caucus Secretary

Burke was reelected as Secretary, making him the only person to remain in the same leadership position during Friday's caucus elections.

**House Democrats will caucus on
November 22.**

**Senate Democrats will caucus on
November 28.**

GOP Elects Internal Leadership

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2022

STATE HOUSE

On November 4, Speaker of the House **David Ralston** announced he would not seek another term as Speaker. While he was reelected to his District 7 seat, insiders believe health issues will keep him sidelined for much of the upcoming session. Ralston has held the House's top post since 2010.



Jon Burns (R-Newington)

Speaker of the House

Burns has served as Majority Leader since 2015 and has been selected as the majority's nominee for Speaker of the House. The full chamber will vote on his nomination on the first day of session. Burns was Ralston's choice for successor.



Jan Jones (R-Milton)

Speaker Pro-Tempore

Jones has served as Speaker Pro-Tempore since 2010, coming to power alongside Ralston. She is the highest-serving female in Georgia and was reelected without opposition.



Chuck Efstration (R-Dacula)

Majority Leader

After four rounds of voting, Efstration emerged as the new Majority Leader, succeeding Burns. Efstration is currently chairman of the powerful House Judiciary Committee, which will now also be under new leadership.



James Burchett (R-Waycross)

Majority Whip

Burchett replaces Matt Hatchett as Majority Whip. Hatchett is rumored to become Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee following the retirement of Terry England.



Bruce Williamson (R-Monroe)

Majority Caucus Chairman

Williamson has served as Caucus Secretary and Treasurer since 2015 and now moves to Caucus Chairman.



Houston Gaines (R-Athens)

Majority Caucus Vice Chairman

Gaines was elected to the House in 2019 and currently serves as Chair of the House Reapportionment Committee.



Ginny Ehrhart (R-Marietta)

Majority Caucus Sec/Treasurer

Ehrhart joined the House in 2019. She replaces Williamson as Caucus Secretary and Treasurer.