

City of Savannah, Georgia  
**2024 State Legislative Agenda**

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**2024 Specific Legislative Priorities:**

- Allow municipalities to waive development impact fees (DIF) for the construction of workforce and affordable housing to keep housing development costs low.
- Support Tort Reform to prevent frivolous lawsuits and lower the unlimited legal exposure of Georgia’s municipal taxpayers similar to the legal protection of Georgia’s Counties.
- Support amending local legislation (SB 640) to clarify language regarding the operation of Community Improvement Districts within Chatham County.
- Support the creation of a local Homeless Court to better adjudicate and connect individuals to resources and services.
- Amend the definition of ‘blighted property’ to include vacant and abandoned parcels and unidentified heir property.
- Expand State Enterprise Zones to include not only depressed zones but also redevelopment areas and allow incentives to be awarded for the creation of affordable housing.
- Enable Savannah to establish an Urban Residential Finance Authority, like the City of Atlanta, to issue ‘Housing Opportunity Bonds’ which can fund a wide variety of housing activities to lower the development cost of housing.
- Allow local governments the ability to sell unclaimed confiscated weapons at auction or have them destroyed.

**2024 Policy Positions:**

- Support Georgia’s position as a Home Rule State which allows local individuals to self-govern and determine which solutions best match the communities in which they live.
- Support Georgia’s full expansion of Medicaid benefits.
- Support expansion of Georgia’s Low-Income Tax Credit Program.
- Support Home Rule regulation of short-term rentals as necessary for quality of life, public safety, and a competitive lodging marketplace.
- Support Sustainability initiatives and policies that align with Savannah’s 100% Clean Energy Resolution.
- Support tools that help protect low-income residents from drastic increases in property taxes and rental rates.