

February updates #2 (inc. new programs/services)

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Hello, this is Rep. Marvin Lim, your State Rep since 2021. I've got the next newsletter for uninc. Norcross residents. -Rep. Marvin Lim | marvin.lim@house.ga.gov | marvinlimforga@marvinlimforga.com | 404.585.7715

Taking Action

Lidl: Our on-the-ground engagement since 2021, when I first engaged neighboring Shelby Dr residents on the (then-not-yet-completed) Lidl rezoning at 4990 JCB, to address a food desert in the community, is yielding fruit: after we delivered our 2025 petition to Lidl after a 4-year delay, it looks like they're finally taking steps to do so! Article: https://www.tonetoatl.com/2026/02/Lidl-Grocery-Store-Opening-Jimmy-Carter-Norcross.html

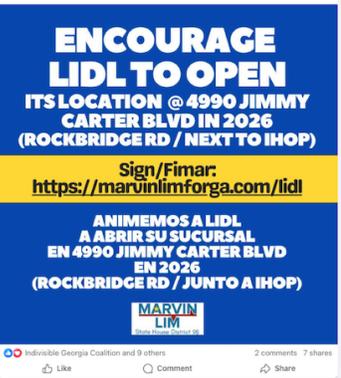
2021: → (delay/decay/etc.) 2025: → 2026:

surveying neighboring residents' support for Lidl zoning

our petition delivered to Lidl to develop

[UPDATE] New Lidl Grocery Store in Norcross Finally Moving Forward After Five Year Hiatus

Nearly five years after our report in June 2021 that grocery store Lidl was planning to open a new store in Norcross, the store is back from the dead! The new store, to be located at 4990 Jimmy Carter Boulevard, will be built on the site of what was once the Horizon Events Center.


Lidl at The Interlock in Atlanta

According to documents reviewed by ToNeTo Atlanta, the grocer is seeking bids on its construction plans through February 18, so an opening by late 2026 is possible but not terribly likely.

Lidl - rhymes with needle - is a German-based discount grocer similar to Aldi. The company opened its first Georgia store in late 2017 in Augusta and entered the Atlanta market in early 2019. In the years since, the

UPDATE – my legislative work: I have had one bill pass out of the House (HB 1161: safer traffic stops), another pass out of committee (HB 641: utility disconnection for medically fragile people), and 2 more heard in committee (HB 673: juvenile justice and HB 1314: disclosure of credit reporting for installment loans/Buy Now, Pay Later). I also introduced a bill re: reigning in private equity abuses, & on local law enforcement cooperation with ICE. See graphic for more.

**REP. LIM'S
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
(AS OF FEB. 21, 2026)**

**SESIÓN LEGISLATIVA DE 2026
DEL REPRESENTANTE LIM
(AL 21 DE FEBRERO DE 2026)**

- **HB 1161: make traffic stops safer (PASSED OUT OF HOUSE - NOW IN SENATE)**
- **HB 641: expand utility disconnection protections for medically fragile consumers (PASSED OUT OF COMMITTEE)**
- **HB 673: expands First Offender Act to more children tried in non-juvenile courts (HEARD IN COMMITTEE)**
- **HB 1314: mandatory disclosure of credit reporting by "Buy Now, Pay Later" lenders (HEARD IN COMMITTEE)**
- **HB 1010: imposes more duties/liabilities on private equity & private credit**
- **HB 1053: repeal forced local law enforcement-ICE cooperation, requires timely processing of visas for victims of violence**
- **budget requests for: local healthcare workforce training, civil legal services for housing, public defenders, diversion-focused ADAs/solicitors, ESOL teachers, disability-inclusive education**

- **HB 1161: Mejorar la seguridad en las paradas de tráfico (APROBADO EN LA CÁMARA - AHORA EN EL SENADO)**
- **HB 641: Ampliar las protecciones de desconexión de servicios públicos para consumidores con problemas de salud (APROBADO FUERA DEL COMITÉ)**
- **HB 673: Ampliar la Ley de Primer Delincuente a más menores juzgados en tribunales no juveniles (CONTESTADO EN COMITÉ)**
- **HB 1314: Divulgación obligatoria de informes crediticios por parte de los prestamistas del programa "Compra ahora, paga después" (CONTESTADO EN COMITÉ)**
- **HB 1010: Imponer mayores obligaciones y responsabilidades al capital privado y al crédito privado**
- **HB 1053: Derogar la cooperación obligatoria entre las fuerzas del orden locales y el ICE y exigir la tramitación oportuna de visas para víctimas de violencia**



Traffic stops: I passed HB 1161 out of the House, a bill to make traffic stops safer by codifying the practice we already implemented for passing emergency/law enforcement vehicles: move to the right, if safe to do so. Clarity and consistency lead to safer outcomes, as well as more equal application across the board. I was originally asked to carry this bill by Gwinnett County PD, and we got wide agreement across the board for law enforcement and non-law enforcement folks.



Utilities/disconnections: I got HB 641 passed unanimously out of committee, my bill to ensure electric utilities have, and can furnish, a written policy on utility disconnection protections for people with serious, life-threatening conditions. This was inspired by Tina Marsden, whom I met through our mutual American Heart Association work, and her experiences with her city electric utility - experiences she turned into advocacy, inc. her compelling testimony.

HB 641 (utilities disconnection for serious illnesses) - passed committee



any electric supplier that serves residential consumers shall have a

a

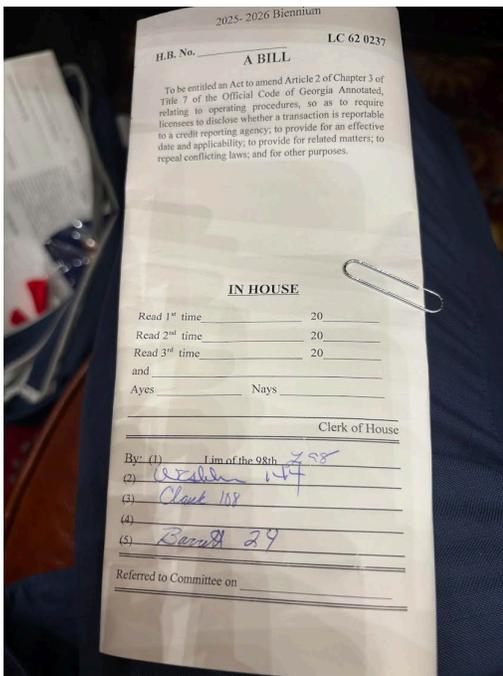
Juvenile justice: I have another bill we're still working on that already got one hearing: HB 673, one inspired directly by former constituent, Cory, to extend Georgia's existing First Offender Act to youth (ages 13-16) who are tried as adults, but are first offenders who serve their sentences, so their criminal record doesn't have to follow them for the rest of their lives.

Presenting HB 673 (First Offender Act)



Under our current first offender law

Credit reporting: I have a fourth bill that got a hearing, HB 1314, to ensure that installment lenders – particularly “Buy Now, Pay Later” lenders – disclose to consumers whether the loans are reportable to credit rating agencies. The hearing couldn't be completed because of time, but I will keep you posted.



My Programs/Events/Services

Disabilities: LSCA and Latinx Disability Association is partnering to do a disability benefits navigation event. First one is Feb. 26, 6-7:30pm, Lucky Shoals Park, 4651 Britt Rd.

Disability Benefits Navigation
Asistencia de beneficios por discapacidad

FEBRUARY 26
 6:00 PM-7:30 PM

APRIL 16
 6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Social Security Benefits/
 Seguro Social

Power of Attorney/
 Poder notarial

Medicaid (NOW/COMP)
 IDEA-IEPS/Escuela

Event Address: Lucky Shoals Park (Community Center) 4651 Britt Rd,
 Norcross, GA 30093

If you are looking to learn more about these benefits or if you are eligible, do not miss this event! Sign up with the link below or scan the QR code.

Si quieres saber más sobre estos beneficios o si eres elegible, ¡no te pierdas este evento! Regístrate con el enlace de abajo o escanea el código QR.


 Preguntas?
 Mariana.Ortiz-Padilla@georgialda.org




REMINDER – my suite of services:

SERVICES BY REP. MARVIN LIM

SERVICIOS DEL EL REP. MARVIN LIM

education & jobs/economic:

- K-12 tutoring
- resume review and other job/training search services
- small biz startup help

health & housing:

- lung cancer screenings
- lead paint testing
- grab bars and other home modifications for low-income older adults
- help navigating local health (and other) services
- help for avoiding imminent eviction or food emergencies

public safety:

- confidential services for at-risk, inc. of violence
- community ambassadors to speak to your neighbor if issue arises
- neighborhood Know Your Rights trainings
- help w/roads and road safety (speed humps, lights, parking, mufflers) or waste/utilities
- landscaping for 65+ seniors
- vouchers for transportation to avoid DUIs
- Narcan for opioid overdose reversal + our local, free opioid education app, Cero O: <http://opioid911.info>

educación y empleo

- tutoría para estudiantes
- revisión de currículums y otros servicios de búsqueda de empleo/capacitación
- apoyo para pequeñas empresas

salud y vivienda:

- detección temprana de cáncer de pulmón
- análisis de pintura con plomo
- barras de apoyo y otras adaptaciones para el hogar para adultos mayores
- ayuda para acceder a servicios de salud
- ayuda para evitar desalojos inminentes o emergencias alimentarias

seguridad:

- servicios confidenciales para personas en situación de riesgo, incluyendo violencia
- embajadores comunitarios para hablar con sus vecinos si surge algún problema
- talleres sobre sus derechos
- ayuda con carreteras y seguridad vial (reductores de velocidad, alumbrado público, estacionamiento, silenciadores) o basura y servicios públicos
- jardinería para personas mayores de 65 años
- vales de "Uber" para evitar DUIs
- Narcan para revertir sobredosis de opioides + nuestra aplicación local sobre opioides, Cero O: <http://opioid911.info>



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Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

Homestead exemptions: remember that the annual deadline for applying to homestead exemptions, for some Gwinnett homeowners living in their homes to save on property taxes, is April 1. Note: you don't need to reapply for any exemptions you already receive.) More: <https://www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com/property-tax/homestead-exemption/about-homestead-exemptions>

REMINDER: THE ANNUAL DEADLINE FOR APPLYING TO HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS, FOR GWINNETT HOMEOWNERS LIVING IN THEIR HOMES TO SAVE ON PROPERTY TAXES, IS APRIL 1.*

SEE HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com/property-tax/homestead-exemption/about-homestead-exemptions

***YOU DO NOT NEED TO REAPPLY FOR ANY EXEMPTIONS YOU ALREADY RECEIVE.**

RECORDATORIO: LA FECHA LÍMITE PARA SOLICITAR EXENCIONES DE VIVIENDA ES EL 1 DE ABRIL, PARA PROPIETARIOS QUE VIVEN EN SUS CASAS PARA AHORRAR EN IMPUESTOS A LA PROPIEDAD DE GWINNETT.*

MÁS INFORMACIÓN:

www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com/property-tax/homestead-exemption/about-homestead-exemptions

***NO ES NECESARIO VOLVER A SOLICITAR LAS EXENCIONES QUE YA RECIBE.**

Final Word – More Successes

Meadowcreek High: I welcomed Meadowcreek High to the Capitol and celebrating their scholastic and athletic accomplishments! (And polled them on HB 1009 – a proposal for cellphone bans in high school.)

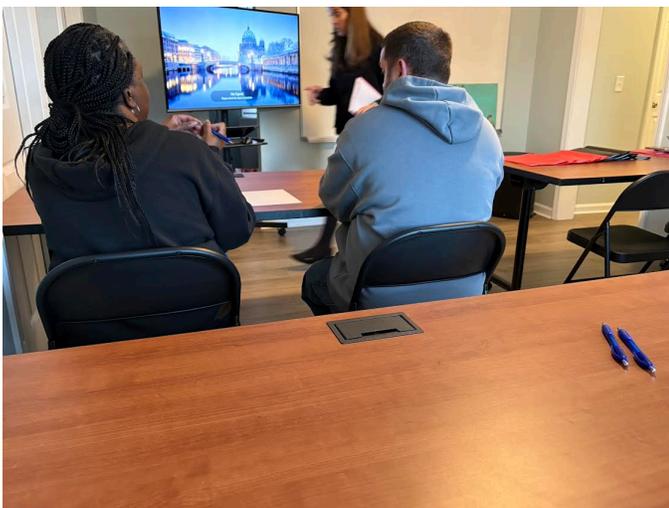


I'm happy to welcome Meadowcreek High School to the Capitol today immersing

Career navigation and job searches: Thank you to the Goodwill of North Georgia's Mobile Career Center for coming, to engage constituents on job searches, upskilling, and more. Huge thanks to Kenneth.



Spanish classes: We started TWO cohorts of adult Spanish classes, for the first time venturing outside teaching teachers – huge thanks to Victoria!



Food: Thank you to the Atlanta Community Food Bank and Iglesia Universal for our food distribution!



Know Your Rights x 3: Thank you, attorney: 1) Michael Urbina, for our Know Your Rights presentation, on Feb. 10! Even since we last did one in November, a lot has changed in the landscape, even as the basic constitutional rights (e.g., right to stay silent) are the same; 2) Stephanie Alvarez-Jones with the National Immigration Project, for her updated rights training on Feb. 18, co-sponsored with Reps. Lupton and Wilkerson, including real talk on asserting (and not asserting) rights safely; 3) Diaz and Gaeta, Esq. for our in-person Feb. 17 workshop on immigration law (and Iglesia Universal, who hosted, once again)!



Anti-human trafficking: Thank you to Tapestri and Masjid Omar bin Abdul Az, for hosting our human trafficking education and prevention workshop, the first in our series of 2026 World Cup education and engagement events.

Examples of Indicators of Labor Trafficking

Physical Indicators	Behavioral Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claim a large debt • Not getting paid for work or servers getting paid very little • Deductions taken out of checks • Working outside of permitted hours • Not being in control of own money • Living with employer or having employer listed as caretaker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleep deprivation or inability to stay awake while at school • Chronic absence/low attendance • Changing health issues • Inability to focus or concentrate • Avoid interaction or limited information • Changes in behavior or dress

THINGS YOU MAY OBSERVE

- Confusing or contradicting stories
- Someone else is answering questions for the potential victim
- Voice that they have to inform someone else before making decisions or answering questions
- Individual resides at their workplace
- Untreated injuries

Supporting Potential Victims

- Create a safe space
- Introduce yourself informally
- Ask open ended questions
- Be discreet
- Avoid recognizing
- Listen and help when possible. This reduces vulnerability

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