



STATE OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ATLANTA 30334-0900

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2011

GREETINGS:

I am pleased to extend my warmest regards as you gather for the first meeting of the Education Finance Study Commission and prepare to study the costs and resources required to educate Georgia's children. Thank you all for your service in this important capacity, and I wish to extend special thanks to House Education Committee Chairman Brooks Coleman and Senate Education and Youth Committee Chairman Fran Millar who will be serving as co-chairs of this commission. While the task you face over the coming months will not be easy, I know that you all have both the knowledge of education and the expertise in education finance required to balance the education needs of Georgia's children with the appropriate resources to fund them.

I view education as our number one economic development tool and there is no more forward looking or strategic place to invest. Our children are the next generation of Georgia's leaders. Preparing them to start businesses, launch successful careers, bring creative ideas to life and pursue their dreams is a priority for me, and an opportunity that I want for every student in Georgia. The financing of public education is not only important to our students and educators, it is important to the future of our state.

I know that you all will work diligently and resourcefully to study this important issue. Thank you again for your service to education and to our state.

Sincerely,

Nathan Deal

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