

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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State Senate Candidate Dan Gasaway announces he will donate his state senate salary to Georgia Public Education



Homer, GA- Today I received some current state revenue numbers. The state budget is currently facing tremendous challenges because of revenue shortfalls caused by the pandemic. It will be after the June 9th election before those challenges translate to real financial impacts on our state employees and specifically, our classroom teachers.

The local school boards are preparing for severe budget shortfalls. I served in the legislature during the last recession and I know two options used by local school boards during that downturn were furlough days and increased class sizes. One or both of these choices are most likely in our classroom teachers' future. If furlough days and a shortened school year are necessary to balance any budget of any school system in northeast Georgia, I am committing today that I will donate every penny in state senate salary to public education until our classroom teachers are back to being paid for a full 180 day school year.

Some of my opponents running for the 50th senate district are saying they "will never cut education." Political rhetoric such as this is irresponsible because the reality of the current situation is dictated by national forces and not by what inexperienced candidates want it to be. This brings to mind a quote from former President Reagan. He said, "I will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit, for political purposes, my opponent's youth and inexperience." I am neither youthful nor inexperienced.

Unfortunately, cuts are likely coming for K-12 education and I am pledging to stand with the classroom teachers until those cuts are fully restored. My contribution pales in comparison to the sacrifices Georgia classroom teachers make every day.

I want the classroom teachers in northeast Georgia to know that a vote for me is a vote for a state senator who has their interests at heart and is willing to back that up with more than just talk.

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