

# Investing in Georgia

## Economic Development Newsletter



Welcome to King & Spalding's economic development news bulletin, *Investing in Georgia*. In this edition, you will find:

- Analysis of the issues that will impact midterm elections, as well as a special preview edition providing interesting insights into many of the most significant Georgia primaries;
- A report on the Governor's High Demand Career Initiative, where public hearings across the state are already well underway; and
- Commentary on legislative developments in our nation's capital impacting the manufacturing sector as well as energy-related tax incentives.

We hope you find this helpful, as we partner to keep Georgia a great place to live and work!

Bill Holby  
King & Spalding Economic Development Practice Group

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### Recent Developments

**High Demand Career Initiative: Preparing Georgia's Future Workforce Now!** The economic development community in Georgia has heard from the private sector that one of the greatest challenges facing businesses in Georgia, nationally, and globally is the need for a consistent, trained and reliable workforce. [More »](#)

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### In The News

**Senate Commerce Committee Passes Manufacturing Bill.** On April 9, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation passed the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation (RAMI) Act of 2013, which aims to grow U.S. manufacturing by strengthening the collaboration between government, educational entities, and industry. [More »](#)

**The Anti-Energy Tax Incentives Caucus of the GOP.** K&S attorney and former Congressman Michael Andrews reports that a growing number of Republican members of Congress, fueled by the Tea Party and conservative groups like the Club for Growth, are renouncing energy tax incentives for the

May 2014

### By the numbers

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#### \$22.9 trillion

Total market capitalization of the US stock market as of 3/31/14. At its bear market low on 3/9/09, total market cap was \$8 trillion.

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#### 9.6%

Nation's unemployment rate as of 3/31/14 for Americans lacking a high school diploma. The unemployment rate for those with at least a Bachelor's degree is 3.4%.

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#### 25%

Portion of high-tech companies started in the last 20 years having one or more foreign born founders.

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#### 98%

Percentage of participants in Warren Buffett's \$1 billion NCAA basketball contest who pick Duke to beat Mercer in the first round.

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fossil fuel and the renewable energy industries. [More »](#)

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## Looking Ahead

**Politics Drives the Agenda in Run-Up to the Midterms.** With the 2014 Midterm Elections less than seven months away, K&S legislative experts Tom Spulak and Lauren Donoghue remind us that the issues driving the remaining days of the 113th Congress must be viewed in their political context. Many political observers are calling the Senate a toss-up and just one or two races could decide who holds power in the upper chamber in 2015. [More »](#)

**Special Georgia Primary Preview!** While November is still six months away, Georgians will head to the polls on Tuesday, May 20 to pick their party's nominees for that election. If May 20 seems early, that's because it is. As the result of a July 2013 ruling by U.S. District Judge Steve Jones, the Georgia Primary Election for federal offices, usually held in July, was ordered moved to June 3 to accommodate absentee voting by members of the military. A compromise was reached moving the election to May 20 and included all state and local candidates, as well as federal candidates. [More »](#)

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**33**

Number of recessions in the USA since 1854, an average of one recession every 58 months.

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**\$334,200**

Average price for new homes sold in March, 2014, the highest of all time.

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**26**

Number of states that have accepted Federal funding to expand Medicaid. 19 states have refused Federal funding and have not expanded Medicaid, and another 5 states are still debating their decision.

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**\$1,363**

Average monthly premium in 2013 for an employer-sponsored health plan covering a family of four. On average, an employee pays 28% of the total premium and the employer pays the remaining 72%

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**41%**

The percentage of challenges (46 of 113) using Major League Baseball's new instant replay system that have resulted in overturned incorrect calls for baseball games played through April 19.

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