

Task II Cross Word Puzzle

Use this information to fill out the Executive branch crossword puzzle.

The Organization of the Executive Branch

Due to the 236 members of the General Assembly, students often think that the legislative branch is the largest branch of the state's government. However, due to the fact that so many state agencies and departments fall under its jurisdiction, the executive branch is the largest branch. Other than the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, there are elected officers who are part of the executive branch as well, including the secretary of state, the attorney general, the state superintendent of schools, the commissioner of insurance, the commissioner of agriculture, and the commissioner of labor.

The Department of Education

Founded in 1870, the Georgia Department of Education (DOE) is responsible for overseeing all facets of public education in the state. According to the New Georgia Encyclopedia, its primary purpose is to ensure that "education-related laws are obeyed and that state and federal funds are properly allocated." Due to this, a majority of the state's money is spent on the educational department.

The state superintendent of schools reports directly to the Governor. The superintendent is also the chief executive officer of the state's Board of Education which is made up of 14 members (based on congressional districts). The Department of Education is made up of five offices: Curriculum and Instruction, Finance and Business Operations, Instructional Technology and Media, Policy and External Affairs, and Teacher and Student Support.

The Department of Public Safety

The Georgia Department of Public Safety was created in 1937 and was established to protect Georgia's citizens and their property. This department, under the direct supervision of the Governor is made up of several departments. These include the Georgia Highway Patrol, the Capitol Police, and the Motor Carrier Compliance Division.

The Georgia Department of Transportation

The Georgia Department of Transportation plays a role in all four of the major transportation systems in the state the GDOT is responsible for planning, constructing, and maintaining Georgia's roads and highways. However, it also offers financial support and planning to the other three transportation systems. The Department has eight offices throughout the state. One of the department's most recognized contributions to the state are the yellow Highway Emergency Response Operators (HERO) trucks that quickly respond to highway accidents and stranded motorists.

The Georgia Department of Economic Development

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) is responsible for bringing economic development to the state. According to its website, the department "markets Georgia to the world by encouraging investment and trade and attracting tourists to Georgia." Interestingly, it also promotes Georgia as a "go-to location for film, music, digital entertainment, and the arts." Many well known movies have been filmed in Georgia including Forest Gump, The Blind Side, and Zombieland, just to name a few.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources was created to administer and enforce the laws passed by General Assembly that relate to Georgia's natural resources; primarily its rivers and lakes. The DNR also operates Georgia's state parks and preserves the state's historical sites. Finally, the DNR is responsible for enforcing Georgia's hunting, fishing, and boating laws.