

# Sonny Perdue

## *Red Flags*

**In 2011, Perdue's Fertilizer Business Received A \$24,525 Contract From The Department Of Agriculture, An Issue That May Present Conflict Of Interest Concerns Should Perdue Be Chosen As The Nominee For Secretary Of Agriculture** ([USASpending.gov](http://USASpending.gov), Accessed 11/29/16)

**According To GOP Data Center, George Perdue III Is Listed As A Registered Unaffiliated Voter In Houston County, GA.** (GOP Data Center, Accessed 11/29/16)

**As Governor, Perdue Appointed His Cousin, Now U.S. Senator David Perdue, To Serve On The Georgia Ports Authority Board.** (Orlando Montoya, "Perdue Appoints Cousin To Ports Board," [Georgia Public Radio](http://GeorgiaPublicRadio.com) 7/22/10)

- **Perdue's Company, Perdue Partners And Later Benton Global, Focused On Global Trade, Which Raised Questions Given His Business Partner And Cousin David Perdue's Position On The Board.** (Shannon McCaffrey, "Perdue's Trucking Business Overlapped With Ports Tenure," [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](http://TheAtlantaJournalConstitution.com), 6/10/14)
- **"Records Show That Benton Hauled Goods Into Georgia, Largely From Chinese And Indian Companies. That's Politically Less Popular Than Exporting American Goods Abroad."** (Shannon McCaffrey, "Perdue's Trucking Business Overlapped With Ports Tenure," [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](http://TheAtlantaJournalConstitution.com), 6/10/14)

**In 2002, Perdue's Opponent For Governor Accused Perdue Of Going To Bat For 19 Criminals, Including Requesting A Prison Transfer For A Cop Killer To A Prison Closer To His Family—An Act Perdue Characterized As "Part Of Constituent Service."** (Jane Hansen, "Candidates Search Records For Ammo Against Rivals," [Atlanta Journal Constitution](http://AtlantaJournalConstitution.com), 10/6/02)

**Running For Governor, Perdue Promised A Referendum On The State Flag, Which The State Legislature Altered To Remove The Large Confederate Battle Cross.** (Jeffrey Gettleman, "Georgia's New Governor Is Pressed To Make Good On His Pledge About Flag," [The New York Times](http://TheNewYorkTimes.com) 1/21/03)

**In 2003, Perdue "Pushed Through A Bill" To Replace The Then Current Flag With A New Flag "Which Closely Resembles The National Flag Of The Confederacy."** (Mike Owen, "How And Why The Georgia State Flag Has Changed Over The Years," [The Ledger Enquirer](http://TheLedgerEnquirer.com), 6/27/15)

**In 2007, Governor Perdue Stated That He Was Unsure About Whether A Public Apology For Slavery Was A Good Thing.** ("As Georgia Lawmakers Work On Slavery Apology, Governor Says He Is Skeptical," [Associated Press](http://AssociatedPress.com) 3/19/07)

**In 2010, The NAACP Sued The State Of Georgia Alleging That The Government, Gov. Perdue And The Board Of Regents Chancellor Errol Davis Underfunded The States' Three Public Black Colleges.** (Errin Haines, "State Sued For Allegedly Underfunding Historically Black Colleges," [The Associated Press](http://TheAssociatedPress.com), 4/3/10)

**Perdue Called For Improving Relations With Cuba And Engaging In Freer Trade With The Country.** (Jeff Franks, "Georgia Governor Calls For Freer U.S. Cuba Trade," [Reuters](http://Reuters.com), 6/8/10)

**As Governor, Perdue Supported Raising Taxes On Liquor And Cigarettes And Cutting Tax Relief For Homeowners.** ("Perdue Wants Liquor, Tobacco, Tax Increased," [The Associated Press](http://TheAssociatedPress.com) 1/15/03)

**Governor Perdue Was Criticized For Approving Pet Projects At A Time When Georgia Faced A "Tight Budget."** (James Salzer, "Perdue's Prudence Or Pork? Democrats Say Budget Not Tight For GOP Elite," [Atlanta Journal Constitution](http://AtlantaJournalConstitution.com), 12/31/04)

**Perdue Has Urged Conservatives To Support Common Core.** (Sonny Perdue, "The Common Core Blame Game," [National Review](http://NationalReview.com) 5/8/14)

**Perdue Signed Into Law Legislation That Protects Georgia Land Owners From Eminent Domain Abuses.** ("Governor Perdue Signs Eminent Domain Legislation," [Governor Sonny Perdue](http://GovernorSonnyPerdue.com) 4/4/06)

[REDACTED]

**In 2005, Perdue Reached A Deal With The State Ethics Commission To Pay \$1,900 In Fines And Return More Than \$18,000 In Campaign Contributions.** (Brandon Larrabee, Perdue Will Pay Fines In Ethics Deal Governor Also Giving Up Campaign Contributions," [Athens Banner Herald](#), 6/18/05)

## BACKGROUND

### *Personal Information*

George Ervin Perdue III

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### *Education*

University Of Georgia, BS

Athens, GA

AND

University Of Georgia, DVM

Athens, GA ([NNDB](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

### *Work Experience*

**Current:** Bipartisan Policy Center, Governors Council, Member ([Bipartisan Policy Center](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

**Current:** Houston Fertilizer Company, Owner ([Manta](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

**2011 - Current:** Perdue Partners, LLC Founding Partner ([Bloomberg](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

**2003 - 2011:** State of Georgia Governor ([NNDB](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

**1991 - 2001:** Georgia State Senate Senator ([State Of Georgia](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

**1980s:** Houston County Planning And Zoning Commission ([State Of Georgia](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

**1971 - 1974:** United States Air Force Captain ([NNDB](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

### *Political Affiliation*

According To GOP Data Center, George Perdue Is Listed As An Unaffiliated Voter In Houston County, Georgia. (GOP Data Center, Accessed 11/28/16)

### *Political Contributions*

No Records Found. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 11/28/16)

### *Lobbying*

No Records Found. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

## Search Results

No lobbying income or spending found.

This may be because no lobbying was reported, because the lobbying contract was terminated, or because reported lobbying was less than the \$10,000 threshold that allows us to build a profile. The Center for Responsive Politics conservatively assumes any lobbying under the the \$10,000 threshold to be \$0 earned or spent. Please click on "View Report Images" on the tab navigation bar to see if this firm or client has filed any reports. [Search again](#)

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### *Revolving Door*

No Records Found. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

## Revolving Door : Search Results

No records found. Please, go back to the [search page](#) and try again.

## QUESTIONS FOR SONNY PERDUE

### Political Vulnerabilities

#### Family Conflicts of Interest

Background: As Governor, Perdue appointed his cousin, now U.S. Senator David Perdue, to serve on the Georgia Ports Authority Board. Additionally, Perdue's wife was forced to publically defend a non-profit she was associated with that was actively accepting financial gifts from entities who sought business from the state and the governor's office.

- **Is there anything the President-elect's team should know surrounding your time as Governor that could cause public relations turbulence should you join the administration?**
- **Would you agree to abide by a policy that would restrict direct family members from being hired into the administration?**

#### Business Conflicts of Interest

Background: Perdue is the owner of Houston Fertilizer and Grain, a company that has received contracts from the Department of Agriculture. Perdue also owns an agriculture exporter and has relationships all over the world, including in China.

- **As the owner of Houston Fertilizer, are you willing to indefinitely forgo business with the U.S. government should you join the administration?**
- **Would any current business relationships between your two companies pose any immediate conflicts of interests should you join the administration?**
- **Would you agree to temporarily cease interaction with either of your businesses should the President-elect's team find it necessary?**

## Policy Questions

### Support for the Current Free Trade Agreements

Background: Perdue has indicated he generally supports the majority of current U.S. free trade agreements and has advocated for additional agreements with the nations of Cuba, Japan, and Korea (2 of which are nation participants in the TPP).

- **Are you willing to support the President-elect's plan to renegotiate the Trans-Pacific Partnership, or completely pull out of it?**
- **Are you willing to assist with renegotiation of the agreement, and other U.S. trade agreements, if called upon by the President-elect?**
- **Will you support all of the President-elect's positions on current U.S. free trade agreements?**

### Conflicting Position on Education

Background: Perdue supports 'Common Core' education standards, accepted them as the Governor of Georgia, and has urged conservatives to support the curriculum.

- **If necessary would you be willing to support the President as he works to overturn 'Common Core' and return education powers to the states?**

### General Department of Agriculture Policy

- **As the government official who serves as the principal adviser to the President on domestic agriculture policy, what would you suggest should be prioritized?**
  - **What policies within the agriculture sector do you believe should be reformed?**
- **Given that the President will prioritize renegotiating certain U.S. trade deals, do you have any opinion on how the U.S. can better operate as an agricultural exporter?**
- **Given the political sensitivity surrounding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (food stamp program) will you have any reservations ensuring the program runs as efficiently and smoothly as possible?**
  - **What is your general position on the SNAP Program?**

## **COMMENTS ON TRUMP-PENCE**

### ***Trump***

**Perdue Was Named As A Trump Agriculture Adviser.** "Sonny Perdue Former Gov. Georgia." ("Trump Campaign Names 7 Hoosiers As Agricultural Advisors," [Hoosiers Ag Today](#), 8/16/16)

### ***Pence***

**Perdue Introduced Pence At An August Event In Georgia.** "'I want them to continue to think that so they continue spending money in Georgia so they don't go to places like North Carolina, Virginia and Ohio,' former Gov. Sonny Perdue, who introduced Pence at the Perry rally, said in an interview. "Please spend all the money you can here in Georgia. We'll be solidly red in November. Perdue was among the Georgia politicians introducing Pence to an electorate that's not very familiar with the potential veep. An Atlanta Journal-Constitution poll showed Pence netted a 56 percent approval rating among Republicans - another one-third ducked the question -- and a 37 percent rating with independents, a typically conservative bunch." (Greg Bluestein, "Pence Urges Unity Behind Trump During 2 Day Trip Across Georgia," *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, 8/30/16)

## GENERAL CONTROVERSY

### *Conflicts Of Interest*

**As Governor, Perdue Appointed His Cousin, Now U.S. Senator David Perdue, To Serve On The Georgia Ports Authority Board.** “Governor Sonny Perdue has appointed his cousin to serve on the Georgia Ports Authority board...Perdue's cousin, David Perdue, Jr., is a business executive and a director for several corporations, so he's not unlike the Governor's previous choices for appointed boards.” (Orlando Montoya, “Perdue Appoints Cousin To Ports Board,” [Georgia Public Radio](#), 7/22/10)

- **“The Appointment Isn’t Illegal But Is Raising Questions.”** (Orlando Montoya, “Perdue Appoints Cousin To Ports Board,” [Georgia Public Radio](#) 7/22/10)

**Governor Perdue’s Wife Was Forced To Defend A Group That Raises Money To Restore Antiques In the Governor’s Mansion After It Was Revealed That The Group Accepted Gifts From Individuals And Entities With Business Before The State.** “Mary Perdue gave her first public defense Monday of a group that raises money to restore antiques in the Governor's Mansion, even as the head of the Democratic Party called for an investigation. Friends of the Mansion, a nonprofit group created by Ms. Perdue to help preserve the antique pieces around the mansion, has come under fire for accepting gifts from those with business before the state, and it has faced questions about its filings with the secretary of state's office. Ms. Perdue said neither the foundation nor its donors did anything improper, and the money was needed to maintain one of the top collections of Federalist-era pieces in the nation. She said the foundation was a sensible way of raising money. ‘I think it's a good thing because, as you well know, any sitting governor who might go to the Legislature and say, ‘We need a new rug; we need a new drapery; we have furniture that needs to be repaired,’ would be criticized if they tried to put something like that into the budget annually.’ Her comments came in response to a news conference held outside the mansion by state Democratic Party Chairman Bobby Kahn, who called for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to investigate the fund. ‘Georgians deserve to know if Gov. Perdue has been guilty of unethical or even illegal conduct,’ Mr. Kahn said. The chairman noted the GBI had looked into Corrections Commissioner James Donald's efforts to raise money from state contractors for a staff conference. According to news reports, the inquiry found nothing criminal in Mr. Donald's actions.” (Brandon Larrabee, “Perdue s Wife Defends Group Mansion Fund Remains Under Fire,” [Augusta Chronicle](#), 10/11/15)

### *Defense Of Criminals*

**In 2002, Perdue’s Opponent For Governor Accused Perdue Of Going To Bat For 19 Criminals, Including Requesting A Prison Transfer For A Cop Killer To A Prison Closer To His Family—An Act Perdue Characterized As “Part Of Constituent Service.”** “In this year's political season, candidates have discovered a treasure trove in prison and parole records that document opponents' attempts to help convicted felons. For months, campaign workers from both major parties have been compiling documents about contacts by legislators and others on behalf of prison inmates. The records show some lawmakers were simply requesting information, while others lobbied for transfers closer to home or an early release from prison. Suddenly, a widespread practice defended by many legislators as mere constituent service is being viewed under a more unforgiving light. So far in the 2002 races: Democratic U.S. House candidate David Worley accused a rival, state Sen. Greg Hecht, of trying to help a convicted rapist and child molester --- a charge Hecht denied. Records show he sought a transfer for the inmate. Bill Byrne charged former state Sen. Sonny Perdue, an opponent in the Republican race for governor, with going to bat for 19 criminals. Gov. Roy Barnes then accused Perdue of requesting the transfer of ‘coldblooded cop killer’ David Melton Rogers. ‘I viewed this as part of constituent service,’ Perdue said, adding that all he only forwarded families' requests. Records show Perdue did request that inmates, including Rogers, be moved to prisons closer to home. And once, he asked the parole board to grant a prisoner early release, records show. ‘I don't recall making that request,’ Perdue said. He called the Barnes ad unfair and questioned why there were no records of Barnes

ever contacting officials during his 20 years as a legislator. Perdue said Barnes probably 'had gone back and sanitized' them." (Jane Hansen, "Candidates Search Records For Ammo Against Rivals," Atlanta Journal Constitution, 10/6/02)

### ***UGA Basketball Scandal***

**Georgia Coach Jim Harrick Withdrew The Georgia University Basketball Team From Postseason Play After His Son Was Found To Give 3 Players Fraudulent Grades In A Class That He Was Teaching.** "The University of Georgia suspended its men's basketball coach, Jim Harrick, and withdrew his team from the Southeastern Conference tournament and the N.C.A.A. tournament yesterday after an internal investigation showed that three players had received fraudulent grades in a class taught by his son." (Joe Drape And Ray Glier, "COLLEGE BASKETBALL Georgia Suspends Harrick And Withdraws From Postseason," [New York Times](#), 3/11/03)

**Perdue Originally Unequivocally Supported University Of Georgia President Michael Adams Handling Of The Basketball Team Scandal Before Calling For A Non-Binding Resolution Vote On The President.** "It warmed Adams' heart to learn Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue threw his support behind the school president Wednesday. Unfortunately, Perdue reversed field Thursday, saying he would call for a nonbinding referendum on the matter before declaring with absolutely certainty which way the wind was blowing." (Jeff Schultz, "Man s Online Shot Targets Adams Job," Atlanta Journal Constitution, 3/14/03)

### ***Criminal Filings***

**No Records Found.** (Nexis, Accessed 11/28/16)

☐ **Criminal Filings - 0 records found**

## **POLICY STANCES/STATEMENTS**

### ***Agriculture***

**Perdue Supported The Creation Of A Statewide Water Use Plan.** "Standing on the banks of West Point Lake in Troup County, Governor Sonny Perdue signed House Bill 237 authorizing the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) to prepare a statewide comprehensive water plan. EPD is to prepare the comprehensive plan by July 1, 2007 in order that it may be reviewed by the General Assembly in 2008. 'As Georgia continues to grow and prosper, it is incumbent upon us to develop a comprehensive statewide plan that addresses our long-term water needs and conservation efforts,' said Governor Sonny Perdue. 'Water nourishes our environment and is a major driving force of our state's economy.'" ("Governor Perdue Signs Bill Authorizing Statewide Water Plan," [Governor Sonny Perdue](#), 5/13/04)

- **The Legislation Promotes Cooperation Between Stakeholders And Mutually Beneficial Outcomes.** "House Bill 237 provides for a Water Council to guide and direct EPD's efforts. Extensive stakeholder involvement will be necessary for the development of a successful plan. A wide range of water issues will be addressed, including water allocation to farmers, industry and local government. It also seeks to reduce nonpoint source pollution, or run off from the land into streams and lakes. Each geographic area of Georgia has unique water stresses and this plan will provide for complementary regional solutions." ("Governor Perdue Signs Bill Authorizing Statewide Water Plan," [Governor Sonny Perdue](#) 5/13/04)

### ***Confederate Flag And Race Relations***

**Running For Governor, Perdue Promised A Referendum On The State Flag, Which The State Legislature Altered To Remove The Large Confederate Battle Cross.** "During his underdog campaign, he energized rural white voters by promising a referendum on the state flag, which the Legislature stripped of its large Confederate battle cross two years ago." (Jeffrey Gettleman, "Georgia s New Governor Is Pressed To Make Good On His Pledge About Flag," [The New York Times](#) 1/21/03)

**Although Originally Targeting His Opponent For Removing The Symbol From The Flag, After Perdue Was Inaugurated He Argued The Referendum Would Be “The Only Way Georgia Could Move On.”** “During his underdog campaign, he energized rural white voters by promising a referendum on the state flag, which the Legislature stripped of its large Confederate battle cross two years ago...But last week, the day after he was inaugurated, he broached the referendum idea again. And now, in a recent interview, Mr. Perdue said a flag vote ‘is the only way Georgia can move on,’ though he would not discuss specifics...The flag emerged as a key issue in Mr. Perdue's upset of the incumbent governor, Roy Barnes, a Democrat.” (Jeffrey Gettleman, “Georgia's New Governor Is Pressed To Make Good On His Pledge About Flag,” [The New York Times](#) 1/21/03)

**In 2003, Perdue “Pushed Through A Bill” To Replace The Then Current Flag With A New Flag “Which Closely Resembles The National Flag Of The Confederacy.”** “Barnes lost his bid for reelection, in part because of anger over the flag change, and his successor, Gov. Sonny Perdue, pushed through a bill in 2003 to replace Barnes' flag with the one that flies today, which closely resembles the national flag of the Confederacy. It has the red-white-red horizontal bars with a blue field in the top left corner, which has the state coat of arms surrounded by 13 stars and above the words ‘In God We Trust.’” (Mike Owen, “How And Why The Georgia State Flag Has Changed Over The Years,” [The Ledger Enquirer](#), 6/27/15)

**In 2007, Governor Perdue Stated That He Was Unsure About Whether A Public Apology For Slavery Was A Good Thing.** “Georgia's governor sounded skeptical Monday about issuing a public apology for slavery, an idea that got a boost last week with the support of a Republican leader. ‘Repentance comes from the heart,’ Gov. Sonny Perdue said Monday. ‘I'm not sure about public apologies on behalf of other people as far as the motivation for them.’ Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, meanwhile, expressed no such ambivalence. The Republican who presides over the state Senate said he is working on a proposal with members of that chamber. ‘We're putting a strategy in place now to move forward with a resolution,’ Cagle said. ‘We pass a lot of resolutions down here and this is one that certainly has some merit.’ A resolution acknowledging and apologizing for Georgia's role in the slave trade was initially expected on Monday but could come later in the week instead. A resolution, as opposed to a bill, would not require Perdue's approval.” (“As Georgia Lawmakers Work On Slavery Apology, Governor Says He Is Skeptical,” [Associated Press](#), 3/19/07)

**In 2010, The NAACP Sued The State Of Georgia Alleging That The Government, Gov. Perdue And The Board Of Regents Chancellor Errol Davis Underfunded The States' Three Public Black Colleges.** “The Georgia NAACP has sued the state, claiming it has systematically underfunded its three public black colleges and threatened their survival as a result. Gov. Sonny Perdue and Board of Regents Chancellor Errol Davis are also listed as defendants in the lawsuit filed Thursday in federal court. Two students at Savannah State University and Fort Valley State University joined the NAACP as plaintiffs.” (Errin Haines, “State Sued For Allegedly Underfunding Historically Black Colleges,” [The Associated Press](#), 4/3/10)

## **Trade**

**Perdue Called For Improving Relations With Cuba And Engaging In Freer Trade With The Country.** “Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue called on Tuesday for freer trade between the United States and Cuba, saying it would help the longtime foes resolve their differences. Perdue, a Republican, said he hoped the two countries would improve relations ‘very soon’ so they ‘can join the hearts of our people in what would be the best outcome for both nations.’” (Jeff Franks, “Georgia Governor Calls For Freer U.S. Cuba Trade,” [Reuters](#), 6/8/10)

**In 2008, Georgia Opened An International Economic Development Center In Beijing, China.** “Governor Sonny Perdue cut the ribbon today to open Georgia's newest international economic development center, located in Beijing, China. The Beijing Georgia Business Advisory Center Company, Ltd. will spearhead business development between China and Georgia.” (“State Of Georgia Opens Doors Of Commerce To China,” [Georgia Department Of Economic Development](#), 4/2/08)

**Perdue Led A Georgia Delegation To Japan And Korea In Efforts To Enhance Georgia's Trade Relations With The Two Nations.** “Governor Sonny Perdue will lead a delegation of Georgia business leaders to both the 27th annual Southeast U.S.-Japan Joint Meeting (SEUS-Japan) in Osaka, Japan and the 17th annual Southeast U.S.-Korea Joint Conference (SEUS-Korea) in Seoul, South Korea on October 26-28

and October 30-31, respectively. These annual meetings are held to foster the development of trade and industry, and promote friendly relations between the southeastern United States and the two Asian nations. "These meetings will help Georgia continue the warm relationships we have built with Japan and Korea and help the state recruit new companies and create new jobs," said Governor Perdue. "It is a chance to build bridges and business connections." "Each year, this conference provides new opportunities for companies from Georgia and Japan to work together," said Daniel Amos, chairman and CEO of AFLAC, a Columbus, Ga.-based company that is the most profitable foreign insurer in Japan. "By sharing ideas and opportunities, we all benefit and help strengthen Georgia's position internationally." ("Governor Perdue To Lead Delegation Promoting Industry, Trade With Japan, Korea," [Governor Sunny Perdue](#), 9/15/03)

## ***Immigration***

**In 2006, Perdue Signed Into Law A Sweeping Immigration Bill, Giving Georgia "Some Of The Nation's Toughest Measures Against Illegal Immigrants."** "Gov. Sonny Perdue signed a sweeping immigration bill on Monday that supporters and critics say gives Georgia some of the nation's toughest measures against illegal immigrants." ("Georgia Enacts A Tough Law On Immigrants," [The New York Times](#), 4/18/06)

**The Law Required Verification That Those Seeking State-Administered Benefits Are Legally In The U.S., Employers Who Knowingly Hire Illegal Immigrants Face Sanctions, And That Companies Who Receive State Contracts Check Employee's Immigration Status.** "The law requires verification that adults who seek many state-administered benefits are in the United States legally. Employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants face sanctions, and companies with state contracts must check employees' immigration status." ("Georgia Enacts A Tough Law On Immigrants," [The New York Times](#), 4/18/06)

**Six Members Of A Latino Advisory Panel Created By Perdue Left After He Signed Legislation.** "Controversy over legislation targeting illegal immigrants has prompted a rash of resignations within a Latino advisory panel created by Gov. Sonny Perdue. The latest resignation came Wednesday, bringing to six the number of departed members of the Latino Commission for a New Georgia, one-third of the panel. Several of the members reminded the governor of their Republican loyalties as they quit." (Walter C. Jones, "6 Latinos Leave Perdue Panel One Third Of Economic Group Resigns Many Cite Immigration Bill," [Florida Times Union](#), 4/21/06)

## ***Government Spending & Taxes***

**As Governor, Perdue Supported Raising Taxes On Liquor And Cigarettes And Cutting Tax Relief For Homeowners.** "Gov. Sonny Perdue proposed raising the tax on liquor and cigarettes and cutting tax relief for homeowners Wednesday in a pair of tight budgets designed to deal with a huge shortfall and the state's sluggish economy." ("Perdue Wants Liquor, Tobacco, Tax Increased," [The Associated Press](#), 1/15/03)

- **Perdue Eventually Shelved The Plan.** "Gov. Sonny Perdue said yesterday he is abandoning a plan that would have forced homeowners to pay higher property taxes, saying he has found new ways to balance the state budget." (Dick Pettys, "Perdue Shelves Property Tax Increase," [The Florida Times Union](#), 1/28/03)

**Governor Perdue Was Criticized For Approving Pet Projects At A Time When Georgia Faced A "Tight Budget."** "Gov. Sonny Perdue has approved funding for local pet projects backed by Senate Republican leaders at a time when programs like those for public health care face heavy budget cuts. Last spring the Republican governor delayed spending more than \$60 million worth of projects approved by the Legislature, arguing that he wanted to make sure there was enough money to fund crucial programs at a time when the state's economic future was uncertain. Since July 1, the beginning of the state's fiscal year, fewer than a dozen of those projects --- including about \$18 million worth of construction --- have been cleared for funding by Perdue. Several have come in the past few weeks. Virtually all have been in the districts of Senate Republican leaders, according to a list from the Office of Planning and Budget. Many of the projects still delayed for funding were pushed by House Democrats earlier this year, when they held a majority in the chamber. Republicans ousted Democrats from control of the House in the Nov. 2 elections. "This is an example of the new politics of the budget," said Senate Minority Leader Robert Brown (D-Macon), who represents a county that is awaiting deferred money for a new library. "On the



one hand, we hear we have a really tight budget, and then you have this kind of selective release of funds.” (James Salzer, “Perdue’s Prudence Or Pork? Democrats Say Budget Not Tight For GOP Elite,” Atlanta Journal Constitution, 12/31/04)

## ***Education***

**Perdue’s Administration Accepted Common Core.** “Marietta Daily Journal The controversy continues over Common Core educational standards with the prospect of a fight in the General Assembly over Georgia’s participation in the program. The standards were quietly accepted under former Gov. Sonny Perdue’s administration without a vote of the Legislature, which represents the people at the local level. Some say it was the federal “Race to the Top” funds dangled by the Obama administration that proved too enticing to pass up.” (“Common Core Fight Due,” *Waycross Journal Herald*, 10/9/13)

**Perdue Has Urged Conservatives To Support Common Core.** “I am a conservative Republican from the South. In my eight years as governor I did everything I could to resist federal control of issues that belong to the states. I would never endorse a policy that undermines that philosophy, and these new education standards are consistent with conservative principles. Core Standards will improve the quality of education in schools at a time when only one in four students will graduate from high school fully prepared for college.” (Sonny Perdue, “The Common Core Blame Game,” *National Review* 5/8/14)

## ***Energy***

**Governor Perdue Co-Signed A Letter Criticizing The EPA For Regulating Emissions.** “We feel compelled to guard against a regulatory approach that would increase the cost of electricity and gasoline prices, manufactured products, and ultimately harm the competitiveness of the US economy. As governors, we strongly urge Congress to stop harmful EPA regulation of greenhouse gas emissions that could damage those vital interests. We ask that Congress continue its work to pass comprehensive legislation that balances the role of conservation and climate security with the production of abundant and affordable American energy. The EPA has initiated efforts to impose greenhouse gas regulations that could be harmful to our economies at an especially critical time. As Governors, we are gravely concerned about such regulation. EPA is not equipped to consider the very real potential for economic harm when regulating emissions. Without that consideration, regulation will place heavy administrative burdens on state environmental quality agencies, will be costly to consumers, and could be devastating to the economy and jobs. We believe that EPA should offer input regarding complex energy and environmental policy initiatives, like reducing greenhouse gas emissions, but feel that these policies are best developed by elected representatives at the state and national level, not by a single federal agency. There is no question that broad bipartisan support exists to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while taking into consideration the difficult fiscal situation that our states and the nation face.” ([On The Issues](#), Accessed 11/29/16)

**Governor Perdue Signed A Letter Of Commendation Supporting The 25 By 25 Action Plan Which Provides That By 2025, ‘America’s Farms, Ranches, And Forests Will Provide 25 Percent Of The Total Energy Consumed In The United States.’** ([25x25.Org](#) Accessed 11/29/16)

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A COMMENDATION

**WHEREAS:** Agriculture is Georgia's oldest and largest industry, remaining a leading source of jobs and income for our citizens, and agricultural products from our state are a significant part of the food market worldwide. The agricultural industry is also poised to play a more important role in meeting Georgia's future energy needs; and

**WHEREAS:** Increasing Georgia's renewable energy use will bring new technologies to market and save consumers money, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and create good new jobs in rural America; and

**WHEREAS:** Georgia's agriculture industry has assumed a lead role in growing new and diverse feedstocks for ethanol and biodiesel; and

**WHEREAS:** The stated goal of 25x'25 is "by the year 2025, America's farms, ranches, and forests will provide 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States, while continuing to produce safe, abundant, and affordable food, feed, and fiber." The 25x'25 Action Plan entitled "Charting America's Energy Future" has been widely acclaimed as a visionary course of action for the nation; and

**WHEREAS:** Georgia leaders recognize the importance of developing a comprehensive alternative energy industry. Georgia seeks to lead the nation in research and private sector investment in alternative energy technology development; now

**THEREFORE:** I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby commend

25 X '25.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2007.

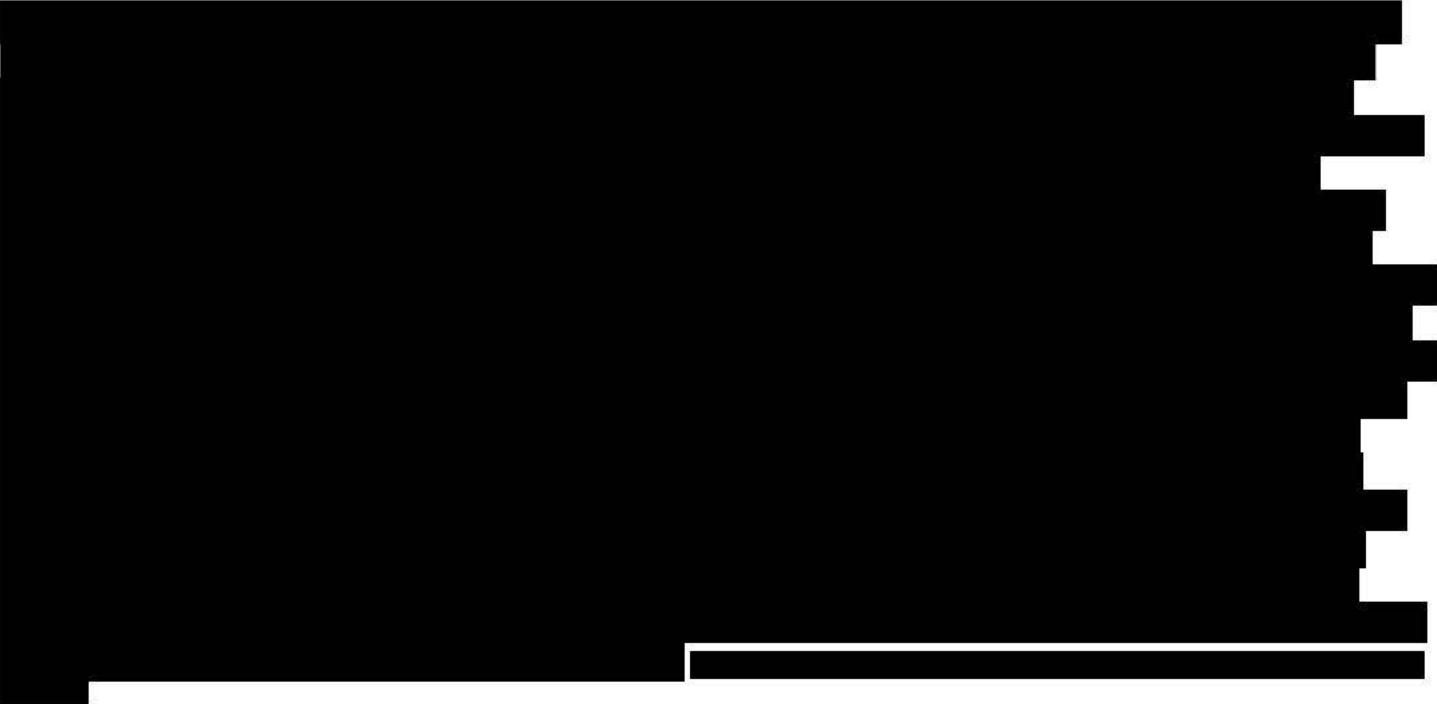


*Sonny Perdue*  
GOVERNOR

**As Governor, Perdue Reduced Taxes On Natural Gas And Liquid Propane For Residential Heating.** "Governor Sonny Perdue signed today an Executive Order cutting in half the state sales tax on natural gas and liquid propane for residential heating. The Executive Order stipulates that Georgia's sales tax on natural gas will be reduced during the peak home heating months of January through April 2006. Liquid propane will be reduced during the months of January through March 2006. 'State government should not reap a financial windfall because of unfortunate market conditions causing the cost of natural gas and liquid propane to rise,'" said Governor Sonny Perdue. 'This Executive Order will allow Georgia homeowners to keep more money in their pockets this winter.' In Georgia, natural gas and liquid propane are subject to a four percent state tax of the total cost of the commodity. Governor Perdue's Executive Order cuts the state sales tax in half to two percent during the peak home heating months. The tax reduction only applies to residential heating bills, and is expected to save Georgia taxpayers between \$16 to 20 million dollars this winter." ("Governor Lowers State Sales Tax On Natural Gas For Home Heating," [Governor Sonny Perdue](#) 12/19/05)

### ***Eminent Domain***

**Perdue Signed Into Law Legislation That Protects Georgia Land Owners From Eminent Domain Abuses.** "Today in a ceremony at the State Capitol, Governor Sonny Perdue signed the Landowner's Bill of Rights and Private Property Protection Act (HB1313), protecting private landowners in Georgia against the abuse of eminent domain. Governor Perdue also signed HR1306, a constitutional amendment requiring that the condemnation of property be approved by a vote of the elected governing authority of the county or city in which the property is located. 'This legislation and constitutional amendment changes the whole presumption of eminent domain from the power of government to the power of the people,' said Governor Sonny Perdue. 'It is wrong for your house, your land and your property to be held in jeopardy at the sway of a powerful government.'" ("Governor Perdue Signs Eminent Doman Legislation," [Governor Sonny Perdue](#), 4/4/06)



### ***Ethics Reform***

**Perdue Made Ethics Reform A Centerpiece Of His 2002 Campaign And First Term As Governor.**

“Sonny Perdue beat Barnes in 2002 vowing to ‘change the culture’ at the statehouse. He filed extensive ethics reform measures during his first term, although many of the strongest provisions didn’t survive. Lawmakers eventually passed laws requiring lobbyists to disclose more information about their clients and preventing former lawmakers and other officials from becoming lobbyists right after leaving office. He also beefed up the State Ethics Commission.” (James Salzer, “Ethics Reform Reboot, Revisit, Rehash,” [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#) 2/17/13)

- **In 2005, Perdue Reached A Deal With The State Ethics Commission To Pay \$1,900 In Fines And Return More Than \$18,000 In Campaign Contributions.** “Gov. Sonny Perdue reached a deal with the State Ethics Commission on Friday to pay \$1,900 in fines and return more than \$18,000 in campaign contributions to settle charges stemming from his 2002 run for the governorship and his re-election campaign.” (Brandon Larrabee, Perdue Will Pay Fines In Ethics Deal Governor Also Giving Up Campaign Contributions,” [Athens Banner Herald](#), 6/18/05)

### ***Technology***

**Perdue Provided Matching Funds For A Nanotechnology Center In Hopes Of Making Georgia A Leader In The Industry.**

“Governor Sonny Perdue announced today the creation of one of the nation’s most advanced facilities for nanotechnology during a speech at the Georgia Technology Celebration, sponsored by the Technology Association of Georgia (TAG). The Nanotechnology Research Center (Center) will be located on the campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology and will be launched thanks to a \$36 million contribution from an anonymous donor. To leverage this generous donation, Governor Perdue will include state matching funds over the next several years as part of his economic development budget recommendations to the Georgia General Assembly. ‘Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who recognizes the tremendous economic potential of this opportunity, Georgia will jump to the front of the pack in the world’s next technology revolution,’ said Governor Sonny Perdue. ‘For Georgia to emerge as a leader in nanotechnology, we need to take advantage of the opportunity to build one of the nation’s premier centers for this cutting edge technology and research.’” (“Governor Perdue Announces Major Nanotechnology Initiative,” [Governor Sonny Perdue](#), 10/21/03)

## BUSINESSES/ASSOCIATIONS

### *Houston Fertilizer And Grain*

**According To USASpending.gov, Houston Fertilizer And Grain Inc. Has Received \$24,525 In Government Contracts In 2011 From The Department Of Agriculture.** ([USASpending.gov](http://USASpending.gov), Accessed 11/29/16)

HOUSTON FERTILIZER AND GRAIN INC AG4389P11TM163 \$24,525 9/14/2011 Contracts Department of Agriculture Department of Agriculture Prime

#### RECIPIENT PROFILE: HOUSTON FERTILIZER AND GRAIN INC

Address [REDACTED] Fiscal Year 2011 Go  
DUNS Number [REDACTED]

Total Funds Awarded - FY 2011 <b>\$24,525</b>	Total Number of <u>Transactions</u> - FY 2011 <b>1</b>
Total Funds Awarded as Prime - FY 2011 <b>\$24,525</b>	Total <u>Transactions</u> as Prime - FY 2011 <b>1</b>
Total Funds Awarded as Sub - FY 2011 <b>\$0</b>	Total <u>Transactions</u> as Sub - FY 2011 <b>0</b>

### *Perdue Partners/Benton Global*

**Perdue's Company, Perdue Partners And Later Benton Global, Focused On Global Trade, Which Raised Questions Given His Business Partner David Perdue Sat On The Georgia Ports Authority Board.** "Just months after leaving office in 2011, Sonny Perdue and his cousin founded Perdue Partners... The new company's emphasis on global trade raised eyebrows given that David Perdue still sat on the ports board, and was chairman of the Ports Development Committee, which oversees infrastructure at the Savannah and Brunswick terminals." (Shannon McCaffrey, "Perdue s Trucking Business Overlapped With Ports Tenure," [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](http://The Atlanta Journal Constitution), 6/10/14)

**Many Of The Company's Clients Are Companies From China, "Where Sonny Had Contacts."** "In February 2013, records show, the newly-renamed Benton Global began hauling cargo directly from the port. Many of the clients are companies from China, where Sonny Perdue had contacts." (Shannon McCaffrey, "Perdue s Trucking Business Overlapped With Ports Tenure," [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](http://The Atlanta Journal Constitution), 6/10/14)

**"Records Show That Benton Hauled Goods Into Georgia, Largely From Chinese And Indian Companies. That's Politically Less Popular Than Exporting American Goods Abroad."** "But the records show that Benton hauled goods into Georgia, largely from Chinese and Indian companies. That's politically less popular than exporting American goods abroad." (Shannon McCaffrey, "Perdue s Trucking Business Overlapped With Ports Tenure," [The Atlanta Journal Constitution](http://The Atlanta Journal Constitution), 6/10/14)

**NOTE: Perdue Partners Has Received \$0 In Government Contracts.** ([USASpending.gov](http://USASpending.gov), Accessed 11/29/16)

#### ADVANCED DATA SEARCH

Fiscal Year and Spending Type are required selections; you may select multiple filters in every category. Search results display up to 1,000,000 transactions; however, you can download all transactions. The downloaded zip file contains spreadsheets for each Spending Type selected. Sub-award data for all Spending Types is in a separate spreadsheet.

In the Search Results, click on Recipient Name to go to the Recipient Profile; click on the Award ID to see the Award Summary; click on header to sort the columns.

+ SEARCH CRITERIA

#### RESULTS SUMMARY

Change Search Filters ▲

Filters: Perdue partners; Contracts, Grants, Loans, Other Financial Assistance, FY 2017, FY 2016, FY 2015, FY 2014, FY 2013, FY 2012, FY 2011, FY 2010, FY 2009, FY 2008

Total Number of <u>Transactions</u> <b>0</b>	Total Prime Recipient Transaction Amount <b>\$0</b>	Total Sub-Award Transaction Amount <b>\$0</b>	
<b>0</b> Contracts	<b>0</b> Grants	<b>0</b> Loans	<b>0</b> Other Financial Assistance

***Current Employer Total Lobbying Spend, Most Recent Year***

**No Records Found.** ([Center For Responsive Politics](#) Accessed 11/29/16)

## Search Results

**No lobbying income or spending found.**

This may be because no lobbying was reported, because the lobbying contract was terminated, or because reported lobbying was less than the \$10,000 threshold that allows us to build a profile. The Center for Responsive Politics conservatively assumes any lobbying under the the \$10,000 threshold to be \$0 earned or spent. Please click on "View Report Images" on the tab navigation bar to see if this firm or client has filed any reports. [Search again](#)

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## ***Bankruptcy***

No Records Found. (Nexis, Accessed 11/28/16)

**Bankruptcy Information - 0 records found**

