

JASON ESTEVES'S

PLAN TO MAKE HEALTHCARE MORE AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL GEORGIANS

Jason believes the healthcare system should be affordable, accessible, and accountable to the people it serves. His wife Ariel, a nurse practitioner, owns a primary and urgent care clinic in Atlanta, where they see everyday how too many Georgians struggle to access and afford quality healthcare for themselves and their families. And as the caretakers of Jason's mom with Alzheimer's, they have navigated a senior care system that is failing too many Georgians. Jason knows healthcare costs impact whether families stay financially stable and whether communities thrive. As governor, he will fight back against rising costs, demand corporate accountability, and expand access to healthcare that works for patients, not just the system.



Ensuring Access & Lowering Healthcare Costs for Georgia Families

Healthcare costs are rising faster than wages, and families feel it every month at the pharmacy, the doctor's office, and in their insurance premiums. Jason believes healthcare dollars should go to care, not corporate markups. His focus is simple: Use the power of state government to close the coverage gap and lower costs so everyone has more affordable access and no one has to skip care or ration medication because of price.

Expand Medicaid to provide health insurance to thousands of Georgians and lower healthcare costs statewide. Expansion is the single biggest step Georgia can take to cover thousands of uninsured Georgians and lower healthcare costs for Georgians statewide. Bring federal healthcare dollars back to Georgia and strengthen hospitals across the state. Increase access to preventive care and reduce reliance on costly emergency rooms. Replace Brian Kemp's failed Pathways Program, which spends more money on consultants and administrative costs than actual care.

Lower costs for essential medications and daily health necessities. Protect patients with chronic conditions from expensive pharmacy bills by limiting monthly costs for insulin, asthma inhalers, EpiPens, and blood pressure medications. Eliminate the sales tax on diapers, formula, and menstrual products because they are necessities, not luxuries. Identify additional products necessary for healthy daily living and implement tax relief to increase savings and make health products more affordable.

Use Georgia's collective purchasing power to get the best prices and eliminate wasteful spending. Use the power of scale and bulk purchasing to negotiate competitive pricing on drug costs and medical supplies by combining orders across state agencies and working with neighboring states. Increase pricing transparency and communication across agencies to assess hidden markups and duplicative spending. Apply strong oversight to state healthcare contracts. Ensure vendors deliver value, prevent waste, and eliminate mismanagement.



Putting Patients Above Profits



Healthcare works best when the system answers to patients, not corporations. That is why Jason will push for the honesty and transparency in pricing that Georgians deserve. He believes public dollars should deliver real health outcomes, not bigger corporate profits, and that strong oversight protects families and taxpayers alike.

Cut Georgia’s maternal mortality rate in half by 2035. Strengthen the Maternal Mortality Review Committee by increasing transparency and bringing medical, public health, and academic experts back to the table to review every preventable maternal death. Identify system failures and missed warning signs. Turn findings into policy improvements. Publish annual maternal health reports tracking outcomes by race, geography, and income so solutions reach the communities that need them most.

Ban PBM spread pricing. Require pharmacy benefit managers to charge health plans only what they pay pharmacies, plus a clear administrative fee. End the practice of pocketing the difference through hidden markups. Audit PBM practices regularly. Enforce transparency requirements. Prevent hidden deals that raise costs for consumers.

Create a statewide Prescription Drug Affordability Board. Empower the board to review the highest-cost drugs driving up premiums and out-of-pocket

spending. Identify when prices are unreasonable and out of step with value. Require justification for dramatic hikes. Set upper payment limits when prices are clearly excessive to protect consumers and state plans. Increase transparency so pricing decisions are not hidden from the public. Ensure companies cannot raise prices without scrutiny.

Ensure fair reimbursement by insurance companies to rural hospitals. Require insurers to pay rural providers fully and on time to reduce chronic underpayment and help eliminate hospital closures. Enforce penalties for insurer non-compliance. Stop contract practices that undermine rural providers. Guarantee fair negotiations by increasing pricing transparency between hospitals and clinics.

Protecting patients and providers from AI determining their healthcare options. In Georgia, no family should lose needed care because an algorithm overruled their provider. Ban AI-only insurance coverage denials and require licensed clinical human review of the medically necessary procedures and care. Increase insurance provider transparency by requiring publication of insurance denial rates, appeal overturn rates, turnaround times on coverage decisions, how often AI tools are used in those decisions and the frequency of clinician verification.

Improving Maternal Health Outcomes and Restoring Reproductive Freedom



Jason knows reproductive healthcare is about health, safety, and personal freedom. In the State Senate, he sponsored legislation to repeal HB 481, Georgia's six-week abortion ban, and to stop deceptive clinics from misleading women seeking care. His wife, Ariel, is a nurse practitioner, clinic owner, and board member of Planned Parenthood Southeast Action Fund. Together, they have long advocated for reproductive healthcare and justice in Georgia. Their work is informed by the real stories of women and families harmed by HB 481. As governor, Jason will fight to repeal the abortion ban and ensure Georgia prioritizes maternal health so giving birth and raising a child is safe for every family.

Restore reproductive healthcare and repeal Georgia's abortion ban. Repeal HB 481 so physicians can provide timely, lifesaving care to mothers. Allow women to receive treatment before complications become emergencies. Trust medical professionals to make medical decisions that are in the best interest of their

patient and remove government intervention.

End public funding for deceptive clinics. Ensure taxpayer dollars support licensed, evidence-based medical care. Stop funding organizations that mislead patients. Protect women seeking accurate health information so they can make informed decisions for themselves and their families.

Support IVF and fertility treatment access. Protect access to fertility treatments to help families build the futures they want. Ensure reproductive healthcare includes those facing infertility.

Require coverage of certified doulas, midwives, and lactation consultants under Medicaid expansion. Increase specialties covered by insurance to allow women more options for comprehensive maternal care. Provide for a robust network of prenatal and postnatal care providers to ensure mothers and babies thrive.

Making Sure Healthcare Happens Close to Home



Jason believes every community deserves reliable, local healthcare and a strong workforce to deliver it because access to healthcare should not depend on where you live. He knows that too many Georgians, especially in rural communities, face long drives, provider shortages, and hospital closures that put care out of reach. As governor, he will focus on bringing hospitals and clinics closer to home, strengthening rural hospitals, and growing the healthcare workforce so Georgians can get the care they need, when and where they need it.

Eliminate rural healthcare deserts with innovative healthcare hubs. Create rural healthcare hubs as “one-stop-shop” locations so Georgians do not have to cross county lines for quality healthcare. Invest in public-private partnerships to increase access to care throughout communities. Increase internet connectivity to expand telehealth coverage options. Lower healthcare costs and increasing positive outcomes by centralizing care.

Recruit, retain, and grow our healthcare workforce. Assess medical specialties and healthcare worker gaps to target healthcare workforce needs throughout the state. Partner with our best-in-class

schools to expand loan-repayment scholarships for healthcare workers who train and practice in Georgia. Create incentives for graduates who work in areas that find it hard to recruit and retain healthcare professionals.

Stabilize and invest in existing rural hospitals to prevent closure and increase viability. Expand Medicaid to reduce the number of uninsured patients that are placing downward pressure on hospital viability. Require insurance companies to pay full and timely reimbursements to rural hospitals to provide the financial stability needed to rebuild capacity.

Protecting Our Most Vulnerable. Help our most vulnerable family members and neighbors live with dignity, independence, and the support they need in the communities they call home. Expand home and community-based care, caregiver support, and respite services for seniors so families can allow their loved ones to age in place. Strengthen long-term care, in-home support, and wraparound services for Georgians with disabilities so they can participate in their communities while living independently and benefit from affordable continuous care.