



Nathan Deal
Governor

Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Reg Griffin
404-656-0239
reg.griffin@decalf.ga.gov



Ringsrud Named Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration

*Former Director of Audits and Compliance Follows
Ray Higgins who has accepted New Role in Mississippi*

ATLANTA, Ga., (March 25, 2018) – Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) has named Rian Ringsrud as Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, replacing Ray Higgins who recently accepted the position of Executive Director of the Public Employees’ Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS). Commissioner Amy M. Jacobs said the transition will begin April 16 giving Ringsrud over a month to work directly with Higgins who leaves at the end of May.

Ringsrud has served as DECAL’s Director of Audits and Compliance for the last four years. Prior to that he worked for the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) for over nine years after starting his career with the Budgetary Responsibility and Oversight Committee (BROC) with the Georgia General Assembly in 2004. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a Certified Government Auditing Professional (CGAP). Ringsrud earned a BBA in Management from The University of Georgia.

In his new role, Ringsrud will be responsible for audits and compliance, finance, human resources, federal nutrition programs, government relations, and research and policy analysis. “I have complete confidence in Rian’s ability to smoothly transition into this new role,” Jacobs said. “He brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise that will serve DECAL well.”

Ringsrud and his wife Ragan have two children and live in Kennesaw.

About Bright from the Start

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning is responsible for meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and their families. It administers the nationally recognized Georgia's Pre-K Program, licenses child care centers and home-based child care, administers Georgia's Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program, federal nutrition programs, and manages *Quality Rated*, Georgia's community powered child care rating system.

The department also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works collaboratively with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state to enhance early care and education. For more information, go to www.decal.ga.gov.