



Georgia House of Representatives

SESSION REPORT

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

2023 Session Report by Committee with Vetoes

Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

Staff: Cortney George

HB 132 Buildings and housing; amend Georgia state minimum standard codes to authorize certain uses of ungraded lumber; require

By: Rep. David Jenkins (136th) Through the Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 132 amends O.C.G.A. 8-2-23 to allow the use of ungraded lumber in construction of accessory structures not containing habitable space on property zoned or primarily used for residential or agricultural purposes.

HB 528 Georgia Online Automatic Renewal Transparency Act; enact

By: Rep. Houston Gaines (120th) Through the Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 528 the 'Georgia Online Automatic Renewal Transparency Act', relates to deceptive and unfair trade practices regarding the automatic monthly charges for a service or product. Companies must have a clear and conspicuous method of cancellation online if the company also allows consumers to accept an automatic renewal or continuous service online. The bill requires companies to provide consumers with notice if there is a material change in the terms of the renewal offer.

Section 2 of HB 528 the 'Georgia Online Third-Party Delivery Service Transparency Act' requires third-party delivery services to enter into a contractual relationship with a restaurant prior to offering food delivery or using the restaurant for marketing purposes.

Both sections of HB 528 go into effect on January 1, 2024.

HB 545 Agricultural Commodity Commission for Citrus Fruits; provide

By: Rep. Charles Cannon (172nd) Through the Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 545 creates the Agricultural Commodity Commission for Citrus Fruits beginning July 1, 2023, for producers who own or operate at least five acres of citrus fruit-bearing trees. Every three years a ballot will be taken to determine whether or not to continue the commission for another three years.

SB 149 "Georgia Door-to-Door Sales Act"; enact

By: Sen. John Albers (56th) Through the Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 149 creates the 'Georgia Door-to-Door Sales Act' to require the seller in a door-to-door sale to provide the buyer with a notice of cancellation form. A door-to-door sale is defined and does not include the sale of automobiles or large equipment at auctions or tent sales. The bill outlines requirements of the cancellation form, including a timeline when the buyer has the right to cancel the sale.

Appropriations Committee

HB 18 Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

By: Rep. Jon Burns (159th) Through the Appropriations Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 18, the Amended Fiscal Year 2023 budget, is set by a revenue estimate of \$32.56 billion. This is a 7.8 percent increase, or \$2.36 billion, over the original Fiscal Year 2023 budget. The bill and tracking sheet may be found on the House Budget and Research Office [website](#).

HB 19 General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 GOVERNOR'S LINE ITEM VETO AND LANGUAGE DISREGARD STATEMENT [HERE](#)*By: Rep. Jon Burns (159th)**Through the Appropriations Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 19, the Fiscal Year 2024 budget, is set by a revenue estimate of \$32.4 billion. This is a 7.4 percent increase, or \$2.2 billion, over the original Fiscal Year 2023 budget. The bill and tracking sheet may be found on the House Budget and Research Office [website](#).

Banks & Banking Committee**Staff: Brock Perry****HB 55 Banking and finance; provide for definitions; provisions***By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th) Through the Banks & Banking Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 55 is the annual revision of Title 7 of the Code, relating to banking and finance, by the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance. Superfluous and redundant language is clarified and removed, terminology is updated, and language is added to conform Title 7 to other parts of the Code.

The bill permits banks, trust companies, and credit unions that do not exercise trust powers to contract with banks, trust companies, or credit unions to provide trust services to their customers or members. With respect to credit unions, the bill aligns how permissive investments are measured in other parts of the Code to create a uniform measure solely on the net worth of the credit union while permitting credit unions to invest in general obligations issued by states and municipalities without any investment limitation.

The bill makes changes to licensing requirements related to money service business representatives by eliminating the licensure requirement if there is a limited possibility of consumer harm, or if there is a federal regulator that would have regulatory oversight.

The bill sets forth standards that licensed money transmitters must maintain and require permissive investments to be maintained by licensees.

With respect to installment lenders, the bill exempts 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations from being licensed as installment lenders as long as they do not impose any interest or fees. The bill permits installment lenders to charge compound interest rather than requiring them to do so.

The bill authorizes establishment of a foreign bank branch in Georgia.

SB 84 "Georgia Uniform Securities Act of 2008"; financial protections for elder and disabled adults who may be victims of financial exploitation; provide*By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd) Through the Banks & Banking Committee*

Final Bill Summary: SB 84 requires an investment advisor or a person in a supervisory, compliance, or legal capacity for a broker or investment advisor who has reasonable cause to believe that the financial exploitation of an eligible adult, either a person at least 65 years old or an adult who is mentally or physically incapacitated, has Alzheimer's disease, or has dementia, to promptly notify the Secretary of State of pertinent information relevant to the financial exploitation.

The qualified individual may also notify any third party previously designated by the eligible adult, provided that third party is not the suspect in the alleged financial exploitation. The investment advisor may delay a disbursement from the eligible adult's account if there is reasonable cause to believe financial exploitation is occurring, but must notify within two business days after the delay the Secretary of State and all non-suspect parties authorized to transact business on the account.

The advisor must also conduct an internal review and report results to the Secretary of State within seven business days of the requested disbursement. No investment advisor will be subject to administrative or civil liability by exercising good faith and reasonable care in delaying a disbursement or failing to notify an eligible adult.

SB 90 Selling and Other Trade Practices; commercial financing disclosures; provide*By: Sen. Clint Dixon (45th)**Through the Banks & Banking Committee*

Final Bill Summary: SB 90 requires providers of certain commercial financing transactions to disclose with each transaction: the total amount of funds provided to the business in the transaction; the total amount of funds

disbursed to the business after any fees, withholdings, or third-party payments; the total amount to be paid to the provider under the transaction terms; the total dollar cost of the transaction; and a statement of whether there are any costs or discounts associated with prepayment under the transaction.

No broker will solicit or collect an advance fee from a business to provide services as a broker, nor will a broker make any false representations in offering their services or offer their services in a publication without disclosing necessary contact information. The attorney general may take action to enforce these provisions, and the bill contains civil penalties for violations of these provisions.

The bill requires a notice on each unsolicited mailing from unlicensed entities trying to purchase or purchase an option in real property from the addressee that the addressee is under no obligation to respond. The notice must be in capital letters and at least two inches from other text at the top of the mailing. The front of the envelope must have similar wording, "SOLICITATION, YOU ARE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO OPEN OR TO RESPOND", in an effort to warn elderly consumers of their right to disregard any solicitations to sign away their property rights. Brokerage engagements are prohibited from attaching a lien, encumbrance, or other real property security interest, and deems such items void if one is attached.

Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee

Staff: Sara Arroyo

HB 611 Budgetary and financial affairs; disposition of state funds derived from certain legal judgments (*Vetoed*) or settlements; provide **GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)**

By: Rep. James Burchett (176th) Through the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 611 requires all funds from legal settlements entered into by the state or on its behalf by June 1, 2023, to be held by the state treasury until appropriated by the General Assembly.

Code Revision Committee

Staff: Brock Perry

HB 475 Code Revision Commission; revise, modernize and correct errors in omissions

By: Rep. Tyler Smith (18th) Through the Code Revision Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 475 is the annual Code revision bill to revise, modernize, and correct errors or omissions to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The bill reflects the work of the Code Revision Commission to repeal portions of the Code that are obsolete, declared unconstitutional, or preempted or superseded by subsequent laws. Lastly, the bill provides for other matters relating to revision, reenactment, and publication of the Code.

SB 23 O.C.G.A.; various titles; revise a committee name; relating to inactive boards, panels, authorities, centers, commissions, committees, councils, task forces, and other such bodies; provisions; repeal (*Vetoed*) **GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)**

By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) Through the Code Revision Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 23 amends the Code by revising committee names and authority titles while also repealing specific inactive authorities, committees, advisory councils, offices, and commissions. The bill specifies how assets of certain entities are devolved following repeal. Language relating to prefiling of legislation is repealed.

The bill defines the Georgia Data Analytic Center (GDAC) as an agent of all executive state agencies that shares and receives government information. Executive state agencies will cooperate with GDAC requests for receipt of or access to data unless an Office of Planning and Budget review upon consultation of the chairpersons of the Senate and House appropriations committees determines, and explains that the request would result in a violation of law. Sharing of data to and from GDAC does not constitute a disclosure or release under law, and any confidential or privileged designation of government information will be maintained when sharing with GDAC.

Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee

Staff: Amber Mack

SB 21 Georgia Veterans Service Foundation, Inc.; revise operations

By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) Through the Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 21 revises provisions related to the Georgia Veterans Service Foundation by expanding the number of board directors from seven people to a range of seven to 13 people, and specifying that at least

four of the members have served a certain amount of time in the armed forces, National Guard, or reserves.

The bill reduces the term of members from seven years to three years, and increases the meeting frequency from annually to quarterly. Lastly, the bill allows the commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services to appoint a chief executive officer.

SB 115 Georgia National Guard; the adjutant general to be the official sponsor of the state sponsored life insurance program; provide [GOVERNOR'S SIGNING STATEMENT HERE](#)

By: Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th) Through the Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 115 recognizes that under the common law public trust doctrine, the state owns all navigable stream beds for the public's use of fishing, hunting, passage, navigation, commerce, and transportation.

Economic Development & Tourism Committee

Staff: Michael Satterfield

HR 488 House Rural Development Council; reauthorize

By: Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) Through the Economic Development & Tourism Committee

Final Bill Summary: HR 488 reauthorizes the House Rural Development Council.

Education Committee

Staff: Cortney George

HB 87 Nontraditional Special Schools Act; enact

By: Rep. Chris Erwin (32nd) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 87 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-154.1 relating to alternative education programs and charters to provide for the transition of system-collaborative charter schools to completion special schools by July 1, 2023. Any system-collaborative charter school that did not transition to become an alternative charter school by July 1, 2021, will operate as a state chartered special school. If the state chartered special school does not transition to a completion special school by July 1, 2023, the school will cease operating upon expiration of its current charter with the State Board of Education. The board may not expand the current attendance zone of the school.

The bill establishes Article 31C of Title 20, which creates the 'Completion Special Schools Act'. The board will adopt policies for the establishment, funding, and operation of completion special schools, which focus on dropout recovery/prevention or high school credit recovery for grades nine through 12.

The board is authorized to provide up to \$5 million in grant funding to encourage and authorize the creation of new completion special schools, subject to appropriation. The board will adopt policies for the dissolution or temporary dissolution of a completion special school upon the recommendation of the state school superintendent for failure to comply with the requirements of Article 31C.

HB 340 Education; daily duty-free planning periods for teachers in grades six through twelve; provide

By: Rep. John Corbett (174th) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 340 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-218 to protect planning periods for teachers. Teachers who are in the classroom more than 50 percent of a regular school day are required to have a duty-free planning period, with some exceptions related to safety.

The bill amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-29.21, relating to tax credits for qualified education donations for the purpose of awarding grants to public schools by extending the repeal date to December 31, 2026.

Local school board members are prohibited from discussing personnel matters with superintendents or other school personnel other than a referral of a personnel matter to the superintendent.

HB 402 Education; water safety education information to parents of students under 18 years of age and to students 18 years of age and older; provide

By: Rep. Scott Hilton (48th) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 402, the 'Edna Mae McGovern Act', amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-779.3 to require each public school to provide parents or students over 18 years of age with information on water safety education. At the beginning of each school year, the school will provide information to promote safety in, on, and around bodies of water. This may include information on local water safety courses and swim lessons.

HB 538 Georgia Early Literacy Act; enact

By: Rep. Bethany Ballard (147th) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 538 creates the 'Georgia Early Literacy Act' to implement the science of reading in Georgia. School systems will be required to teach high-quality instructional materials approved by the State Board of Education in grades kindergarten through third grade.

The Department of Education must develop and provide training to kindergarten through third grade teachers on the science of reading so teacher have the skills and knowledge to teach young students to read. Students across the state will take a universal reading screener assessment to monitor their progress in foundational literacy skills multiple times a year.

The Department of Early Care and Learning must require teachers in all programs licensed or commissioned by the department to receive training on developmentally appropriate evidence based literacy instruction by July, 1 2025.

SB 45 Education; care of students being treated for epilepsy or a seizure disorder; provide

By: Sen. Jason Anavitarte (31st) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 45 creates 'A.J.'s Law' to provide for the care of students being treated for epilepsy or a seizure disorder. A school nurse or other school employee should be trained in the proper protocols should a student experience a seizure while at school. The parent or guardian must annually supply the school with a seizure action plan which provides specific directions about what to do in emergency situations.

SB 204 Education Accountability; recognition of certain accrediting agencies as evaluators of the quality of education offered in public schools in this state; provide

By: Sen. Greg Dolezal (27th) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 204 requires accrediting agencies that operate in Georgia to focus on student achievement, academic success, and fiscal solvency of schools and school systems. The State Board of Education must establish evaluation criteria, procedures, and other requirements for recognized accrediting agencies.

SB 211 Georgia Council on Literacy; establish

By: Sen. Billy Hickman (4th) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 211 creates the Georgia Council on Literacy to conduct a comprehensive review of birth to postsecondary literacy programs for the purpose of improving literacy outcomes of Georgia students. The council is composed of 30 members, will meet at least four times per year, and will dissolve December 31, 2026.

SR 175 Joint Study Committee on Dual Enrollment for Highly Skilled Talent at Younger Ages; create

By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th) Through the Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: SR 175 creates the Joint Study Committee on Dual Enrollment for Highly Skilled Talent at Younger Ages. This committee will examine existing dual enrollment opportunities to develop highly skilled talent at younger ages, and develop solutions to produce more dual enrollment talent.

Section 2 creates the Joint Study Committee on Service Delivery Strategy. The committee will consist of 10 members as follows: the president of the Senate will appoint three members of the Senate, including the chair of the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee, a county commissioner from a county currently levying a local option sales tax (LOST), and a mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST; the speaker of the House will appoint three members of the House of Representatives, including the chair of the House Committee on Governmental Affairs, a county commissioner from a county currently levying a LOST,

and a mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST. A co-chairperson each from the House of Representatives and Senate will be chosen by the president of the Senate and speaker of the House, respectively.

The committee will stand abolished on December 1, 2023.

Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Committee

Staff: Bailey Jordan

SB 193 Broadband Services; Department of Community Affairs to determine locations that are eligible for state or federal funding programs administered by the state; provide

By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) Through the Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 193 allows the Department of Community Affairs to determine locations that are eligible for state and federal funding for broadband services.

Game, Fish, & Parks Committee

Staff: Patrick Mock

HB 121 Waters, ports and watercraft; wakesurfing and wakeboarding; provide restrictions and requirements

By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th) Through the Game, Fish, & Parks Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 121 amends O.C.G.A. 52-7-1 by adding definitions for the terms "wakeboarding" and "wake surfing", and placing restrictions on these activities. Except in certain circumstances, no person is to engage in either of these two defined activities between sunset and sunrise, within 200 feet of a shoreline or structure located on the water, or without wearing a personal flotation device approved by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Language is added further defining multipurpose off-highway vehicles and regarding license plates for such vehicles. It requires multipurpose off-highway vehicles manufactured after January 1, 2000, to be registered and issued a title.

The bill authorizes the commissioner to issue temporary operating permits and provides equipment requirements for multipurpose off-road vehicles. Such vehicles are permitted to operate on highways that are part of county road systems but are limited to crossing highways that are a part of a municipal street or state highway system.

HB 207 Waters, ports, and watercraft; carrying of night visual distress signals upon coastal waters during certain hours; provide

By: Rep. Trey Rhodes (124th) Through the Game, Fish, & Parks Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 207 amends O.C.G.A. 52-7-1. This bill outlines the requirement for all vessels to carry U.S. Coast Guard-approved nighttime and daytime visual distress signals when operating in state coastal waters. The bill specifies the type of signals that should be carried during different hours of the day, the minimum number of signals required, and the size of vessels exempt from carrying such signals.

In the event of an accident or collision, the operator of each vessel involved is required to stop, remain at the scene, and provide their name, address, and registration to the operator of the vessel struck. Upon request, the operator must exhibit their government-issued identification. At the scene of an accident, vessel operators involved are responsible for rendering assistance to any injured person as well as notifying emergency medical services and law enforcement if necessary. Vessel operators are required to stay at the scene of the accident until these requirements are fulfilled unless the operator is unable to notify the appropriate services, in which case they may leave the scene to make such notification.

If an incident results in death, disappearance, or injury that requires medical treatment and the operator knowingly fails to stop and comply with these requirements, they will be guilty of a felony and upon conviction, may be sentenced to no less than one year nor more than five years.

Governmental Affairs Committee**Staff: Molly Aziz****HB 193 Local government; increase dollar values of certain public works construction contracts exempt (Vetoed) from bidding requirements **GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT** [HERE](#)****By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th) Through the Governmental Affairs Committee****Final Bill Summary:** HB 193 increases the contract value amount from \$100,000 or less to \$250,000 or less for a public works construction contract that is exempt from specified contracting and bidding requirements.

The bill allows rapid transit authorities to purchase \$250,000 or less per year in goods, supplies, and services without competitive bidding.

HB 374 Local government; municipal deannexation; repeal certain provisions**By: Rep. Brad Thomas (21st) Through the Governmental Affairs Committee****Final Bill Summary:** HB 374 provides guidelines and requirements for municipal deannexations. The bill prohibits deannexations that result in the formation of unincorporated islands or non-contiguous areas within the municipality.

The bill establishes the 'Landscape Equipment and Agricultural Fairness (LEAF) Act' which prohibits local prohibitions or regulations that distinguish or create differing standards for gasoline-powered leaf blowers from any other gasoline-powered, electric, or other type of leaf blower.

The bill prohibits governmental entities from adopting any policy that restricts the connection or reconnection of any utility service or sales of certain fuels based on the type of source of energy or fuel delivered or the appliance used by the customer.

SB 3 "Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023"; enact**By: Sen. John Albers (56th) Through the Governmental Affairs Committee****Final Bill Summary:** SB 3 creates the 'Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023'. The act requires the Department of Administrative Services to regularly assess and reduce, when possible, the requirements for jobs within state government.**SB 62 Counties and Municipal Corporations; certain local ordinances or policies relating to public camping or sleeping; prohibit****By: Sen. Carden Summers (13th) Through the Governmental Affairs Committee****Final Bill Summary:** SB 62 prohibits local governments from adopting or enforcing any policies that would prohibit the enforcement of any ordinance that prohibits unauthorized public camping, sleeping, or obstruction of sidewalks. The bill prohibits hospitals and local government entities from dropping off homeless individuals outside of their area of operation or jurisdiction, subject to specified exceptions.

The bill requires the state auditor to conduct a performance audit of homeless program spending in this state, including local government spending and the expenditure of federal funds. The audit must be provided to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2023.

SB 116 Disposition of Municipal Property; the maximum term of certain leases or contracts for the use of property owned by a municipality for recreational facilities; provisions**By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st) Through the Governmental Affairs Committee****Final Bill Summary:** SB 116 requires that municipal leases related to the operation of an arena, sports field, stadium, or other recreational facility must not exceed 20 years, and are not subject to renewal. Such leases must be subject to bids or auction after the initial lease expires.**SB 129 Primaries and Elections; time off for employees to advance vote; provide****By: Sen. Rick Williams (25th) Through the Governmental Affairs Committee****Final Bill Summary:** SB 129 allows the State Election Board to appoint members of county boards of elections, or county boards of elections and registration, to performance review boards. The bill clarifies the language that must be included on any absentee ballot application that is mailed to an elector by a nongovernmental entity.

The bill requires employers, upon reasonable notice, to provide time off for employees to vote during the period of advance voting. The bill extends the time limit from 10:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. for specified reporting requirements for election superintendents following the close of the polls on the day of an election. The bill clarifies the auditing requirements for local election superintendents following specified elections.

SB 213 Zoning Procedures; local governments from preventing the continuance of lawful nonconforming use of property; prohibit

By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 213 prohibits local governments from adopting or enforcing any zoning decisions or other regulations on a new manufactured or mobile home that were not imposed on the preexisting home, in specified circumstances and subject to specified exceptions.

SB 215 Public Records; personal information of public employees; protect from public disclosure

By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 215 requires local governments, upon employee request, to remove personally identifiable information of such employee from all property records that are publicly available on the local government's website.

SB 222 Primaries and Elections; all costs and expenses relating to election administration are paid for with lawfully appropriate public funds; provide

By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 222 requires all expenses related to conducting elections to be paid from lawfully-appropriated public funds. The bill prohibits local governments or election officials from accepting any contributions or donations for the purpose of conducting elections, subject to specified exceptions. The bill prohibits election superintendents, local governments, and boards of registrars from accepting grants or gifts related to conducting elections from any entity other than the State of Georgia or the federal government.

The bill establishes the State Election Board as a separate and distinct budget unit in the state budget, attached to the Office of the Secretary of State for administrative purposes only. The bill removes the State Election Board from the jurisdiction of the secretary of state and provides for appointment of an executive director of the State Election Board.

SR 214 Joint Study Committee on Local Option Sales Tax and Service Delivery Strategy; create

By: Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: SR 214 calls for the nomination and election of the chairperson of the State Election Board.

Health Committee

Staff: Tara Boockholdt

HB 203 Health; restrictions on sale and dispensing of contact lenses with respect to physicians; revise provisions

By: Rep. Mark Newton (127th)

Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 203 prohibits the writing of a contact lens prescription by any prescriber unless that state-licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed all measurements, tests, and examinations necessary to satisfy their professional judgment that the patient is a viable candidate to wear contact lenses, and has evaluated and fitted the contact lenses to the patient's eyes.

The bill creates an assessment mechanism for conducting an eye assessment or generating a contact lens or spectacle prescription, and sets regulations for use of an assessment mechanism. The bill requires a prescriber using electronic prescriptions be held to the same standards of care as those used in traditional in-person clinical settings.

HB 414 Mental health; grant program to aid service members, veterans, and their families; provide

By: Rep. Shaw Blackmon (146th) Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 414 creates the Veterans Mental Health Services Program, a competitive grant program administered by the Department of Veterans Service. The grant program will provide behavioral health services to service members, veterans, or family members through non-profit community behavioral health programs.

HB 416 Pharmacies; authorize qualified pharmacy technicians to administer certain vaccines

By: Rep. Deborah Silcox (53rd) Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 416 allows for qualified pharmacy technicians to administer any COVID-19 vaccine and any vaccine on the adult immunization schedule to individuals 18 years of age or older. The supervising pharmacist will have discretion over delegating the authority to administer vaccines and must be readily available to the pharmacy technician when a vaccine is being administered.

HB 493 Professions and businesses; verification of competency for registered professional nursing licenses; revise a provision

By: Rep. Matt Hatchett (155th) Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 493 relates to continuing competency requirements for registered professional nursing licenses and adds federally operated healthcare facilities as an eligible facility to verify competency.

SB 164 Nurses; licensure of advanced practice registered nurses; provide **GOVERNOR'S VETO (Vetoed) [STATEMENT HERE](#)**

By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd) Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 164 creates licensure requirements for advanced practice registered nurses and changes the definition of "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) to only a person licensed by the Georgia Board of Nursing who is either a certified nurse midwife, certified nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist, clinical nurse specialist or clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health, or a recognized APRN before June 30, 2006. The bill makes it a misdemeanor to practice as an APRN without a license.

The bill adds anesthesiologist assistant to the Georgia Composite Medical Board in an advisory-only capacity to the board, and to the board-appointed Physician Assistants Advisory Committee.

Section 6 of SB 164 is the 'Anesthesiologist Assistant Act', which creates the licensure of anesthesiologist assistants through the Georgia Composite Medical Board, and provides for licensure and renewal requirements. This bill allows for anesthesiologist assistants to perform duties and responsibilities as delegated by the supervising anesthesiologist, and requires the supervising anesthesiologist or an alternate supervising anesthesiologist to be immediately available to intervene if needed during the delivery of care.

The bill allows for a supervising anesthesiologist to delegate to an anesthesiologist assistant the authority to order controlled substances, dangerous drugs, medical treatments, and diagnostic studies.

The bill states that the board can issue a previously revoked license under certain conditions after rehabilitation, and makes it a misdemeanor to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant without a license. Authority is granted for an anesthesiologist assistant to provide care for up to 48 hours during a state of emergency or public health emergency.

SB 197 "Health Care Practitioners Truth and Transparency Act"; enact

By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd) Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 197 amends the 'Consumer Information and Awareness Act' to prohibit an advertisement or identification by a healthcare practitioner that includes deceptive or misleading terms or false representation or references to medical or medical specialty titles, unless the practitioner is a licensed physician.

The bill requires advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants to verbally identify themselves during each patient interaction and clearly state they are not a medical doctor if they hold a doctorate degree and identify themselves with the title "doctor".

SB 199 State's Employee Benefit Plan Council; council to establish health savings accounts; require (Vetoed) GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)

By: Sen. Jason Esteves (6th) Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 199 authorizes the state's Employee Benefit Plan Council to provide health savings accounts as part of the flexible employee benefit plan for state employees, public school employees, and teachers. The bill provides discretion to the council on whether to provide flexible benefit deductions or salary reductions, and allows the flexible benefit plan to continually provide deductions or salary reductions related to health savings accounts starting January 1, 2025.

SB 223 Health; reimbursement of patient incurred expenses related to participation in a cancer clinical trial; authorize

By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st) Through the Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 223 requires all sponsors of cancer clinical trials to provide potential patient-subjects with information on whether reimbursement will be available for travel, and ancillary costs for patient-subjects and those who accompany the patient-subject for support.

The bill states reimbursements are provided to eliminate financial barriers to enrollment and will not be considered an undue inducement or coercive. All information provided will be reviewed by the relevant federal institution. The nature of ancillary support and guidelines on financial eligibility will be disclosed and conform to federal law.

Higher Education Committee**Staff: Molly Aziz****HB 163 Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; student loan repayment for medical examiners employed by the Division of Forensic Sciences of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation; provide**

By: Rep. Lauren McDonald (26th) Through the Higher Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 163 establishes a student loan repayment program for full-time medical examiners employed with the Division of Forensic Sciences of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The total repayment amount must not exceed \$120,000 or the total student debt amount, whichever is less, and the payments will be paid in annual installments, for a period not exceeding five years. The Georgia Student Finance Authority is authorized to establish rules and regulations to implement the program, and the program is contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly.

HB 249 Education; needs based financial aid program; provide definition GOVERNOR'S VETO (Vetoed) STATEMENT [HERE](#)

By: Rep. Chuck Martin (49th) Through the Higher Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 249 provides College Completion Grant eligibility to students who have completed 70 percent of a four-year program or 45 percent of a two-year program. The maximum award amount per eligible student is set at \$3,500, with no single payment exceeding \$2,500.

The bill provides free tuition for specified training programs that relate to the operation of a commercial motor vehicle for qualified participants who are U.S. armed forces veterans.

HB 319 Education; abolish Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation GOVERNOR'S VETO (Vetoed) STATEMENT [HERE](#)

By: Rep. Chuck Martin (49th) Through the Higher Education Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 319 abolishes the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation, and transfers any obligations, liabilities, or assets to the Georgia Student Finance Authority.

The bill prohibits tuition and fee increases of more than three percent unless a joint resolution is passed by the General Assembly.

HB 607 Education; revise definition of Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar by changing ACT score requirement for certain students*By: Rep. Clay Pirkle (169th)**Through the Higher Education Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 607 changes the ACT score requirement for a Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar from 26 to a score equivalent to 1,200 on the SAT, as determined by the Georgia Student Finance Commission using nationally-recognized standards. The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2024.

SB 86 Education; eligible students participating in the Dual Enrollment program to access HOPE career grant funds for certain CTAE courses; allow*By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)**Through the Higher Education Committee*

Final Bill Summary: SB 86 allows eligible dual enrollment students to access HOPE grant funds for eligible career, technical, and agricultural education (CTAE) courses. The bill requires reporting of specified information relating to the dual enrollment program.

SB 246 Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; student loan repayment for certain nursing faculty; provide*By: Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd)**Through the Higher Education Committee*

Final Bill Summary: Senate Bill 246 provides for the establishment of Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) grants. The grants would be awarded to eligible Georgia students enrolled on or before July 1, 2028, in authorized IPSE programs at qualified postsecondary institutions in an amount equal to the current academic year undergraduate tuition at each student's qualified institution. Eligible students may also receive an additional IPSE grant to cover certain fees.

The bill authorizes the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce to provide for the repayment of up to \$100,000 in student loans for eligible recipients serving as faculty members in eligible postsecondary nursing programs in this state.

Human Relations & Aging Committee**Staff: Bailey Jordan****HB 309 Health; financial stability requirements for applicants and licensees of personal care homes and assisted living communities; revise provisions***By: Rep. Sharon Cooper (45th)**Through the Human Relations & Aging Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 309 requires assisted living communities and personal care homes to provide a financial stability affidavit to the Department of Community Health upon initial application and change of ownership. The department is directed to create a financial stability affidavit form to determine the applicant's financial viability.

HB 497 Health; use of certified medication aides in penal institutions; authorize*By: Rep. John LaHood (175th)**Through the Human Relations & Aging Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 497 authorizes the use of certified medication aides in penal institutions. The aide must keep a record of all medications that have been administered and detail any changes to the inmate's condition. An employer of a certified medication aide must annually administer a comprehensive clinical skills competency review to each aide. All aides must receive ongoing medication training.

Industry and Labor Committee**Staff: Brain Heinze****HB 480 Workers' compensation; benefits; change certain provisions***By: Rep. Lehman Franklin (160th)**Through the Industry and Labor Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 480 raises the maximum weekly amount of temporary total disability of workers' compensation in Code to \$800. The maximum weekly amount of temporary partial disability of workers' compensation is increased to \$533. The maximum total workers' compensation that can be paid to a surviving spouse after their spouse dies is increased to \$320,000.

The bill states that in claims for workers' compensation in which there is not a surviving spouse, including situations in which a deceased employee and a person claiming they were dependent on that deceased employee and that they lived together continuously and in a relationship similar to a marriage, the person making the claim must prove that they received economic support from the deceased employee, including monetary support, food, or housing. Workers' compensation can now be terminated upon cohabitation in a relationship similar to marriage if that relationship involves economic support. No consideration is made for payments of financial support that are less than a period of three months.

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2023 and applies to injuries that occur on or after that date.

SB 61 Sick Leave for Care of Immediate Family Members; sunset provision relating to such sick leave requirements; repeal

By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) Through the Industry and Labor Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 61 repeals the sunset clause of the provision that requires employers who offer sick leave to employees to allow an employee to use that sick leave for the care of an immediate family member.

SB 91 Workers' Compensation; the time period for the dissolution of the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund; extend

By: Sen. Clint Dixon (45th) Through the Industry and Labor Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 91 amends O.C.G.A. 34-9-368 to revise the sunset clause of the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund to December 31, 2025.

SB 160 Employment Security; provisions

By: Sen. Shawn Still (48th) Through the Industry and Labor Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 160 revises the sunset clause of the statute authorizing the Department of Labor to collect required contributions from employers from 2022 to 2026, which lowers the required rate of contributions for new or newly covered employers to make into the unemployment insurance trust fund from 2.7 percent of wages to 2.64 percent of wages.

The bill reinstates the statute authorizing the Department of Labor to collect an administrative assessment of .06 percent of wages paid by an employer until January 1, 2027.

Insurance Committee

Staff: Amber Mack

HB 85 Insurance; require health benefit policy coverage for biomarker testing if supported by medical and scientific evidence

By: Rep. Sharon Cooper (45th) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 85 requires health benefit policies to include coverage for biomarker testing for diagnosis, treatment, management, or ongoing monitoring of a disease or condition.

HB 221 Insurance; filing review process for private passenger motor vehicle liability coverage providing the minimum limits offered by the carrier; revise

By: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 221 relates to personal private passenger motor vehicle insurance policies with limits above the mandatory minimum. The bill requires that rates, rating plans, rating systems, or underwriting rules be effective 60 days after filing unless the commissioner of insurance authorizes an earlier effective date or the insurer specifies a later effective date.

HB 222 Insurance, Department of; clarify, streamline, and make transparent the practices of the department

By: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 222 clarifies that service contracts will only be sold or offered to consumers. The bill extends the probationary insurance license period from 12 to 24 months, and allows applicants to reapply between one and five years after a denial.

HB 294 Insurance; administration of certain rehabilitation policies by a ceding insurer placed into liquidation; provisions

By: Rep. Buddy DeLoach (167th) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 294 clarifies the rights and responsibilities of entities involved in the liquidation of reinsurance companies. The bill allows the succeeding entity receiving the liquidating company or a guaranty association to continue the reinsurance contract. The bill outlines processes for arbitration, handling unpaid premiums, and notification of affected policyholders.

HB 295 Insurance; consumer protections against surprise billing; revise certain procedures

By: Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 295 relates to surprise billing and clarifies provisions relating to arbitration. The bill requires the designation of plans that are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the 'Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974'. The bill extends the time insurers have to submit data after an arbitration request is made from 30 to 60 days.

HB 315 Commissioner of Insurance; promulgate rules and regulations regarding cost-sharing requirements for diagnostic and supplemental breast screening examinations; provide

By: Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 315 involves cost-sharing requirements for diagnostic and supplemental breast screenings. The bill allows the commissioner of insurance to apply rules and regulations regarding cost-sharing provisions based on guidelines established by professional medical associations.

HB 317 State Employees' Assurance Department; assignment of certain group term life insurance (Vetoed) benefits; provisions **GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)**

By: Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 317 allows Employees' Retirement System of Georgia members to designate licensed funeral service providers as beneficiaries to pay funeral costs.

HB 529 Insurance; minimum amounts of uninsured and underinsured coverage to be maintained by transportation network and taxi service companies; provide

By: Rep. Noel Williams (148th) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 529 reduces the required minimum uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage for transportation network companies from \$1 million to \$300,000 for bodily injury and death per accident, \$100,000 for bodily injury per person, and \$250,000 for property damage.

SB 20 "Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act"; ensure consumer access to quality healthcare by setting adequacy standards for network plans offered by an insurer

By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 20 requires insurers to contract with and maintain a sufficient and appropriate number of participating network providers. Additionally, insurers are prohibited from denying preauthorization of services that were rendered by an in-network provider because the referring provider is out-of-network. The bill gives the insurance commissioner authority to review network adequacy.

SB 27 Unfair Trade Practices; health care insurer from requiring an ophthalmologist or optometrist to extend any discounts on services that are not covered eye care services; prohibit

By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th) Through the Insurance Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 27 prohibits insurers from requiring ophthalmologists or optometrists to provide a discount on eye services that are not covered to receive increased payments, better reimbursements, preferential treatment, or any other benefit.

SB 65 Commissioner of Insurance; general provisions; establishing an advisory committee; provisions; authorize*By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st)**Through the Insurance Committee*Final Bill Summary: SB 65 allows the state to establish a state-based healthcare exchange.**Intragovernmental Coordination Committee****Staff: Michael Satterfield****HB 532 Pike County; Magistrate Court; chief judge; provide nonpartisan elections***By: Rep. Beth Camp (135th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 532 provides nonpartisan elections for the chief judge of the Magistrate Court of Pike County.**Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee****Staff: Michael Satterfield****HB 11 Mitchell County; Board of Education; modify compensation of members***By: Rep. Joe Campbell (171st)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 11 provides for the compensation of the Mitchell County Board of Education chairperson and members.**HB 12 Comer, City of; increase term of mayor from two to four years***By: Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 12 provides a new charter for the City of Comer.**HB 28 Alto, Town of; anti-nepotism requirements for future mayors and councilmembers; provide***By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 28 provides a new charter for the Town of Alto.**HB 29 Cornelia, City of; Redevelopment Powers Law; authorize***By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 29 authorizes the City of Cornelia to exercise all redevelopment and other powers.**HB 49 Seminole County; Board of Education; change description of districts***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 49 changes the Seminole County Board of Education districts.**HB 50 Hagan, City of; change description of council districts***By: Rep. William Werkheiser
(157th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: A bill to change the City of Hagan council districts.**HB 57 Tallulah Falls, Town of; levy an excise tax***By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 57 authorizes the Town of Tallulah Falls to levy an excise tax.**HB 58 Sky Valley, City of; levy an excise tax***By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 58 authorizes the City of Sky Valley to levy an excise tax.

HB 59 Rabun County; levy an excise tax

By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 59 authorizes Rabun County to levy an excise tax.

HB 60 Clayton, City of; levy an excise tax

By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 60 authorizes the City of Clayton to levy an excise tax.

HB 61 Dillard, City of; levy an excise tax

By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 61 authorizes the City of Dillard to levy an excise tax.

HB 93 Mitchell County; Board of Commissioners; revise provisions of compensation

By: Rep. Joe Campbell (171st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 93 revises the compensation of the Mitchell County Board of Commissioners.

HB 94 Mitchell County; county administrator; provide final authority to take employment action on department heads subject to consultation with the board of commissioners

By: Rep. Joe Campbell (171st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 94 revises the authority of the office of the administrator for Mitchell County.

HB 117 Bartow County; Board of Education; revise district boundaries

By: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (14th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 117 changes the districts of the Bartow County Board of Education.

HB 118 Bartow County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

By: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (14th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 118 increases a homestead exemption for the Bartow County School District ad valorem taxes from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for certain residents of the county school district.

HB 125 Harris County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

By: Rep. Vance Smith (138th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 125 authorizes a technology fee for the Probate Court of Harris County.

HB 134 Dalton, City of; city council; change description of election wards

By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 134 changes the city council districts for the City of Dalton.

HB 156 Hall County; Board of Education; provide that the boundaries are not changed by annexations undertaken by the City of Buford

By: Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 156 provides that the boundaries of the Hall County School District are not changed by annexations undertaken by the City of Buford.

HB 159 Jesup, City of; Board of Commissioners; reapportion election districts

By: Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 159 changes the board of commissioners districts for the City of Jesup.

HB 160 City of Albany Community Improvement Districts Act; enact

By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 160 creates community improvement districts in the City of Albany.

HB 164 Mount Zion, City of; provide that members of the city council shall be elected from districts instead of at large

By: Rep. Tyler Smith (18th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 164 revises the city council member elections for the City of Mount Zion.

HB 169 Carrol County; Board of Education; change provisions of compensation of members

(Vetoed) GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)

By: Rep. J Collins (71st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 169 revises for the compensation of the Carroll County Board of Education.

HB 199 Brooks County; appointment of county surveyor; provide

By: Rep. John LaHood (175th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 199 abolishes the office of elected county surveyor of Brooks County.

HB 210 Harris County; levy an excise tax

By: Rep. Vance Smith (138th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 210 authorizes Harris County to levy an excise tax.

HB 240 Clay County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 240 authorizes a technology fee for the Probate Court of Clay County.

HB 255 Brantley County; Board of Education; change compensation of members

By: Rep. John Corbett (174th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 255 revises the compensation of the Brantley County Board of Education.

HB 265 Rockdale Judicial Circuit; Superior Court judges; change amount of salary supplement

By: Rep. Doreen Carter (93rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 265 revises the compensation of the judges of the Superior Court of the Rockdale Judicial Circuit.

HB 270 College Park, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; provide homestead exemption

By: Rep. Kim Schofield (63rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 270 provides a homestead exemption from City of College Park ad valorem taxes for residents of that city who are disabled or who are over 65 years of age or older, and meet individual or joint income requirements.

HB 272 Carrollton, City of; Municipal Court; charge technology fee

By: Rep. David Huddleston (72nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 272 authorizes a technology fee for the Municipal Court of the City of Carrollton.

HB 288 East Georgia Regional Airport Authority Act; enact

By: Rep. Butch Parrish (158th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 288 creates the East Georgia Regional Airport Authority.

HB 350 Butts County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

By: Rep. Clint Crowe (118th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 350 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Butts County.

HB 351 Butts County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

By: Rep. Clint Crowe (118th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 351 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Butts County.

HB 354 Pike County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

By: Rep. Beth Camp (135th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 354 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Pike County.

HB 395 Heard County; ad valorem tax for county and educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

By: Rep. David Huddleston (72nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 395 provides a homestead exemption from Heard County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$20,000 for residents of the school district who are 70 years of age or older.

HB 422 Ware County; board of elections and registration; appointment of members; revise provisions

By: Rep. James Burchett (176th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 422 revises the appointment of board members to the Ware County Board of Elections and Registration.

HB 468 Butler, City of; change description of council districts

By: Rep. Patty Bentley (150th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 468 changes the city council districts of the City of Butler.

HB 492 Hartwell, City of; corporate boundaries; revise provisions

By: Rep. Alan Powell (33rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 492 revises the corporate boundaries of the City of Hartwell.

HB 511 Catoosa County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

By: Rep. Mitchell Horner (3rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 511 provides that the surviving spouse of a person granted a homestead exemption from Catoosa County school district ad valorem taxes for residents 75 years of age or older will continue to receive such exemption following the death of the original grantee.

HB 519 Emanuel County Public Facilities Authority; create

By: Rep. Butch Parrish (158th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 519 creates the Emanuel County Public Facilities Authority.

HB 539 Wilkes County; Probate Court judge also serve as chief magistrate judge of Magistrate Court; provide

By: Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 539 provides that the judge of the Probate Court of Wilkes County will also serve as the chief magistrate judge of the Magistrate Court of Wilkes County.

HB 540 Wilkes County; board of elections and registration; create

By: Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 540 creates a board of elections and registration for Wilkes County.

HB 542 Sunny Side, City of; repeal Act to incorporate; transfer duties and obligations to Spalding County

By: Rep. Karen Mathiak (74th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 542 repeals an act to incorporate the City of Sunnyside.

HB 547 East Dublin, City of; extend corporate limits

By: Rep. Matt Hatchett (155th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 547 extends the corporate limits of the City of East Dublin.

HB 569 Bryan County; State Court; judge shall serve in a full-time capacity; provide

By: Rep. Ron Stephens (164th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 569 provides that the judge of the State Court of Bryan County will serve in a full-time capacity.

HB 580 Carroll County; Board of Education; compensation of members; change provisions

By: Rep. J Collins (71st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 580 provides for the compensation of the Carroll County Board of Education.

HB 586 Haralson County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee

By: Rep. Tyler Smith (18th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 586 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Haralson County.

HB 587 Rabun County; Board of Education; change description of districts

By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 587 changes the Rabun County Board of Education districts.

HB 591 DeKalb County; increase income cap on homestead exemption for citizens age 65 or older meeting certain income requirements; provisions

By: Rep. Becky Evans (89th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 591 increases the net household income cap from \$15,000 to \$37,500 of a homestead exemption from DeKalb County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$14,000 for residents who are disabled or 65 years of age or older whose household net income does not exceed \$15,000.

- HB 593 DeKalb County; increase income cap on homestead exemption for citizens 62 years or older meeting certain income requirements; provisions**
By: Rep. Becky Evans (89th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 593 increases the net household income cap from \$16,000 to \$40,000 of a homestead exemption from DeKalb County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$20,000 for residents who are disabled or 62 years of age or older whose household net income does not exceed \$16,000.
- HB 594 DeKalb County; increase income cap on homestead exemption for citizens 65 years or older meeting certain income requirements; provisions**
By: Rep. Becky Evans (89th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 594 increases the net household income cap from \$15,000 to \$37,500 of a homestead exemption from DeKalb County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$14,000 for residents who are disabled or 65 years of age or older whose household net income does not exceed \$15,000.
- HB 596 Randolph County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee**
By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 596 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Randolph County.
- HB 597 Andersonville, City of; provide new charter**
By: Rep. Patty Bentley (150th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 597 provides a new charter for the City of Andersonville.
- HB 599 Martin, Town of; change number of city council members; provisions**
By: Rep. Chris Erwin (32nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 599 changes the number of city council members for the Town of Martin.
- HB 601 Sandy Springs, City of; city council; change description of districts**
By: Rep. Deborah Silcox (53rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 601 changes the city council districts for the City of Sandy Springs.
- HB 609 Taylor County; Board of Commissioners; change description of districts**
By: Rep. Patty Bentley (150th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 609 changes the board of commissioner districts for Taylor County.
- HB 610 Taylor County; Board of Education; change description of districts**
By: Rep. Patty Bentley (150th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 610 changes the Taylor County Board of Education districts.
- HB 615 Coweta County; State Court; add additional judge**
By: Rep. Lynn Smith (70th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 615 adds a judge to the State Court of Coweta County.
- HB 619 Cook County; Board of Education; compensation of members; change provision**
By: Rep. Penny Houston (170th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 619 revises the compensation of Cook County Board of Education members.

- HB 620 Bartow County; Chief Magistrate; cost-of-living adjustments to compensation; change provisions**
By: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (14th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 620 revises the compensation of the chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Bartow County.
- HB 621 Bartow County; Tax Commissioner; longevity increases in compensation; provide**
By: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (14th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 621 revises the compensation of the tax commissioner of Bartow County.
- HB 622 Bartow County; ad valorem tax; increase homestead exemption to \$15,000.00**
By: Rep. Matthew Gambill (15th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 622 increases a homestead exemption from certain Bartow County ad valorem taxes from \$5,000 to \$15,000.
- HB 623 Bartow County; Superior Court clerk; cost-of-living adjustments to compensation; change provisions**
By: Rep. Matthew Gambill (15th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 623 revises the compensation of the clerk of Superior Court for Bartow County.
- HB 624 Bartow County; Commissioner; change cost-of-living adjustment for compensation**
By: Rep. Matthew Gambill (15th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 624 revises the compensation of the commissioner of Bartow County.
- HB 631 Swainsboro, City of; corporate limits; change provisions**
By: Rep. Butch Parrish (158th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 631 changes the corporate limits of the City of Swainsboro.
- HB 632 Decatur, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; modify homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Omari Crawford (84th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 632 increases a homestead exemption from City of Decatur ad valorem taxes to \$40,000.
- HB 633 Decatur, City of; ad valorem tax; modify homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Omari Crawford (84th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 633 increases a homestead exemption from City of Decatur ad valorem taxes from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for residents who are 65 years or older.
- HB 634 Decatur, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; provide new homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Omari Crawford (84th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 634 provides a homestead exemption from City of Decatur ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$40,000 for certain residents.
- HB 635 Decatur, City of; ad valorem tax; homestead exemption; increase assessed value**
By: Rep. Omari Crawford (84th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 635 increases a homestead exemption from City of Decatur ad valorem taxes to \$25,000 for residents who are 62 years or older whose income does not exceed \$60,000.

HB 642 Cherokee County; Board of Elections; establish

By: Rep. Jordan Ridley (22nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 642 establishes the board of elections and registration for Cherokee County.

HB 644 Cherokee County; Board of Elections; abolition on a date certain; provide

By: Rep. Jordan Ridley (22nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 644 abolishes the board of elections and registration for Cherokee County.

HB 645 Sylvester, City of; municipal court; levy and collect a technology fee

By: Rep. Bill Yearta (152nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 645 authorizes a technology fee by the Municipal Court of the City of Sylvester.

HB 649 Floyd County; Board of Education; provide compensation of members

By: Rep. Katie Dempsey (13th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 649 revises the compensation of the Floyd County Board of Education.

HB 662 Fulton County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee

By: Rep. Roger Bruce (61st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 662 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Fulton County.

HB 666 Lone Oak, Town of; provide new charter

By: Rep. David Jenkins (136th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 666 provides a new charter for the Town of Lone Oak.

HB 671 Sugar Hill, City of; ad valorem tax; increase homestead exemption to \$10,000.00

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 671 increases a homestead exemption from City of Sugar Hill ad valorem taxes from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for residents who are 65 years or older.

HB 672 Sugar Hill, City of; ad valorem tax; increase homestead exemption to \$10,000.00

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 672 increases a homestead exemption from City of Sugar Hill ad valorem taxes from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for all residents, excluding land in excess of one acre.

HB 673 Sugar Hill, City of; ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 673 provides a homestead exemption from City of Sugar Hill ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$10,000 for residents whose income does not exceed \$10,000 annually, and are disabled or 62 years or older.

HB 675 Riceboro, City of; residency requirements for candidacy for office or mayor or councilmember; revise provisions

By: Rep. Al Williams (168th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 675 revises the charter for the City of Riceboro relating to the mayor and city council.

HB 676 Ben Hill County; Board of Education; modify compensation of members*By: Rep. Leesa Hagan (156th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 676 revises the compensation of the Ben Hill County Board of Education members.**HB 680 Thomasville, City of; City Council and Board of Education; reapportion districts **GOVERNOR'S (Vetoed) VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)*****By: Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 680 changes the city council and board of education districts for the City of Thomasville.**HB 681 Quitman County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 681 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Quitman County.**HB 682 Seminole County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 682 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Seminole County.**HB 683 Seminole County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 683 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Seminole County.**HB 685 Early County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 685 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Early County.**HB 686 Early County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 686 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Early County.**HB 688 Miller County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 688 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Miller County.**HB 689 Miller County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 689 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Miller County.**HB 690 Baker County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 690 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Baker County.**HB 691 Baker County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 691 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Baker County.

- HB 693 Elbert County; Board of Commissioners; revise provisions relating to filling vacancies**
By: Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 693 revises filling vacancies for the board of commissioners of Elbert County.
- HB 694 DeKalb County; certain judges, judicial and county officers; revise compensation**
By: Rep. Billy Mitchell (88th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 694 revises the compensation of county officers and officials of DeKalb County.
- HB 695 Thomaston, City of; provide new charter**
By: Rep. Beth Camp (135th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 695 provides a new charter for the City of Thomaston.
- HB 696 Smyrna, City of; annexation of certain territory; provide**
By: Rep. Teri Anulewicz (42nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 696 provides for annexation into the boundaries of the City of Smyrna.
- HB 698 Dooly County; Board of Commissioners; change description of districts**
By: Rep. Patty Bentley (150th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 698 changes the board of commissioner districts for Dooly County.
- HB 699 Social Circle, City of; city councilmembers; reapportion election districts**
By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 699 changes the city council districts of the City of Social Circle.
- HB 700 Dooly County; Board of Education; change description of districts**
By: Rep. Patty Bentley (150th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 700 changes the Dooly County Board of Education districts.
- HB 701 Buford, City of; adopt by reference a certain map**
By: Rep. David Clark (100th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 701 revises the boundaries of the City of Buford.
- HB 702 Savannah, City of; Chatham County; Board of Education; modify compensation of members**
By: Rep. Anne Allen Westbrook (163rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 702 revises the compensation of the board of public education of the City of Savannah and Chatham County.
- HB 703 Savannah, City of; implement a limitation on number of terms the aldermen may serve**
By: Rep. Anne Allen Westbrook (163rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 703 implements term limitations for the aldermen of the City of Savannah.
- HB 704 Milton, City of; mayor and councilmembers; modify provisions related to compensation**
By: Rep. Jan Jones (47th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 704 revises the compensation of the mayor and city council of the City of Milton.

HB 705 Milton, City of; city council; change description of election districts*By: Rep. Jan Jones (47th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 705 changes the city council districts of the City of Milton.**HB 707 Coweta County; Board of Education; provide compensation***By: Rep. Lynn Smith (70th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 707 revises the compensation of the Coweta County Board of Education.**HB 708 Ellijay, City of; levy an excise tax***By: Rep. Johnny Chastain (7th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 708 authorizes the City of Ellijay to levy an excise tax.**HB 710 Schley County; board of elections and registration; create***By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 710 revises the board of elections and registration for Schley County.**HB 711 Gwinnett County; ad valorem tax; increase homestead exemption to \$8,000.00***By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 711 increases a homestead exemption from Gwinnett County School District ad valorem taxes, except taxes levied to relieve bonded indebtedness, for all residents from \$4,000 to \$8,000.**HB 713 Polk County; board of elections and registration; expand board to five members***By: Rep. Trey Kelley (16th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 713 revises the board of elections and registration for Polk County.**HB 715 Franklin County; Board of Education; provide for compensation***By: Rep. Alan Powell (33rd)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 715 revises the compensation of the Franklin County Board of Education.**HB 716 Cave Spring, City of; revise and modernize charter***By: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 716 revises the charter of the City of Cave Spring.**HB 717 Forsyth County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; provide homestead exemption***By: Rep. Carter Barrett (24th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 717 provides a homestead exemption from Forsyth County School District ad valorem taxes through tax year 2035.**HB 718 Savannah, City of; levy an excise tax***By: Rep. Edna Jackson (165th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 718 authorizes the City of Savannah to levy an excise tax.**HB 720 Randolph County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)**Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee*Final Bill Summary: HB 720 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Randolph County.

HB 721 Cobb County; State Court; change compensation of judges

By: Rep. Teri Anulewicz (42nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 721 revises the compensation of the judges of the State Court of Cobb County.

HB 722 Acworth, City of; adopt by reference a certain map

By: Rep. Lisa Campbell (35th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 722 adopts by reference a certain map for the City of Acworth.

HB 723 McIntosh County; Board of Education; modify compensation of chairperson and members

By: Rep. Buddy DeLoach (167th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 723 revises the compensation of the McIntosh County Board of Education.

HB 724 Thomson, City of; mayor and city councilmembers; provide staggered elections

By: Rep. Barry Fleming (125th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 724 provides for staggered elections for the mayor and city council of the City of Thomson.

HB 725 Walton County; Board of Commissioners; powers and compensation of chairperson; revise provisions

By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 725 revises the powers and compensation of the board of commissioners of Walton County.

HB 726 Walton County; Board of Commissioners; chairperson; reduce base salary and clarify compensation

By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 726 revises the compensation of the board of commissioners of Walton County.

HB 727 Darien, City of; increase a residency requirement to one year

By: Rep. Buddy DeLoach (167th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 727 revises residency requirements of the city council members of the City of Darien.

HB 728 Webster County; Board of Commissioners; clarify governing authority is the Unified Government of Webster County

By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 728 repeals an act to create a board of commissioners of Webster County.

HB 729 Brookhaven , City of; DeKalb County; modify amount of base year homestead exemption

By: Rep. Karen Lupton (83rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 729 modifies a homestead exemption from City of Brookhaven ad valorem taxes in the amount of 75 percent of the value of the assessed homestead.

HB 730 Columbia County; Board of Elections; revise provisions for nomination of certain potential board members

By: Rep. Jody Lott (131st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 730 revises the appointment of members of the board of elections for Columbia County.

HB 731 DeKalb County; tax commissioner; election and filling of vacancies; change certain provisions
By: Rep. Karla Drenner (85th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 731 revises the election and filling vacancies for the office of tax commissioner of DeKalb County.

HB 732 Quitman County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee
By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 732 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Quitman County.

HB 733 Richmond County; letting contracts and opening bids; revise provisions
By: Rep. Lynn Gladney (130th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 733 revises provisions related to contracts for Richmond County.

HB 734 Preston, City of; clarify that the territory formerly included within the boundaries of the city is subject to governance by the Unified Government of Webster County
By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 734 repeals an act providing a new city charter for the City of Preston.

HB 735 Hiawassee, City of; levy an excise tax
By: Rep. Stan Gunter (8th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 735 authorizes the City of Hiawassee to levy an excise tax.

HB 736 Ben Hill County; board of elections and registration; appointment of board members; revise provisions
By: Rep. Noel Williams (148th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 736 revises appointments to the board of elections and registration of Ben Hill County.

HB 737 Commission of the Unified Government of Webster County; readopt and revise laws
By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 737 readopts the Commission of the Unified Government of Webster County, and the cities of Preston and Weston.

HB 739 Cobb County; State Court; change salary of the chief deputy clerk and clerk
By: Rep. Devan Seabaugh (34th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 739 revises the salary of the clerk and chief deputy clerk of the State Court of Cobb County.

HB 740 Hinesville, City of; levy an excise tax
By: Rep. Al Williams (168th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 740 authorizes the City of Hinesville to levy an excise tax.

HB 742 Clay County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee
By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 742 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Clay County.

- HB 743 Hart County; Board of Education; change description of districts**
By: Rep. Alan Powell (33rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 743 changes the board of education districts of Hart County.
- HB 744 Hart County; Board of Commissioners; change description of districts**
By: Rep. Alan Powell (33rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 744 changes the board of commissioner districts of Hart County.
- HB 748 Gwinnett County; ad valorem tax; additional homestead exemption of \$2000.00 for certain public service employees**
By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 748 provides a homestead exemption from Gwinnett County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$2,000 for residents who are certain public service employees.
- HB 749 Haralson County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**
By: Rep. Tyler Smith (18th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 749 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Haralson County.
- HB 750 City of Watkinsville Public Facilities Authority; create**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 750 creates the City of Watkinsville Public Facilities Authority.
- HB 751 Cohutta, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; provide new homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 751 provides a homestead exemption from City of Cohutta ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$60,000 for residents who are 65 years of age or older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.
- HB 752 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; repeal a homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 752 repeals a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes.
- HB 753 Whitfield County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; revise homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 753 increases a homestead exemption from Whitfield County School District ad valorem taxes for residents who are 70 years of age and older from \$150,000 to \$250,000.
- HB 754 Whitfield County; ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 754 provides a homestead exemption from Whitfield County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$250,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.
- HB 755 Tunnel Hill, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; provide homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 755 provides a homestead exemption from City of Tunnel Hill ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$100,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.

HB 756 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; increase income cap

By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 756 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton ad valorem taxes from \$75,000 to \$150,000 for residents who are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.

HB 757 Ludowici, City of; change description of council districts

By: Rep. Buddy DeLoach (167th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 757 changes the city council districts of the City of Ludowici.

HB 758 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; increase income cap and homestead exemption

By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 758 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton ad valorem taxes from \$75,000 to \$150,000 for residents who are 65 years of age or older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.

HB 759 Peachtree City, City of; annex certain properties

By: Rep. Josh Bonner (73rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 759 annexes certain properties into Peachtree City.

HB 760 Tyrone, Town of; Fayette County; deannex certain properties

By: Rep. Josh Bonner (73rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 760 deannexes certain property from the Town of Tyrone to Fayette County.

HB 761 Tunnel Hill, City of; ad valorem tax; provide new homestead exemption

By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 761 provides a homestead exemption from City of Tunnel Hill ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$60,000 for residents who are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.

HB 762 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; increase homestead exemption

By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 762 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton independent School District ad valorem taxes from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.

HB 763 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption

By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 763 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$10,000 for residents who are 75 years of age and older.

HB 764 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption

By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 764 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes in an amount equal to the assessed value of a homestead for residents who are 65 years of age or older.

HB 765 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; repeal homestead exemption

By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 765 repeals a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes.

- HB 766 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; educational purposes; provide homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 766 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$3,000 and an automatic increase to \$8,000 on January 1, 2035.
- HB 767 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; educational purposes; provide homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 767 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County School District ad valorem taxes in an amount equal to the value of the assessed homestead for residents who are 65 years of age and older.
- HB 768 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; close certain homestead exemption to new applicants**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 768 closes a homestead exemption for Oconee County to new applicants.
- HB 769 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 769 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$3,000 and an automatic increase to \$8,000 on January 1, 2035.
- HB 770 Oconee County; ad valorem tax; educational purposes; provide homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 770 provides a homestead exemption from Oconee County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$10,000 for residents who are 75 years of age and older.
- HB 771 Cohutta, City of; ad valorem tax; provide new homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 771 provides a homestead exemption for the City of Cohutta ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$100,000 for residents who are 70 years of age and older.
- HB 772 Bacon County; State Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**
By: Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 772 authorizes a technology fee by the State Court of Bacon County.
- HB 773 Ranger, Town of; Gordon County; provide new charter**
By: Rep. Matt Barton (5th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 773 repeals the city charter for the Town of Ranger.
- HB 774 Irwin County; Board of Commissioners; compensation; revise provisions **GOVERNOR'S VETO** (Vetoed) **STATEMENT [HERE](#)****
By: Rep. Clay Pirkle (169th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 774 revises the compensation of the board of commissioners of Irwin County.
- HB 775 Social Circle, City of; School District; provide new boundaries**
By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 775 changes the district boundaries of the Social Circle School District.

HB 776 Forsyth County; Board of Registrations and Elections; start and end date of member terms; revise provisions

By: Rep. Carter Barrett (24th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 776 revises the board of registrations and elections of Forsyth County.

HB 777 Gwinnett County; Board of Commissioners; provide compensation of chairperson

By: Rep. Dewey McClain (109th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 777 revises the compensation for the chairperson of the board of commissioners of Gwinnett County.

HB 778 Glynn County; State Court; change compensation of solicitor general

By: Rep. Rick Townsend (179th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 778 revises the position of solicitor general of the State Court of Glynn County.

HB 780 Brooks County Public Facilities Authority; create

By: Rep. John LaHood (175th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 780 creates the Brooks County Public Facilities Authority.

HB 781 Henry County Building and Facilities Authority; create

By: Rep. El-Mahdi Holly (116th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 781 creates the Henry County Building and Facilities Authority.

HB 782 Dillard, City of; eliminate one council post

By: Rep. Victor Anderson (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 782 eliminates one council post from the City of Dillard.

HB 783 Moreland, Town of; Recorder's Court; repeal provisions

By: Rep. David Jenkins (136th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 783 repeals the Recorder's Court and establishes the Municipal Court of the Town of Moreland.

HB 784 Henry County Airport Authority; create

By: Rep. El-Mahdi Holly (116th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 784 creates the Henry County Airport Authority.

HB 785 Greene County; creation of one or more community improvement districts; provide

By: Rep. Trey Rhodes (124th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 785 creates one or more community improvement districts in Greene County.

HB 786 Dalton, City of; ad valorem tax; municipal purposes; increase homestead exemption

By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 786 increases a homestead exemption from City of Dalton ad valorem taxes from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for residents who are 70 years of age or older.

- HB 787 Whitfield County; School District; increase homestead exemption amount and income ceiling**
By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 787 increases a homestead exemption from Whitfield County school district ad valorem taxes from \$30,000 to 150,000 for residents who are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.
- HB 788 Blackshear, City of; city council; decrease size to five members**
By: Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 788 revises the city council of the City of Blackshear.
- HB 789 Whitfield County; ad valorem tax; county purposes; provide homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 789 provides a homestead exemption from Whitfield County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$150,000 for residents are 65 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$40,000.
- HB 790 Suwanee, City of; change corporate limits**
By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 790 changes the corporate limits of the City of Suwanee.
- HB 791 Oconee County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; repeal a homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (121st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 791 repeals a homestead exemption from Oconee County School District ad valorem taxes.
- HB 792 Atlanta, City of; Board of Education; qualifications for membership; remove certain limitations**
By: Rep. Park Cannon (58th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 792 revises the qualifications for the City of Atlanta Board of Education.
- HB 800 Fulton Technology and Energy Authority Act; enact**
By: Rep. Mesha Mainor (56th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 800 revises the Fulton Technology and Energy Enhancement Authority of Fulton County.
- HB 802 Morganton, City of; provide new charter**
By: Rep. Johnny Chastain (7th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 802 provides a new charter for the City of Morganton.
- HB 805 Twiggs County; School District; increase income cap on homestead exemption granted to certain residents**
By: Rep. Danny Mathis (149th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 805 revises a homestead exemption from Twiggs County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$25,000 for residents who are 62 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$30,000.

- HB 806 Twiggs County; ad valorem tax; increase income cap on homestead exemption**
By: Rep. Danny Mathis (149th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 806 revises a homestead exemption from Twiggs County ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$25,000 for residents who are 62 years of age and older whose income does not exceed \$30,000.
- HB 807 Terrell County Land Bank Authority; create**
By: Rep. Mike Cheokas (151st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 807 creates the Terrell County Land Bank Authority.
- SB 6 City of Sylvania; expenditure of funds; provisions; revise**
By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 6 authorizes the City of Sylvania to levy an excise tax.
- SB 104 Cobb County; sheriff compensation; change**
By: Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 104 changes the compensation of the sheriff of Cobb County.
- SB 108 Board of Education of McDuffie County; board member term limits; remove**
By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 108 removes board member term limits for the Board of Education of McDuffie County.
- SB 178 "Macon Water Authority Act"; code of conduct for board members, officers, and employees; provide**
By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 178 provides a code of conduct for the Macon Water Authority.
- SB 231 Richmond County and the City of Augusta; mayor shall be a full voting member of the commission; provide**
By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 231 revises the voting rights of the mayor of Augusta-Richmond County.
- SB 277 Screven County; board of elections and registration; create**
By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 277 creates the board of elections and registration for Screven County.
- SB 285 "Columbia County Public Facilities Authority Act"; enact**
By: Sen. Lee Anderson (24th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 285 creates the Columbia County Public Facilities Authority.
- SB 287 Board of Education of the City of Decatur; the board of education election districts; reapportion**
By: Sen. Elena Parent (42nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 287 changes the board of education districts for the City of Decatur.

- SB 288 City of Decatur; independent school district ad valorem taxes for educational purposes; homestead exemption; provide**
By: Sen. Elena Parent (42nd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 288 provides a homestead exemption from the City of Decatur Independent School District ad valorem taxes for a period of five years in the amount of \$200,000 for residents who are between 65 and 69 years of age whose income does not exceed \$62,000.
- SB 289 City of Hampton; ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes; homestead exemption; provide**
By: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 289 provides a homestead exemption from City of Hampton ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$50,000 for residents who are both under 65 years of age and totally disabled.
- SB 290 City of Hampton; ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes; homestead exemption; provide**
By: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 290 provides a homestead exemption from City of Hampton ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$15,000.
- SB 291 City of Forsyth; provisions related to the powers of the city manager related to appointment of department heads; revise**
By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 291 revises the powers of the city manager of the City of Forsyth.
- SB 294 Town of Camak; new charter; provide**
By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 294 provides a new charter for the City of Camak.
- SB 295 Lumpkin County; levy an excise tax; procedures, conditions, and limitations; provide**
By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 295 authorizes Lumpkin County to levy an excise tax.
- SB 297 McIntosh County; redevelopment and other powers; referendum; provide**
By: Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 297 authorizes McIntosh County to exercise redevelopment authority.
- SB 301 Board of Education of Dodge County; description of the education districts; change**
By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 301 changes the board of education districts of Dodge County.
- SB 302 Early County School District; ad valorem taxes for educational purposes; extend the expiration date**
By: Sen. Freddie Sims (12th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 302 extends the expiration of a homestead exemption from Early County School District ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$150,000 for residents who are 70 years of age or older to December 1, 2028.

- SB 303 Fulton County; ad valorem taxes for county purposes; seniors have to reapply for such exemption (Vetoed) every two years; remove the requirement [GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT HERE](#)**
By: Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 303 removes the reapplication requirement for a homestead exemption from Fulton County ad valorem taxes for residents who are 65 years of age and older.
- SB 305 City of Hampton; ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes; homestead exemption; provide**
By: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 305 provides a homestead exemption from City of Hampton ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$50,000 for residents who are 68 years of age or older.
- SB 306 City of Hampton; ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes; homestead exemption; provide**
By: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 306 provides a homestead exemption from City of Hampton ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$25,000 for residents who are 62 years of age or older and under 68 years of age.
- SB 309 City of Hampton; ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes; homestead exemption; provide**
By: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 309 provides a homestead exemption from City of Hampton ad valorem taxes in an amount equal to the amount that the current year assessed value exceeds the base year assessed value of the homestead.
- SB 310 City of Powder Springs; update the boundaries of the city; adopt by reference**
By: Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 310 revises the boundaries of the City of Powder Springs by reference of a certain map.
- SB 311 Newton County; the income cap and exemption provided to citizens who are 65 years of age or older; homestead exemption; increase**
By: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 311 revises a homestead exemption from Newton County and Newton County School District ad valorem taxes for residents who are 65 years of age and older whose net retirement income combined with a spouse does not exceed \$100,552, and whose non-retirement income does not exceed \$25,000 by increasing the amount to \$50,000.
- SB 312 Rockdale County; compensation of the coroner; change**
By: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 12 revises the compensation of the Rockdale County coroner.
- SB 313 Magistrate's Court of Rockdale County; provisions relating to the compensation of the chief magistrate; change**
By: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 313 revises the compensation of the chief magistrate judge of Rockdale County.
- SB 314 State Court of Rockdale County; compensation of the judges of said court; revise provisions**
By: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 314 revises the compensation of the state court judges of Rockdale County.

SB 315 Juvenile Court of Rockdale County; judge; supplementary compensation; provide
By: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 315 provides supplementary compensation to the juvenile court judge of Rockdale County.

SB 316 Probate Court of Rockdale County; compensation of such judge; change
By: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 316 revises the compensation of the probate court judge of Rockdale County.

SB 317 Atlanta Board of Education; qualifications for membership on said board related to working for other boards of education; remove limitations
By: Sen. Jason Esteves (6th) Through the Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 317 revises the membership qualifications of the City of Atlanta Board of Education.

Judiciary Committee

Staff: Brock Perry

HB 77 Dougherty Judicial Circuit; superior court; provide for a fourth judge
By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the Judiciary Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 77 increases the number of superior court judges in the Dougherty Judicial Circuit from three to four. The fourth judge will be appointed for a term beginning January 1, 2024 continuing through December 31, 2026. Their successor will be elected at the nonpartisan judicial election in 2026.

HB 80 Uniform Unsworn Declarations Act; enact
By: Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd) Through the Judiciary Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 80, the 'Uniform Unsworn Declarations Act', permits unsworn declarations to have the same effect as sworn declarations in circumstances in which a declarant is making an unsworn declaration while being physically located outside U.S. boundaries.

Making an unsworn declaration is not permitted in: cases of depositions, oaths of office, oaths required by statute to be given before a specified official other than a notary public, proceedings when verification is sufficient pursuant to O.C.G.A. 9-10-113, or instruments expressly required to comply with O.C.G.A. 44-2-15 concerning registrable instruments.

An unsworn declaration must be presented in the same medium as a sworn declaration if the law requires it. Knowingly and willfully making a material false statement when executing an unsworn declaration constitutes perjury.

HB 91 Wills, trusts and administration of estates; notices to beneficiaries regarding issuance of letters testamentary; require
By: Rep. Will Wade (9th) Through the Judiciary Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 91 concerns notice requirements for beneficiaries of wills, requiring a personal representative of an estate to send notice to all beneficiaries within 30 days of issuance of letters and requiring filing notices with the probate court within 60 days of issuance. An estate personal representative who fails to comply with these requirements absent sufficient cause may be cited to appear and show cause.

HB 176 Courts; increase amount of court reporters' monthly contingent expense and travel allowance
By: Rep. Stan Gunter (8th) Through the Judiciary Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 176 amends O.C.G.A. 15-14-6 to increase the amounts paid per month to superior court reporters as a contingent expense and travel allowance.

HB 182 Property; curing defective deeds and other instruments; revise provisions*By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th)**Through the Judiciary Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 182 aligns the Georgia recording statute regarding deeds and other instruments with the savings statute in O.C.G.A. 44-2-18, allowing an improperly executed instrument to be corrected by having the savings statute apply to both attestations and acknowledgments.

The bill allows for a procedure for foreclosing on time-share estates through a trustee foreclosure procedure, in addition to judicial and nonjudicial foreclosure procedures provided for in the Code. A mortgage must permit the trustee foreclosure procedure. If it does not, an amendment to the time-share instrument must be adopted and recorded prior to the procedure being used. The trustee must be a member of the State Bar and use good faith, skill, and diligence in discharging the trustee duties.

Before initiating the foreclosure procedure, a claim of lien or mortgage must be recorded in the county in which the time-share estate is located. In any trustee foreclosure proceeding, the trustee must first deliver to the time-share owner a written notice of default. At any time before the trustee foreclosure sale, the time-share estate owner may cure the default, but no right of redemption will exist after consummation of the sale.

In order for a trustee to sell an encumbered time-share estate, the trustee must have provided the written notice of default. The trustee must not have received from the time-share owner a written objection to using the trustee foreclosure procedure, have delivered a notice of sale and recorded that notice in the county records, and have published a notice in the respective legal organ. Requirements are laid out for notices of default, notices of sale, and trustee foreclosure sales.

HB 186 Appeal and error; filing of petitions for review in reviewing courts from lower judicatories; revise an exception*By: Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd)**Through the Judiciary Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 186 amends sections of the Code from utilizing the "certiorari" process to instead using the "petition for review" appellate procedure when appealing from a lower judicatory (any government body exercising judicial or quasi-judicial authority) to a superior or state court.

HB 243 Coweta Judicial Circuit; superior court; provide eighth judge*By: Rep. Lynn Smith (70th)**Through the Judiciary Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 243 increases the number of superior court judges in the Coweta Judicial Circuit from seven to eight. The eighth judge will be appointed for a term beginning January 1, 2024 continuing through December 31, 2026. Their successor will be elected at the nonpartisan judicial election in 2026.

HB 254 Civil practices; alternative procedure for designation of official legal organ; provide*By: Rep. David Jenkins (136th)**Through the Judiciary Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HB 254 amends O.C.G.A. 9-13-142 concerning official legal organs (publications containing official legal notices). If no otherwise qualified publication has a paid circulation of at least 100 copies per issue in the county, the bill permits the probate court judge, sheriff, superior court clerk, or a majority of those officers to designate a newspaper as an interim legal organ. That designation will terminate once another newspaper meets the qualifications and is designated as the county's legal organ pursuant to the Code section.

The bill allows counties or municipalities required to publish a legal notice to also meet publishing requirements by posting the notice in a conspicuous place on the county or municipality's website as well as on a common statewide website. Corrections to errors made in the published legal notice will be made within two business days on the publishing website, the Georgia Public Notice website, and in the next edition of the legal organ or newspaper of general circulation. Postings will remain in place until the event or action being advertised has concluded, and will not exceed one year.

The bill amends legal advertisement rates by increasing the rate by \$5 for each 100 words and \$5 for each subsequent insertion.

HB 444 Property; revise when an action may operate as a lis pendens

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 444 provides that no action involving an interest in real property will operate as a lis pendens, the official public notice that a property has a pending lawsuit or claim attached to it, until a lis pendens is issued by a court. Requirements for the issuance and effectiveness of a court-issued lis pendens are provided.

The clerks of superior courts must keep a lis pendens docket in which they record all notices of lis pendens on real property filed with them. Dismissal of any action by a plaintiff, the plaintiff's withdrawal, or the settlement or final judgement will be indicated on the face of the lis pendens record by the clerk. Actions involving claims against real property related to domestic relations are excepted from these new provisions.

HB 543 Courts; six-person jury trials in civil actions; revise an exception

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 543 increases the dollar threshold from \$25,000 to \$50,000 by which a party in a civil action in state court may demand a 12-member jury.

HB 572 Elections; rename Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission as the State Ethics Commission

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 572 renames the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission as the State Ethics Commission. The bill authorizes the commission to impose civil penalties against a county election superintendent, municipal clerk, or county chief executive officer who willfully fails to properly transmit a copy of a candidate's disclosure report.

The bill exempts general election contributions of more than \$1,000 from the two business day report period requirement of a primary election, and exempts retired judges and senior judges from being required to file an affidavit with financial disclosure statements.

HR 519 House Study Committee on Fishing Access to Freshwater Resources; create

By: Rep. David Jenkins (136th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: HR 519 creates the House Study Committee on Fishing Access to Freshwater Resources.

SB 59 Governor; Office of the Inspector General; establish

By: Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 59 establishes the Office of the Inspector General, with its purpose to investigate the management and operation of agencies. It is assigned to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes only as described in Code Section 50-4-3.

The inspector general will have jurisdiction over persons or agencies in the executive branch, as well as persons doing business with an agency or receiving state funding. The inspector general investigates complaints alleging fraud, waste, or corruption committed against or within an agency in the state, in addition to other duties assigned by the governor.

When investigating, the inspector general is authorized to issue subpoenas, enter the premises of any agency at any time without prior announcement, and employ peace officers to obtain, serve, and execute search warrants. The bill compels agencies to cooperate with any investigation, and provides a cause for discipline to any employee who knowingly fails to comply with an investigation. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the inspector general will issue a report to the Office of the Governor.

SB 66 Superior Courts; Atlantic Judicial Circuit; additional judge; provide

By: Sen. Billy Hickman (4th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 66 increases the number of superior court judges in the Atlantic Judicial Circuit from four to five. The fifth judge will be appointed for a term beginning January 1, 2024, and an election will take place at the 2026 nonpartisan judicial election.

SB 74 Commerce and Trade, Courts, and Torts; the disclosure of the nature and practices of businesses that provide legal services; require

By: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 74 makes it unlawful to misrepresent oneself as an attorney, or misrepresent an entity as engaged in providing legal services unless that person is a duly licensed attorney at law in Georgia or unless the entity is entitled to furnish legal services. The bill provides that it is unlawful to represent that a person featured in legal media is able to offer legal services in Georgia when that person is not a duly licensed attorney at law. Failing to provide accurate language reflecting the legal services, scope of work, success rate, or fees of a person practicing law is also unlawful.

Violations are punishable with a misdemeanor offense. Damages of \$500 or actual damages, whichever is greater, may be awarded in a civil claim against a person who solicits in any media in violation of this act.

The bill also allows for protective orders to prohibit depositions of high-ranking officers of private, public, and governmental organizations by showing that the officer lacks unique personal knowledge of any relevant subject matter to the pending action. The person seeking a protective order has the burden of establishing the factors necessary to be granted the protective order. If the party seeking discovery demonstrates that they have exhausted reasonable means of discovery but the discovery remains inadequate, good cause for a protective order will not be found. When a party seeking a protective order shows that an officer knows some but not all relevant matters, the court may limit the scope of the deposition rather than prohibiting the deposition.

The bill requires that a chief executive officer of a state government entity provide at least one designee for service of process for civil actions brought against the state. The contact information of the designee shall be published conspicuously on the homepage of the entity's website.

SB 103 Unclaimed Property; handling of certain wills; provide

By: Sen. Russ Goodman (8th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 103 provides processes related to the disposition of unclaimed property as it pertains to the Department of Revenue. If a will, codicil, or other trust instrument is included among the contents of a safe-deposit box, the commissioner will retain those documents unless delivered to the testator/settlor upon confirmation of identity, delivered to the probate court, permitted to be removed, or delivered to the trustee.

A claimant's designated representative may file a claim if they claim an interest in any property, with that claim being considered by the commissioner and upon approval, the claimant's designated representative will be paid the balance remaining after deduction. When determining the merits of an unclaimed property claim, the commissioner will rely on applicable statutes, regulations, and court decisions. The burden will be on the claimant to establish entitlement to the property by a preponderance of the evidence.

Upon request, the commissioner will provide a claimant's designated representative relevant account information in a searchable digital format for all unclaimed accounts, with this information being prohibited from distribution. A claimant's designated representative will register with the commissioner and pay a \$1,200 fee for a four-year registration.

SB 148 Nonprofit Corporations; comprehensively revise, simplify, and modernize said chapter

By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 148 provides comprehensive revisions to the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code, including updates, clarifications, and modernizations. Sections are updated to account for grammatical corrections, new definitions, changes from the Georgia Business Code for consistency, and changes for consistency with operations of Secretary of State and Attorney General's offices.

The bill revises quorum requirements of nonprofit corporations to be a majority of the voting power unless bylaws provide otherwise, and requires that the secretary of a nonprofit be a separate person from the chief

executive officer. Executive directors are to be designated as officers, unless articles provide otherwise, and are subject to duties of care and good faith. Executive directors are also subject to conflict of interest rules. The minimum number of directors in non-member nonprofits is revised from one to three, and directors are afforded an express right of access to corporate information and an ability to enforce that right in court. Directors are afforded the same indemnification protections for nonprofits as are provided in the business code.

SB 168 Hospitals and Nursing Homes; chiropractic practice to have a lien on a cause of action accruing to an injured person; allow

By: Sen. Rick Williams (25th) Through the Judiciary Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 168 includes chiropractic practices among the entities able to have a lien on a cause of action accruing to an injured person for costs of care. No filing of a lien will be enforceable unless the individual or entity filing the lien first submitted a claim to each health insurer of the injured person, if any, and had the claim rejected.

Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Staff: Brian Heinze

HB 88 Coleman-Baker Act; enact

By: Rep. Houston Gaines (120th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 88, the 'Coleman-Baker Act', requires the head of an agency or their designee to review a cold case murder when requested in writing, and to determine if a full reinvestigation would result in the identification of probative investigative leads or a likely perpetrator. The review must: determine what procedures may have been missed initially; whether witnesses should be interviewed or re-interviewed; if forensic evidence was properly tested and analyzed; and perform an update of the case file using the most current investigative standards to the extent it would help develop probative leads.

The agency must conduct a full investigation if, at the agency's sole discretion, the review concludes that a full reinvestigation would result in additional, previously unidentified probative leads or a likely perpetrator. An investigation cannot be fully conducted by a person who previously investigated the case, and only one full reinvestigation can be undertaken at one time with respect to the same victim. If a full reinvestigation is completed and a likely perpetrator is not identified, no additional investigation will occur for a period of five years from the conclusion of the reinvestigation, unless there is newly discovered material evidence.

Each law enforcement agency is required to develop a written application and procedures, and the agency must provide a written notification of receipt of the application as soon as reasonably possible. If a request does not meet the criteria, then the agency must provide the requestor with a letter stating that final review is not necessary. The law enforcement agency has six months from receipt of the application to complete its case file review and conclude whether or not a full reinvestigation is warranted. The agency can extend the time limit once for a maximum of six months if the agency finds that it would be unfeasible to comply with the original time limit.

The Carl Vinson Institute of Government will establish and maintain a case tracking system and searchable public website with information about the applications, extensions, number of reinvestigations, and statistical information on suspects, arrests, etc.

This process applies to any cold case murders that occurred on or after January 1, 1970. The bill allows a coroner or medical examiner to issue a death certificate with a non-specific cause of death.

HB 139 Criminal procedure; restrictions of disclosure of personal information of nonsworn employees; provisions

By: Rep. Clint Crowe (118th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 139 restricts disclosure of the home address, date of birth, and home telephone number of a non-sworn employee of a law enforcement agency in criminal cases in which the prosecuting attorney is required to disclose the witnesses who will testify at trial. The prosecuting attorney will instead disclose the employee's current work location/phone number.

The list of witnesses whose testimony led to a criminal charge, which must be presented to a defense attorney prior to a defendant's arraignment, will also disclose the current work location/phone number of both law enforcement officers and non-sworn employees of law enforcement agencies rather than their home address, date

of birth, and home telephone number. Any non-sworn employee who has left the agency or retired will use the address and phone number of the last agency where they worked. Non-sworn employees of law enforcement agencies cannot be compelled to reveal their home address when testifying in their official capacity, although courts can require an employee to answer questions regarding their home address if the fact is a material issue in the proceeding.

HB 188 Georgia Dangerous Sexual Predator Prevention Act; enact

By: Rep. Steven Sainz (180th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 188 is known as 'Mariam's Law'.

Section 2-1 changes the name of the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board to the Sexual Offender Risk Review Board (SORRB).

Section 3-1 defines the term "sexual felony" to be a felony conviction of the following crimes: aggravated assault; kidnapping that involves a victim under the age of 14, except by a parent; sex trafficking; rape; aggravated sodomy; statutory rape; child molestation; aggravated child molestation; enticing a child for indecent purposes; improper sexual contact by employee or agent in the first or second degree or improper sexual contact by a foster parent in the first or second degree, unless the punishment was not subject to O.C.G.A. 17-10-6.2; incest; aggravated sexual battery; and sexual exploitation.

Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony who is convicted of aggravated assault with the intent to rape will be subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life. Electronic monitoring is imposed as a condition of probation.

Section 3-2: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of kidnapping is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-3: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of human trafficking for sexual servitude is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-4: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of rape is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-5: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of aggravated sodomy is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-6: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of statutory rape is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-7: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of aggravated child molestation is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-8: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of enticing a child for indecent purposes is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-9: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of improper sexual contact by an employee, agent, or foster parent in the first or second degree is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-10: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of incest is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-11: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of aggravated sexual battery is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation

for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-12 removes the crime for removing or inhibiting an electronic monitoring device who is required to wear it under O.C.G.A. 42-1-14, as a response in part to the Supreme Court of Georgia case *Park v. State*.

Section 3-13: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of sexual exploitation of children is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 4-1 changes the name of SORRB and requires that a defendant who was sentenced to probation submit to SORRB within 60 days of being sentenced for a risk assessment rather than the current requirement of 10 days.

Section 5-1 changes the name of SORRB.

Section 6-1 changes the name of SORRB and adds the crime of electronically furnishing obscene material to minors to the list of crimes defined as a "dangerous sexual offense" under O.C.G.A. 42-1-12(a)(10)(B.4).

Section 6-2 changes the name of SORRB.

Section 6-2A requires a sexual offender to be fitted for a location tracking device while on probation or parole and awaiting risk assessment classification when the offender has previously been convicted of a felony sexual offense, or the assigned community supervision officer determines that a special need exists for the offender due to an immediate danger to society the offender poses. Any costs of the location tracking device and monitoring are required to be paid by the offender. An offender can petition the superior court in which he or she resides for release from the location tracking requirements within 30 days, and the court can suspend the requirement if it finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the offender does not pose an immediate danger to society.

Section 6-3 repeals and replaces O.C.G.A. 42-1-14, which was previously ruled unconstitutional. The section clarifies the procedure for when a sexual offender moves from another state or territory to Georgia, the risk assessment process for sexually dangerous predators, and the timelines for when risk assessment evaluations need to be made by SORRB. A person receiving a Level II risk classification, or as a sexually dangerous predator, may request re-evaluation after 10 years from the initial classification and then once every five years thereafter.

Section 6-4 requires the court to refer a case to an officer of the circuit for investigation and recommendation prior to sentencing when a life sentence may be imposed because of a previous conviction for a sexual felony. SORRB is also required to determine the classification level of the defendant in writing and report that determination to the court. The findings will be provided to the prosecutor and defendant no later than 10 days prior to the sentencing hearing.

Section 6-5 requires the Department of Community Supervision to file a petition on behalf of a person who is on probation for life for a sexual felony after that person has served 10 years if: all restitution has been paid; probation has not been revoked; the probationer has not been arrested for anything other than a non-serious traffic offense; and the probationer has not been classified as a sexually dangerous predator by SORRB. Upon issuing an order terminating an offender's probation, the court will provide written notice to the local district attorney and the State Board of Pardons and Paroles regarding the court's intention, and the prosecuting attorney will be given an opportunity to be heard during the 30 days prior to the issuance of the termination order by the court. The provisions changed by this portion of the bill are retroactive to any probationer under the supervision of the Department of Community Supervision. If the petition is not granted, a petition will be filed every five years afterward until the probationer meets the requirements.

Section 6-6 changes the name of SORRB in a reference and allows the person who was convicted as a sexual offender to obtain supervision records of the Department of Community Supervision.

Section 7-1 states that this will apply to all offenses committed on or after July 1, 2023.

HB 219 Banking and finance; venue for offense of money laundering; provide

By: Rep. Scott Hilton (48th)

Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 219 adds venue for any prosecution under Title 7 (Banking and Finance), Chapter 1 (Financial Institutions), Article 11 (Records and Reports of Currency Transactions) when it involves the transfer or movement of digital money or currency to be in any county where the accused exercises control over the money or currency, any county in which any act was performed in furtherance of the transaction, or any county in which an alleged victim lives.

The bill adds venue for any prosecution dealing with the applicable crimes of theft to be in any county where an act was performed in furthering the violation or in any county in which an alleged victim resides.

HB 227 Crimes and offenses; offense of criminal interference with critical infrastructure; provide

By: Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 227 clarifies that the offense of criminal damage to property in the first degree can be committed through electronic means against critical infrastructure or any vital public service. The penalty for this crime is increased to imprisonment of between two to 20 years.

The bill revises the misdemeanor crime of interfering with property of public utility companies, municipalities, or political subdivisions owning critical infrastructure, by prohibiting a person from altering or interfering with critical infrastructure. The definition for "critical infrastructure" in O.C.G.A. 16-11-220 is amended to include other vital public services.

HB 302 Crimes and offenses; issuance of a temporary or permanent protective order by the court; provide

By: Rep. Lehman Franklin (160th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 302 allows courts to issue either temporary or permanent protective orders to protect against conduct that constitutes stalking.

HB 332 Controlled substances; Schedules I, IV, and V; provide certain provisions

By: Rep. Butch Parrish (158th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 332 is the annual narcotics and drug update. Various substances are added to or removed from the schedules, including Schedules I, IV, and V, and the lists of defined "dangerous drugs".

HB 383 Safer Hospitals Act; enact

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 383 is known as the 'Safer Hospitals Act'. The bill defines the term "healthcare worker" as any employee or independent contractor of a hospital or other healthcare facility. Increased penalties are added when someone commits aggravated assault against a healthcare worker or an emergency health worker located on a hospital campus. The penalty is imprisonment between three and 20 years.

The bill increases penalties for committing aggravated battery against a healthcare worker or an emergency health worker located on a hospital campus. The penalty is imprisonment between three and 20 years.

A new chapter in the Code is created that defines "hospital", "hospital campus", and "hospital peace officer". The provisions allow a hospital guard to have arrest powers while on a hospital campus, and hospital security who are certified by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) can be authorized by a hospital to carry a firearm or weapon. Each hospital that employs law enforcement are required to report to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) and local law enforcement incidents of criminal gang activity that occurs on or adjacent to the hospital campus. The bill requires records not protected under a state disclosure law to be available for public inspection.

The bill is effective July 1, 2023.

SB 42 Human Trafficking Hotline Information; model notice requirements; increase the fine for failure to comply

By: Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 42 revises the penalty for businesses violating the requirement that businesses post signage making people aware of the human trafficking hotline. A law enforcement officer is required to notify a business of its noncompliance, and the owner is required to comply within 30 days of receipt of the notice. Currently, the punishment is discretionary, although the bill changes it to mandatory.

Further, the fine is revised from being a maximum fine of \$500 to instead be between \$500 and \$1,000. Upon a second or subsequent offense, it is still a high and aggravated misdemeanor, but the bill clarifies that the fine is between \$1,000 and \$5,000. Currently, that fine is listed as a maximum of \$5,000 without a minimum.

SB 44 Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act; mandatory minimum penalties for violations; provide

By: Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th)

Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 44 clarifies that it is unlawful for a person to indirectly through another person: cause, encourage, solicit, recruit, or coerce another to become a member of a criminal street gang; to participate in a criminal street gang; or to participate in criminal gang activity. The bill defines "dangerous weapon", "firearm", "hazardous object", and "leader". Under Section II, the default penalty for violating O.C.G.A. 16-15-4 is a felony with increased imprisonment of between five and 20 years, to be served consecutively with other sentences, and with a mandatory minimum of five years.

If a person recruits others to join a criminal street gang and the violation involves a person who is under 17 years old or a person who has a disability, then that person is subject to imprisonment of between 10 years and 20 years for a first offense, which must be served consecutively and with a mandatory minimum of 10 years. Upon a second or subsequent offense, the penalty is imprisonment of between 15 years and 25 years, which must be served consecutively and with a mandatory minimum of 15 years. A mandatory minimum sentence imposed under this offense is unable to be departed from by a court.

A court can only depart from a mandatory minimum sentence if a district attorney or the attorney general agree and the convicted person provides substantial assistance in the identification, arrest, or conviction, of other members of the criminal street gang. The individual must also meet five different requirements to be eligible, and if a judge departs from the mandatory minimum, then they must specify on the record the circumstances for the reduction. This decision is appealed by the state.

The bill adds an extra condition to when a judge can issue a bond on a person's own recognizance, or unsecured judicial release. To be eligible, the release must be noted on the release order. The person must not be charged with a bail restricted offense. The person must not have been convicted of an offense of bail jumping within the past five years. The person must not have had a bench warrant issued for their arrest based on a failure to appear within the past five years, unless the warrant was recalled or the offense was a nonserious traffic offense.

A person can contest their ineligibility for unsecured judicial release on the basis that their criminal history record is inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading. If it is contested, the prosecutor bears the burden of establishing the person's ineligibility. A judge can also issue an unsecured judicial release for pretrial release or diversion if it is noted on the release order and the person is not charged with a bail restricted offense. A judge is only required to consider the accused's criminal history record that is available at that time.

SB 60 Secondary Metals Recyclers; it shall be illegal for certain persons to purchase, possess, obtain, or sell or attempt to purchase, possess, obtain, or sell; provide

By: Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th)

Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: Section 1-1 of SB 591 amends O.C.G.A. 10-1-350 to create new definitions for "copper wire", "registered agent", "used communications copper", and "used utility wire".

Section 1-2 of the bill amends O.C.G.A. 10-1-351 to define the term "used, detached catalytic converter". The section also makes it a crime to purchase, solicit for the purchase of, or advertise for the purchase of a used, detached catalytic converter, or any non-ferrous metal parts of a catalytic converter, unless such person is a registered secondary metals recycler. Further, it is unlawful for any person to buy, possess, transport, or sell, a used, detached catalytic converter or any non-ferrous metal parts of a catalytic converter, unless such person is authorized to do so under O.C.G.A. 10-1-351(c) and is in possession of the required registrations and licenses. Each unlawfully possessed or obtained used, detached catalytic converter is a separate offense.

Section 1-3 requires secondary metals recyclers to maintain a record of the documentation of a cash transaction involving regulated metal property.

Under Section 1-4, secondary metals recyclers are allowed to pay in cash, but are prohibited from: paying any seller more than \$100 in cash for any transaction, limited to two per seller, per day, per registered location; and paying cash to any seller for catalytic converters or coils, used utility wire, used communications copper, copper wire, or a battery. This section does not apply to transactions between business entities, unless that transaction is

related to catalytic converters.

Section 1-5 makes O.C.G.A. 10-1-358 applicable to catalytic converters, which relates to entities exempt from the Article 14, Chapter 1, of Title 10.

Section 1-6 allows a sheriff's office to: 1) charge \$200 for renewals of annual registrations of secondary metal recyclers; 2) require a valid business license; 3) require a registered agent to submit to a criminal background check and fingerprinting; 4) deny the registration or renewal if the person's registration has been revoked in another county, the information provided was false, or if the background check revealed a previous conviction of a metal theft offense more than three times in a five-year period; 5) revoke the registration of a secondary metal recycler's registered agent if the agent has been convicted of a felony in the previous five years under Title 10 ("Commerce and Trade"), Chapter 1 ("Selling and Other Trade Practices"), Article 14 ("Secondary Metals Recyclers"); 6) require secondary metals recyclers to provide a customer identification number for the current database contractor maintained by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI); and 7) require a secondary metals recycler to submit a signed and sworn statement saying the business license or registration has not been revoked during the past year, and that the agent has not been convicted of a metal theft offense in the previous year.

Section 1-7 adds a felony penalty when the regulated metal property is unlawfully obtained and results in aggregate property damage exceeding \$1,500. This section also clarifies that each unlawfully possessed or obtained used, detached catalytic converter is a separate offense.

Section 1-8 makes a used, catalytic converter that is possessed in violation of O.C.G.A. 10-1-351(d) and any vehicle used in the transportation of that catalytic converter subject to civil forfeiture.

Section 1-9 requires secondary metals recyclers to provide a statement to the GBI regarding whether their registration or business license has been revoked, suspended, or canceled in the previous year. The section also requires each recycler to submit to the GBI a receipt of each purchase of a used, catalytic converter or any nonferrous metal parts from an industrial account or secondary metal recycler. The report must include: the name and address of the seller; the date, time, and place of the transaction; and the number of used, detached catalytic converters purchased.

Part II removes limitations on how payments can be made for regulated metal property by secondary metal recyclers under O.C.G.A. 10-1-355.

Part III provides the effective dates of the bill. Part III and all of Part I, except for Section 1-4, are effective January 1, 2024. Part II is effective January 1, 2026.

SB 68 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations; offense of dogfighting as racketeering activity; include

By: Sen. Rick Williams (25th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 68 adds offenses under the statute outlawing dogfighting to the list of statutes that are eligible to be prosecuted under the racketeering influenced and corrupt organizations (RICO) framework.

SB 92 Prosecuting Attorneys Oversight Commission; create

By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 92 creates the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission (PAQC). The PAQC consists of a five-member investigative panel with the members consisting of those with various amounts of experience as a district attorney (DA) or solicitor-general (SG), and whom are appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House of Representatives, and Senate Committee on Assignments. The three-member hearing panel will consist of members with experience as a DA or SG, as well as a former judge with prior experience as a DA or SG, whom are appointed by the governor, a vote of the Senate, and a vote of the House of Representatives. All members must be appointed by July 1, 2023. The PAQC will end its investigation into any DA or SG when that person is under indictment.

The bill contains various grounds for discipline by the PAQC, including: mental or physical incapacity; willful misconduct in office; willful and persistent failure to carry out duties; conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude; conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice; and knowingly authorizing or permitting an assistant DA or assistant SG to commit any act constituting a ground for removal.

The PAQC can entertain a complaint on various grounds, including when a DA or SG has a stated policy that demonstrates that the DA or SG categorically refuses to prosecute any type of an offense or offenses. No complaints can be filed prior to October 1, 2023. If a DA or SG is removed, the individual is disqualified from

being appointed or elected to either of the two positions in any county in the state for a period of 10 years.

The bill adds a duty for DAs and SGs, requiring the elected positions to review every case for probable cause, and to make a prosecutorial decision based on the law and facts of each individual case. The failure to perform these duties will constitute a ground for recall from the position.

The Act is effective upon approval by the governor.

SB 181 Georgia Technology Authority; authority to conduct certain fingerprint criminal background checks of all current and prospective employees; require

By: Sen. Chuck Payne (54th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 181 allows the Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) to require fingerprint criminal background checks of employees and applicants for employment who will have access to or be in proximity to IT systems that normally are not intended to provide direct access to tax documents but that may provide such access. Record checks must be made at least once every five years.

The GTA can also require fingerprint criminal background checks of contractors and subcontractors, or applicants for those roles, who are reasonably anticipated to have access to, be in physical proximity to, or be in IT-related proximity to tax documents. Record checks must be made at least once every 10 years.

On January 1, 2025, the GTA will have the ability to conduct fingerprint criminal background checks of all current and prospective employees, regardless of the position's proximity to tax documents.

SB 272 Courts; supplement the duties of administrative judges; Criminal Case Data Exchange Board; reestablish

By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 272 reestablishes the Criminal Case Data Exchange Board, which was previously under the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and later the Council of Superior Court Clerks to a board under the Judicial Council and its Administrative Office of the Courts. The board continues to have 19 members, and meetings can be called to order by the chairperson of the board, the designee to the board from the Judicial Council, the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, or the governor.

The board must fulfill multiple duties, including: participation in the review and improvement of the state's criminal case data exchange and management systems; make recommendations for the improvement of data sharing for the benefit of the public, employers, and law enforcement; provide regular advice and counsel to the Judicial Council of Georgia; regularly review and update uniform standards; and prepare a report by October 1 of each year detailing the board's progress, which will be sent to multiple parties, including the chairs of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee, by October 10 of each year.

The board will be required to conduct a review with experts in the field of criminal justice on the feasibility of a system for tracking and analyzing criminal history data related to recidivism, criminal plea agreements, and immunity defenses. The feasibility study will include a review of a system to track charges pertaining to human trafficking, and whether those charges resulted in convictions or resulted in pleas of lesser or related charges. This review will be required to be completed by December 1, 2024, at which point the board will deliver it to the required parties in the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.

Juvenile Justice Committee

Staff: Brian Heinze

HB 460 Courts; child's right to legal representation in legitimation cases; provide

By: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (23rd) Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 460 provides a right to counsel for a child who is the subject of a legitimation petition and a child who is party to a hearing to determine whether continuation or termination of a temporary guardianship is in the best interests of a child. Custodians or guardians who are subject to a sworn complaint or affidavit and any other respondent to a dependency proceeding have the right to an attorney at all stages of the dependency proceedings.

A child receiving extended care youth services from the Division of Family and Children Services is provided a right to counsel for all stages of dependency proceedings. The bill requires that affidavits or sworn complaints only be used when a child is taken into custody under exceptional circumstances.

A trial court can appoint an attorney for a child at all stages of proceedings for extended care youth services. The child will be provided notice of their right to an attorney and be given the opportunity to: use; waive the right; obtain an attorney of their choice; or obtain the court-appointed attorney at the court's discretion.

SB 131 Permanent Guardianship; service by publication; provide

By: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th) Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

Final Bill Summary: Section 1 of SB 131 requires a guardianship petition hearing to be conducted in accordance with O.C.G.A. 29-2-18.

Section 2 adds requirements to the process of serving individuals related to a child who was adjudicated as a dependent child, and any other parties who appear to the court as proper or necessary to the proceeding.

Section 3 makes a conviction of a parent for murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other parent a mandatory basis for removing a child from the parent who was convicted.

Section 4 allows the court to exercise its discretion when determining the custody of a child and one parent was indicted for the offense of murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other parent.

SB 133 Juvenile Code; a uniform process to assume custody of children as a result of disposition orders; create

By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 133 clarifies procedures for when children are to be placed into the foster care system under the custody of the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS), including through a child in need of services (CHINS) proceeding and a proceeding involving the disposition of a dependent child.

In a CHINS proceeding, a juvenile court must comply with the law related to a dual designation of a child, and it must hear or consider certain information, including what services have been provided to the child; what services are available to the child that could allow the child to remain in his or her home; what efforts have been made to secure placement of the child other than in the custody of DFCS; and whether a child protective services report was made. The court must also comply with Title 15, Chapter 11, Article 3, prior to placing a child in the custody of DFCS on a nonemergency basis or in the absence of exceptional circumstances based on evidence provided at a disposition hearing. Once a child has been ordered into the custody of DFCS, the juvenile court must conduct a preliminary protective hearing within 72 hours after the placement. All parties to the CHINS case must provide copies of medical, psychological, and educational assessments, and reports of the child or the child's parent or guardian to DFCS within 72 hours after the ordering of custody.

In a disposition of a dependent child, a juvenile court must comply with the law related to a dual designation of a child, and it must hear or consider certain information, including what services have been provided to the child; what efforts have been made to secure placement of the child other than in the custody of DFCS; and whether a child protective services report was made. The court must also comply with Title 15, Chapter 11, Article 3, prior to placing a child in the custody of DFCS on a nonemergency basis or in the absence of exceptional circumstances based on evidence provided at a disposition hearing. Once a child has been ordered into the custody of DFCS, the juvenile court must conduct a preliminary protective hearing within 72 hours after the placement. All parties to the case must provide copies of medical, psychological, and educational assessments, and reports of the child or the child's parent or guardian to DFCS within 72 hours after the ordering of custody.

SB 134 Evidence; that a child witness be deemed competent to testify without taking the oath; provide

By: Sen. Bill Cowser (46th) Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 134 adds proceedings involving termination of parental rights to the list of proceedings in which minors are not required to be sworn in prior to offering testimony.

In all dependency adjudications involving juveniles and involving injury or disease, a written medical report will be admissible into evidence without any hearsay objection as long as applicable notice is provided to the adverse party at least five days prior to the adjudication hearing. Any objection, on a ground other than hearsay, must be made within three days of being provided the report.

In all hearings involving termination of parental rights and involving injury or disease, a written medical report will be admissible into evidence without any hearsay objection as long as applicable notice is provided to the adverse party at least 15 days prior to the adjudication hearing. Any objection, on a ground other than hearsay, must be made within seven days of being provided the report.

SB 135 Paternity; Uniform Parentage Act of 2017; align evidentiary medical and genetic testing

By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 135 clarifies that when genetic testing is required by court order, testing must be of a type reasonably relied upon by experts in that field and conducted by a laboratory accredited by either the AABB (formerly known as the American Association of Blood Banks) or an accrediting body designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Results of genetic testing, including the statistical likelihood of the alleged parent's parentage, are admitted into evidence without foundational testimony or other proof of accuracy, unless a party objects in writing at least 30 days prior to a hearing at which the results may be introduced into evidence.

The bill makes results of required genetic testing self-authenticating and admissible into any civil actions as long as documentation from the laboratory contains the following chain of custody information: the name and photograph of each individual that was tested; the name of the individual who collected the test result; the place and date each result was collected; the name of the person who received the result in the laboratory; and the date the result was received.

SB 216 Children and Youth Services; respite care for foster parents for longer periods of time pursuant to circumstances; authorize

By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th) Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 216 amends references to "babysitter" in O.C.G.A. 49-5-8.1, related to short-term babysitting of a child in foster care, to instead say "respite care", which the bill defines as occasional or short-term relief for a caregiver by a person or entity.

Motor Vehicles Committee

Staff: Bailey Jordan

HB 120 Motor vehicles; standards for issuance of limited driving permits for certain offenders; provide

By: Rep. John Corbett (174th) Through the Motor Vehicles Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 120 amends the list of individuals with a suspended, revoked, or cancelled license eligible to apply for a limited driving permit by adding persons convicted of driving under the influence of a controlled substance or marijuana, and those in non-compliance with a child support order. The bill provides conditions for revocation of a limited driving permit.

HB 175 Motor vehicles; federal regulations regarding safe operation of commercial motor vehicle and carriers; update reference date

By: Rep. Lauren Daniel (117th) Through the Motor Vehicles Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 175 authorizes specialty license plates for state constitutional officers and members of the Public Service Commission. The bill allows revenue sharing for the license plates honoring Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated.

The design of specialty license plates for retired members of the reserve and Georgia National Guard is changed by displaying "Retired" in lieu of the county of issuance.

The bill allows disabled veterans to receive the Title Ad Valorem Tax exemption without having to obtain a disabled veteran tag.

HB 183 Motor vehicles; temporary license plates and operating permits; revise terminology

By: Rep. Matt Barton (5th) Through the Motor Vehicles Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 183 provides for the issuance of temporary operating permits in lieu of temporary license plates in specified instances. The bill also prohibits a hold on the title of a vehicle for an unpaid citation.

HB 242 Georgia Driver's Education Commission; violation of traffic laws or ordinances under Joshua's Law; provide additional penalty

By: Rep. Bill Hitchens (161st) Through the Motor Vehicles Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 242 reinstates the additional penalty for a traffic violation under 'Joshua's Law', setting it at three percent of the original fine.

HB 541 Motor vehicles; proper procedure for passing postal service vehicle; provide GOVERNOR'S (Vetoed) VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)

By: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th) Through the Motor Vehicles Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 541 requires drivers to move over for a stationary vehicle or postal service vehicle displaying flashing yellow, amber, white, or red lights.

SB 120 Motor Carriers; the reference date to federal regulations regarding the safe operation of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles; update

By: Sen. Shelly Echols (49th) Through the Motor Vehicles Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 120 updates the 'Uniform Carriers Act' to change the effective date to January 1, 2023, to comply with federal law.

Natural Resources & Environment Committee**Staff: David Hartman****HB 165 State government; public disclosure not required relative to inspection of public records; include certain documents from Department of Natural Resources**

By: Rep. Kimberly New (64th) Through the Natural Resources & Environment Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 165 amends O.C.G.A. 50-18-72, which concerns public disclosures not required to be included as part of an inspection of public records, to include records from the Department of Natural Resources that contain information regarding the location or character of a historic resource that could lead to harm or theft related to the historic resource.

SB 95 Solid Waste Trust Fund; specify the manner in which funds appropriated shall be used

By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) Through the Natural Resources & Environment Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 95 amends O.C.G.A. 12-8-40.1, relating to tire disposal restrictions and fees, to require tire distributors, rather than retail dealers, to collect the \$1 per tire sold.

The bill amends O.C.G.A. 12-8-33, relating to the Recycling Market Development Council, by adding an individual from the tire industry to the list of industry representatives considered by the governor for appointment to the Recycling Market Development Council.

SB 121 Counties and Municipal Corporations; local governments from denying the drilling, servicing, or repair of new or existing water wells on single-family residential and farm properties; prohibit

By: Sen. Lee Anderson (24th) Through the Natural Resources & Environment Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 121 amends O.C.G.A. 36-60-17.1 to prohibit the denial of the installation of a well to provide water for a single-family resident located on a parcel of one acre or larger.

Public Health Committee**Staff: Amber Mack****HB 129 Public assistance; expand temporary assistance for needy families eligibility criteria to pregnant women**

By: Rep. Soo Hong (103rd) Through the Public Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 129 expands the eligibility criteria for temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) to pregnant women.

- HB 440 Education; authorize public and private schools to stock a supply of undesignated ready-to-use glucagon**
By: Rep. Doug Stoner (40th) Through the Public Health Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 440 allows public and private schools to stock a supply of glucagon, and permits prescribers to provide such medication to schools.
- HB 453 Health; ambulance services pay annual license fee; repeal requirement**
By: Rep. Scott Hilton (48th) Through the Public Health Committee
Final Bill Summary: HB 453 repeals the annual ambulance service license fee which is required for ambulance service providers.
- SB 1 State Government; automatic repealer on the prohibition on state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID vaccination for government services; remove**
By: Sen. Greg Dolezal (27th) Through the Public Health Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 1 removes the sunset on the prohibition that prevents state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of providing services, accessing a facility, issuing licenses or permits, performing duties, and other matters.
- SB 46 Control of Sexually Transmitted Disease; physicians and healthcare providers to test all pregnant women for HIV and syphilis at the first prenatal visit, at 28-32 weeks' gestation, and at delivery; require**
By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd) Through the Public Health Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 46 requires that a pregnant woman be tested for HIV and syphilis by their prenatal provider at their first prenatal visit, at 28-32 weeks gestation, and at delivery. The patient will have the option to opt out of such testing.
- SB 47 Offenses Against Public Health And Morals; vaping in restricted areas is a misdemeanor punishable by fine; provide**
By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd) Through the Public Health Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 47 adds the smoking of electronic smoking or vaping devices to the 'Georgia Smokefree Air Act of 2005'.
- SB 106 "Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Act"; enact**
By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th) Through the Public Health Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 106 creates a Medicaid program to provide remote maternal health clinical services to women with high-risk pregnancies through the Department of Public Health's pilot home visiting program.
- SB 107 "Izzy's Law"; Depart. of Public Health shall develop and make available for download from its internet website a model aquatic safety plan based on national standards for private swim instructors; provide**
By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd) Through the Public Health Committee
Final Bill Summary: SB 107 requires the Department of Public Health to develop a model safety plan for private swim instructors to utilize by January 1, 2024. The plan will include minimum standards for student-to-instructor ratios, secondary supervision recommendations, parent or legal guardian attendance, and use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification. All private swim instructors are required to have an aquatic safety plan by April 1, 2024.

SB 140 Hospitals; the treatment of gender dysphoria in minors performed in hospitals and other licensed healthcare facilities; prohibit certain surgical procedures

By: Sen. Carden Summers (13th) Through the Public Health Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 140 prohibits the use of sex reassignment surgeries and hormone replacement therapies on minors in a licensed institution for the treatment of gender dysphoria. Exceptions include treatment of sex development disorders, androgen insensitivity syndrome, and other medical conditions. Additionally, minors who began hormone replacement therapies before July 1, 2023 are exempt. Licensed physicians in violation will be held administratively responsible by the medical board.

Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee**Staff: Abby Day****HB 35 Georgia Ports Authority; provide for powers; expand arrest authority of officers**

By: Rep. Bill Hitchens (161st) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 35 gives authority to Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) employees designated as security personnel and peace officers the responsibility of preserving and protecting GPA properties or projects. Persons designated as peace officers have the power to arrest for traffic offenses committed and to investigate motor vehicle accidents occurring on any property under GPA jurisdiction and upon any private or public property within one mile thereof. Ports peace officers are given additional duties and powers of policing within the jurisdiction of GPA, its property, and its facilities, not including any inland ports.

HB 142 Education; establishment of unified campus police forces through agreements by colleges and universities; provide

By: Rep. Mesha Mainor (56th) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 142 provides for the establishment of unified campus police forces through agreements entered into by colleges and universities.

HB 147 Safe Schools Act; enact

By: Rep. Will Wade (9th) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 147 is the 'Safe Schools Act'. The bill requires the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) to consult with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS), the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Georgia Public Safety Training Center to create a school safety and anti-gang endorsement for eligible certificated professional personnel who volunteer to complete a training program approved by the PSC in multidisciplinary best practices for promoting and preserving safe schools, and for identifying and deterring youth gangs.

The legislation adds GEMA/HS to those agencies to which the school must submit their school safety plan. Schools are required to conduct intruder alert drills by October 1 of each school year and report to GEMA/HS when the drill is completed. All students are required to participate, but each system may allow an option for a parent/legal guardian to elect, in writing, that the child is not participating.

HB 268 Criminal Justice Coordinating Council; motor vehicle related crime prevention initiatives; establish grant program

By: Rep. John Corbett (174th) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 268 establishes a grant program to provide funds from the criminal justice coordinating council to local law enforcement agencies and multi-jurisdictional task forces for the prevention, reduction, investigation, and prosecution of motor vehicle crimes. The bill establishes the Georgia Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Advisory Board and the required membership. The board will solicit and review applications for the grants, and make recommendations to the council for awards. The new Code section created by the bill is repealed on December 31, 2030.

HB 437 Georgia State Indemnification Commission; abolish and authorize commissioner of administrative services to assume duties; provisions

By: Rep. Bill Hitchens (161st) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 437 abolishes the Georgia State Indemnification Commission, and moves its activities and duties to the commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services.

SB 11 "Georgia Fights Terrorism Act"; enact

By: Sen. John Albers (56th) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 11 grants original jurisdiction to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) for violation of laws concerning domestic, cyber, biological, chemical, and nuclear terrorism.

SB 93 Information Technology; use of certain social media platforms on state equipment; restrict

By: Sen. Jason Anavitate (31st) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 93 prohibits the use of social media on state-owned devices when the social media platform is owned or operated by a foreign adversary, or by a company which is domiciled in, has its headquarters in, or is organized under the laws of a foreign adversary. The prohibition also stands when a foreign adversary has substantial control over the content moderation practices of the platform or if the platform uses software or an algorithm that is controlled or monitored by a foreign adversary.

SB 155 Dangerous Instrumentalities and Practices; provisions relating to harming a law enforcement animal; revise

By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 155 creates the offense of aggravated harming of a public safety animal or search and rescue animal when they know or should have known that an animal is a public safety animal or search and rescue animal, and when they intentionally commit, conspire, or attempt to commit an act that causes the death of the animal or injures the animal in a manner that affects its ability to perform as a public safety animal or search and rescue animal.

The penalty for this conviction is at least two years and no more than 10 years imprisonment, a fine up to \$50,000, or both. The first two years of the sentence cannot be suspended, probated, deferred, or withheld by a sentencing court without the agreement of the prosecuting attorney and the defendant on a sentence below the mandatory minimum.

SB 218 Identification Cards; issuance of identification cards to persons completing a term of incarceration; provide

By: Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 218 allows for the issuance of identification cards to persons who complete a term of incarceration. The bill requires the Department of Corrections to provide identifying information to the Department of Driver Services for the card.

The bill requires that when a person is released from confinement from the Department of Corrections, the department releases to the individual, with their consent, documents pertaining to the program history including; whether the person completed training requested by the Board of Pardons and Paroles; whether they completed programs recommended by the Department of Corrections; whether they obtained a state-approved high school equivalency diploma or other educational degree; and the person's institutional work record.

Regulated Industries Committee**Staff: Brian Heinze****HB 76 Professions and businesses; education, experience, and training requirements for licensure in marriage and family therapy; revise provisions**

By: Rep. Alan Powell (33rd) Through the Regulated Industries Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 76 revises the requirements for an associate marriage and family therapist license to allow the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education to determine the coursework requirements, along with the type and minimum amount of hours of clinical experience applicants

must have. The bill revises the clinical experience requirements for those currently licensed as an associate marriage and family therapist, those with a qualifying master's degree, and those with a qualifying doctorate degree.

The bill adds a definition for "bare knuckle boxing match" to O.C.G.A. 43-4B-1, and exempts the term from the current definition of "boxing match". The Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission will have jurisdiction over any bare knuckle boxing match that is held in the state, is filmed in the state, or is broadcast in the state. Rules are also provided for contestants of bare knuckle boxing matches.

HB 155 Professions and businesses; issuance of licenses by endorsement for spouses of firefighters, healthcare providers, and law enforcement officers who relocate to Georgia; provide

By: Rep. Chuck Martin (49th) Through the Regulated Industries Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 155 incorporates the definition of "firefighter" from O.C.G.A. 45-9-81, creates a new definition for "healthcare provider", and incorporates the definition of "law enforcement officer" from O.C.G.A. 45-9-81.

This bill requires professional licensing boards or other boards to issue a license by endorsement to an individual seeking licensure for a profession other than that of a firefighter, healthcare provider, or a law enforcement officer. To qualify, an individual must have: established residency in Georgia; hold a current license in another state to practice the profession; be in good standing in that state; and pass any examination that may be required to demonstrate knowledge of Georgia's laws.

This bill does not apply to licensing for the practice of law in Georgia, and does not override any licensing compact or permit the issuance of a license without verification under O.C.G.A. 50-36-1.

Retirement Committee

Staff: Sara Arroyo

SB 56 Ad Valorem Taxation; state revenue commissioner to contract with the board of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to offer certain county tax commissioners the option to participate in a state administered deferred compensation plan; require

By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd) Through the Retirement Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 56 creates a deferred compensation plan for eligible county tax commissioners. Tax commissioners are eligible if they are not permitted to participate in a retirement system or deferred compensation offered by the county that utilizes a 401(k) or 457(b). The Employees' Retirement System of Georgia will administer the plan and the state will match contributions of up to 5 percent of the minimum annual salary for county tax commissioners.

The bill amends O.C.G.A. 48-1-2 relating to income tax definitions by providing an update to the definition of "Internal Revenue Code" and stipulating that Section 174 of the Internal Revenue Code be included with other sections that will be treated as they were in effect before Public Law 115-97 was enacted in 2017.

SB 56 amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-20, relating to individual income tax rates, by clarifying that on January 1, 2024, the income tax imposed will be 5.49 percent and can be reduced annually at a rate of 0.10 percent if certain conditions are met, beginning on January 1, 2025, until the rate reaches 4.99 percent. The bill adds O.C.G.A. 48-7-27.1 to allow for eligible itemizers, defined as eligible residents that choose to deduct certain itemized nonbusiness deductions, to receive a credit of \$300.

SB 56 amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-29.22, relating to tax credits for certain medical preceptor rotations, by extending the sunset provision from December 31, 2023 to December 31, 2026.

The bill amends 48-7-40.24, relating to tax credits for jobs associated with large-scale projects, by including a pandemic, defined as a disease outbreak that affects a significant portion of the population and impacts the ability to conduct business, to terms qualifying as "force majeure".

The bill amends Title 48, Chapter 8, relating to sales and use tax, by allowing for the imposition of sales and use tax on the retail purchase or sale of certain digital goods, products, and services to an end user. The sale must be for permanent use of the product and cannot be contingent on a reoccurring payment agreement.

SB 128 Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; the total percentage of funds that can be invested in alternative investments; raise the limit

By: Sen. John Albers (56th) Through the Retirement Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 128 allows the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund to increase the maximum amount of assets invested in alternative investments from 10 percent to 15 percent. The bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Rules Committee**Staff: Leo Chancey****HR 603 House Study Committee on Certificate of Need Modernization; create**

By: Rep. Sharon Cooper (45th) Through the Rules Committee

Final Bill Summary: HR 603 creates the House Study Committee on Certificate of Need Modernization. The committee consists of five members of the House of Representatives and will be abolished on December 1, 2023.

HR 651 Georgia Congressional Delegation; assist in finding reasonable solutions to protect North Atlantic right whales and coastal culture and economy; urge

By: Rep. David Knight (134th) Through the Rules Committee

Final Bill Summary: HR 651 urges the Georgia Congressional Delegation to assist in finding reasonable solutions to protect North Atlantic right whales, and Georgia's coastal culture and economy.

Small Business Development Committee**Staff: Bailey Jordan****SB 55 Counties, Municipal Corporations, and other Governmental Entities; regulation of businesses of persons under 18 years of age; prohibit**

By: Sen. Elena Parent (42nd) Through the Small Business Development Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 55 prohibits local governments from requiring a license, permit, or registration for businesses of individuals under 18 years of age selling non-consumable goods, prepackaged foods, lemonade, or nonalcoholic beverages on private property that earn \$5,000 or less annually.

Special Rules Committee**Staff: Michael Satterfield****HB 373 State holidays; September 11 as First Responders Appreciation Day; designate**

By: Rep. Sheila Jones (60th) Through the Special Rules Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 373 designates September 11 of each year as "First Responders Appreciation Day".

State Planning & Community Affairs Committee**Staff: Michael Satterfield****HB 128 Revenue and taxation; representation of minority business enterprises, women and veteran owned businesses in procurement of state contracts; provide**

By: Rep. Soo Hong (103rd) Through the State Planning & Community Affairs Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 128 revises definitions and language regarding minority-owned businesses. The term "member of a minority" is removed and replaced with "classified subcontractor". This definition is for a small business certified as a minority-owned business.

The commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services is required to maintain a list of classified subcontractors and make the list available to the general public by December 31 of each year. "Minority" is defined as a member of a race which makes up less than 50 percent of the total state population, and belongs to one or more of the following groups: Black, Hispanic, Asian Pacific, Native American, or Asian-Indian American.

A "veteran-owned business" is defined as a business owned by an individual who has served as a reservist or on active duty with a branch of the U.S. military and did not receive a dishonorable discharge. A "woman-owned business" is required to be operated by one or more women. The requirement for an application containing business history and documentation for classification as one of these terms is removed.

State Properties Committee**Staff: Michael Satterfield****HR 157 Property; conveyance of certain state owned property; authorize***By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the State Properties Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HR 157 is a conveyance resolution for properties located in 10 counties, conveying property owned by the State of Georgia or amending those conveyances, as follows:

Article 1 leases approximately 4.16 acres located in Appling County between the State of Georgia, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia and Appling County School System for a term of 25 years for the consideration of \$10, and the construction and operation of Southern Pines College and Career Academy at the Baxley Campus of Coastal Pines Technical College.

Article 2 conveys approximately 0.26 of an acre located in Bacon County, under the custody of the Department of Human Services, commonly known as the Alma DFCS, by competitive bid for fair market value; or to a local government or state entity for fair market value; or to a local government or state entity for a consideration of \$10 as long as the property is used for public purpose in perpetuity.

Article 3 leases approximately 11,520 square feet of improved property located in Bacon County, being a portion of the Alma Campus of Coastal Pines Technical College under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia and Satilla Rural Electric Membership Corporation for a term of two years for the consideration of \$33,293 per year.

Article 4 conveys approximately 16 acres of real property located in Effingham County, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia, being a portion of Savannah Technical College and Career Academy, to the Effingham County Board of Education for a consideration of \$10.

Article 5 conveys approximately 93.9 acres of fee, 1.868 acres permanent easement for construction and maintenance of drainage, and 0.542 of an acre driveway easement, all located within Morgan, Newton, and Walton Counties. This is under the custody of the Department of Economic Development Authority, commonly known as the Rivian Site, to the Joint Development Authority of Jasper County, Morgan County, Newton County, and Walton County for fair market value or for a consideration of \$10.

Article 6 removes the deed restriction to the City of Columbus and Muscogee County Consolidated Government of improved parcel or tract lying west of the west of Fourth Avenue and south of Fourth Street, and extending across the Chattahoochee River to the south boundary of the City of Columbus for a consideration of \$650 other consideration and provisions as the State Properties Commission will in its discretion determine to be in the best interest of the State of Georgia.

Article 7 leases approximately 1.12 acres of real property in Rabun County, commonly known as the Dillard State Farmers Market, under the custody of the Department of Agriculture to the City of Dillard for a term of 20 years for the consideration of \$10, and the continual operation of a local farmers' market and agritourism.

Article 8 conveys or leases approximately 10.01 acres of improved property in Taylor County, under the custody of the Department of Corrections, commonly known as the Taylor Detention Center, by competitive bid for fair market value; or to a local government or state entity for fair market value; or to a local government or state entity for a consideration of \$10.

Article 9 conveys approximately 7.233 acres in fee, 4,750 square feet easement for construction and maintenance of drainage, and 938.492 linear feet for access, located in Walton County. This is under the custody of the Department of Economic Development Authority, commonly as the Rivian Site, to the Georgia Department of Transportation for a consideration of \$547,300.

HR 158 Property; granting of nonexclusive easements; authorize*By: Rep. Gerald Greene (154th) Through the State Properties Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HR 158 authorizes the State of Georgia, acting through the State Properties Commission, to grant easements over certain state-owned properties in 15 counties as listed below:

Article 1 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.18 of an acre, located in Bacon County, under the custody of the Department of Corrections to the construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of underground electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve a new dormitory at the Bacon Probation Detention Center for \$10.

Article 2 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 1.43 acres, located in Calhoun County, under the custody of the Department of Corrections to construct, install, operate, and maintain five replacement cubicles and switchable bypass two 3-phase terminating cabinets at Calhoun State Prison, system upgrade, and enhance reliability for \$10.

Article 3 grants an easement to Atlanta Gas Light Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.10 of an acre, located in Camden County, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground gas distribution lines to serve TCSG-265A MPP Building (Precision Machining and Manufacturing Building) for \$10.

Article 4 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.90 of an acre, located in Camden County, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve TCSG-265A MPP Building (Precision Machining and Manufacturing Building) for \$10.

Article 5 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.092 of an acre, located in Chatham County, under the custody of the Department of Agriculture to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve Refrigerated Services for \$10.

Article 6 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.12 of an acre, located in Chatham County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources to the construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of overhead and underground electrical distribution lines and associate equipment to serve the Wormsloe Visitors Center for \$10.

Article 7 grants an easement to the Georgia Department of Transportation or its successors and assigns over approximately 4.829 acres, located in Chatham County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources-Coastal Resources Division for a bridge replacement on SR25 (PI 0013741) over the Savannah River in Port Wentworth for \$37,155.

Article 8 grants an easement to the Georgia Department of Transportation or its successors and assigns over approximately 2.961 acres, located in Chatham County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources-Coastal Resources Division for a bridge replacement on SR25 (PI 0013742) over the Middle River in Port Wentworth for \$22,163.

Article 9 grants an easement to Atlanta Gas Light Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.08 of an acre, located in Clarke County, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground gas distribution lines to serve TCSG-365 Industrial Systems Building for \$10.

Article 10 grants an easement to the City of Douglas or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.06 of an acre, located in Coffee County, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground electrical distribution lines to serve TCSG-379 Commercial Truck and Diesel Tech at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College for \$10.

Article 11 grants an easement to Southern Company Gas or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.28 of an acre, located in DeKalb County, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to relocate, construct, install, operate, and maintain underground gas distribution lines to serve Georgia Piedmont Technical College for \$10.

Article 12 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.41 of an acre, located in Emanuel County, under the custody of the Department of Corrections to construct, install, operate, and maintain overhead and underground electrical distribution lines to serve Emanuel Women's Facility for \$10.

Article 13 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.306 of an acre, located in Fulton County, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to improve and upgrade reliability at Atlanta Technical College for \$10.

Article 14 grants an easement to Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.846 of an acre permanent easement and 0.409 of acre temporary construction easement, located in Gwinnett County, to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground sewer line for the Cascade

Falls Gravity Sewer at Phillips State Prison under the custody of the Department of Corrections for fair market value no less than \$650.

Article 15 grants an easement to Satilla Rural Electric Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.009 of an acre, located in Jeff Davis County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the relocation of electrical distribution lines to improve and upgrade reliability at Bullard Creek Wildlife Management Area for \$10.

Article 16 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.08 of an acre, located in Monroe County, under the custody of the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency to construct, install, operate, and maintain overhead and underground electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the Alternate Care Facility for \$10.

Article 17 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.15 of an acre, located in Morgan County, under the custody of the Department of Public Safety to construct, install, operate, and maintain overhead and underground electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the State Patrol Post 8 for \$10.

Article 18 grants an easement to Georgia Transmission Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 20 acres, located in Morgan County, under the custody of the Department Economic Development to construct, install, operate, and maintain electrical substations, transmission lines, and related facilities, and access to the same to serve the Rivian Site for \$10.

Article 19 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.026 of an acre, located in Polk County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources to the relocation of distribution lines to enhance service and reliability to JL Lester Wildlife Management Area for \$10.

Article 20 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.72 of an acre, located in Tattnall County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources to the relocation of distribution lines to enhance service and reliability to Jack Hill State Park for \$10.

Article 21 grants an easement to Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.25 of an acre, located in Towns County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources to the construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of fiber optic lines to serve Brasstown Valley Resort and Spa's cottages and cabins for \$10.

Article 22 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.2 of an acre, located in Washington County, under the custody of the Department of Corrections to the construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of a terminating cabinet and 15-ft. trench for a three-phase underground cable for reliability improvement for power supply to Washington State Prison for \$10.

Article 23 grants an easement to Telesystem or its successors and assigns over approximately 2,872 feet, located in Wheeler County, under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources to the construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of underground fiber optic cable to serve Little Ocmulgee State Park and Lodge for \$10.

Technology and Infrastructure Innovation Committee

Staff: Patrick Mock

SB 146 Georgia Public Service Commission; regulation and taxation of the provision of certain electricity used as a motor fuel in electric vehicles; provide

By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)

Through the Technology and Infrastructure Innovation Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 146 amends the Code defining terms related to electric vehicles and adding language regarding the sale of electricity at electric vehicle charging stations, making it similar to the sale of gasoline. It gives regulatory authority over electric vehicle charging stations to the Department of Agriculture and clarifies that the supply of electricity by an electric utility to premises that are electric vehicle charging stations will be considered a sale at retail. The bill provides gallon-equivalent rates for electricity and hydrogen used as motor fuel and specifies that vehicles using these methods as a form of motor fuel are not exempt to public motor fuel and road taxes.

The provision of electric vehicle charging services will not violate the 'Georgia Territorial Electric Service Act', as long as it occurs on the same property as the charging station. The bill states that an electric utility may not provide, own, operate, or maintain any publicly available electric vehicle charging station, other than community

charging equipment unless the station is provided through a separate legal entity that is not regulated by the Georgia Public Service Commission.

All electric vehicle charging providers will register with the commissioner before operating any electric vehicle charging station and do so annually thereafter. Certificates of registration and conformity will be prominently displayed at each charging station. All electric vehicle charging stations will be capable of accurately measuring and displaying upon the station or on a digital network the amount of electricity delivered to each electric vehicle on a per kilowatt-hour basis. Such stations will be further equipped with meters to record the total kilowatt-hours dispensed.

The commissioner of the Department of Agriculture may hire charging station inspectors and investigators, and is expected to enforce rules and regulations upon those employed. If a station is found to give inaccurate readings and the charging provider fails to make necessary adjustments, the station will be deemed inoperable until reapproved by the department. Those found to provide accurate readings will be marked with a seal by an authorized inspector. The department is given the power to implement rules necessary to carry out inspections in the manner provided in this Code. The bill makes it unlawful to tamper with an inspector-issued seal and outlines penalties for further violations.

Transportation Committee

Staff: Abby Day

HB 52 Transportation, Department of; amend notice provisions relative to meetings for election of board members; provisions **GOVERNOR'S VETO STATEMENT [HERE](#)**

By: Rep. Brad Thomas (21st) Through the Transportation Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 52 allows for the call of a caucus for a Department of Transportation board election to be sent via email rather than by mail.

The bill clarifies language relating to contracting for public-private partnerships and alternative contracting methods.

The bill amends the Code governing the length of modular unit transporters to allow for an increased length from 80 feet to 84 feet when a permit is purchased. Code Section 45-16-23 is amended to allow any coroner or county medical examiner to delegate to medical personnel the power to perform the duties of the coroner or county medical examiner when an accident on an interstate highway or limited-access road results in a death and a significant disruption to the flow of traffic.

The Department of Transportation is added to the Code section relating to when public disclosure is not required by a state agency and adds the data of vehicle information, or personally identifiable information, to those records that are not required to be disclosed.

HB 189 Highways, bridges, and ferries; allowable variance for weight limitations upon a vehicle or load; provide for

By: Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) Through the Transportation Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 189 provides for a 10 percent variance for trucks when hauling agricultural or farm products from a farm to the first point of marketing or processing within a 150 mile radius of the farm or point of origin, and must be outside of the 13 county metro Atlanta region.

When the weight of the vehicle is less than 93,000 pounds, a penalty of five cents per pound over the allowed weight limit, not including any variance, is assessed. When the weight is over the variance but less than 93,000 pounds, the penalty is five cents per pound over allowed weight limit, not including any variance. For loads greater than 93,000 pounds but less than 100,000 pounds, the penalty is 10 cents per pound for all excess over allowable weight, not including any variance. When weights equal or exceed 100,000 pounds, the penalty is 20 cents per pound for all excess over allowable weight not including any variance.

The bill provides for penalties based on axle weight and introduces penalties for those who operate a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight greater than the posted weight allowable on any bridge where GDOT has placed signs.

The legislation authorizes certified local law enforcement agencies to enforce weight limits on roadways within their jurisdiction.

Any variance granted within the legislation has a sunset provision through July 1, 2025.

HR 256 Sophia Ruth Fisher Interchange; Tift County; dedicate*By: Rep. Clay Pirkle (169th)**Through the Transportation Committee*

Final Bill Summary: HR 256 is the annual House road dedication resolution. The omnibus dedication package includes:

HR 256, dedicating the interchange at Willis Still Road and Interstate 75 in Tift County as the Sophia Ruth Fisher Interchange;

HR 69, dedicating the bridge on State Route 39 over Cemochechobee Creek in Clay County as the John E. Brown Bridge;

HR 97, dedicating the bridge on State Route 190 over Lane Street in Meriwether County as the Sergeant Eddie Thomas Terry Memorial Bridge;

HR 125, dedicating the portion of State Route 138 from Tara Boulevard in Clayton County to Scarlett Drive in Clayton County as the Dr. Barbara Pulliam Highway;

HR 167, dedicating the portion of State Route 138 from Highway 54 to North McDonough Street in Clayton County as the Jeffrey E. Turner Parkway;

HR 207, dedicating the portion of Highway 78 from the east boundary of the City of Tallapoosa to the west boundary of the City of Tallapoosa in Haralson County as the Mayor William "Pete" Bridges Memorial Highway;

HR 208, dedicating the portion of Georgia Business Route 10 within the city limits of Washington in Wilkes County as the MLK Memorial Drive;

HR 230, dedicating the portion of State Route 57 East from mile marker 15 to the Johnson/Emanuel County Line in Johnson County, Georgia, as the Deputy Emory Rowland Memorial Highway;

HR 231, dedicating the State Route 125 bridge over Vanceville Road near the Berrien/Tift County line in Berrien County as the West Berrien Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Bridge;

SR 45, dedicating the intersection of Hiram Acworth Highway and East Paulding Drive in Paulding County as the Deputy Marshall Samuel Ervin Jr. Memorial Intersection;

SR 94, dedicating State Route 46 from Highway 301 South to State Route 67 South in Bulloch County as the E. Raybon Anderson Highway;

SR 255, dedicating the intersection of State Route 16 and Newnan Crossing Bypass as the Gene Evans Memorial Intersection;

SR 319, dedicating the portion of State Route 92 from Highway 78 to Interstate 20 in Douglas County as the Coach Forsh Road;

SR 321, dedicating the interchange of Highway 78 at Mountain Industrial Boulevard in DeKalb County as the Senator Stephen B. Henson Interchange;

SR 347, dedicating the intersection of State Route 193 at Chamberlain Road in Walker County as the Sean P. Kornacki Memorial Intersection;

SR 370, dedicating State Route 54 from mile marker 58 to mile marker 61 in Clayton County as the Minnie Melton Saxton Memorial Highway;

HR 349, dedicating the bridge on State Route 10 over I-285 in DeKalb County as the Thomas E. Brown Bridge;

HR 385, dedicating the portion of State Route 178 from Highway 56 to Bud Clifton Road in Toombs County as the R.T. Stanley, Jr. Highway;

HR 386, dedicating the interchange of Interstate 75 at State Route 16 (Exit 205) in Butts County as the Congressman Mac Collins Memorial Interchange;

HR 399, dedicating the portion of State Route 81 from North Ola Road to Keys Ferry Road in Henry County as the Officer Paramhans Desai Memorial Highway;

HR 412, dedicating the portion of State Route 376 from State Route 31 to Loch Laurel Road in Lowndes County as the Honorable Ellis Black Highway;

HR 414, dedicating the portion of State Route 82 from 500 feet from the western boundary of Hoboken and 500 feet from the eastern boundary of Hoboken in Brantley County as the Kaleb Driggers Highway;

HR 475, dedicating the bridge on Interstate 675 over Interstate 75 in Henry County as the Pastor Spencer T. O'Neal Memorial Bridge;

HR 491, dedicating the intersection of State Route 204 at Eisenhower Drive in Chatham County as the Judge Willie Lovett, Jr. Intersection;

HR 492, dedicating the intersection of State Route 204 at West Montgomery Cross Road in Chatham County as the Flau'jae Johnson Intersection;

HR 493, dedicating the intersection of State Route 204 at Whitebluff Road in Chatham County as the E. Larry McDuffie Intersection;

HR 522, dedicating the intersection of U.S. Route 78 and Lumpkin Street in Clarke County as the Vince Dooley Memorial Intersection;

HR 523, dedicating the portion of U.S. Route 278 from mile marker 59 to mile marker 64 in Greene County as the PFC John W. Adams Memorial Highway;

HR 524, dedicating the interchange of State Route 403 at Cleveland Avenue Southwest (Exit 76) in Fulton County as the Jamida Orange Memorial Interchange;

HR 525, dedicating the intersection of State Route 8/U.S. Route 278 and Piedmont Avenue in Fulton County as the Marshall Rancifer Memorial Intersection;

HR 545, dedicating the intersection of State Route 9 and State Route 52 in Lumpkin County as the Opal G. Crawford Barron Memorial Roundabout;

HR 602, dedicating the portion of State Route 9SO (Spring Street) from Peachtree Street to 14th Street in Fulton County as the Charlayne Hunter-Gault Parkway; and

Repealing lines 558-560 in HR 820 (2022 Session) and dedicating State Route 54 from Highway 138 to Battle Creek Road in Clayton County as the Arnold Fountain Professional Club Highway.

Ways & Means Committee

Staff: David Hartman

HB 31 Conservation and natural resources; Hazardous Waste Trust Fund; dedicate proceeds of certain hazardous waste fees

By: Rep. Debbie Buckner (137th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 31 amends O.C.G.A. 12-8-95, relating to the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund, by dedicating hazardous waste management and substance reporting fees collected by the state to the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund.

HB 86 Sales and use tax; sales of tangible personal property used for or in the renovation or expansion of certain aquariums; exempt

By: Rep. Trey Rhodes (124th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 86 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from sales and use tax, extending the period of time for which qualifying aquariums may be exempt from state sales and use tax associated with renovations and expansions to July 1, 2023 until December 31, 2026.

Relating to sales and use tax exemptions associated with renovations and expansions for zoological institutions, the bill changes the eligible time period to July 1, 2023 until December 31, 2026, or until the aggregate sale and use tax refund amount reached \$800,000, whichever occurs first.

HB 95 Revenue and taxation; Internal Revenue Code and Internal Revenue Code of 1986; revise terms and incorporate certain provisions of federal law into Georgia law

By: Rep. David Knight (134th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 95 amends O.C.G.A. 48-1-2 relating to income tax definitions by providing an update to the definition of "Internal Revenue Code" to include 'Inflation Reduction Act' provisions, signed by the president on August 16, 2022, and the 'Consolidated Appropriations Act', signed by the president on December 29, 2022.

Among the changes made in federal legislation and addressed in the bill are the following: allowing defined contribution plans to provide participants with an option to receive matching contributions on a Roth basis; a one-time election for a qualified charitable distribution to a split-interest entity and an increase to the IRA charitable distribution limit; and cost recovery related to green energy properties.

HB 138 Revenue and taxation; update population bracket and census data for a certain property tax exemption for certain leased property

By: Rep. Clint Crowe (118th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 138 amends O.C.G.A. 48-5-40 relating to property tax exemptions by updating a homestead exemption for counties having populations between 23,500 and 23,675 on the 2010 U.S. Census with counties having populations between 25,400 and 25,500 on the 2020 U.S. Census.

HB 162 Income tax; one-time tax credit for taxpayers who filed returns for both 2021 and 2022 taxable years; provide

By: Rep. Lauren McDonald (26th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 162 provides a one-time income tax refund equal to the lesser of either the taxpayer's 2021 income tax liability or \$250 for a taxpayer filing as single; \$375 for a taxpayer filing as head of household; or \$500 for a married couple jointly filing a return. The refund will not be made available to nonresident alien individuals, individuals claimed as a dependent during the 2021 and 2022 tax years, or an estate or trust.

HB 230 Revenue and taxation; qualified consolidated government special purpose local option sales tax; provide

By: Rep. Mark Newton (127th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 230 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-6, relating to sales and use taxes, to allow for a qualified consolidated government to implement a special purpose local option sales tax (SPLOST) for a coliseum capital outlay project, which is defined as any capital outlay project related to a multiuse coliseum or civic center type of facility. The tax will be set at a rate of 0.5 percent and the net proceeds may not exceed \$250 million. The bill provides for the mechanism to implement the SPLOST as well as the ballot language to be used.

HB 311 Ad valorem tax; optional temporary tax relief to certain properties located in nationally declared federal disaster areas; provide

By: Rep. Lynn Smith (70th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 311 amends O.C.G.A. 48-5-33, relating to ad valorem taxation of property, to create an optional temporary tax relief mechanism for buildings damaged by a natural disaster that may be utilized by local governments, pursuant to Article VII, Section I, Paragraph III(h) of the Georgia Constitution.

During a disaster response operation, the local emergency management director of an impacted area will travel to and assess whether buildings damaged by the disaster are qualified as either "major" or "destroyed". Assessments will be provided to the relevant county tax commissioners, who will identify eligible tax parcel numbers within the assessment before providing the assessment to each affected governing authority located within the disaster area.

Upon receipt of the report, a governing authority may adopt a resolution providing a defined amount of temporary tax relief to eligible damaged or destroyed buildings. The temporary tax relief may be offered in the form of either a millage rate reduction or a credit.

HB 408 Sales and use tax; exemption for competitive projects of regional significance; change sunset provision

By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 408 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-3, relating to sales and use tax exemptions, to extend the sunset date for an exemption on sales of tangible personal property used for construction of a competitive project of regional significant to December 31, 2026.

HB 412 Income tax; repeal a limitation on types of partnerships that may elect to pay income taxes at the entity level

By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 412 amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-23, relating to taxation of partnerships, by removing a limitation stipulating that the associated subsection only applies to a partnership that is 100 percent directly owned and controlled by eligible shareholders of an "S" corporation.

HB 431 Special purpose local option sales tax; counties; provisions

By: Rep. Karla Drenner (85th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 413 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-111, relating to imposition of a county special purpose local option sales tax, by eliminating certain limitations on counties that both implement a special local option sales tax and levy an equalized homestead option sales tax. This includes restricting the use of special purpose local option sale tax revenue to transportation, public safety, debt service, and repair of capital projects, as well as limiting the amount of special purpose local option sales tax proceeds that can be used to repair capital projects to 15 percent of total proceeds.

HB 482 Income tax; tax credits for establishing or relocating quality jobs; provide clarification

By: Rep. Steven Sainz (180th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 482 amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-40.17, relating to tax credits for establishing or relocating quality jobs, by revising the definition of "taxpayer" to include organizations exempt from tax, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 48-7-25, to the extent that a business operated by such an organization generates unrelated business income as defined in Section 512 of the Internal Revenue Code. The eligibility for organizations that qualify for the credit offered in this Code section will be based solely on projects, investments, and job related primarily to its trade or business.

HR 66 General Assembly; motor fuel and diesel fuel taxes; ratify Governor Brian P. Kemp's Executive Orders

By: Rep. Matthew Gambill (15th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: HR 66 ratifies executive orders issued by the governor between May 26, 2022 and January 10, 2023 related to suspension of the collection of motor fuel and diesel fuel taxes.

SB 127 Excise Tax; procedures for certain local governments to change the designated private sector nonprofit organization; provide

By: Sen. Billy Hickman (4th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 127 amends O.C.G.A. 48-13-51, relating to an excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, by requiring any local governing authority that has collected more than \$500,000 in taxes for three consecutive fiscal years to reach an agreement with any designated private sector nonprofit organization that promotes tourism, conventions, and trade shows before any changes can be made to the destination marketing organization. If an agreement is reached, any proposed changes must be reviewed by the Hotel Motel Tax Performance Review Board.

SB 220 'Georgia Farmland Conservation Act'; historic preservation

By: Sen. Russ Goodman (8th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

Final Bill Summary: SB 220 amends Chapter 10 of Title 44 to create the Georgia Farmland Conservation Trust Fund. The trust fund may award matching grants to qualified easement holders to support farmland conservation, active farming and food production, or to purchase agricultural conservation easement. The trust fund may receive appropriations from the legislature, public or private grants, donations, or contributions, and other

mitigation and farmland conservation funds. The commissioner of the Georgia Department of Agriculture will oversee disbursement of funds from the trust fund, and submit a report on the funds expended to the Office of Planning and Budget, the House Budget and Research Office, and the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office.

The bill creates the Georgia Farmland Advisory Council to advise and assist the Department of Agriculture with administration of the trust fund. The council will consist of the following 14 members: the commissioner of the Georgia Department of Agriculture; two members appointed by the governor; one member appointed by the lieutenant governor; one member appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; four members appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture; the president of the Georgia Agribusiness Council; one member that serves as a dean at Colleges of Agriculture at the University of Georgia, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, or Fort Valley State University; the executive director of the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission; the president of the Georgia Farm Bureau; and the Georgia state conservationist of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The council will meet at least quarterly to review and approve grants recommended by the Department of Agriculture, approve rules promulgated by the department, and recommend any changes related to program administration.