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## **Weekly Legislative Report #7**

Week Ending February 24, 2017

The General Assembly has moved into high gear as “Crossover Day” approaches next Friday. Here are some of the highlights from the week just completed.

### **Regional Transit Council Travels to House**

The Georgia Regional Transit Council, [SB 6](#) (Steve Gooch-R), passed the full Senate on Friday. The Council would work to develop a statewide strategic transit plan based on performance data that emphasizes efficiency and coordination between different levels of government.

### **No Surprises, Please**

[SB 8](#) (Renee Unterman-R) is a bill that seeks to avoid “surprise” billing that comes from a member of a healthcare team who is not in the network of a patient’s insurance plan even though the hospital and primary surgeon are in-network. SB 8 would require health providers to notify covered patients if any physicians or specialists are outside of their network before services are provided. It also sets up a dispute resolution process and Out-of-Network Reimbursement Rate Workgroup to be appointed by the Governor. The Senate approved the measure on Thursday.

### **Cardiac Care Centers**

The Office of Cardiac Care will be established within the Department of Public Health, under [SB 102](#) (Butch Miller-R). The Office will designate emergency cardiac care centers and award grants encouraging the establishment of these centers, which have proven to reduce cardiac deaths in other states.

### **Interstate Compact for EMS Personnel**

An Interstate Compact to facilitate interstate movement of Emergency Medical Services personnel cleared the Senate as well last week. Under [SB 109](#) (Michael Williams-R), Georgia and other states that join the compact will recognize each other's EMS personnel based on their successful completion of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians examination.

### **No Sanctuary for Private Colleges**

[HB 37](#) (Earl Ehrhart-R) passed the House by a 112-57 margin. Following earlier legislation impacting public colleges, HB 37 would cut off state funds, including scholarships, to private colleges that adopt sanctuary policies for immigrants.

### **Domino Effect, In Effect**

The domino effect is functioning in Senate District 32. Former Senator Judson Hill threw his hat into the ring with 17 others to run for HHS Secretary Tom Price's newly vacant Congressional seat. Hill's now empty state Senate seat has drawn eight candidates for an April 18 special election:

#### **Republican qualifiers:**

Hamilton Beck, Consultant  
Matt Campbell, Railroad conductor  
Roy Daniels, Physician  
Kay Kirkpatrick, Physician  
Gus Makris, Attorney

#### **Democratic qualifiers:**

Christine Triebsch, Attorney  
Exton Howard, Television director  
Bob Wiskind, Physician

With that many candidates campaigning, a June 20th run-off election is anticipated.

### **In the Eye With a Sharp Needle**

Optometrists and Ophthalmologists are engaged in another turf war again this year. At question this round of a perennial scope-of-practice battle is legislation that would allow optometrists, who complete 30 hours of additional training, to inject patients with specified pharmaceutical agents around the eyes and eyelids. (The descriptive needle-in-your-eye debate was a bit discomfoting for some of us in the audience.) Ophthalmologists, who are physicians, are opposed to expanding the Optometrists' scope of practice.

The Senate HHS Committee had a long debate on the issue, but ended up favoring the Optometrists with a "do pass" vote on [SB 221](#), sponsored by Committee Chair Renee Unterman (R-Buford). Meanwhile, the House HHS Committee killed virtually the same measure, [HB 416](#) (Earl Ehrhart-R), in a close 14-13 "no" vote.

## **Tax Credits for Video Game Companies**

The latest in industry-specific tax breaks would benefit the video game and film post-production business. The House approved [HB 199](#), (Trey Rhodes-R) which is intended to attract more production companies to Georgia by emulating tax credits already adopted for TV and movie companies. The bill now moves over for Senate consideration.

## **Elections Bill**

As we reported previously, Secretary of State Brian Kemp recently settled a federal voting rights lawsuit filed by the NAACP of Georgia and several others. The state agreed not to use exact matching comparisons from different data banks as the sole reason to cancel a voter's eligibility. Democrats argued that [HB 268](#), the annual elections housekeeping bill, would undercut the outcome of that case by making it more difficult for minorities to produce acceptable identification. Minority Leader Stacy Abrams (D-Atlanta) said, "You cannot by state law change federal law. We are violating the very agreement we (Georgia) agreed to two weeks ago." The House voted along party lines, 111-57, to pass the bill.

## **Governor's Pay Raise**

A House Appropriations Subcommittee passed along to the full committee a "Do Pass" recommendation Thursday for [HB 202](#) (Jay Powell-R). The bill would raise the Governor's annual salary from \$139,000 to \$175,000. Powell told his colleague that Georgia's governor should make a salary commensurate to what other governors are paid. The bill, which takes effect only after Gov. Nathan Deal has left office, will also reactivate a committee that would fashion recommendations on salaries for constitutional officers and legislators in the future.

## **Predictive Scheduling Prohibited, Predictably**

A lively debate took place Wednesday when the House took up [HB 243](#) (Bill Werkheiser-R). The legislation would prohibit local governments in Georgia from passing ordinances that require businesses to provide "predictive schedules" for their employees.

Some cities in other states have adopted ordinances that require employers to provide workers, such as those in the fast food industry, with two to four weeks' notice of work schedules. Some ordinances force employers to pay employees for schedule changes and provide predictable pay for on-call workers.

"Government cannot dictate how businesses will schedule their employees," said Werkheiser, the bill's sponsor. He argued that the practice would ultimately hurt employees because there would be less opportunity for work. Republicans proclaimed the measure would help Georgia maintain its ranking as the number one state in which to do business.

Rep. Dewey McClain (D-Lawrenceville) responded that, “The reason we’re the number one place is that we have cheap labor – we pay you cheap.”

Rep. Renitta Shannon (D-Decatur) said, “Localities must have the freedom to do what’s best for their people and their communities.” She quarreled that the bill was being pushed by corporate lobbyists and amounted to an “assault on democracy.”

Given the solid Republican majority in the House, it was predictable that the bill would pass 115-55, along party lines.

### **Back-the-Blue Day**

“Be sure to wear blue tomorrow,” a senator told us Thursday afternoon; “Friday is going to be Back-the-Blue Day.”

In a calculated show of support for those who wear the badge, the Senate passed four bills on Friday aimed at benefitting law enforcement. The first three listed are sponsored by Sen. Greg Kirk (R-Americus); the fourth one is authored by Sen. Tyler Harper (R-Ocilla).

[SB 154](#) would increase the amount of money the family of a slain law enforcement officer receives from the State Indemnification Fund. The 50% increase ramps up the amount from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

[SB 155](#) would create a compensation commission to study local law enforcement salaries and report data and findings back to the legislature.

[SB 169](#) would create a Back-the-Badge specialty license plate with proceeds going to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund.

[SB 160](#), would impose longer prison sentences for persons convicted of aggravated assault and battery against a public safety officer. Juveniles would be tried as adults if charged with assaulting an officer, although judges would have the ability to transfer such cases back to juvenile court.

### **Next Week**

Next Friday is Crossover Day at the Legislature, one of the major hurdles legislation must clear to stay on track for final passage. Thursday will be a recess day to allow clerks to catch up with a burst of committee and floor activity. Thus, any bill that has not yet advanced out of committee in its House of origin will need to do so next week (by 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Senate).

### **Tracking List**

Here are the bills we are tracking. **New activity is noted in red.** Click on the [Bill Number](#) to access the current version of the bill.

The 2017 Legislative Session is the first session of the 2017-2018 Term of the Georgia General Assembly. Therefore, bills not passed or defeated during this session will be carried over to the 2018 session. Bills pending in the House or Senate Rules Committees at adjournment sine die of the 2017 session will be recommitted to the committee from whence they came.

### **Aging and Adult Services**

[HB 154, Dental hygienists practice](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Regulates the practice of dental hygienists when the supervising dentist is not in same building. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to the Health Cmte

[HB 221, Update and Conform Provisions relating to powers of attorney](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstrotation-R)

Relating to agency, so as to update and conform provisions relating to powers of attorney to a uniform Act. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[SB 12, Dental hygienists practice](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Regulates the practice of dental hygienists when the supervising dentist is not in same building. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 201, Allows employees to use sick leave to care for immediate family members](#), (Sen. Butch Miller-R) Relating to general provisions relative to labor and industrial relations, so as to allow employees to use sick leave for the care of immediate family members. **Status:** **Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte**

### **City & County Governments and Regional Commissions**

[HB 1, To provide for the facilitation of space flight activities](#), (Rep. Jason Spencer-R)

To provide for the facilitation of space flight activities in this state; to provide for exceptions; to limit the liability of space flight entities related to injuries sustained by participants who have agreed in writing to such activities. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to the Senate, **Referred to Science & Technology Cmte**

[HB 33, Individuals appointed to authorities and boards be U.S. citizens](#), (Rep. Brad Raffensperger-R)

Relating to general provisions applicable to counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental entities; general provisions regarding eligibility and qualifications for public office; and general provisions relating to state government, respectively, so as to require that individuals appointed to authorities, boards, councils, and commissions be United States citizens or nationals, lawful permanent residents, or aliens having lawful status to be present in the United States. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 42, Correct mistakes and omissions on ballots for a primary or election](#), (Rep. Eddie Lumsden-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to authorize election superintendents to correct mistakes and omissions on ballots for a primary or election. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Ethics Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to the Governor, Governor Deal Signed February 23, 2017.**

[HB 61, Retailers to collect and remit or notify purchaser and state of sales/use tax](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

Relating to imposition of tax, rates, and collection, so as to require certain retailers to either collect and remit sales and use taxes or provide certain notifications to each purchaser and the state. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, HB 61 merged with HB 62, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to the Senate, **Referred to Finance Cmte**

**Note:** HB 62 language was incorporated into HB 61.

[HB 62, Revise sales and use tax on personal property delivered into state](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

Amend Article 1 of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state sales and use tax on tangible personal property delivered into this state. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Withdrawn and recommitted to Ways & Means Cmte,

**Note:** HB 62 language was incorporated into HB 61.

[HB 66, Certain fees for money transmission transactions by financial institutions](#), (Rep. Jeff Jones-R)

Relating to sale of payment instruments, so as to provide for the imposition of certain fees upon money transmission transactions completed by financial institutions for individuals; to provide for compensation to financial institutions for reporting and paying fees; to amend Article 3 of Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the O.C.G.A., relating to income tax returns and furnishing of information, so as to provide for a tax credit for residents in the amount of certain assessed money transmission transaction fees paid by such residents; to provide for a reimbursement for certain residents in the amount of certain assessed money transmission transaction fees paid by such residents. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 69, Reporting of statistics related to the classification of counties into tiers for economic development](#), (Rep. Paulette Rakestraw-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to provide for the reporting of statistics related to the classification of counties into tiers for economic development purposes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 70, Reclassify counties with certain percentage who commute outside county for work](#), (Rep. Paulette Rakestraw-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to provide that a county with a certain percentage of workers who commute outside such county for work shall be reclassified one tier lower in the county tier system for economic development purposes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 73, Income tax credit incentives to promote rural downtown revitalization](#), (Rep. Penny Houston-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxation, so as to provide tax credit incentives to promote the revitalization of vacant rural Georgia downtowns by encouraging investment, job creation, and economic growth in long-established business districts. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Public Finance Subcmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to the Senate, **Referred to Finance Cmte**

[HB 95, Change certain property tax definitions](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

Relating to ad valorem taxation of property, so as to change certain definitions regarding such taxation. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 141, Expand list of permitted expenditures for revenues from excise tax on lodging](#), (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to county and municipal levies on public accommodations charges for promotion of tourism, conventions, and trade shows, so as to expand the list of permitted expenditures for revenues from excise taxes on lodging. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 146, Fire departments to maintain certain insurance coverage for firefighters](#), (Rep. Micah Gravley-R)

Relating to general requirements for legally organized fire departments, so as to require such fire departments to purchase and maintain certain insurance coverage for firefighters. **Status:** Referred to

Insurance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 152, Occupational disease: firefighter show certain evidence](#), (Rep. Micah Gravley-R)

Relating to compensation for occupational disease, so as to allow a firefighter to show certain evidence as to the ordinary disease of life of cancer. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 168, Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority](#), (Rep. Regina Quick-R)

An Act to amend an Act creating the Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority, Ga. L. 1994, p. 5123, so as to abolish the Upper Oconee Resource Management Commission; to remove all references to same; to modify the composition of the Authority's Board. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to State & Local Government Operations**

[HB 178, Quality Basic Education Act](#), (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to program weights and funding requirements under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide for local school systems to earn funding for school counselors for military students. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte

[HB 181, Change provisions regarding furnishing of certain tax information in all municipalities with a population of 350,000+](#), (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)

Relating to confidential information secured in the administration of taxes, so as to change certain provisions regarding the furnishing of certain tax information in all municipalities in this state having a population of 350,000 or more and make such provisions applicable state wide. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **Hearing Only in Sales Tax Subcmte**

[HB 183, Recreate the Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council](#), (Rep. Robert Dickey-R)

Recreate the Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council under the Department of Community Affairs; to provide for definitions; to provide that all documents and data of the current Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council that is under the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources shall be transferred to the new council. **Status:** Referred to State Planning & Community Affairs Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Natural Resources and the Environment Cmte, **On the Senate Natural Resources Cmte Agenda for Monday**

[HB 189, Contract Cancellation Act](#), (Rep. Shelia Nelson-D)

Relating to general provisions applicable to counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental entities, so as to provide that any service contract such entities enter into shall contain a termination clause; to provide that poor performance or cost overrun shall constitute cause for termination of the contract. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 194, Require counties and municipalities to consider the effect of proposed zoning on local schools](#), (Rep. Todd Jones-R)

Relating to adoption of hearing policies and procedures and standards for exercise of zoning power, so as to require counties and municipalities to consider the effect of a proposed zoning action on local school systems and the potential overcrowding of schools within such local school systems. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 204, Property tax bills shall not include nontax related fees](#), (Rep. Brett Harrell-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide that property tax bills shall not include any nontax related fees or assessments. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 216, Georgia Jobs Matter Act](#), (Rep. Debbie Buckner-D)

Relating to contracts and purchases by public schools, local government, and general authority, duties, and procedure relative to government purchasing, respectively, so as to modify provisions relating to

contractual and purchasing preferences for Georgia service providers and certain supplies, materials, equipment, and agricultural products grown, manufactured, or produced in this state. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 224, "Quality Basic Education Act" military students](#), (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to organization of schools and school systems under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide that a military student may attend any school in the local school system. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **House Postponed, Passed House as Amended, Sent to Senate**

[HB 227, Provide for the value of interest to be paid on refunds](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

Provide for the value of interest to be paid on refunds of certain overpayments made pursuant to a direct payment permit; to amend Part 2 of Article 1 of Chapter 8 of Title, relating to the imposition, rate, collection, and assessment of sales and use taxes, so as to require the Department of Revenue to establish and maintain a direct pay permit program that permits a qualified taxpayer to accrue and pay directly to the department certain state and local sales and use taxes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 243, Additional pay to employees based on schedule changes](#), (Rep. Bill Werkheiser-R)

Relating to minimum wage law, so as to preempt local government mandates requiring additional pay to employees based on schedule changes. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte**

[HB 245, Process by which military spouses may qualify for temporary certificates](#), (Rep. Al Williams-D)

Relating to certificated professional personnel, so as to provide for the establishment of a process by the Professional Standards Commission by which military spouses may qualify for temporary certificates, certificates by endorsement, or expedited certificates upon moving to Georgia with their service member or transitioning service member spouse. **Status:** Referred to Defense & Veterans Affairs Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 257, Requires local government authorities to register with the DCA for funds](#), (Jan Tankersley-R)

Relating to local government, so as to require local government authorities to register with the Department of Community Affairs in order to be eligible for state funds; to change the deadline for local government authorities to register with said department. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Local Government Subcmte Favorably Reported by substitute, Cmte Favorably Reported by substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations Cmte**

[HB 270, Repeal the Equalized Homestead Option Sales Tax Act](#), (Rep. Tom Taylor-R)

Relating to sales and use taxes, so as to repeal a certain exemption to the ceiling on local sales and use taxes which may be levied by a political subdivision; to repeal the Equalized Homestead Option Sales Tax Act of 2015. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **Sales Tax Subcmte Favorably Reported by Substitute**

[HB 271, Shore protection](#), (Rep. Jesse Petrea-R)

Relating to shore protection, so as to revise various provisions relative to shore protection; to revise and add definitions; to establish authority and powers of the Department of Natural Resources; to revise provisions relating to permit activities. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, **Environmental Quality Subcmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 332, Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Act](#), (Rep. Sam Watson-R)

Relating to conservation and natural resources, so as to repeal and reenact Chapter 6A, relating to land conservation; to provide for a short title; to create the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund; to create funding mechanisms for the protection and preservation of conservation land and provide for their operation. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte



[HB 336, Broadband Deployment Incentives](#), (Rep. Don Parsons-R)

To provide for broadband deployment incentives; to establish certification of certain counties and municipal corporations as broadband ready communities; to provide for duties and responsibilities of the Department of Economic Development; to provide for the Georgia Technology Authority to develop an annual "Broadband Strategy for All of Georgia." **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 342, Enterprise Zones](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstoration-R)

Relating to enterprise zones, so as to provide that certain urban redevelopment zones may be designated as enterprise zones; to provide for a sales tax exemption in such enterprise zones. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 362, Terms of office for county and municipal governing authorities](#), (Rep. Andrew Welch-R),

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the beginning of the terms of office for county and municipal governing authorities and consolidated governments under certain circumstances; to provide for limitations on actions by governing authorities and consolidated governments under certain circumstances; to provide for exceptions; to amend Chapter 20 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county leadership training. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 370, Council to create and administer savings plans and deferred compensation plans](#), (Rep. Scott Hilton-R)

Relating to the Council of Municipal Court Judges of Georgia, so as to authorize the council to create and administer savings plans and deferred compensation plans for its members; to provide for the manner of funding. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 371, Immunity of municipal corporations](#), (Rep. Barry Fleming-R)

Relating to liability of municipal corporations for acts or omissions, so as to revise provisions relating to immunity of municipal corporations; to provide for exceptions; to provide for liability involving joint undertakings. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 372, Exemption for certain equipment used in the deployment of broadband](#), (Rep. Don Parsons-R)

Relating to the state sales and use tax, so as to create an exemption for certain equipment used in the deployment of broadband technology; to provide for definitions; to provide for the commissioner of community affairs to make certain annual designations. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **Hearing Only in Sales Tax Subcmte**

[HB 428, Downtown development authorities](#), (Rep. Chuck Martin-R)

Relating to downtown development authorities, so as to authorize assessments under Code Section 36-42-17. **Status:** **Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Withdrawn and recommitted to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte**

[HB 446, Local Government 9-1-1 Authority Act](#), (Rep. Alan Powell-R)

Relating to local government, public officers and employees, and public utilities and public transportation, respectively, so as to create the Local Government 9-1-1 Authority; to provide for members, powers, duties, authority, and responsibilities; to change certain provisions relating to the remittance of 9-1-1 charges; to provide for payment by service suppliers to the Local Government 9-1-1 Authority. **Status:** **Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte**

[HB 451, Ordinance restricting certain vehicles on certain roads](#), (Rep. Bubber Epps-R)

Relating to general provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to prohibit adoption of an ordinance by a county or municipal corporation restricting the travel of certain vehicles on certain roads within their respective systems without providing for certain exceptions. **Status:** **Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte**

[HB 470, Grants to certain organizations supporting military communities](#), (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)  
Relating to the Department of Economic Development, so as to create a program for making grants to certain organizations supporting military communities; to provide for legislative findings. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism

[HR 158, Dedicate the revenues derived from fees or taxes to the public purpose for which they were imposed](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)  
Provide by general law for the dedication of revenues derived from fees or taxes to the public purpose for which such fees or taxes were imposed; to provide for procedures. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HR 169, Adopt interstate health licensing for military service members & families](#), (Rep. Sandra Scott-D)  
A RESOLUTION urging the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners, the Georgia Board of Dentistry, and the various professional licensing boards under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State's office to adopt existing interstate licensing compacts to permit military service members and their families who have a license to practice in a health service field for which a license is required to practice in such field in this state, without requiring such individuals to earn a Georgia license in addition to their home state license. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HR 389, House Rural Development Council](#), (Rep. Sam Watson-R)  
A RESOLUTION creating the House Rural Development Council. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte

[SB 2, "The FAST Act - Empowering Our Small Businesses to Succeed"](#), (Sen. Mike Dugan-R)  
Relating to general provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, general provisions regarding professions and businesses, and state government, respectively, so as to enhance accountability and notice requirements for agency rule making so as to reduce regulatory burdens on businesses. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported By Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to the House, Referred to Small Business Development Cmte

[SB 46, Provide for the facilitation of space flight activities](#), (Sen. William Ligon-R)  
To provide for the facilitation of space flight activities in this state; to provide for definitions; to provide for exceptions; to limit the liability of space flight entities related to injuries sustained by participants who have agreed in writing to such a limitation after being provided with certain warnings. **Status:** Referred to Science and Technology Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to the House, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 85, Provide for limited sale of malt beverages at retail by manufacturers](#), (Sen. Rick Jeffares-R)  
Relating to malt beverages, so as to provide for the limited sale of malt beverages at retail by manufacturers of malt beverages; to provide for a definition; to clarify that sales of malt beverages by brewpubs for consumption off the premises are governed by the local jurisdiction. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported By Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 116, Storm-water utility fees on water-neutral properties](#), (Sen. Frank Ginn-R)  
Relating to provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to prohibit the assessment of storm-water utility fees on water-neutral properties. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Hearing Only in Cmte

[SB 165, Impose Liability on Coal ash producers who dispose of such coal ash in this state in the event of a release](#), (Sen. William Ligon-R)  
Relating to solid waste management, so as to impose liability on any producer of coal ash who disposes of such coal ash in this state in the event of a release; to provide for definitions. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources and the Environment Cmte

[SB 222, 'Local Government 9-1-1 Authority Act'](#), (Sen. John Kennedy-R)

Relating to local government, public officers and employees, and public utilities and public transportation, respectively, so as to create the Local Government 9-1-1 Authority; to provide for members, powers, duties, authority, and responsibilities; to change certain provisions relating to the remittance of 9-1-1 charges; to provide for payment by service suppliers to the Local Government 9-1-1 Authority. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte

[SB 232, "Facilitating Internet Broadband Rural Expansion \(FIBRE\) Act"](#), (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to local government, public utilities and public transportation, revenue and taxation, and state government, respectively, so as to provide for broadband service planning, deployment, and incentives; to provide for the creation and administration of the Georgia Gigabit Ready Community Site designation program by the Department of Economic Development; to change the definitions relative to the "OneGeorgia Authority Act" to include broadband services in the terms "cost of project" and "project". **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte

## Disabilities and Mental Health

[SB 4, Georgia Mental Health Treatment Task Force](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to establish the Georgia Mental Health Treatment Task Force; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for the membership, duties, compensation, and expense allowances; to develop applications for a Medicaid waiver and block grant funding; to prohibit the submission of a mental health Medicaid waiver application without legislative approval. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported By Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 40, Authorize EMS personnel to transport certain mentally ill patients](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Relating to examination, hospitalization, and treatment of involuntary patients, so as to provide for authorization of emergency medical services personnel to transport certain mentally ill patients under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 52, Repeal sunset provision authorizing licensed professional counselor](#), (Sen. P. K. Martin IV-R)

Relating to mental health and authorizing a licensed professional counselor to perform certain acts. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 118, Change the age limit for coverage for autism spectrum disorders](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Relating to coverage for autism, so as to change the age limit for coverage for autism spectrum disorders for an individual covered under a policy or contract. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

## Economic Development

[HB 158, Creation of Georgia Gaming Commission and Destination Resorts](#), (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to the creation, membership, appointments, and duties of the Georgia Gaming Commission; to authorize the licensing of up to two destination resorts. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte

[HB 265, Tax credit for establishing or relocating quality jobs](#), (Rep. Chuck Efrstration-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to revise the provisions relating to the credit for establishing or relocating quality jobs; to amend Code Section 48-8-3 of the O.C.G.A., relating to exemptions from state sales and use taxes, so as to provide a state sales tax exemption for sales of tickets, fees, or charges of admission to certain facilities that provide certain arts and education programming; to provide a state and local sales tax exemption for sales of tangible personal property used for or in the renovation or expansion of certain theaters. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 17, Local authorities to authorize Sunday times to sell alcoholic beverages](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)  
Relating to alcoholic beverages, so as to provide that governing authorities of counties and municipalities in which the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises is lawful may authorize sales of such alcoholic beverages during a certain time on Sundays. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte

[SB 79, Creation of Georgia Gaming Commission and Destination Resorts](#), (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)  
Relating to the creation, membership, appointments, and duties of the Georgia Gaming Commission; to authorize the licensing of up to two destination resorts. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Hearing Only in Cmte, **On Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte Agenda for Monday**

[SR 249, A Constitutional Amendment to authorize casino resorts](#), (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)  
A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, so as to provide by law for the local authorization of a limited number of licensed destination casino resorts within the state; to authorize the operation and regulation of limited casino gaming within the state; and to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, **On Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte Agenda for Monday**

### **Environment & Natural Resources**

[HB 205, Oil and Gas Deep Drilling Act](#), (Rep. John Meadows-R)  
Relating to mining and drilling, so as to regulate the exploration and extraction of gas and oil and to create an Oil and Gas Board and impose a severance tax on the extraction of oil and gas. **Status:** Referred to the Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Cmte, Hearing Only in Energy Subcmte, Second Hearing Only in Energy Subcmte, **Energy Subcmte Favorably Reported, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities**

[SB 191, Regulation and permitting of petroleum pipelines](#), (Sen. Rick Jeffares-R)  
Relating to conservation and natural resources, eminent domain, and state government, respectively, so as to provide for the regulation and permitting of petroleum pipelines in this state; to provide for the issuance of certain permits by the director of the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources and the Environment Cmte

### **General Government**

[HB 399, Campaign Finance Act](#), (Rep. Wendell Willard-R)  
Provides for the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission and its composition, duties, powers, authority, and funding; to provide for procedures regarding complaints, disclosures, and other filings; to provide limitations on campaign contributions and expenditures; to provide for disclosure of contributions and expenditures and personal finances; to provide for the registration of lobbyists. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 75, Create the Division of Supplier Diversity](#), (Sen. Vincent For-D)  
Relating to the Department of Administrative Services, so as to define certain terms; to create the Division of Supplier Diversity; to provide for appointment of a director; to provide for powers and duties of the director; to create the position of minority and women owned business enterprises state-wide advocate. **Status:** Referred to Government Oversight Cmte

[SR 229, Granting of non-exclusive easements for roads](#), (Sen. Burt Jones-R)  
A RESOLUTION authorizing the granting of non-exclusive easements for the construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities, utilities, roads, and ingress and egress in, on, over, under, upon, across, or through property owned by the State of Georgia in Bleckley, Cherokee, Douglas, Evans, Glynn, Hall,

Laurens, Rockdale, Upson, and Walton Counties. **Status:** Referred to State Institutions and Property Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte**

## Health – General

[HB 65, Change conditions and eligibility for Low THC Registry](#), (Rep. Allen Peake-R)

Change provisions relating to conditions and eligibility; to provide a definition; to remove certain reporting requirements for the Low THC Registry. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-civil Cmte

[HB 300, Transfer the state health care benefit plan from the DCH](#), (Rep. Geoff Duncan-R),

Transfer the state health care benefit plan from the Department of Community Health to the Department of Administrative Services; to require incentives for public employees to utilize federally qualified health centers; to provide for the identification of up to 100 potential new sites for federally qualified health centers; to provide for a task force; to provide for an advisory board. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 301, Delete income tax deduction for certain physicians serving as community based faculty physicians](#), (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from income taxes, so as to delete an income tax deduction for certain physicians serving as community based faculty physicians; to create a new income tax credit for taxpayers who are licensed physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, or physician assistants who provide uncompensated preceptorship training to medical students, advanced practice registered nurse students, or physician assistant students. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 427, Physicians and Health Care Practitioners for Rural Areas Assistance Act](#), (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

Relating to physicians for rural areas assistance, so as to expand the service cancelable loan program for physicians in underserved areas to other health care practitioners. **Status:** **Referred to Health & Human Services, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 486, Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act](#), (Rep. Tommy Benton-R)

Relating to exceptions to operation of the Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act and burden of proof, so as to provided training of proxy caregivers and to provide for selection of curricula by the DBHDD. **Status:** **Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte**

[HR 36, Production and sale of medical cannabis to individuals for medical use](#), (Rep. Allen Peake-R)

A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for the regulation of the production of cannabis and sale of medical cannabis to certain individuals for medical usage as provided by law; to provide that the fees paid from the production of cannabis and state tax proceeds from the sale of medical cannabis be dedicated. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte

[SB 16, Change conditions and eligibility for use of low THC Oil](#), (Sen. Ben Watson-R)

Relating to the regulation of low THC oil and the establishment of the Low THC Oil Patient Registry, definitions, purpose, registration cards, quarterly reports, and waiver forms, respectively, so as to change the definition of low THC oil; to change provisions relating to conditions eligible for use of low THC oil. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to the House, Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte

[SB 25, Create Georgia Health Care Transparency Initiative](#), (Sen. Joshua McKoon-R)

Relating to general provisions of insurance, so as to create the Georgia Health Care Transparency Initiative; to provide for definitions; to provide for a purpose; to provide for a Georgia Health Care Initiative Board; to provide for the board's membership and duties; to provide for the Commissioner's duties; to provide for subcommittees. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

## Health – Public Health

[HB 28, Test for lead contamination in drinking water, public and private schools](#), (Rep. Billy Mitchell-D)  
To require testing of drinking water in public and private schools for lead contamination; to provide for remediation plans or alternate sources of drinking water. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte

[HB 38, Issuance of license for three-wheeled motor vehicle](#), (Rep. Alan Powell-R)  
Provide for the issuance of a noncommercial Class C driver's license for the operation of three-wheeled motor vehicles equipped with a steering wheel for directional control; to provide for the issuance of a noncommercial Class M driver's license for the operation of motorcycles equipped with handlebars for directional control. **Status:** Referred to Motor Vehicles Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte

[HB 198, Requires schools to provide info about the influenza vaccine to parents of 6-12 students](#), (Rep. Katie Dempsey-R)  
Relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to require local school systems to provide certain information to parents and guardians of students in grades six through 12 on influenza and its vaccine whenever other health information is provided. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to the Education and Youth Cmte

[HB 200, Authorizing students to carry and self-administer sunscreen](#), (Rep. Mark Newton-R)  
Require local boards of education to adopt policies authorizing students to carry and self-administer sunscreen. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte

[HB 210, Certain specimen collection stations and blood banks aren't considered clinical labs](#), (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)  
Relating to definitions relative to clinical laboratories, so as to provide that certain specimen collection stations and blood banks are not considered clinical laboratories. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health and Humans Services Cmte**

[HB 241, Cove's Law](#), (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)  
Relating to control of hazardous conditions, so as to add Krabbe disease to the list of metabolic and genetic conditions for which newborn screening may be conducted pursuant to the Department of Public Health; to provide for the screening at the option of the parent or parents. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate**

[HB 263, Provide dental services for Medicaid recipients and PeachCare for Kids](#), (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R)  
Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide for administrators for dental services for Medicaid recipients and PeachCare for Kids participants; to require the Department of Community Health to competitively bid out and contract with such administrators. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services

[HB 274, Makes smoking inside of any motor vehicle when a person under 13 is present an offense](#), (Rep. Sandra Scott-D)  
Relating to general provisions regarding offenses against public health and morals, so as to provide for the offense of smoking inside any motor vehicle when a person who is under 13 years of age is present; to provide for a criminal penalty. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil

[HB 382, Georgia Commission on Women](#), (Rep. Jimmy Pruet-R)  
Relating to the Georgia Commission on Women, so as to place said commission under the administration of the Department of Public Health. **Status:** Referred to State Planning & Community Affairs Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 405, Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency](#), (Rep. Bill Hitchens-R)  
Relating to the emergency powers of the Governor, so as to require the Georgia Emergency Management

and Homeland Security Agency to establish a state-wide system to facilitate the transport and distribution of essentials in commerce during a state of emergency declared by the Governor. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety and Homeland Security Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 454, Publicly funded health facilities offering HIV testing](#), (Rep. Park Cannon-D)

Relating to control of HIV, so as to provide for certain information in publicly funded health facilities offering HIV testing. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 81, Jeffrey Dallas Gay, Jr., Act.](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Provide that the state health officer may issue a standing order permitting certain persons and entities to obtain opioid antagonists under the conditions the state health officer may impose. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 88, 'Narcotic Treatment Programs Enforcement Act'](#), (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to drug abuse treatment and education programs, so as to provide for regulation of narcotic treatment programs. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 184, Integrated Population Health Data Project](#), (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler-R) Relating to the Office of Planning and Budget, so as to establish the Integrated Population Health Data Project; to create a governing board and provide for its membership and terms; to provide for oversight of the project; to provide for board responsibilities. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte

[SB 193, Positive Alternatives for Pregnancy and Parenting Grant Program](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Relating to the Positive Alternatives for Pregnancy and Parenting Grant Program, so as to revise the program mission and practice; to remove certain references to medically indigent women. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 200, Synchronizing patients' chronic medications](#), (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler-R)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to provide for synchronizing patients' chronic medications. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 245, 'Cory Joseph Wilson Act'](#), (Sen. Butch Miller-R)

Relating to competencies and core curriculum in elementary and secondary education, so as to give a short title to a Code section relating to cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of automated external defibrillators in schools. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

## Hospitals

[HB 54, Change certain amounts eligible for tax credit for rural hospitals](#), (Rep. Geoff Duncan-R)

Relating to hospital care for the indigent generally, so as to provide for an additional reporting requirement for rural hospitals; make changes relating to the imposition, computation, rate, and exemptions from income taxes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Public Finance Subcmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 71, Insurance; consumer protections regarding health insurance](#), (Rep. Richard Smith-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to provide for consumer protections regarding health insurance; to provide for definitions; to provide for disclosure requirements of providers, hospitals, and insurers; to provide for network composition; to provide for billing and reimbursement of in-network and out-of-network services; to provide for payment of emergency services. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 81, Health facilities to receive tax refund setoffs for collection of medical debts](#), (Rep. Tom McCall-R)

Relating to income taxes, so as to allow certain health care facilities to receive income tax refund setoffs for collection of medical debts. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 127, Revise nonprofit medical and hospital service corporations provisions](#), (Rep. Richard Smith-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to repeal certain obsolete provisions relative to nonprofit medical service corporations and nonprofit hospital service corporations; to amend Titles 31 and 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to health and public officers and employees. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 149, Comprehensive regulation of trauma scene cleanup](#), (Rep. Alan Powell-R)

Relating to law enforcement officers and agencies, so as to provide for the comprehensive regulation of trauma scene cleanup services and regulated waste transport. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety & Homeland Security Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 157, Revise medical advertising criteria](#), (Rep. Trey Kelley-R)

Relating to requirements for advertising or publicizing of medical specialty certification. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate**

[HB 165, Maintenance of certification not required to practice medicine](#), (Rep. Betty Price-R)

Relating to medical practice, so as to provide that maintenance of certification shall not be required as a condition of licensure to practice medicine. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 299, Certificate of Need Modification](#), (Rep. Wendell Willard-R)

Relating to state health planning and development, to eliminate the requirement that certain expenditures by a health care facility are required to obtain a certificate of need; to eliminate the requirement for certificate of need for medical equipment; to exempt freestanding emergency departments from certificate of need requirements; to eliminate exemptions for certain capital expenditures and cost overruns. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 402, Nurse Licensure Compact](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Enter into an interstate compact known as the "Nurse Licensure Compact"; to authorize the Georgia Board of Nursing to exercise certain powers with respect to the compact; to provide for general provisions and jurisdiction; to provide for applications for licensure in a party state; to provide for additional authorities invested in party state licensing boards; to provide for a coordinated licensure information system and exchange of information between the party states. **Status:** **Referred to Health & Human Services**

[HB 426, Delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurses](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurses, so as to provide an exception to the number of advanced practice registered nurses with which a delegating physician can enter into a protocol agreement at any one time for nurses in certain locations under certain conditions. **Status:** **Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte**

[HB 464, Destination cancer hospitals](#), (Rep. Wendell Willard-R)

Relating to state health planning and development, so as to provide for a five-year phase-in decrease in the percentage of out-of-state patients required to compose the patient base; to eliminate the licensed bed capacity maximum for destination cancer hospitals in two years; to increase the required charity care of a destination cancer hospital for purposes of certificate of need for the next five years. **Status:** **Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte**



[HB 487, Disaster Volunteer Relief Act](#), (Rep. Josh Bonner-R)

Relating to the Disaster Volunteer Relief Act, so as to authorize certain employees of state agencies to be granted leave from work with pay in order to participate in specialized disaster relief services. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety & Homeland Security Cmte

[HR 182, Creating per capita block grant funding for indigent healthcare](#), (Rep. Brad Raffensperger-R)

A RESOLUTION urging the Governor to negotiate with federal authorities to receive a waiver creating per capita block grant funding to be used for indigent health care. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte

[SB 8, Surprise Billing and Consumer Protection Act](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

To provide for disclosure requirements of providers, hospitals, and insurers; to provide for billing and reimbursement of out-of-network services; to provide for procedures for dispute resolution for surprise bills for nonemergency services; to provide for payment of emergency services; to provide for an out-of-network reimbursement rate workgroup. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte hearing only, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House**

[SB 14, Clarify the amount of a state income tax credit for rural hospitals](#), (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to clarify the amount of an exemption for certain entities under the contributions to rural hospitals income tax credit. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[SB 44, Exempt from public disclosure the identities of donors to rural hospitals](#), (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to when public disclosure not required, so that the identities of individual and corporate donors to rural hospital organizations are exempt from public disclosure. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 50, "Direct Primary Care Act"](#), (Sen. Hunter Hill-R)

Relating to kinds of insurance, limits of risks, and reinsurance, so as to provide definitions; to provide that direct primary care agreements are not insurance; to exempt such agreements from regulation as insurance. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte**

[SB 70, Extend hospital Medicaid Financing Program](#), (Sen. Butch Miller-R)

Relating to the hospital Medicaid financing program, so as to extend the sunset provision. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Passed Senate, Transmitted to House, Referred to Appropriations Cmte, Appropriations Health Subcmte Favorably Reported, Cmte Favorably Reported, Passed House, Sent to Governor, Governor Deal Signed February 13, 2017

[SB 96, Authorize the pronouncement of death by registered professional nurses](#), (Sen. Ben Watson-R)

Relating to health, so as to authorize the pronouncement of death by registered professional nurses, nurse practitioners, or physician assistants of patients in nursing homes and hospice care even if they are organ donors. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House**

[SB 102, Designation of emergency cardiac care centers](#), (Sen. Butch Miller-R)

Relating to emergency medical services, so as to provide for the designation of emergency cardiac care centers; to provide for the establishment of the Office of Cardiac Care within the Department of Public Health. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte**

[SB 109, "Recognition of Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact"](#), (Sen. Michael Williams-R)

Provide for the enactment of "REPLICA"; to establish the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice; to provide for a coordinated database; to provide for rulemaking. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House**

[SB 123, Eliminate the 65% out-of-state patient base requirement for a destination cancer hospital](#), (Sen. Hunter Hill-R)

Eliminates the 65% out-of-state patient base requirement for a destination cancer hospital for purposes of certificate of need; to eliminate the 50 bed limitation on destination cancer hospitals; to provide that destination cancer hospitals can increase bed capacity under certain conditions; to eliminate the limitation on the number of destination cancer hospitals that can be issued a certificate of need. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 125, Authorizes a physician to allow a physician assistant to prescribe hydrocodone products](#), (Sen. Rick Jeffares-R)

Relating to delegation of authority to physician assistants, so as to authorize a physician to delegate to a physician assistant the authority to prescribe hydrocodone compound products. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte**

[SB 138, "Patient Compensation Act"](#), (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

Relating to torts, so as to create an alternative to medical malpractice litigation whereby patients are compensated for medical injuries; to provide for a short title; to provide for legislative findings and intent; to provide for definitions; to establish the Patient Compensation System and the Patient Compensation Board. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services

[SB 157, Creates additional exemptions to the certificate of need](#), (Sen. Ben Watson-R)

Relating to state health planning and development, so as to create additional exemptions to the certificate of need requirement. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 158, Creates additional exemptions from the certificate of need requirement](#), (Sen. Ben Watson-R)

Creates additional exemptions from the certificate of need requirement; to create a certificate of need process for freestanding emergency services; to provide for department application standards for freestanding emergency services; to provide for additional exemptions from certificate of need for hospital expenditures, multi-specialty surgical centers, and the sale of single specialty surgery centers. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 166, "Nurse Licensure Compact"](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Relating to nurses, so as to enter into an interstate compact known as the "Nurse Licensure Compact"; to authorize the Georgia Board of Nursing to exercise certain powers with respect to the compact; to provide for general provisions and jurisdiction; to provide for a coordinated licensure information system and exchange of information between the party states. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte**

[SB 180, Additional reporting requirement for rural hospitals](#), (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to hospital care for the indigent generally, so as to provide for an additional reporting requirement for rural hospitals; relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from income taxes, so as to change certain amounts and entities eligible for the credit; to amend Code Section 50-18-72 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to when public disclosure not required, so that the identities of individual and corporate donors to rural hospital organizations are exempt from public disclosure. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte

[SB 242, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurses, so as to provide an exception to the number of advanced practice registered nurses with which a delegating physician can enter into a protocol agreement at any one time for nurses in certain locations under certain conditions. **Status:** **Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte**

## Insurance

[HB 74, Change life risk-based capital trend test to comply with accreditation standards](#), (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R)

Relating to company action level events, preparation and submission of risk-based capital level plan, so as to change the life risk-based capital trend test in order to comply with accreditation standards. **Status:** Referred to Insurance, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[SB 248, Life insurers' requirement to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners life insurance policy locator](#), (Sen. Marty Harbin-R)

Relating to life insurance, so as to provide for life insurers' requirement to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners life insurance policy locator. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

## Pharmaceuticals

[HB 30, Add synthetic opioid to Schedule I Controlled Substances](#), (Rep. Kevin Tanner-R)

Relating to Schedule I controlled substances, so as add a synthetic opioid to Schedule I. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte

[HB 35, Pharmacy benefits managers required to confirm receipt of prior approval request within 48 hours](#), (Rep. Bruce Broadrick-R)

Relating to regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers, so as to require confirmation of receipt of prior approval requests for prescription drugs within 48 hours. **Status:** Referred to the Insurance Cmte

[HB 206, The Pharmacy Audit Bill of Rights](#), (Rep. Trey Kelley-R)

Remove an exception relating to certain audits conducted by the Department of Community Health; amend Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49, relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide that clerical or other errors do not constitute a basis to recoup payments made by providers of medical assistance. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte**

[HB 231, Annual Drug Bill](#), (Rep. Bruce Broadrick-R)

Relating to controlled substances, so as to change certain provisions relating to Schedules I, II, IV, and V controlled substances. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to the Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 276, The Pharmacy Patient Fair Practices Act](#), (Rep. David Knight-R)

Relating to regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers, so as to authorize the Commissioner of Insurance to promulgate certain rules and regulations and to examine and investigate certain matters with regard to pharmacy benefits managers; to prohibit pharmacy benefits managers from requiring the use of mail-order pharmacies under certain conditions. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[SB 103, 'The Pharmacy Patient Fair Practices Act'](#), (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers, so as to authorize the Commissioner of Insurance to promulgate certain rules and regulations and to examine and investigate certain matters with regard to pharmacy benefits managers; to prohibit pharmacy benefits managers from requiring the use of mail-order pharmacies. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte**

## Study Committees

[HR 14, Joint Study Committee on the Creation of High-Tech Health Incubators for Job Growth](#), (Rep. Brad Raffensperger- R)

Creating the Joint Study Committee on the Creation of High-Tech Health Incubators for Job Growth for Georgia; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Special Rules Cmte

[HR 39, House Study Committee on Enhancing Economic Development Through the County Tier System](#), (Rep. Paulette Rakestraw-R)

A RESOLUTION creating the House Study Committee on Enhancing Economic Development Through the County Tier System. **Status:** Referred to Special Rules Cmte

[HR 285, Joint Georgia-Alabama Study Committee](#), (Rep. Randy Nix-R)

A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Georgia-Alabama Study Committee; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Special Rules Cmte

[HR 362, Joint Study Committee on Stream Buffers in Georgia](#), (Rep. Lynn Smith-R)

A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Stream Buffers in Georgia; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Special Rules Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

[HR 388, Meeting the Demand for Nursing Care](#), (Rep. Tom Kirby-R)

To create the House Study Committee on Meeting the Demand for Nursing Care in Georgia. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte

[HR 431, Study Committee on Changes in Federal Health Care Policy](#), (Rep. Scot Turner-R)

To create the House Study Committee on the Ramifications of Changes in Federal Health Care Policy. **Status:** Dropped in Hopper

[SR 152, Joint Study Committee on Stream Buffers in Georgia](#), (Sen. Frank Ginn-R)

A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Stream Buffers in Georgia; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources and the Environment Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte,

[SR 188, Barriers to Georgians' Access to Adequate Healthcare](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

A RESOLUTION creating the Senate Study Committee on Barriers to Georgians' Access to Adequate Healthcare; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[SR 222, Senate Special Tax Exemption Study Committee](#), (Sen. John Albers-R)

A RESOLUTION creating the Senate Special Tax Exemption Study Committee; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

[SR 224, Joint Study Committee on Storm-Water Management Fees](#), (Sen. Frank Ginn-R)

A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Storm-Water Management Fees; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

[SR 290, Joint Georgia-Alabama Study Committee](#), (Sen. Freddie Powell Sims-D)

A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Georgia-Alabama Study Committee; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Interstate Cooperation Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte

## Taxes

[HB 56, Levy a tax on persons who enter certain rental agreements](#), (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to specific, business, and occupation taxes, so as to levy and impose a tax on persons who enter certain rental agreements with certain equipment rental companies within a certain period of time; to provide for definitions; to require such equipment rental companies to collect such taxes and hold them in escrow for a period of time; to provide that such companies shall pay their ad valorem tax liability for

certain rental equipment with such taxes and shall remit any excess funds to the general fund of the state treasury; to provide for the reporting of statistical data related to such tax. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Subcmte Hearing Only, **Withdrawn and recommitted to Transportation Cmte**

[HB 59, Tax credits for rehabilitation of historic structures](#), (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Changes to tax credits for the rehabilitation of historic structures, so as to revise procedures, conditions, and limitations. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 89, Type of investor eligible for certain income tax credits](#), (Rep. Dar'shun Kendrick-D)

Relating to income taxes, so as to add a type of investor eligible for certain tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 145, Change method of charging tax on jet fuel](#), (John Carson-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding the state sales and use tax, so as to change the method of charging such tax on jet fuel. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 147, Income tax credit for films that employ veterans](#), (Rep. Pam Dickerson-D)

Relating to an income tax credit for film, video, or digital production in Georgia, so as to provide for an additional credit amount for productions that employ veterans. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 155, Georgia Musical Investment Act](#), (Rep. Amy Carter-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, and computation of and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to create an income tax credit for certain expenditures by a production company related to certain state certified musical or theatrical productions or recorded musical performances. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 195, Certain for profit corporations to participate in the indirect ownership of a home for the mentally disabled](#), (Rep. Brett Harrell-R)

Relating to property tax exemptions, so as to allow certain for profit corporations to participate in the indirect ownership of a home for the mentally disabled for primarily financing purposes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to the Senate, Referred to the Finance Cmte

[HB 217, Aggregate cap on contributions to certain scholarship organizations](#), (Rep. John Carson-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to increase the amount of the aggregate cap on contributions to certain scholarship organizations in order to receive income tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **Income Tax Subcmte Favorably Reported, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 236, Increase education tax credit](#), (Rep. Sam Teasley-R)

Relating to the qualified education tax credit, so as to increase the aggregate amount of tax credits allowed; to provide for two separate application dates; to provide for an automatic annual increase; to provide for rollover of tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 247, Tax Exemption for Concrete Mixer Transports](#), (Rep. Dominic LaRiccia-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding state sales and use tax, so as to exempt machinery used to mix or transport concrete from such tax. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Hearing Only Sales Tax Subcmte, Passed Sales Tax Subcmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte**

[HB 277, Tax credit for recording industries created in less developed areas](#), (Rep. Spencer Frye-D)

Relating to tax credits for business enterprises in less developed areas, so as to provide that sound recording is an industry eligible for a tax credit in less developed areas. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 314, Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act](#), (Rep. Jason Shaw-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding insurance, so as to establish qualified low-income community investment; to provide for a short title; to provide for definitions; to provide that certain entities may earn credit against the entity's state tax liability; to disallow refundability and sale on the open market of claimed credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 414, Certain unapproved and unused tax credits to be carried forward to next taxable year](#), (Rep. Sam Teasley-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to provide for certain unapproved and unused tax credits to be carried forward to the next taxable year. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HR 238, Annual allocation of 75% of revenue from sale of outdoor recreation equipment](#), (Rep. Sam Watson-R)

A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by general law for an annual allocation of 75 percent of the revenue derived from the state sales and use tax with respect to the sale of outdoor recreation equipment to a trust fund to be used for the protection and preservation of conservation land. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

## Transportation

[HB 58, Federal regulations regarding the safe operation of commercial vehicles](#), (Rep. Terry Rogers-R)

Relating to safe operation of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles, so as to update the reference date to federal regulations regarding the safe operation of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles. **Status:** Referred to Motor Vehicles Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte

[HB 68, Emergency pull off shoulders for motor vehicles in construction zones](#), (Rep. Andrew Welch-R)

Relating to general provisions relative to regulation of maintenance and use of public roads, so as to provide for emergency pull off shoulders for motor vehicles in construction zones of road expansion projects. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte

[HB 96, Change definitions of rooms, lodgings, and accommodations for excise tax](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

Relating to excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, so as to change certain definitions regarding such taxes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 103, Change certain definitions for motor fuel and road taxes](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

Relating to motor fuel and road taxes, so as to change certain definitions regarding such taxes; to provide an effective date. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 107, Change definitions for rooms, lodgings, and accommodations for excise tax](#), (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

Relating to excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, so as to change certain definitions regarding such taxes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 134, Change provisions of special district mass transportation sales tax](#), (Rep. Bubber Epps-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding the special district mass transportation sales and use tax, so as to change the definition of transportation purposes regarding such tax; to change certain provisions relating to special districts and the imposition of such tax. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Sales Tax Subcmte Favorably Reported, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte**

**Note:** The language from HB 215, by Rep. Meagan Hanson, was incorporated into HB 134.

[HB 160, Georgia Commission on Transit Governance](#), (Rep. Kevin Tanner-R)

Relating to mass transportation, so as to create the Georgia Commission on Transit Governance and Funding; to provide for the membership, powers, and duties of the commission; to provide for a report

and proposal by the commission. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to the Senate, Referred to Transportation Cmte

[HB 201, Exempt public mass transit vehicles from taxes on the sale of motor vehicle fuel](#), (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to an excise tax on motor fuels, so as to provide for an exemption from taxes on the sale of motor vehicle fuel for use by public mass transit vehicles, certain vehicles operated by public campus transportation systems. **Status:** Referred Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 215, Special district mass transportation sales and use tax](#), (Rep. Meagan Hanson-R)

Relating to the special district mass transportation sales and use tax, so as to clarify the ability of counties and qualified municipalities to issue general obligation bonds as necessary. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Hearing Only in Sales Tax Subcmte, Sales Tax Subcmte Favorably Reported

**Note:** The language from HB 215 was incorporated into HB 134, which passed out of the Ways & Means Cmte and now pending in the Rules Cmte

[HB 328, Provide for the maximum length and load of vehicles](#), (Rep. Sam Watson-R)

Relating to highways and uniform rules of the road, respectively, so as to provide for the maximum length and load of vehicles; to provide for methods for determining load limits for vehicles utilizing idle reduction technology; to revise provisions for FlexAuto lanes. Status: Referred to Transportation Cmte, **Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 379, Georgia Public Road Authority](#), (Rep. Kevin Tanner-R)

Relating to state government, so as to create the Georgia Public Road Authority; to provide for liberal construction. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte

[SB 6, Georgia Regional Transit Council](#), (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to commissions and other agencies, so as to create the Georgia Regional Transit Council; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for definitions; to provide for the membership, powers, and duties of the council; to provide for a report and proposal by the council; to provide for assignment of the council to the Department of Transportation for administrative purposes; to provide for compensation and expenses. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte**

[SB 58, Repeal the excise tax on hotel and motel room rentals](#), (Sen. Joshua McKoon-R) Relating to an excise tax on hotel and motel room rentals, so as to repeal such provision; to provide for an effective date.

**Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte

[SB 89, Provide for state investment in railways, railroad facilities, and equipment](#), (Sen. David Shafer-R)

Relating to officers in the Department of Transportation, so as to provide for state investment in railways and railroad facilities and equipment; to provide that the commissioner of transportation may administer a Georgia Freight Railroad Program. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to the House, Referred to Transportation Cmte

[SB 183, State Road and Tollway Authority](#), (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

Relating to general provisions relative to the State Road and Tollway Authority, so as to provide for a definition; to provide for powers of the authority; to allow for the indefinite collection of tolls in certain instances; to provide for letting of contracts by competitive bids. **Status:** **Referred to Transportation Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte**