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Weekly Legislative Report # 7

Week Ending February 23, 2018

Transit Legislation in the Fast Lane

Transit legislation has gotten a couple of green lights at the General Assembly, but at some point one bill will have to yield, or two bills must merge. Both the House and Senate Transportation Committees vetted and passed different transit bills last week.

[HB 930](#), by Kevin Tanner (R-Dawsonville) who chairs the House Transportation Committee, is a 52-page monster of a bill. It sets up a governance framework composed of non-elected representatives from 10 separate districts around the 13-county Metro Atlanta region, plus the Governor (chairman) and appointees of the House Speaker and Lt. Governor. The ATL Authority (Atlanta-region Transportation Link) would replace the current GRTA (Georgia Regional Transportation Authority). Counties within Metro Atlanta could implement transit expansion through a voter-approved new sales tax up to 1% for a period not to exceed 30 years. Gwinnett and Cobb Counties (with existing bus transit programs) are given special options for when and how to become a part of the Authority.

[SB 386](#), by Brandon Beach (R-Alpharetta) who chairs the Senate Transportation Committee, takes a slightly different approach, creating a new ATL agency within the existing GRTA. The governing structure is composed of local elected officials (or their appointees) and agency heads. It requires MARTA to be the region-wide transit operator and counties may join the ATL by implementing a special 1% sales tax for transit purposes, not to exceed 30 years.

Both bills are scheduled for floor debate next week.

Tax Break Fast Break

The House last week introduced and passed a major income tax cut bill within a 48-hour period. [HB 918](#), presented by Rep. Chuck Efration, the Governor's floor leader, is crafted to address the revenue windfall Georgia expects to reap as a result of the federal tax bill passed in December. The bill would reduce the state income tax rate from 6% to 5.75% in 2019, then down

to 5.5% in 2020 if the General Assembly and Governor approve. The bill also gives a sales tax break estimated to be about \$50 million to airlines on their purchases of jet fuel. The bill passed easily on a 134-36 vote.

However, during debate on the bill Carolyn Hugley (D-Columbus) observed that in 2012 lawmakers rushed through significant changes in the state's vehicle title tax. "We have to keep coming back year after year after year to fix it," she said. "We need to be thoughtful and take our time to learn the full impact before we make a decision."

To Hugley's point, the House also voted 125-41 Wednesday to make several tweaks to the state's title tax on motor vehicle sales. [HB 327](#) snips a loophole that has benefited used car dealers by eliminating a carve-out that had based the used car sales tax on book value rather than on full sales price as is done with new cars. HB 327 also lowers the tax rate on motor vehicle sales from 7% to 6.75% and reduces the title tax to 4% for those who have just moved in-state.

Broadband Initiatives Speed Ahead

Sen. Steve Gooch (R-Dahlonega) pushed his broadband enhancement bill through the Senate Friday morning on a 52-0 vote. [SB 402](#) would authorize the Georgia Department of Transportation to make right-of-way properties more accessible for the deployment of internet access lines and equipment. The bill would also give companies a tax break for extending broadband access to counties with less than 50,000 population.

On the House side, [HB 336](#) by Rep. Don Parson (R-Marietta), cleared the Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Committee. His bill would establish a way for communities to become "certified broadband ready" and requires the Georgia Technology Authority to develop an annual "Broadband Strategy for All of Georgia."

However, another proposal intended to promote broadband expansion was pulled back by the author, Ways & Means Chairman Jay Powell (R-Camilla). [HB 887](#) contained a feature known as the Netflix tax that would have taxed digital services and entertainment downloads at a rate of 4%. Revenues from the tax would have gone toward expanding broadband to underserved areas of the state. Powell removed that portion of the bill saying it was better to wait and see what actions the federal government takes to improve broadband access in the less populated areas of the country.

Long-Term Care Background Check

A measure to increase the protection of seniors in long-term care facilities passed the Public Safety Committee in the Senate on Thursday. It provides for comprehensive criminal background checks, including fingerprints, for owners and employees at facilities that provide care for older adults. [SB 406](#) (Brian Strickland-R) is scheduled for Senate floor debate on Monday.

House Passes "Pspact" Bill

Don't bother reaching for your dictionary; "Psypact" is a moniker invented to reference the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact. [HB 847](#) (Joyce Chandler-R) makes it easier to practice telepsychology across state lines and provides for temporary practice permits for out-of-state psychologists. The bill would become effective when at least seven states have enacted it. Three states have already approved the pact and another five have legislation pending. It's headed to the Senate after passing the House on Friday. Access to mental health services is extremely limited in rural areas and the use of telepsychology has grown significantly in recent years.

Pilot for Involuntary Behavioral Health Exams

The Senate HHS Committee passed out a substitute to Sen. Doc Rhett's (R-Marietta) bill, [SB 318](#), that would create a pilot program related to examinations of behavioral health patients. The pilot would test the efficacy of allowing the execution of a physician's certificate of emergency examination of a person for involuntary evaluation and treatment of mental or addiction illness. The certificate must be based on consultation with an EMT or paramedic who has personally observed the person.

Certificate of Need

Several Certificate of Need (CON) bills saw action this week. [HB 769](#) that permits the purchase and downsizing of a hospital to become a Micro-Hospital without obtaining a new CON passed the House. No vote was taken on [SB 459](#) which would remove restrictions agreed to by Cancer Treatment Centers of America in order to build a destination hospital without CON approval. The Legacy Sports Institute, [SB 462](#), received a hearing, but no vote in the Senate Economic Development Committee. The identical bill in the House, [HB 974](#), is still awaiting a hearing.

Study Committee Would Take On BCBS

In the summer of 2017 Anthem (Blue Cross Blue Shield) stunned hospitals and patients alike when it announced a policy of not being responsible for emergency room charges when patients visit with a problem that proves not to be an emergency – even when the patient thought it was. For example, a person suffering chest pains goes to the ER only to be diagnosed with indigestion. Sen. Bruce Thompson (R-White) introduced [SR 722](#) to create a Joint Study Committee on Retrospective Emergency Room Policies to examine the practice. The Senate HHS committee passed it on Friday.

Two Tobacco Bills See Movement

Georgia has the second lowest tax on cigarettes in the nation, but [HB 877](#) (Chad Nimmer-R) would cut the rate in half for modified risk tobacco products approved by the FDA. The argument is that the lower tax would be an incentive for people to reduce the health dangers of smoking by choosing tobacco products that have modified risks. No such products have yet received FDA approval, but tobacco companies say they are in use in Europe. Health officials say that nearly nine out of 10 people who smoke today, started as teenagers. The Department of Public Health targets youth with programs in hopes of preventing them from beginning an

addictive habit. The best-found deterrent to teen smoking initiation has proven to be high prices. The bill passed out of a Ways & Means Subcommittee on Thursday.

Permits to sell tobacco at special events or temporary locations is the subject of [HB 835](#) by Jodi Lott (R-Evans), who represents a district near Augusta. The intent is to allow the sale of tobacco products at events like the Masters golf tournament. However, it appears the language would also allow permits to be issued for events such as concerts and festivals frequented by youth. Permits would be issued by the Revenue Department, not the Department of Public Health, for not more than \$10 each. This bill passed the full House on Thursday and has been referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

Religious Freedom Adoption Bill

The Senate on Friday passed a stand-alone adoption bill aimed at allowing private adoption agencies working under a contract with the state to refuse to place children with same-sex couples if their refusal is based on a “sincerely held religious belief.” No law currently prohibits that practice, but it’s been a tenant of religious conservatives in the legislature to force a vote on the issue. An adoption bill passed last session containing this feature was vetoed by Gov. Deal. A major adoption law rework passed earlier in this session did not include it. [SB 375](#) (William Ligon-R) was opposed by both the Metro Atlanta and the Georgia Chamber of Commerce for painting Georgia in an unwelcoming light just as the state seeks to attract Amazon and other major employers. The bill passed the Senate along party lines but its future in the House is far less certain.

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 2018 Legislative Session is the second session of the 2017-2018 Term of the Georgia General Assembly. Therefore, bills not passed or defeated last session are carried over to the 2018 session. Bills pending in the House or Senate Rules Committees at adjournment sine die of the 2017 session have been recommitted to the committee from whence they came.

Aging and Adult Services

[HB 159, Georgia Adoption Law Revision](#), (Rep. Bert Reeves-R)

Revision of the Georgia’s adoption laws; to change the requirements for adopting children; to provide for nonresident adoption of his or her child; to provide for adoption of foreign children; to change the age for individuals to access the Adoption Reunion Registry; to provide for a waiver to revoke a surrender of parental rights; and to repeal conflicting laws. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed House Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Senate Recommitted to Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Pending House Agree/Disagree, House Agreed as Amended by the House, Sent to Senate, Pending Agree/Disagree., Senate agreed to Senate Substitute as Amended by the House, On to Governor’s Desk

[HB 330, Individuals identified in a diligent search conducted as part of a dependency proceeding](#), (Rep. Stacey Abrams-D),

Relating to a relative search by the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of Human Services, so as to specify additional information to be provided in the notice to certain individuals identified in a diligent search conducted as part of a dependency proceeding. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte.

[HB 497, De Facto Custody for Kinship Care](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstoration-R)

To provide for de facto custodians custody arrangements; to provide for joint child custody arrangements between a parent and a de facto custodian of a child. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte.

[HB 635, Disabled Adults and Elder Persons Protection Act](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

To provide for the establishment of at risk adult protective investigative/coordinating teams to coordinate responses to suspected instances of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of disabled adults or elder persons; to provide for coordination with the director of the division of Aging Services. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, **Referred to Health Cmte.**

[HB 668, Adult Guardianship](#), (Rep. Betty Price-R)

Relating to procedure for appointment, so as to provide for petitions for appointment of a guardian and orders of appointment for adult guardianship. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Judiciary Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred Judiciary Cmte^.

[HB 776, Authorized Electronic Monitoring in Long-term Care Facilities Act](#), (Rep. Demetrius Douglas – D)

To provide for authorized electronic monitoring in long-term care facilities; to provide for a short title; to provide for definitions; to provide consent requirements; to provide for notice to the facility; to provide for cost and installation; to provide for an assistance program for Medicaid recipients. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[HB 803, Protection of Elderly Persons](#), (Rep. Wendell Willard-R)

To prohibit trafficking of disabled adults, elderly persons; to provide for penalties and mandatory sentences. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HB 896, Uniform Adult Guardianship and Conservatorship](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstoration – R)

To change provisions relating to guardians and conservators of adults; to recognize certain provisions of the "Uniform Adult Guardianship and Conservatorship Proceedings Jurisdiction Act" in connection with the appointment of a guardian or conservator of adults and the jurisdiction for such petitions; to change provisions relating to the termination of an emergency guardianship. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.

[HB 897, Uniform Power of Attorney Act](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstoration – R)

Relating to the "Uniform Power of Attorney Act," so as to revise the short title; to provide for definitions; to change provisions relating to the application of Chapter 6 of this title. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.

[HB 927, Info to Caregiver by DFCS upon placement of child](#), (Rep. Chad Nimmer – R)

Relating to general provisions relative to dependency proceedings, so as to require certain information be provided to a caregiver, foster parent, preadoptive parent, or relative by DFCS upon placement of a child. **Status:** Referred to Juvenile Justice Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[SB 370, Waive claims against estates up to \\$25,000](#), (Sen. John Wilkinson – R)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide that the commissioner of human services waives the first \$25,000.00 of any estate. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte., Passed Health Cmte. as amended by the Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health Cmte.

[SB 406, "Georgia Long-term Care Background Check Program,"](#) (Sen. Brian Strickland – R)

To enact the "Georgia Long-term Care Background Check Program" and to promote public safety and provide for comprehensive criminal background checks for owners, applicants for employment, and employees providing care or owning a personal care home, assisted living community, private home care provider, home health agency, hospice care, nursing home, skilled nursing facility, or an adult day care. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, On the Senate Floor Monday.**

[SB 444, Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementias State Plan Advisory Council,](#) (Sen. Renee Unterman – R)

To create the Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementias State Plan Advisory Council; to provide for legislative declaration. **Status:** **Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.**

Business

[HR 993, CA to Create a Business Court,](#) (Rep. Chuck Efstrotation – R)

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to create a business court with state-wide jurisdiction; to provide for venue and uniformity of jurisdiction and powers. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte.

[SB 465, Line of Credit Not Classified as Interest,](#) (Sen. Ellis Black – R)

Relating to interest and usury, so as to exempt any charge for a letter of credit from being classified as interest. **Status:** **Referred to Banking Cmte.**

City & County Governments and Regional Commissions

[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 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

[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.

[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 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 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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, by Substitute, Sent to the Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte.

[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, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to the Senate, Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations 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, Recommitted to 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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported 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 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 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, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, Moved to Foot of the Rules Calendar, Tabled in Senate, Returned to State and Local Governmental Operations Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules 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, Pending Full Cmte.

[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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Natural Resources and the Environment Cmte, Hearing Only in 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Returned to Natural Resources Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules 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, Returned to the Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules 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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules, Recommitted to Governmental Affairs 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 419, Counties further regulate the use or ignition of consumer fireworks](#), (Rep. Deborah Silcox-R) Relating to general provisions regarding local government provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to enable the governing authority of certain counties to further regulate the use or ignition of consumer fireworks. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Senate Tabled, Returned to Public Safety Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules 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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Rules Calendar, House Postponed and Recommitted to Rules Cmte, Recommitted 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, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules, Recommitted to Governmental Affairs Cmte.

[HB 512, Storm-water utility fees on water-neutral properties](#), (Rep. Regina Quick-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 Natural Resources & Environment Cmte.

[HB 518, Specify accounts or portions considered to be "actual recurring local service revenues"](#), (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R) Relating to exercise of power of eminent domain by telephone companies, placement of posts and other fixtures, regulation of construction of fixtures, posts, and wires near railroad tracks, liability of telephone companies for damages, required information, and due compensation, so as to specify the accounts or portions thereof considered to be included as part of the term "actual recurring local service revenues".

Status: Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HB 523, Industrial Loans Near Military Bases](#), (Rep. Brian Strickland-R)

Relating to industrial loans, so as to prohibit the issuance of a license to issue industrial loans within a certain distance from a military base or installation; to require certain disclosures related to insurance premiums on industrial loans in certain instances; to prohibit persons engaged in the business of making industrial loans from issuing payment instruments which create a loan contract upon redemption. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules, Passed House, Sent to the Senate, Referred to Banking and Financial Institutions Cmte.

[HB 533, 5G Broadband Infrastructure Leads to Development \(BILD\) Act](#), (Rep. Brett Harrell-R)

Relating to local government, so as to limit the ability of local governing authorities to prohibit, regulate, or charge for the collocation of small wireless facilities in public rights of way under certain circumstances; to provide the Public Service Commission with the jurisdiction to determine disputes. **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications.

[HB 579, Local Government can't band or regulate short-term and vacation rentals](#), (Rep. Matt Dollar-R)

Relating to local government, so as to provide that local governments cannot ban or regulate short-term and vacation rentals; to provide for definitions; to provide for exceptions; to provide for the imposition and collection of certain taxes. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries.

[HB 650, Local Government Relocation of Monuments](#), (Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver-D)

To provide that local governments may relocate, remove, conceal, obscure, or alter certain monuments. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte.

[HB 674, Waiver of Sovereign Immunity](#), (Rep. Wendell Willard-R)

Relating to sovereign immunity as to actions ex contractu and state tort claims and a municipal corporation's immunity from liability for damages and the waiver of immunity by the purchase of liability insurance. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte.

[HB 677, Tax Exemption for Deployed Service Members](#), (Rep. Paulette Rakestraw – R)

Relating to property tax exemptions and deferral, so as to provide for a homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes for state, county, municipal, or school purposes for deployed service members in an amount proportional to the period of deployment during the preceding calendar year. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte.

[HB 679, Annexation of Territory](#), (Rep. Beth Beskin-R)

Regarding the annexation of territory, so as to provide that no annexation or deannexation shall be effective during the period 90-days prior to a municipal election. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

[HB 692, Deferred Compensation Plan](#), (Rep. Howard Maxwell-R)

Relating to deferred compensation plans, so as to provide that the governing authority of a municipality may pay cost or fees associated with an employee's participation in a deferred compensation plan. **Status:** Referred to Retirement Cmte., Passed out of Cmte, Passed out of House, Sent to Senate

[HB 693, Solid Waste Management](#), (Rep. Brett Harrell-R)

Relating to solid waste management generally, so as to repeal provisions relating to authorization to enforce collection taxes, fees, or assessments. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte., passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Natural Resources Cmte.**

[HB 699, Firefighter Training & Transfer of Military Certification](#), (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to basic firefighting training courses and transfer of certification, so as to provide that military firefighter training may be accepted as required basic training. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety & Homeland Security Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte.

[HB 751, Establish Georgia Emergency Communications Authority](#), (Rep. Jay Powell – R)

To establish the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority; to amend Title 46 of the O.C.G.A., relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to revise the Georgia Emergency Telephone Number 9-1-1 Service Act of 1977 to account for the establishment of the authority. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety and Homeland Security Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte.

[HB 756, SPLOST Annual Reporting Revisions](#), (Rep. Scott Hilton – R)

Relating to county special purpose local option sales tax (SPLOST), so as to revise the annual reporting requirements regarding projects and purposes using SPLOST funds. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte.

[HB 792, Extend sunset for Solid Waste Surcharges](#), (Rep. Terry Rodgers – R)

Relating to waste management, so as to extend the sunset date for certain solid waste surcharges and hazardous waste fees. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Natural Resources Cmte.**

[HB 810, Boards and Committee Meetings by Teleconference](#), (Rep. Tom McCall-R)

An agency with state-wide jurisdiction or committee of such an agency, or a local workforce development board or their committee shall be authorized to conduct meetings by teleconference. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

[HB 821, Jet Fuel Exemption from SPLOST](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstrotation – R)

To define the terms "Internal Revenue Code" and "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" and thereby incorporate certain provisions of the federal law into Georgia law; to provide for no liability for state or local title ad valorem tax fees in a replacement title transaction for a vehicle not less than 15 years old; to exempt jet fuel from state sales and use tax and from the sales and use taxes levied pursuant to the County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST), the Sales Tax for Educational Purposes (ESPLOST), the Special District Transportation Sales and Use Tax (TSPLOST), and the Special District Mass Transportation Sales and Use Tax. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

[HB 833, Professional Land Surveyors Changes](#), (Rep. Paulette Rakestraw – R)

To change provisions relating to professional land surveyors; to change and add certain defined terms; to provide for land surveyor interns; to change certain educational and examination requirements. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate.**

[HB 843, Tax Credits for Businesses include Census Tract with Federal Military Installation](#), (Rep. Jason Shaw – R)

Relating to tax credits for business enterprises in less developed areas, so as to include any census tract that in a county that contains a certain federal military installation and also contains an industrial park that is owned and operated by a governmental entity. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte., Recommitted to Economic Development Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HB 876, Use of Wood in Construction of Buildings](#), (Rep. John Corbett – R)

Relating to state-wide application of minimum standard codes, adoption of more stringent requirements by local governments, adoption of standards for which state code does not exist, and exemptions for farm buildings and structures, so as to prohibit counties and municipalities from proscribing the use of wood in the construction of buildings when state minimum standard codes are otherwise met. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Agriculture Cmte.**

[HB 948, Sale of Regulated Goods in Counties](#), (Rep. Rick Jasperse – R)

To prohibit county, municipal, and consolidated governments from banning the commercial sales of goods, products, or items regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States

Food and Drug Administration, or the Georgia Department of Agriculture, which are sold at properly zoned retail establishments. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.

[HR 158, Provide for the Dedication of Revenues](#), (Rep. Jay Powell – R)

To 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. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred Appropriations 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.

[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, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to the House, Referred to Small Business Development Cmte, Hearing Only in Cmte, Tabled in Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules, House Postponed, House Postponed, Returned to Small Business Development Cmte, Passed Cmte 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 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

[SB 256, State Properties Commission can enter into leases in certain rural technology eligible counties](#), (Sen. Blake Tillery-R)

Relating to the State Properties Code, so as to authorize the State Properties Commission to enter into leases in certain rural technology lease eligible counties for the purpose of providing wireless service or broadband service to the public without submission to the General Assembly for approval. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Hearing Only in Cmte.

[SB 288, Refundable income tax credit for taxpayers who earn full-time law enforcement income](#), (Sen. Michael Williams-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to provide for a refundable income tax credit for taxpayers who earn full-time law enforcement income below a certain threshold. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte.

[SB 302, Local Government Relocation of Monuments](#), (Sen. Elan Parent-D)

To provide that local governments may relocate, remove, conceal, obscure, or alter certain monuments. **Status:** Referred to Government Oversight Cmte.

[SB 324, Abutting counties construction and maintenance of bridges](#), (Sen. John Albers – R)

Relating to contracts with state agencies and adjoining counties so as to provide that municipalities may contract with abutting counties for the construction and maintenance of bridges. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Transportation Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **On Senate Floor Monday.**

[SB 333, Deferred Compensation Plan](#), (Sen. Ellis Black-R)

Relating to deferred compensation plans, so as to provide that the governing authority of a municipality may pay cost or fees associated with an employee's participation in a deferred compensation plan. **Status:** Referred to Retirement Cmte, Passed Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Withdrawn and Recommitted to Retirement Cmte.

[SB 341, Provide the Use of Cameras on Ignition Interlock Devices](#), (Sen. Lee Anderson – R)

Relating to ignition interlock devices, the purchase or lease of such devices by counties, municipalities, or private entities, fees, costs, and deposits for such devices, and requirements for such devices when indigent, so as to provide for the use of cameras on ignition interlock devices. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Committee.

[SB 366, Wage and Compensation Studies for Employees of Sheriff's Office and Law Enforcement](#), (Sen. Steve Gooch – R)

To require counties and municipal corporations to perform wage and compensation studies for employees of the sheriff's office and law enforcement agencies; to require certain agreement and consultations with sheriffs and chief executives of law enforcement agencies of the county or municipal corporation in conducting such studies; to guide the establishment of pay scales; to require the submission of certain pay scales to the Department of Community Affairs. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules, Passed Senate as Amended, Sent to House, Referred to Appropriations Cmte.

[SB 371, Sales and Use Tax Information to Municipalities and Counties](#), (Sen. Lee Anderson –R)

Relating to confidential information secured in the administration of taxes, so as to change the provisions regarding the furnishing of sales and use tax information to municipalities and counties. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Finance Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Appropriations Cmte.**

[SB 377, State Workforce Development Board to TCSG](#), (Sen. Brian Strickland – R)

To transfer the State Workforce Development Board from the Department of Economic Development to the Technical College System of Georgia; to revise duties and obligations of the State Workforce Development Board. **Status:** Referred to Higher Education Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House.**

[SB 385, Private Solid Waste Companies Surcharge](#), (Sen. Burt Jones – R)

To change the surcharge imposed by host local governments regarding solid waste disposal facilities operated by private enterprises. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

[SB 397, Municipalities Hire Real Estate Brokers](#), (Sen. Ben Watson – R)

To allow municipalities to hire state licensed real estate brokers to assist in the sale of real property; to provide for the duties of the state licensed real estate broker. **Status:** Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, **Passed Senate, Sent to House.**

[SB 404, Separate Fee for Fire Sprinkler System](#), (Sen. Matt Brass – R)

To prohibit county, municipal, and other public water systems from charging or assessing a separate fee for standby water service for fire sprinkler system connections. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[SB 425, Change Land Surveyor Provisions](#), (Sen. Steve Gooch – R)

To change provisions relating to professional land surveyors; to change and add certain defined terms; to provide for land surveyor interns; to change certain educational and examination requirements. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[SB 426, BILD Act](#), (Sen. Steve Gooch – R)

To enact the "Broadband Infrastructure Leads to Development (BILD) Act" to limit the ability of local governing authorities to prohibit, regulate, or charge for use of public rights of way under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[SB 448, Time Change for Claims to Municipal Government](#), (Sen. Donzella James – D)

Relating to written demand prerequisite to action for injury to person or property, time for presenting claim and for consideration by governing authority, suspension of limitations, statement of specific amount of monetary damages sought, and service of claim on city officials, so as to revise the time for presenting a claim to a municipal governing authority. **Status:** **Referred to State & Local Governmental Operations Cmte.**

[SR 846, Limit Number of Municipal Corporations in State](#), (Sen. Blake Tillery – R)

A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to limit the number of municipal corporations in the state. **Status:** **Referred to State & Local Governmental Operations.**

Disabilities and Mental Health

[HB 716, Georgia Pre-Arrest Diversion for Drug and Mental Health Treatment Act](#), (Rep. Paulette Rakestraw – R)

Relating to law enforcement officers and agencies, so as to provide for self-referral to law enforcement officers and agencies by persons seeking treatment for drug or alcohol abuse or dependence or mental health issues...relating to hospitalization and treatment of voluntary patients, to provide for related matters. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte.

[HB 733, Expand Cancelable Loan Program for Psychiatrists in Rural Areas](#), (Rep. Kimberly Alexander – D)

Relating to medical professionals for rural areas assistance, so as to expand the service cancelable loan program for certain health professionals in underserved rural areas to psychiatrists in areas that are lacking in mental health services. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Withdrawn from Rules Cmte Recommitted to Health & Human Services Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Cmte Substitute, Pending Senate to Agree, Senate Agreed as Amended, House Disagreed.

[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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted to the Health 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, Returned to Insurance and Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte.

[SB 318, Physician's certificate for emergency examination](#), (Sen. Doc Rhett – D)

Relating to mental health so as to provide for the execution of a physician's certificate for emergency examination of person for involuntary evaluation and treatment from mental illness or alcohol or drug abused based on consultation with an emergency medical technician or paramedic...to provide for immunity. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules.**

[SB 352, Establish Commission on Substance Abuse and Recovery](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman – R)

To prohibit patient brokering; to create a director of Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Related Disorders; to provide for appointment; to provide for qualifications; to establish the Commission on Substance Abuse and Recovery; to provide for membership; to provide for duties; to amend Chapter 1 of Title 33 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions relative to insurance, so as to provide for a fraudulent insurance act for the excessive, high-tech, or fraudulent drug testing of certain individuals; to provide for investigation by the Commissioner; to provide for penalties. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte., Cmte. passed with substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health 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 951, Establish Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation](#), (Rep. Jason Shaw – R)

To establish the Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation; to provide for a director; to provide for the incorporation of the Centers of Innovation Agribusiness administered by the Department of Economic Development; to provide for the incorporation and structure of a new Georgia Rural Development Council. **Status:** **Referred to Small Business Development Cmte, Passed Cmte 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 Cmt., Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Regulated Industries.

[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.

[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.

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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate As Amended, Pending House to Agree, House Agreed as Amended, Senate Disagreed, House Insisted, Conference Cmte Appointed.

Note: Conference Cmte report never brought to the floor

[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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to the House, Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, Hearing Only in Energy Subcmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules, Returned to Energy Subcmte.

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.

[HB 489, Georgia Procurement Registry](#), (Rep. Tom McCall – R)

Relating to local government, so as to provide that the Georgia Procurement Registry shall be used in addition to the official legal organ and other media outlets for advertisement of certain bid opportunities for goods and services and public works construction contracts by a county, municipal corporation, or local board of education; to provide that advertisement via the Georgia Procurement Registry shall be at no cost to local government entities; to require advertisement of certain bid opportunities by local government entities via the Georgia Procurement Registry. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules

[HB 620, Standards for the issuance of a license to issue industrial loans](#), (Rep. Earl Ehrhart-R)

Relating to industrial loans, so as to provide for standards for the issuance of a license to issue industrial loans; to provide for standards for and require certain disclosures related to insurance premiums on industrial loans. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte.

[HB 823, North Georgia Cherokee Indians as Legitimate](#), (Rep. Tom Kirby – R)

To recognize the North Georgia Cherokee Indians as a legitimate American Indian tribe. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte.

[HB 887, Facilitating Broadband Throughout State](#), (Rep. Jay Powell – R)

Relating to local government, military, emergency management, and veteran affairs, public utilities and public transportation, revenue and taxation, and state government respectively, so as to facilitate and incentivize adequate and expanded broadband and other communications services throughout the state. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte.

[HB 973, Lobbyists Sexual Harassment Policy](#), (Rep. Jan Jones – R)

To provide that lobbyists shall acknowledge receiving, reading, and agreeing to abide by the sexual harassment policy of the General Assembly as a condition to lobbyist registration; to provide that

violation of the sexual harassment policy by a lobbyist shall be grounds for sanctioning such lobbyist. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

[SB 232, 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 Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 319, Consolidation of Fire Safety Services in Georgia](#), (Sen. John Albers – R)

To establish the Department of Fire Safety. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Public Safety Cmte, Withdrawn and Referred to Insurance Cmte.

[SB 395, Georgia Joint Defense Commission](#), (Sen. Ben Watson – R)

Relating to the Defense Community Economic Development Fund, so as to create the Georgia Joint Defense Commission. **Status:** Referred to Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security Cmte., Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, On Senate Floor Monday.

[SB 402, Achieving Connectivity Everywhere \(ACE\) Act](#), (Sen. Steve Gooch – R)

To provide for broadband services planning, deployment, and incentives; to provide authorization for the Department of Transportation to take certain actions to enable the rights of way of interstate highways to be used for the deployment of broadband and other communications technologies; to change certain definitions relative to the "OneGeorgia Authority Act" to include broadband services. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, Senate Passed, Sent to House.

[SB 451, Remove Authority from State Soil and Water Conservation Commission](#), (Sen. Larry Walker – R)

To remove authority of the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission to formulate certain rules and regulations in consultation with the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources. Relating to water resources, so as to modify provisions relating to regulated riparian rights to surface waters for general or farm use, permits for withdrawal, diversion or impoundment, coordination with water plans, metering of farm use, interbasin transfers, and appeal procedures. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

Health – General

[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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Withdrawn and Referred to Health Cmte.

[HB 769, Establishment of Rural Center for Health Care Innovation and Sustainability](#), (Rep. Rick Jasperse – R)

To implement recommendations from the House Rural Development Council relating to health care issues; to revise provisions relative to pharmacy practices; to provide for and revise definitions; to revise provisions relative to credentialing and billing; to provide for the establishment of the Rural Center for Health Care Innovation and Sustainability; to revise provisions relative to certificate of need; to provide for the establishment of micro-hospitals; to provide for a grant program for insurance premium assistance for physicians practicing in medically underserved rural areas of the state. **Status:** Referred to Health

Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health 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 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.

[SB 300, Medical Assistance](#), (Sen. Doc Rhett – D)

Relating to medical assistance to provide for a program of premium assistance to enable eligible individuals to obtain health care coverage. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[SB 357, Health Coordination and Innovation Council of Georgia](#), (Sen. Dean Burke – R)

To create the Health Coordination and Innovation Council of the State of Georgia. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health Cmte.

[SB 364, Delegation of Authority to Physician Assistants](#), (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler – R)

Relating to delegation of authority to physician assistants, so as to authorize a higher supervisory ratio for physician assistants who have completed a board approved anesthesiologist assistant program. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Health Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health 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 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 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 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.

[HB 673, Distracted Driving](#), (Rep. John Carson-R)

To provide for the safe use of wireless communication devices while driving; to provide for punishment when a driver was operating a motor vehicle while using a wireless telecommunications device. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HB 736, Pop-up Restaurant Permits](#), (Rep. Rick Williams – R)

Relating to food service establishments, so as to provide that the facilitator of pop-up restaurant services may obtain a permit for certain locations for the operation of pop-up restaurants; to define certain terms; to provide that a participating restaurant shall not be required to obtain a separate license to provide such services at such locations. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte.

[HB 743, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act](#), (Rep. David Clark – R)

To provide for guidelines and other relevant materials to inform students participating in interscholastic athletic activities about the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest; to provide for definitions; to provide for informational meetings; to provide for removal from an athletic activity under certain circumstances and to establish return to play policies; to require annual review by coaches. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Education and Youth Cmte.**

[HB 764, Lawful Possession of Low THC oil, PTSD Authorized for Use of THC](#), (Rep. David Clark – R)

To provide for certain circumstances for the lawful possession or control of certain quantities of low THC oil and marijuana. Relating to the Department of Public Health, so as to add post traumatic stress disorder to the conditions authorized for the use of low THC oil; to provide for licensing for cultivation of cannabis for the purpose of producing, processing, and dispensing low THC oil in this state. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte.

[HB 835, Special Event Tobacco Permits](#), (Rep. Jodi Lott – R)

To provide for the issuance of special event tobacco permits to licensed dealers authorizing off-premise sales of certain tobacco products at special events or temporary locations; to provide for the promulgation of certain rules and regulations by the state revenue commissioner. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Withdrawn and Recommitted to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte.**

[HB 877, Tax Rate on Modified Risk Tobacco Products](#), (Rep. Chad Nimmer – R)

To lessen the tax rate on modified risk tobacco products. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HB 884, Local Government Fluoridation Option](#), (Rep. Karen Mathiak – R)

To provide that communities may impose or remove fluoridation by referendum under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[HB 909, Designation of Perinatal Facilities](#), (Rep. Debra Silcox – R)

Relating to the Department of Public Health, so as to provide for the designation of perinatal facilities. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules, On House Floor Monday.**

[HB 926, Local Schools Submit Reports on Student Health and PE](#), (Rep. Beth Beskin – R)

To require each local school system to submit certain information relating to student health and physical education; to provide for a report by the State Board of Education. **Status:** Referred to Education 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, 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, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Judiciary 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted to Health Cmte.

[SB 329, Sovereign Immunity Coverage for Boards of Health](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman-R)

Relating to torts claims, so as to provide that boards of health are covered entities under the waiver of sovereign immunity pursuant to The Georgia Tort Claims Act. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte.

[SB 424, Establishment of Center for Rural Health Innovation](#), (Sen. David Lucas – D)

To provide for the establishment of the Center for Rural Health Innovation and Sustainability. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[SB 447, Genetic Conditions Added to DPH System](#), (Sen. Donzella James – D)

To add Tay-Sachs disease, cystic fibrosis, polycystic kidney disease, Huntington's disease, Marfan syndrome, and neurofibromatosis to the genetic conditions identified by the Department of Public Health for inclusion in the system for the prevention of serious illness, severe physical or developmental disability, and death caused by genetic conditions. **Status:** **Referred to Health Cmte.**

[SR 865, Council on Respiratory Health Promotion](#), (Sen. Fran Millar – R)

A RESOLUTION supporting the creation of the State of Georgia Council on Respiratory Health Promotion. **Status:** **Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules.**

Hospitals

[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, House Postponed, House Postponed, House Tabled, Recommitted to Health 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, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, 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, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to the Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules Cmte, Tabled in Senate, Recommitted to Public Safety 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, Tabled in Subcmte.

[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, Tabled in Subcmte.

[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, Cmte Favorably Reported, Pending Rules. Returned to Public Safety & Homeland Security Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte.

[HB 517, Registration of diagnostic imaging equipment](#), (Rep. Tom Taylor-R)

Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to provide for the registration of diagnostic imaging equipment. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte.

[HB 643, Certificate of Need](#), (Billy Mitchell – D)

Relating to regulation and construction of hospitals and other health care facilities, so as to require the development of quality assurance standards for the health care facility. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte.

[HB 669, Medicaid Expansion](#), (Rep. Bob Trammell-D)

To provide for Medicaid expansion under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte.

[HB 678, Surprise Billing](#), (Rep. Richard Smith-R)

To provide for disclosure requirement of health insurance; to provide for disclosure requirements of providers, hospitals, and insurers; to provide for billing, reimbursement, and arbitration of certain services. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed out of Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health Cmte.

[HB 715, Dense Breast Tissue Mammogram Report](#), (Rep. Carolyn Hugley – D)

As to require certain notice in a mammogram report to patients with dense breast tissue. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[HB 747, Hemophilic Medicaid Patients](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper -- R)

To provide that Medicaid recipients receive unrestricted access to medications prescribed for the treatment of hemophilia. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[HB 799, Post-stabilization care responsibilities for hospitals](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper – R)

to provide certain requirements for out of network hospitals prior to providing post-stabilization care; to provide for contact with the patient's health benefit plan or the plan's contracted health care provider; to provide for transfer to an in network hospital; to provide for cost coverage associated with care and transfer. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte.

[HB 827, Rural Hospital Organization Tax Credit](#), (Rep. Trey Kelley – R)

To increase the value of the rural hospital organization tax credit to 100 percent; to remove limitations on total amounts allowed to individual taxpayers; to provide that credits are allowable to certain pass-through entities; to provide for limits on contributions by individual taxpayers during the first six months of the year; to extend the date for automatic repeal. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health Cmte.**

[HB 875, Health Insurance Plans Equal to Medicaid Coverage](#), (Rep. Debbie Buckner – D)

To require coverage by health benefit plans for certain services and procedures covered by Medicaid or Medicare. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte.

[HB 974, Exempt Integrated Surgery Centers from CON](#), (Rep. Chuck Martin – R)

Relating to state health planning and development, so as to exempt integrated surgery centers from certificate of need requirements. **Status:** **Referred to Governmental Affairs.**

[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, Referred to Insurance Cmte, On House Insurance Cmte Agenda for Monday morning, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted to Rules Cmte from the House Floor, Recommitted to Insurance 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, Recommitted to Health 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 277, "Consumer Coverage for Emergency Medical Care Act"](#), (Sen. Michael Williams-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to establish standards for carriers and health care providers with regard to payment under a managed care plan in the provision of emergency medical care; to provide for applicability; to provide for definitions; to provide for requirements regarding the provision of emergency medical care for covered persons under a managed care plan; to provide for requirements for managed care plan contracts between carriers and covered persons. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte.

[SB 321, Maximum Penalties for Medicaid fraud](#), (Sen. Blake Tillery – R)

Relating to the civil penalties for false or fraudulent Medicaid claims, so as to increase the civil penalties that shall be imposed in order to allow this state to recover the maximum penalty authorized by federal

law. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Judiciary Cmte.

[SB 325, "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act](#), (Sen. Kay Kilpatrick – R)

Relating to physicians, assistants, and others, so as to enter into an interstate compact known as the "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act"; to authorize the Georgia Composite Medical Board to administer the compact in this state; to provide for the purpose of the compact; to provide definitions.

Status: Referred to Health Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday.**

[SB 334, Ga. Board of Nursing Transfer to Department of Community Health](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman – R)

To transfer the Georgia Board of Nursing from the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State to the Department of Community Health for administrative purposes only. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday.**

[SB 351, Adding Powers to Georgia Board of Nursing](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman – R)

Relating to nurses, so as to revise certain provisions related to advanced nursing practice; to revise a definition; to add certain powers to the Georgia Board of Nursing; to provide for expansion of roles and restrictions. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[SB 359, Balanced Billing in Emergency Medical Care](#), (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler – R)

To establish standards for carriers and health care providers with regard to payment under a managed care plan in the provision of emergency medical care. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte., **Recommitted to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules**

[SB 399, Reize APRNs](#), (Sen. Michael Williams – R)

Relating to nurses, so as to revise certain provisions relating to advanced nursing practice; to provide for changes to the roles and definitions of advanced nursing practice and advanced practice registered nurses; to provide for certain titles and abbreviations by licensed nurses. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[SB 400, Repeal CON](#), (Sen. Michael Williams – R)

To repeal the Certificate of Need program; relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to provide that certain requirements relating to charity and indigent care previously imposed as a condition for a certificate of need are imposed as a condition of licensure. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte.

[SB 434, Name Change of GBPW](#), (Sen. Renee Unterman – R)

To change the name of the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce to the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; to provide a definition; to add advanced practice registered nurses to the board's powers, duties, and responsibilities. **Status:** **Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules, On Senate Floor Monday.**

[SB 459, Destination Cancer Hospital to CON Hospital](#), (Sen. Matt Brass – R)

To convert a destination cancer hospital to a hospital facility for certificate of need requirements upon certain conditions; to revise a definition; to provide for payments to go the Indigent Care Trust Fund; to repeal certain destination cancer hospital provisions relating to certificate of need; to provide for funds from the Indigent Care Trust Fund to be used for the rural stabilization program. **Status:** **Referred to Health Cmte.**

[SB 462, Exempt Integrated Surgery Centers from CON](#), (Sen. John Albers – R)

Relating to state health planning and development, so as to exempt integrated surgery centers from certificate of need requirements. **Status:** **Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte.**

Insurance

[HB 631, State employees' health insurance plan](#), (Rep. Trey Kelley-R)

Relating to the state employees' health insurance plan, so as to prohibit a corporation licensed to transact accident and health insurance business in this state from providing health insurance benefits if it has been

out of network with any critical access hospital in the previous 12 months. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte

[HB 754, Division of a Domestic Insurer](#), (Rep. Jason Shaw – R)

To provide for the division of a domestic insurer into two or more resulting domestic insurers; to provide for definitions; to provide for a plan of division subject to approval by the Insurance Commissioner; to provide for a certificate of division; to provide for the effect of a division; to provide for the responsibilities of a resulting insurer; to provide for shareholder appraisal rights; to provide for rules and regulations; to revise the authorization and procedure for merger or consolidation. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HB 818, Reimbursement of Health Care Provider](#), (Rep. Lee Hawkins - R)

To provide that a health care provider shall choose the method by which such provider shall be reimbursed by an insurer for health care services performed. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Withdrawn from Rules Cmte and Referred to Insurance Cmte.**

[HB 878, Procedure for Cancellation by Insured](#), (Rep. Heath Clark – R)

Relating to procedure for cancellation by an insured and notice, so as to change certain provisions regarding cancellation of an insurance policy by an insured. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte. Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte.

[SB 350, Update Notice Practices to Comport with Federal Law](#), (Sen. Larry Walker – R)

Relating to transactions requiring notice of information practices, form and content of notice, abbreviated notice, and satisfaction of obligations by another institution or agent, so as to update notice practices requirements by an insurance institution or agent to applicants or policyholders in the case of policy renewal to comport with federal law. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday.**

[SB 381, Domestic Surplus Line Insurer](#), (Sen. Bruce Thompson – R)

To provide that a non-admitted insurer domiciled in this state will be deemed a domestic surplus lines insurer if certain criteria are met. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance 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 519, Certain review criteria used to establish step therapy protocols](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R),

Relating to insurance generally, so as to require health benefit plans to utilize certain clinical review criteria to establish step therapy protocols; to provide for a step therapy override determination process; to provide for definitions; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules.**

[HB 782, Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data Base](#), (Rep. Trey Rhodes – R)

Relating to privacy and confidentiality, use of data, and security program for the prescription drug monitoring program data base, so as to revise provisions relating to permissible users with access to the data base. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health Cmte.**

[HB 830, Annual Drug Bill](#), (Rep. Buddy Harden - R)

To change certain provisions relating to Schedules I and II controlled substances; to change certain provisions relating to the definition of dangerous drug. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate.**

[HB 895, Prohibit Sale of Dextromethorphan to Minors](#), (Rep. Sharon Cooper – R)

To prohibit the sale to and by minors of drug products containing dextromethorphan. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules.

Study Committees

[HR 913, Incorporating Law Enforcement in Treatment for Drug Use and Mental Health](#), (Rep. Paulette Rakestraw – R)

A RESOLUTION creating the House Study Committee on Incorporating Law Enforcement in the Pathway to Treatment and Social Services for Persons Having Challenges with Drug Use and Mental Health. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute.

[HR 1194, Retrospective Emergency Room Policies](#), (Rep. David Knight – R)

A RESOLUTION creating the House Study Committee on Retrospective Emergency Room Policies. **Status:** **Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HR 1318, Long Term Care of Aging Population](#), (Rep. Sam Park – D)

A RESOLUTION creating the House Study Committee on Comprehensive Health and Long-Term Care of Georgia's Aging Population. **Status:** **Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte.**

[SR 772, Retrospective Emergency Rooms](#), (Sen. Bruce Thompson – R)

Creating the Joint Study Committee on Retrospective Emergency Room Policies. **Status:** Referred to Health Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[SR 774, Adoption Expenses](#), (Sen. Jesse Stone – R)

A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Adoption Expenses. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday.**

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, Withdrawn from Ways & Means Cmte 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, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to the Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Income Tax Subcmte Favorably Reported, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommited to Finance 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 Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted to Ways & Means 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 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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Cmte Favorably Reported by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Pending House to Agree, House Agreed as Amended, Senate Disagreed House Amend or Sub., House Insisted, Conference Committee Appointed by House and Senate.

[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 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 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.

[HB 604, Special district mass transportation sales and use tax](#), (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to the special district mass transportation sales and use tax, so as to provide for a sales tax to be levied for public transportation purposes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte.

[HB 696, Tax Exemption for computer equipment in data centers](#), (Rep. Trey Kelley-R)

To create a tax exemption for certain computer equipment sold or leased to certain entities for use in high-technology data centers. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

[HB 741, Changing Definition of Fair Market Value of Property](#), (Rep. John Corbett – R)

Relating to general provisions regarding ad valorem taxation of property, so as to change the definition of fair market value of property. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte.

[HB 753, Excise Tax Exemption on Nonprofit Conference/Retreat Centers](#), (Rep. Don Hogan – R)

Relating to the excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, so as to exempt nonprofit conference and retreat centers. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte.

[HB 851, Expiration of low-income housing income tax credits](#), (Rep. Dale Rutledge – R)

To provide for the expiration of low-income housing income tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte.

[HB 918, Revenue Code Updates](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstrotation – R)

To define the terms "Internal Revenue Code" and "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" and thereby incorporate certain provisions of the federal law into Georgia law; to revise the individual exemption amounts; to revise provisions relating to assignment of corporate income tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte.**

[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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Appropriations 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., Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Rules Cmte Recommitted to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.

Transportation

[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 150, Failure to Pay Tolls](#), (Rep. Alan Powell-R)

To provide for the placement of a hold on motor vehicle registration upon failure to pay tolls and administrative fees. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Calendar, Senate Tabled, Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to the House, House agrees to Senate Substitute, On to the Governor.

Note: The Senate Substitute includes extending the sunset of the CPI tied to the gasoline excise tax rate to 2022.

[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 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.

[HB 796, Renew Holiday Sales Tax](#), (Rep. John Corbett – R)

To renew the sales tax holiday. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte.

[HB 929, Renew MOST Tax](#), (Rep. Chuck Efstration – R)

Relating to the water and sewer projects and costs tax (MOST), so as to allow for additional renewals of the tax. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules.**

[HB 930, Georgia Regional Transportation Authority](#), (Rep. Kevin Tanner – R)

Relating to provisions applicable to counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental entities, revenue and taxation, and the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority; to create a special district in Cobb County for purposes of entering a rapid transit contract with the authority. **Status: Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules.**

[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 386, Exception to Ceiling on Local Sales & Use Tax, T-SPLOST for ATL](#), (Sen. Brandon Beach – R)

to provide for an exception to the ceiling on local sales and use taxes; to provide for the imposition of a transit special purpose local option sales and use tax within special districts; relating to the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, so as to create the Atlanta-region Transit Link "ATL" Commission to serve as a division within such authority. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules.**

[SB 391, Exempt Transit Vehicles from ID requirements](#), (Sen. Brandon Beach – R)

To exempt transit service buses, motor vehicles, and rapid rail systems from requirements relating to identification and regulation of motor vehicles. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte.

[SB 445, Standards for Contracts for DOT](#), (Sen. Steve Gooch – R)

Relating to highways, bridges, and ferries, so as to provide for standards for contracts entered into by the Department of Transportation; to provide for a contract bidding process and award procedure; to prohibit camping on portions of the state highway system or property owned by the department. **Status: Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday.**

[SB 460, Integrate "ATL" Brand into MARTA](#), (Sen. Brandon Beach – R)

To provide for adoption of a logo and brand to include the term "ATL" by such Authority by a certain date; to remove a limitation on the amount of funds such Authority may receive from the state; to provide for the publishing of standards for bus service for a fiscal year; to provide for clarification on the responsible parties for debt in relation to the issuance of certain revenue bonds; to amend requirements for transportation services contracts between the Authority and a local government. **Status: Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte.**

