



Governmental Affairs

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Weekly Legislative Report #9

Week Ending March 15, 2019

The Georgia General Assembly really didn't make breath-taking progress last week, but several bills did manage to clear significant hurdles. Here are a few highlights.

FY 19 Amended Budget Signed

Governor Brian Kemp signed his first appropriations bill last week, [HB 31](#), putting into law changes made to the budget that carries us through June 30. Amendments made to the FY 19 budget direct state agencies to make specific spending adjustments over the next three months to ensure Georgia finishes the fiscal year with revenues and expenses balanced.

Legislature Votes to Buy New Voting System

Legislation has passed both houses that specifies a new voting system for the state consisting of a touch-screen machine that prints a paper ballot which is then fed into an optical reader. The \$150 million system (some dispute that as a low estimate) passed the House a second time largely along party lines last week after the Senate made a few changes. Democrats opposed the measure as less secure than a pencil and paper method, which would also be much less expensive. Georgia would be the first state to move completely to this type of system although other states currently use it for disabled voters. Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger will now issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) soliciting private firms to compete for the major procurement. [HB 316](#) also changes from three years to five years the length of time after which an eligible person who has not participated in an election and not responded to a mailed notification can be removed from the voter rolls.

Term Limit for the LG?

Current Lt. Governor Geoff Duncan has called for term limits for the office of . . . Lt. Governor. Despite serving as President of the Senate, Duncan says the Office of Lt. Governor is technically a part of the executive branch. It follows then, that he believes the LG should have the same term limit as the Governor. Freshman Senator Greg Dolezal (R-Cumming) has dropped in the hopper a Constitutional Amendment to accommodate him. [SR 364](#) would limit the Lt. Governor to two

four-year terms. Unlike the six-year term of U.S Senators, members of the State Senate over which Duncan presides must run for re-election every two years. Former Governor Zell Miller served 16 years as Lt. Governor before moving up. Duncan's predecessor, Casey Cagle, served 12 years in the office. The Constitutional Amendment is expected to take two sessions to pass and would have to garner a two-thirds majority of both Houses prior to being placed on the November 2020 general election ballot. It does not go to the Governor.

Our political scientist friends may be interested in AJC Premium Editor Jim Denery's observation that a distinction between the executive branch and the legislative branch is that state law specifically exempts the Legislature from Georgia's Open Records Act. If the Lt. Governor is considered to be in the Executive Branch, yet serves as President of the Senate, which of his papers/communications would be considered "executive" in nature and therefore an "open" record? Which would be deemed "legislative," thus unavailable to the public?

[Click here](#) to see Duncan interviewed on *The Lawmakers* regarding the new voting system (story starts at 1:10 mark) and term limits for the Lt. Governor (10:28 mark).

House Committee Answers Telehealth Call

The House Insurance Cmte. answered the call to advance the use of telehealth in Georgia on Wednesday. [SB 118](#) (Renee Unterman-R) would require health insurance companies to reimburse providers of telehealth in the same manner as in-person services. Under the bill, healthcare professionals on both the originating and consulting end of the telehealth connection would be entitled to reimbursement. If the Senate bill clears the full House and is signed by the Governor, it would affect health insurance policies issued, amended or renewed after January 1, 2020.

EMS System to be Studied

Sen. Jeff Mullis (R-Chickamauga) has proposed the Joint Emergency Medical Services Study Committee, [SR 264](#), to review emergency medical services safety standards, accreditation requirements and zoning for 911 response. Complaints about ambulance response times and how EMS companies are selected to serve the 10 regions around the state have been in the news lately. The resolution was reported out of the Committee on Special Rules in the House last week and would be composed of five House members and five members of the Senate. The last time the General Assembly took a deep dive into how the EMS system operates was in 2007. The Study Committee's work must be completed by December 1, 2019 according to the bill.

Reform and Innovation Sought for Behavioral Health

Rep. Kevin Tanner (R-Dawsonville) maneuvered [HB 514](#) through the Senate HHS committee on Wednesday. The bill would create the Georgia Behavioral Health and Innovation Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of behavioral health services in the state, including everything from facilities to payers to workforce shortages. (Have we created a commission without the word "innovation" in the title recently?) In addition to legislators, the members on the commission will come from designated professions or positions, such as child and adult psychiatrist, sheriff, judge

and local education official. Appointments will be made by the Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Behavioral health is viewed as a long term, high cost challenge for the state, thus the Commission's sunset date is four years out -- June 30, 2023. The bill advanced to the Senate Rules Committee with a few tweaks in the commission membership.

Nuisance Lawsuits Viewed as a Nuisance

Who's farming community is it, anyway? Over the years, tension has increased in rural communities between farming interests (and the odors they sometimes create) and non-farmers who live nearby. Since 1980, Georgia's Right to Farm law has limited the ability of people who move into rural areas to file nuisance claims against established agricultural operations. [HB 545](#) by Tom McCall (R-Elberton) seeks to tighten those rules even further. Opponents claim this bill goes too far by preventing a nuisance suit against an ag operation that has been in operation for at least a year, even if the nuisance-creating activity has not yet started and the neighbors were there first. The bill cleared the House on cross-over day and is now being considered by the Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Cmte.

Next Week

The legislature will convene on Monday, Thursday and Friday next week, utilizing Tuesday and Wednesday solely for committee hearings. We expect the FY 20 budget to come out of the Senate Appropriations Committee early next week, followed by a confirmation vote by the full Senate. Typically, the House will formally disagree with Senate changes, setting up a conference committee of three members each to resolve differences in spending priorities between the two chambers.

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.

Bills that are "DEAD" for the 2019 session failed to pass at least one chamber by the 28th day and are noted in green.

The 2019 Legislative Session is the first session of the 2019-2020 Term of the Georgia General Assembly. Therefore, bills not passed or defeated during this session will be carried over to the 2020 session. Bills pending in the House or Senate Rules Committees at adjournment sine die of the 2019 session will be recommitted to the committee from whence they came.

Aging

[HB 70, guardian and conservators of minors and adults; Revise Provisions](#) (Rep. Chuck Efstoration-R)

Relating to guardian and ward, so as to revise provisions relating to guardians and conservators of minors and adults; to amend various provisions of the O.C.G.A., so as to make conforming revisions. **Status:** Referred to Juvenile Justice Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 77, Food Stamp Fraud](#) (Rep. David Clark-R)

Relating to fraud and related offenses and general provisions relative to public assistance, respectively, so as to redesignate Code Section 49-4-15, relating to fraud in obtaining public assistance, food stamps, or Medicaid, penalties, and recovery of overpayments. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 91, Allowing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to retain fingerprints when an agency or entity is participating in the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's program](#) (Rep. Andy Welch-R)

Relating to regulation and construction of hospitals and other health care facilities, so as to allow the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and, as authorized, the Federal Bureau of Investigation to retain fingerprints when an agency or entity is participating in the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's program. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary (Civil) Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, **Referred to Judiciary Cmte**

[HB 135, "Authorized Electronic Monitoring in Long-term Care Facilities Act"](#) (Rep. Douglas Demetrius-D)

Relating to health care facilities, so as to provide for authorized electronic monitoring in long-term care facilities; 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; to provide for notice to visitors; to prohibit obstruction of electronic monitoring devices; to limit the dissemination of recordings; to provide for admissibility into evidence; to provide for limited liability. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations and Aging Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 246, Revise manner by which depositions taken at the instance of state are paid](#) (Rep. Deborah Silcox-R)

Relating to depositions to preserve testimony in criminal proceedings, so as to revise the manner by which depositions taken at the instance of the state are paid; to clarify how depositions shall be taken and filed. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 247, Battery against a person 65 years of age or older; repeal an enhanced penalty](#) (Rep. Deborah Silcox-R)

Relating to reporting of need for protective services, manner and contents of report, immunity from civil or criminal liability, and privileged communications; to amend Code Section 31-7-12.1 of the O.C.G.A., relating to unlicensed personal care homes; to amend Code Section 45-17-8 of the O.C.G.A., relating to powers and duties of notaries public generally, so as to require notaries to report abuse of disabled adults or elder persons

Status: Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Special Judiciary Cmte

[HB 300, Redesignate continuing care retirement communities as life plan communities](#) (Rep. Vance Smith-R)

Relating to continuing care providers and facilities and state health planning and development, so as to redesignate continuing care retirement communities as life plan communities. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 374, Authorize certified medication aides to administer medications to residents under hospice care pursuant to a physician's written orders](#) (Rep. John LaHood-R)

Relating to regulation and licensing of assisted living communities, legislative intent, definitions, procedures, and requirements for medication aides, so as to authorize certified medication aides to administer medications to residents under hospice care pursuant to a physician's written orders; to amend Code Section 43-26-12, relating to exceptions to the licensure of registered professional nurses, so as to provide that the administration of medication by certified medication aides under specific criteria does not require licensure as a registered professional nurse. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 402, Protection of disabled adults and elder person](#) (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

Relating to the protection of disabled adults and elder persons, so as to include abuse and neglect in the items to be reported by a financial institution. **Status:** Referred Human Relations & Aging Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 100, Telephone System for the Physically Impaired; state-wide dual party relay service and audible universal information access service](#) (Sen. P. K. Martin-R)

Relating to telephone system for the physically impaired, so as to change certain provisions relating to the establishment, administration, and operation of the state-wide dual party relay service and audible universal information access service; to change certain legislative findings and declarations; to modify the prohibition as to the distribution of telecommunications equipment under the telecommunications equipment distribution program based on a certain income level; to provide that wireless devices and applications may be distributed as part of the telecommunications equipment distribution program. **Status:** Referred Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte

[SB 113, Nursing homes and personal care homes; backup power sources in the event of power outage](#) (Sen. Lindsey Tippins-R)

Relating to regulation and construction of hospitals and other health care facilities, so as to require nursing homes and personal care homes with a minimum number of residents to have backup power sources in the event of power outages; to provide for requirements for uninterrupted services; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred Health and Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 185, Medicare Beneficiary Program](#) (Sen. Elena Parent-D)

Relating to public assistance, so as to provide for a qualified Medicare beneficiary program; to provide for eligibility requirements. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 225, DHS/DFCS Conformity with Federal Law](#) (Sen. Larry Walker-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding the Juvenile Code, so as to bring such provisions in conformity with the federal Social Security Act and the Family First Prevention Services Act; to amend Articles 3 and 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 15 of the O.C.G.A., relating to dependency proceedings and termination of parental rights Status: Referred to Health Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Juvenile Justice Cmte

Business

[HB 197, Establishment of the Strategic Integrated Data System](#) (Rep. Katie Dempsey-R)

Relating to the Office of Planning and Budget, so as to provide for the establishment of the Strategic Integrated Data System; to establish a governing board and provide for its membership and terms; to provide for oversight of the operation of the project by the governing board; to provide for data submission from state agencies and departments; to provide for reporting; and to provide for funding. **Status:** Referred Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Science & Technology Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 346, Prohibit retaliation by a landlord against a tenant for taking certain actions](#) (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

relating to landlord and tenant generally, so as to prohibit retaliation by a landlord against a tenant for taking certain actions; to provide for circumstances that are not considered retaliation. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 545, Relating to treatment of agricultural facilities and operations and forest land as nuisances](#) (Rep. Tom McCall-R)

Relating to treatment of agricultural facilities and operations and forest land as nuisance, so as to provide for legislative intent and to limit circumstances under which agricultural facilities and operations may be sued for a nuisance. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte, **Hearing Held**

[SB 20, Counties and Municipal Corporations; Establishment of banking improvement zones in underserved areas](#) (Sen. Michael Rhett-D)

Relating to general provisions relative to provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to provide for the establishment of banking improvement zones to encourage opening of banks in areas underserved by banks; **Status:** Referred Banking and Financial Institutions Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Banks and Banking Cmte

[SB 110, State-wide Business Court; pursuant to the Constitution of this state](#) (Sen. Jesse Stone-R)

Relating to courts, so as to establish the State-wide Business Court pursuant to the Constitution of this state; to amend Code Section 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions regarding salaries and fees, so as to designate a salary for the judge of the State-wide Business Court; to amend Title 5 of the O.C.G.A., relating to appeal and error, so as to make conforming changes regarding appeals; to amend Chapter 4 of Title 9, Title 23, and Code Section 33-39-21 of the O.C.G.A., relating to declaratory judgments, equity, and equitable relief relative to insurance, respectively, so as to make conforming changes regarding equity. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Sent to Judiciary Cmte

City & County Governments and Regional Commissions

[HB 15, Develop and implement policies granting housing preferences to veterans who are homeless](#) (Rep. Sandra Scott)

Relating to powers of housing authorities generally, so as to require housing authorities to develop and implement policies granting housing preferences to veterans who are homeless individuals. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 34, Taxpaying business owners to be appointed to development authorities](#) (Rep. Rhonda Burnough-D)

Relating to development authorities directors, officers, compensation, adoption of bylaws, delegation of powers and duties, conflicts of interest, and audits, so as to provide for taxpaying business owners to be appointed to development authorities; to provide for removal of directors from development authorities. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 57, Eligible electors mailed an absentee ballot for each primary, election and runoff in which they are eligible to vote](#) (Rep. Dar'shun Kendrick-D)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide that all eligible electors shall be mailed an absentee ballot for each primary, election, and runoff in which they are eligible to vote; to provide for procedures; to provide for cancellation of such ballots under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 65, Add that certain payments to cloud based software services may be funded via County special purpose local option sales tax](#) (Rep. Eddie Lumsden-R)

Relating to county special purpose local option sales tax, so as to add that certain payments to cloud based software services may be funded. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 76, Counties and municipalities may regulate alcohol licenses as to certain distances in a manner that is less but not more restrictive than those distances specified by the state](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to alcoholic beverages, so as to specify that counties and municipalities may regulate alcohol licenses as to certain distances in a manner that is less but not more restrictive than those distances specified by the state. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Monday, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte

[HB 123, Department of Labor; Designate as the administrator of all programs pursuant to Public Law 105-220 and the policies and methods by the State Workforce Development Board](#) (Rep. Bill Werkheiser-R)

Relating to the creation of the State Workforce Development Board, federal composition requirements, meetings, authorization for the promulgation of rules and regulations, and administration of programs, so as to provide for the Department of Labor to be designated as the administrator of all programs. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 126, Establishment of the GeorgiaBest program and an employability skills training curriculum](#) (Rep. Randy Nix-R)

Relating to the Department of Labor, so as to provide for the establishment of the "GeorgiaBest" program and an employability skills training curriculum. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 208, Local government; contracts for utility services; change the terms](#) (Rep. Tom McCall-R)

Relating to local government, so as to change the terms for contracts for utility services. **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte

[HB 219, General provision regarding ad valorem taxation of property](#) (Rep. Lynn Smith-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding ad valorem taxation of property, so as to further define the fair market value of certain property and require the tax assessor to include certain information with the assessment. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 243, Public utilities and public transportation; limitations on fees that may be charged for installation of telephone facilities](#) (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to provide limitations on fees that may be charged for installation of telephone facilities; to provide for the due compensation to be paid to municipal authorities by telephone companies that do not have certain end user customers; to revise terminology for purposes of conformity. **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 302, Adopting or enforcing ordinances or regulations relating to or regulating building design elements as applied to one or two-family dwellings; prohibit](#) (Rep. Vance Smith-R)

Relating to buildings and housing and local government, respectively, so as to prohibit local governments from adopting or enforcing ordinances or regulations relating to or regulating building design elements as applied to one or two-family dwellings; to provide for definitions; to provide for exceptions; to revise the term "zoning" as it relates to zoning procedures. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 315, Certain agreements from consultants who enter into contracts or arrangements to prepare or develop requirements for bids](#) (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

Relating to general provisions applicable to counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental entities, so as to provide for certain agreements from consultants who enter into contracts or arrangements with counties, municipalities, and other local governmental entities to prepare or develop specifications or requirements for bids, requests for proposals, procurement orders, or purchasing orders. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Government Oversight Cmte

[HB 316, Definitions; provide for uniform equipment and ballot marking devices](#) (Rep. Barry Fleming-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate by Substitute, House Agreed to Senate Substitute, Sent to Governor**

[HB 348, Application for limited paid leave for the purpose of volunteering and providing nonprofit support in this state](#) (Rep. Chuck Martin-R)

Relating to leaves of absences for certain public employees, so as to authorize the application for limited paid leave for the purpose of volunteering and providing nonprofit support in this state. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 352, Exemption for competitive projects of regional significance; change sunset provision](#) (Rep. Bert Reeves-R)

Relating to exemptions from sales and use tax, so as to change the sunset provision for the exemption for competitive projects of regional significance. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 379, Revise annual reporting requirements for projects and purposes using SPLOST funds](#) (Rep. Beth Moore-D)

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 Government Oversight Cmte

[HB 428, Georgia Communications Services Tax Act](#) (Rep. Bill Werkheiser-R)

Relating to local government and revenue and taxation, respectively, so as to provide for state and local excise taxes on communications services and to eliminate certain other state or local taxes, charges, or fees related to such services; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations; to exempt certain broadband equipment from sales and use tax; to provide for powers, duties, and authority of the Department of Revenue and the state revenue commissioner. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 443, Water and sewer projects and costs tax \(MOST\); allow for levy of such sales and use tax to last up to five years the term "municipality"](#) (Rep. Boddie Williams-D)

Relating to water and sewer projects and costs tax (MOST), so as to redefine the term "municipality"; to allow for the levy of such sales and use tax to last up to five years. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 30, State Election Board shall provide by rule or regulation for the electronic return of absentee ballots of Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act by fax or email](#) (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide that the State Election Board shall provide by rule or regulation for the electronic return of absentee ballots of Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act electors by fax or by email, in addition to regular mail; to update a cross-reference; to provide for requirements and procedures; to provide for the counting of such ballots. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 95, Change terms for contracts for utility services](#) (Sen. Randy Robertson-R)

Relating to local government, so as to change the terms for contracts for utility services; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte

[SB 172, Buildings and Housing and Local Government; local governments from adopting or enforcing ordinances; building design elements](#) (Sen. John Wilkinson-R)

Relating to buildings and housing and local government, respectively, so as to prohibit local governments from adopting or enforcing ordinances or regulations relating to or regulating building design elements as applied to one or two-family dwellings; to provide for definitions; to provide for exceptions; to revise the term "zoning" as it relates to zoning procedures. **Status:** Referred to Government Oversight Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 181 Department of Labor; designated as the administrator of all programs for which the state is responsible pursuant to Public Law 105-220](#) (Sen. Burt Jones-R)

Relating to the creation of the State Workforce Development Board, federal composition requirements, meetings, authorization for the promulgation of rules and regulations, and administration of programs, so as to provide for the Department of Labor to be designated as the administrator of all programs for which the state is responsible pursuant to Public Law 105-220 and of the policies and methods of implementation promulgated by the State Workforce Development Board **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, **DEAD**

CON (Certificate of Need)

[HB 89, Integrated ambulatory surgery centers; provide exemption from certificate of need requirements](#)

(Rep. Chuck Martin-R)

Relating to state health planning and development, so as to provide for an exemption for integrated ambulatory surgery centers from certificate of need requirements. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Added to House Calendar, House Postponed, **DEAD**

[HB 198, Eliminate certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services](#) (Rep. Matt Hatchett-R)

Relating to health, so as to eliminate certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services; to amend Code Section 50-18-70 of the O.C.G.A., relating to legislative intent and definitions relative to open records laws, so as to revise definitions; to amend Code Section 48-7-29.20 of the O.C.G.A., relating to tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations, so as to revise provisions relating to the rural hospital tax credit program; to amend other provisions in various titles of the O.C.G.A., for purposes of conformity. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Withdrawn and Recommitted to Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Defeated on the House Floor 72 to 94, House Voted to Reconsider its Action, Reconsideration vote never called by the Speaker, **DEAD**

[SB 61, Health Planning and Development; integrated surgery centers from certificate of need requirements](#) (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 Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 74, Eliminate certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term facilities and services](#) (Sen. Matt Brass-R)

Relating to health, so as to eliminate certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services; to amend Code Section 50-18-70 of the O.C.G.A., relating to legislative intent and definitions relative to open records laws, so as to revise definitions; to amend Code Section 48-7-29.20 of the O.C.G.A., relating to tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations, so as to revise provisions relating to the rural hospital tax credit program; to amend other provisions in various titles of the O.C.G.A., for purposes of conformity. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Hearing Held, **DEAD**

[SB 114, Certificate of need requirements; provisions; revise; Health Strategies Council](#) (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to health, so as to revise provisions relating to certificate of need requirements; to revise and provide for new definitions relative to health planning and development; to establish the Health Strategies Council; to amend Code Section 45-7-21 of the O.C.G.A., relating to expense allowance and travel cost reimbursement for members of certain boards and commissions, so as to provide for reimbursement for members of the Health Strategies Council; to amend Code Section 48-7-29.20 of the O.C.G.A., relating to tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations, so as to provide for undesignated contributions. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Hearings Held, **DEAD**

[SB 151, Improvements to the state's health care system](#) (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to health, so as to provide for improvements in the state's health care system and coordination of state health related entities; to provide for legislative findings and declarations; to provide for definitions; to provide for duties and responsibilities; to provide for the creation of the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination; to provide for a director of health strategy and coordination; to provide for the creation of the Board of the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination; and to amend other provisions of the O.C.G.A. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services, **DEAD**

Economic Development

[HB 22, Public Utilities and Public Transportation; telephone cooperatives and their affiliates to provide broadband services](#) (Rep. Penny Houston-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to specifically authorize telephone cooperatives and their broadband affiliates to provide broadband services; to authorize certain financing and partnerships for the provision of broadband services. **Status:** Referred Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 23, Public utilities and public transportation; electric membership corporations and their affiliates to provide broadband services](#) (Rep. Penny Houston-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to specifically authorize electric membership corporations and their affiliates to provide broadband services; to authorize certain financing and partnerships for the provision of broadband services; to prohibit cross-subsidization between the provision of broadband services and an electric membership corporation's natural gas activities or electricity services activities. **Status:** Referred Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Withdrawn and Recommitted to Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Rules Calendar for Monday, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[HB 100, Public utilities and public transportation; electric membership corporations and their affiliates to provide broadband services](#) (Rep. Don Parsons-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to specifically authorize electric membership corporations and their affiliates to provide broadband services; to provide for definitions; to authorize certain financing and partnerships for the provision of broadband services; to prohibit cross-subsidization between the provision of broadband services and an electric membership corporation's natural gas activities or electricity services activities **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 184, Streamlining Wireless Facilities and Antennas Act](#) (Rep. Brett Harrell-R)

Relating to local government, so as to enact the "Streamlining Wireless Facilities and Antennas Act"; to streamline the deployment of wireless broadband in the public rights of way; to address any perceived conflicts between this Act and Chapter 66B of Title 36. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 244, Electric membership corporations; comply with certain requirements in determining the rates for attachments to utility poles by communications service providers](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to corporate purposes and powers of electric membership corporations, so as to require electric membership corporations to comply with certain requirements in determining the rates for attachments to utility poles by communications service providers. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 499, Permit Public utilities and public transportation; use of electric easements for broadband services](#) (Rep. Trey Kelley-R)

Relating to electric membership corporations and foreign electric cooperatives, so as to permit the use of electric easements for broadband services; to provide for a definition; to provide for legislative findings and declarations as to certain utility easements. **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[HB 570, To provide for sports betting in Georgia and sports betting director and regulations](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to the lottery for education, so as to provide for sports betting in this state; to provide for a Georgia sports betting director; to provide for the comprehensive regulation of sports betting and related activities; to provide for the issuance, renewal, denial, and revocation of permits; and to provide for restrictions and penalties; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries, **DEAD**

[HR 327, Constitutional amendment authorizing licensed destination resort casinos](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for the local authorization of a limited number of licensed destination resort facilities casino

resorts within the state; to authorize the operation and regulation of limited casino gaming within the state; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HR 380, Sports Betting Constitutional Amendment](#) (Rep. Craig Gordon-D)

An amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for sports betting; to provide for the disposition of licensing and taxation revenues from such activities; and to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 2, Public Utilities and Public Transportation; electric membership corporations and their affiliates; authorize; broadband services](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to specifically authorize electric membership corporations and their affiliates to provide broadband services; to authorize certain financing and partnerships for the provision of broadband services; to prohibit cross-subsidization between the provision of broadband services and an electric membership corporation's natural gas activities or electricity services activities. **Status:** Referred Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Energy, Utilities & Communications Cmte

[SB 17, Public Utilities and Public Transportation; authorize telephone cooperatives and their broadband affiliates; provide broadband services](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to specifically authorize telephone cooperatives and their broadband affiliates to provide broadband services; to authorize certain financing and partnerships for the provision of broadband services **Status:** Referred Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[SB 45, "Rural Georgia Jobs and Growth Act"](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

Relating to state government, so as to provide for pari-mutuel horse racing in this state at a limited number of licensed equestrian centers; to create the Georgia Horse Racing Commission; to provide for the comprehensive regulation of pari-mutuel and related activities; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for definitions; to enter into the Interstate Compact on Licensure of Participants in Live Racing with Pari-mutuel Wagering. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 66, "Streamlining Wireless Facilities and Antennas Act"](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to local government, so as to enact the "Streamlining Wireless Facilities and Antennas Act"; to streamline the deployment of wireless broadband in the public rights of way; to address any perceived conflicts between this Act and Chapter 66B of Title 36; to provide that nothing in this Act relieves any person of any duties provided for in Chapter 9 of Title 25. **Status:** Referred Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[SB 162, Disaster mitigation improvements and broadband services infrastructure; downtown development authorities](#) (Sen. Matt Brass-R)

Relating to local government, so as to provide for disaster mitigation improvements and broadband services infrastructure in projects of downtown development authorities and development authorities. **Status:** Referred Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Energy, Utilities & Communications Cmte

[SR 84, Pari-mutuel betting on horse racing](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

A resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for pari-mutuel betting on horse racing; to provide for the disposition of licensing and taxation revenues from such activities. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[SR 184, Local authorization of a limited number of licensed destination resort facilities casino resorts within the state; authorize to provide – CA](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

A resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for the local authorization of a limited number of licensed destination resort facilities casino resorts within the state; to authorize the operation and regulation of limited casino gaming within the state; to provide for related matters; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection. **Status:** Referred Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, **DEAD**

Environmental & Natural Resources

[HB 49, Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District; certain interbasin transfers shall be included in water supply and water conservation management studies and plans](#) (Rep. Marc Morris-R)

Relating to water supply and water conservation management plan and interbasin transfers relative to the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, so as to provide that certain interbasin transfers shall be included in water supply and water conservation management studies and plans. **Status:** Referred Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 93, Control of Water Pollution and Surface-Water Use](#) (Rep. Jeff Jones-R)

Relating to control of water pollution and surface-water use, so as to provide notice to local governing authorities prior to the dewatering of coal combustion residual surface impoundments. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 94, Relating to Solid Waste Management](#) (Rep. Jeff Jones-R)

Relating to solid waste management, so as to provide for safe disposal of coal ash in municipal solid waste and commercial industrial solid waste landfills. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 220, Solid waste management; certain solid waste disposal surcharges; extend sunset date](#) (Rep. Terry Rogers-R)

relating to general provisions regarding solid waste management, so as to extend the sunset date for certain solid waste disposal surcharges; to provide for the extension of the sunset date for certain tire disposal fees; to amend Part 2 of Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to hazardous site response, so as to provide for the extension of the sunset date for certain hazardous waste management fees and hazardous substance reporting fees. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Withdrawn and Recommitted to Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 422, County and municipal governing authorities to approve erosion and sediment control plans in lieu of approval by soil and water conservation commission districts](#) (Rep. Timothy Barr-R)

Relating to control of soil erosion and sedimentation, so as to authorize in certain circumstances county and municipal governing authorities to approve erosion and sediment control plans in lieu of approval by soil and water conservation commission districts; to provide that counties and municipalities can contract with qualified personnel to implement land disturbance activity ordinances. **Status:** Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 592, Georgia Forest Land Protection Act](#) (Rep. Steven Meeks-R)

Relating to the "Georgia Forest Land Protection Act of 2008," so as to provide that short-term mineral surface mining shall not constitute a breach of a covenant for forest land conservation use property. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte

[SB 123, Waste Management; the coal ash surcharge imposed by host local governments; eliminate](#) (Sen. William Ligon-R)

Relating to waste management, so as to eliminate the coal ash surcharge imposed by host local governments regarding municipal solid waste disposal facilities operated by private enterprise. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte, **DEAD**

Government -- General

[SB 221, "The Religious Freedom Restoration Act"](#) (Sen. Marty Harbin-R)

Relating to state government, so as to provide for the protection of religious freedom; to provide for the granting of relief; to provide for applicability; to provide for definitions; to provide for waiver of sovereign immunity under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **DEAD**

[SR 288, State Fire Safety Services Study Committee](#) (Sen. John Albers-R)

To create the Senate Consolidation of State Fire Safety Services Study Committee. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte

Health – General

[HB 26, Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact; enter into an interstate compact](#) (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to psychologists, so as to enter into an interstate compact known as the "Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact"; to authorize the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists to administer the compact in this state; to revise provisions relating to exceptions to licensure. **Status:** Referred Interstate Cooperation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[HB 37, Expand Medicaid Now Act](#) (Rep. Robert Trammell-D)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide for the authorization of appropriations for the purposes of obtaining federal financial participation for medical assistance payments to providers of Medicaid expansion under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010; to provide for a maximum percent of the federal poverty level. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 42, Professional licensing boards; refuse to issue a license of a person who is a borrower in default under an educational loan](#) (Rep. Scot Turner-R)

To prohibit professional licensing boards from refusing to issue a license or suspending or revoking the license of a person who is a borrower in default under an educational loan issued through the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation or through a federal agency. **Status:** Referred to Higher Education Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, House Withdrawn and Recommitted to Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 168, tangible personal property to certain non-profit health centers; extend exemption for five additional years](#) (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R)

Relating to exemptions from sales and use tax, so as to extend an exemption from sales and use tax for five additional years regarding the sale or use of tangible personal property to certain nonprofit health centers; to extend an exemption for five additional years with respect to certain nonprofit volunteer health clinics. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Sent to Finance Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 324, Georgia's Hope Act](#) (Rep. Micah Gravley-R)

Relating to offenses against public health and morals, so as to provide for the production, manufacturing, and dispensing of low THC oil in this state; to provide for an exception to possession of certain quantities of low THC oil; to amend Chapter 11 of Title 2 of the O.C.G.A., relating to seeds and plants generally, so as to provide for an exception. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte

[HB 370, Number of advanced practice registered nurses with which a delegating physician can enter into a protocol agreement for nurses practicing in an emergency medical services system](#) (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurses, so as to revise the exception to the number of advanced practice registered nurses with which a delegating physician can enter into a protocol agreement for nurses practicing in an emergency medical services system. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 481, Living Infants Fairness and Equality \(LIFE\) Act](#) (Rep. Ed Setzler-R)

Relating to persons and their rights; to amend Article 5 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the O.C.G.A., relating to abortion; to amend Chapter 9A of Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to the "Woman's Right to Know Act;" to amend Chapter 9B of Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to physician's obligation in performance of abortions; to amend Chapter 7 of Title 19 of the O.C.G.A., relating to parent and child relationship generally. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Science & Technology Cmte, **Hearing Held and Cmte will hold a vote Monday morning at 8:00 a.m.**

[HB 546, Criminal Offense of Abortion](#) (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)

Relating to offenses against health and morals, so as to provide for the offense of criminal abortion; to provide for penalties; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for affirmative defenses to prosecution. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[HR 261, Creating a Joint Study Committee on Evaluating and Simplifying Physician Oversight of Midlevel Providers](#) (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

A resolution creating the Joint Study Committee on Evaluating and Simplifying Physician Oversight of Midlevel Providers; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 36, Authorization of appropriations for purposes of obtaining federal financial participation; Medicaid expansion](#) (Sen. Steve Henson-D)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide for the authorization of appropriations for the purposes of obtaining federal financial participation for medical assistance payments to providers of Medicaid expansion under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 60, "Jeremy Nelson and Nick Blakely Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act"](#) (Sen. P. K. Martin-R)

relating to miscellaneous provisions under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide for guidelines and other relevant materials to inform high school 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; to provide for limited liability. **Status:** Referred to Education and Youth Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Education Cmte

[SB 92, Refuse to issue a license; borrower in default under an educational loan issued through the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

To prohibit professional licensing boards from refusing to issue a license or suspending or revoking the license of a person who is a borrower in default under an educational loan issued through the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation or through a federal agency. **Status:** Referred to Higher Education Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Appropriations Cmte

[SB 106, "Patients First Act"](#) (Sen. Blake Tillery-R)

Relating to medical assistance and insurance, respectively, so as to authorize the Department of Community Health to submit a Section 1115 waiver request to the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; to authorize the Governor to submit a Section 1332 innovation waiver proposal to the United States Secretaries of Health and Human Services and the Treasury; to provide for implementation of approved Section 1332 waivers; to provide for expiration of authority; to provide for legislative findings. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Committee On Access to Quality Health Care

[SB 218, Woman's Right to Know Act](#) (Sen. Bruce Thompson-R)

Relating to abortion; to amend Chapter 9A of Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to the "Woman's Right to Know Act;" to amend Chapter 9B of Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to physician's obligation in performance of abortions; and to amend Chapter 7 of Title 19 of the O.C.G.A., relating to parent and child relationship generally. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **DEAD**

Hospitals

[HB 62, Require certain notice in mammogram report to patients with dense breast tissue](#) (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to general provisions relating to health, so as to require certain notice in a mammogram report to patients with dense breast tissue. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Rules Calendar for Monday, Passed Cmte by substitute, Passed House, Referred to Senate Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to the Governor

[HB 84, Provide for 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 billing, reimbursement, and arbitration of certain services. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Calendar, Defeated by House 77 to 78, **DEAD**

[HB 128, Georgia Composite Medical Board of agreements to settle medical malpractice claims](#) (Rep. Deborah Silcox-R)

Relating to authorization and general requirements for transaction of insurance, so as to provide that insurers do not have to notify the Georgia Composite Medical Board of agreements to settle medical malpractice claims against physicians when the settlement resulted in the low payment under a high/low agreement; relating to the authority of the Georgia Composite Medical Board to refuse license, certificate, or permit or issue discipline. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Referred to Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 186, Relating to sale or lease of a hospital by a hospital authority](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to county and municipal hospital authorities, so as to revise provisions relating to the sale or lease of a hospital by a hospital authority; to provide for conflicting interest transactions; to provide for the investment of funds by certain hospital authorities. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Referred to Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Resources, Withdrawn and Recommitted to Finance Cmte

[HB 287, Certain physicians serving as community based faculty physicians; delete deduction](#) (Rep. Matt Dubnik-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 for certain periods of time. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 321, Hospital Medicaid financing program; extend sunset provision](#) (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)

Relating to the hospital Medicaid financing program, so as to extend the sunset provision. **Status:** Dropped in Hopper, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 409, Advanced practice registered nurse acts](#) (Rep. Alan Powell-R)

Relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurse, so as to authorize the delegation by a physician to an advanced practice registered nurse to order radiographic imaging tests in non-life-threatening situations; to revise definitions; and to increase the number of advanced practice registered nurses with whom a delegating physician can enter into a nurse protocol agreement and supervise at one time. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, **DEAD**

[HB 484, Provide for the resolution of disputes in which a medical funding provider has provided payment to a consumer's health care provider](#) (Rep. Andrew Welch-R)

Relating to liens, so as to provide for the resolution of disputes in which a medical funding provider has provided payment to a consumer's health care provider; to provide for definitions; to prohibit certain activities of medical funding provider. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 16, "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act"](#) (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick-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 require fingerprint records checks; to provide for application of an expedited license; to provide for a coordinated information system; to provide for joint investigations and discipline; to provide for a commission to administer the compact among the member states. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte, Passed Senate, Referred to House Health and Human Services Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to the Governor**

[SB 56, "Consumer Coverage and Protection for Out-of Network Medical Care Act"](#) (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler-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 certain patient or prospective patient disclosures; to provide for insurer disclosures; 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte

[SB 71, Relating to sale or lease of a hospital by a hospital authority](#) (Sen. Ben Watson-R)

Relating to county and municipal hospital authorities, so as to revise provisions relating to the sale or lease of a hospital by a hospital authority; to provide for the investment of funds by certain hospital authorities. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[SB 109, Delegation by a physician; order radiographic imaging tests in non-life-threatening situations](#) (Sen. Larry Walker III-R)

Relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurse, so as to authorize the delegation by a physician to an advanced practice registered nurse to order radiographic imaging tests in non-life-threatening situations; to revise definitions; to increase the number of advanced practice registered nurses with whom a delegating physician can enter into a nurse protocol agreement. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Tabled, **DEAD**

[SB 168, Multistate licensure of Nurses](#) (Sen. Greg Kirk-R)

Relating to nurses, so as to revise certain definitions relating to nurses; to clarify requirements relating to granting authorization to holders of multistate licenses to engage in advanced nursing practice; to repeal a provision relating to the Nurse Licensure Compact. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB, 189 Health Records; costs for copying medical records](#) (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)

Relating to health records, so as to provide for costs for copying medical records; to provide for electronic delivery of records unless paper is requested; to provide for penalties for not providing records in a timely fashion. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 207, Georgia Board for Physician Workforce; change name; board's membership](#) (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce, so as to change the name of such board to the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; to revise the board's membership; to provide for current members

of the board to serve out their terms of office. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

Insurance

[HB 99, Provide for modernization and updates](#) (Rep. Richard Smith-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to provide for modernization and updates; to amend various provisions for purposes of conformity. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 277, Relating to good will from insurer acquisitions](#) (Rep. John Carson-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to allow good will from insurer acquisitions to be treated as an asset; and to allow mutual insurers to charge policyholder dividends directly to surplus. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[HB 491, Update regulation of insurance company holding systems](#) (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R)

Relating to insurance holding company systems, so as to update the regulation of insurance company holding systems; to provide for definitions; to provide the Commissioner with new supervisory authority; to provide for enforcement authority. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[SB 18, Direct Primary Care Act](#) (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick-R)

Relating to kinds of insurance, limits of risks, and reinsurance, so as to provide definitions; to provide that direct primary care agreements are not insurance; to exempt such agreements from regulation as insurance; to provide for discontinuance of services under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Withdrawn from General Calendar and Recommitted to Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Sent to the Governor**

[SB 88, Georgia taxpayers; voluntary contributions through the income tax payment and refund process; qualified service disabled veterans benefit organization](#) (Sen. Michael Rhett-D)

Relating to tax returns and furnishing of information, so as to authorize Georgia taxpayers to make certain voluntary contributions through the income tax payment and refund process to aid and assist service disabled veterans through a qualified service disabled veterans benefit organization; to provide for definitions; to provide for conditions and limitations; to require surety; to provide for the remittance of recovered funds to the general fund; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred Finance Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 179, License Plate and Registration; adoption of a real-time internet services model; provide; Data Base Advisory Council](#) (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to administration and enforcement of chapter, so as to provide for the adoption of a real-time internet services model to provide for the electronic transmission of minimum motor vehicle insurance coverage; to create the Data Base Advisory Council; to provide for council membership, duties, and reporting; to provide for an online application to connect systems between insurers and state agencies; to provide for a third-party contractor as a designated agent for administration of the system; to provide that insurers shall provide certain information to the system **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 195, "Prescription Drug Benefits Freedom of Information and Consumer Protection Act"](#) (Sen. Chuck Huffstetler-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to provide for consumer protections and freedom of information regarding prescription drug benefits; to provide for intent and applicability; to provide for definitions; to provide for requirements; to provide for an advisory committee. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte

Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities

[HB 178, Examination and treatment for mental illness](#) (Rep. Don Hogan-R)

Relating to examination and treatment for mental illness, so as to provide for assisted outpatient treatment programs; to create a unit within the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability to provide support and coordination; to provide for an advisory council; to provide for applicability; to provide for a pilot program; to provide for procedures, standards, and criteria; to provide for due process; to provide for services and treatment plans; to provide for evaluative information and reports; to provide for training; to provide for patient's right to refuse medication; and to provide for an annual report. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 514, Georgia Mental Health Reform and Innovation Commission](#) (Rep. Kevin Tanner-R)

To create the Georgia Mental Health Reform and Innovation Commission; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for members and officers; and to provide for the commission's duties and powers. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 544, Involuntary treatment for substance abuse](#) (Rep. Chuck Efstoration-R)

Relating to hospitalization and treatment of alcoholics, drug dependent individuals, and drug abusers, so as to revise procedures regarding emergency involuntary treatment; to require the affidavits of the persons upon which an emergency involuntary treatment order is based to be made part of the patient evaluation and among the documents that influence treatment. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **DEAD**

[SR 193, Senate Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health](#) (Sen. Greg Kirk-R)

A resolution creating the Senate Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte

[SR 194, Joint Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health](#) (Sen. Greg Kirk-R)

A resolution creating the Joint Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte

Military Base Support

[HB 25, Provide military service members civil relief concerning certain contractual obligations due to circumstances of active duty](#) (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to self-service storage facilities and general provisions regarding contracts, respectively, so as to provide military service members civil relief concerning certain contractual obligations due to circumstances of active duty; to update a cross-reference; to provide for definitions; to enhance service member consumer protections under the law to include certain television, video, and audio programming services, internet access services, and health spa services. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte Non-Civil, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted by House, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed House, Referred to Senate Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security Cmte

[HB 59, Military students enroll in public school based on official military orders prior to physically establishing residency](#) (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to eligibility for enrollment in elementary and secondary educational programs, so as to allow military students to enroll in a public school based on official military orders prior to physically establishing residency. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Education & Youth Cmte

[HB 60, Dependent children of active duty military members shall be classified as in-state for purposes of tuition and fees by the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia](#) (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to postsecondary education and vocational, technical, and adult education, respectively, so as to provide that dependent children of active duty military members shall be classified as in-state for purposes of tuition and fees by the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia. **Status:** Referred to Higher Education Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 231, Military Service Tax Exemption](#) (Rep. Heath Clark-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to exempt from state income tax certain income received by taxpayers as retirement benefits from military service in the armed forces of the United States or the reserve components thereof. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 232, Children of active duty military classified as in-state for purposes of tuition](#) (Rep. Heath Clark-R)

Relating to postsecondary education and vocational, technical, and adult education, respectively, so as to provide that dependent children of active duty military members shall be classified as in-state for purposes of tuition and fees by the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia. **Status:** Referred to Higher Education Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 498, Income received as personal compensation for full-time duty in the active military service of the United States](#) (Rep. Mike Cheokas-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to exempt from state income tax income received as personal compensation for full-time duty in the active military service of the United States. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HR 166, House Study Committee on Veteran Services and Benefits](#) (Rep. Sandra Scott-R)

A resolution creating the House Study Committee on Veteran Services and Benefits; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred Defense & Veterans Affairs Cmte

[SB 94, Personal compensation for full-time duty in the active military service of the United States; exempt](#) (Sen. Ellis Black-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to exempt from state income tax income received as personal compensation for full-time duty in the active military service of the United States. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 103, Airports owned by a county, municipality shall not assess any fee to a veteran for motor vehicle parking](#) (Sen. Gail Davenport-D)

Relating to powers of local governments as to air facilities, so as to provide that airports owned, controlled, or operated by a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of this state shall not assess any fee to a veteran for motor vehicle parking. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte

[SB 126, State Income Tax; certain income received by taxpayers as retirement or disability benefits from military service in the armed forces of the United States](#) (Sen. Zahra Karnishak-D)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to exempt from state income tax certain income received by taxpayers as retirement or disability benefits from military service in the armed forces of the United States or the reserve components thereof; to repeal certain expired provisions; to clarify certain language. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, **DEAD**

Pharmaceuticals

[HB 63, Require Insurance health benefit plans to establish step therapy protocols](#) (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to require health benefit plans to establish step therapy protocols; to provide for a step therapy exception process; to provide for definitions; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for applicability. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 158, Medicaid recipients have the same access to antiretroviral regimens used to treat HIV and AIDS as to those included in the formulary established for the Georgia AIDS Drugs Assistance Programs](#) (Rep. Deborah Silcox-R)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide that Medicaid recipients have the same access to antiretroviral regimens used to treat HIV and AIDS as to those included in the formulary established for the Georgia AIDS Drug Assistance Program; to prohibit utilization management tools for such regimens; to provide for submission of a state plan waiver if necessary. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 323, Administration of claims by pharmacy benefit managers; revise provisions](#) (Rep. David Knight-R)

Relating to regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers, so as to add a definition; to revise provisions relating to administration of claims by pharmacy benefit managers; to revise provisions relating to prohibited activities of pharmacy benefits managers. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[HB 483, Controlled substances; Schedules I, IV, and V; change certain provisions](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to controlled substances, so as to change certain provisions relating to Schedules I, IV, and V 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, Referred to Health & Human Services

[SB 121, Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data Base; length of time prescription information is retained from two years to five years](#) (Sen. Larry Walker III-R)

Relating to the prescription drug monitoring program data base, so as to increase the length of time that prescription information is retained in the data base from two years to five years; to authorize the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to access the data base for enforcement purposes. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

Public Health

[HB 17, Smoking inside vehicle when person under 13 is present; provide for 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 Cmte Non-Civil, **DEAD**

[HB 160, Bariatric Pilot Program](#) (Rep. Katie Dempsey-R)

Relating to the Department of Community Health, so as to reinstate a pilot program to provide coverage for bariatric surgical procedures for the treatment and management of obesity and related conditions under the state health insurance plan; to provide for eligibility, requirements, and evaluation report for the four-year pilot program; to provide for automatic repeal. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services

[HB 187, To provide a pilot program for treatment and management of obesity](#) (Rep. Katie Dempsey-R)

Relating to the Department of Community Health, so as to provide for a pilot program to provide coverage for the treatment and management of obesity and related conditions, including medications and counseling; to provide for eligibility; to provide for requirements; to provide for a review of results and outcomes; to provide for an evaluation report on such program; and to provide for termination of the pilot program. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 214, Relating to vaccine protocol agreements](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Removes the geographic limitation on pharmacists who are engaged with a physician in a vaccine protocol agreement. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 217, Provides that employees and agents of syringe services programs are not subject to certain offenses relating to hypodermic syringes and needles](#) (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

The Department of Public Health shall be authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for the purpose of supervising the activities of syringe services programs, including provisions for the registration of such programs. Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 264, Persons promoting or opposing any matter regarding the EMSC Program are subject to transparency and lobbyist disclosure laws](#) (Rep. Bill Werkheiser-R)

Relating to public officials' conduct and lobbyist disclosure, so as to provide that any natural persons undertaking to promote or oppose any matter before a local coordinating entity regarding the Emergency Medical Systems Communications Program (EMSC Program) are subject to transparency and lobbyist disclosure laws; to amend Chapter 11 of Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to emergency medical services.

Status: Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Ethics Cmte

[HB 328, Regulation and permissance of body artists and body art studios](#) (Rep. Karen Mathiak-R)

Relating to health, so as to provide for the regulation and permissance of body artists and body art studios; to provide for definitions; to provide for the issuance, denial, suspension, and revocation of permits; to authorize administrative review and the promulgation of rules and regulations; to provide for enforcement, inspection, and criminal penalties; to provide for the development and institution of a public education program on body art and for the collection and retention of fees related thereto. **Status:** Referred Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 369, Development of an educational fact sheet that provides information concerning the use and misuse of opioid drugs for youth athletes prescribed an opioid for a sport-related injury](#) (Rep. David Wilkerson-D)

relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to require the development of an educational fact sheet that provides information concerning the use and misuse of opioid drugs in the event that a student-athlete or cheerleader is prescribed an opioid for a sports-related injury. **Status:** Referred Education Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 416, Create the State Vaccine Consumer Protection Office](#) (Rep. Rick Williams-R)

To establish the State Vaccine Consumer Protection Office; to provide for its duties; to provide for the creation of a State Vaccination Information Sheet; to provide for rights of consumers to decline administration of vaccines; to provide for an annual report; and to provide for rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 442, Grant program to encourage certain physicians to practice in underserved areas of the state](#) (Rep. Kim Schofield-D)

Relating to scholarships, loans, and grants, so as to create a grant program to encourage certain physicians to practice in underserved areas of the state; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 477, Public swimming pools; exempt pools located in condominium complexes](#) (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to definitions regarding public swimming pools, so as to exempt pools located in condominium complexes. **Status:** Referred to State planning and Community Affairs Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 521, Temporary licenses for dentists licensed in other states to provide dental care to indigent populations in this state](#) (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

Relating to licenses for the practice of dentistry, so as to authorize temporary licenses for dentists licensed in other states to provide dental care to indigent populations in this state; to provide for notice; to provide for length of validity of temporary licenses; to provide for application; to provide for specified dental care. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 551, Controlled substances; kratom](#) (Rep. Dewayne Hill-R)

Relating to controlled substances, so as to provide for legislative findings; to provide a definition; to provide for the identification of a standard level of kratom alkaloids and establish recommended dosages; to provide for the prohibition of access to kratom to persons under 18 years of age; to provide for package labeling requirements. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Non-Civil Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Health & Human Services

[SB 115, "Medical Practice Act of the State of Georgia"; telemedicine licenses for physicians in other states; engage in the practice of medicine with patients in this state through telemedicine](#) (Sen. Renee Unterman-R) Relating to the "Medical Practice Act of the State of Georgia," so as to provide for telemedicine licenses for physicians licensed in other states to engage in the practice of medicine with patients in this state through telemedicine; to provide for requirements for issuance of a telemedicine license; to provide for restrictions; to provide for notice of restrictions placed on a license by another state; to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for revocation. **Status:** Referred Science and Technology Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 118, Georgia Telemedicine Act; modernize; Telemedicine Act the Telehealth Act](#) (Sen. Renee Unterman-R) relating to insurance generally, so as to modernize the Georgia Telemedicine Act; to rename the Telemedicine Act the Telehealth Act; to revise the definition of telemedicine; to provide a definition of telehealth; to prohibit insurers from requiring insureds to use telemedicine; to provide for pay equity for health care providers using telemedicine. **Status:** Referred Science and Technology Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[SB 199, Testing of drinking water in child care learning centers and schools for lead contamination](#) (Sen. Nikema Williams-D) Relating to general provisions relative to education, so as to require testing of drinking water in child care learning centers and schools for lead contamination; to provide for definitions; to provide for notice and reporting of test results and remediation plans. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 226, Use of safety belts in passenger vehicles](#) (Sen. Randy Robertson-R) Relating to use of safety belts in passenger vehicles, so as to provide that all occupants of a passenger vehicle, whether in a front seat or back seat, shall be restrained by a seat safety belt. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Cmte, **DEAD**

[SR 263, Senate Emergency Medical Services Study Committee](#) (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R) A resolution creating the Senate Emergency Medical Services Study Committee. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte

[SR 264, Joint Emergency Medical Services Study Committee](#) (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R) A resolution creating the Senate Emergency Medical Services Study Committee. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Rules Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

Taxes

[HB 3, Repeal Hotel-Motel Excise Room Tax](#) (Matt Gurtler-R) Relating to the excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, so as to repeal a certain tax on innkeepers. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 48, Reinstate exemption on public mass transit vehicle excise tax](#) (Rep. Carl Gilliard-D) Relating to levy of excise tax, rate, taxation of motor fuels not commonly sold or measured by gallon, rate, but rather at a bulk purchase facility, prohibition of tax on motor fuel by political subdivisions, exception, and exempted sales, so as to reinstate excise tax exemptions for public mass transit vehicles, vehicles operated by a public campus transportation system, and school buses. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 132, Permit affiliated entities to apply certain transferable tax credits against payroll withholding](#) (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, and computation and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to permit affiliated entities to apply certain transferable tax credits against payroll withholding. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 182, To lower threshold on internet sales tax collections](#) (Rep. Brett Harrell-R)

Relating to state sales and use tax, so as to lower the threshold amount for certain dealers; and to eliminate an option for certain retailers to choose to either collect and remit sales and use taxes or provide certain notifications to certain purchasers and the state. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 189, Repeals Extra .04 cent on railroad diesel for locomotives](#) (Rep. Vance Smith-R)

Relating to sales and use taxes, so as to create an exemption from the state levy of sales and use tax on sales of fuel to a contract or common carrier regulated by the United States Surface Transportation Board for use exclusively in the operation of locomotives by such carrier. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 200, Repeal of hotel-motel excise tax exemption on rooms for non-profits](#) (Rep. Don Hogan-R)

Relating to excise tax on rooms, lodging, and accommodations, so as to exempt certain persons from the tax on hotel and motel rooms. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Hearing Only Held, **DEAD**

[HB 219, Ad valorem tax: fair market value of certain property and require the tax assessor to include certain information with the assessment](#) (Rep. Lynn Smith-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding ad valorem taxation of property, so as to further define the fair market value of certain property and require the tax assessor to include certain information with the assessment. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 224, Credit for new purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property shall be earnable for mining and mining facilities and allowed against a taxpayer's payroll withholding](#) (Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to provide that credit for new purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property shall be earnable for mining and mining facilities and allowed against a taxpayer's payroll withholding; to provide that certain previously claimed and unused tax credits earned by taxpayers may be applied against such taxpayers' payroll withholding under certain conditions; to provide for conditions and limitations; to provide for applications and proration; to revise definitions **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 276, Requires remittance of sales tax by person facilitating the sale](#) (Rep. Brett Harrell-R)

Relating to state sales and use tax, so as to modify the definition of dealer; to require the collection and remittance of sales tax by certain persons that facilitate certain retail sales; to define marketplace facilitators and marketplace sellers; to provide for an effective date and applicability; and to repeal conflicting laws. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 335, Certain motor vehicles owned or leased by or to a nonprofit organization or entity](#) (Rep. Al Williams-D)

relating to alternative ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles, so as to provide an exclusion for motor vehicles owned or leased by or to a nonprofit organization or entity that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c) of the federal Internal Revenue Code which provides services in this state pursuant to a grant issued and overseen by the Office of Head Start. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 355, Earning a tax credit for establishing or relocating quality jobs; modify conditions](#) (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to modify conditions for earning a tax credit for establishing or relocating quality jobs. **Status:** Referred Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 347, All expenditures of a production company's state certified productions may be combined to meet spending thresholds](#) (Rep. Josh Bonner-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to provide that all expenditures of a production company's state certified productions may be combined to meet spending thresholds; to lower spending thresholds; to increase the value of the tax credit; to provide for transferability of the tax credit; to provide for conditions and limitations. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 447, To exempt jet fuel from state sales and us tax](#) (Rep. Dominic LaRiccia-R)

Relating to sales and use taxes, so as to exempt jet fuel from the state sales and use tax for a period of time and to levy an excise tax on jet fuel during such period; and to modify provisions for the use of proceeds of taxes on jet fuel. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 448, Relating to Excise tax on room, lodgings and accommodations](#) (Rep. Matt Dollar-R)

Relating to excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, so as to revise the definition of "innkeeper" to include lodging facilitators; to expand the levy of a nightly excise tax to include all rooms, lodgings, and accommodations furnished for value to the public by innkeepers; to define the term "lodging facilitator"; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 451, Historic Preservation Tax Credits](#) (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, and computation and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to revise procedures, conditions, and limitations relating to tax credits for the rehabilitation of historic structures; to authorize promulgation of regulations; to provide for preapproval of additional tax credits for current recipients of tax credits; to provide for sharing and confidentiality of certain preapproval information; to provide for the submission of applications to the Department of Community Affairs; to revise provisions relating to assignment of corporate income tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 494, Rehabilitation of historic structures; change time when taxpayer is allowed a tax credit](#) (Rep. Debbie Buckner-D)

Relating to tax credits for the rehabilitation of historic structures and conditions and limitations, so as to change the time when a taxpayer is allowed a tax credit; to change the projects earning limitation for the aggregate per calendar year cap; to provide for carry forward of credits for other certified structures; to change requirements for the transfer of credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 540, Housing tax credit; add to the list of tax categories eligible for an offset](#) (Rep. Trey Rhodes-R)

Relating to housing tax credit for qualified projects and rules and regulations, so as to add to the list of tax categories eligible for an offset by the housing tax credit. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, House Withdrawn and Recommitted to Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HR 164, Dedication of revenues derived from fees or taxes to the public purpose for which such fees or taxes were imposed.](#) (Rep. Jay Powell-R)

A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly 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; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations; to provide for the redesignation of a current subparagraph of the Constitution; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Appropriations Cmte

Transportation

[HB 286, “Right to Repair Act”](#) (Rep. Scot Turner-R)

Relating to selling and other trade practices, so as to require a manufacturer to provide certain items necessary for diagnostic, maintenance, or repair services on digital products. **Status:** Referred Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 420, Revenue and taxation; tax on persons who enter certain rental agreements with certain equipment rental companies within a certain period of time; levy and impose](#) (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 require such equipment rental companies to collect such taxes and remit them to county tax commissioners for credit against such company's ad valorem tax liability for certain equipment; to provide that county tax commissioners shall retain excess fees; to provide for the reporting of certain statistical data related to such tax. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 457, Motor vehicles; safety belts and safety restraints; revise provisions](#) (Rep. Todd Jones-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding equipment of motor vehicles, so as to revise provisions for safety belts required as equipment, safety restraints for children, and the usage of safety belts in passenger vehicles; to provide for use or nonuse of a seat safety belt as evidence admissible in civil actions under certain circumstances; to provide a response to Reid v. Odom, 199 Ga. App. 146; Boatwright v. Czerepinski, 194 Ga. App. 697; Katz v. White, 190 Ga. App. 458; Sapp v. Johnson, 184 Ga. App. 603, and any other case law that has provided for limiting the purposes for which seat belt nonusage evidence may be admitted. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **DEAD**

[HB 511, Rural Transit Coordinating Council](#) (Rep. Kevin Tanner-R)

Relating to the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority; so as to redesignate Code sections relative to such authority to a new chapter to create a rural transit council and provide for funding mechanisms. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Transportation Cmte, **Hearing Only Tuesday**

[HR 368, Urging the construction of Interstate 14](#) (Rep. Richard Smith-R)

A Resolution urging the construction of Interstate 14; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 82, Transportation Department Director; appointment of a chief innovation officer to coordinate and develop technology](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

Relating to the appointment and responsibilities of the director of planning for the Department of Transportation, so as to provide for the appointment of a chief innovation officer to coordinate and develop technology based improvements and solutions to transportation needs. **Status:** Referred to Senate Science and Technology Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 148, Revise provision for safety belts as required equipment](#) (Sen. Randy Robertson-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding equipment of motor vehicles, so as to revise provisions for safety belts required as equipment, safety restraints for children, and the usage of safety belts in passenger vehicles; to provide a response to Reid v. Odom, 199 Ga. App. 146; Boatwright v. Czerepinski, 194 Ga. App. 697; Katz v. White, 190 Ga. App. 458; Sapp v. Johnson, 184 Ga. App. 603, and any other case law that has provided for limiting the purposes for which seat belt nonusage evidence may be admitted; and to provide for related matters. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, **DEAD**

[SB 200, Georgia Department of Transportation; procedure for appealing the rejection of a contract bid](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to exercise of power to contract by the Georgia Department of Transportation, so as to require the department to develop a procedure for appealing the rejection of a contract bid. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte

[SB 217, State Transportation Board; authority of the board to hire professional staff and clerical personnel](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

Relating to composition of the State Transportation Board, qualifications of members, terms of office, manner of selection of members, filling of vacancies, officers, meetings, and compensation of members, so as to provide for authority of the board to hire professional staff and clerical personnel; to provide for certain reporting to the board by the director of governmental affairs employed by the Department of Transportation **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, **DEAD**

[SR 24, Amend the allocation of funds collected through federal motor fuel taxes](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

A resolution urging the United States Congress to amend the allocation of funds collected through federal motor fuel taxes; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[SR 19, Create Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

A resolution creating the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics **Status:** Referred to Senate Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte

[HR 37, Create Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics](#) (Rep. Kevin Tanner-R)

A resolution creating the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics **Status:** Referred to House Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Transportation Cmte

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