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Weekly Legislative Report #8

Week Ending March 5, 2021

Houses Passes FY22 Budget

The Georgia House has put its stamp on the [\\$27.2 billion budget](#) that controls state spending beginning July 1 – a 5.2% increase over last year. The budget hits \$54 billion when federal funds are included. A total of \$58 million was added to various programs to replace cuts made to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities last year. As the state has experienced better revenues, thanks to a federal infusion of cash and Gov. Kemp's policy of trying to keep businesses alive while keeping Georgians virus-safe, the state's economic situation is less dire than anticipated last year. The House added \$50 million to the \$883 million bond package proposed by Kemp. Bonds are typically sold to finance infrastructure building projects such as school buildings and buses.

The budget restores about 60% of spending cuts made to K-12 schools and the university system during last year's session that ended in June at the height of the revenue scare, but does not touch the state's rainy day fund of \$2.7 billion. Other line items of interest include:

- \$1.5 million for a new vaccine management system.
- Half a million dollars for a drug deactivation project where a patient puts unused prescriptions (or nonprescription) drugs in a special biodegradable bag that neutralizes the drug and can then be dropped in the trash. In addition to keeping discarded drugs out of the sewer system, this would help cut down on intra-family opioid theft.
- \$10 million for broadband expansion in underserved areas.
- Shift money in transportation programs so that the capital maintenance program will spend state funds, rather than federal funds, allowing such projects to proceed more quickly.
- Pay raises for various specific state jobs that experience very high personnel turnover.

Omnibus Elections Bill Passes House

[HB 531](#), House Republicans' omnibus elections bill, garnered six votes more than necessary to clear the full chamber last week and now moves to the Senate. Highlights include:

- Reduce weekend voting to one Sunday, one Saturday and an optional second Saturday.
- Reduce ballot drop boxes and require they be located inside early voting locations.
- Require Driver's License or State ID number to vote absentee.
- Prohibit governments from mailing unsolicited absentee ballot applications.
- Create instant runoff voting for military and overseas voters by allowing them to select second choices.
- Schedule runoffs four weeks after election day, rather than the current nine weeks. (Nine weeks had been court-ordered to allow overseas and military time to cast ballots.)
- Prevent distribution of free food or drink to those in voting lines.
- Restrict rapid-response buses from serving precincts with long lines to emergency declarations.

Free Georgia ID Cards

A portion of the elections bill above requires absentee voters to provide a Driver's License or State ID number when applying for an absentee ballot. On the same day the bill passed, Speaker David Ralston announced a plan to provide free Georgia ID cards that could be used for not only voting, but for opening bank accounts and clearing airport security. The cards would include security features that meet the federal government's REAL ID requirements and be created administratively through the Department of Driver Services. Thus, no legislation is needed.

Approximately 97% of Georgia residents have either a Driver's License or a State ID on file with the Secretary of State, but that leaves 200,000 voters without such instruments. Currently, State ID cards cost \$32, but Ralston, responding to voter suppression criticism, says the planned card will be free to individuals.

Where to Draw the Line on Emergency Powers

There's always going to be tension between societal freedoms and responsibilities. Writing legislation that draws a red line between the two is no easy feat. For example, [SB 200](#) (Jason Anavitate-R) would allow churches to meet and businesses to stay open as long as they meet safety protocols set by the Governor. However, the Governor could not order a complete shut down during an emergency. Another bill, [HB 358](#) (Ed Setzler-R), would prohibit the Governor from extending an emergency declaration for more than 30 days without the approval of the General Assembly. [HB 290](#) (Ed Setzler-R) would force hospitals to allow a person designated as legal representative to visit bedside (not virtual) with a patient at least one hour per day. There are no exceptions for say a burn patient particularly vulnerable to any kind of infection, or for a patient with a particularly infectious disease. (Nursing homes would also have to allow two additional visitors.)

Our friends at Grady Hospital put the above situations in perspective last week when they informed us that the Atlanta Airport would be one of six in the nation to receive travelers coming from Guinea, West Africa, where an Ebola outbreak has recently reoccurred. Over the years, various Ebola outbreaks have produced fatality rates from 25% to 90%. If Grady receives an Ebola patient, an enacted HB 290 would force them to allow the patient's designated legal representative to sit bedside for an hour every day . . . before returning to their community, their business, their church.

(The visitor would have to comply with all hospital safety precautions such as masks and gloves.) The Governor could not supersede the required visitation, even by declaration of a public health emergency. HB 290 is on the House debate calendar for Monday, while HB 358 has passed out of a House committee and could be added to a supplemental calendar. SB 200 cleared the full Senate on Friday.

A Wager on Gambling Legislation

Were we to place bets on the future of wagering bills in the General Assembly, our money would be on the ultimate creation of an omnibus bill pulling together various bits and pieces of existing gaming language. Currently, online/mobile sports betting has the inside track for passage with [SB 142](#) and [SR 135](#), both by Jeff Mullis-R, having already passed the Senate and [HB 86](#) (Ron Stephens-R) being debated on the House floor Monday. But language providing for destination resort gaming and parimutuel betting could be added to these measures at various stops along the way. Anyone wanting a *sure* bet regarding the developing shape of gambling in Georgia should wait until the final gavel signals adjournment sine die.

It's About Time!

Two bills moving through the legislature in a timely fashion aim to end the practice of shifting from standard time to daylight saving time. [HB 44](#) (Wes Cantrell-R) just passed the House (debate limited to “one hour”) and would move Georgia to daylight time, all of the time, but only if Congress changes the federal law which currently prohibits year-round daylight time. [SB 100](#) (Ben Watson-R) has passed the Senate. It would move Georgia to standard time year-round, which is already permissible under federal law. Both bills have plenty of support, but the overriding question is, what neighboring states may or may not do. West Georgia citizens already face a one-hour difference with Central Time Zone Alabama. A two-hour difference during half the year might prove disruptive for cross-border business and commuters. On the east side of the state, it's possible that Georgia's time could be the same as South Carolina part of the year and an hour different the rest. The issue gives literal meaning to the expression, “interesting times.”

Next Week

Monday presents one of the big hurdles that bills must clear each session. It's crossover day when all general legislation must pass out of its House of origin in order to be further considered this year. The Senate has 46 bills on its debate calendar for Monday. The House starts with an initial 27 bills, but typically increases that number during the day via one or more supplemental calendars.

Tracking List

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

The 2021 Legislative Session is the first session of the 2021-2022 Term of the Georgia General Assembly. Therefore, bills not passed or defeated during this session will be carried over to the 2022 session. Bills pending in the House or Senate Rules Committees at adjournment sine die of the 2021 session will be recommitted to the committee from whence they came.

Sections:

[Aging](#)

[Business](#)

[City & County Governments & Regional Commissions](#)

[Economic Development](#)

[Elections](#)

[Ethics](#)

[Government](#)

[Health – General](#)

[Hospitals](#)

[Insurance](#)

[Pharmaceuticals](#)

[Taxes](#)

[Transportation](#)

Aging

[HB 290](#), Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions (Rep. Ed Setzler-R)

Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to prohibit hospitals and nursing homes from instituting any policy during a declared public health emergency that limits patients' abilities to be visited by designated family members or friends as a condition precedent to obtaining or maintaining a permit to operate a hospital or nursing home. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Hearings Held, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Monday**

[HB 363](#), Relating to elderly protections (Rep. John LaHood-R)

Relating to crimes and offenses, so as to revise definitions relative to the protection of elder persons; to remove enhanced penalties for certain offenses against persons 65 years of age or older or employees, agents, or volunteers at long-term care facilities; and to provide for related matters. **Status:** Referred to Judicial Non-Civil Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte**

[HB 605](#), Relating to care and protection of indigent and elderly patients (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to care and protection of indigent and elderly patients, so as to provide for authorized electronic monitoring in long-term care facilities. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Hearing Only, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate**

[HB 618](#), Elderly abuse protections regarding wills (Rep. Bert Reeves-R)

Relating to execution and attestation, so as to provide for elder abuse protections regarding wills; to provide for a definition; to provide for requesting a judgment of validity; and to provide for the admissibility of facts; to provide for revocation. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 628](#), Central caregiver registry (Rep. John LaHood-R)

Relating to the central caregiver registry, so as to provide for criminal background checks on individuals independently retained to provide personal care services for elderly persons who reside in a personal care home or assisted living facility; to revise definitions; to provide for procedures and notification; and to provide for limited liability. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations and Aging

Business

[HB 112](#), To provide for certain immunities from liability claims (Rep. Trey Kelley-R)

To provide for certain immunities from liability claims regarding COVID-19; extend for one year. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Access to the Civil Justice System, Passed Cmte, Sent to Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 55](#), To create the Family Medical Leave Fund (Sen. Gloria Butler-D)

To create the Family Medical Leave Fund; to provide for contributions to such fund; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations by the Department of Labor. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[SB 189](#), Civil Practice; separate trials for issues of liability and damage (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)

Relating to civil practice, so as to provide for separate trials for issues of liability and damages under certain circumstances; to provide considerations for making determinations as to whether to provide for separate trials. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 190](#), Relating to torts, so as to provide for the recovery and admissibility (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)

Relating to torts, so as to provide for the recovery and admissibility of special damages for medical and health care expenses. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

City & County Governments and Regional Commissions

[HB 60](#), Georgia Educational Scholarship Act (Rep. Wes Cantrell-R)

Relating to education, so as to provide for the establishment of educational scholarship accounts; to provide for qualified education expenses; to provide for qualifications for students to participate in the account program. **Status:** Referred to Educational Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 98](#), Conditions for meetings to be held by teleconference (Rep. Eddie Lumsden-R)

To provide conditions for meetings and public hearings to be held by teleconference in emergency conditions. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed General Government Subcmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, [Referred to Government Affairs](#)

[HB 107](#), Workforce Development Board Meetings (Rep. Carolyn Hugley-R)

Local workforce development board to conduct meetings via teleconference. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 150](#), Public utilities and public transportation (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to prohibit governmental entities from adopting any policy that prohibits the connection or reconnection of any utility service based upon the type or source of energy or fuel. **Status:** Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[HB 286](#), Relating to police departments (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

Relating to county police, so as to restrict the ability of county governing authorities to reduce funding for county police departments; to amend Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions applicable to municipal corporations, so as to restrict the ability of municipal or consolidated government governing authorities to reduce funding for municipal police departments. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Government Oversight Cmte

[HB 374](#), Public water or sewer providers tax exempt (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

Relating to sales and use taxes, so as to exempt from taxation local authorities providing public water or sewer service. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Hearing Only, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 511](#), Relating to dedication of fees and taxes (Rep. Bert Reeves-R)

Relating to conservation and natural resources, domestic relations, game and fish, General Assembly, health, motor vehicles and traffic, public officers and employees, revenue and taxation, and social services, respectively, so as to provide for the establishment or revision of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund, Solid Waste Trust Fund, Hazardous Waste Trust Fund, State Children's Trust Fund, Wildlife Endowment Trust Fund, Trauma Care Network Trust Fund, Transportation Trust Fund, Georgia Agricultural Trust Fund, Fireworks Trust Fund, and Georgia Transit Trust Fund as funds within the state treasury; to dedicate the proceeds of certain fees and taxes to such funds as authorized and subject to the conditions imposed by Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(r) of the Constitution of Georgia. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte**

[HR 130](#), Transfer of Forsyth County from Georgia Mountains RC to the ARC (Rep. Lauren McDonald-R)
A Resolution ratifying the action of the Board of the Community Affairs approving of the transfer of Forsyth County from the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission to the Atlanta Regional Commission. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte; Passed Governmental Affairs State and Local Government Subcmte, Pending Full Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Government Oversight Cmte**

[HR 222](#), House Study Committee on annexation (Rep. Victor Anderson-R)

A Resolution creating the House Study Committee on Annexation. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[SB 59](#), Charter School funding for full-time equivalent students (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for additional QBE funding for each full-time equivalent student within a local charter school; to provide for a maximum amount of such funding available to each local charter school. **Status:** Referred to Education and Youth Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Education Cmte.**

[SB 95](#), Conditions for meetings to be held by teleconference (Sen. Frank Ginn-R)

Relating to state government, so as to provide conditions for meetings and public hearings to be held by teleconference in emergency conditions; and to provide conditions for certain agency members to participate in nonemergency meetings by teleconference. **Status:** Referred to Government Oversight Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte**

[SR 26](#), An amendment to the Constitution to authorize GO Bonds (Sen. Tyler Harper-R)

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution to authorize the state to incur general obligation debt in order to make loans or grants to certain counties, cities, local authorities and local commissions that own airports. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte, Passed by the Appropriations Transportation Subcmte, Pending Appropriations Cmte, Passed Cmte, Sent to Rules Cmte, On Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled

Economic Development

[HB 86](#), Sports Wagering (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

To provide for the lottery game of sports wagering; to provide oversight of such lottery game by the Georgia Lottery Corporation. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte, Sent to

Rules Cmte, Withdrawn and recommitted to the Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Rules Calendar, House Postponed, [On House Floor Monday](#)

[HB 359](#), Projects of regional significance sales tax exemption (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to exemptions from state sales and use taxes, so as to extend the sunset date for the exemption for projects of regional significance. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 500](#), Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act (Rep. James Burchett-R)

Relating to the "Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act," so as to provide for a second round of funding and period for applications; to increase an application fee and provide for an annual maintenance fee. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 520](#), Deployment of Broadband Services (Rep. Phillip Singleton-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding promotion and deployment of broadband services. **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Cmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[HB 538](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Rep. Ron Stephens-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 definitions; to enter into the Interstate Compact on Licensure of Participants in Live Racing with Pari-mutuel Wagering. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte

[HR 30](#), 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, Withdrawn from Economic Development & Tourism Cmte and Recommitted to Regulated Industries Cmte, [Passed Lottery Oversight-Gaming Subcmte by Substitute, Pending Cmte](#)

[HR 184](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, [Defeated in Cmte](#)

[SB 30](#), To provide for pari-mutuel horse racing (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel horse racing in this state at a limited number of licensed equestrian centers and create the Georgia Horse Racing Commission. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[SB 65](#), Universal Access Fund (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to public utilities so as to provide for funding of the deployment for certain communication services throughout the state, so as to allow for funds to be used for deployment of broadband services. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[SB 142](#), Sports Wagering (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to lottery for education, so as to provide for the lottery game of sports wagering in this state; to provide for oversight of such lottery game by the Georgia Lottery Corporation. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte, Hearing Held, Passed by Cmte Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House](#)

[SB 212](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Sen. Jeff Mullis-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 definitions; to enter into the Interstate Compact on Licensure of Participants in Live Racing with Pari-mutuel Wagering. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[SB 255](#), To support border region retail and tourism (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to the "OneGeorgia Authority Act," so as to provide for a grant program to support border region retail and tourism projects; and to provide for criteria. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, [Passed Cmte](#), [Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[SR 53](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities

[SR 131](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities

[SR 135](#), To provide for sports betting (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

To provide for sports betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [Passed Senate by Substitute](#), [Sent to House](#)

Elections

[HB 62](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Joseph Gullett-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to prohibit boards of elections, boards of elections and registration, local election superintendents, and county boards of registrars from accepting or expending private funds; to provide that such local elections officials can only accept lawful appropriations of public funds or authorized fees. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 64](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the manner of handling the death of a candidate prior to a nonpartisan election; to provide that no candidate shall take or be sworn into any elected public office unless such candidate has received a majority of the votes cast for such office except as otherwise provided by law. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity, Hearing Held

[HB 113](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Kimberly Alexander-D)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for same day registration and voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 132](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Mesha Mainor-D)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for written operating procedures for elections and voter registration activities in each county; to provide for State Election Board approval; to provide for contents and scope of procedures; to provide for sanctions for failure to submit acceptable operating procedures. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 136](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Eddie Lumsden-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the appointment of acting election superintendents in the event of a vacancy or incapacitation in the office of judge of the probate court of counties without a board of elections. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 227](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)

Relating to elections and primaries so as to provide for submission of identification in connection with absentee ballot applications; to provide for the submission of photocopies of voter identification for absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 228](#), Relating to presentation of identification to poll worker (Charlice Byrd-R)

Relating to presentation of identification to poll workers, form of proper identification, so as to require the term Bearer Not a U.S. Citizen. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 267](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Brad Thomas-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that persons who register to vote by mail shall vote for the first time in person. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 270](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Barry Fleming-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the time periods for the mailing and issuance of absentee ballots. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted to Special Cmte on Election Integrity, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 280](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Rep. William Boddie-D)

Relating to primaries and elections, so as to eliminate certain electors list maintenance activities. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 284](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Wes Cantrell-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that counties and municipalities may choose to utilize instant run-off voting under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 285](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Rep. Wes Cantrell-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to provide for instant-run-off voting in the election of presidential electors; to provide for the implementation of the instant run-off voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 325](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the definition of "absentee elector"; to provide for reasons for voting by absentee ballot; and to provide for certain exceptions. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 326](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that voting devices or systems used in primaries, elections, and runoffs in this state shall not utilize any form of wireless network cards or wireless technology; to provide for the removal or disabling of such cards or technology before using such systems or devices in voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 365](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Williams-R)

relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that printed absentee ballot applications shall have the election cycle for which they are to be used printed on the application. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 366](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide that persons desiring to register to vote or update their voter registration through an application for a driver's license or identification card shall be required to affirmatively indicate such desire on such application. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 373](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that county registrars shall obtain monthly from the coroner, judge of the probate court, and funeral homes in the county identifying information about persons who died in the county during the previous month. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 406](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Will Wade-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for audits of certain primaries and elections; to provide for access to election records for such auditors; and to provide for public access to the results of such audits. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 491](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide additional requirements on the State Election Board's power to adopt emergency rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 492](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to make the Secretary of State a nonvoting ex officio member of the State Election Board; to provide for the appointment, confirmation, term, and removal of the chairperson of the State Election Board; to revise provisions relating to a quorum of such board; to require the Secretary of State to support and assist the State Election Board. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 493](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the State Election Board to assume temporary control over local election and voter registration administration; to provide a definition; to provide for the appointment of the Secretary of State to carry out such local election and voter registration duties. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 494](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. James Burchett-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the submission of photocopies of voter identification documents for absentee voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 501](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide that recounts shall count the text portions of ballots; to provide for discretionary recounts in certain circumstances; and to provide certain procedures for conducting recounts in partisan elections. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 506](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Matthew Gambill-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that the State Election Board shall promulgate minimum standards for voting equipment; to provide that the Secretary of State shall test and certify such

equipment; to provide that each county shall be authorized to obtain whichever certified voting equipment it chooses. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 507](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Williams-R)
relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to regulate the distribution of absentee ballot applications by third-party entities; to provide for disclaimers and the use of proper forms by certain persons in distributing absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 512](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the times for advance voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 531](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally and local elections (Rep. Barry Fleming-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that no election superintendents or boards of registrars shall accept private funding. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity, Hearing Held, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Ethics Cmte**

[HB 537](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Mitchell Scoggins-R)
So as to provide for removal from office for boards of registrars and county boards of elections and registration under certain circumstances; to provide that absentee ballots shall be printed on safety paper; to provide for the submission of certain forms of identification by electors with absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots; and to provide for audio and video recordings of ballot processing and counting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 659](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Shea Roberts-D)
Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the scanning and publishing on a county website or the Secretary of State's website of paper ballots, unofficial precinct returns, and ballots from recounts; to provide for the inspection and copying of original ballots by certain persons following the completion of a recount. **Status:** **Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity**

[HB 615](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Todd Jones-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for an automatic recount and recanvass under certain circumstances; to provide for certain reports. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 701](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Barry Fleming-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise a definition; to provide additional powers of the State Election Board regarding suspending superintendents; to provide for the appointment of temporary and permanent replacement superintendents. **Status:** **Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity**

[SB 29](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jason Anavitarte-R)
So as to provide for the submission of certain forms of identification by electors with absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 40](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jen Jordan-D)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the time and method for opening and tabulating absentee ballots; and to provide for an effective date. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, **Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity**

[SB 62](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Lindsey Tippins-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to provide the name and designation of the precinct appears on her ballot. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 67](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Larry Walker-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the submission of identification in connection with absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Pending Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 68](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to revise the manner of delivery of voted absentee ballots. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 69](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to provide that persons desiring to register to vote through an application for a driver's license shall be required to affirmatively indicate such desire on such application. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, [Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 70](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to Elections and Primaries, so as to provide that a person who votes in a general election in another state and subsequently moves to this state shall be ineligible to vote in a runoff in this state. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 71](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to Elections and Primaries, so as to revise the definition of "absentee elector" to provide for reasons for voting by absentee ballot and to provide for certain exemptions. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 72](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to Elections and Primaries, so as to provide that the county registrars shall obtain monthly from the coroner, probate judge and funeral homes in the county identifying information about who has died in the county during the previous month. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, [Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 73](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to limit the distribution of absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 74](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to revise the ability of poll watchers at tabulating centers to observe the vote county process. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, [Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 89](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Butch Miller-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for a chief elections assistance officer; to provide for the qualifications, appointment, supervision, and duties of such officer; to provide for election assistance coaches; to provide for the identification of low-performing county election superintendents; to provide for comprehensive on-site evaluation of election management practices. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Pending Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 93](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Randy Robertson-R)
relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the use of portable and movable polling facilities in certain circumstances; and to provide for standards for such facilities. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, [On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 99](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Elena Parent-D)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that all advance voting locations shall be open and available for voting on the day of a primary, election, or runoff for any elector of the county to vote; and to provide for procedures and requirements. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 141](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jason Anavitarte)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for immediate counting and tabulation of ballots after the close of the polls until such counting and tabulation is completed; and to provide notice of number of ballots cast. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 184](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the time for inputting credit for voting data; and to provide for sanctions for failure to meet deadlines. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 188](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for an election results reporting system to be established and maintained by the Secretary of State; and to provide for the submission of certain information to such reporting system by county superintendents. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 192](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jason Anavitarte-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for hearings and procedures when the right of a person to register to vote, vote, or remain on the list of electors is challenged. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 202](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Max Burns-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that persons or entities that mail absentee ballot applications shall mail such applications only to eligible registered electors who have not already requested, been issued, or voted an absentee ballot; to require certain comparisons to remove improper names from mail distribution lists. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 241](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Mike Dugan-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the establishment of a voter intimidation and illegal election activities hotline; to limit the ability of the State Election Board and the Secretary of State to enter into certain consent agreements; to amend Article 1 of Chapter 13 of Title 50 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions regarding administrative procedure, so as to provide for the submission and suspension of emergency rules by the State Election Board. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 242](#), Grand Juries; state grand jury; creation, selection, & composition (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)
Relating to grand juries, so as to provide for a state grand jury; to provide for its creation, selection, composition, compensation, procedures, and term; to provide for a foreperson and deputy foreperson; to

provide for certain disqualifications and recusals; to provide for certain oaths; to provide for a legal advisor; to provide secrecy of proceedings; to provide for sanctions for violations; to provide for subpoenas and compelling the production of evidence and testimony; and to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations by the Supreme Court. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 253](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Nikki Merritt-D)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for notice when polling places are relocated. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday**

[SB 273](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Burt Jones-R)
Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to authorize local governments to conduct elections by paper ballot in 2021. **Status:** **Referred to Ethics Cmte**

Ethics

[HB 333](#), Georgia Government Transparency & Campaign Finance Commission (Rep. Chuck Efstation-R)
Relating to ethics in government, so as to revise the powers and duties of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House, Sent to Senate**

Government

[HB 608](#), Broadband Services (Rep. Marcus Wiedower-R)
Relating to state government, so as to provide for planning, deployment, and incentives of broadband services throughout the state; to provide for definitions; to provide for certain powers, duties, and responsibilities of the OneGeorgia Authority and the Department of Community Affairs relative to funding and contractual awards for the deployment of broadband services to unserved areas and unserved locations within such areas; to provide certain criteria and conditions for such awards. **Status:** **Governmental Affairs Cmte, Hearing Only**

[HR 185](#), House Rural Development Council (Speaker David Ralston-R)
A Resolution reauthorizing the House Rural Development Council. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, **Passed House**

[SB 221](#), To provide for leadership committees (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)
Relating to ethics in government; to provide for leadership committees; to provide for chairpersons; to provide that such committees may receive contributions and make expenditures; to provide for disposition of assets in certain circumstances; to provide for filings and reports; and to provide an exception from contribution limits. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, **Referred to Judiciary Cmte**

Health – General

[HB 163](#), Express lane enrollment for medical assistance for children (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)
Instructs the Department of Human Services to submit a state plan amendment to federal officials to provide automatic enrollment in Medicaid of eligible children enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 245](#), Podiatry practice provision relating to background checks (Rep. John LaHood-R)

Relating to podiatry practice, so as to amend a provision relating to fingerprint and criminal background checks. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 256](#), The reorganization of county boards of health (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

To provide for the reorganization of county boards of health; to revise the powers of county boards of health; to authorize the Department of Public Health to select district health directors; to provide for qualifications of district health directors; to authorize the commissioner of public health to select chief medical officers. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Hearing Held, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules, On Senate Floor Monday**

[HB 307](#), Georgia Telehealth Act (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to revise the "Georgia Telehealth Act"; to revise definitions; to authorize health care providers to provide telemedicine services from home; to authorize patients to receive telemedicine services from their home, workplace, or school. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 394](#), Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products, so as to revise the rate of taxation for tobacco products and vapor products; and to provide for the taxation of certain products that contain nicotine. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Mean Cmte

[HB 567](#), Newborn Screening & Genetics Advisory Committee (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

So as to revise provisions relating to newborn screening for various disorders; to create the Newborn Screening and Genetics Advisory Committee to review and make recommendations to the department when a new disorder is added to the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel; and to provide for requests for appropriations to cover new disorders. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Monday**

[HB 702](#), Professional licensing boards (Rep. Joseph Gullett-R)

Relating to appointment and general powers of division director, members and meetings of professional licensing boards, examination standards, roster of licensees, and funding, so as to provide that home addresses of licensees are treated as confidential. **Status:** **Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte**

[HR 236](#), House Study Committee on Safe Staffing of Nurses (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)

A Resolution creating the House Study Committee on the Safe Staffing of Nurses in Georgia. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte

[SB 5](#), To provide protection measures for patients undergoing sedation (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick-R)

To provide patient protection measures for patients undergoing sedation in certain settings, including dental settings and medispas; to provide for patients under varying levels of sedation in physician offices and medispas. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Withdrawn from Rules Cmte and Recommitted to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 199](#), Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products, so as to permit the sale and delivery of tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, and vapor products by licensed manufacturers located outside of this state

directly to individuals in this state under certain conditions. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday**

Hospitals

[HB 234](#), Relating an option for self-funded healthcare plans (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to provide an option for self-funded healthcare plans, to opt in Georgia's Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 261](#), Care and protection of indigent and elderly (Rep. Todd Jones-R)

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to conduct a simulated exchange for health care facilities to purchase and sell charity care credits to meet their charity care requirements. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Hearing Held

[HB, 697](#), To require hospital data collection (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

Relating to health care data collection, so as to require hospitals to participate in a survey disclosing whether such hospitals maintain technology allowing the electronic sharing of certain patient information with other hospitals; to provide that the department shall collect the survey results and submit a report to the legislature; and to require the use of certified electronic health technology by certain hospitals. **Status:** **Referred to Special Cmte on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Monday**

[SB 19](#), Surgical Smoke Evacuation Systems (Sen. Gloria Butler-D)

To require hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to utilize surgical smoke evacuation systems during surgical procedures to protect patients and health care works. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 31](#), Care and protection of indigent and elderly (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler-R)

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to conduct a simulated exchange for health care facilities to purchase and sell charity care credits to meet their charity care requirements. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

Insurance

[HB 115](#), Relating to insurance, so as to prohibit certain information (Rep. Mike Wilensky-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to prohibit certain insurers from using information derived from genetic testing for any nontherapeutic purpose in the absence of a diagnosis of a condition related to such information. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte

[HB 241](#), Relating to Property Insurance (Rep. Matthew Gambill-R)

Relating to property insurance, contract requirements, rules, regulations and exemptions, so as to revise the meaning of property insurance. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte

[SB 1](#), Georgia All-Payer Claims Database (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to the Georgia All-Payer Claims Database, so as to provide that entities that receive certain tax credits and that provide self-funded, employer sponsored health insurance plans are submitting entities and provide for related matter. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Hearing Only

[SB 43](#), Noncovered Eye Care Services Act (Sen. Matt Brass-R)

Relating to the enumeration of unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices and penalty, so as to provide that certain actions by health care insurers offering eye care benefit plans constitute unfair trade practices. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte

[SB 112](#), Life insurance notification to policy owners and beneficiaries (Sen. Marty Harbin-R)

Relating to life insurance, so as to require annual notification to policy owners and requested beneficiaries of the existence of such policies; to require insurers to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners life insurance policy locator on a quarterly basis; and to provide for reporting. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [Senate Passed by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte](#)

[SB 113](#), Life insurers' requirement to review national policy locator (Sen. Marty Harbin-R)

Relating to life insurance, so as to provide for life insurers' requirement to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' life insurance policy locator service; to provide for reporting; to provide for the Commissioner to prescribe reporting; to provide for a sunset provision for reporting requirements; and to provide for enforcement. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte](#)

Pharmaceuticals

[HB 164](#), Prescription Drug Financial Protection Act (Rep. Demetrius Douglas-D)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to require all health insurers to pass along no less than 80 percent of all prescription drug rebates to enrollees that such insurer receives from third parties with regard to such enrollee's prescription drugs. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, [Hearing Only, Passed Cmte by Substitute As Amended, Pending Rules](#)

[HB 367](#), Annual Drug Bill (Rep. Butch Parrish-R)

Relating to controlled substances, so as to change certain provisions relating to Schedules I, II, III, IV, and V controlled substances; and 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 Public Safety Cmte

[HB 447](#), Disclosure of health insurance plan data (Rep. David Knight-R)

Relating to the state employees' health insurance plan, so as to require that all contracts for health care coverage or services under the state health benefit plan contain provisions relating to disclosure of cost related data. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Hearing Only

[HB 448](#), Disclosure of cost related data for PeachCare for Kids Program (Rep. David Knight-R)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to require that all contracts for health care coverage or services under Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program contain provisions relating to disclosure of cost related data. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Hearing Only

[HB 653](#), Georgia Pharmacy Practice to include COVID-19 test interpretation (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)

Relating to definitions relative to the "Georgia Pharmacy Practice Act," so as to revise the definition of pharmacy care to include COVID-19 test interpretation. **Status:** [Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[SB 80](#), Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to provide for standards for utilization review; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for applicability; to provide for definitions. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [Senate Passed by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte](#)

Taxes

[HB 100](#), Excise tax exemption for vehicles owned by public transportations systems (Rep. Carl Gilliard-D) Relating to levy of excise tax, rate, taxation of motor fuels not commonly sold or measured by gallon, rate, prohibition of tax on motor fuel by political subdivisions, exception, and exempted sales, so as to provide for exemption from certain excise taxes on motor fuel and compressed natural gas for public mass transit vehicles owned by public transportation systems, certain vehicles owned by public campus transportation systems, and school buses operated by public school systems. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 104](#), Equipment Rental Tax (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)
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. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte

[HB 122](#), To Extend Sales Tax Exemption for manufacturers of concrete (Rep. John Corbett-R)
To extend the sunset for a manufacturers' sales tax exemption for concrete mixers to 2026. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 304](#), Tax credit for medical equipment and pharmaceuticals (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)
Tax credit for medical equipment and supplies manufacturers and pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturers; provide tax credit. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 317](#), Relating to excise tax to revise definition of innkeeper. (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)
Relating to excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, so as to revise the definition of "innkeeper" to include marketplace facilitators; to define the term "marketplace innkeeper"; to expand the state levy of a nightly excise tax to include all rooms, and lodgings. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Referred to Ways & Means Tax Subcmte, Hearing Only, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [On House Floor Monday](#)

[HB 398](#), Relating to job tax credits (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)
Relating to conditions for taking job tax credit by business enterprises and calculating credit, so as to remove the job cap. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 469](#), Tax Credits for historic structures (Rep. Ron Stephens-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 provide for preapproval of additional tax credits for current recipients of tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Withdrawn from Rules Calendar and Recommitted to Rules Cmte](#)

[HB 586](#), Georgia Economic Recovery Act of 2021 (Rep. Sam Watson-R)
Relating to general provisions regarding sales and use taxes, so as to extend the sunset date for the exemption for projects of regional significance. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [House Passed, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte](#)

[HB 587](#), Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to revenue and taxation, so as to provide for a tax credits for various expenditures and manufacturers. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, [House Passed, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte](#)

[HB 593](#), Income Tax Cut (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income tax, so as to increase the amount of the standard deduction from state taxable income for individuals. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, [Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte](#)

[SB 6](#), State Tax Exemptions (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to fiscal bills to provide for independent economic analyses to be procured by the Office of Planning and Budget for certain tax benefits upon request by the chairpersons of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to the House, Referred to Ways & Means

[SB 148](#), Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler-R)

To create the 2021 Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness for Georgians and the Special Joint Committee on Georgia Revenue Structure; to state legislative findings and intent; to make provisions relative to legislative procedure for consideration of legislation recommended by the council and the special joint committee. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Budget & Fiscal Affairs Oversight Cmte

Transportation

[HB 496](#), Permits for vehicles of forest products for loads exceeding weight limit (Rep. James Burchett-R)

Relating to permits for vehicles and loads of excess weight and dimensions, so as to provide for issuance of an annual forest product permit for certain vehicles and loads exceeding weight and dimension maximums; to provide for fees for such permit. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte

[HB 452](#), Tax Credit for Class III railroads (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)

Relating to tax credit for Class III railroads and reporting, so as to extend an income tax credit for expenditures on the maintenance of railroad track owned or leased by Class III railroads. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 588](#), Freight railroad P3 & locomotive fuel program of GDoT (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)

To provide for eligible expenditures for the Georgia Freight Railroad Program of the Georgia Department of Transportation; to amend Title 48 of the O.C.G.A., relating to revenue and taxation, so as to provide for an exemption to state sales and use tax; to amend Code Section 52-2-5 of the O.C.G.A., relating to composition of the Georgia Ports Authority; appointment, terms, and qualifications of members generally. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, [House Passed by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte](#)

[SB 98](#), Georgia Freight Railroad Program (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

To provide for eligible expenditures for the Georgia Freight Railroad Program of GDoT; relating to composition of the Georgia Ports Authority, so as to add the commissioner of transportation as an ex official member of the Georgia Ports Authority. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Hearing Only, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

[SB 118](#), Permits for vehicles of forest products for loads exceeding weight limit (Sen. Tyler Harper-R)

Relating to permits for vehicles and loads of excess weight and dimensions, so as to provide for issuance of an annual forest product permit for certain vehicles and loads exceeding weight and dimension maximums; to provide for fees for such permit. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Hearing Only

[SB 203](#), Allow electronic device mounted on front windshield (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Allow electronic device mounted on front windshield. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, [Pending Rules Cmte](#)

NOTE: Sen. Gooch removed the original language from SB 203 and substituted the following seat belt tort language in its place.

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.

[SR 102](#), Georgia Commission on E-Commerce and Freight Infrastructure Funding (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

A Resolution creating the Georgia Commission on E-Commerce and Freight Infrastructure Funding; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, [Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Floor Monday](#)

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