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**Weekly Legislative Report #3**

**Week Ending January 28, 2022**

**Mental Health Emphasis**

Speaker David Ralston (R-Blue Ridge) doesn’t often lend his name to legislation, but he not only introduced [HB 1013](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61365) as lead sponsor, he held a well-attended press conference surrounded by supporters from both parties to send it on its way. The Mental Health Parity Act is designed to increase patient access to care, ensure mental health parity for patients and providers, and invest in healthcare workforce development, among other things. The mammoth 74-page bill covers a lot of territory, but it has the general support of leadership on both sides of the aisle, so there will likely be tweaking only, not real opposition to the concept.

**Standard Suite of Mental Health Services**

Rep. Gerald Greene (R-Cuthbert) has introduced [HB 1049](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61410), a bill that would require every community service board in the state to offer a standard suite of mental/behavioral health services. The Department of Community Health would be charged with establishing the scope of such services with an eye towards those included in the National Council for Mental Wellbeing’s Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic model.

**Statistic of the Week**

In the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), an average of 185 adult mental health hospital beds and 175 community crisis beds are offline daily due to workforce shortages. In the DBHDD mental health hospital system, 62% of employees make less than $30,000 per year.

**Organ Donors Cannot Lose Life Insurance**

The “Giving the Gift of Life Act” was appropriately named by the author, someone who had, in fact, just exercised that feat. Sen. John Albers (R-Roswell) donated a kidney to his son last year, a process that opened his eyes to issues facing organ donors. [SB 330](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61078) would prohibit life insurance companies from dropping policies or refusing to issue policies to someone because they have donated a kidney or liver to another person. The bill also sets out tax advantages for individual donors and for employers who support their employee donors. The bill passed unanimously out of the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee and will be heard on the Senate floor Monday.

**Local Governments Prohibited from Setting Employee Hours**

Sen. Albers also presented a second bill in the Insurance and Labor Committee. [SB 331](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61082) would prohibit regulation of non-government employees’ work hours and other conditions by local governments. The bill is apparently in response to some cities elsewhere in the country setting limits on number of hours worked plus mandatory salary requirements for hotel employees. The bill was given a hearing only, no vote taken.

**Ban on Non-Citizen Voting Failed**

The Georgia Constitution currently states that “Every person who is a citizen of the United States and a resident of Georgia as defined by law . . . ” is allowed to vote. Those exceptions as defined by law are that you must also be 18 or older, mentally fit, and not a felon unless you’ve completed your sentence.

Sen. Butch Miller (R-Gainesville) introduced [SR 363](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61083) to change the Constitution to emphasize, “*Only* individuals who are citizens of the United States and residents of Georgia . . .” are allowed to vote (same exceptions). Senate Republicans voted for the bill in block last week, but that left them five short of the two-thirds majority required to pass an amendment to the state Constitution. Miller subsequently won on a motion to “reconsider” the Senate’s action, so SR 363 is not dead, but can be voted upon again should members be perceived to have a change of heart.

**Vaccine Passport Bans**

Two weeks ago, Sen. Jeff Mullis (R-Chickamauga) introduced [SB 345](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61178) to ban vaccine passports. Within nanoseconds critics pointed out that the language in the bill would also ban schools from requiring their traditional school-starting vaccinations for measles, etc. Mullis quickly said he would fix the bill to refer to only COVID vaccines. However, the next day, Sen. Brandon Beach dropped in the hopper [SB 372](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61178), a bill that similarly bans institutions from requiring proof of vaccines for service, but also specifically exempts schools from the law. One of the co-signers of Beach’s bill is Mullis, so we’ll have to see which bill(s) leadership decides to push forward.

**Kemp Flexes Popularity Muscle**

Governor Brian Kemp has been flexing his popularity muscle lately as Georgia barrels towards the May Republican primary featuring Kemp, former U.S. Senator David Perdue, and a few others. The Governor has been warmly received under the Gold Dome this session for presentations made both on his policy objectives and his budget recommendations. During a meeting of the Georgia Faith and Freedom Coalition (Ralph Reed, Founder), Kemp got standing ovations both when he entered the venue near the Capitol and when he was introduced to speak. And recently, a Quinnipiac University survey found Kemp leading the GOP field by seven percentage points, 43% to 36%, and 49% to 47% ahead of Stacey Abrams in a head-to-head general election matchup. Perdue and Abrams were evenly split at 48%. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution followed immediately with its own poll showing Kemp leading Abrams 48% to 41%, while Perdue led Abrams 47-43%.

**Next Week**

The General Assembly will be in session Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week.

**Legislative Tracking Report**

**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 2022 Legislative Session is the second session of the 2021-2022 Term of the Georgia General Assembly. Therefore, bills not passed or defeated last session are carried over to the 2022 session. Bills tabled on the floor or pending in the House or Senate Rules Committees at adjournment sine die of the 2021 session have been recommitted to the committee from whence they came.

**Sections:**

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**Aging**

[HB 290](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59302), 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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, House Passed as Amended by the House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Motion made to Table, Tabled

[HB 605](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59980), 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, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed as Amended by the Senate, Sent to House for Agree/Disagree, House Disagreed

[HB 618](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60017), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60030), 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 961](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61237), Torts; Authorize appointment of damages in single-defendant lawsuits (Rep. Chuck Efstration-R)

Relating to reduction and apportionment of award or bar of recovery according to percentage of fault of parties and nonparties, so as to authorize apportionment of damages in single-defendant lawsuits; to provide for evidence of fault of nonparties. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 55](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59162)**,** 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59716), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59713), 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 328](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59393), Public utilities; one-time right of way permit fee (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to telephone service general provisions, so as to establish a one-time right of way permit fee and reduce annual right of way use fees as due compensation paid to municipal authorities by telephone companies that do not have retail, end user customers located within the boundaries of the municipal authority; to provide certain notice requirements; and to establish a civil penalty. **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Cmte Tabled, Taken off Table, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed as Amended, Sent to House for Agree/Disagree

[HB 302](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59342), Require that proceeds of local government regulatory fees be used for regulatory activity (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding specific, business, and occupation taxes, so as to require that the proceeds of local government regulatory fees be used to pay for regulatory activity and not general operations; to revise the list of professions which may be subject to such regulatory fees; to remove provisions authorizing calculation of regulatory fees for new construction, renovation, and other construction projects. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, House Postponed, Passed/Adopted By Substitute in House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 60](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58867), 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, Withdrawn from Rules Calendar, Recommitted to Rules Cmte

[HB 107](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58954), Workforce Development Board Meetings (Rep. Carolyn Hugley-R)

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

[HB 854](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60883), Incorporate City of Buckhead City (Rep. Todd Jones-R)

To incorporate the City of Buckhead. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 933](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61169), Remove provisions, keeping ballots and election documents under seal (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, to revise provisions related to the retention and preservation of ballots and other election documents; to remove provisions for keeping such ballots and documents under seal; to provide for the inspection of such ballots and documents under certain conditions. **Status**: Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 934,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61170) Special district transportation sales and use tax (Rep. Rob Leverett-R)

Relating to the special district mass transportation sales and use tax, to provide for the maximum amount and time frame for the collection of such tax when an intergovernmental agreement has been entered into between a county and municipality. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte

[HB 1044](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61395), Creation of regional development authorities (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)

Relating to development authorities, so as to provide for the creation of regional development authorities; to provide an enhancement for the jobs tax credit for such authorities. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte

[HR 594](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61258), Temporary tax relief to properties damaged or destroyed by a disaster or located in a nationally declared disaster area (Rep. Lynn Smith-R)

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Georgia so as to provide that county and municipal governing authorities shall be authorized to grant temporary tax relief to properties severely damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster and located within a nationally declared disaster area; to provide for related matters; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[SB 95](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59336), 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Rules Calendar, House Recommitted to Rules Cmte, Defeated in House, House Voted to Reconsider its Action, Reconsideration Passed, Recommitted to House General Calendar, House Adopted Reconsideration, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate

[SB 324](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60999), Incorporate City of Buckhead City (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

To incorporate the City of Buckhead. **Status:** Referred to Urban Affairs Cmte

[SB 331](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61082), Restrictions on local governments’ control on businesses (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to minimum wage law, so as to prohibit the regulation of employee work hours, scheduling, and output by local government entities. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Hearing Only

[SR 26](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59033), 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, Taken Off Table, Recommitted to Appropriations Cmte

**Economic Development**

[HB 359](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59459), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59780), 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

[SB 65](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59217), 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

**Elections**

[HB 62](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58875), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58877), 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 Only

[HB 113](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58960), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59002), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59007), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59191), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59192), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59267), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59276), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59290), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59294), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59295), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59390), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59391), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59465), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59466), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59506), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59567), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59771), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59772), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59773), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59774), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59781), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59800), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59801), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59806), 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 537](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59837), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60130), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59990), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60229), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59020), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59064), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59208), 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, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken off Table, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 67](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59216), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59219), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59221), 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, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 70](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59220), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59224), 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 Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 72](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59222), 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 Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken off Table, Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 73](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59223), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59225), 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 Rules Calendar, Senate Table, Taken off Table, Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 89](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59310), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59325), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Randy Robertson-R)

elating 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 Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 99](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59363), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59533), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jason Anavitarte-R)

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 Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 184](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59712), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59718), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59745), 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 241](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60009), 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

[SB 253](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60052), 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

[SB 273](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60199), 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

[SB 325,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61051) Remove provisions for absentee ballot drop boxes (Sen. Butch Miller-R, Rep. Frank Ginn-R, Rep. Sheila McNeill-R, Rep. Jeff Mullis-R, Rep. Chuck Payne-R, and others)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to remove provisions relating to absentee ballot drop boxes and the requirements therefor. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 350](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61200), Provide for nonpartisan elections for any county offices (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by local legislation for nonpartisan elections for any county offices; to provide procedures for such nonpartisan general elections. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

**Ethics**

[HB 333](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59399), Georgia Government Transparency & Campaign Finance Commission (Rep. Chuck Efstration-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, Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate Rules Cmte as Senate Rules Cmte Substitute, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Rules Cmte

**Gaming**

[HB 86](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58917), 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, Withdrawn from House Rules Calendar and Recommitted to Rules Cmte

[HB 538](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59838), 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

[HB 544](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59852), Relating to Lottery Board and COAM operators (Rep. Alan Powell-R)

Relating to lottery for education, so as to change the composition of the board of directors of the lottery; to comprehensively revise Article 3, relating to bona fide coin operated amusement machines. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte, Hearing Only

[HR 30](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58966), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59846), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59018), 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 142](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59534), 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 Only, Passed by Cmte Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Rules Calendar, House Recommitted back to Rules Cmte, House Rules Cmte Calendar, Recommitted to Economic Development Cmte

[SB 212](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59904), 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

[SR 53](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59227), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59903), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59914), 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, Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Rules Calendar, House Recommitted back to Rules Cmte, House Rules Cmte Calendar, Recommitted to Economic Development Cmte

**Government**

[HB 608](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59983), 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

[HB 1040,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61391) Require community action agencies to submit audit reports and IRS forms before contracts with DHS (Rep. Patty Bentley-D)

Relating to economic rehabilitation services, so as to require community action agencies to submit audit reports and IRS forms to the Department of Audits and Accounts before any contracts with the Department of Human Services are made or offered; to require each member of the board of directors of a community action agency to execute contracts between the community action agency and the Department of Human Services. **Status:** Referred to Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Cmte

[HB 1057,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61410) Provide standard suite of services for mental health that community service boards. (Rep. Gerald Greene-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding administration of mental health, developmental disabilities, addictive diseases, and other disability services, so as to provide for a standard suite of services that community service boards are required to provide in their respective service areas. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

**Public Health**

[HB 996](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61326), Provide additional exceptions to “Dietetics Practice Act” (Rep. Kasey Carpenter-R)

Relating to professions and businesses, so as change and provide for additional exceptions to the "Dietetics Practice Act," to allow individuals credentialed in the field of nutrition to provide advice, counseling, or evaluations in matters of food, diet, or nutrition under certain circumstances; to provide for conforming cross-references. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte

[HB 1000](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61330), Exception for inoculation of canines and felines against rabies (Rep. Stan Gunter-R)

Relating to control of rabies, so as to provide an exception for inoculation of canines and felines against rabies for animals for which such vaccine would compromise the animal's health or if it is medically unnecessary. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte

[HB 1005](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61335), Require local school systems to conduct suicide screenings (Rep. Mesha Mainor-D)

Relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to require local school systems to conduct suicide screenings on all students age eight through 18. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte

[SB 338,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61152) Extension of postpartum coverage under Medicaid to one year after birth (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

To increase postpartum coverage under Medicaid from six months to one year following birth. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[SB 345,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61178) Prohibit state and local governments from mandating vaccine passports (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding state government, to prohibit state and local governments from mandating vaccine passports. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[SB 372](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61303), Provide that certain vaccination requirements or immunity passports are unlawful discriminatory practices (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

Relating to control of hazardous conditions, preventable diseases, and metabolic disorders, so as to provide that certain requirements or actions relating to vaccination status or possession of immunity passport are unlawful discriminatory practices; to provide for exceptions; to provide that an individual may not be required to receive certain vaccines. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

**Health – General**

[HB 394](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59549), 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 702](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60230), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60093), 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

[HB 972,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61248) Licensing requirements for professional counselors (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to licensing provisions regarding professional counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists, so as to change certain definitions; to provide for an additional member to the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists; to change the licensing requirement and exceptions; to change the eligibility for licensure requirements; to remove the ability of the board to issue a license without examination; to change the requirement for licensure in professional counseling; to eliminate certain continuing education requirements. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte

[HB 1013](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61365), Mental Health Parity Act (Rep. David Ralston-R)

Relating to courts, education, health, insurance, mental health, public officers and employees, and social services, respectively, so as to implement the recommendations of the Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 1038](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61389), Update of Rural Physician Tax Credit (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits relative to state income taxes, so as to limit eligibility for the rural physician tax credit to persons qualifying as a rural physician on or before December 31, 2022; to provide for automatic repeal; to create a new tax credit for rural physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[SB 199](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59755), 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 Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Finance Cmte

**Hospitals**

[HB 261](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59255), 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 Only

[HB 290](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59302), 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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, House Passed as Amended by the House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Motion made to Table, Tabled

[HB, 697](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60225), 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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 19](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58941), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59019), 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

**Insurance**

[HB 115](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58962), 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 969](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61245), Update regulation of company holding systems (Rep. Tyler Paul Smith-R)

Relating to insurance holding company systems, so as to update the regulation of insurance company holding systems per direction from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; to provide guidelines for group capital calculation in insurance company holding systems; to provide guidelines for liquidity stress test framework in insurance company holding systems; to provide standards governing transactions within an insurance holding company system when an insurer is deemed to be in a hazardous financial condition; to provide protections for an affiliate in an insurance holding company system when a domestic insurer is subject to certain proceedings; to provide clarifications on confidentiality and to extend confidentiality protections to third-party consultants designated by the Commissioner. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte

[SB 1](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58869), 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 112](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59454), 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, Hearing Only

[SB 113](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59453), 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, Hearing Only

[SB 330](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61078), Protection for applicants or insured who have donated organs (Sen. John Albers-R)

To amend Title 33 of the O.C.G.A., relating to insurance, so as to prohibit insurers from cancelling, modifying coverage, refusing to issue, or refusing to renew life insurance policies solely because the applicant or insured donated a liver or kidney; to amend Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the O.C.G.A., relating to income taxes, so as to revise an income tax deduction based on a taxpayer's living donation of all or part of his or her liver, pancreas, kidney, intestine, lung, or bone marrow. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte

**Pharmaceuticals**

[HB 164](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59086), 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 447](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59642), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59643), 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 867](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61050), Pharmacy Benefit Manager and Rebates (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

Relating to regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers, so as to revise the definition of "rebate"; to require pharmacy benefits managers to disclose the true net cost and final net cost, if applicable, of prescription drugs to insureds; to require pharmacy benefits managers to calculate cost sharing requirements for insureds based on the true net cost of prescription drugs; to provide for remittance of difference in cost sharing payments by insureds based on final net cost. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte by Substitute

[HB 963,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61239) Provisions for controlled substances (Rep. Butch Parrish-R)

Relating to controlled substances, so as to change certain provisions relating to Schedule I controlled substances and Schedule IV controlled substances; to change certain provisions relating to the definition of dangerous drugs. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 341](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61156), Guidelines for prior authorization of prescribed medicine for chronic conditions (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick-R)

Relating to the prior authorizations of healthcare services, to provide guidelines for the prior authorization of a prescribed medication for chronic conditions requiring ongoing medication therapy under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

**Taxes**

[HB 100](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58944), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58951), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58990), 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

**Note:** The language was added to SB 6.

[HB 304](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59345), 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 398](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59559), 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](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59705), 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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 452](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59647), 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

Note: The language from HB 452 was added to [HB 587](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59948), Georgia Economic Renewal Act of 2021.

[HB 586](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59947), 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 587](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59948), 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, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Tabled

[HB 979](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61255), Tax credit for lower income individuals who lease dwellings (Rep. Derek Mallow-D)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from income taxes, so as to provide for a tax credit for lower income individuals who lease dwellings under certain conditions. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 1039](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61390), Extend tax credit for expenditures on the maintenance of Class III railroads (Rep. Mack Jackson-D)

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

[SB 148](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59556), 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Rules Calendar, Defeated in the House

[SB 323,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60971) Repeal state income tax (Sen. Butch Miller-R)

To repeal the state income tax in its entirety; to repeal various income tax credits; to provide for related matters. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte.

**Transportation**

[HB 496](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59776), 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

[SB 98,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59341) 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, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Rules Cmte

[SB 118](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59477), 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

[SR 84](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59470), Airport Joint Study Committee (Sen. Tyler Harper-R)

Create Joint Study Committee for airport infrastructure and improvements. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken off Table, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Senate Agreed.

[SR 102](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59628), 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, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Senate Agreed.

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