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**Weekly Legislative Report #8**

**Week Ending March 4, 2022**

**House to Swing the Tax Axe**

Touting it as the largest income tax cut in state history, House leaders Tuesday announced their intention to introduce legislation reducing Georgia’s income tax rate from the current maximum of 5.57% to a flat 5.25%. (A 2018 vote dropped the tax from a tiered 6% maximum to 5.75% maximum, but the pandemic forced legislators to postpone a second one-quarter percent cut they had planned.) Other features of the legislation include:

* Deductions other than for charitable contributions would be eliminated.
* The standard exemption would rise from $2,700 for single filers to $12,000, and from $7,400 to $24,000 for married couples filing jointly.
* Dependent exemptions would remain at $3,000.
* Exemptions for 65 and older would remain.

The state ended fiscal year 2021 with a $3.7 billion surplus and income is up this fiscal year-to-date by 16%. In a separate move, Gov. Brian Kemp has proposed rebating $1.6 billion to taxpayers this year. The House voted Tuesday to do just that, and it’s expected the Senate will soon agree. The reduction in the income tax will take effect in 2024 to give budget writers an opportunity to soften the impact of reducing the state’s income by $1 billion annually.

**Senate Approves Its Version of Amended Budget**

Not surprisingly, the Senate did not agree with the House on every line item in the FY 2021 Amended appropriations bill, [HB 910](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61135), that controls the state budget through June 30. The Senate passed its version on Monday and transmitted it back to the House. A few notable differences include the Senate adding another $4,000 to the $5,000 already in the bill for corrections and juvenile justice officer raises, an area where annual turnover rates have sometimes exceeded 100%. The Senate also approved $20 million in rural downtown development grants, while doubling the House budget for state parks improvements to $14.9 million. The Senate added $1.6 million to increase mental health and bereavement services for children, and it set aside $189 million in matching money that will be required assuming Congress appropriates funding for the already passed Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Following an exchange of routine parliamentary procedures, a conference committee of three leaders from each chamber will meet to sort out their differences.

**Clear Sailing for Lead Poisoning and Vaping Bills**

[HB 1355](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62106) by Rep. Katie Dempsey (R-Rome) cleared the House Thursday by a 163-0 margin. In the briefest of terms, the Childhood Lead Exposure Control Act is revised to tighten rules and regs in the continuing fight to rid children’s exposure to lead. It moves to the Senate HHS Cmte.

A bill to categorize vaping on a par with smoking passed the House as well, 149-12 and was sent to the Senate where it was assigned to the Judiciary Cmte. Author Bonnie Rich (R-Suwanee) added the term “or vaping” everywhere the word “smoking” appears in the Georgia Smoke-Free Air Act. If passed, [HB 1348](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62096) would forbid vaping in the same venues and situations as current regulations prohibit smoking. Both bills were introduced at the behest of the Department of Public Health.

**Advice on Relieving Food Deserts**

Democrat Harold Jones II (D-Augusta) found a reservoir of good will in the Senate Agricultural Cmte. last week where his bill aimed at relieving food deserts in Georgia passed by voice vote. [HB 537](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62241) would officially be called the Georgia Food Insecurity Eradication Act, and it would create the Georgia Food Security Advisory Council within the Department of Agriculture. The council would be responsible for considering a litany of food insecurity issues facing the state.

**Statistic of the Week**

A poll conducted by Fox5 Atlanta and Insider Advantage surveyed 750 likely Republican primary voters on February 28 and March 1. The poll has a margin of error of 3.6% and the results below are to the following question:

“If the election were held today to decide who will be the Republican nominee for Governor, for whom would you vote?”

Brian Kemp 44%

David Perdue 35%

Kandiss Taylor 3%

Catherine Davis 1%

Other 2%

Undecided/No Opin. 15%

**Parents’ Bill of Rights School Bill**

The House on Friday adopted [HB 1178](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61677) by the Governor’s floor leader Josh Bonner (R-Peachtree City) by a near party-line vote, with one Democrat joining the Republican majority. Billed as a Parents’ Bill of Rights, the measure lists various things such as school records and school instructional materials that must be made available to parents within specific time frames and also allows children to opt out of sex education classes. Opponents say those items and options are already available to parents and that the bill’s language casts teachers and administrators as an adversary. Rep. Stacey Evans (D-Atlanta) argued “This is going to keep the lawyers pretty busy trying to figure out what was and wasn’t produced.” The bill moves to the Senate and will be assigned to committee next week. A similar bill, [SB 449](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61677) (Clint Dixon - Kemp floor leader), passed the Senate the previous week by a vote of 33-21.

**Caregivers Can Assist With Hospital Discharge**

Under Lee Hawkins’ (R-Gainesville) Georgia Caregivers Act, a patient being admitted to a hospital could designate one lay caregiver to be involved in their eventual discharge process. [HB 1304](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61970) directs the hospital to contact and include an identified lay caregiver in the discharge planning process and any “aftercare” transfers to other facilities. The bill has passed out of the House HHS Cmte. and is set for floor debate next Tuesday.

**Gun Bills Demonstrate Senate’s Fire Power**

The Senate on Monday took up three bills related to gun ownership and use and all three passed. [SB 319](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60797) is referred to as “constitutional carry” legislation. The bill by Jason Anavitarte (R-Dallas) would strike current code that requires a person to obtain a permit to legally carry a firearm. The vote was along party lines, 34-22. A separate bill, [SB 259](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/60080) (Jeff Mullis-R), would prohibit local governments from banning the discharge of firearms on someone’s property if the property is 10 acres or more in size. It passed 33-20. And finally, [SB 479](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61936) (Bo Hatchett-R), would allow a convicted felon found in possession of multiple firearms to be charged separately for each individual possession. It had an easy time with a 43-9 vote count.

**National Championship Trophy Scores Big**

Concerns about whether your favorite bill was about to pass or fail took a back seat for a few minutes last week when Coach Kirby Smart brought the NCAA National Football Championship trophy by the Capitol for all to have a look-see . . . and a photo. Our top notch Legislative Aide (and UGA Honors College Bulldog) Gracie Swan was one of hundreds who took advantage of the opportunity to pose with the trophy in the Capitol rotunda.

**Next Week**

The House and Senate will be in session next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, with Thursday reserved as a committee meeting day. However, the most important day for legislators will be Monday, a recess day, but also the day they begin lining up on the second floor (Dems on one side of the south atrium and Republicans on the other) to pay their qualifying fees for reelection. The qualifying period extends through noon on Friday. It’s only then that candidates will know for sure whether or not they have one or more opponents in the upcoming primary and general elections.

**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:**

[Aging](#Aging)

[Behavioral/ Mental Health](#Behavioral)

[Business](#Business)

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

[Economic Development](#EconDev)

[Elections](#Elections)

[Ethics](#Ethics)

[Gaming](#Gaming)

[Government](#Government)

[Public Health](#GenHealth)

[Health – General](#health)

[Hospitals](#Hospitals)

[Insurance](#Insurance)

[Pharmaceuticals](#Pharmaceuticals)

[Taxes](#Taxes)

[Transportation](#Transportation)

**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

[HB 1304](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61970), Georgia Caregivers Act (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)

To create the "Georgia Caregivers Act" to require hospitals to provide patients with the opportunity to identify lay caregivers; to provide that no new private right of action is created. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Tuesday

[HB 1336](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62047), Allow assisted living comminutes and personal care homes to enroll as Medicaid providers (rep. Calvin Smyre-D)

Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to allow assisted living communities and personal care homes to enroll as Medicaid providers. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HR 768](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62036), Create House Study Committee on Expanding Long-Term Care Options (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)

Creating the House Study Committee on Expanding Long-Term Care Options. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 576,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62467) Grandparents or Family Members Visitation Rights (Sen. Brian Strickland-R)

relating to actions by grandparents or other family members for visitation rights or intervention, revocation or amendment of visitation rights, appointment of guardian ad litem, mediation, hearing, and notification to family members of child's participation in events, so as to revise provisions regarding visitation actions brought by certain grandparents of minor children; to provide for a rebuttable presumption; to provide for a response to Patten v. Ardis, 304 Ga. 140 (2018). **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

**Behavioral/ Mental Health**

[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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Tuesday

[HB 1404](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62237), Submit waiver request to authorize private institutions for mental disease to qualify for Medicaid reimbursement (Rep. Robert Pruitt)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to direct the Department of Community Health to submit a waiver request to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to authorize private institutions for mental disease to qualify for Medicaid reimbursement; to provide for implementation upon approval. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 403](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61506), Enact “Georgia Behavioral Health and Peace Officer Co-Responder Act” (Sen. Ben Watson-R)

Relating to mental health, so as to enact the "Georgia Behavioral Health and Peace Officer Co-Responder Act.” **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Senate Passed by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Health Cmte

**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, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, House Passed, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 995,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61325) Provide 5 days of sick leave to take care of immediate family (Rep. William Boddie-D)

Relating to labor and industrial relations, so as to require employers to provide at least five days of sick leave for an employee that can be used for the care of immediate family members. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte

[HB 1091,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61484) Land owner’s liability if guns are prohibited (Rep. Marti Momtahan- R)

Relating to general provisions regarding liability of owners and occupiers of land, so as to revise the duty of an owner or occupier of land to an invitee when such owner or occupier prohibits the carrying or possession of weapons. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 1176,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61675) Enact Right to Repair Act (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)

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

[HB 1289](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61907), Prohibit director of Environmental Protection Division from issuing permits for surface mining on Trail Ridge (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R)

Prohibit the director of the Environmental Protection Division of the Natural Resources Department from issuing, modifying, or renewing any permit or accepting any bond to conduct surface mining operations on the geological feature known as Trail Ridge between the St. Marys and Satilla Rivers for future permit applications and amendments; to provide for legislative findings. **Status:** Referred to Natural Resources & Environment 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, House Agreed, On to Governor

[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, Referred to Education 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Passed by Substitute, Sent to Senate, Referred to Economic & Tourism Cmte

[HB 1085,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61478) Allow instant run off voting (Rep. Joseph Gullett-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the option for municipalities to adopt and use instant runoff voting for their elections. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1180,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61679) Revise provisions for appointment of nonpublic members to regional commissions (Rep. John Corbett-R)

Relating to regional commissions, so as to revise provisions regarding the appointment of nonpublic members to the regional commission councils; to provide for executive committees for each regional commission council; to provide for filing audits with the Department of Community Affairs. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 1331](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62042), State Employment Service & the Employment Security Administration (Rep. Steven Meeks-R)

Relating to labor and industrial relations, so as to change certain provisions relating to the State Employment Service and the Employment Security Administration Fund. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1037](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61388), Establish state-wide peer workforce navigator pilot program (Rep. William Boddie-D)

Relating to administration of employment security, so as to provide for the development and implementation of a state-wide peer workforce navigator pilot program; to provide for definitions; to provide for program standards and qualifications; to provide for annual reporting by the Commissioner of Labor. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte

[HB 1382](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62210), Require directors to do yearly continuing education (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to required training on development and redevelopment programs, so as to require directors to do yearly continuing education; to make such continuing education a prerequisite for OneGeorgia Authority funding. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1385](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62213), Require provisions of annexation reports to the Legislative and Congressional Reappointment Office of the General Assembly (Rep. Victor Anderson-R)

Relating to annexation of territory, so as to revise annexation reporting requirements to require the provision of reports to the Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment Office of the General Assembly; to require the submission of a digital shapefile with such reports; to provide for regional commissions to assist

municipalities in the production of such digital files. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1406](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62240), Provide additional notice and hearing provisions for changes to zoning ordinance that revise single-family residential classifications (Rep. Chuck Martin-R)

Relating to hearings on proposed zoning decisions, notice of hearing, nongovernmental initiated actions, reconsideration of defeated actions, and procedure on zoning for property annexed into municipality, so as to provide additional notice and hearing provisions for changes to zoning ordinances that revise single-family residential classifications and definition so as to authorize multifamily residential property uses. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1237](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61831), Change description of the commissioner districts (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)

Change the description of the commissioner districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of current members; to provide for effective dates. **Status:** Referred to Intragovernmental Coordination Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Passed, Sent to Senate, Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed, Senate Transmitted house, Sent to Governor, Governor Kemp signed February 17, 2022.

[HB 1381](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62209), Require water and sewer authority board members to complete yearly continuing training courses (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to general provisions applicable to counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental entities, so as to require water and sewer authority board members to complete yearly continuing training courses; to make such courses a prerequisite for Georgia Environmental Finance Authority funding. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Defeated in House, House Notice to Reconsider, House Reconsidered and Passed

[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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed by Cmte Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 494,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62020) Prohibit certain use restrictions on residential dwellings (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to local government, so as to prohibit certain use restrictions on residential dwellings; to provide for definitions; to provide a limited waiver of sovereign immunity; to provide for interest prior to judgment; to provide for revocation of qualified local government status for a violation; to provide for reinstatement of qualified local government status under certain conditions; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations Cmte

[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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance 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

[HB 1317,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61993) Remove provisions for absentee ballot drop boxes (Rep. Timothy Barr-R)

relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to remove provisions relating to absentee ballot drop boxes and the requirements therefor. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Election Integrity

[HB 1359](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62115), Provide for sealing of ballots and unused security paper in secure containers (Rep. Alan Powell-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for sealing of ballots and unused security paper in secure containers; to provide for chain of custody documentation and procedures; to provide for storage of unused security paper. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee 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; Passed by Cmte substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate 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

[HB 424](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/59605), Change certain definition for income tax (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to income taxes, so as to change certain definitions regarding such taxes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[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, Hearing only

[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, Hearing only, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 483,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61949) Revise Article 3 relating to bona fide coin operated amusement machines (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to lottery for education, so as to comprehensively revise Article 3, relating to bona fide coin operated amusement machines. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[SB 536,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62239) Provide for administrative procedures and actions regarding bona fide coin operated amusement machines (Sen. Clint Dixon-R)

Relating to bona fide coin operated amusement machines, so as to provide that administrative procedures and actions regarding bona fide coin operated amusement machines shall be subject to Chapter 13 of Title 50. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and 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, Hearing only

[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, Hearing only, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[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:** Referred to 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Tuesday

**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, Passed SubCmte by Substitute, Pending l 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

[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

[HB 918,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61144) Establish the Georgia Rare Disease Advisory Council (Rep. Mike Cheokas-R)

Relating to health, so as to provide for the establishment of the Georgia Rare Disease Advisory Council; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for membership; to provide for the duties and powers of the advisory council; to provide for an annual report. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1086,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61479) Lower age to 50 years old to offer inpatients influenza vaccinations prior to discharge (Rep. Katie Dempsey-R)

Relating to influenza vaccinations for discharged patients aged 65 and older, vaccinations or other measures for health care workers in hospitals, immunity from liability, and standing orders, so as to lower the age to 50 years old for hospitals to offer inpatients vaccinations for the influenza virus prior to discharge. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1175](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61674), Regulate raw dairy products (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)

Relating to standards, labeling, and adulteration of food, so as to authorize and regulate the production, handling, transporting, and sale of raw milk and raw milk products for human consumption; to provide standards for safety, cleanliness, and health for such products and animals producing them; to authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture to enforce such standards. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Agriculture Cmte

[HB 1192](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61694), Provisions for Medicaid services to persons with HIV (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to require the Department of Community Health to submit a Section 1115 waiver request to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a demonstration project to provide treatment services under Medicaid to persons in this state living with HIV. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[HB 1348,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62096) Revise the Georgia Smoke-free Air Act to address vaping (Rep. Bonnie Rich-R)

Relating to offenses against public health and morals, so as to provide that vaping in restricted areas is a misdemeanor punishable by fine; to amend Chapter 1A of Title 20 of the O.C.G.A., relating to early care and learning, so as to provide that operators of early care and education programs shall post signs prohibiting vaping; to amend Chapter 12A of Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to smoke-free air, so as to revise the short title; to prohibit vaping in designated smoke-free areas; to provide for exemptions; to provide that "No Smoking" signs may include the words "or Vaping.” **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 1355](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62106), Revise Childhood Lead Exposure Control Act (Rep. Katie Dempsey-R)

Relating to lead poisoning prevention, so as to update provisions to comport with nationally recognized guidelines; to revise definitions; to revise provisions relating to abatement of lead poisoning hazards; to expand written advisement requirements; to expand applicability of provisions; to provide for related matters; to provide for a funding contingency. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Rules Calendar, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 1376](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62204), Authorize food service establishment to serve patrons’ pet dogs within designated outside areas (Rep. Beth Moore-D)

Relating to food service establishments, so as to authorize food service establishments to serve patrons' pet dogs within designated outdoor areas of the establishment; to provide for rules and regulations to protect public health. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte, Hearing Held

[HB 1394](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62222), Repeal authority of Department of Public Health to require persons to submit vaccinations (Rep. Charlice Byrd-R)

Relating to control of hazardous conditions, preventable diseases, and metabolic disorders, so as to repeal the authority of the Department of Public Health and all county boards of health to require persons to submit to vaccinations against or other measures to prevent contagious or infectious diseases. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 1443](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62352), Mobile food service establish to operate in county of origin and other counties without additional permit (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)

relating to food service establishments, so as to provide that mobile food service establishments that have active permits may operate in the county of origin and in one or more counties other than its county of origin without obtaining an additional permit; to provide for definitions; to provide for notice to other counties prior to operation; to provide for communication between the county of origin and other counties; to provide for inspections of mobile food service establishments by other counties; to provide for written notice of remedial measures upon failure of an inspection; to provide for violation fines and penalties. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Cmte, On Ag Cmte Agenda for Tuesday

[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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed, Sent to House, 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules 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

[SB 404,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61503) Authorize the GBI and FBI to retain certain fingerprints under certain conditions (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to emergency medical services personnel, so as to authorize the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to retain certain fingerprints under certain conditions. **Status:** Referred to Public Safety Cmte, Pass Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate as Amended, Sent to House, Referred to Public Safety and Homeland Security Cmte

[SB 487](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61977), Diagnostic breast examination be treated as favorably as screening mammography with respect to cost-sharing requirements (Sen. Sheila McNeill)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to provide that diagnostic breast examinations shall not be treated less favorably than screening mammography for breast cancer with respect to cost-sharing requirements. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[SB 539,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62246) Make unlawful the use of any device to photograph or record patients in a health care facility (Sen. Bo Hatchett-R)

Relating to wiretapping, eavesdropping, surveillance, and related offenses, so as to provide that the use of any device to photograph or record patients in a health care facility shall be unlawful; to provide for exceptions. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[SB 540](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62271), Provide coverage of dental care provided by teledentistry (Sen. James Donzella-D)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to provide for coverage of dental care provided by means of teledentistry; to amend Article 2 of Chapter 11 of Title 43 of the O.C.G.A., relating to licenses for the practice of dentistry, so as to authorize licensed dentists to provide oral healthcare by means of teledentistry. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[SB 557](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62354), State-wide work requirement for able-bodied, covered individuals under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Sen. Bruce Thompson-R)

Relating to general provisions for public assistance, so as to increase self-sufficiency through a state-wide work requirement for able-bodied, covered individuals under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; to prohibit the use of waivers and no-good-cause exemptions for the work requirement; to provide for mandatory participation for covered individuals in existing employment and training programs; to provide for applicability. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[SB 572](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62461), Establish a vapor product directory (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products, so as to provide for the Attorney General to establish a vapor product directory; to require vapor product manufacturers to provide an attestation to the Attorney General; to provide for definitions; to prohibit illicit vapor products; to provide penalties for violations. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture and Consumer Affairs

[SB 578](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62476), Regulation of home kitchen operations (Sen. Larry Walker, III-R)

Relating to standards, labeling, and adulteration of food, so as to authorize the operation, licensure, inspection, labeling requirements, enforcement, and regulation of home kitchen operations; to provide for definitions; to authorize collection of license fees; to provide for conforming changes; to amend Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to prohibit county and municipality prohibition and regulation of home kitchen operations. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture and Consumer Affairs

**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 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

[HB 1442](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62351), Require contracts for state employees’ health insurance plan to ensure laboratory services are available at in-network rates (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

Relating to the state employees' health insurance plan, so as to require that all contracts for healthcare coverage or services under the state health benefit plan contain provisions that ensure that laboratory services are available at in-network rates within 50 miles or one hour of a plan member's place of business or residence; to provide for an effective date and applicability. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Access to Quality Health Care

[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, 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 Human Resources & Aging 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

[HB 1402,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62236) Provide exemptions from certificate of need requirements for acute care hospitals established in rural counties (Rep. Clint Crowe-R)

Relating to exemptions from certificate of need requirements, so as to provide an exemption for acute care hospitals established in rural counties that meet certain criteria. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Access to Quality Health Care

[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, Recommitted to Finance Cmte

[SB 539,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62246) Make unlawful the use of any device to photograph or record patients in a health care facility (Sen. Bo Hatchett-R)

Relating to wiretapping, eavesdropping, surveillance, and related offenses, so as to provide that the use of any device to photograph or record patients in a health care facility shall be unlawful; to provide for exceptions. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[SB 566,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62419) Clarify that emergency medical services include post-stabilization services (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to clarify that, under the Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act, a medical or traumatic condition, sickness, or injury includes a mental health condition or substance use disorder and that emergency medical services include post-stabilization services. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[SB 573](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62462), Require surgical smoke evacuation systems during surgical procedures (Sen. Matt Brass-R)

Relating to regulation and construction of hospitals and other health care facilities, so as to require hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to utilize surgical smoke evacuation systems during surgical procedures to protect patients and health care workers from the hazards of surgical smoke. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[HB 1021,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61360) Decrease minimum nonforfeiture interest rate for induvial deferred annuities (Rep. Eddie Lumsden- R)

Relating to standard nonforfeiture provisions for individual deferred annuities, so as to decrease the minimum nonforfeiture interest rate for individual deferred annuities from 1 percent to 0.15 percent. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[HB 1288,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61906) Provide assignment of certain group term life insurance benefits to pay for funeral services (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R)

Relating to the State Employees' Assurance Department, so as to provide for the assignment of certain group term life insurance benefits to pay for funeral services of a deceased individual who was a member of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, Georgia Legislative Retirement System, or Georgia Judicial Retirement System; to provide for a definition. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Retirement 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, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Withdrawn from Insurance & Labor Cmte, Recommitted to Ways & Means 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, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[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, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Public Safety Cmte

[HB 1351](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62099), Provide pharmacy benefits management for Medicaid program (Rep. David Knight-R)

Relating to Medicaid assistance generally, so as to provide for pharmacy benefits management for the Medicaid program to be conducted by the Department of Community Health after a date certain; to provide for a cost calculation; to provide for submission of a waiver if necessary. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules 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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 518,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62124) Enact “Prescription Drug Rebate Financial Protection Act” (Rep. Chuck Hufstetler-R)

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 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, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Rules Cmte

[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, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Floor Tuesday

[HB 1053](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61406), Extend tax credit for certain expenditures by postproduction companies (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits for state income tax, so as to extend a tax credit for certain expenditures made by postproduction companies. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1189](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61691), Include mining in tax credits allowable for purchases/acquisitions of qualified investment property (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits relative to state income tax, so as to expand the credits allowable for purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property for manufacturing and telecommunications facilities to include mining facilities. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Subcmte Hearing Held

[HR 756](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/61940), Separate ad valorem property tax classification for low-income building projects (Rep. Rob Leverett-R)

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that qualified low-income building projects may be classified as a separate class of property for ad valorem property tax purposes. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means, Hearing Only

[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

[HB 1438](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62347), Amend notice provisions for meetings for election of Department of Transportation board members (Rep. Brad Thomas-R)

Relating to the Department of Transportation, so as to amend notice provisions relative to meetings for the election of board members; to provide for negotiations in request for proposals relative to public-private partnerships (P3s); to provide for procurement procedures relative to alternative contracting; to amend Code Section 50-18-72 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to when public disclosure not required by a state agency, so as to exempt certain records from public disclosure requirements. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte

[HB 1473](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62455), Prohibit operation of a train in a manner that blocks a road longer than a certain amount of time (Rep. James Burchett-R)

Relating to operation of trains at crossings, so as to prohibit the operation of a train in a manner that occupies or blocks a street, road, or highway grade crossing longer than a certain amount of time. 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

[SB 492,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62018) Deployment of electric vehicle charging equipment (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to provide for the deployment of electric vehicle charging equipment. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte

[SB 558](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62339), Provisions for election of Department of Transportation board members (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to the Department of Transportation, so as to amend notice provisions relative to meetings for the election of board members; to provide for negotiations in request for proposals relative to public-private partnerships (P3s); to provide for procurement procedures relative to alternative contracting; to amend Code Section 50-18-72 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to when public disclosure not required by a state agency, so as to exempt certain records from public disclosure requirements. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte

[SB 586,](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/62517) Authorize the use of design-build contracting method by counties (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)

Relating to exercise by counties of power to contract for road projects generally, so as to authorize the use of the design-build contracting method by counties; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations upon such contracting method. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte

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