PGR PEACHTREE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



The American Institute of Architects

Session Week 3 Report Legislative Days 5-8



Week 3 Legislative Days 5-8

This week the Georgia General Assembly met Monday through Thursday for Legislative Days 5-8. Many House and Senate committees began meeting for the first time this Legislative session for general introductions and adoption of committee rules. Several study committees from 2022 were also reviewed this week in committee. Legislators are beginning to drop the first bills of the session, so see below for a list of this week's pertinent legislation!



Governor's State of the State

This week Governor Kemp delivered his State of the State address to the Georgia General Assembly joint session on Wednesday, January 25th. His main highlighted legislative priorities include education, law enforcement, and expansion of state Medicaid and Medicare. Kemp promised a budget allocation of \$52 million to expand the Georgia Pathways to Converge Program which would increase healthcare coverage for those who need it most. He also promised a fully funded HOPE scholarship and a fully funded QBE formula with a budget allocation of \$1.9 billion to education priorities. Another teacher salary raise of \$2 thousand is

also in the plans for this legislative session which would put Gov. Kemp at a total of \$7 thousand in total teacher pay raises over the last 5 years.

The Week in Healthcare

Healthcare Committee Meetings

- House Insurance Committee
 - Monday and Wednesday at 1:00 pm Mezz 1 CAP
- Senate Insurance Committee
 - Schedule not available yet
- House Public Health Committee
 - Schedule not available yet
- House Health Committee
 - Schedule not available yet
- House Special Committee on Healthcare
 - Schedule not available yet
- Senate Health and Human Services Committee
 - Monday and Wednesday at 2:00 pm 450 CAP

Healthcare Legislation

- SB 16 (Sen. John Albers): Georgia EMS Reform Act; enact
 - Senate Hopper
- SB 17 (Sen. Michael Rhett): Medical Assistance; program of premium assistance to enable eligible individuals to obtain healthcare coverage; provide
 - Senate Hopper
- SB 20 (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick): "Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act,"; ensure consumer access to quality healthcare by setting adequacy standards for network plans offered by an insurer
 - Senate Hopper

The Week in Education

Education Committee Meetings

- House Education Committee
 - Tuesday and Thursday at 1:00 pm 406 CLOB
- Senate Education and Youth Committee

• Schedule not available yet

Education Legislation

- HB 32 (Rep. Demetrius Douglas) Quality Basic Education Act; no high school which receives funding shall participate in sports events that does not utilize instant replay in Championship games; provide
 - House read and referred to Committee on Education
- HR 42 (Rep. Mitchell Scoggins) General Assembly; local school superintendents be elected by voters; provide CA
 - House read and referred to Committee on Education
- HB 51 (Rep. Clay Pirkle) Education; local boards of education use vehicles other than school buses for transport of students; authorize
 - House read and referred to Committee on Education
- HB 54 (Rep. John Carson) Income tax; increase annual aggregate limit of tax credits available for the qualified education tax credit
 - House read and referred to Committee on Ways on Means
- HB 65 (Rep. Mandisha Thomas) Building Resourceful Individuals to Develop Georgia's Economy Act; provide for a pilot program
 - House read and referred to Committee on Education
- **SB 1 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)** This bill would remove the automatic repealer on the prohibition on state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID vaccination for government services. No local government or State Government under this bill may require proof of vaccination as a condition of providing any service or access to a facility, issuing of any license, permit, or other type of authorization, or performing any duty of such agency.
 - Senate read and referred to Committee on Health and Human Services
- **SB 2 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)** Torts; certain immunities from liability claims regarding COVID-19; provisions; revise
 - Senate read and referred to Judiciary Committee
- SB 4 (Sen. Gail Davenport) "Blind Persons' Braille Literacy Rights and Education Act"; enact
 - Senate read and referred to Committee on Education and Youth
- **SB 18 (Sen. Donzella James)** Intradistrict transfers; students and their siblings to attend the same schools so long as they continue to reside in the same resident school system; provide
 - Senate hopper

The Week in Local Government

Local Government Committees

- House Governmental Affairs Committee
 - Schedule not available yet
- Senate State and Local Governmental Operations
 - Schedule not available yet
- House Intragovernmental Coordination Committees
 - Schedule not available yet
- Senate Government Oversight Committee
 - Schedule not available yet

Local Government Legislation

- HB 31 (Rep. Debbie Buckner) Conservation and natural resources; Hazardous Waste Trust Fund; dedicate proceeds of certain hazardous waste fees
 - House withdrawn and recommitted
- HB 34 (Rep. Bruce Williamson) Income tax; purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property for manufacturing and telecommunications facilities to include mining facilities; expand credit
 - House read and referred to Ways and Means Committee
- HB 40 (Rep. Marvin Lim) Excise tax; rooms, lodgings, and accommodations; provide exemption from county and municipal taxes for charges paid by hotel/motel vouchers
 o House read and referred to Ways and Mean Committee
- HB 42 (Rep. Marvin Lim) Ad valorem tax; county tax commissioner duties; revise provisions
 - House read and referred to Ways and Means Committee
- HB 48 (Rep. Jesse Petrea) Elections; district attorneys and solicitors-general of state courts be elected in nonpartisan elections; provide
 - House read and referred to Governmental Affairs Committee
- HB 52 (Rep. Brad Thomas) Transportation, Department of; amend notice provisions relative to meetings for election of board members, provisions
 - House read and referred to Transportation Committee
- **SB 1 (Senator Greg Dolezal)** This bill would remove the automatic repealer on the prohibition on state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID vaccination

for government services. No local government or State Government under this bill may require proof of vaccination as a condition of providing any service or access to a facility, issuing of any license, permit, or other type of authorization, or performing any duty of such agency.

- Senate read and referred to Committee of Health and Human Resources
- SB 2 (Sen. Greg Dolezal) Torts; certain immunities from liability claims regarding COVID-19; provisions; revise
 - Senate read and referred to Judiciary Committee

AIA Pertinent Legislation

- HB 26 (Rep. Mandisha Thomas) Right to Breath Act so as to require the Department of Community affairs to include certain indoor air quality provisions in applicable state minimum standard codes
 - House read and referred to the Committee on Public Health