

Legislative Days 6 - 10
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Session Week 2 Legislative Report



2024

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GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS

Week 2, Legislative Days 6-10

This week, the Georgia General Assembly met Monday through Friday for Legislative Days six through ten of the 2024 Session. With over thirty committee meetings scheduled over the course of the week, the Legislature was in full swing with multiple prominent issues arising such as election regulations, anti-semitism, early education funding, school choice, and the legalization of sports betting. Keep reading for a breakdown of the week!



Election Bills

This session, there will be significant attention toward elections and how the state handles these processes. Several bills have been introduced from both the House and Senate to combat concerns with election processes.

In the Senate Ethics committee on Thursday of this week, Senator Burns presented two separate bills concerning elections. Senate Bill 189 tackles text portions of ballots that are for vote tabulation and recounts purposes. This bill will effectively eliminate QR codes from the text portion of the ballot only. This bill does not impact absentee ballots, except for still having a code to identify precinct. No voter selection in any way is included in that code. These changes will require the state to organize and acquire different scanners to complete this new task, and the fiscal note for these new scanners is an estimated \$15 million for those scanners. This measure, after much discussion, did pass the committee and will be moved onto the Senate rules for determination of when to be heard by the chamber.

Senator Burns presented Senate Bill 212 as his second presentation in the Senate Ethics committee. This bill aims to work on Probate Court Judges related to elections, and this hearing focuses on the substitute for the bill. The intention of this bill is to change the jurisdiction of elections to the local Boards of Election and away from Probate Court Judges. This bill would affect the 29 counties that used Probate Court Judges for elections last year with the absence of local Board of Election help. SB 212 would remove any payment for running elections, and it will go into effect January 1st, 2025 if passed.

In a House Government Affairs meeting on Wednesday, the committee heard two House bills concerning elections. Representative LaHood is sponsoring House Bill 976, and this bill pushes a similar platform to Senator Burns' bills he presented a day after this presentation. This bill focuses on ballots used in optical scan voting systems, and the systems will use paper with a visible watermark for security purposes. Most counties in Georgia would be able to use their current ballot inventory for the primary season, but the updates would require

changes going forward. This change has an estimated cost between \$100 and \$100 thousand. This bill passed out of the committee unanimously.

House Government Affairs also heard House bill 974, another bill presented by representative LaHood. This bill deals with the Secretary of State, and it looks to establish and hold a state-wide system for posting scanned paper ballots. This bill was heard briefly, but it is being held as it needs more time to continue refining the work.

Anti-Semitism in Georgia

This week, the legislature heard HB 30, legislation concerning anti-semitism in the state. Representative John Carson is the sponsor for the bill, and there was widespread support for the new bill. This legislation, if adopted, would incorporate a new definition of antisemitism into Georgia's law which is drawn from the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, and it has been widely accepted by many states and organizations around the country. This bill was presented last year during the previous session, however the bill was stalled in a debate over the wording.

HB 30 was heard on the Senate floor on Thursday, January 25th. All across the state, this bill has been contentious. Many parties have their take on the bill, and it has caused a lot of tension in Georgia. Republicans are increasing support for Israel, so this bill has caught traction with their supporters. On the other hand, several groups are opposed to this legislation. Groups like American Civil Liberties Union and Georgia's charter of the Council on American Islamic Relations are both critical of the bill and the precedent it sets. They worry that codifying specific legislation for a specific group of people may not be inclusive of other minority groups. Overall, each group can agree that the anti-semitism and general hate in Georgia needs to be combatted, and this bill is yet another attempt to counter that hatred.

After much debate over the bill, it ended up passing with a majority of 44-6. The specific bill passed by the Senate was a substitute, or a slightly altered version of what the House passed, so the bill was transmitted immediately to the House. If the House of Representatives passes the Senate substitute, the bill will then be transmitted to Governor Brian Kemp for a signature.



School Choice and Early Education Funding

The Senate Education Committee heard multiple bills on Tuesday of this week, the most notable being SB 147. Sponsored by Senator Still and known as the "Boundless Opportunities for Georgia Students Act," SB 147 aims to ensure that county and city boundaries do not limit opportunities for students in the state. Notably, the bill establishes a floor of \$10,000 per student in the public school system and prohibits fund transfers that

would cause the budget to fall below this threshold. The bill would allow students the choice to leave their school district to attend other public schools outside of their area if the school has space. Despite some division, the committee approved SB 147 with a 4-2 vote, to foster equal opportunities for students across Georgia.

In a recent presentation before the House Education Committee, Pro Temp Jan Jones, representing the Early Learning Study Committee, outlined findings and recommendations that carry an estimated annual cost of approximately \$100 million. The primary recommendation involves a reduction in class sizes from an average of 25 to 20, aligning them more closely with K-5 class sizes. Additionally, the proposal suggests increasing the salaries of assistant teachers and lead teachers to match the pay scale of non-pre-K teachers, with assistant teachers seeing a raise from a \$20,000 salary to around \$25,000. Furthermore, the presentation advocated for boosting transportation funds for pre-K students to match the average funding received by K-12 students, which is approximately \$80 per child per year. Another key aspect involves an increase in capital construction costs, proposing that public school pre-K classes qualify for state capital construction funds. It was recommended that all these financial additions be funded through lottery funds.

During a presentation to the House Education Appropriations Committee, the Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) outlined key changes to the amended budget. Notable adjustments include an increase in the nutrition budget, with a focus on fostering partnerships with nonprofits and sponsors to address barriers to food service in underfunded areas. Additionally, there is a proposed increase in employer rates within the Pre-K budget. The budget for the Summer Transition Program, a five-week initiative designed to support rising K-5 or Pre-K students in need of additional assistance, is set to see an expansion. Lastly, the presentation highlighted a planned computer refresh for Pre-K staff to update technological resources in early education.

Sports Betting

Late Wednesday evening, a group of bipartisan leaders in the Senate introduced a new bill on sports wagering. This measure's sponsors include Senate Education Chairman Clint Dixon, Senate Minority Leader Gloria Butler, Governor Floor Leader Bo Hatchett, among others. The bill has received support from the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Atlanta's professional sports teams and a nod from Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones. Having a strong coalition of both Democrats and Republicans will be necessary in garnering passage of the measure, with it failing numerous times in past legislative sessions. The funds collected from the measure will be administered by the Georgia Lottery Corporation with the proceeds going towards the HOPE Scholarship, pre-k programs and needs-based student aid. Supporters have estimated that sports betting would bring anywhere from \$30 million to \$100 million in taxes or fees to the state each year.

The Week Under the Gold Dome

<i>Bill</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 30 (Rep. John Carson)	State government; definition of antisemitism; provide	House passed; Senate committee favorably reported
HB 191 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Revenue and taxation; pack of cigarettes; increase rate of tax	House read and referred
HB 192 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Revenue and taxation; consumable vapor products; increase rate of tax	House read and referred
HB 380 (Rep. Marcus Wiedower)	Georgia Lottery Game of Sports Betting Act; enact	House withdrawn and recommitted
HB 489 (Rep. Mitchell Horner)	Georgia Entertainment Industry Investment Act; aggregate annual limit; provide	House read and referred
HB 530 (Rep. James Burchett)	Civil practice; protective orders for certain high-ranking officers; provide	Senate recommitted
HB 565 (Rep. Tyler Smith)	Social services; temporary assistance for needy families; increase access to benefits	House withdrawn and recommitted
HB 581 (Rep. Shaw Blackmon)	Audits and Accounts, Department of; revise deadlines, selection criteria, and required contents for certain annual economic analyses	House passed; Senate read and referred
HB 841 (Rep. James Beverly)	Public Service Commission; members elected from election districts instead of state wide; provide	House read and referred
HB 915 (Rep. Jon Burns)	Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	House read and referred
HB 929 (Rep. Jordan Ridley)	Income tax; exclude net capital gains	House read and referred
HB 1015 (Rep. Lauren McDonald)	Income tax; reduce rate of tax	House read and referred
HR 210 (Rep. James Beverly)	General Assembly; law for sports betting, pari-mutuel betting, and casino gambling; authorize - CA	House read and referred
HR 768 (Rep. Matt Hatchett)	Piper, Barbie; recipient of the LPN of the Year award; commend	House read and referred
SB 113 (Sen. Randy Robertson)	Municipal Corporations; the transition of services and facilities from an existing municipality to a newly incorporated municipality; provide	Senate recommitted
SB 172 (Sen. Bill Cowsert)	State Government; regulation and taxation of sports betting in this state; authorize and provide	Senate Tabled

SB 186 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)	"Georgia Landowners Protection Act"; enact	Senate recommitted
SB 191 (Sen. Shawn Still)	Motor Vehicles and Traffic; authorizing joinder of motor carriers and their insurance carriers in tort and contract causes of action; provisions; repeal	Senate recommitted
SB 192 (Sen. Lee Anderson)	Torts; employers and insurance providers of commercial motor vehicle operators based upon history of driving incidents; limit liability	Senate read and referred
SB 194 (Sen. Shawn Still)	Alcoholic Beverages and Motor Vehicles and Traffic; delivery of alcoholic beverages for personal use; provisions	Senate read and referred
SB 200 (Sen. Bill Cowsert)	"Civil Practice Act"; high ranking government or corporate officer of whom a deposition is sought to seek a protective order; provide	Senate recommitted
SB 255 (Sen. Chuck Payne)	Gambling; provisions relative to dogfighting; revise	Senate read and referred
SB 260 (Sen. Bo Hatchett)	"Georgia Electric Vehicle Future Act"; enact	Senate recommitted
SB 265 (Sen. Blake Tillery)	Notaries Public; electronic notarization of certain notarial acts using real time audio-video communication technology; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 271 (Sen. John Albers)	Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority; in-person electronic execution of notarial certificates; authorize	Senate read and referred
SB 349 (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler)	Ad Valorem Taxation of Property; setting of millage rates; revise provisions	Senate read and referred
SB 351 (Sen. Jason Anavitarte)	"Protecting Georgia's Children on Social Media Act of 2024"; enact	Senate read and referred
SB 386 (Sen. Clint Dixon)	State Government; regulation and taxation of sports betting in this state; authorize and provide	Senate read and referred

Education Legislation

The Senate Education Committee heard multiple notable bills on Tuesday of this week, each addressing key aspects of education funding and opportunities in Georgia. SB 208, the bill associated with SR 189, focuses on the implementation of fees for education under the Georgia Development Impact Fee Act. The committee unanimously passed SB 208. Additionally, SR 189, a constitutional amendment also sponsored by Senator Dolezal, proposes the establishment of development impact fees specifically allocated for educational purposes. The committee, once again, reached a unanimous decision in favor of SR 189.

In the House Education Appropriations Subcommittee this week, several key presentations were made by various agencies in addition to the one highlighted above. The Department of Education (DOE) addressed fund adjustments for Burke County, supplements to the Quality Basic Education (QBE) budget, and an increased charter school supplement due to additional charter schools in the state. Notably, a restoration budget was proposed for the Mountain Education Charter High Schools, focusing on the completion of this non-traditional 9-12 program. The Employees' Retirement System (ERS) presentation outlined a \$500 million allocation to achieve an 80% funding goal, providing a buffer for market downturns and improving cost-of-living adjustments for ERS retirees. The Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) reported changes including the reinstatement of supplements for four programs and a \$135k increase for two additional dashboards, dedicated to tracking literacy data and workforce outcomes for Georgia students.

<i>Bill</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Status</i>
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 recommitted
HB 51 (Rep. Clay Pirkle)	Education; local boards of education use vehicles other than school buses for transport of students; authorize	House passed; Senate recommitted
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
HB 81 (Rep. John Corbett)	Education; eligibility criteria for certain capital outlay grants for low-wealth school systems; revise	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 90 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Ad valorem tax; provisions shall not apply to levying authorities and recommending authorities with base year homestead exemptions; provide	House read and referred
HB 173 (Rep. Gregg Kennard)	Education; mandatory pre-kindergarten and kindergarten for all children prior to entering into first grade; provide	House read and referred
HB 213 (Rep. Katie Dempsey)	Education; required information to parents of students regarding meningococcal meningitis and influenza and their vaccines; revise provisions	Withdrawn and recommitted
HB 238 (Rep. Roger Bruce)	State Board of Education; establish a five-year pilot program to incentivize qualified local units of administration to utilize school bus monitors; provisions	House read and referred

HB 282 (Rep. Mesha Mainor)	Quality Basic Education Act; minimum course study in career readiness education for students in grades six through twelve; provide	House recommitted
HB 285 (Rep. Lehman Franklin)	Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; total percentage of funds invested in alternative investments; raise limit	House passed; Senate Recommitted
HB 301 (Rep. Jason Ridley)	Motor vehicles and traffic; revise amount of civil monetary penalty for violations of improperly passing a school bus or speeding in a school zone	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 313 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Workforce EXCELeration Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 338 (Rep. Chris Erwin)	Student Technology Protection Act; enact	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 348 (Rep. J Collins)	Motor vehicles; standards for signs warning of use of automated traffic enforcement safety devices; provide	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 392 (Rep. Rick Jasperse)	Georgia Endowment for Teaching Professionals; create	House passed; Senate read and referred
HB 457 (Rep. Bethany Ballard)	Quality Basic Education Act; remove needs development rating from group of performance evaluation ratings; provisions	House read and referred
HB 484 (Rep. Doreen Carter)	Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; option for full-time employment of certain beneficiaries; extend sunset date	House read and referred
HB 504 (Rep. Matt Hatchett)	Education; exclude amounts attributable to level 1 freeport exemptions for purposes of calculating five mill share	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 506 (Rep. Ginny Ehrhart)	Education; recognition of certain accrediting agencies as reliable authorities as to quality of education offered in public secondary schools; provide	House recommitted
HB 537 (Rep. Becky Evans)	Early Care and Learning, Department of; age-appropriate literacy instruction training requirements for certain child care providers; provide	House recommitted
HB 562 (Rep. Todd Jones)	Education; recognition of certain accrediting agencies as evaluators of quality of education offered in public schools; provide	House read and referred
HB 668 (Rep. Phil Olaleye)	Georgia Educational Opportunity Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 712 (Rep. Viola Davis)	Quality Basic Education; calculation and distribution of funds to local units of administration for student transportation programs; revise provisions	House read and referred
HB 821 (Rep. Carolyn Hugley)	Teachers Retirement System; creditable service for teaching service outside the state while married to an active member of the armed forces; provide	House read and referred

HB 822 (Rep. Kasey Carpenter)	Quality Basic Education Act; prescribed course of study in sex education and HIV prevention is age appropriate and medically accurate; provide	House read and referred
HB 833 (Rep. John Carson)	Employees' Retirement System and Public School Employees Retirement System; reduce certain waiting periods and application deadlines for establishment or reestablishment of creditable service	House read and referred
HB 836 (Rep. Mitchell Scoggins)	Education; provide safety of students; require multiple occupancy restrooms and changing areas designated for exclusive use by males or females	House read and referred
HB 840 (Rep. Tim Fleming)	Torts; right of action against any person who knowingly or negligently engages in sexually explicit conduct in the presence of a minor; provide	House read and referred
HB 899 (Rep. Viola Davis)	School Violence Reduction and Safety Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 900 (Rep. Viola Davis)	Quality Basic Education Act; Refugee and International Students Equalization (RISE) program; establish	House read and referred
HB 902 (Rep. Kim Schofield)	State government; fees that may be charged for the disclosure of certain public records; provide an exception	House read and referred
HB 914 (Rep. Imani Barnes)	Safe Teens Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 935 (Rep. Ken Vance)	Motor vehicles; standards for a conviction through the use of speed devices; provide	House read and referred
HB 936 (Rep. Josh Bonner)	Education; provide safety of students; require multiple occupancy restrooms and changing areas designated for exclusive use by males or females	House read and referred
HB 941 (Rep. Chris Erwin)	Education; capital outlay funds may be used for educational facilities for voluntary pre-kindergarten programs provided by the school system; provide	House read and referred
HB 944 (Rep. Lee Hawkins)	Ad valorem tax; property; revise date by which homestead exemptions must be applied for	House read and referred
HB 963 (Rep. Sandra Scott)	Georgia K-5 Social and Emotional Health Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 982 (Rep. Matthew Gambill)	State Workforce Development Board; publish a High-demand Career List most critical to the state's current and future workforce needs; require	House read and referred
HB 987 (Rep. Chas Cannon)	Education; grants; revise definition of qualified local school system school by reducing the minimum required millage rate or equivalent millage rate from 14 mills to 10 mills	House read and referred

HB 995 (Rep. Josh Bonner)	Education; administration of a nationally recognized multiple-aptitude battery assessment that predicts success in the military to certain public school students; require	House read and referred
HB 1000 (Rep. Victor Anderson)	Revenue and taxation; taxes for educational purposes shall be excluded in computing the limitation on the total amount of local sales and use taxes which may be levied; provide	House read and referred
HB 1006 (Rep. Marvin Lim)	Education; local school systems or public schools issuing identification cards to include certain information regarding suicide prevention resources; require	House read and referred
HB 1010 (Rep. Jan Jones)	Public officers and employees; increase number of hours permitted for paid parental leave	House read and referred
HB 1019 (Rep. Matt Reeves)	Revenue and taxation; statewide homestead exemption from certain ad valorem taxes; increase	House read and referred
HB 1027 (Rep. Bethany Ballard)	Quality Basic Education Act; half-credit computer science course shall be a high school graduation requirement; require in 2026-2027 school year	House read and referred
HB 1031 (Rep. Shaw Blackmon)	Ad valorem tax; property; provide mandatory reappraisal of parcels	House read and referred
HB 1036 (Rep. Lauren Daniel)	Quality Basic Education Act; course of instruction in pregnancy, health, and human development for students in grades nine through 12; require	House Hopper
HB 1045 (Rep. David Clark)	Education; require schools to give notice and receive consent prior to providing students with sexual orientation or gender identity instruction; provisions	House Hopper
HR 42 (Rep. Mitchell Scoggins)	General Assembly; local school superintendents be elected by voters; provide - CA	House read and referred
HR 98 (Rep. Kasey Carpenter)	Property; authorize exemptions from local ad valorem taxation in addition to homestead exemptions - CA	House read and referred
HR 804 (Rep. Chuck Martin)	Local government; temporary loans are payable from end of calendar year to 12 months of initial funding date; change date - CA	House read and referred
SB 32 (Sen. Jason Anavitarte)	“Alyssa’s Law”	Senate passed; House recommitted
SB 38 (Sen. Randy Robertson)	Speed Limit in School Zones; local governing body to apply for a permit to operate a traffic enforcement safety device which enforces the speed limit in a school zone by recorded image; authorize	Senate Recommended
SB 50 (Sen. Max Burns)	Education; local boards of education which operate a school with grades nine through 12 may provide instruction in lifeguarding and aquatic safety; provide	Senate Passed; House read and referred

SB 58 (Sen. Billy Hickman)	Education; certain provisions for alternative charter schools; repeal	Senate read and referred
SB 98 (Sen. Jason Anavitarte)	Local Boards of Education; local board of education members from discussing individual personnel matters with school officials; prohibit	Senate Recommended
SB 105 (Sen. Larry Walker)	Public School Employees Retirement System; the minimum and maximum allowable benefit multiplier for current and future retirees; revise	Senate read and referred
SB 123 (Sen. Jason Anavitarte)	Educational Programs; state funded administration of a nationally recognized career and college readiness assessment and an assessment leading to a nationally recognized workforce credential; require	Senate Recommended
SB 147 (Sen. Shawn Still)	"Boundless Opportunities for Georgia Students Act"; enact	Senate Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute
SB 154 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)	Sale or Distribution of Harmful Materials to Minors; provisions of Code Section 16-12-103 shall be applicable to libraries operated by schools; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 169 (Sen. Chuck Payne)	Public Schools; extension of hearing dates for student discipline tribunals; provide for limits	Senate Passed; House read and referred
SB 170 (Sen. John Albers)	"Students and Teachers SPEAK Act"; enact	Senate Passed; House read and referred
SB 206 (Sen. Larry Walker)	Social Security Coverage for Employees of the State; coverage for all employees of a political subdivision who are members of the Public School Employees Retirement System; require	Senate read and referred
SB 207 (Sen. Jason Esteves)	Education; the minimum base salary for certificated professional personnel with bachelor's degrees; revise	Senate read and referred
SB 208 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)	Georgia Development Impact Fee Act'; provide for fees for education	Senate Committee Favorably Reported
SB 233 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)	The Georgia Promise Scholarship Act'; establishment of promise scholarship accounts	Senate passed; House recommitted
SB 241 (Sen. Billy Hickman)	Mandatory Education; compulsory education attendance from six years to five years of age; lower the starting age	Senate read and referred
SB 251 (Sen. Jason Esteves)	Ad Valorem Taxation of Property; additional method of proposing and adopting millage rates; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 327 (Sen. Ricky Williams)	Retirement and Pensions; Public School Employees Retirement System to make an irrevocable election to become members of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; permit	Senate read and referred
SB 386 (Sen. Clint Dixon)	State Government; regulation and taxation of sports betting in this state; authorize and provide	Senate read and referred

SB 390 (Sen. Larry Walker III)	To amend Titles, 20, 36, 43, and 50, related to libraries, education, governmental entities, professions and business; acceptance and use of funds from the American Library Association prohibit under certain circumstances	Senate read and referred
SB 394 (Sen. Clint Dixon)	"Restricting Explicit and Adult-designated Educational Resources (READER) Act"; enact	Senate read and referred
SB 395 (Sen. Clint Dixon)	Education; the possession of opioid antagonists in schools; authorize	Senate read and referred
SB 399 (Rep. Shelly Echols)	Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia; to enter into and amend existing agreements with the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia; encourage and state expectations	Senate Hopper
SB 405 (Sen. Clint Dixon)	"Completion Special Schools Act"; certain students to be enrolled in a completion special school; lower the age of eligibility	Senate Hopper
SB 406 (Sen. Clint Dixon)	First Responder Building Mapping Information System; grant program to fund the creation of school mapping data; establish	Senate Hopper

Healthcare Legislation

In this week's Senate Health and Human Services Committee, the Georgia Trauma Care Commission presented a Trauma System Stabilization Proposal. The presentation highlighted significant improvements in treating severely injured patients, with 93% treated at a Designated Trauma Center (DTC) in 2020 compared to 64% in 2011. Despite progress, the Trauma Center Readiness Costs have risen considerably, creating a funding gap. The proposal recommended allocating 50% of the total readiness costs, amounting to \$61.7 million, for all four trauma center levels. Additionally, during the committee meeting, HB 343 by Rep. Newton, concerning the regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers, faced a setback as it failed to pass the committee vote by 8-5.

<i>Bill</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 70 (Rep.	Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act	House read and referred

Mandisha Thomas)		
HB 82 (Rep. Mack Jackson)	Income tax; limit eligibility for rural physician tax credit to physicians who qualify on or before December 31, 2023	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 150 (Rep. Meisha Mainor)	Professions and businesses; definition of physical therapy to include ordering diagnostic imaging and using ultrasound; revise	House read and referred
HB 196 (Rep. Alan Powell)	Georgia Access to Medical Cannabis Commission; subject to Administrative Procedure Act and laws governing open meetings and records; provide	House passed; Senate passed by substitute; House agreed Senate sub; Senate disagreed House amend
HB 214 (Rep. Alan Powell)	Professions and businesses; authorize registered nurses and physician assistants to certify an individual is disabled for purposes of obtaining special vehicle decals	House read and referred
HB 266 (Rep. Charlice Byrd)	Medical Freedom Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 284 (Rep. Beth Camp)	Insurance; health care sharing ministry; change definition; provisions	House Withdrawn, Recommitted
HB 286 (Rep. Michelle Au)	Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act; certain consumer protections against surprise billing for ambulance service; provide	House read and referred to the Committee on Insurance
HB 343 (Rep. Mark Newton)	Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for Patients Act; enact	House Passed; Senate read and referred
HB 362 (Rep. Karen Mathiak)	Insurance; benefit provider to disclose certain payments to a treating healthcare provider; provide	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 363 (Rep. John LaHood)	Health; eligibility to receive tax credits; revise a definition; provisions	House read and referred
HB 417 (Rep. David Knight)	Insurance; prohibit insurers from discriminating against certain healthcare facilities and providers in connection with provider administered drugs	House Withdrawn, Recommitted
HB 455 (Rep. John LaHood)	Professions and businesses; professional programs to address career fatigue and wellness in healthcare professionals; provisions	House passed; Senate Committee Favorably Reported
HB 458 (Rep. Clay Pirkle)	Agriculture; hemp farming; provide for intent	House passed; Senate read and referred
HB 470 (Rep. Sharon Cooper)	Georgia Candor Act; enact	House passed; Senate recommitted
HB 487 (Rep. Mark Newton)	Crimes and offenses; assault and battery offenses upon all healthcare workers; expand enhanced punishment	House Withdrawn, Recommitted
HB 606 (Rep.	State health planning and development; certificate of need;	House read and referred

Sharon Cooper)	revise definitions	
HB 745 (Rep. Trey Kelley)	Health; provide requirements for nurse staffing in hospitals; provisions	House read and referred
HB 887 (Rep. Mandisha Thomas)	Insurance; use of artificial intelligence in making certain decisions regarding coverage; prohibit	House read and referred
SB 16 (Sen. John Albers)	Georgia EMS Reform Act	Senate read and referred
SB 99 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)	Certificate of Need Requirements; exemption for acute care hospitals established in rural counties that meet certain criteria; provide	Senate passed; House read and referred
SB 102 (Sen. Larry Walker)	Nurses; provision relating to the administration of anesthesia by certified registered nurse anesthetists; revise	Senate read and referred
SB 111 (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler)	"Anesthesiologist Assistant Act"; an anesthesiologist assistant to be appointed in an advisory capacity to the Georgia Composite Medical Board; provide	Senate recommitted
SB 162 (Sen. Ben Watson)	Health; certificate of need requirements for all healthcare facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services; eliminate	Senate Recommended
SB 238 (Sen. Mike Hodges)	Georgia Health Care Professionals Data System; provide for the establishment	Senate read and referred
SB 270 (Sen. Carden Summers)	Medical Cannabis; the location of retail outlets for the dispensing of low THC oil; authorize	Senate Read and Referred
SB 286 (Sen. Ben Watson)	"Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for Patients Act"; enact	Senate read and referred
SB 293 (Sen. Ben Watson)	County Boards of Health; operational policies and procedures of the Department of Public Health Apply to local personnel; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 296 (Sen. Sonya Halpern)	Department of Public Health; appointment of a state surgeon general; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 307 (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick)	Private Review Agents; health insurers to implement and maintain a program that allows for the selective application of reductions; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 325 (Sen. Sheikh Rahman)	Dispensing Opticians; employee of a licensed physician or optometrist who is under the direct or real-time supervision of a licensed optician; exempt from licensure	Senate read and referred
SR 372 (Sen. Ben Watson)	Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease; improvement of care; support	Senate read and referred

Local Legislation

SB 349, sponsored by Chairman Hufstetler, is set to be heard soon in the Senate Finance Committee. This proposed legislation focuses on the ad valorem taxation of property by aiming to revise provisions related to the setting of millage rates, limit the application of freezing the assessed value following an appeal, and restrict the temporary reduction in taxes for taxpayers who appeal to superior court but do not participate in settlement conferences. Additionally, SB 349 introduces a statewide homestead exemption, equivalent to the amount by which the current year assessed value exceeds 3 percent of the adjusted base year value of the homestead.

<i>Bill</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Status</i>
HB 40 (Rep. Marvin Lim)	Excise tax; rooms, lodgings, and accommodations; provide exemption from county and municipal taxes for charges paid by	House read and referred

	hotel/motel vouchers	
HB 48 (Rep. Jesse Petrea)	Elections; district attorneys and solicitors-general of state courts be elected in nonpartisan elections; provide	House Withdrawn, Recommitted
HB 72 (Rep. Debra Bazemore)	Local government; compensation and benefits for employees and members of governing authorities; revise provisions	House read and referred
HB 90 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Ad valorem tax; provisions shall not apply to levying authorities and recommending authorities with base year homestead exemptions; provide	House read and referred
HB 96 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Revenue and taxation; definitions; change certain provisions	House read and referred
HB 97 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Revenue and taxation; definitions; change certain provisions	House read and referred
HB 98 (Rep. David Knight)	Ad valorem tax; property; change certain definitions	House read and referred
HB 102 (Rep. Chuck Martin)	Sales and use tax; change certain definitions	House read and referred
HB 103 (Rep. Chuck Martin)	Sales and use tax; change certain definitions	House read and referred
HB 104 (Rep. Chuck Martin)	Excise tax; rooms, lodgings, and accommodations; change certain definitions	House read and referred
HB 105 (Rep. Chuck Martin)	Excise tax; rooms, lodgings, and accommodations; change certain definitions	House read and referred
HB 200 (Rep. Joseph Gullet)	Elections; municipalities to adopt and use instant runoff voting for their elections; provide for the option	House read and referred
HB 204 (Rep. Bill Yearata)	Georgia Municipal Court Clerks' Council; create	House Passed/Adopted; Senate Read Second Time
HB 223 (Rep. Ron Stephens)	Revenue and taxation; procedures for certain local governments to change certain nonprofit organizations engaged to promote tourism, conventions, and trade shows for such jurisdiction; provide	House Withdrawn, Recommitted
HB 251 (Rep. Kim Schofield)	Clean Energy Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 264 (Rep. Vance Smith)	Revenue and taxation; handling of appeals of property tax assessments; revise certain deadlines and procedures	House passed; Senate Recommitted
HB 307 (Rep. Alan Powell)	Public Service Commission; exclude provision of electricity to propel motor vehicles through electric vehicle charging equipment	House read and referred

HB 331 (Rep. Victor Anderson)	Revenue and taxation; accountability of tax collectors and tax commissioners; repeal provisions	House Withdrawn, Recommended
HB 347 (Rep. Tim Fleming)	Alternative ad valorem tax; rental motor vehicle; revise definition	House read and referred
HB 355 (Rep. Kasey Carpenter)	Property owners' associations; creating or enforcing covenants which infringe on a lot owners' right to use natural gas or solar energy device; prohibit	House Withdrawn, Recommended
HB 409 (Rep. Lauren Daniel)	Local government; authorize local authorities to dispose of real property in the same manner as county governing authorities	House Withdrawn, Recommended
HB 410 (Rep. Lauren Daniel)	Professions and businesses; certain certification requirements for operators of wastewater treatment plants; provide	House read and referred
HB 415 (Rep. Debra Silcox)	Revenue and taxation; joint county and municipal sales and use tax (LOST); call of elections; revise a provision	House read and referred
HB 424 (Rep. Kenneth Vance)	Courts; office of sheriff; revise qualification requirements	House Withdrawn, Recommended
HB 426 (Rep. Shaw Blackmon)	Elections; retention and preservation of ballots and other election documents; revise provisions	House Withdrawn, Recommended
HB 429 (Rep. Tyler Smith)	Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; prohibit permitting of new municipal solid waste landfills located within 1.5 miles of any perennial stream	House read and referred
HB 438 (Rep. Victor Anderson)	Public utilities; prohibit governmental entities from adopting any policy that prohibits the connection or reconnection of any utility service based upon the type or source of energy or fuel	House Withdrawn, Recommended
HB 467 (Rep. Steve Tarvin)	Courts; compensation received by certain local government officials; modify certain provisions	House read and referred
HB 476 (Rep. James Beverly)	Revenue and taxation; tax credits for qualified low-income buildings; provisions	House read and referred
HB 500 (Rep. Deborah Silcox)	Crimes and offenses; offense of arson of law enforcement vehicle; provide	House passed; Senate Recommended
HB 503 (Rep. Lee Hawkins)	Income tax; certain contributions by taxpayers to certain local firefighter foundations; provide tax credit	House read and referred
HB 516 (Rep. Derrick McCollum)	Transportation, Department of; increase minimum amount for a public road construction or maintenance contract that prohibits negotiation	House Withdrawn, Recommended
HB 517 (Rep. Dale Washburn)	Georgia Homeowner Opportunity Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 534 (Rep. Carl Gilliard)	Tenant Protection Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 585 (Rep. Todd)	Georgia Development Impact Fee Act; enact	House Withdrawn,

Jones)		Recommitted
HB 651 (Rep. Devan Seabaugh)	Fireworks; local governments to regulate times when used; authorize	House read and referred
HB 654 (Rep. Katie Dempsey)	Waste management; local governments to impose a surcharge for auto shredder residue at facilities operated by private enterprise; authorize	House read and referred
HB 665 (Rep. Lydia Glaize)	Johnny Tolbert III Heat Stroke Youth Protection Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 719 (Rep. Yasmin Neal)	Property; landlord and tenant; repeal Code Section 44-7-19	House read and referred
HB 738 (Rep. Scott Hilton)	Task Force on Workforce and Safety Net Integration; create	House read and referred
HB 810 (Rep. Kenneth Vance)	Professions and businesses; electrical contractors, plumbers, conditioned air contractors, low voltage contractors, and utility contractors; change certain provisions	House read and referred
HB 813 (Rep. Victor Anderson)	Municipalities; incorporation; additional preconditions and procedures; provide	House read and referred
HB 826 (Rep. Reynaldo Martinez)	Elections; preferential treatment during advance voting to voters 65 years of age or older, pregnant, accompanied by children 5 years or under or with special needs regardless of age; provide	House read and referred
HB 830 (Rep. Deborah Silcox)	Buildings and housing; comprehensive state civil rights law protecting individuals from discrimination in housing, public accommodations, and employment; provide	House read and referred
HB 833 (Rep. John Carson)	Employees' Retirement System and Public School Employees Retirement System; reduce certain waiting periods and application deadlines for establishment or reestablishment of creditable service	House read and referred
HB 842 (Rep. Marvin Lim)	Georgia Shoot First Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 848 (Rep. Darlene Taylor)	Public Safety, Department of; authorize enforcement of excess vehicle weight violations through use of an automated vehicle weight detection system	House read and referred
HB 883 (Rep. Devan Seabaugh)	State government; county boards of health to conduct meetings via teleconference; authorize	House read and referred
HB 894 (Rep. Mitchell Horner)	Elections; prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers	House read and referred
HB 897 (Rep. Jordan Ridley)	Medical Freedom Act; enact	House read and referred

HB 902 (Rep. Kim Schofield)	State government; fees that may be charged for the disclosure of certain public records; provide an exception	House read and referred
HB 905 (Rep. Matt Reeves)	Zoning procedures; provisions authorizing administrative officers to exercise zoning powers; repeal	House read and referred
HB 928 (Rep. Jordan Ridley)	Courts; private attorney appointed to act as district attorney pro tempore; revise compensation	House read and referred
HB 935 (Rep. Ken Vance)	Motor vehicles; standards for a conviction through the use of speed devices; provide	House read and referred
HB 944 (Rep. Lee Hawkins)	Ad valorem tax; property; revise date by which homestead exemptions must be applied for	House read and referred
HB 946 (Rep. Lee Hawkins)	Special district mass transportation sales and use tax; intergovernmental agreements; revise requirements	House read and referred
HB 947 (Rep. Rob Leverett)	Courts; compensation received by superior court judges; modify provisions; create Judicial System Compensation Commission	House read and referred
HB 948 (Rep. Martin Momtahan)	Elections; prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers	House read and referred
HB 949 (Rep. Martin Momtahan)	Elections; voting devices shall not utilize any form of wireless network cards or wireless technology; provide	House read and referred
HB 964 (Rep. Sandra Scott)	Inclusive Public Service Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 969 (Rep. Kim Schofield)	Georgia Indoor Air Quality Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 973 (Rep. Beth Camp)	Income tax; certain retirement income received from long-term public service as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, or communications officer; exclude	House read and referred
HB 974 (Rep. John LaHood)	Secretary of State; establish and maintain a state-wide system for the posting of scanned paper ballots; require	House read and referred
HB 975 (Rep. John LaHood)	Elections; prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers	House read and referred
HB 976 (Rep. John LaHood)	Elections; ballots used in optical scan voting systems shall use paper with a visible watermark security feature; provide	House read and referred
HB 977 (Rep. John LaHood)	Elections; number of contests subject to risk-limiting audits; expand	House read and referred
HB 978 (Rep. Todd Jones)	Uniform rules of the road; operators of bicycles to treat stop signs as yield signs; authorize	House read and referred
HB 981 (Rep. James Burchett)	Buildings and housing; exempt agricultural structures from permitting fees	House read and referred
HB 986 (Rep. Brad	Elections; election interference with a deep fake; establish	House read and

Thomas)	criminal offense	referred
HB 996 (Rep. Marvin Lim)	Education; local school systems or public schools issuing identification cards to include certain information regarding suicide prevention resources; require	House read and referred
HB 998 (Rep. Mitchell Horner)	Elections; prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers; provisions	House read and referred
HB 999 (Rep. Lynn Smith)	Local government; provide new category of district titled "special rural district"; provisions	House read and referred
HB 1000 (Rep. Victor Anderson)	Revenue and taxation; taxes for educational purposes shall be excluded in computing the limitation on the total amount of local sales and use taxes which may be levied; provide	House read and referred
HB 1020 (Rep. Steven Sainz)	Income tax credit; military zones that qualify for designation as less developed areas; revise	House read and referred
HB 1031 (Rep. Shaw Blackmon)	Ad valorem tax; property; provide mandatory reappraisal of parcels	House read and referred
HB 1043 (Rep. Scott Hilton)	Blockchain Basics Act; enact	House Hopper
HB 1044 (Rep. Victor Anderson)	Contracts; increase dollar value of certain public works contracts exempt from provisions relating to retention of contractual payments	House Hopper
HR 98 (Rep. Kasey Carpenter)	Property; authorize exemptions from local ad valorem taxation in addition to homestead exemptions - CA	House read and referred
HR 118 (Rep. Bill Yearata)	County tax commissioners; waive certain delinquent ad valorem taxes; authorize - CA	House read and referred
HR 487 (Rep. Roger Bruce)	House Study Committee on Minority Business Enterprises, Women Owned Businesses, and Veteran Owned Businesses in State Contracting; create	House read and referred
HR 804 (Rep. Chuck Martin)	Local government; temporary loans are payable from end of calendar year to 12 months of initial funding date; change date - CA	House read and referred
SB 2 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)	Torts; certain immunities from liability claims regarding COVID-19; provisions; revise	Senate read and referred
SB 16 (Sen. John Albers)	"Georgia EMS Reform Act"; enact	Senate read and referred
SB 37 (Sen. Randy Robertson)	Sheriffs; qualification requirements for the office of sheriff; revise	Senate passed, House Withdrawn, Recommitted
SB 78 (Sen. Randy Robertson)	Off-Road Vehicles; civil forfeiture of any off-road vehicle operated while fleeing police or driving aggressively; authorize	Senate Recommitted

SB 110 (Sen. Larry Walker)	Back the Blue Act'; enact	Senate Passed; House Withdrawn, Recommitted
SB 124 (Sen. Ed Setzler)	County Governing Authorities; authority of county governing authorities to reapportion or redistrict their election districts; restate constitutional limitations	Senate recommitted
SB 136 (Sen. Mike Dugan)	Impact Fees; required revenue source for a development project involving workforce housing; modify	Senate passed; House Withdrawn, Recommitted
SB 163 (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler)	Alcoholic Beverages; regulation of the manufacture, distribution, and sale of malt beverages; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 165 (Sen. Russ Goodman)	Dimensions and Weight of Vehicles and Loads; allowable variance for weight limitations upon a vehicle or load; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 167 (Sen. Randy Robertson)	Public Utilities and Public Transportation; electricity to propel motor vehicles through electric vehicle charging equipment; exclude the provision	Senate read and referred
SB 171 (Sen. Max Burns)	Development Authorities; the length of a director's hold-over period following expiration of term of office; limit	Senate recommitted
SB 173 (Sen. Ben Watson)	Emergency Medical Services; hospital authorities may transfer its ambulance service license to its local governing body; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 188 (Sen. Russ Goodman)	Local Government; restrictions on residential dwellings; prohibit	Senate read and referred
SB 189 (Sen. Max Burns)	Elections; text portions of ballots shall be counted for vote tabulation and recounts purposes; provide	Senate Committee Favorably Reported
SB 208 (Sen. Greg Dolezal)	Georgia Development Impact Fee Act'; provide for fees for education	Senate Committee Favorably Reported
SB 214 (Sen. Shawn Still)	Alcoholic Beverages; number of retail dealer licenses that a person may hold or have a beneficial interest in	senate read and referred
SB 221 (Sen. Max Burns)	Primaries and Elections; the language that must be used on absentee ballot applications distributed by persons or entities; revise	Senate Read Second Time
SB 226 (Sen. Marty Harbin)	Primaries and Elections; unique bar codes and alphanumeric accountability numbers on individual absentee ballots; require	Senate read and referred
SB 229 (Sen. Brandon Beach)	Elections and Primaries; any person employed or retained by a county election superintendent must be a citizen of the United States; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 232 (Sen. John Kennedy)	Courts; provide for probate court fees; funding of the State Children't Trust Fund; requirement of permit for conduct of fireworks display; amend	Senate read and referred

SB 263 (Sen. Sam Watson)	Counties and Municipal Corporations; disconnecting interconnected public water systems; prohibit local governments	Senate read and referred
SB 293 (Sen. Ben Watson)	County Boards of Health; operational policies and procedures of the Department of Public Health apply to local personnel; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 323 (Sen. Frank Ginn)	Special Districts for Fire Protection Services; create	Senate read and referred
SB 326 (Sen. Brandon Beach)	Airports; definition; to prohibit the construction, alteration, or growth of structures or trees within a certain area; provide	Senate read and referred
SB 329 (Sen. Emanuel Jones)	"Law Enforcement Unit Accreditation Act" enact	Senate read and referred
SB 334 (Sen. John Albers)	"Helping Firefighters Beat Cancer Act"; enact	Senate read and referred
SB 349 (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler)	Ad Valorem Taxation of Property; setting of millage rates; revise provisions	Senate read and referred
SB 355 (Rep. Randy Robertson)	Elections and Primaries; use of ranked-choice voting; prohibit	Senate Committee Favorably Reported
SB 383 (Sen. Shelly Echols)	Sales and Use Tax; special district mass transportation; requirements for intergovernmental agreements between counties; revise	Senate read and referred
SB 392 (Sen. John Albers)	Elections; criminal offense of election interference with a deep fake and solicitation; establish	Senate read and referred
SB 393 (Sen. Clint Dixon)	County Boards of Health; requirements to qualify as a soil classifier to conduct soil investigations and prepare soil reports; change	Senate read and referred
SB 403 (Sen. Frank Ginn)	Ad Valorem Taxation of Property; language required to be included in the notices of current assessment; revise	Senate Hopper
SB 407 (Rep. James Donzella)	Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; documenting of certain information in incidents of family violence; require	House Hopper
SB 408 (Sen. Matt Brass)	Public Water Systems; Board of Natural Resources' authority to require the regulation of fluoridation of potable public water supplies; remove	House Hopper

AIA Legislation

<i>Bill</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Status</i>
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
HB 145 (Rep. Regina Lewis-Ward)	Property owners' associations; certificates of good standing for payment of annual assessments; provide	House read and referred
HB 239 (Rep. Bruce Williamson)	Income tax; purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property to include mining facilities; expand credits	House withdrawn, recommitted
HB 251 (Rep. Kim Schofield)	Clean Energy Act; enact	House read and referred

HB 257 (Rep. Kim Schofield)	Helath; feminine hygiene products containing restricted substances; prohibit distribution or sale	House read and referred
HB 278 (Rep. John LaHood)	Professions and businesses; athletic trainers; revise and update definitions	House read and referred
HB 331 (Rep. Victor Anderson)	Revenue and taxation; accountability of tax collectors and tax commissioners; repeal provisions	House withdrawn, recommitted
HB 514 (Rep. Dale Washburn)	Housing Regulation Transparency Act; enact	Senate conference committee appointed 21st, 45th, 28th
HB 517 (Rep. Dale Washburn)	Georgia Homeowner Opportunity Act; enact	House read and referred
HB 574 (Rep. Joseph Gullett)	Buildings and housing; local fire ordinances may require fire sprinkles in one and two family dwellings; provide	House read and referred
HB 575 (Rep. Joseph Gullett)	Professions and businesses; licensee may request review of an occupational regulation; provide	House read and referred
HB 905 (Rep. Matt Reeves)	Zoning procedures; provisions authorizing administrative officers to exercise zoning powers; repeal	House committee favorably reported
HB 981 (Rep. James Burchett)	Buildings and housing; exempt agricultural structures from permitting fees	House read and referred
SB 157 (Sen. Brian Strickland)	Professions and Businesses; preclearance process in the licensing of individuals with criminal records who make an application to or are investigated by certain licensing boards and commissions; create	Senate passed; House withdrawn, recommitted