



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday
March 29,
2019

DAILY REPORT

39th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 40th Legislative Day on Tuesday, April 2 at 10:00 a.m.
- A lot of bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Motions to Insist

HB 264 Public officials' conduct and lobbyist disclosure; persons promoting or opposing any matter regarding the EMSC Program are subject to transparency and lobbyist disclosure laws; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 264 subjects any person who makes lobbying expenditures, or promotes or opposes matters before a local coordinating entity, to transparency and lobbyist disclosure laws.

Additionally, this bill amends Chapter 11 of Title 31, relating to emergency medical services, by adding new administrative requirements regarding by-laws. Furthermore, a local coordinating entity will prohibit any employee, operator, contractor, or owner of an ambulance provider currently providing service for a territorial zone that has submitted a proposal for new ambulance service in such territorial zone from: serving on any committee, subcommittee, or ad hoc committee established by the local coordinating entity that is involved in the selection of ambulance providers for such territorial zone; or voting on any proposals from ambulance providers for new service for such territorial zone, if such employee, operator, contractor, or owner of an ambulance provider is a member of the local coordinating entity.

Authored By: Rep. William Werkheiser (157th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Insist: *(A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

HB 324 Georgia's Hope Act; enact

Bill Summary: HB 324 is known as the 'Georgia's Hope Act' and allows for the production, manufacturing, and dispensing of low THC oil with a lawful valid license issued by the Low THC Oil License Oversight Board. The bill also creates the Office of Low THC Oil Control within the Department of Public Health. The department is granted the authority to promulgate rules and regulations to establish security, quality control, tracking, and oversight of all low THC oil production to ensure market stability and adequate supply. Moreover, the department is prohibited from promulgating rules and regulations that would unduly burden access to low THC oil by registered patients. The Low THC Oil License Oversight Board, comprised of 12 members, is charged with reviewing and approving applications to ensure a competitive process for licenses issued. Members of the oversight board serve without compensation but receive a per diem for each day of attendance at board meetings and serve at the pleasure of the governor, president of the Senate, or speaker of the House in accordance with their manner of appointment.

No later than January 1, 2020, the department shall issue five Class 1 production licenses, providing it receives at least five qualified applications. Class 1 licenses are authorized to: grow unlimited amounts of cannabis or hemp products in only indoor facilities for producing low THC oil; manufacture low THC oil; operate five safe access retail outlets; and provide home delivery through company owned and operated vehicles. Applicants for a Class 1 license must show: at least \$10

million in available cash reserves; a written production plan; a comprehensive security plan which also includes transportation; a detailed employment plan; a written plan for certified organic production; letters of support from local government entities; a demonstration of significant involvement in the business by one or more minority business enterprises; documentation of industry capabilities and experience; and copies of recent criminal background checks for all employees and owners. The applicant for a Class 1 production license must submit a non-refundable application fee of \$50,000. Upon the award of a Class 1 production license, the applicant must submit an initial license fee of \$100,000 with the annual renewal fee of \$50,000. No person or entity may hold ownership in more than one Class 1 production license.

No later than January 1, 2020, the department shall issue five Class 2 production licenses, providing it receives at least five qualified applications. Class 2 licenses are authorized to: grow cannabis or hemp products in only indoor facilities, limited to 20,000 square feet, for producing low THC oil; manufacture low THC oil; operate three safe access retail outlets; and provide home delivery through company-owned and operated vehicles. Applicants for a Class 2 license must show: at least \$1 million in available cash reserves; a written production plan; a comprehensive security plan which also includes transportation; a detailed employment plan; detailed designs of all production and retail facilities; a written plan for certified organic production; letters of support from local government entities; a demonstration of significant involvement in the business by one or more minority business enterprises; documentation of industry capabilities and experience; and copies of recent criminal background checks for all employees and owners. The applicant for a Class 2 production license must submit a non-refundable application fee of \$12,500. Upon the award of a Class 2 production license, the applicant must submit an initial license fee of \$25,000 with the annual renewal fee of \$12,500. No person or entity may hold ownership in more than one Class 2 production license.

No later than January 1, 2020, the department shall issue 10 safe access retail licenses, providing it receives at least 10 qualified applications, which are authorized to operate two safe access retail outlets. Applicants for a safe access retail license must show: at least \$250,000 in available cash reserves; a comprehensive security plan; a detailed employment plan; detailed designs of retail facilities; letters of support from local government entities; a demonstration of significant involvement in the business by one or more minority business enterprises; and copies of recent criminal background checks for all employees and owners. The applicant for a safe access retail license must submit a non-refundable application fee of \$10,000. Upon the award of a safe access retail license, the applicant must submit an initial license fee of \$20,000 with the annual renewal fee of \$10,000. No person or entity may hold ownership in more than one safe access retail license.

HB 324 requires each Class 1 and Class 2 production licensee to establish, utilize, and maintain a sophisticated tracking system for all phases of production to allow for real-time department access. Moreover, the tracking system must be operated in compliance with the federal 'Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.'

No person may enter a safe access retail outlet unless he or she is an employee of the retail outlet, an employee of a licensee, or a registered patient or registered caregiver in possession of a valid registration card.

No licensee shall operate in any location, whether for cultivation, harvesting, and processing marijuana for low THC oil, within a 3,000-foot radius of a school, an early care program, church, synagogue, or other place of public worship in existence prior to the date of licensure by the department. In addition, licensees must comply with strict advertisement requirements which prohibit advertising that promotes recreational or non-medical use of marijuana. All licensees must provide on-demand access to facilities for inspection by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation or the department.

It is unlawful to ingest low THC oil in a manner that employs a heating element that can be used to produce vapor in solution or other form.

Authored By: Rep. Micah Gravley (67th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Insist: *(A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

SB 72 Game and Fish; hunting on wildlife management areas; prohibition; remove

Bill Summary: SB 72 removes county-specific restrictions on maximum open hunting seasons for opossums and raccoons, subsequently setting a statewide maximum open season of October 15 to February 29 for both animals. An archery extension to the maximum open season concerning deer for specific counties is removed, and the Department of Natural Resources may extend the season for archery by rule to January 31 for any region, county, or locale. The bill sets a maximum deer bag limit of 12, except by rule of the department for deer taken on department-managed lands. The department may exempt a bear taken on department-managed lands from the maximum bag limit.

SB 72 also defines "air gun" as any pistol, handgun, or shoulder-held device of not less than 0.30 caliber that propels a projectile utilizing unignited compressed air or gas. The bill prohibits the use of an air gun, except for hunting big game during primitive weapon hunts, primitive weapon seasons, and firearm seasons. This portion of the bill shall be reviewed by the General Assembly during the 2024 Legislative Session and stand repealed on July 1, 2024 without action from the General Assembly.

The bill allows for the use of feed or bait to lure feral hogs, so long as the feed or bait is not placed in a manner that prohibits the hunting of any species of wildlife on any adjoining property.

The bill designates the shoal bass as the official riverine sport fish of Georgia and replaces "conservation ranger" with "game warden".

Authored By: Sen. Tyler Harper (7th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Insist: *(A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

SB 110 Courts; State-wide Business Court; pursuant to the Constitution of this state; establish

Bill Summary: SB 110 provides the general legislation for the Statewide Business Court as approved by the constitutional referendum in 2018. The terms of court are the same as the Georgia Supreme Court. Except as otherwise provided under the Georgia Constitution, pre-trial proceedings shall be held in Atlanta, the main office, or at the court's sole discretion, via teleconference; all trials shall be held in the county as determined according to traditional venue rules, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. A judge shall appoint another court judge if there must be a recusal, and if one is not available, the Georgia Supreme Court shall order a sitting judge of the Court of Appeals, superior, or state court to sit by designation in that case.

The court shall not have jurisdiction over cases involving physical or emotional injury, residential landlord and tenant disputes, or foreclosures, but it will have jurisdiction over equity cases, regardless of the amount in controversy, related to: corporations; small business entities; internal affairs of businesses; sale of goods under the uniform commercial Code; securities; arbitration; licensing of any intellectual property right arising from e-commerce agreements involving commercial real property; and where the state and federal courts have concurrent jurisdiction. When damages are the only relief requested, the amount in controversy must be at least \$250,000 unless the dispute is only for damages related to commercial real property, and then the amount in controversy must exceed \$1 million.

Cases may come before the court by: 1) a party filing in the court to initiate a civil action that has not already been filed in superior court or state court; 2) a party to an action already in state or superior court who files a transfer to the court within 60 days of all parties being served, or the case becomes transferable and filed within those 60 days and the judge finds the case within the court's authority and orders the transfer; or 3) all parties to an action already in a state or superior court agree to remove to the business court and file that agreement within 60 days of commencing the action in state or superior court. The filing fee is \$5,000 to be paid by the party or parties seeking initiation or transfer, or by all parties pro rata where removed by agreement. When a pleading or petition for transfer or removal is filed with the Georgia State-wide Business Court, the date of filing shall be the date of receipt by the court and any applicable statute of limitations shall be tolled until the court accepts or rejects acceptance of the pleading or petition. Upon proof of such transfer or removal the state court or superior court shall certify the transfer or removal.

The court shall initially consist of one judge, one clerk, and one division which shall be appointed and confirmed by December 31, 2019. It will commence operations on January 1, 2020 and begin accepting cases on August 1, 2020; however, the General Assembly may create additional judges, clerks, or divisions based on caseload and need. To qualify as a court judge, the appointee must be for the past seven years a: Georgia resident, U.S. citizen, and admitted to the practice of law in Georgia with at least 15 years of legal experience in complex litigation, preferably in business. Court judges and clerks are appointed by the governor, subject to majority approval of the House and Senate Judiciary committees, serve a five-year term, and may be reappointed at the end of their term so long as the judge remains qualified. An oath of office for the judge is provided. The salary for the judge is \$174,500. The salary for the clerk shall be the same as the clerk of the Court of Appeals. The judge may be reimbursed like other state employees, including expenses for travel, if the judge resides 50 miles or more from the main office in Atlanta.

Subject to Georgia Supreme Court approval, the judge of the court is empowered to create rules governing the business court that shall contain guidelines and procedures for filing documents and pleadings with the Georgia State-wide Business Court, and to that end may empanel a commission of up to eight volunteer individuals to assist. The judge may appoint and remove law assistants, who are either admitted or in the process of being admitted to the bar. The court may also purchase supplies, publications, and employ other staff as needed, and the clerk will pay them based on appropriations by the General Assembly. Appeals shall be made to the Court of Appeals, unless otherwise taken by the Supreme Court. The court is also authorized to grant relief by declaratory judgment. Proceedings shall be filed in the court as other proceedings are filed in superior court, and similarly trial shall not commence earlier than 20 days after services unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. Also, like superior court, the court has contempt authority. Lastly, only non-attorneys may reject electronic service of pleadings.

Authored By: Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Insist: *(A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

Motions to Agree

HB 186 Health; sale or lease of a hospital by a hospital authority; revise provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 186 revises Certificate of Need (CON) provisions, extends the Rural Hospital Tax Credit and creates the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination. For CON, HB 186 increases the capital threshold to \$10 million for new, expanded, or relocated clinical facilities and removes the requirement for CON approval for non-clinical space upgrades and renovations. It expands the definition of "health care facility" to include freestanding emergency departments and facilities not located on a hospital's primary campus. "Primary campus" is the building where the bulk of inpatient beds are operating and any facilities within 1,000 yards of it. "Remote hospital location" is a new or acquired facility or organization that is under the administrative and operational control of a main provider. CON application fees for a health care facility in a rural county are waived; however, no new, modified, or converted CON will be issued to an applicant with outstanding payments owed to the state until the payments have resolved.

It allows for the conversion and application of CON without opposition or appeal for a destination cancer hospital to become a "general cancer hospital," which is defined as a destination cancer hospital in existence prior to January 1, 2019 that provides inpatient and outpatient treatment for cancer and co-morbid illnesses; it includes general cancer hospital within the definition and requirements of "hospital" for the purposes of CON.

Appeals to a CON application are allowed by parties that: have a similar service application in the same batching cycle; or offer similar services or have a primary service area within a 35-mile radius of the proposal.

Hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) are not required to have a CON for certain imaging and diagnostic equipment under \$4 million, but the ASC physician must be present 75 percent of the time the machine is in use.

Letters of determination are approved within 60 days if the letter is without objection. Objections must be filed within 30 days of the notification to the Department of Community Health (DCH) of the new the activity.

The bill requires the Department of Community Health to prepare the state health plan by December 1st of every calendar year and allows the department to seek recommendations from technical advisory committees for the plan. DCH is charged with reviewing, recommending the requirements and standardized reporting of indigent and charity care levels for each type of facility for accurate tracking and enforcement. Additional annual reporting and posting requirements for CON entities include: direct and emergency medical services transfers to a hospital or the emergency department; the number of rooms, beds, procedures and patients with demographics and payer source; patient's county of origin; and operational information, such as procedure types, volume and charges. The department and CON facilities will publish annual reports on their website, and DCH will also provide copies to certain leadership.

Further disclosure and requirements for hospitals and hospital authority corporations, enforced by DCH and effective July 1, 2020, include: audited financial statements; audited Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 with Schedule H, and for those hospitals that are not required to submit this form, one will be designed and provided by DCH; state-required annual questionnaire and financial survey; community benefit report; disproportionate share hospital survey; property holdings; ownership or interest in any partnership, corporation, joint venture, trust or captive insurance company; loans, bonds and debt information; ending fund balances of net assets for the hospital and each affiliate; cash reserves; going concerns; the legal organizational chart showing the relationship of the hospital to its parent corporation, subsidiaries, and affiliates; salaries and fringes as reported to the IRS Form 990; evidence of accreditation; and policies regarding the provisions for financial assistance and debt collection. Information or links to the information must be provided on the hospital's website and updated annually with a minimum two-year archive period.

HB 186 states non-profit hospitals may not renew or hold any property for medical use rights.

The Rural Hospital Tax Credit is extended to 2024 and requires DCH to create a manual with the criteria to qualify and submit for the credit, as well as to develop and include a formula to rank the hospitals by greatest financial need in the manual. This ranked hospital list must also be distributed by any third-party entity soliciting or managing donors. The department will prominently post the: manual; eligible hospitals; annual report; total amount received by third-party entities soliciting or managing donors; and a link to the Department of Revenue's donation information on their webpage. The Department of Revenue will also post the list of eligible hospitals by need, as well as the timeline for donations and a monthly update of all designated and undesignated contributions pre-approved and received, and the aggregate totals for contributions and available credits. All parties are subject to annual auditing by the state.

Authorities that have not operated a hospital for seven or more years, have no outstanding debt, and have a corpus of at least \$20 million may invest up to 30 percent of those funds in mutual funds or other collective investments.

Finally, the bill creates the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination with the objective of connecting state resources, functions, reports, and agencies for improved health care service infrastructure. It allows for the creation of an advisory committee, as well as a Georgia Data Access Forum to promote the collection and use of robust data to meet the objectives. Existing mandatory reporting requirements of certain health entities are amended to include the submission information to the office.

Authored By: Rep. Ron Stephens (164th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 321 Health; hospital Medicaid financing program; extend sunset provision

Bill Summary: HB 321 includes provisions relating to hospital transparency, the Rural Hospital Tax Credit, and the hospital provider payment program.

Section 1 of the bill requires a non-profit hospital, hospital-owned or operated authority, or the authority's non-profit corporation to increase transparency by prominently posting online the most recent versions of certain federal and state documents, which include audited financial statements for the hospital and its affiliates, including all subsidiaries and parent companies. The hospital's statements must distinguish and include gross patient revenue, allowances, charity care, and net patient revenues for the hospital. The subsidiaries and affiliates must provide audited balance sheets that break out the hospital's operating costs. Posted documents must include the hospital's audited Internal Revenue Service Form 990 with Schedule H, and for those hospitals that are not required to submit this form, one will be designed and provided by the Department of Community Health (DCH). State-specific documents for publication online include the hospital's: annual questionnaire; community benefit report; disproportionate share hospital survey; property holdings with location, use, and value; loan, bond, and debt information; ownership, interest, value, and domicile of any joint venture, partnerships, holdings, or captive insurance companies; year-end fund balances (less any interest in the foundation) of net assets that distinguish the purposes and any restrictions of those assets; going concern statements; the legal organizational chart showing the relationship of the hospital to its subsidiaries and affiliates; a report listing the 10 highest salaried administrative positions with amount, fringe, titles, and other benefits; proof of accreditation(s); and policies for charity and reduced cost care payments and collections. While postings must be updated and filed at least once a year by July 1, the documentation for each year will be available on the website indefinitely and DCH's website will provide prominent links to each of these. Failure to comply within 30 days of the deadline results in the suspension of all state funding, provided that DCH gave notice and allowed the opportunity for correction; willful violations will be prosecuted.

Section 2 of the bill provides that hospital authority board members are subject to state conflict of interest laws governing sale and lease transactions.

Section 3 relates to the eligibility and obligations of rural hospitals receiving tax credits. A "rural hospital" is further defined as a hospital that has a three-year average patient margin that is less than one standard deviation above the statewide three-year average as calculated by the department. DCH is required to create a manual with the criteria to qualify and submit for the credit, as well as develop and include a formula to rank the hospitals by greatest financial need in the manual. The department will prominently post the: manual; eligible and ranked hospital list determined by December 1st of every year; annual report; total amount received by third-party entities soliciting, administering, or managing donors; and a link to the Department of Revenue's donation information on their webpage.

Section 4 of the bill changes the sunset date on the hospital provider payment program from June 30, 2020 to June 30, 2025.

Section 5 directs unspecified donations to rural hospitals to be automatically applied to the hospital ranked with the greatest need that has not yet received the maximum amount of contributions for that year. The Department of Revenue will post the list of eligible hospitals by need, the timeline for donations, and a monthly update of all designated and undesignated contributions preapproved and received as well as the aggregate totals for contributions and available credits. All parties are subject to annual auditing by the state.

Authored By: Rep. Jodi Lott (122nd) **Rule Applied:** Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 346 Property; prohibit retaliation by a landlord against a tenant for taking certain actions

Bill Summary: House Bill 346 adds a new Code section that allows tenants to establish a prima-facie case of retaliation by their landlord if the landlord retaliates against the tenant after the tenant, in

good faith: exercises a right or remedy against the landlord granted by lease or law; gives notice to repair; files a building, housing, or utility code complaint with a governmental entity responsible for enforcing such codes; or establishes or participates in a tenant organization.

Within three months of the tenant engaging in any of the above actions, the landlord must not: file a dispossessory action; deprive the tenant of the use of the premises; decrease services to the tenant; increase the tenant's rent or terminate the tenant's lease; or (materially interfere with the tenant's rights under the lease. A landlord is not liable for retaliation if the landlord can prove: the action was not retaliation; the rent increased pursuant to an escalation clause in the lease or as part of a pattern of rent increases in the complex, or as part of rent increase due to the landlord's participation in a federal government program involving receipt of federal funds; or it instituted a dispossessory proceeding because: the tenant is delinquent in rent; intentionally damaged the property; threatened the landlord, another tenant, or an employee; materially breached the lease; held over after giving notice to terminate or vacate; violates the written lease terms which prohibit criminal conduct on the property; or took action against the landlord for housing conditions only after the landlord provided the notice of termination to the tenant.

When a tenant proves the landlord retaliated, the tenant is entitled to, minus any delinquent rents or other sums for which the tenant is liable to the landlord, one month's rent plus: \$500; actual damages and expenses; court costs; reasonable attorney's fees in an action for recovery of property damages; moving costs; civil penalties; or declaratory or injunctive relief; however, when the tenant's rent is subsidized by a governmental entity, the tenant is entitled to the fair market rent of the dwelling plus \$500.

The landlord is provided a defense against the tenant's claim if the property has been inspected by a code enforcement officer or building inspector of the state or federal government program and such inspector or officer certifies that the property complies with applicable housing and building codes within the 12 months prior to the tenant's claim.

Authored By: Rep. Sharon Cooper (43rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: (*A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.*)

HB 481 Living Infants Fairness and Equality (LIFE) Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 481 is known as the 'Living Infants Fairness and Equality (LIFE) Act'. Section II lists out the findings of the Georgia General Assembly that apply to the policy change. Section III requires that, unless otherwise provided by law, any natural person, including an unborn child with a detectable human heartbeat, is included in state population-based determinations.

Section IV states that no abortion is authorized or will be performed if an unborn child has been determined to have a human heartbeat except when: a physician determines, in reasonable medical judgement, that a medical emergency exists; the probable gestational age of the unborn child is 20 weeks or less and the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest in which an official police report has been filed alleging the offense of rape or incest; or the pregnancy is medically futile.

Furthermore, Section IV requires that no abortion is authorized or will be performed after the first trimester unless the abortion is performed in a licensed hospital, ambulatory surgical center, or in a health facility licensed as an abortion facility by the Department of Community Health. Additionally, an abortion will only be performed by a physician licensed to practice pursuant to Georgia Code.

House Bill 481 requires health records be made available to the district attorney of the judicial circuit in which the abortion occurs or the woman upon whom an abortion is performed resides. This bill allows that any woman upon whom an abortion is illegally performed may recover damages through civil action. Section IV clarifies that it is an affirmative defense to prosecution if: a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or pharmacist provides medical treatment or care to a pregnant woman which results in the accidental or unintentional injury to or death of an unborn child; an advanced practice registered nurse engages in the practice of nursing to provide care for a pregnant woman which results in the accidental or unintentional injury to or death of an unborn child; or if a woman sought an abortion because she reasonably believed that an abortion was the only way to

prevent a medical emergency.

Section V amends Chapter 6 of Title 19, relating to child support, as to require that the maximum amount of support which the court may impose on the father of an unborn child is the amount of direct medical and pregnancy related expenses of the mother during pregnancy.

Section VI requires that for the homicide of an unborn child, the right to recover for the full value of the life of such child will begin at the point at which a detectable human heartbeat is present.

Section VII requires the physician or other qualified agent inform the female, at least 24 hours before the abortion, of the probable gestational age and presence of a detectable human heartbeat of an unborn child at the time the abortion is to be performed.

Section VIII requires that the Department of Public Health update its materials and website to be reflective of the policy changes included in House Bill 481.

Section IX repeals Code Section 31-9A-6.1, relating to civil and professional penalties for violations and prerequisites for seeking penalties.

Section X is related to the physician's obligation in performance of abortions. Except in the case of a medical emergency, or when a pregnancy is diagnosed as medically futile, no abortion will be performed or attempted to be performed unless the physician performing such procedure has first made a determination of the presence of a detectable human heartbeat of an unborn child. In addition to any criminal or civil penalties provided by law, failure by any physician to conform to the requirements constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result in medical licensing sanctions.

Section XI requires that any physician who performs or attempts to perform an abortion will report to the Department of Community Health the following: if a detectable human heartbeat exists, the probable gestational age, and the method and basis of the determination; if a detectable human heartbeat exists, the basis of the determination that the pregnant woman had a medically futile pregnancy, that a medical emergency existed, or that the pregnancy was the result of rape or incest; and the method used for the abortion.

Section XII provides that an unborn child at any stage of development who is carried in the womb qualifies as a dependent minor as it relates to income taxes.

House Bill 481 also states that any citizen in Georgia has standing and the right to intervene and defend in any action challenging the constitutionality of any portion of this act, which becomes effective on January 1, 2020.

Authored By: Rep. Ed Setzler (35th) **Rule Applied:** Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 493 Private Permitting Review and Inspection Act; enact

Bill Summary: HB 493 is the 'Private Permitting Review and Inspection Act' and relates to standards and requirements for construction, alteration, restoration, and any other modifications of buildings and other structures in counties or municipalities. A private professional provider must be a properly certified professional engineer or a professional architect who is not an employee of, affiliated with, or financially interested in the person, firm, or corporation engaged in the construction project to be reviewed or inspected. HB 493 requires a county or municipality which imposes regulatory fees or regulatory requirements within its jurisdiction to make available all documentation related to compliance with those requirements. Upon the receipt and acceptance of any application related to regulatory requirements, the governing authority must notify the applicant whether the governing authority will be able to provide regulatory action within 30 days for plan review or provide inspection services within two business days of receiving a valid written request. If the governing authority cannot provide services within these time frames, the applicant has the option of retaining, at its own expense, a private professional provider to provide the services. If the applicant elects to utilize the services of a private professional provider, the regulatory fees are reduced by 50

percent with the amount paid to the governing authority upon the completion of the application. If the governing authority determines that regulatory action or inspection services can be provided in the above timeframes, and the applicant chooses to use a private professional provider, the applicant must pay the full amount of the regulatory fees. Any delay in the processing of an application due to causes outside the control of the governing authority, or through fault of the applicant, do not count toward these time frames.

Authored By: Rep. Kevin Tanner (9th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 514 Georgia Mental Health Reform and Innovation Commission; create

Bill Summary: House Bill 514 creates the Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission. The purpose of this commission is to conduct a comprehensive review of the behavioral health system in Georgia. The commission will review the behavioral health services and facilities available in Georgia, the identification of behavioral health issues in children, adolescents, and adults, as well as the role the education system has in the identification and treatment of behavioral health issues. Additionally, the commission will review the impact behavioral health issues have on the criminal justice system, the state's homeless population, delivery of care, access to care, the role of payers in such access, and the impact untreated behavioral illness has on children transitioning into adulthood. The commission will conclude on June 30, 2023.

Authored By: Rep. Kevin Tanner (9th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 551 Controlled substances; kratom; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 551 regulates "kratom," a tropical evergreen known as *mitragyna speciosa* that contains the alkaloid mitragynine. It is a misdemeanor to transfer possession to those under the age of 18, or for those under 18-years old to possess or buy it. Moreover, to sell kratom, the packaging must: clearly label ingredients; provide notice that the sale or transfer of possession to those under the age of 18 is prohibited; state the amount of mitragynine in the product; state the name and principal mailing address of the manufacturer; provide clear directions for safe use of the product; and note any precautionary statements to the safety and effectiveness of the product.

Authored By: Rep. Dewayne Hill (3rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

Motions to Disagree

HB 264 Public officials' conduct and lobbyist disclosure; persons promoting or opposing any matter regarding the EMSC Program are subject to transparency and lobbyist disclosure laws; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 264 submits any person who makes lobbying expenditures, or promotes or opposes matters before a local coordinating entity, to transparency and lobbyist disclosure laws.

Additionally, this bill amends Chapter 11 of Title 31, relating to emergency medical services, by adding new administrative requirements regarding by-laws. Furthermore, a local coordinating entity will prohibit any employee, operator, contractor, or owner of an ambulance provider currently providing service for a territorial zone that has submitted a proposal for new ambulance service in such territorial zone from: serving on any committee, subcommittee, or ad hoc committee established by the local coordinating entity that is involved in the selection of ambulance providers for such territorial zone; or voting on any proposals from ambulance providers for new service for such territorial zone, if such employee, operator, contractor, or owner of an ambulance provider is a member of the local coordinating entity.

Authored By: Rep. William Werkheiser (157th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Disagree: (A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)

HB 324 Georgia's Hope Act; enact

Bill Summary: HB 324 is known as the 'Georgia's Hope Act' and allows for the production, manufacturing, and dispensing of low THC oil with a lawful valid license issued by the Low THC Oil License Oversight Board. The bill also creates the Office of Low THC Oil Control within the Department of Public Health. The department is granted the authority to promulgate rules and regulations to establish security, quality control, tracking, and oversight of all low THC oil production to ensure market stability and adequate supply. Moreover, the department is prohibited from promulgating rules and regulations that would unduly burden access to low THC oil by registered patients. The Low THC Oil License Oversight Board, comprised of 12 members, is charged with reviewing and approving applications to ensure a competitive process for licenses issued. Members of the oversight board serve without compensation but receive a per diem for each day of attendance at board meetings and serve at the pleasure of the governor, president of the Senate, or speaker of the House in accordance with their manner of appointment.

No later than January 1, 2020, the department shall issue five Class 1 production licenses, providing it receives at least five qualified applications. Class 1 licenses are authorized to: grow unlimited amounts of cannabis or hemp products in only indoor facilities for producing low THC oil; manufacture low THC oil; operate five safe access retail outlets; and provide home delivery through company owned and operated vehicles. Applicants for a Class 1 license must show: at least \$10 million in available cash reserves; a written production plan; a comprehensive security plan which also includes transportation; a detailed employment plan; a written plan for certified organic production; letters of support from local government entities; a demonstration of significant involvement in the business by one or more minority business enterprises; documentation of industry capabilities and experience; and copies of recent criminal background checks for all employees and owners. The applicant for a Class 1 production license must submit a non-refundable application fee of \$50,000. Upon the award of a Class 1 production license, the applicant must submit an initial license fee of \$100,000 with the annual renewal fee of \$50,000. No person or entity may hold ownership in more than one Class 1 production license.

No later than January 1, 2020, the department shall issue five Class 2 production licenses, providing it receives at least five qualified applications. Class 2 licenses are authorized to: grow cannabis or hemp products in only indoor facilities, limited to 20,000 square feet, for producing low THC oil; manufacture low THC oil; operate three safe access retail outlets; and provide home delivery through company-owned and operated vehicles. Applicants for a Class 2 license must show: at least \$1 million in available cash reserves; a written production plan; a comprehensive security plan which also includes transportation; a detailed employment plan; detailed designs of all production and retail facilities; a written plan for certified organic production; letters of support from local government entities; a demonstration of significant involvement in the business by one or more minority business enterprises; documentation of industry capabilities and experience; and copies of recent criminal background checks for all employees and owners. The applicant for a Class 2 production license must submit a non-refundable application fee of \$12,500. Upon the award of a Class 2 production license, the applicant must submit an initial license fee of \$25,000 with the annual renewal fee of \$12,500. No person or entity may hold ownership in more than one Class 2 production license.

No later than January 1, 2020, the department shall issue 10 safe access retail licenses, providing it receives at least 10 qualified applications, which are authorized to operate two safe access retail outlets. Applicants for a safe access retail license must show: at least \$250,000 in available cash reserves; a comprehensive security plan; a detailed employment plan; detailed designs of retail facilities; letters of support from local government entities; a demonstration of significant involvement in the business by one or more minority business enterprises; and copies of recent criminal background checks for all employees and owners. The applicant for a safe access retail license must submit a non-refundable application fee of \$10,000. Upon the award of a safe access retail license, the applicant must submit an initial license fee of \$20,000 with the annual renewal fee of \$10,000. No person or entity may hold ownership in more than one safe access retail license.

HB 324 requires each Class 1 and Class 2 production licensee to establish, utilize, and maintain a sophisticated tracking system for all phases of production to allow for real-time department access. Moreover, the tracking system must be operated in compliance with the federal 'Health Insurance

Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.'

No person may enter a safe access retail outlet unless he or she is an employee of the retail outlet, an employee of a licensee, or a registered patient or registered caregiver in possession of a valid registration card.

No licensee shall operate in any location, whether for cultivation, harvesting, and processing marijuana for low THC oil, within a 3,000-foot radius of a school, an early care program, church, synagogue, or other place of public worship in existence prior to the date of licensure by the department. In addition, licensees must comply with strict advertisement requirements which prohibit advertising that promotes recreational or non-medical use of marijuana. All licensees must provide on-demand access to facilities for inspection by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation or the department.

It is unlawful to ingest low THC oil in a manner that employs a heating element that can be used to produce vapor in solution or other form.

Authored By: Rep. Micah Gravley (67th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Disagree: *(A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

Rules Calendar

HR 48 Georgia's coastal tourism and fisheries; support

Bill Summary: HR 48 declares the state of Georgia's opposition to oil and gas exploration and drilling activities, and expresses support for coastal Georgia tourism and fisheries.

Authored By: Rep. Carl Gilliard (162nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
House Committee: Natural Resources & Environment **Committee Action:** 03-21-2019 Do Pass
Floor Vote: Yeas: Nays:
Floor Action: Recommit to Rules **Amendments:**

HR 585 House Study Committee on Gang and Youth Violence Prevention; create

Bill Summary: HR 585 creates the House Study Committee on Gang and Youth Violence Prevention. The committee consists of six House members appointed by the speaker of the House and six non-legislative members as follows: the commissioner of juvenile justice; the commissioner of human services; the state school superintendent; and three persons who are representatives of social service organizations that provide programs for youth. The allowances for the committee are for up to five days and the committee stands abolished December 1, 2019.

Authored By: Rep. Carl Gilliard (162nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
House Committee: Juvenile Justice **Committee Action:** 03-28-2019 Do Pass
Floor Vote: Yeas: 147 Nays: 6 **Amendments:**
Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

HR 589 House Study Committee on Maternal Mortality; create

Bill Summary: House Resolution 589 creates the House Study Committee on Maternal Mortality. In addition to identifying, investigating, and disseminating findings regarding maternal deaths, the committee will also develop strategies and institute systematic changes needed to decrease and prevent maternal deaths in Georgia.

This study committee is composed of seven members of the House. The bill requires at least two of these members to be African American female legislators. Additionally, two members of the Georgia Maternal Mortality Review Committee shall be appointed to the study committee by the speaker of the House. The study committee will stand abolished on December 1, 2019.

Authored By: Rep. Mark Newton (123rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open

House Committee: Health & Human Services
Floor Vote: Yeas: 170 Nays: 1
Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

Committee Action: 03-26-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HR 590 House Study Committee on Georgia's Barriers to Access to Adequate Health Care; create

Bill Summary: House Resolution 590 creates the House Study Committee on Georgia's Barriers to Access to Adequate Health Care. Committee members are charged to undertake a study of the needs, issues, and problems associated with Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder with Streptococcal infection (PANDAS) disorders. These disorders create the sudden onset of obsessive-compulsive disorder in children, causing previously healthy and emotionally-adjusted children to experience severe anxiety and emotional disturbances.

The study committee, which will be abolished on December 1, 2019, is composed of eight members: five members of the House, one practicing psychiatrist, one practicing pediatrician, and one public health practitioner.

Authored By: Rep. Karen Bennett (94th)
House Committee: Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care
Floor Vote: Yeas: 148 Nays: 3
Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HR 591 House Study Committee on Workforce Housing; create

Bill Summary: HR 591 creates the House Study Committee on Workforce Housing. The committee is tasked with reviewing current practices and regulations relating to residential design mandates and the effects of those mandates on affordable housing options and consumer choices.

The committee is composed of five members of the House of Representatives, as appointed by the speaker of the House.

Authored By: Rep. Vance Smith (133rd)
House Committee: Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Floor Vote: Yeas: 118 Nays: 46
Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 03-27-2019 Do Pass
Amendments:

SB 31 Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; performing any duty at the scene of an emergency; law enforcement officers shall not be liable; clarify

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 31 states law enforcement officers employed by state or local government are immune from liability for actions taken while performing duties at the scene of an emergency, unless the law enforcement officer's actions constitute gross negligence, willful or wanton misconduct, or malfeasance. Emergencies include imminent danger to life or health of a person or pet, such as the rescuing a person or pet from inside a locked motor vehicle.

Authored By: Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd)
House Committee: Judiciary
Floor Vote: Yeas: 134 Nays: 23

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-26-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

SB 68 Local School Systems; financial management; strengthen provisions

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 68 increases training requirements for local boards of education by the addition of financial management training and requires all previous annual training requirements be completed before becoming eligible for re-election. Newly-elected board members will receive guidance and training specific to his or her local school system's most recent audit findings and the risk status of the local school system.

The Department of Audits and Accounts shall designate local school systems that have had irregularities or budget deficits for three or more consecutive years as high-risk local school systems and school systems with one year to two consecutive years of irregularities or budget deficits as moderate-risk local school systems. The local school superintendent must submit a corrective action plan to the Department of Education within 120 days of receiving notice of the risk designation from the local board of education. The local school superintendent or a high-risk or moderate-risk local school system will also be required by Senate Bill 68 to complete financial management and financial governance training.

SB 68 requires specific contractual obligations be made relating to maintaining or achieving financial stability of the local school system when entering into a flexibility contract with the State Board of Education. If a system has been designated as a high-risk local school system, there must be a written corrective action plan in place.

The Department of Education will monitor the financial stability of each local school system and provide support and guidance to high-risk and moderate-risk local school systems.

Part II of Senate Bill 68 amends multiple provisions of the Code relating to the Chief Turnaround Office by moving the oversight of turnaround schools from the State Board of Education to the Department of Education and establishing a teacher leader's stipend.

Teacher leaders, known as turnaround instructional innovation specialists, will be eligible to receive a stipend funded by a 2:1 state/local partnership with \$5,000 coming from the state and another \$2,500 from the local system. A teacher leader must agree to teach in a turnaround school for at least three consecutive years and to other criteria as required by the state school superintendent in O.C.G.A. 20-14-49.4(c) in order to receive a stipend. After receiving a stipend for three consecutive years, the teacher leader will be eligible to convert the state portion of the stipend into a permanent salary step increase on the state salary schedule, subject to appropriations.

Part III of Senate Bill 68 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-989.7 to allow teachers who have accepted a contract for the fourth or subsequent consecutive school year to appeal a personnel evaluation of 'Unsatisfactory,' 'Ineffective,' or 'Needs Development'. Local school systems must develop an appeals policy for teachers.

Part IV of Senate Bill 64 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-58 by requiring local boards of education to hold a public comment period during every regular monthly meeting. Local boards of education shall not require individuals to give more than 24-hours' notice before the meeting to participate in the public comment period.

Authored By: Sen. Freddie Sims (12th)
House Committee: Education
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 2

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-21-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

SB 95 Local Government; terms for contracts for utility services; change

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 95 revises Code Sections 36-1-26, 36-30-3, and 36-80-17, by stating no contract for solar utility services or wind utility services shall be for a term in excess of 20 years.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Committee: Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications
Floor Vote: Yeas: 165 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-19-2019 Do Pass
Amendments:

SB 108 Competencies and Core Curriculum; computer science in middle school and high school; require

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 108 requires all public high schools to offer a course in computer science by the 2024-2025 school year. SB 108 outlines a phase-in schedule, lays out the requirements for charter and middle schools, and allows the General Assembly to offer grants for the professional development of teachers who wish to teach computer science courses. Courses may be taught by a

teacher trained in computer science instruction or through a proctored virtual course offered by the Georgia Virtual School.

Authored By: Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)
House Education
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 3

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee 03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 115 "Medical Practice Act of the State of Georgia"; telemedicine licenses for physicians in other states; engage in the practice of medicine with patients in this state through telemedicine; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 115 amends the 'Medical Practice Act of the State of Georgia' by authorizing the Georgia Composite Medical Board to issue telemedicine licenses to physicians who are licensed in other states but not licensed in Georgia for the specific practice of telemedicine.

Authored By: Sen. Renee Unterman (45th)
House Health & Human Services
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 161 Nays: 2

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-26-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 117 Public Retirement Systems Standards Law; that does not require an individual to pay the full actuarial cost of obtaining such creditable service; prohibit passage of any law

Bill Summary: SB 117 prohibits any public retirement system from enacting any law, rule, or regulation for creditable service unless the individual is required to pay the full actuarial cost of service. Furthermore, the bill revises all existing Code sections where members of public retirement systems are allowed to purchase or earn creditable service and now requires any individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2019 to pay the full actuarial cost associated with obtaining creditable service. The member can make a one-time lump sum payment or payments over a period of time, not to exceed 120 months. The Department of Audits and Accounts has certified SB 117 as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Authored By: Sen. Ellis Black (8th)
House Retirement
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 160 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-19-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 120 "Georgia Tax Credit Business Case Act"

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 120 adds a new Code section, relating to fiscal bills generally, to allow the chairpersons of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee to request from the Department of Audits and Accounts an economic analysis of up to three existing or proposed tax incentives per committee. The requests must be made by May 1, and the department must return the economic analysis to both committees by December 1 of the same year. The economic analysis must include an estimate of the annual fiscal impact of the law or proposed law for the next five years, as well as the net change in state revenue, state expenditures, economic activity, and, if applicable, public benefit resulting from the tax incentive. During the following legislative session, if a fiscal note is requested and a relevant economic analysis was completed, then a summary of the relevant economic analysis must be attached to the fiscal note.

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)
House Ways & Means
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 150 Nays: 9

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee 03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 128 Income Tax Payment; person required to submit a statement of taxes withheld shall be assessed a late penalty after the due date; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 128 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-2, relating to definitions regarding sales and use tax, by revising the definition of "dealer" to lower the established economic nexus within the state from \$250,000 to \$100,000 in annual revenue and by adding the terms "marketplace facilitator" and

"marketplace seller" as well as expanding the definition of "dealer" to require marketplace facilitators to collect and remit sales tax on behalf of marketplace sellers. The bill also repeals the reporting requirements for out-of-state retailers.

A "marketplace facilitator" is a person that contracts with a marketplace seller to make available or facilitate taxable retail sales on the marketplace seller's behalf. This includes promoting, marketing, advertising, taking orders or reservations for, providing the physical or electronic infrastructure that brings purchasers and marketplace sellers together for, or otherwise assisting the marketplace seller in making retail sales and collecting, charging, processing, or otherwise facilitating payment for the retail sales on behalf of the marketplace seller.

A "marketplace seller" is a person that conducts retail sales through or facilitated by any physical or electronic marketplace or platform operated by a marketplace facilitator.

The definition of "dealer" is expanded to include marketplace facilitators who facilitate taxable sales to be delivered, held for pickup, used, consumed, distributed, stored for use or consumption, or rendered as a service in Georgia if the total value of all sales, including sales from marketplace sellers and the marketplace facilitator itself, exceeds \$100,000 in the previous or current calendar year.

Authored By:	Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)	Rule Applied:	Structured
House	Ways & Means	Committee	03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 94 Nays: 74	Amendments:	

SB 138 Disabled First Responders; certain benefits; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 138 provides for the issuance of a free motor vehicle license plate for disabled first responders. Additionally, the bill creates a specialty license plate supporting the Sickle Cell Foundation of Georgia, Inc.

Authored By:	Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Motor Vehicles	Committee	03-26-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 162 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

SB 213 Campaign Contributions; content of and certain reporting times for certain campaign disclosure reports; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 213 provides that campaign contribution disclosure reports must be filed after an election year. In each non-election year, constitutional officers, executive heads of state departments, and members of the General Assembly must submit campaign contribution disclosure reports on January 31 and June 30; elected state officials, county officials, members of local boards of education, and municipal officers must submit on June 30 and December 31. The bill replaces March 31 with April 30 as a date for report submission during election years. Any person who makes contributions on behalf of candidates must submit a campaign contribution disclosure report on December 31, regardless of whether the supported candidate must submit a report on that date.

Authored By:	Sen. Bill Heath (31st)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Governmental Affairs	Committee	03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 162 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

SR 67 Senator Bill Jackson Interchange; Columbia County; dedicate

Bill Summary: Senate Resolution 67 is the annual Senate version of road dedications. The substitute includes the following dedications:

SR 67, Sen. Lee Anderson
Senate Resolution 67 dedicates the interchange at Interstate 20 and Highway 221/Exit 183 in Columbia County as the Senator Bill Jackson Interchange;

SR 49, Sen. Larry Walker, III

Senate Resolution 49 dedicates the portion of the Highway 87 Bypass from the intersection of Highway 87 and Bellflower Drive to the intersection of Highway 87 and Holly Ross Road in Bleckley County as the Jackie Holder Bypass;

SR 99, Sen. John Wilkinson

Senate Resolution 99 dedicates the bridge on State Route 66 over Crooked Creek/Brasstown Creek in Towns County as the Dick Campbell Bridge;

SR 175, Sen. Burt Jones

Senate Resolution 175 dedicates the bridge on State Route 16 between Pea Ridge Road and Old Phoenix Road in Putnam County as the Cecil J. Embry Memorial Bridge;

SR 215, Sen. Ben Watson

Senate Resolution 215 dedicates the interchange at Interstate 16 and State Route 307 in Chatham County as the SPD Patrol Officer Anthony Christie Memorial Interchange;

SR 265, Sen. Tyler Harper

Senate Resolution 265 dedicates the bridge on State Route 64 over the Satilla River in Atkinson County as the Lawrence James Gillis Bridge;

HR 77, Rep. Tommy Benton

House Resolution 77 dedicates the portion of Interstate 85 between mile markers 131 and 133 in Jackson County as the Edward Monroe Evans Highway;

HR 258, Rep. William Boddie

House Resolution 258 dedicates the bridge at the interchange of I-285 and Camp Creek Parkway in Fulton County as the Representative Joe Heckstall Bridge;

HR 370, Rep. Sheila Jones

House Resolution 370 dedicates the bridge on Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive SW over Interstate 285 in Fulton County as the Edward "Ed" Menifee Memorial Bridge;

HR 449, Rep. Emory Dunahoo

House Resolution 449 dedicates the new interchange on Interstate 985 at Exit 14 in Hall County as the Atlanta Falcons Training Facility Interchange;

HR 450, Rep. Randy Nix

House Resolution 450 dedicates the intersection of State Route 14 and Pegasus Parkway in Troup County as the Sgt. Corey E. Spates Purple Heart Memorial Intersection;

HR 451, Rep. Robert Trammell

House Resolution 451 dedicates the portion of State Route 16 from Old Carrollton Road to the Chattahoochee River as the Jimmy Lassetter Memorial Highway;

HR 479, Rep. Mike Cheokas

House Resolution 479 the portion of State Route 49 South from mile marker 1 to mile marker 2 in Sumter County as the Marcy Tarrer Massey Memorial Mile;

HR 497, Rep. Mike Glanton

House Resolution 497 dedicates the bridge on Interstate 75 at State Route 331/Forest Parkway Exit in Clayton County as the Sparkle K. Adams Bridge;

HR 532, Rep. Pat Gardner

House Resolution 532 dedicates the bridge on Lee Street over Interstate 20 in Fulton County as the Hank Aaron Bridge; and

HR 643, Rep. Jay Collins

House Resolution 643 dedicates the intersection of GA 113 and Interstate 20 at Exit 19 in Carroll County as the 3rd U.S. Army Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) Intersection.

Authored By: Sen. Lee Anderson (24th)
House Committee: Transportation
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 1
Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 03-28-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

Local Calendar

SB 89 City of Decatur; corporate limits; change

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 89 changes the corporate limits of the city of Decatur.

Authored By: Sen. Elena Parent (42nd)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 157 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 03-28-2019 Do Pass
Amendments:

SB 230 "City of Tucker Public Facilities Authority Act"

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 230 creates the city of Tucker Public Facilities Authority.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 157 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 03-28-2019 Do Pass
Amendments:

SB 244 Dade County Water and Sewer Authority; composition; terms of office for members, and vacancies; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 244 provides for the composition of and terms of office for members of the Dade County Water and Sewer Authority.

Authored By: Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 157 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 03-28-2019 Do Pass
Amendments:

SB 246 DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections; board members; appoint and nominate

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 246 provides that the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections members shall be appointed by the chief judge of the superior court.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 157 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee Action: 03-28-2019 Do Pass
Amendments:

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 40th Legislative Day, Tuesday, April 2, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker.

SB 142 Insurance; statement indicating that the subscriber's health policy is fully insured is included on a subscriber's health insurance identification card; require

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 142 requires that the subscriber's health insurance identification card include a statement indicating that the subscriber's health policy is fully insured.

Authored By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)
House Committee: Insurance

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

SB 190 Child Custody Intrastate Jurisdiction Act; party may bring a counterclaim for contempt in response to a complaint seeking a change of legal or physical custody; provide

Bill Summary: SB 190 updates and clarifies the Code regarding legal custody and physical custody of a minor child. The bill also allows for counter claim actions in custody cases.

Authored By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th)
House Committee: Juvenile Justice

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-28-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Committee Actions

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

SB 242 Town of Toombsboro, Georgia; new charter; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 242 provides a new charter for the town of Toombsboro.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 247 Magistrate Court of Troup County; technology fee for conviction of traffic or ordinance violation; charge

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 247 authorizes the Troup County Magistrate Court to charge a technology fee for each conviction of a traffic or ordinance violation.

Authored By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 250 State Court of Fulton County; appointment of associate judges and their compensation; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 250 provides for the appointment of pro tempore judges, pro hac judges, and judicial officers and their compensation to the Fulton County State Court.

Authored By: Sen. Jennifer Jordan (6th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 252 Clerk of Superior Court of Twiggs County; authority to fix compensation of employees of Clerk's office; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 252 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County Superior Court clerk and employees of the superior court clerk's office.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 253 Judge of Probate Court of Twiggs County; authority to fix court employee compensation; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 253 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County Probate Court judge and employees of the court.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 254 Tax Commissioner of Twiggs County; authority to fix compensation of tax commissioner's office employees; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 254 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County tax commissioner and the employees of the tax commissioner's office.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 255 Town of Danville; new charter; incorporation, boundaries, general powers and limitations, governing authority, duties, election, terms, method of filing vacancies, and compensation; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 255 provides a new charter for the town of Danville.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 257 Sheriff of Twiggs County; manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowance; change

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 257 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County sheriff and the employees of the sheriff's office.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

SB 263 Probate Court of Troup County; technology fee and uses; charge and specify

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 263 authorizes the Troup County Probate Court to charge a technology fee on each filing of a civil action or proceeding.

Authored By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-29-2019 Do Pass

