



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday
February 12,
2018

DAILY REPORT

19th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

House Media Services
(404) 656-0309

- The House will reconvene for its 20th Legislative Day on Tuesday, February 13 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- 7 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Rules Calendar

HB 487 Disaster Volunteer Relief Act; granted leave from work with pay in order to participate in specialized disaster relief services; authorize certain employees of state agencies

Bill Summary: House Bill 487 allows state employees, under the 'Disaster Relief Volunteer Act', who are certified volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol United States Air Force Auxiliary to be granted paid leave for no more than 15 work days in a 12-month period. This leave is to be specifically used for participation in specialized emergency services operations for the Civil Air Patrol upon the request of the Patrol after activation by a county emergency management agency, the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, or a comparable federal agency for that employee's services and upon the employee's agency approval.

Authored By:	Rep. Josh Bonner (72nd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Public Safety & Homeland Security	Committee Action:	02-05-2018 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 161 Nays: 1		

HB 592 Insurance; compliance self-evaluative privilege; repeal applicability and sunset provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 592 repeals the applicability and sunset provisions of the insurance compliance self-evaluative privilege (O.C.G.A. 33-2-34). This privilege allows insurance companies to fix issues arising from an internal audit without suffering reprisal by regulators for the original mistake.

Authored By:	Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th)	Rule Applied:	Open
House Committee:	Insurance	Committee Action:	02-07-2018 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 156 Nays: 1		

HB 678 Insurance; consumer protections regarding health insurance; provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 678 is designed to bring transparency to the process of medical billing. It prevents the "surprise" bill patients receive when an out-of-network doctor participates in the treatment team for an elective procedure. The bill requires hospitals, healthcare providers and insurers to disclose to patients which doctors in their treatment team are or are not part of their insurance network. Further, it requires the disclosure of the cost for the out-of-network care.

The elements of this bill do not apply to emergency care or any care that arises due to a complication during an elective procedure.

In the event a surprise bill does arise as a result of complications during a procedure, the legislation

provides for a dispute resolution process.

Authored By: Rep. Richard Smith (134th)
House Committee: Insurance
Floor Vote: Yeas: 164 Nays: 1

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-07-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 723 Sales and use tax; certain veterinary diagnostic and disease monitoring services; create exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 723 amends 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from state sales and use tax, by adding an exemption on sales tax for 501(c)(5) non-profit organizations which, as their primary purpose, provide poultry related diagnostic and disease monitoring services.

Authored By: Rep. Sam Watson (172nd)
House Committee: Ways & Means
Floor Vote: Yeas: 161 Nays: 2

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-01-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 734 Insurance; modernization and updates; provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 734 is a housekeeping bill to modernize and update the first 10 chapters of Title 33, the Insurance Code. It corrects spelling and punctuation, deletes obsolete Code references, and modernizes definitions. The bill makes no substantive change to the law itself.

Authored By: Rep. Richard Smith (134th)
House Committee: Insurance
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-07-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 739 Tracy Rainey Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 739 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-200.2 relating to professional certification of military spouses by specifying the Code section shall be known as the 'Tracy Rainey Act.'

Authored By: Rep. Al Williams (168th)
House Committee: Education
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-05-2018 Do Pass

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 20th Legislative Day, Tuesday, February 13 and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Tuesday, February 13, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 21st Legislative Day.

HB 79 Law enforcement; retaining license plate data obtained from automated license plate recognition systems beyond certain periods; prohibit

Bill Summary: House Bill 79 defines "automated license plate recognition system" and "captured license plate data" in the Code. Automated license plate recognition system means one or more high-speed cameras combined with computer algorithms to convert images of license plates into computer readable data. Captured license plate data means the GPS coordinates, date/time, photograph, license plate number, and any other data collected by the automated license plate recognition system. The data collected shall be destroyed by the law enforcement agency that collects the data after 30 months unless the data is the subject matter of a toll violation or law enforcement purpose. The bill allows law enforcement agencies to exchange data with other law enforcement agencies for official purposes but imposes penalties for improper use. Finally, the bill states that data collected is not subject to open records requests.

Authored By:	Rep. John Pezold (133rd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Public Safety & Homeland Security	Committee Action:	02-05-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 654 Child support; reforms recommended by the Ga. Child Support Commission; enact

Bill Summary: This bill amends the definition of "child support order" and "final child support amount" to clarify that the amount and the order can be two separate items and are not necessarily synonymous. Also, when there is more than one child for whom support is being determined, the court shall still establish the amount and duration of support, but if an amount in a final order is likely to change within two years, the court may allow for the use of separate worksheets to determine payments. This order shall not preclude a petition for modification.

Authored By:	Rep. Beth Beskin (54th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Judiciary	Committee Action:	02-06-2018 Do Pass

HB 665 Abandoned vessels; revise notice requirements; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 665 eliminates duplicative notification requirements for when an abandoned vessel is removed from a public or private waterway. The bill removes the Georgia Bureau of Investigation from the list of entities requiring notification, resulting in all notifications being made to the Department of Natural Resources.

Authored By:	Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Open
House Committee:	Natural Resources & Environment	Committee Action:	02-08-2018 Do Pass

HB 668 Guardian and ward; petitions for appointment of a guardian under certain circumstances; provisions

Bill Summary: This legislation amends Code sections relating to a petition for appointment of a guardian. It allows a petition to be filed regarding a proposed ward who is at least 17-years old and deemed to lack sufficient capacity to make or communicate significant responsible decisions concerning his or her health or safety at age 18 or in adulthood. When a petition is filed prior to the ward turning 18, any order appointing a guardian shall take affect when the ward turns 18.

Authored By:	Rep. Betty Price (48th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Open
House Committee:	Judiciary	Committee Action:	02-06-2018 Do Pass

HB 751 Georgia Emergency Communications Authority Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 751 establishes the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority with the primary purpose to administer, collect, audit, and remit 9-1-1 revenues for the benefit of local governments.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)

House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Committee Action: 02-05-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 757 Local government; regulatory powers of cities and counties with certificate of public necessity and convenience; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 757 clarifies certain provisions regarding taxicabs. The bill reinforces existing local law governing taxicab medallions, and such local laws will remain in effect so long as they are consistent with existing state law. HB 757 applies state law to reinforce local ordinances that still require a medallion for the pickup of passengers. Moreover, the bill requires the drivers of taxis to prominently display a photo identification card. In addition, the bill defines a "soft taximeter" which is a smartphone, tablet, or similar device that is used as a taximeter and prohibits local governments from rejecting the use of such a device. HB 757 sets the maximum age limit of vehicles used to pick up passengers at airports to be no less than eight-years old for taxis, limos, or rideshares.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)

House Committee: Regulated Industries

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Committee Action: 02-06-2018 Do Pass

HR 943 Joint Georgia-North Carolina and Georgia-Tennessee Boundary Line Commission; create

Bill Summary: This resolution creates the Joint Georgia-North Carolina and Georgia-Tennessee Boundary Line Commission to establish, survey, and proclaim the true boundary lines between Georgia and the two other states. There shall be six commission members, three appointed by the president of the Senate and three appointed by the speaker of the House. The commission shall issue a report of its findings with the secretary of the Senate and the clerk of the House. If no report is approved by the commission, the co-chairs may file the meeting minutes. The commission will be abolished on December 1, 2018.

It also directs the governor of Georgia to communicate with the governors of North Carolina and Tennessee for the purpose of having joint surveys and settlements of the disputed boundary questions.

Authored By: Rep. Marc Morris (26th)

House Committee: Interstate Cooperation

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

Committee Action: 02-05-2018 Do Pass

Committee Actions

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

Code Revision Committee

HB 783 Administrative procedure; provisions creating inactive boards, panels, authorities and other such bodies; repeal

Bill Summary: This clean-up bill repeals the following authorities, boards, councils, and commissions, that are inactive or no longer meet: Pacific White Shrimp Aquaculture Development Advisory Council, Georgia Tobacco Community Development Board, Southern Dairy Compact Commission, Heritage Trust Commission, Child Care Council, Georgia Southern University Herty Advanced Material Development Center Advisory Board, Private Colleges and Universities Authority, Education Information Steering Committee, Federal and State Funded Health Care Financing Programs Overview Committee, Commission on Men's Health, Renal Dialysis Advisory Council, Renal Dialysis Advisory Council, Arthritis Prevention and Control Program Advisory Panel, Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits, Commission on the Georgia Health Insurance Risk Pool, Airport Anti-Terrorism Training Committee, and the Georgia Silver-Haired Legislature.

Authored By: Rep. Michael Caldwell (20th)
House Committee: Code Revision
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee

HB 719 Buildings and housing; housing authorities to develop and implement policies granting housing preferences to veterans who are homeless; require

Bill Summary: HB 719 allows housing authorities to develop and implement policies which grant preference to homeless veterans of the United States Armed Forces or a state's National Guard, in addition to preferences already granted to homeless individuals.

Authored By: Rep. Sandra Scott (76th)
House Committee: Defense & Veterans Affairs
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass

HB 750 Motor vehicles; veteran serve during wartime to be eligible for free driver's license; remove requirement

Bill Summary: HB 750 removes the requirement that an individual had to serve in the United States Armed Forces, reserves or a state's National Guard during wartime or a conflict (or for a period of 20 years for the latter two) in order to receive a veteran's license.

Authored By: Rep. David Clark (98th)
House Committee: Defense & Veterans Affairs
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HR 655 Gold Star Father Day; November 9 annually in Georgia; recognize

Bill Summary: HR 655 provides that the Georgia House of Representatives will recognize November 9th as Gold Star Father Day annually in Georgia.

Authored By: Rep. Rhonda Burnough (77th)
House Committee: Defense & Veterans Affairs
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass

HR 888 Joint Study Committee on Converting Closed Hospitals to Veterans Homes; create

Bill Summary: HR 888 creates the Joint Study Committee on Converting Closed Hospitals to Veterans Homes. The committee will consist of six members: three will be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated as co-chairperson, and three will be appointed by the president of the Senate, one of whom shall be designated as co-chairperson. If the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations, it shall file a report prior to its abolishment. The committee shall be abolished on December 1, 2018.

Authored By: Rep. Jason Spencer (180th)
House Committee: Defense & Veterans Affairs **Committee Action:** 02-12-2018 Do Pass

Economic Development & Tourism Committee**HR 940 Georgia; host the world's largest startup pitch competition; encourage**

Bill Summary: HR 940 encourages the State of Georgia to partner with private entities to host the world's largest start-up pitch competition.

Authored By: Rep. Dar'shun Kendrick (93rd)
House Committee: Economic Development & Tourism **Committee Action:** 02-12-2018 Do Pass

HR 1076 Federal government; provide port funding; urge

Bill Summary: H.R. 1076 urges the federal government to provide their portion of funding for the Port of Savannah harbor deepening project to ensure the timely completion of improvements needed at the country's fastest-growing terminal.

Authored By: Rep. Bill Hitchens (161st)
House Committee: Economic Development & Tourism **Committee Action:** 02-12-2018 Do Pass

Motor Vehicles Committee**HB 721 Motor vehicles; criteria by which the Department of Driver Services shall authorize licensed driver training schools to administer on-the-road driving skills testing; revise**

Bill Summary: House Bill 721 clarifies that only third party drivers' testing centers which are certified by the Department of Driver Services (DDS) may test for a driver's license. Further, only those driving centers licensed by DDS for at least 10 years may perform road and written testing on its behalf.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles **Committee Action:** 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 766 Special license plates; Alabama A&M University; establish

Bill Summary: House Bill 766 creates a specialty license plate to benefit Alabama A&M University. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this plate goes to Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., and is used to provide scholarships and financial assistance to Georgia residents attending the university.

Authored By: Rep. Dewey McClain (100th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles **Committee Action:** 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 784 Specialty license plates; promote conservation of waterfowl populations and their habitats; establish

Bill Summary: House Bill 784 creates a specialty license plate to promote the conservation and enhancement of waterfowl populations and their habitats. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this plate goes to the Wildlife Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

Authored By: Rep. Matt Dubnik (29th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 797 Special license plates; amount of proceeds disbursed to the Georgia Aquarium; change

Bill Summary: House Bill 797 increases the disbursement amount to the Georgia Aquarium Inc. from the the sale of their special license plates from \$10.00 to \$22.00.

Authored By: Rep. Dominic LaRiccia (169th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass

HB 798 Special license plates; provisions relating to a special license plate for the personal vehicles of firefighters; amend

Bill Summary: House Bill 798 clarifies the law as it relates to whom is eligible for the special license plates for firefighters. Current law only allows a plate for certified firefighters. This bill will allow a plate for all firefighters.

Further, it provides that in the event a firefighter is terminated for cause, they have 14 days to return the plate to the county tag office from which it was obtained.

Authored By: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (23rd)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 815 Special license plates; Georgia Masonic Charities; establish

Bill Summary: House Bill 815 amends the provisions relating to the special license plates honoring Georgia Masonic Charities. Currently all proceeds from the sale of this plate are deposited into the general fund. This bill allows a portion of the proceeds to be disbursed to the Georgia Masonic Charities Foundation, Inc.

Authored By: Rep. Chuck Martin (49th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass

Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee**HB 855 Georgia Driver's Education Commission; additional penalty to be assessed for violation of traffic laws and ordinances; increase**

Bill Summary: House Bill 855 raises from 1.5 percent to 3 percent the additional penalty imposed on an original fine assessed for violations of traffic laws of the state or for violations of ordinances of political subdivisions which have adopted the traffic laws of this state. The bill also includes a sunset of June 30, 2022.

Authored By: Rep. John Deffenbaugh (1st)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 856 Board of Public Safety; add commissioner of community supervision

Bill Summary: House Bill 856 amends the composition of the Board of Public Safety to include the commissioner of the Department of Community Supervision as an ex-officio member.

Authored By: Rep. John Deffenbaugh (1st)
House Committee: Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass

Committee Meeting Schedule

*This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change.
To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit www.house.ga.gov and click on [Meetings Calendar](#).*

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

8:00 AM	Environmental Quality Sub-Comm:Natural Resources & Environment	403 CAP
8:00 AM	MILITARY AFFAIRS WORKING GROUP	415 CLOB
9:00 AM	RULES	341 CAP
10:00 AM	FLOOR SESSION (LD 20)	House Chamber
1:00 PM	Setzler Subcommittee of Judiciary (Non-Civil)	506 CLOB
1:00 PM	APPROPRIATIONS PUBLIC SAFETY	415 CLOB
1:00 PM	APPROPRIATIONS TRANSPORTATION	406 CLOB
2:00 PM	APPROPRIATIONS HIGHER EDUCATION	341 CAP
2:00 PM	JUDICIARY (CIVIL)	132 CAP
2:00 PM	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	606 CLOB
2:00 PM	BANKS AND BANKING	515 CLOB
2:00 PM	REGULATED INDUSTRIES	415 CLOB
3:00 PM	MEDICAL CANNABIS WORKING GROUP	406 CLOB
3:00 PM	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	506 CLOB
4:00 PM	Governmental Affairs Special Subcommittee on Voting Technology	506 CLOB