



Georgia HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday
February 20,
2018

DAILY REPORT

23rd
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

House Media Services
(404) 656-0309

- The House will reconvene for its 24th Legislative Day on Wednesday, February 21 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- 10 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Rules Calendar

HB 670 Georgia State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision; number of legislative branch representatives; revise

Bill Summary: HB 670 refines the process by which the legislative and judicial members are selected to serve on the Interstate Compact for Juveniles. The bill provides that the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate shall each make a choice of a member to serve as a legislative branch representative, and the chief justice of the Supreme Court shall chose the judicial branch representative.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)
House Committee: Juvenile Justice
Floor Vote: Yeas: 167 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-08-2018 Do Pass

HB 693 Solid waste management; authorization to enforce collection of taxes, fees, or assessments; repeal provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 693 repeals 12-8-39.3 which allowed any city, county, or authority which operates a solid waste handling facility and/or provides solid waste collection services and collects taxes, fees, or assessments to do so, to enforce the collection of the taxes, fees, or assessments in the same manner as state taxes, fees, or assessments.

Authored By: Rep. Brett Harrell (106th)
House Committee: Ways & Means
Floor Vote: Yeas: 98 Nays: 64

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-08-2018 Do Pass

HB 717 Motor vehicles; applicability of certain consumer protection laws to autonomous vehicles; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 717 amends the statute to provide for the applicability of state consumer protection laws to autonomous vehicles. This includes the 'Fair Business Practices Act of 1975', the 'Georgia Lemon Law', and the 'Georgia Motor Vehicle Franchise Practices Act'.

Authored By: Rep. Trey Kelley (16th)
House Committee: Transportation
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 3

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-08-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 780 Banking and finance; changes to provisions applicable to financial institutions; provide

Bill Summary: This bill allows banks and credit unions to exercise any banking or corporate power, right, benefit, privilege, or immunity of a national bank or federal credit union ("federal power") or avail themselves of any federal preclusion or preemption during the same period of time that a national bank or federal credit union is authorized to do so.

Banks and credit unions intending to exercise federal powers or avail themselves of federal preclusion or preemption must give notice of the proposed action to the commissioner of Banking and Finance. The commissioner shall determine whether the exercise of federal power is appropriate and must consider the institution's financial condition, regulatory safety and soundness, as well as other things. Based on the determination, the commissioner may object and must deliver notice of objection within 45 days of receipt of notice from the bank or credit union. The commissioner may extend notice by 45 days by mail. If the commissioner objects, the bank or credit union may not exercise federal power, preclusion or preemption, but the institution is not prevented from providing a future notice.

The bank or credit union shall also notify the commissioner by mail if it no longer wishes to exercise a federal power or avail itself of any federal preclusion or preemption. The department must publish a list of each bank and credit union exercising a federal power or availing itself of any federal preclusion or preemption. The bill also clarifies that these powers are independent from and in addition to other powers contained in the Code and in no way limit the authority of the commissioner's other powers granted to banks and credit unions in the Code.

Additionally, the bill removes language requiring a two-thirds affirmative vote of the shares entitled to vote for a bank or trust company to acquire issued shares of its own common stock. It replaces other provisions requiring two-thirds vote with a majority vote, unless the articles or by-laws require a greater vote.

Credit unions are now permitted to purchase life insurance on any person whose death might cause financial loss to the credit union (i.e., directors, officers, and like personnel). A provision is also added that prevents oaths taken by board members and officers of banks and credit unions from modifying legal duties or standards of care. The board may now appoint an honorary director who may be paid, but the director may not: vote at any meeting; be counted in determining a quorum; or be subject to liability as a director.

A licensee must notify the department in writing of any change of executive officer and initiate a criminal background within 10 days of the effective date of such change. This addition is duplicated for the cashing of financial instruments.

Authored By:	Rep. Bruce Williamson (115th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Banks & Banking	Committee Action:	02-13-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 169 Nays: 0		

HB 816 Revenue, Department of; mandatory fingerprinting and criminal record checks for certain individuals; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 816 amends 48-2-6 to require mandatory fingerprinting and background checks for all prospective employees of the Department of Revenue, as well as: all personnel employed by the department after January 1, 2019 who have not received a criminal record check within the past 10 years; employees of prospective contractors of the department who may have access to confidential information; and all personnel employed by contractors of the department after January 1, 2019 who have not received a criminal record check within the past 10 years. The department's Office of Special Investigations is responsible for conducting the background checks and ensuring the fingerprints are acceptable to submit to the Georgia Crime Information Center. The Office of Special Investigations shall report the background checks to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Georgia Crime Information Center shall transfer the fingerprints to the bureau.

Authored By:	Rep. Micah Gravley (67th)	Rule Applied:	Structured
House Committee:	Ways & Means	Committee Action:	02-08-2018 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 165 Nays: 0		

HR 1076 Federal government; provide port funding; urge

Bill Summary: HR 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)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Open
House Committee:	Economic Development & Tourism	Committee Action:	02-12-2018 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 167 Nays: 1		
Floor Action:	Adopted (Resolution)		

Postponed Until Next Legislative Day**HB 327 Alternative ad valorem tax; motor vehicles; change manner for determining fair market value**

Bill Summary: House Bill 327 amends 48-5C-1, relating to alternative ad valorem tax on motor vehicles, by removing the current state/local fund distribution model and replacing it with the following system. Beginning with the 2019 tax year and going through the 2024 tax year, each county shall retain an amount of the state and local title ad valorem tax (TAVT) proceeds equal to the amount of ad valorem taxes collected for the corresponding month in the 2012 tax year minus the amount of ad valorem tax collected during the current month. The excess portion of state and local TAVT proceeds each month shall be distributed as follows:

- 2019, 80 percent shall be remitted to the state and 20 percent shall be distributed by the locals;
- 2020, 75 percent shall be remitted to the state and 25 percent shall be distributed by the locals;
- 2021, 70 percent shall be remitted to the state and 30 percent shall be distributed by the locals;
- 2022, 65 percent shall be remitted to the state and 35 percent shall be distributed by the locals;
- 2023, 60 percent shall be remitted to the state and 40 percent shall be distributed by the locals;
- 2024, 55 percent shall be remitted to the state and 45 percent shall be distributed by the locals; and
- 2025 and beyond, 30 percent shall be remitted to the state and 70 percent shall be distributed by the locals.

For 2025 and beyond, the distribution of local funds shall be as follows:

- funds associated with vehicles registered in unincorporated areas of the county are distributed with 51 percent of the proceeds sent to the county governing authority and 49 percent of the proceeds sent to the board of education of the county school district; and
- funds associated with vehicles registered in incorporated areas of the county are distributed with 28 percent of the proceeds sent to the county governing authority, 23 percent of the proceeds sent to the municipal governing authority, and 49 percent of the proceeds sent to the board of education of the county or independent school district.

The bill also states that the combined state and local title ad valorem tax shall be 6.75 percent of the taxable value of the vehicle. The taxable value of vehicles sold by licensed motor vehicle dealers is the retail selling price minus the value of any trade-in and any rebate. The taxable value for leased vehicles is the total of the base payments plus any down payments or the agreed upon value of the vehicle pursuant to the lease agreement less any reduction for trade-in and any rebate. The reduction for the value of a trade-in vehicle is only available if the name of the owner and the vehicle identification number is included on the bill of sale. For a kit car, the taxable value is the greater of the retailer selling price of the kit or the average of the current fair market value and the current wholesale value of the vehicle. The bill also states that any motor vehicle dealer who does not submit or finalize the application for title within 30 days of the purchase shall be fined an amount less than \$500 per transaction and may be the basis for the revocation or suspension of the dealer's license. The bill allows for the local tag agent to collect and remit to the local county's general fund not more than one percent of the total to defray administrative costs. Individuals who move to Georgia shall pay a title ad valorem tax fee of four percent of the fair market value of the vehicle in one lump sum or as two equal payments. Vehicles donated to non-profit organizations shall be subject to a title ad valorem fee of one percent of the fair market value of the vehicle. TAVT fees do not apply to transfers of a title made as a result of a business reorganization when the owners being reorganized maintain the same interest or transfers for the purpose of obtaining a prestige or special license plate.

A vehicle owner of a 1962 or earlier model year vehicle may opt in to the TAVT upon payment of a fee equal to one-half of one percent of the fair market value of the vehicle. The transfer of a title resulting from a divorce decree or court is subject to a fee equal to one-half of one percent of the fair market value of the vehicle. The bill also allows for a motor vehicle dealer to apply for a refund of title ad valorem taxes on behalf of the purchaser, provided that the dealer pays the purchaser within 10 days. The bill states that temporary plates issued by vehicle dealers are to have an expiration date 45 days from the date of purchase.

Authored By: Rep. Shaw Blackmon (146th) **Rule Applied:** Structured

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 24th Legislative Day, Wednesday, February 21 and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Wednesday, February 21, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 25th Legislative Day.

HB 161 Drug related objects; employees of harm reduction organizations are not subject to certain offenses; provide

Bill Summary: HB 161 defines "syringe services program" as an organization which provides harm reduction counseling, education, and referral services for substance abuse disorder treatment. This bill provides that employees and agents of an organization which provide direct assistance and services, such as syringe exchanges, counseling, homeless services, advocacy, drug treatment, and HIV screening must be registered with the Department of Public Health. The department must promulgate rules and regulation for the purpose of supervising the activities and include provisions for registration of such programs.

Authored By: Rep. Betty Price (48th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-13-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 646 Community Health, Department of; pilot program to provide coverage for bariatric surgical procedures; reinstate

Bill Summary: HB 646 reinstates a pilot program to provide coverage for bariatric surgical procedures for the treatment and management of obesity and related conditions. Subject to appropriations, the Department of Community Health shall conduct a three-year pilot program beginning January 1, 2018. The pilot program will provide benefits for medically-necessary bariatric procedures for participants selected for inclusion in the pilot program.

Authored By: Rep. Katie Dempsey (13th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-06-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 697 Sales and use tax; sale or use of tangible personal property to certain nonprofit health centers; extend exemption for five additional years

Bill Summary: House Bill 697 extends the exemption on sales and use tax to non-profit health centers and non-profit volunteer health centers to June 30, 2019.

Authored By: Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd)
House Committee: Ways & Means

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-08-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 735 Income tax credit; expenditures on the maintenance of a railroad track owned or leased by a Class III railroad; create

Bill Summary: House Bill 735 adds 48-7-40.34, which establishes an income tax credit for maintenance expenditures on Class III railroads. The credit of 50 percent of the maintenance expenditures is capped at \$3,500 per mile of track. Unused tax credits may be freely assigned, one time, to any taxpayer subject to Georgia income tax. The commissioner of the Department of Revenue must submit an annual report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee which describes the number of taxpayers that claimed the credits and the number and total value of all credits issued during the previous tax year. The first report is due September 1, 2020 and the credit sunsets on January 1, 2029.

Authored By: Rep. Patty Bentley (139th)
House Committee: Ways & Means

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-08-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 769 Health; recommendations from the House Rural Development Council; implement

Bill Summary: HB 769 implements recommendations from the House Rural Development Council relating to health care issues. The bill revises provisions relative to pharmacy practices, as well as provisions relative to credentialing and billing. This legislation provides for the establishment of the Rural Center for Health Care Innovation and Sustainability and the establishment of micro-hospitals. Also, HB 769 provides for a grant program for insurance premium assistance for physicians practicing in medically underserved rural areas of the state. Finally, HB 769 increases the value of the tax credit to 100 percent related to contributions to rural hospital organizations.

Sections 1 and 2 allow remote pharmacy drug orders for hospital patients by a pharmacist licensed in this state, who is located within the United States, from a remote location indicating that the specific drug order has been reviewed by a pharmacist. Remote orders shall be reviewed a pharmacist who is physically in the hospital within 24 hours or by the next business day.

Section 3 directs the Department of Community Health to take steps to streamline and expedite the credentialing and billing process for state medical plans and examine the potential for a uniform billing platform. The department will also review standardization of billing codes among providers, post billing criteria on the department's website, and enable concurrent processes for credentialing and contract negotiation for new providers. Billing for telehealth-delivered care, which allows for payments to both the on-site presenter and off-site provider will be examined. The Department of Community Health will also review maximized billing for a patient who sees multiple specialists through multiple encounters during a single visit in a safety net setting.

A Rural Center for Health Care Innovation and Sustainability will be established through the existing Office of Rural Health to provide leadership training and health data analysis for rural hospitals. This postsecondary institution partner will have a health program or college that focuses on rural and underserved areas of the state. No later than January 1, 2019, an education curriculum and training will be provided to leadership of rural hospital organizations, hospital executive leadership, hospital board members, and hospital authority members for best practices and hospital operating standards. No rural hospital organization shall be eligible to receive contributions from the tax credit, qualify or receive any state funds unless the chief executive officer, the chief financial officer, every board member and every hospital authority member has completed the education program approved by the center no later than December 31, 2020, or within 12 months of initial hiring or appointment and every two years thereafter.

The center is authorized to make application for and receive funds and grants for purposes and projects. The Rural Center for Health Care Innovation and Sustainability is authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with colleges and universities for participation in the work of the center. Each year on or before December 31st, the center will file a report to the governor, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairpersons of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, and the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. The report will include recommendations, a summary of activities on who received training from the center, and the status of rural health care in the state.

Sections 4 and 5 define "micro-hospital" to mean a hospital in a rural county which has at least two and not more than seven inpatient beds and provides emergency services seven days a week and 24 hours per day. The legislation allows for the creation of micro-hospitals without requiring a new certificate of need when a hospital is closing or recently closed and is purchased by a hospital in a contiguous county. The relocation of any micro-hospital can occur within the same county, as long as the facility does not propose to offer any new or expanded clinical health services at the new location.

Section 6 creates a grant program within the Georgia Board of Physician Workforce to provide financial assistance for liability premiums for some rural physicians as an offset for establishing and/or operating a practice in an unserved or underserved area of the state. The board will form rules and regulations for the program, but eligible applicants must: be licensed in Georgia and board-certified; maintain a practice in the medically underserved area for a certain time; complete 100 hours of continuing education; provide extended or weekend hours; and accept Medicaid and Medicare patients.

Section 7 revises the tax credits for rural hospitals to allow 'S' corporation shareholders, limited-liability company members, and married couples filing a joint return to contribute \$10,000 per taxable year, and single or head of household filers to contribute \$5,000 per taxable year. The credit's sunset is extended through December 2021.

Authored By: Rep. Rick Jasperse (11th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-13-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 782 Crimes and offenses; provisions relating to permissible users with access to prescription drug monitoring program data base; revise

Bill Summary: HB 782 relates to privacy and confidentiality, use of data, and security for the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) database, so as to revise provisions relating to permissible users with access to the database. This legislation adds access for a prescription drug monitoring program operated by a government entity in another state or an electronic medical records system operated by a prescriber or health care facility, if that program or system contains the legal, administrative, technical, and physical safeguards that meet or exceed the security measures of the Department of Public Health for the operation of the PDMP pursuant to this part.

Authored By: Rep. Trey Rhodes (120th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-06-2018 Do Pass

HB 827 Income tax; increase value of rural hospital organization tax credit to 100 percent; provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 827 amends 48-7-29.20, relating to tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations, by increasing the amount of the credit to 100 percent of the amount contributed. From January 1 through June 30 of each year, the contribution amount is capped at: \$5,000 for a single filer; \$10,000 for married filers; and \$10,000 for a member of a limited-liability company, a shareholder of a Subchapter 'S' corporation, or a partner in a partnership. The cap on individual contributions does not apply from July 1 through December 31, but the overall cap for the entire program of \$60 million remains. The bill also extends the sunset date to December 31, 2021.

Authored By: Rep. Trey Kelley (16th)
House Committee: Ways & Means

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-08-2018 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

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass

HR 744 Georgia Occupational Regulatory Review Council; perform periodic reviews of existing regulatory entities; encourage

Bill Summary: House Resolution 744 encourages the Georgia Occupational Regulatory Review Council to perform periodic reviews of existing regulatory entities.

Authored By: Rep. Buzz Brockway (102nd)
House Committee: Industry and Labor

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

Committee Actions

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

Economic Development & Tourism Committee

HB 843 Revenue and taxation; tax credits; include any census tract in a county that contains a federal military installation and industrial park

Bill Summary: HB 843 allows for counties containing a federal military installation, with at least 5,000 federal or military personnel, and a government owned and operated industrial park to qualify for tax credits that apply to business enterprises in less developed areas.

Authored By: Rep. Jason Shaw (176th)
House Committee: Economic Development & Tourism **Committee Action:** 02-20-2018 Do Pass

HR 1107 Economic Development, Department of; construct the emerging commercial space industry in Georgia; urge

Bill Summary: HR 1107 urges the Department of Economic Development's Center for Aerospace Innovations and its Aerospace, Defense and Advance Manufacturing (ADAM) team to work with the Department of Transportation and other relevant state agencies to strategically construct, enhance, focus, and recruit with intent to encourage the emerging commercial space industry to grow in Georgia.

Authored By: Rep. Jason Spencer (180th)
House Committee: Economic Development & Tourism **Committee Action:** 02-20-2018 Do Pass

Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Committee

HB 518 Eminent domain; telephone companies; actual recurring local service revenues; specify accounts or portions thereof considered to be included

Bill Summary: HB 518 amends Titles 32 and 46 to provide limitations on fees that may be charged for installation of telephone facilities. The bill limits permit and other fees assessed by the Department of Transportation (DOT) for the installation of communications facilities and provides for compensation to be paid to municipal authorities by telephone companies that do not have certain end-user customers.

Any fees assessed by DOT for the installation of telephone and other communications facilities shall not exceed the lesser of the actual and reasonable costs of the administration of the permit or \$100 per linear mile annually. Furthermore, if a telephone company does not have retail end-user customers located within the boundaries of a municipal authority, payment rates shall not exceed the lesser of the actual and reasonable cost of the municipal authority's administration of the telephone company's use of its rights-of-way or \$100 per linear mile annually.

Authored By: Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th)
House Committee: Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications **Committee Action:** 02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Health & Human Services Committee

HB 513 Domestic relations; signs to be posted at certain medical facilities where a newborn child may be left; provide

Bill Summary: This bill allows the Department of Community Health to promulgate rules for a sign to be developed and posted at any medical facility to inform the general public that the facility is an authorized safe place to leave a newborn child. This is to prevent injuries and deaths of newborn children who are abandoned.

Authored By:	Rep. Pam Dickerson (113th)	Committee	02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Health & Human Services	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

HB 647 Community Health, Department of; pilot program to provide coverage for treatment and management of obesity; provide

Bill Summary: HB 647 provides for a pilot program for coverage of the treatment and management of obesity. The Department of Community Health will conduct a two-year pilot program for related conditions under a state health insurance plan to cover all federal Food and Drug Administration approved medications for chronic weight management for eligible participants. The department shall review the results and outcomes and conduct subsequent reviews every six months for the remainder of the pilot program. The department shall provide a final report by December 15th of the last year of the pilot program to the chairpersons of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Authored By:	Rep. Katie Dempsey (13th)	Committee	02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Health & Human Services	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

HB 755 Health; pilot program to provide preexposure assistance to persons at risk of HIV infection; establish

Bill Summary: HB 755 establishes a pilot program to provide pre-exposure prophylaxis drug assistance or services to persons at risk of being infected with HIV. The Department of Public Health shall conduct a three-year pilot program for the purpose of providing drug assistance or services to person who have been tested negative for the HIV infection but who have risk factors that expose them to HIV. The pilot program shall be conducted in counties identified by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as at-risk for outbreaks of HIV.

The department shall establish benchmark data at the beginning of the pilot program which shall compare with data at the end of the pilot program. Participants are subject to clinical guidelines established by the department and the CDC. The department shall submit a detailed written report on the implementation and effectiveness of the pilot program to the governor, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president of the Senate, and the chairpersons of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Health and Human Services Committee with recommendations as to expanding the pilot program statewide.

Authored By:	Rep. Park Cannon (58th)	Committee	02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Health & Human Services	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

HB 909 Health; designation of perinatal facilities; provisions

Bill Summary: This bill relates to the Department of Public Health to provide for the designation of perinatal facilities. The department shall establish a procedure for a perinatal facility to request approval as a designated facility which has achieved a particular maternal or neonatal level of care. The department shall establish rules for the criteria for levels of maternal and neonatal care, which may range from basic care to additional levels of care that may be appropriate for the protection of mothers and infants at risk.

The department shall establish separate criteria for levels of maternal care and neonatal care. Such criteria may include data collection and reporting, arrangements for patient transportation, and protocols for coordination with and referral of patients to and from other health care facilities. In establishing or revising the criteria for maternal and neonatal levels of care, the department shall conduct public comment hearings; solicit the views of hospitals, birthing centers, health care providers, and related professional associations; and give due consideration to the current recommendations of medical and scientific organizations in the field of perinatal medicine.

The department may suspend or revoke the designation of a designated facility, after notice and hearing, if the department determines that the facility is no longer in compliance with the criteria established. On or before December 31, 2019, the department shall post and annually update a list of designated facilities on its website. No person or facility may advertise to the public that it is a designated facility or has achieved a particular level of maternal or neonatal care unless it has been designated as such by the department.

Authored By: Rep. Deborah Silcox (52nd)
House Committee: Health & Human Services
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass

HR 447 Pornography; public health crisis leading to broad spectrum of individual and public health impacts and societal harms; recognize

Bill Summary: This resolution recognizes that pornography is a public health crisis leading to a broad spectrum of public health impacts and societal harms, including: the hyper-sexualization of teens and young children; violence toward women and children; the demand for sex trafficking and prostitution; and child sexual abuse. The Georgia House of Representatives recognizes the detrimental effects of pornography and finds that it is a public health crisis leading to serious mental and physical problems.

Authored By: Rep. Paulette Rakestraw (19th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HR 1016 Diabetes; necessity for education; recognize

Bill Summary: This resolution recognizes the necessity for diabetes education in this state. HR 1016 encourages the Department of Public Health and the Department of Community Health to work together to enhance coverage of accredited diabetes self-management education and support programs and the national diabetes prevention lifestyle change programs through the State Health Benefit Plan and Medicaid program.

Authored By: Rep. Karen Bennett (94th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass

HR 1194 House Study Committee on Retrospective Emergency Room Policies; create

Bill Summary: This resolution creates the House Study Committee on Retrospective Emergency Room Policies. The committee shall be composed of five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives. The speaker shall designate a member as chairperson of the committee. The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs, issues, and problems related to emergency rooms and recommend any action or legislation the committee deems necessary or appropriate. In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report prior to the date of abolishment by December 1, 2018.

Authored By: Rep. David Knight (130th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass

Motor Vehicles Committee

HB 401 Uniform rules of the road; operators of motorcycles; exclude from prohibition of wearing headset or headphone

Bill Summary: House Bill 401 removes motorcycles operators from the restriction on wearing headsets while operating a motor vehicle. It further provides that an operator of a motor vehicle may not wear any device that impairs their vision.

Authored By: Rep. David Clark (98th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass

HB 761 Motor vehicles; filing of certificates of title by dealers; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 761 amends the law relating to the process of applying for a certificate of title from the Department of Revenue by making the electronic submission of application voluntary rather than mandatory.

Authored By: Rep. Jason Ridley (6th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass

HB 804 Motor vehicles; exemption for persons licensed as private detectives concerning motor vehicle window tint; revise

Bill Summary: House Bill 804 exempts vehicles owned and operated by a person licensed for private detective or private security work from the Code section relating to window tinting and requirements.

Authored By: Rep. Heath Clark (147th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 898 Motor vehicles; fleet vehicles and fleet vehicle registration plans; revise provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 898 updates the law as it relates to the registration of a vehicle fleet to comply with the Department of Revenue's new electronic registration system. Further, it reduces the number of vehicles that constitutes a fleet from 1,000 to 100 vehicles.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass

HB 940 Driver Services, Department of; mark and return surrendered licenses and personal identification cards; allow

Bill Summary: House Bill 940 allows persons seeking to obtain or renew a driver's license, learner's permit, or state-issued identification to keep their old card in lieu of a temporary paper certificate. The Department of Driver's Services will note on the old card that it is no longer valid, and it will be returned to the customer. This is necessary because there has been an issue with Homeland Security accepting temporary identification cards at their TSA security check points.

Authored By: Rep. Geoffrey Cauble (111th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass

Ways & Means Committee

HB 918 Revenue and taxation; Internal Revenue Code; provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 918 provides for the annual IRC update for the 2017 and 2018 tax years which includes the following changes:

- 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income floor for medical expense deduction is extended through 2018 and applied to all taxpayers;
- Net operating losses may be carried forward indefinitely, but may not be carried back to apply against prior year's tax liabilities;
- Entertainment expenses are no longer allowed as business deductions;
- Transportation fringes and other transportation benefits are no longer qualified deductions for employers providing the benefits;
- Eligibility of building improvements for a 15-year recover period is expanded;
- Like-kind exchanges are limited to exchanges of real estate;
- The definition of capital asset is revised by removing patents, inventions, certain models or designs, and secret formulas or processes;
- Gains from investment in a Qualified Opportunity Fund are allowed to be temporarily deferred and permanently excluded if the investment is held 10 years; and,
- Disaster tax relief provisions, that:
 - o Allow write-off of hurricane losses;
 - o Suspend limitations on deductions for charitable contributions made for hurricane relief;
 - o Give victims penalty-free access to retirement funds; and,
 - o Eliminate the requirement that personal losses must exceed 10 percent of adjusted gross income to qualify for deduction.

The bill also doubles the state income tax standard deduction to \$4,600 for single filers, \$3,000 for married filing separately, and \$6,000 for married filing jointly. The top personal income tax bracket rate and the corporate income tax rate are reduced to 5.75 percent in tax year 2019 and 5.50 percent in tax year 2020. The rate reduction for 2020 is dependent upon the General Assembly passing a joint resolution affirming the change and the resolution being signed by the governor. The changes in this bill expire on December 31, 2025.

The bill also states that there shall be no liability for title ad valorem tax fees when obtaining a replacement title on a vehicle that is not less than 15-years old when the commissioner of the Department of Revenue is provided proof that the title no longer exists.

Finally, the bill provides a sales and use tax exemption for jet fuel. "Jet fuel" is defined as any form of fuel that is designed for or used in the operation of aircraft powered by jet turbine or turbo prop engines. Jet fuel that is not pumped into an aircraft shall be exempt from one percent of state sales and use tax, and jet fuel that is pumped into an aircraft shall be fully exempt from state sales and use tax. Local option sales taxes and Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority taxes levied on jet fuel on December 30, 1987 still apply.

Authored By:	Rep. Chuck Efstoration (104th)	Committee	02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Ways & Means	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

HB 929 Water and sewer projects and costs tax (MOST); additional renewals of tax; allow

Bill Summary: House Bill 929 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-203, relating to the water and sewer projects and costs tax (MOST), by allowing a municipality to re-impose the tax up to six times.

Authored By:	Rep. Chuck Efstoration (104th)	Committee	02-20-2018 Do Pass
House	Ways & Means	Action:	
Committee:			

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](#).*

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

8:00 AM	AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS	403 CAP
8:00 AM	INSURANCE	606 CLOB
9:00 AM	RULES	341 CAP
10:00 AM	FLOOR SESSION (LD 24)	House Chamber
1:00 PM	JUDICIARY (NON-CIVIL)	132 CAP
1:00 PM	State Government Administration Subcommittee of Governmental Affairs	406 CLOB
2:00 PM	GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS	406 CLOB
2:00 PM	RETIREMENT	515 CLOB
2:00 PM	Reeves Subcommittee of Judiciary (Non-Civil)	132 CAP
2:00 PM	STATE PROPERTIES	403 CAP
2:00 PM	Education Subcommittee on Academic Achievement	341 CAP
2:00 PM	Admin/Licensing Subcommittee of Insurance	606 CLOB
3:00 PM	BANKS & BANKING	341 CAP
3:00 PM	HIGHER EDUCATION	403 CAP
3:00 PM	Education Subcommittee on Academic Support	606 CLOB
3:00 PM	INDUSTRY AND LABOR	506 CLOB