



Georgia HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday
February 21,
2018

DAILY REPORT

24th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
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House Media Services
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- The House will reconvene for its 25th Legislative Day on Thursday, February 22 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- 14 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Rules Calendar

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 provides 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 Health & Human Services
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 169 Nays: 1

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

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 or 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
House	Ways & Means	Committee	02-08-2018 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 125 Nays: 41	Amendments:	

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)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Health & Human Services	Committee	02-06-2018 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 142 Nays: 22	Amendments:	

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)	Rule Applied:	Structured
House	Ways & Means	Committee	02-08-2018 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 168 Nays: 3	Amendments:	

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 Ways & Means

Committee:

Floor Vote: Yeas: 172 Nays: 2

Rule Applied: Structured

Committee 02-08-2018 Do Pass by Committee

Action: Substitute

Amendments:

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 Health & Human Services
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 173 Nays: 1

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-13-2018 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments: AM 33 1731

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 Health & Human Services
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 166 Nays: 0

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

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 Ways & Means
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 114 Nays: 53

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

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)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Open
House Committee:	Public Safety & Homeland Security	Committee Action:	02-12-2018 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 150 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

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)	Rule Applied:	Open
House Committee:	Industry and Labor	Committee Action:	02-07-2018 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 161 Nays: 0	Amendments:	AM 45 0001

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 25th Legislative Day, Thursday, February 22 and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Thursday, February 22, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 26th Legislative Day.

HB 695 Special license plates; Georgia Forestry Foundation; establish

Bill Summary: House Bill 695 creates a special license plate to honor Georgia's working forests and the benefits they provide. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of each plate go to the Georgia Forestry Foundation.

Authored By: Rep. James Epps (144th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 01-29-2018 Do Pass

HB 714 Motor vehicles; reference date to federal regulations regarding the safe operation of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles; update

Bill Summary: House Bill 714 is the annual update to the 'Uniform Carriers Act.' It updates the effective date from July 1, 2017 to July 1, 2018 to comply with federal law.

Authored By: Rep. Terry Rogers (10th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles

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

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

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-12-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 743 Jeremy Nelson and Nick Blakely Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 743 creates the 'Jeremy Nelson and Nick Blakely Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act'. This Act requires the Department of Education to develop and publish guidelines relating to cardiac arrest. Students and parents are required to sign a form at the beginning of the school year prior to athletic participation stating they have received and reviewed cardiac arrest symptoms and warning signs material. If a student exhibits any of the warning signs for cardiac arrest, that student may be removed immediately and not allowed to return to play without a written release by a health care provider. A coach must review the guidelines and materials each school year and is not allowed to coach until the requirements of this Act are completed.

Authored By: Rep. David Clark (98th)
House Committee: Education

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-15-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 785 Solid waste management; certain definitions; modify and enact

Bill Summary: HB 785 adds definitions related to solid waste management for "gasification" and "pyrolysis", which are processes facilities can use to convert certain waste materials into fuel.

Authored By: Rep. Randy Nix (69th)
House Committee: Natural Resources & Environment

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-15-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 787 Education; certain provisions relative to charter schools; revise

Bill Summary: House Bill 787 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-270 relating to the purpose of regional education service agencies (RESAs) by including state charter schools, in addition to local school systems, as recipients of services provided by RESAs. State charter schools currently receive a supplement, in addition to state funds, to account for the lack of local funding. HB 787 revises the local funding supplement for state charter schools to provide additional capital funding to schools located in districts receiving capital allocations that exceed the statewide average by 25 percent or more. This legislation also provides a mechanism for "forward funding" to charter schools to cover the cost of exceptional enrollment growth.

Authored By: Rep. Scott Hilton (95th)
House Committee: Education

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-15-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 814 Coroners; county governing authority may establish salaries and benefits; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 814 allows the county governing authority to establish the compensation of their coroners and deputy coroners.

Authored By: Rep. Ricky Williams (145th)
House Committee: Governmental Affairs

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-14-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 826 Law enforcement; alarm monitoring company may contract out certain requirement; provide

Bill Summary: HB 826 provides an additional carve out for alarm monitoring companies regarding the alarm verification system where law enforcement will be dispatched immediately upon the event that an alarm is triggered where the alarm user is a banking institution, a wholesaler of firearms, or a wholesaler of pharmaceuticals, who have contracted with the alarm monitoring company for such service.

Authored By: Rep. Geoffrey Cauble (111th)
House Committee: Regulated Industries

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

HB 835 Revenue and taxation; issuance of special event tobacco permits to licensed dealers; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 835 allows for a licensed dealer engaged in the tobacco business to apply for a special event tobacco permit for the off-premise sale of cigars, cigarettes, or smokeless tobacco at a temporary location offsite from the licensed location for a period of no more than 10 days. All such permits will be issued by the commissioner of the Department of Revenue, who will also make rules and regulations regarding the application and issuance of such permits. HB 835 does not affect local ordinances regarding tobacco.

Authored By: Rep. Jodi Lott (122nd)
House Committee: Regulated Industries

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

HB 840 Revenue and taxation; penalties and interest in the event of military service in a combat zone; provide exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 840 amends 48-13-21 to provide an exemption to the penalties relating to unpaid special, occupation, or sales taxes and license, regulatory, or administrative fees for members of the military serving in a combat zone, who upon return from duty, make full payment of taxes and fees that are received within 60 days.

Authored By: Rep. Bill Hitchens (161st)
House Committee: Ways & Means

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-15-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 853 Quality Basic Education Act; children placed in psychiatric residential treatment facilities may not be charged tuition; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 853 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-133, relating to the authorization of local school systems to charge non-resident student tuition or fees, by expanding the list excluding certain types of students from tuition charges. This legislation includes a provision that a child who is placed in a psychiatric residential treatment facility pursuant to a physician's order cannot be charged tuition or fees.

Authored By: Rep. Katie Dempsey (13th)
House Committee: Education

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-15-2018 Do Pass

HB 876 Buildings and housing; counties and municipalities proscribing the use of wood in the construction of certain buildings when state minimum standard codes are met; prohibit

Bill Summary: HB 876 prohibits counties and municipalities from preventing the use of wood as a construction material, so long as it meets the Georgia State Fire Code and other relevant state codes.

Authored By: Rep. John Corbett (174th)
House Committee: Agriculture & Consumer Affairs

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-14-2018 Do Pass

HB 907 Public officers and employees; appointment and election of successor in event of vacancy in the office of district attorney; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 907 allows the governor to appoint a replacement, rather than hold a special election, to fill the unexpired term of a vacant office of District Attorney. This process mirrors that of Superior Court Judges.

Authored By: Rep. Barry Fleming (121st)
House Committee: Governmental Affairs

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-14-2018 Do Pass

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:
 - Allow write-off of hurricane losses;
 - Suspend limitations on deductions for charitable contributions made for hurricane relief;
 - Give victims penalty-free access to retirement funds; and,
 - 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)
House Committee: Ways & Means

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-20-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Committee Actions

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

Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

HB 886 Sales and use tax; exemption for agricultural machinery and equipment; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 886 raises the minimum amount for eligibility on the sales and use tax exemption for agricultural machinery and equipment as a qualified agricultural producer from \$2,500 to \$5,000 in agricultural sales, products, or services. The bill also requires that the certificate provided by the Department of Agriculture to qualified agricultural producers be valid for three years. The Department of Agriculture shall collect a fee of \$150 at the time of registration or renewal.

Authored By:	Rep. Sam Watson (172nd)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
House Committee:	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs		

HB 948 Commerce and trade; banning commercial sales of regulated goods, products, or items; prohibit county, municipal and consolidated governments

Bill Summary: HB 948 prohibits a city, county, consolidated government, or other local governing authority from restricting the sale of goods from a retail establishment that is properly zoned and meets regulations set by the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Food and Drug Administration, or the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

Authored By:	Rep. Rick Jasperse (11th)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass
House Committee:	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs		

HB 956 Georgia Veterinary Practice Act; enact

Bill Summary: HB 956 makes changes relating to the practices of veterinarians and veterinary technicians. Among the changes, the bill will allow the State Board of Veterinary Medicine to perform inspections of premises and equipment. It creates a continuing education requirement for veterinary technicians as well as a waiver of these requirements for veterinarians or veterinary technicians who are active duty in any branch of the United States armed services. Additionally, the bill eliminates a limit on the number of veterinary technicians that can work under a licensed veterinarian while prohibiting the creation of a veterinarian-client-animal relationship via telephone, computer, or other electronic means. HB 956 also brings state law in line with federal law regarding the veterinary feed directive.

Authored By:	Rep. Clay Pirkle (155th)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
House Committee:	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs		

Banks & Banking Committee

HB 676 Property; protections for military service members in the event of foreclosures to enforce secured obligations; provide

Bill Summary: Under this bill in actions related to securing debts, mortgages, liens, or other bill of sale upon real or personal property owned by a military service member at the commencement of active duty which obligation originated prior to a period of active duty, a judge may, on his or her own recognizance, stay proceedings or otherwise equitably dispose of the case, unless the service member waives his or her right pursuant to the U.S. Code. Additionally, the court shall stay such proceedings upon application of the service member or an agent of the service member, unless the court finds that compliance with the obligation is impossible. Further, actions to secure such obligations made during the period of active duty or one year thereafter are invalid, unless approved

by an order previously granted by a court of competent jurisdiction or if the service member waives his or her right pursuant to the U.S. Code.

Authored By: Rep. Paulette Rakestraw (19th)
House Committee: Banks & Banking
Committee Action: 02-21-2018 Tabled

HB 866 Commerce and trade; charging fee for placing a security freeze on a consumer's account; prohibit consumer credit reporting agencies

Bill Summary: HB 866 would prohibit credit reporting agencies from charging a fee for placing or removing a security freeze on a consumer's account.

Authored By: Rep. Scot Turner (21st)
House Committee: Banks & Banking
Committee Action: 02-21-2018 Do Pass

Governmental Affairs Committee

HB 642 Local government; provide definitions; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 642 creates a process to establish a Special Improvement District for the Atlanta BeltLine. It allows commercial and multi-family residential property owners to petition the local governing authority to levy up to 3.5 mills on property located within the BeltLine district. The revenue generated must be invested in design and construction of trail along the BeltLine. The term of the district is limited to 30 years. If the project costs and debt are paid off or provided for sooner, the district is then terminated.

Authored By: Rep. Chad Nimmer (178th)
House Committee: Governmental Affairs
Committee Action: 02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 899 Contracts; limitation on disqualification of bidders; change

Bill Summary: House Bill 899 removes the disqualification of bidders based upon lack of previous experience with the construction delivery method when awarding contracts for public works projects based upon sealed competitive bids.

Authored By: Rep. Dominic LaRiccia (169th)
House Committee: Governmental Affairs
Committee Action: 02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 961 Local government; chief executive officer/county commission form of government shall not be authorized for county governing authorities in this state; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 961 does away with the chief executive officer/county commission form of county government.

Authored By: Rep. Meagan Hanson (80th)
House Committee: Governmental Affairs
Committee Action: 02-21-2018 Do Pass

Higher Education Committee

HB 392 Move on When Ready Act; students taking dual credit courses at certain eligible postsecondary institutions; allow funding

Bill Summary: HB 392 allows eligible postsecondary institutions under Move on When Ready to receive payments for five terms annually for students enrolled in the institution if the institution utilizes a nonstandard term system composed of five terms, beginning with the first summer school term in 2019.

Authored By:	Rep. Barry Fleming (121st)	Committee	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Higher Education	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

HB 702 Postsecondary education; service cancelable education loan program for students in fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics who work in certain positions; provide

Bill Summary: HB 702 authorizes Georgia Student Finance Authority to establish and administer a loan forgiveness program for University System of Georgia students that obtain a degree in science, technology, engineering, and math and agree to work as a civil service employee at a defense installation in the state of Georgia. An individual is eligible to receive up to \$5,000 each year for up to five years employed as a civil service employee in order to repay an education loan. Funding for this program is subject to appropriation.

Authored By:	Rep. Heath Clark (147th)	Committee	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Higher Education	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

HB 928 Education; extend period during which a student may receive a HOPE scholarship; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 928 extends the period of time a student is eligible to receive a HOPE scholarship after they graduate from high school from seven years to fifteen years.

Authored By:	Rep. Ricky Williams (145th)	Committee	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Higher Education	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

Industry and Labor Committee

HB 831 Georgia's Employment First Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 831 moves the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency to the Department of Labor as the Vocational Rehabilitation Division. Further, it establishes the Employment First Georgia Council and provides for the membership, duties, terms of office, meeting requirements, committee appointments, compensation, and expense allowances therein.

Authored By:	Rep. Terry Rogers (10th)	Committee	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee
House	Industry and Labor	Action:	Substitute
Committee:			

Insurance Committee

HB 689 Banking and finance; authorizing sums held for deceased intestate resident's application in payment of funeral expenses; change certain provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 689 allows the financial institution of a deceased account holder to apply a \$10,000 maximum of the balance in their account for payment of funeral expenses without having to go through probate when there is a life insurance policy. The institution must make this payment within 45 days of the person's death.

Authored By:	Rep. Ricky Williams (145th)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
House Committee:	Insurance		

HB 754 Insurance; division of a domestic insurer into two or more resulting domestic insurers; provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 754 allows a Georgia domestic insurer to divide into two or more insurers and allocate assets and obligations, including insurance or reinsurance policies, to the new company. It does so by creating a process that is distinct from a merger, consolidation, dissolution, or formation.

Authored By:	Rep. Jason Shaw (176th)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
House Committee:	Insurance		

HB 760 Insurance; certain policies, definitions, and property insurance; revise

Bill Summary: House Bill 760 allows property and causality insurers, at the time of policy renewal, to simply notify the insured of changes in the policy without having to cancel the existing policy and offer a new one.

Authored By:	Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass
House Committee:	Insurance		

HB 818 Insurance; health care provider shall choose the method of reimbursement by insurer; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 818 allows healthcare providers to choose the method of reimbursement from insurers.

Authored By:	Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass
House Committee:	Insurance		

State Properties Committee

HR 1090 Jeff Davis County; Crisp County; change of use of certain property; authorize

Bill Summary: HR 1090 grants an easement of approximately 3.956 acres under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources to the Department Transportation to allow for traffic safety improvements, including the widening of State Route 135/US Route 221 and replacing the bridge across the Altamaha River. The land, found within the Bullard Creek Wildlife Management Area in Jeff Davis County, will be provided for a consideration of \$10 and will expire three years after the date the resolution becomes effective.

Authored By:	Rep. Sam Watson (172nd)	Committee Action:	02-21-2018 Do Pass
House Committee:	State Properties		

HR 1103 Property; conveyance of certain state owned real property; authorize

Bill Summary: HR 1103 is a conveyance resolution for properties located in 12 counties, conveying property owned by the State of Georgia or amending those conveyances, as follows:

Article 1 conveys approximately 0.468 of an acre, a portion of an approximately 7.29-acre tract known as the Milledgeville Readiness Center in Baldwin County under the custody of the Georgia Department of Defense, to the Georgia Department of Transportation for a consideration of \$35,219 and approximately \$28,087 in paving costs and costs to cure for widening and improvements of State Routes 29 and 49.

Article 2 conveys approximately 1 acre, known as the Bryan County Unit under the custody of the Georgia Forestry Commission, by competitive bid for fair market value, or to a local government or State entity for fair market value, or to a local government or State entity for a consideration of \$10 so long as the property is used for public use.

Article 3 conveys approximately 0.048 of an acre, a portion of an approximately 10.32-acre tract known as the Savannah State Farmers Market in Chatham County, under the custody of the Georgia Department of Agriculture, to the Georgia Department of Transportation for a consideration rounded to \$8.700 of \$8,160 for fee simple acquisition and approximately \$462 in paving costs for widening State Routes 25, 26, and 204.

Article 4, in Cherokee County, is a ground lease for up to 20 years a new building to be bid for design and construction, on approximately 5 acres under the custody of the Department of Human Services to accommodate the growing needs of the Division of Family and Children Services and Division of Child Support Services in Cherokee County.

Article 5 conveys approximately 4.5 acres described as the former Albany Armory in Dougherty County under the custody of the Georgia Department of Defense, to Dougherty County or to a local government or State entity, for a consideration of \$10 so long as the property is used for public purpose in perpetuity and the payment of outstanding General Obligation bonds and interest, or for fair market value, and other consideration and provisions as the State Properties Commission shall in its discretion determine to be in the best interest of the State of Georgia.

Article 6 conveys to the City of Albany in Dougherty County for an exchange approximately 0.46 of an acre, a portion of the 24.5-acre Albany Technical College campus under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia, for 1.78 acres from the City of Albany and other consideration and provisions as the State Properties Commission shall in its discretion determine to be in the best interest of the State of Georgia.

Article 7 conveys approximately 8 acres, a portion of the Georgia World Congress Center campus in Fulton County under the custody of the Department of Economic Development and managed by the Geo. L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center Authority ("the Authority") to that Authority for a consideration of \$10 and other consideration and provisions as the State Properties Commission shall in its discretion determine to be in the best interest of the State of Georgia.

Article 8 is a ground lease of approximately 1.22 acres in Fulton County, a non-railroad operations portion of the Western and Atlantic Railroad under the custody of the State Properties Commission, to Metro Green, LLC and John D. Stephens, for a term of twenty (20) years commencing on January 1, 2020, for consideration of an initial annual rent of \$7,628.70, to be increased annually at a compounded rate of 2.5%.

Article 9 conveys approximately 13.36 acres of the 87-acre Hall County Campus of Lanier Technical College under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to the City of Gainesville for the consideration of \$10.00 for a right-of-way dedication for use as a public road.

Article 10 leases 2.664 improved acres known as Building 4, a portion of Rutledge State Prison in the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections, to either the Muscogee County Sheriff or to Columbus, Georgia, the Consolidated Government of Columbus-Muscogee County, for a term of

five (5) years commencing on January 1, 2020, with a five (5) year renewal option, for consideration of that Sheriff's Department being responsible for all utilities, maintenance and repair of the building and the Department of Corrections remaining responsible for capital maintenance and repairs.

Article 11 is a lease for 3-years with one 5-year renewal approximately 20,812 square feet, a portion of the QuickStart Building CTC Training Center at Columbus Technical College in Muscogee County which is in the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia to United Technologies Corporation, Pratt & Whitney Division (Pratt & Whitney) for the consideration of Pratt & Whitney's investment of approximately \$2,000,000 in improvements and equipment to the QuickStart facility which will be left at the end of the lease term for the benefit of the school.

Article 12 conveys approximately 0.157 of an acre, a portion of the Putnam County Unit under the custody of the Georgia Forestry Commission, by competitive bid for fair market value, or to a local government or State entity for fair market value; or to a local government or State entity for a consideration of \$10 so long as the property is used for public purpose in perpetuity; and other consideration and provisions as the State Properties Commission shall in its discretion determine to be in the best interest of the State of Georgia.

Article 13 conveys approximately 0.303 of an acre known as the Rock House Property in Rabun County under the custody of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, to the Town of Tallulah Falls or to a local government or State entity for a consideration of \$10 so long as the property is used for public purpose in perpetuity and other consideration and provisions as the State Properties Commission shall in its discretion determine to be in the best interest of the State of Georgia.

Article 14 conveys approximately 405.1 acres known as Pointer Reservoir and Black Shoals Park in Rockdale County under the custody of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which has been leased to Rockdale County since 1999 for 50-years, for \$10 for the continued operation of the property for recreational and other public purposes.

Article 15 conveys approximately 1,029 acres known as the Former Camp Wilderness/Outdoor Therapeutic Center in White County under the custody of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and managed under an intergovernmental agreement by White County for use as county office space, storage, training, and a fire station until January 22, 2063, to White County or to a local government or State entity for the consideration of \$10.00 for use solely for public purpose in perpetuity.

Authored By: Rep. Gerald Greene (151st)

House Committee: State Properties

Committee Action: 02-21-2018 Do Pass

HR 1104 Property; granting of non-exclusive easements; authorize

Bill Summary: HR 1104 authorizes the granting of non-exclusive easements for the construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities, utilities, roads, and ingress and egress in, on, over, under, upon, across, or through property owned by the State of Georgia in the counties of Bartow, Bulloch, Butts, Chatham, Clay, Columbia, Emanuel, Floyd, Forsythe, Fulton, Harris, Henry, Liberty, Macon, Montgomery, Murray, Tattnall, Towns, and White, as follows:

Article 1 grants an easement to Bleckley County or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.32 of an acre in Bartow County under the custody of the State Properties Commission for the purpose of the construction, operation, and maintenance of a bridge over the Western and Atlantic Railroad in Land Lot 899, 14th District, 3rd Section for \$10.00.

Article 2 grants an easement to Excelsior Electric Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.40 of an acre in Bulloch County under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical transmission lines to serve TCSG-330 (Plant Operations Building) at Ogeechee Technical College in 1209th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 3 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.4 of an acre in Butts County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the conference center at Indian Springs State Park in the 614th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 4 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.05 of an acre in Chatham County in the custody of the Department of Corrections for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical service lines and associated equipment to serve a new welding shop at Coastal State Prison in the 8th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 5 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 2.76 acres in Chatham County under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve TCSG-335 (Quickstart training center) at Quickstart Regional Center in the 7th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 6 an easement to Georgia Transmission Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.5 of an acre in Clay County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the relocation of existing easement and construction, installation, operation and maintenance of new electrical transmission lines and associated equipment to serve George T. Bagby State Park in Land Lots 227 and 254, 7th District, for \$10.00.

Article 7 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 1.1 acres in Columbia County under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the Grovetown-Columbia Campus of Augusta Technical College in the 1285th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 8 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 1.38 acres in Columbia County under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve an adjacent property at the Grovetown-Columbia Campus of Augusta Technical College in the 1285th G.M.D. for fair market value but not less than \$650.

Article 9 grants an easement to Excelsior Electrical Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.5 of an acre in Emanuel County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve new office buildings at George L. Smith State Park in the 1560th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 10 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.14 of an acre in Floyd County under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the Machine Tools Renovation project at the Floyd County Campus of Georgia Northwestern Technical College in Land Lot 325, 23rd Land District for \$10.00.

Article 11 grants an easement to City of Cumming or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.098 of an acre in Forsyth County under the custody of the Department of Defense for the relocation of the existing easement and to construct, install, and maintain a new water pipe for the road widening on Pilgrim Mill Road at the Cumming Readiness Center in Land Lots 1113 and 1114, 3rd Land District, 1st Section for fair market value but not less than \$650.

Article 12 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.04 of an acre in Fulton County under the custody of the Department of Corrections

for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical transmission distribution system and the demolition of an overhead power line to provide power to the Probation Officers Facility located at 276 Memorial Drive, in Land Lot 76, 14th Land District for \$10.00.

Article 13 grants an easement to Greystone Power Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.4 of an acre in Fulton County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of overhead electrical equipment to provide electrical service to illuminate the parking area at Campbellton Road Boat Ramp in Land Lot 58, District 9C for \$10.00.

Article 14 grants an easement to City of Atlanta or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.012 of an acre in Fulton County under the custody of the Department of Economic Development and managed by the Geo L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center Authority for the construction, installation, and maintenance of a storm sewer, as part of a sewer capacity relief project, at 271 Northside Drive NW in Land Lot 83, 14th District for \$12,300.

Article 15 grants an easement to TOJV, LLC or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.1419 of an acre in Fulton County and 24 feet high from the top of the area known as the "Plaza" under the custody of the Department of Economic Development and managed by the Geo L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center Authority for the construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of the Omni Hotel Connector near CNN Center and adjoining the College Football Hall of Fame and the World Congress Center in Land Lot 78, 14th District for \$36,350.

Article 16 grants an easement to Diverse Power or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.05 of an acre in Harris County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical lines and equipment to provide electrical service to group camping dining hall at Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park in Land Lot 16, 3rd Land District for \$10.00.

Article 17 grants an easement to Atlanta Gas Light Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.92 of an acre in Henry County under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of gas distribution lines to serve TCSG-317 (Industrial Training and Technology Building) at Southern Crescent Technical College in Land Lot 136, 7th Land District for \$10.00.

Article 18 grants an easement to Coastal Electric Cooperative or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.05 of an acre in Liberty County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical service equipment to provide electrical service for a new automatic gate at Fort Morris Historic Site in 1359th Land District for \$10.00.

Article 19 grants an easement to Flint Electric Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.0381 of an acre in Macon County under the custody of the Department of Education for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical distribution lines to serve a shooting range at Camp John Hope in Land Lot 161, 9th District for \$10.00.

Article 20 grants an easement to Atlanta Gas Light or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.12 of an acre in Montgomery County under the custody of the Department of Corrections for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline to serve the prison fire station at Montgomery State Prison in the 1343rd and 1757th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 21 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.003 of an acre in Murray County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a support pole and anchor for the widening of SR52 Alternate at Chief Vann House Historic Site in Land Lot 224, 9th District for \$10.00.

Article 22 grants an easement to Atlanta Gas Light or its successors and assigns over approximately 11.146 acres in Tattnall County under the custody of the Department of Corrections for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline to serve Rogers State Prison in the 1645th G.M.D. for \$10.00.

Article 23 grants an easement to Department of Transportation or its successors and assigns over approximately 3.6 acres in Towns County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a bridge for the road widening project for State Route 66 over Brasstown Creek at Brasstown Valley Resort in Land Lots 117 and 118, 17th District, 1st Section for fair market value but not less than \$650.

Article 24 grants an easement to Habersham Electrical Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.22 of an acre in White County under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical equipment to serve new well house at Unicoi State Park in Land Lots 130, 159, and 162, 3rd Land District for \$10.00.

Authored By: Rep. Gerald Greene (151st)
House State Properties
Committee:

Committee 02-21-2018 Do Pass
Action:

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](#).*

Thursday, February 22, 2018

8:00 AM	GAME, FISH AND PARKS	403 CAP
8:00 AM	NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT	606 CLOB
9:00 AM	RULES	341 CAP
10:00AM	FLOOR SESSION (LD 25)	House Chamber
1:00 PM	JUVENILE JUSTICE	406 CLOB
1:30 PM	JUDICIARY (NON-CIVIL)	415 CLOB
2:00 PM	Transportation Subcommittee on Resolutions	506 CLOB
2:00 PM	EDUCATION	606 CLOB
2:00 PM	JUDICARY (CIVIL)	132 CAP
2:00 PM	Ways & Means Subcommittee on Public Finance and Policy	133 CAP
2:00 PM	BANKS & BANKING	341 CAP
2:00 PM	Insurance (Life & Health) Subcommittee	515 CLOB
2:15 PM	Transportation Subcommittee on Transit Legislation	506 CLOB
3:00 PM	WAYS & MEANS	406 CLOB
3:00 PM	ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS	403 CAP
3:00 PM	DEFENSE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS	515 CLOB
3:00 PM	TRANSPORTATION	506 CLOB
4:00 PM	SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	515 CLOB