



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday
February 19,
2020

DAILY REPORT

14th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 15th Legislative Day on Thursday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- Five bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Rules Calendar

HB 758 Georgia Motor Carrier Act of 2012; consideration of the deployment of motor carrier safety improvements in determining an individual's employment status with a motor carrier; prohibit

Bill Summary: House Bill 758 establishes that if a motor carrier implements, requires, or deploys a motor carrier safety improvement, this action shall not impact the affected individual's status as an employee or independent contractor.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Floor Vote: Yeas: 99 Nays: 68

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-04-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 765 Courts; increase in the minimum compensation for chief magistrates; provide

Bill Summary: HB 765 raises the minimum salary and compensation of magistrates and clerks. For magistrate judges, the new minimum salary is equal to the previous minimum salary, plus previously-enacted cost-of-living adjustments, plus an additional five percent raise. Monthly minimums for magistrate clerk courts are increased by the same percentage.

Authored By: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (14th)
House Committee: Judiciary
Floor Vote: Yeas: 142 Nays: 25

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 01-28-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 792 Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Bill Summary: The Amended FY 2020 budget is set by a revenue estimate of \$27.3 billion, a decrease of \$159 million from the original FY 2020 estimate. The bill, tracking sheet, and highlights may be found on the House Budget and Research Office website: <http://www.house.ga.gov/budget>.

Authored By: Rep. David Ralston (7th)
House Committee: Appropriations
Floor Vote: Yeas: 126 Nays: 46

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 02-18-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

Postponed Until Next Legislative Day

HB 292 Regents Retirement Plan; certain remittances required to be made by the University System of Georgia to the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; eliminate

Bill Summary: HB 292 repeals the requirement for an accrued liability to be paid to the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia on behalf of participating Regent's Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) members and the normal contribution rate resulting from employees who cease to be members of TRS. This bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a fiscal retirement bill. The actuarial investigation determines there is no cost to this legislation.

Authored By: Rep. Tommy Benton (31st) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

Local Calendar

HB 803 Early County; school district ad valorem tax; residents 66 years of age or older; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 803 provides a homestead exemption from Early County School District taxes for the full amount of the assessed value for residents who are 66 years of age or older.

Authored By: Rep. Gerald Greene (151st) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 860 Putnam County; nonbinding advisory referendum; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 860 provides for a nonbinding advisory referendum to ascertain whether the electors of Putnam County desire the county board of commissioners to levy an ad valorem tax to retire debt incurred by the Putnam County Hospital Authority.

Authored By: Rep. Ricky Williams (145th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee: Local **Action:** Substitute
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 869 Clayton County Water Authority; provide corporate powers and purposes

Bill Summary: House Bill 869 provides that the Clayton County Water Authority is a body corporate and politic, a political subdivision of the state, and a public corporation.

Authored By: Rep. Mike Glanton (75th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 871 Jasper County Public Facilities Authority Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 871 creates the Jasper County Public Facilities Authority.

Authored By: Rep. Susan Holmes (129th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 872 Clayton County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees

Bill Summary: House Bill 872 authorizes the Clayton County Magistrate Court to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs.

Authored By: Rep. Rhonda Burnough (77th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**

Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 873 Butts County; joint county-municipal board of elections; prohibit persons employed by certain local governments from being eligible to serve on the board for a designated period of time following their government employment

Bill Summary: House Bill 873 states no person who has been employed by Butts County or the cities of Jackson, Jenkinsburg, or Flovilla shall be eligible to serve as a member of the joint county-municipal board of elections and registration until three years has elapsed from the person's final date of employment.

Authored By: Rep. Susan Holmes (129th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 874 Butts County; levy an excise tax

Bill Summary: House Bill 874 authorizes the governing authority of Butts County to levy an excise tax.

Authored By: Rep. Susan Holmes (129th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 875 Carroll County Water Authority; increase annual compensation cap for members

Bill Summary: House Bill 875 increases the annual compensation cap for Carroll County Water Authority members.

Authored By: Rep. Randy Nix (69th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 876 Greene County Airport Authority; provide procedures for inactivation and reactivation

Bill Summary: House Bill 876 provides for procedures for inactivation and reactivation of the Greene County Airport Authority.

Authored By: Rep. Trey Rhodes (120th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 884 Tifton, City of; levy an excise tax

Bill Summary: House Bill 884 authorizes the governing authority of the city of Tifton to levy an excise tax.

Authored By: Rep. Penny Houston (170th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 889 Toombs County Public Facilities Authority Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 889 creates the Toombs County Public Facilities Authority.

Authored By: Rep. Greg Morris (156th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 02-18-2020 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 15th Legislative Day, Thursday, February 20, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Thursday, February 20, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 16th Legislative Day.

HB 716 Insurance; carriers issuing a health benefit plan in this state through an agent shall file proposed commission rates with the department; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 716 requires any carrier that issues a health benefit plan through an agent to pay a commission to that agent and file with the Department of Insurance the proposed commission rates relevant to all such agents. The commission paid to the agents must be consistent with the amount proposed in the rates filed and required by the Department of Insurance.

Authoring By:	Rep. Shaw Blackmon (146th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Insurance	Committee Action:	02-05-2020 Do Pass

HB 777 Community Affairs, Department of; consider amending the state minimum standard codes to allow tall mass timber construction types; direct

Bill Summary: HB 777 requires the Department of Community Affairs to review the tall mass timber provisions contained in the 2021 International Building Code for construction types IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C and consider whether the department should amend the state's minimum standard codes to include the provisions. The review shall be on conducted on or after July 1, 2020 and be completed by July 1, 2021.

Authoring By:	Rep. John Corbett (174th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Open
House Committee:	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs	Committee Action:	02-05-2020 Do Pass

HB 786 Superior courts; additional judge of the Flint Judicial Circuit; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 786 increases the number of judges for superior courts in the Flint Judicial Circuit from three to four. The governor appoints the additional judge for a term beginning January 1, 2021, until December 31, 2022. A successor shall be elected at the nonpartisan judicial election held in 2022 and the elected successor shall take office January 1, 2023.

Authoring By:	Rep. Andrew Welch (110th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Judiciary	Committee Action:	02-04-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HR 1023 Judiciary; people may petition for declaratory relief from certain acts of this state or certain local governments or officers or employees; provide - CA

Bill Summary: House Resolution 1023 proposes an amendment to the Georgia Constitution to allow Georgia citizens and corporations domiciled in Georgia to petition for declaratory relief from the judiciary for acts done by the state, or any county, municipality, or consolidated government of Georgia. Petitions must be brought exclusively against the state, county, municipality or consolidated government, and may not be brought against an individual or officer. The General Assembly may authorize injunctive relief for such petitions and impose certain requirements upon petitions. Incarcerated or detained individuals are precluded from filing petitions. Damages, attorney's fees, or costs of litigation shall not be awarded in actions commenced pursuant to this amendment, unless specifically authorized by the General Assembly.

Authoring By:	Rep. Andrew Welch (110th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Open
House Committee:	Judiciary	Committee Action:	02-04-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Committee Actions

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

Insurance Committee

HB 583 Insurance; framework for regulating the offering or issuance of travel insurance in this state; provide

Bill Summary: HB 583 creates new regulations for the travel insurance industry. These new provisions include establishing uniform meanings of key terms and clarifying sales practices and application of Georgia's unfair trade practice laws. HB 583 prohibits the practice of opt-out sales and imposes explicit consumer disclosures in addition to what Georgia's insurance laws already require. Additionally, the bill provides that travel insurance may be sold via individual, group, or blanket policies and specifies how premium taxes are to be calculated. In most cases, the bill requires that travel insurance be filed as marine insurance; however, travel insurance that provides coverage for sickness, accident, disability, death, or other related emergencies occurring during the travel may also be filed under an accident or health line of insurance.

Authored By: Rep. Noel Williams (148th)
House Committee: Insurance

Committee Action: 02-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 842 Gracie's Law; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 842 creates 'Gracie's Law', and establishes provisions to prevent the discrimination of individuals with disabilities from receiving an anatomical gift or organ transplant.

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

Committee Action: 02-19-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 893 Special Insurance Fraud Fund; frequency of assessments; reduce

Bill Summary: House Bill 893 reduces the frequency of Special Insurance Fraud Fund assessments from quarterly to annually.

Authored By: Rep. Matthew Gambill (15th)
House Committee: Insurance

Committee Action: 02-19-2020 Do Pass

Committee Meeting Schedule

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

Thursday, February 20, 2020

8:00 AM	GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS	506 CLOB
8:00 AM	NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT	606 CLOB
9:00 AM	RULES	341 CAP
10:00 AM	FLOOR SESSION (LD 15)	House Chamber
12:00 PM	Alcohol Tobacco Subcommittee of Regulated Industries	502 CLOB
1:00 PM	JUVENILE JUSTICE	406 CLOB
1:00 PM	SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE	341 CAP
1:00 PM	Academic Support Subcommittee of Education	606 CLOB

1:00 PM	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	506 CLOB
1:30 PM	Setzler Subcommittee of Judiciary Non-Civil	515 CLOB
1:30 PM	EDUCATION	606 CLOB
2:00 PM	Energy Subcommittee of Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications	403 CAP
2:00 PM	TRANSPORTATION	506 CLOB
2:35 PM	Ports and Local Government Subcommittee of Transportation	506 CLOB
3:00 PM	Income Tax Subcommittee of Ways and Means	606 CLOB
3:15 PM	WAYS AND MEANS	606 CLOB