



Georgia HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday
March 10,
2020

DAILY REPORT

27th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 28th Legislative Day on Thursday, March 12 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules Committee will meet on Thursday, March 12 at 9:00 a.m.
- 19 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Rules Calendar

HB 216 Special license plates; Georgia Tennis Foundation; establish

Bill Summary: House Bill 216 creates a specialty license plate supporting the Georgia Tennis Foundation.

Authored By: Rep. Teri Anulewicz (42nd)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Floor Vote: Yeas: 161 Nays: 2

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 03-03-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 244 Electric membership corporations; comply with certain requirements in determining the rates for attachments to utility poles by communications service providers; require

Bill Summary: House Bill 244 states an electric membership corporation (EMC) shall not charge a pole attachment rate higher than the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rate to a communications service provider. EMCs must establish nondiscriminatory, competitively neutral, and commercially reasonable terms and conditions for attachments, which shall comply with federal Code and FCC regulations. They may not require a provider to comply with utility pole attachment specifications that exceed the specifications in the National Electrical Safety Code, applicable fire codes, and any building or similar code.

Authored By: Rep. Ron Stephens (164th)
House Committee: Economic Development & Tourism
Floor Vote: Yeas: Nays:
Floor Action: Recommit to Rules

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-03-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 245 Peace Officers' Annuity Fund; require certain benefits payable to a surviving spouse to terminate if such surviving spouse remarries; remove a provision

Bill Summary: HB 245 allows surviving spouses of members of the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund to retain spousal retirement benefits if the spouse remarries. 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. Debbie Buckner (137th)
House Committee: Retirement
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 01-14-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 791 Pharmacists; dispense up to a 90 day supply of a maintenance medication under certain conditions; authorize

Bill Summary: House Bill 791 allows a pharmacist to exercise professional judgement in dispensing up to a 90-day supply of medication up to the total number of dosage units as authorized by the prescriber on the original prescription.

Authored By: Rep. Ron Stephens (164th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services
Floor Vote: Yeas: 164 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 02-28-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 793 General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Bill Summary: HB 793, the Fiscal Year 2021 budget is set by a revenue estimate of \$28.1 billion, an increase of \$566.3 million, or 2.06%, over the FY 2020 original budget. 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: 134 Nays: 35

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee Action: 03-09-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 807 Revenue and taxation; allow businesses to provide affidavits of certified public accountants in lieu of tax returns

Bill Summary: House Bill 807 amends 48-13-14, relating to levy on business or practitioner with location or office in more than one jurisdiction, methods of allocation gross receipts, information provided by business or practitioner, and limits on levies by local governments using criteria for taxation, by allowing a business to submit affidavits of certified public accountants in place of tax returns for the means of determining the gross receipts of the company. The bill also requires that the proceeds from regulatory fees be used to fund such regulatory activity.

Authored By: Rep. Martin Momtahan (17th)
House Committee: Ways & Means
Floor Vote: Yeas: 111 Nays: 51

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 02-20-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 879 Alcoholic beverages; legislative intent of the General Assembly to exercise strict regulatory control over the three-tier system; provide

Bill Summary: HB 879 reinforces legislative intent to exercise strict control over the three-tier system for the regulation of alcoholic beverages. Except where prohibited by local ordinance or resolution, the bill allows a licensed package goods retailer to sell and deliver alcoholic beverages in unbroken packages for consumption off premises, if that retailer is not: a retail package liquor store; a manufacturer of alcoholic beverages; a carrier; or a shipper. The delivery must be made by a person at least 21 years of age who has: a Georgia driver's license; undergone a background check; no major traffic violation in the past three years; no conviction of driving under the influence in the past seven years; no match on the National Sex Offender Registry; and undergone approved training. The deliverer must refuse to make the delivery if no individual is at the address to accept delivery; or the individual attempting to accept the delivery is less than 21 years old, fails to produce proper identification, fails to provide a signature that matches proper identification, or appears intoxicated.

Authored By: Rep. Brett Harrell (106th)
House Committee: Regulated Industries
Floor Vote: Yeas: 110 Nays: 54

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 03-03-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 913 Domestic relations; protection of children; strengthen, clarify, and update provisions

Bill Summary: HB 913 clarifies and refines the Code regarding statutory adoption provisions. The bill clarifies the venue alternatives when a child is placed for adoption with an out-of-state resident.

The exception to the general venue rule applies when a child is placed in accordance with the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC), or when the petitioner is a resident of another country. HB 913 reduces the statutory age at which a person is allowed to petition for adoption from 25 to 21 years old. The bill clarifies that adoption petitioners are not subject to the requirements of the ICPC when the ICPC's relative exception applies, or when the petitioners are residents of another country. Moreover, the bill clarifies the deadline for submitting a revocation be delivered by registered mail or by statutory overnight delivery.

HB 913 authorizes use of certified mail with return receipt requested to effect service upon a parent when state law does not require a surrender or termination of parental rights, or when state law authorizes the termination of a parent's rights based on certain circumstances. The bill allows the required search of the putative father registry to be performed after the adoption petition is filed and the results to be attached as an amendment to the petition. The bill requires the petition for adoption to request the appointment of an investigator to verify the allegations in the adoption petition if the court fails to appoint one. HB 913 creates a presumption that a nonresident petitioner can appear for the final hearing via electronic means if the petition for adoption is uncontested.

HB 913 creates a civil cause of action as a tort claim under Georgia law to address adoption scams where individuals intentionally misrepresent a pregnancy or intention to place a child for adoption when the individual is not pregnant or has no intention of placing a child for adoption and no money has been obtained by the individual, but the potential adoptive parents have expended money based on the misrepresentation.

Finally, the bill incorporates these changes into statutorily prescribed adoption forms.

Authored By:	Rep. Albert Reeves (34th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Juvenile Justice	Committee Action:	02-26-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 7	Amendments:	

HB 949 Revenue and taxation; define "Internal Revenue Code" and "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" and thereby incorporate certain provisions of the federal law into Georgia law; define the terms

Bill Summary: HB 949 provides the annual Internal Revenue Code update to O.C.G.A. 48-8-2, which includes retroactive changes regarding disaster relief and medical expense deductions.

The bill also amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-20, relating to individual income tax rates and tables, effective January 1, 2021, by eliminating the bracketed tax rates and including a tax rate of 5.375 percent on all income. O.C.G.A. 48-7-27, relating to computation of taxable net income, is amended by requiring income taxes imposed by any taxing jurisdiction, including the State of Georgia, to be added back to the extent those taxes were deducted in determining federal taxable income. The bill repeals the tax credit in O.C.G.A. 48-7-7A and adds a new Code section, which establishes a formula-driven non-refundable income tax credit. For a taxpayer filing as a single with federal adjusted gross income (FAGI) of less than \$58,750, the formula is the taxpayers FAGI subtracted from \$58,750 multiplied by 0.0375 plus an additional amount equal to \$7.50 multiplied by the taxpayer's number of claimed dependents. Married persons filing a joint return with FAGI of less than \$81,500, the formula is the taxpayers FAGI subtracted from \$81,500 multiplied by 0.0375 plus an additional amount equal to \$7.50 multiplied by the taxpayer's number of claimed dependents. Married persons filing separately with FAGI of less than \$40,750, the formula is the taxpayers FAGI subtracted from \$40,750 multiplied by 0.0375 plus an additional amount equal to \$7.50 multiplied by the taxpayer's number of claimed dependents. For a taxpayer filing as a head of household with FAGI of less than \$75,250, the formula is the taxpayers FAGI subtracted from \$75,250 multiplied by 0.0375 plus an additional amount equal to \$7.50 multiplied by the taxpayer's number of claimed dependents.

The bill also amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-29.15, relating to tax credit for adoption of a foster child, by increasing the current credit from \$2,000 to \$6,000 per foster child for the first five years of adoption and returning to \$2,000 per year until the child reaches the age of 18. Unused credits are non-refundable and cannot be carried forward to future year's tax liability. This portion of the bill is applicable to all adoptions occurring on or after January 1, 2020.

Authored By: Rep. John Carson (46th)
House Committee: Ways & Means
Floor Vote: Yeas: 100 Nays: 68

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 03-09-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 1082 Motor vehicles; notification letter for retrieving a motor vehicle held by a towing and storage firm, repair facility, or salvage dealer; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1082 changes the requirement from 15 calendar days to 10 calendar days for specified notifications relating to abandoned vehicles. The bill prohibits the addition of taxes, fees, or surcharges to specified fines relating to abandoned vehicles.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-03-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 1094 Public officers and employees; paid parental leave for state employees; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1094 provides state employees with 20 hours of paid parental leave.

Authored By: Rep. Houston Gaines (117th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services
Floor Vote: Yeas: 164 Nays: 1

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-04-2020 Do Pass
Amendments:

HB 1111 Public officers and employees; certain provisions related to homeowner tax relief grants; remove

Bill Summary: House Bill 1111 deletes references to the Homeowner Tax Relief grants when reserving funds during revenue shortfalls.

The bill provides new parameters for withholding allotments of appropriated state general funds to agencies after the first quarter of a fiscal year when revenue collections fall by one percent or more below the amount collected for the same period during the prior year. In the event of a shortfall, payments to every agency may be reduced by the same percentage as the shortfall. The governor will provide public notice and hold a public hearing before executing a shortfall withhold, as well as identify and recommend budget reductions to the General Assembly within 30 days of the next session.

Authored By: Rep. Andrew Welch (110th)
House Committee: Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight
Floor Vote: Yeas: 144 Nays: 14

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee Action: 03-09-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

HB 1112 Public officers and employees; Office of Planning and Budget; repeal certain duties

Bill Summary: House Bill 1112 modernizes portions of the 'Budget Accountability and Planning Act of 1993' and codifies certain existing fiscal practices. The bill establishes a five-member State Council of Economic Advisors who are economists or have expertise in state revenues. The governor appoints three members, which includes the governor's economic advisor who also serves as the chair. The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House each have one appointment. The members meet quarterly to review state treasury receipts less refunds and prepare a range of anticipated revenue for the next amended fiscal year by September 1 and the next fiscal year by July 1. The revenue ranges are shared with the governor, speaker, lieutenant governor, and the chairs of the appropriations committees and published by these deadlines. The governor sets the revenue estimate within the approved ranges.

The bill provides for the simultaneous electronic delivery of each budget unit's annual budget requests and supporting documentation to the legislative budget offices, in addition to the Office of Planning and Budget (OPB), between August 1 and September 1. Requests, approvals, and denials of budget amendments and allotments are also filed simultaneously, and the House and Senate budget

offices will review those documents for conformity to agency work plans, and may refer them to the Legislative Services Committee for further review or hearings. An agency's request to reserve funds at the end of the fiscal year must also be simultaneously submitted to the three budget offices; and while the state auditor in conjunction with OPB approve and deny those requests, OPB will provide written notice of the decision to the legislative budget offices and the requesting budget unit at the same time. Failure to adhere to this process results in an automatic lapse of the funds. The legislation repeals a Code section to reinvest half of an agency's cost-savings back into the agency.

HB 1112 adds the Georgia Technology Authority to the list of entities under the definition of "state authorities" authorized to issue debt. It codifies the current practice of redirecting leftover or unexpended bond funds to another project within the agency by a vote of the board of the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission, but establishes a cumulative cap of redirects to a project of \$2 million. Redirects above \$2 million must be reauthorized in legislation by the General Assembly.

Authored By:	Rep. Clay Pirkle (155th)	Rule Applied:	Structured
House Committee:	Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 138 Nays: 28	Amendments:	

HB 1114 Medical assistance; Medicaid coverage for lactation care and services and postpartum care; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1114 allows the Department of Community Health to pursue a Medicaid waiver to provide coverage for lactation care and services to pregnant and lactating women, children who are breastfeeding or receiving their mother's milk, and postpartum care for mothers for a period of up to six months following birth.

Authored By:	Rep. Sharon Cooper (43rd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Health & Human Services	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 162 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

Postponed Until Next Legislative Day

HB 641 Georgia Bureau of Investigation; grant powers and duties to identify and investigate violations of the Georgia Computer Systems Protection Act and other computer crimes

Bill Summary: House Bill 641 authorizes the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) to identify and investigate violations of the 'Georgia Computer Systems Protection Act' and other criminal offenses involving the use of a computer or computer network. The legislation also grants the GBI subpoena power for these investigations, with the consent of the attorney general.

Authored By:	Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
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HB 952 Pharmacies; prohibit corporations that own and operate multiple pharmacies from implementing policies and procedures that restrict the quantity of controlled substances dispensed or restrict the prescriber

Bill Summary: House Bill 952 prohibits corporations that own and operate multiple pharmacy locations in Georgia from establishing or implementing any policy or practice that places a restriction on the quantity or dosage of a prescription for a controlled substance or a restriction on filling a prescription for a controlled substance issued by a specific prescriber.

Authored By:	Rep. Sharon Cooper (43rd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
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Local Calendar

HB 1006 Atlanta Judicial Circuit; provide for the selection of the chief judge

Bill Summary: HB 1006 provides for the selection of a chief judge for the Atlanta Judicial Circuit.

Authored By:	Rep. Derrick Jackson (64th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1025 Acworth, City of; adopt by reference a certain map

Bill Summary: House Bill 1025 adopts by reference a certain map for the city of Acworth.

Authored By:	Rep. Ed Setzler (35th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1075 Atlanta, City of; Board of Education; provide for staggered terms for members

Bill Summary: House Bill 1075 provides for staggered terms for members of the Atlanta Independent School System Board of Education.

Authored By:	Rep. Betsy Holland (54th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1087 Holly Springs, City of; ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption in the amount of up to \$409,900.00 for residents 62 years or older

Bill Summary: HB 1087 provides a homestead exemption from city of Holly Springs ad valorem taxes up to \$409,900 of the appraised value of the homestead for residents who are 62 and older.

Authored By:	Rep. Scot Turner (21st)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1088 Ludowici, City of; change corporate limits

Bill Summary: House Bill 1088 changes the corporate limits of the city of Ludowici.

Authored By:	Rep. J. B. Jones (167th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

HB 1110 East Dublin, City of; new term for the mayor pro tempore; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1110 provides a new term for the mayor pro tempore of the town of East Dublin, and provides for the designation of at-large councilmember posts.

Authored By:	Rep. Matt Hatchett (150th)	Rule Applied:	
House Committee:	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	Committee Action:	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

SB 438 Appling County; ascertaining whether electors desire to reduce the size of the board of commissioners; nonbinding advisory referendum; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 438 provides a non-binding referendum to determine if the electors of Appling County desire to reduce the size of the board of commissioners by eliminating the at-large

commission chairperson.

Authored By:	Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

SB 450 Ocilla-Irwin County Industrial Development Authority; membership; change

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 450 changes the membership of the Ocilla-Irwin County Industrial Development Authority.

Authored By:	Sen. Tyler Harper (7th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 1	Amendments:	

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 28th Legislative Day, Wednesday, March 11, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Thursday, March 12, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 29th Legislative Day.

HB 93 Water pollution and surface-water use; notice to local governing authorities prior to the dewatering of coal combustion residual surface impoundments; provide

Bill Summary: HB 879 requires the owner or operator of a coal combustion residual (CCR) surface impoundment to provide written notice to the director of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and the local governing authority within three days of the commencement of a dewatering operation. The director of EPD must post a public notice on the division's website within seven days of receiving the notice. The owner or operator of the CCR surface impoundment must also post CCR rule compliance data in a public notice on their website, as well as publish such notice in the legal organ of the affected county within 14 days.

Authored By:	Rep. Ricky Williams (145th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Natural Resources & Environment	Committee	02-20-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute

HB 720 Criminal procedure; term of probation shall follow the mandatory term of imprisonment for persons convicted of a sexual offense; clarify

Bill Summary: HB 720 makes adjustments in Code related to persons convicted of a sexual offense. It requires at least one year of probation following the mandatory term of imprisonment for certain sexual offenses. For second or subsequent convictions for certain sexual offense for different events than a previous conviction, the bill requires probation for life and is subject to electronic monitoring. After 10 years of probation, probationers for life who have met certain criteria may have the probation terminated by a petition to the court filed by the Department of Community Supervision, and the court shall take whatever action it determines is in the best interest of justice and society.

Any law enforcement agency of a competent jurisdiction may post a sign in the front of the residence of any person on such probation that states 'No candy or treats at this residence' on October 30th and 31st of each year.

The bill renames the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board as the 'Sexual Offender Risk Review Board', and is authorized to hire investigators. HB 720 provides a framework for how the board determines classifications and how offenders can dispute the classification of the board.

HB 720 clarifies that the consent of the victim under the age of 16 is not a defense for sodomy, aggravated sodomy, sexual battery, aggravated sexual battery, child molestation, aggravated child molestation. If a victim chooses not to immediately report a sexual assault, the investigation law enforcement agency must maintain any physical evidence collected for not less than 12 months. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council shall create and operate a state-wide sexual assault kit tracking system and submit a semiannual report on the data to the appropriate committees of the legislature and to the governor.

Finally, the Georgia Composite Medical Review Board is required to revoke or suspend physicians who have committed a sexual assault on a patient.

Authored By:	Rep. Steven Sainz (180th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Judiciary Non-Civil	Committee	03-05-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute

HB 761 Public utilities and public transportation; eliminate percentage limitation as to the amount of the investments an electric membership corporation may make and maintain in a gas affiliate

Bill Summary: House Bill 761 raises the investment cap that electric membership corporations may make and maintain in a gas affiliate from 15 to 60 percent.

Authored By: Rep. John Carson (46th)
House Committee: Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications

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

HB 833 Waters, ports, and watercraft; promulgate rules and regulations regarding long-term anchoring; authorize

Bill Summary: HB 833 defines "long-term anchoring" as anchoring a vessel within a 5,280-foot radius of a documented anchoring point for over 14 cumulative days in a calendar year. Anchoring a vessel within a 5,280-foot radius of a documented anchoring point for up to 14 cumulative days is considered short-term anchoring. "Anchorage restriction areas" are defined as any location in the state within 300 feet of a marina, 150 feet from a marine structure other a marina, or within 500 feet of approved commercial shellfish growing or public harvest areas.

The bill prohibits any person from long-term anchoring a vessel in state estuarine areas without a permit issued by the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. Short-term anchoring is not affected and the commissioner may make exceptions.

Authored By: Rep. Ron Stephens (164th)
House Committee: Natural Resources & Environment

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-05-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 857 Conservation and natural resources; burning of certain chemically treated wood products for purposes of commercial energy generation; prohibit

Bill Summary: HB 857 requires permits issued for biomass boilers to prohibit the burning of railroad ties treated with creosote or naphthenate compounds for the purpose of commercial electricity generation. Boilers that provide steam or electricity to a co-located forest products processing plant are exempt.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)
House Committee: Natural Resources & Environment

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-05-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 881 Domestic relations; provisions relating to safe places for newborns; revise

Bill Summary: House Bill 881 establishes a committee to review newborn safety incubators. A report with recommendations will be submitted to the Georgia General Assembly by December 31, 2020. Additionally, the bill expands the existing Safe Haven Law by allowing newborn children to be left with ambulance providers.

Authored By: Rep. Sharon Cooper (43rd)
House Committee: Health & Human Services

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-04-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 901 Georgia Environmental Finance Authority; power to make loan commitments and loans to local governments and nongovernment agencies for projects that permanently protect land and water; provide

Bill Summary: HB 901 allows the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority to provide loans or loan commitments to local governments and non-governmental entities for projects that protect land or water with at least one of the following conservation purposes: water quality protection at rivers, streams, and lakes; flood or wetlands protection; erosion reduction; protection of riparian buffers; protection of agricultural and forestry lands; protection of cultural or heritage sites; scenic protection; recreational activities; or the connection of other qualifying projects.

Authored By:	Rep. Mike Cheokas (138th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Natural Resources & Environment	Committee	03-05-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute

HB 906 Heritage Trust Program; condition the method utilized for conveyance of heritage preserve property on the property's amount of acreage

Bill Summary: HB 906 allows the Department of Natural Resources to convey fee simple title up to 15 acres of heritage preserve property to a county or local government or private entity. The Department of Natural Resources must receive approval from the department's board to remove the heritage preserve dedication from the property, approval from the State Properties Commission to convey the property, and file a notice of removal of the heritage preserve dedication with the Secretary of State's office and the office of the clerk of the superior court of the county or counties in which the property is located.

Authored By:	Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Natural Resources & Environment	Committee	03-05-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute

HB 929 Solid waste management; post-closure ground-water monitoring at closed coal combustion residual impoundments; provide

Bill Summary: HB 929 codifies certain state and federal rules by requiring solid waste handling permittees that manage coal combustion residual (CCR) surface impoundments to conduct post-closure care at the impoundments for a minimum of 30 years following the closure. Post-closure care shall include at least the maintenance of the final cover system, monitoring of ground water, and maintenance of the ground-water monitoring system. The Environmental Protection Division will inspect CCR surface impoundments at least once a year during the closure process and at least once every five years following the closure.

The bill requires that any ground-water monitoring report contain an executive summary written in a manner that can be understood by individuals without technical expertise. The summary shall include a description of the facility and CCR surface impoundment, the ground-water monitoring network, results of the most recent sampling, and status of any corrective action, if applicable.

Authored By:	Rep. Vance Smith (133rd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Natural Resources & Environment	Committee	03-05-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	

HB 991 Healthcare Transparency and Accountability Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 991 creates the Health Care Transparency and Accountability Oversight Committee. The committee has authority to review the performance and conduct of all state health care plan contractors and their subcontractors. The oversight committee is composed of nine members: a physician, a pharmacist, and a consumer member who receives benefits from a state health care plan, each appointed by the governor; and six members of the General Assembly, including two members appointed by the governor, two members appointed by the lieutenant governor, and two members appointed by the speaker of the House.

Authored By:	Rep. Matt Hatchett (150th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Special Committee on Access to	Committee	03-05-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:	Quality Health Care	Action:	Substitute

HB 993 Health; vital records reports and data from the state registrar relating to child abuse reports; provide

Bill Summary: HB 993 directs the state registrar to provide reports filed regarding abuse and neglect concerning a child or his or her parents or siblings to the Division of Family and Children Services.

Authored By:	Rep. Katie Dempsey (13th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Juvenile Justice	Committee	03-09-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	

HB 1015 Georgia Carbon Sequestration Registry; inclusion of building products in construction on the registry; provide

Bill Summary: HB 1015 requires the director of the Georgia Forestry Commission to establish the Sustainable Building Material Carbon Sequestration Technical Advisory Committee. The committee's members consist of the following: one member with expertise in engineering and architecture from the Georgia Institute of Technology; one member with expertise related to the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes; one member that is a real estate developer or builder; one member with expertise related to carbon credit markets; and up to three at-large members. The director of the Georgia Forestry Commission determines the chairperson of the committee. The committee advises the director on interoperability and compatibility of state credits derived from carbon sequestration of building materials with global carbon credit and offset markets.

Developers must register with the Georgia Carbon Sequestration Registry to be eligible to receive credits for the use of carbon-capturing building materials. Participants must provide certified carbon sequestration results to provide a baseline. An approved third-party organization may provide testing of building materials that sequester carbon dioxide. Only projects completed after July 1, 2019 may be considered.

To ensure integrity of the program, the Georgia Forestry Commission must conduct random evaluations of the results provided by participants and report the findings in the biennial report to the governor and General Assembly.

Authored By:	Rep. Marcus Wiedower (119th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Natural Resources & Environment	Committee Action:	03-05-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1017 Public officers and employees; revise when dependents qualify for a payment of indemnification for death under the Georgia State Indemnification Fund

Bill Summary: House Bill 1017 requires indemnification payments for death suffered in the line of duty by a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management specialist, state highway employee, or a prison guard to be made to the surviving, not remarried spouse; the surviving children under the age of 19, or under the age of 24 if the child is a student enrolled in an institution of postsecondary education; or any dependents not included in Georgia Code, but who are shown as dependents in the spouse's or deceased person's most recent tax return. In the case of organic brain damage suffered in the line of duty, the payment is made to the legal guardian of the organically brain-damaged person. The bill applies to claims regarding any incident giving rise to a death occurring on or after August 1, 2016.

Authored By:	Rep. Dominic LaRiccica (169th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Public Safety & Homeland Security	Committee Action:	03-05-2020 Do Pass

HB 1026 Education; number of REACH scholars to be designated by participating school systems; revise

Bill Summary: House Bill 527 amends O.C.G.A. 20-3-499, relating to the selection of REACH scholars. Under the provisions of this bill, the number of REACH scholars is reduced from 12 to eight for school systems with five or more high schools and from seven to five for school systems with less than five high schools.

Authored By:	Rep. Robert Dickey (140th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House Committee:	Education	Committee Action:	03-05-2020 Do Pass

HB 1039 Contracts; additional protections for consumers who enter into service contracts that contain lengthy automatic renewal provisions; provide

Bill Summary: HB 1039 requires that a seller for any contract for service that automatically renews for a period of more than 12 months must obtain the following for the automatic renewal provision to be enforceable: written or electronic acknowledgement from the consumer that a notification has

been provided, and a written or electronic response indicating the consumer does not intend to terminate the contract.

Authored By:	Rep. Sam Watson (172nd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs	Committee	03-04-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	

HB 1070 Condominiums; new insurance policy disclosure requirements for condominium associations and unit owners in the event of potential or actual claims filed against such policies; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1070 allows a condominium association and unit owners to request a written copy of the certificate of insurance or contact information of the assigned adjuster from the other party for claims related to water damage.

Authored By:	Rep. Houston Gaines (117th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Insurance	Committee	03-04-2020 Do Pass by Committee
Committee:		Action:	Substitute

HB 1093 Agriculture; provide for an Agricultural Commodity Commission for Wine and Grapes

Bill Summary: HB 1093 creates the Agricultural Commodity Commission for Wine and Grapes. Two members shall be producers of wine as appointed by ex-officio members and one member from each of the three designated regions in the state.

Authored By:	Rep. Steven Meeks (178th)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Structured
House	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs	Committee	03-04-2020 Do Pass
Committee:		Action:	

Committee Actions

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

Education Committee

HB 476 Education; child entertainer students performing during one or more school days shall not be counted absent from school; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 476 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-692.3 relating to compulsory attendance for students in elementary and secondary education to allow child entertainers to be counted as present when working in the entertainment industry. The student will not be counted as absent as long as the student performer's parent or guardian and the child labor coordinator or studio teacher certifies with a form provided by the Department of Labor that the student performer was performing. The performance certification must clearly describe the curriculum and content standards that were included in the student's instruction by the studio teacher. When a student performer is engaged in a performance for three consecutive school days or longer, the studio teacher must collaborate with the student's regular teacher to ensure appropriate curriculum and content standards are communicated and used for instruction by the studio teacher.

Authored By: Rep. Valencia Stovall (74th)

**House
Committee:** Education

**Committee
Action:** 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1106 Unlocking the Promise Whole Child Model Schools Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 1106 creates the 'Unlocking the Promise Whole Child Model Schools Act' which allows school systems to become certified as whole child model schools. A whole child model school should work with community partners to promote and coordinate wraparound services and supports for the school and actively engage community partners in a meaningful way. The Department of Education shall create and post on its website the guidelines and other relevant information relating to whole child model schools.

Authored By: Rep. Mike Glanton (75th)

**House
Committee:** Education

**Committee
Action:** 03-10-2020 Do Pass

Governmental Affairs Committee

HB 520 Elections; change date of nonpartisan general elections

Bill Summary: House Bill 520 permits consolidated governments, by act of the General Assembly, to hold nonpartisan elections at the general election in even-numbered years; this permission does not apply to specified judges.

Authored By: Rep. Houston Gaines (117th)

**House
Committee:** Governmental Affairs

**Committee
Action:** 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1073 Local government; creation of regional development authorities; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1073 provides guidelines for the establishment and governance of regional development authorities. A regional development authority may be created via a joint resolution by a group of three to five contiguous counties. Regional development authorities are eligible to apply to the One Georgia Authority for grants to fund primary care medical facilities within the regional development authority's jurisdiction.

Authored By: Rep. Sam Watson (172nd)

**House
Committee:** Governmental Affairs

**Committee
Action:** 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1122 Regional commissions; appointment of nonpublic members to the councils; revise provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 1122 changes the makeup of regional commission councils by removing members appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the House of Representatives and adding one non-public resident of each county in the region. The bill provides for the establishment of an executive committee for each council.

Authored By: Rep. Sam Watson (172nd)
House Committee: Governmental Affairs

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Health & Human Services Committee**HB 1046 Commerce and trade; provide for assistance to individuals with disabilities at self-service gasoline stations**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1046 requires every attendant employed by a gasoline station to dispense gasoline for the holder of a special disability permit.

Authored By: Rep. Henry "Wayne" Howard (124th)

House Committee: Health & Human Services

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1125 Lacey's Law; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 1125 requires the Department of Community Health and the Georgia Composite Medical Board to identify and compile information on an annual basis that identifies individuals at high risk for breast cancer. Additionally, the bill requires the state health benefit plan to include coverage for breast cancer screening for women ages 30 or older who are at high risk of breast cancer.

Authored By: Rep. Trey Kelley (16th)
House Committee: Health & Human Services

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass

HR 1302 Joint Study Committee on Chronic Weight Management and Type 2 Diabetes; create

Bill Summary: House Resolution 1302 creates the Joint Study Committee on Chronic Weight Management and Type 2 Diabetes. The study committee is charged with studying the health implications of chronic weight management and Type 2 diabetes, the cost associated with the diseases, and the various health treatments available to reduce this epidemic in Georgia.

The committee is composed of ten members: four members appointed by the speaker of the House, including someone who is a licensed physician; four members appointed by the president of the Senate, including someone who is an obesity expert; and both commissioners of community and public health.

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

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass

Higher Education Committee**HB 1085 Education; tuition equalization grants; expand definition of approved school**

Bill Summary: HB 1085 expands eligibility to receive tuition equalization grants to include higher education institutions with a current physical presence in Georgia for at least seven years and accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and either the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S.

Department of Education. These institutions must also have a four-year average passage rate of at least 85 percent for the National Council Licensure Examination and admit students who have a high school diploma, GED diploma, or a degree from an accredited postsecondary institution. Eligible institutions do not include Bible schools or colleges, or graduate schools or colleges of theology or divinity.

HB 1085 is effective with any appropriations act that specifically references this bill.

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

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Motor Vehicles Committee

HB 1009 Motor vehicles; personal assistive mobility devices; prohibit clinging to vehicles

Bill Summary: House Bill 1009 prohibits the use of an electric personal mobility device or a moped while the device is attached to a vehicle.

Authored By: Rep. Michael Smith (41st)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1020 Motor vehicles; license suspension for conviction of drug related offenses; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1020 changes the hour requirement from 20 hours to 16 hours for the intervention component of DUI risk reduction programs. If an individual completes a DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk Reduction Program in order to obtain a limited driving permit, the Department of Driver Services is required to count that completed course toward specified driver's license reinstatement requirements. The completion of a DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk Reduction Program is added as part of the punishment for specified driving offenses.

Authored By: Rep. Micah Gravley (67th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1100 Motor vehicles; standards for the issuance of manufacturer's, manufacturer headquarters', distributor's, and dealer's license plates; revise

Bill Summary: House Bill 1100 provides guidelines, limitations, and fees for the issuance of motor vehicle dealer, broker, manufacturer, and distributor license plates. The bill provides guidelines for license issuance for motor vehicle brokers.

Authored By: Rep. Jason Ridley (6th)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

HB 1143 Motor vehicles; require registration application forms to include optional information regarding certain conditions which may interfere with a registrant's ability to communicate

Bill Summary: House Bill 1143 allows an applicant to designate on their motor vehicle registration form if they have a physical, mental, or neurological condition, which impacts their ability to communicate; this information will be available to law enforcement.

Authored By: Rep. Tom McCall (33rd)
House Committee: Motor Vehicles

Committee Action: 03-10-2020 Do Pass

Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care

HB 542 Health; health care facilities to purchase and sell charity care credits through an exchange to meet their indigent and charity care requirements; authorize

Bill Summary: House Bill 542 requires the Department of Community Health (DCH) to conduct a pilot program to examine the potential use of a regulated pool of charity care credits through a simulated charity care exchange. A "charity care credit" is a value calculated for uncompensated indigent or charity care based on 150 percent of Medicaid allowable costs.

The simulated exchange will be operational from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021 and must include two open auction periods when health care facilities can purchase or sell charity care credits. The DCH will provide a report by December 31, 2021, to the Georgia General Assembly that includes: the total amount of charity care credits purchased and sold through the simulated exchange; the effectiveness of the exchange, including whether each health care facility met its charity floor requirements; the costs and benefits associated with using the exchange; and recommendations on the design and establishment of a permanent charity care exchange.

Authored By:	Rep. Todd Jones (25th)	Committee	03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee
House	Special Committee on Access to	Action:	Substitute
Committee:	Quality Health Care		

HB 1027 Insurance; rebates received from pharmaceutical manufacturers, provide requirements

Bill Summary: House Bill 1027 requires that each plan a pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) offers its clients must include an option in which an enrollee's defined cost sharing for each prescription drug calculated at the point of sale is based on a price that is reduced by an amount equal to at least 80 percent of all rebates received in connection with the dispensing or administration of the prescription drug.

Additionally, the bill requires PBMs to provide the Insurance Department a report detailing the number and percentage of clients that opted to have cost sharing reduced for their enrollees at the point of sale. If a PBM fails to comply with the provision, the Insurance Department may refuse to issue or renew a PBM license. PBMs will not publish or disclose information regarding the actual amount of rebates the PBM receives, including information regarding the amount of rebates it receives on a product, manufacturer, or pharmacy-specific basis.

Authored By:	Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th)	Committee	03-10-2020 Do Pass by Committee
House	Special Committee on Access to	Action:	Substitute
Committee:	Quality Health Care		

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, March 11, 2020

8:30 AM	HB 792, Amended Fiscal Year 2020 Conference Committee	403 CAP
9:00 AM	ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS	403 CAP
10:00 AM	REGULATED INDUSTRIES	406 CLOB
10:30 AM	GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS	403 CAP
1:00 PM	HIGHER EDUCATION	606 CLOB
1:30 PM	JUDICIARY CIVIL	132 CAP
2:00 PM	JUVENILE JUSTICE	406 CLOB
2:00 PM	WAYS AND MEANS	415 CLOB
3:00 PM	INDUSTRY AND LABOR	506 CLOB