February 20, 2023

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Weekly Welcome

Some days at the capitol are like being involuntarily forced into a high-stakes game of team trivia, except without the sticky bar table, the dude with the microphone, a tire-sized serving of chili cheese fries or a chance for free tickets to Dragoncon. The barrage of questions starts upon arrival: How many hours will you park? (Is “infinity” an answer?) What made the metal detector beep? (Answer: Keys. Sorry. Phone. Sorry. Laptop. Sorry. Thermos with carrot juice. Sorry. Thermos with coffee. Sorry. Thermos with chicken soup. Sorry. Small toaster oven. Sorry...) What’s in committee today? What’s on the House floor? Why did she vote that way? Who’s giving away hot dogs? Where did you get that amendment? Why is the Senate in recess? What’s that press conference about? Did the 67th sports betting bill drop yet? Is that a congressman or an insurance salesman (or both)? Why are all those people wearing purple? Questions ultimately degrade into the likes of: Does anybody have a band-aid? Where is my phone? Why doesn’t the soap dispenser work? Who’s got some ibuprofen? What is that smell? Does anyone know anyone who can let my dog out? When will they ever vote? Are we too old to change careers? Why is it dark outside? My team of advocates, allies, and acquaintances (team moniker = “The Peanut Gallery Gallery” – PGG for short) usually scores pretty well – I’d say in the top ten out of fifty – but we usually don’t have much to show for it, except for maybe a lapel pin and if we are lucky, one of those teeny-tiny bags of Georgia peanuts that are scattered around the cap (hence the moniker). More than likely, we can count on “winning” a laugh or two, a blister, perhaps a free medical screening of some sort in room 216, and the opportunity to compete again the next legislative day. Call me a sucker, but I come back every time.

This past week was loaded up with pursuits that were not so “trivial”, so scan the bills below to see what is moving and what is new. And please take action on the home visiting action alert below as soon as you can.

And if your team can answer this question without cheating, we will email you one of those little bags of peanuts: Who is this Legislative Update from?

-- Polly

Polly McKinney
Advocacy Director
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Legislative Update
As of 02/18/2023

Justice, Public Safety, and School Discipline

HB 107  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Requires that certain procedures be followed by peace officers upon and after making contact with individuals for law enforcement purposes, including providing the peace officer's business card to any person whom the peace officer has detained in a traffic stop but has not cited or arrested, wearing of body cameras, methods to file complaints, etc.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 112  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Provides for the creation, operation, and powers of certain citizen review boards and protocols for recording complaints alleging police misconduct and disciplinary actions, among other things.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 113  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Requires training on de-escalation techniques for peace officers.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 114  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Requires implicit bias training for law enforcement officers.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 115  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Prohibits racial profiling by law enforcement officers and law enforcement agencies and requires collection of related data. The bill also requires certain actions by the Attorney General and revises the state waiver of sovereign immunity.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 136  (Petrea-166th)  Bill Link
Requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) commissioner to publish on the official DOC website a report of aggregate data on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainers, offenses, and home countries of inmates who are not U.S. citizens and who are confined under the department’s authority. The report will include the percentage of persons who are not citizens with regard to the total population in confinement.

HB 142  (Mainor-56th)  Bill Link
Provides for the establishment of unified campus police forces through agreements entered into by colleges and universities, whereby a campus policeman employed by any of the colleges or universities participating in the united police force agreement who is P.O.S.T. certified shall have the same law enforcement powers, including the power of arrest, as a law enforcement officer of any local government with police jurisdiction over such campuses.

HB 171  (Kennard-101st)  Bill Link
Revises the handling of arrest-only criminal history record information and provides for the automatic restriction of an individual’s criminal history record information upon arrest, and provides that such criminal history record information shall be made publicly available only upon the issuance of an indictment, accusation, or other charging instrument.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee
HB 179  (Hutchinson-106th)  Bill Link
Provides that when an inmate is subjected to confinement in a correctional facility the department shall ensure that any such confinement is imposed only within the medical units of the facility, digitally record each incident from the initiation of the confinement for the duration of the incident, and document any de-escalation efforts implemented, the reason or reasons for which the use of confinement was implemented, and the duration of the confinement. The warden or facility administrator of each correctional facility shall furnish monthly reports to the department off that data.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 197  (McCollum-30th)  Bill Link
Creates the offense of drug-induced homicide and increases penalties for the distribution of fentanyl and for the distribution of controlled substances within 1,000 feet of any substance abuse treatment facility.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 218  (Hilton-48th)  Bill Link
Provides for the use of hearsay as admissible evidence in sexual assault cases involving disabled adults and disabled 17 year olds.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 227  (Leverett-123rd)  Bill Link
Provides for the offense of criminal interference with critical infrastructure.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.

HB 231  (Gullett-19th)  Bill Link
Creates the Prosecuting Attorneys Oversight Commission.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this WEDNESDAY.

HB 232  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Requires public disclosure of certain data pertaining to the health, safety, or other conditions of detention of inmates.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 253  (Momtahan-17th)  Bill Link
Creates the offense of drug-induced homicide and increases penalties for the distribution of fentanyl and for the distribution of controlled substances within 1,000 feet of any substance abuse treatment facility.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 296  (Neal-79th)  Bill Link
Requires the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council to establish basic and in-service training courses on de-escalation techniques and methods.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 325  (Miller-62nd)  Bill Link
Requires the establishment of guidelines for use of body cameras by peace officers and that certain peace officers be equipped with body cameras for recording audio and video of all activities performed while on duty.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 334  (Smith-18th)  Bill Link
Provides for criminal history record information restriction for persons granted a pardon for certain offenses and revises the procedure for petitioning for exoneration and discharge when an individual has qualified for sentencing as a first offender.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.
HB 356 (Bazemore-69th) Bill Link
Prohibits the use of corporal punishment by school administrators, teachers, and other school personnel with any student in any public school and requires the State Board of Education and the Department of Education to provide for minimum standards and model student codes of conduct which address appropriate methods for redirecting students whose behavior is dangerous or disruptive.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 376 (Holcomb-81st) Bill Link
Prohibits that no private corporation shall operate a detention facility.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 382 (Anulewicz-42nd) Bill Link
Adds communications made in the context of victim centered programs, including restorative justice practices, and sanctioned victim-offender dialogues in the list of conversations which are considered privileged.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 387 (Alexander-66th) Bill Link
Codifies the proclamation by the Office of the President of the United States that would grant a pardon and restore full political, civil, and other rights regarding the offense of simple possession of marijuana.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 388 (Alexander-66th) Bill Link
Provides that possession of certain quantities of marijuana constitute a misdemeanor and changes provisions relating to punishment.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 446 (Reeves-99th) Bill Link
Defines the offense of drive-by shooting; modifies the offense of aggravated assault to include discharging a firearm towards a motorized vehicle or occupied building after immediately exiting a vehicle; and enhances criminal penalties for such charges.
Status: House Hopper

HB 459 (Lumsden-12th) Bill Link
Authorizes the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to submit felony juvenile arrest fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Status: House Hopper

HB 462 (Ballinger-23rd) Bill Link
"Raise the Age Act" - Provides for an implementation committee to change the jurisdiction of the juvenile court to include certain children who are 17 years of age. The committee will issue a report on their findings regarding how to achieve their goal by Dec. 1, 2023. Superior court would continue to have jurisdiction over any 17-year-old who commits a delinquent act where criminal gang activity was involved.
Status: House Hopper

HB 478 (Holly-116th) Bill Link
Codifies the proclamation by the Office of the President of the United States, that would grant a pardon and restore full political, civil, and other rights regarding the offense of simple possession of marijuana.
Status: House Hopper

SB 7 (Beach-21st) Bill Link
Increases the mandatory minimum sentence for serious violent felons committed with possession of a firearm or knife.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee
SB 10 (Jones-10th) Bill Link
Increases penalties for drag racing and also states that any person who is knowingly present and actively facilitating an exhibition of illegal drag racing shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine of at least $250.00. Active facilitation may be evidenced by using a vehicle to block the portion of the roadway closest to exhibition participants allowing the event to take place.
Status: Senate Public Safety Committee

SB 11 (Albers-56th) Bill Link
Provides for concurrent jurisdiction by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in cases involving the identification, investigation, arrest, and prosecution of an individual or groups of individuals for violation of state laws concerning domestic, cyber, biological, chemical, and nuclear terrorism.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Assigned to House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

SB 12 (Albers-56th) Bill Link
Provides for sentencing to minimum terms of imprisonment for persons convicted of possession of firearms by convicted felons and first offender probationers when the offense for which such person is on probation, or has been previously convicted is a forcible felony, or a domestic violence felony, or an act of family violence. Among other things, the bill also provides that a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a criminal gang activity offense shall stop the defendant in any related civil proceeding as to matters proved in the criminal proceeding.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Awaits assignment to House Committee

SB 30 (Jones II-22nd) Bill Link
Lessens penalties for possession of two ounces or less of marijuana.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 44 (Hatchett-50th) Bill Link
Increases mandatory minimum penalties for violations of the Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

SB 92 (Robertson-29th) Bill Link
Creates the Prosecuting Attorneys Oversight Commission.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 100 (Hatchett-50th) Bill Link
Provides for the limitation of unsecured judicial release in certain circumstances where the accused has a prior conviction for the offense of bail jumping or failure to appear; for the requirement that an accused's criminal history be considered prior to issuing an unsecured judicial release; and for reconsideration of eligibility.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 110 (Walker-20th) Bill Link
Establishes the Back the Blue Fund that distributes voluntary contributions made through motor vehicle insurance policies for the purpose of increasing the pay to or enhancing the benefits of law enforcement officers.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Industry and Labor Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee

SB 119 (Parent-42nd) Bill Link
Prohibits persons convicted of misdemeanor crimes of family violence or subject to family violence protective orders from receiving, possessing, or transporting a firearm.
Status: Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee

SB 139 (Seay-34th) Bill Link
Establishes a state-wide database of peace officer disciplinary actions and complaints of misconduct.
Status: Senate Public Safety Committee

SB 175 (Halpern-39th) Bill Link
Provides for additional requirements for the issuance and execution of search warrants and no-knock warrants.
Status: Senate Public Safety Committee
SB 185  (Williams-25th)   Bill Link
Provides for the appointment of additional assistant district attorneys in judicial circuits with multiple detention facilities.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee
Protection and Safety

HB 121  (Anderson-10th)  Bill Link
Defines the terms “wakeboarding” and “wake surfing”, and places restrictions on these activities. Except in certain circumstances, no person is to engage in either of these two defined activities between sunset and sunrise, on a body of water less than 50 acres in size, on a portion of a body of water with a width of less than 400 feet, within 200 feet of a shoreline or structure located on the water, or without wearing a personal flotation device approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. These restrictions do not apply to activities in which the commissioner has granted a marine event permit.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Game, Fish & Parks Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

HB 124  (Bruce-61st)  Bill Link
Allows first responders of a fire department of a municipality to be granted licenses for emergency medical transportation under certain circumstances and to then be able to transport patients under certain circumstances.
Status: House Health Committee

HB 135  (Oliver-82nd)  Bill Link
Establishes the offense of failure to adequately secure a firearm.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 144  (Lewis-Ward-115th)  Bill Link
Except to the extent determined by the court, allows a ward to retain and exercise all of the powers of a person without a disability, including the right to communicate, visit, or interact with other persons through visits, telephone calls, or personal mail.
Status: House Juvenile Justice Committee

HB 188  (Sainz-180th)  Bill Link
Revises the name of the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board to "Sexual Offender Risk Review Board." The bill also provides that punishment for certain sexual offenses shall be life imprisonment and shall require such persons to wear a device capable of tracking the location of the probationer by electronic means, including global positioning satellite systems.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.

HB 194  (Hutchison-106th)  Bill Link
"Undocumented Persons Family Violence Protection Act" - provides that any undocumented person who in good faith seeks law enforcement assistance and who is a victim of family violence, or who seeks assistance on behalf of a victim of family violence, shall not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for being an undocumented person.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 195  (Marin-96th)  Bill Link
Requires a firearms safety training course for certain persons making application for a weapons carry license or renewal license.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 216  (Lim-98th)  Bill Link
Authorizes respite care for foster parents for longer periods of time pursuant to circumstances delineated in rules and regulations established by the Department of Human Services.
Status: Senate Hopper

HB 327  (Cameron-1st)  Bill Link
Includes grandparent and grandchild of the whole blood or of the half blood or step-grandchild in the list of relatives who are able to be charged with incest.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 329  (Mainor-56th)  Bill Link
Requires landlords of an apartment building that is being leased for residential purposes and that consists of 50 or more rental units must provide certain notices to existing and prospective tenants with regard to certain crimes.
occurring on the premises being leased.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 344  (Lim-98th)  Bill Link
Requires that a landlord has a nonwaivable duty to maintain the premises in a habitable condition, including, but not limited to, making necessary repairs and access to essential services.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 365  (Holcomb-81st)  Bill Link
Authorizes the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to create and operate a state-wide sexual assault kit tracking system.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 366  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Provides for the offenses of failure to store a firearm in a secure manner.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 402  (Hilton-48th)  Bill Link
Requires public schools and local school systems to provide water safety education information upon initial enrollment to parents and guardians of students under 18 years of age and directly to student 18 years of age and older.
Status: House Education Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.

HB 404  (Carpenter-4th)  Bill Link
Requires every oral or written lease for residential rental property deemed to include a provision that the premises are fit for human habitation (habitability is defined by reference to health and safety codes and a remedy for violation provided); states that a landlord’s duties as to utilities extended to include cooling, as well as heat, light, and water; limits maximum security deposits to three months’ rent; and requires written notice and three-day right to cure before landlord can file for an eviction for late payment of rent or fees. The bill also states that for persons who engage in “criminal activity” there is no three-day notice period and provides for an expedited eviction process.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 460  (Ballinger-23rd)  Bill Link
Provides for a child’s right to legal representation in legitimation cases, in permanent guardianship cases, and in foster care. The bill also provides for legal representation for guardians and respondents in dependency proceedings, and provides that children be deemed competent to testify in termination proceedings without taking a sworn oath. In addition, the bill provides that the medical narrative hearsay exception be used in dependency and termination proceedings.
Status: House Hopper

HB 463  (Ballinger-23rd)  Bill Link
Revises the name of the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board to "Sexual Offender Risk Review Board." Among other provisions, the bill also provides for punishment for certain tiers of sexual offenses, including in certain circumstances, life imprisonment.
Status: House Hopper

HB 469  (Houston-170th)  Bill Link
Requires public schools to cooperate with local law enforcement agencies and other emergency management agencies to ensure that detailed and accurate school building plans, school property site plans, and crisis response mapping data are shared. The bill also provides for requirements of crisis response mapping data.
Status: House Hopper

HB 479  (Hutchinson-106th)  Bill Link
Provides that a legally separated spouse can petition for adoption of a child.
Status: House Hopper
HR 209 (Carson-46th)  
Bill Link
Creates the House Study Committee on Motor Vehicle Crash Fatality Rates.  
Status: House Motor Vehicles Committee

SB 36 (Robertson-29th)  
Bill Link
Increases penalties for pimping and pandering.  
Status: PASSED SENATE. Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

SB 40 (Seay-34th)  
Bill Link
Makes it unlawful to possess firearm parts in certain circumstances.  
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 42 (Williams-25th)  
Bill Link
Relating to posting model notice with human trafficking hotline information in businesses and on internet, so as to increase the fine for failure to comply with model notice requirements.  
Status: PASSED SENATE. Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

SB 61 (Strickland-17th)  
Bill Link
Makes permanent the ability to use existing sick leave for care of immediate family members.  
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Insurance & Labor Committee. The bill will be on the Senate floor for a vote this TUESDAY.

SB 71 (Jones-10th)  
Bill Link
Requires that motorcycle passengers shall be no younger than 16 years of age.  
Status: Senate Public Safety Committee

SB 75 (Parent-42nd)  
Bill Link
Establishes the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child if such child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm, under certain conditions.  
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 107 (Burns-23rd)  
Bill Link
"Izzy’s Law" - Requires the Department of Public Health to develop and make available for download from its internet website a model aquatic safety plan based on national standards for private swim instructors.  
Status: Senate Children and Families Committee

SB 131 (Tillery-19th)  
Bill Link
Provides for service by publication relating to permanent guardianship; updates permanent guardianship proceedings.  
Status: Senate Children and Families Committee

SB 133 (Strickland-17th)  
Bill Link
Creates a uniform process for juvenile courts to follow in placing a child in the custody of DFCS for Children in Need of Services cases as well as delinquency cases.  
Status: Senate Children and Families Committee

SB 134 (Cowsert-46th)  
Bill Link
Provides that a child witness be deemed competent to testify without taking the oath in matters regarding termination of parental rights, and allows the use of narrative form medical reports in dependency and termination of parental rights matters.  
Status: Senate Children and Families Committee

SB 135 (Kirkpatrick-32nd)  
Bill Link
Aligns evidentiary medical and genetic testing with the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 in order to determine paternity.  
Status: Senate Children and Families Committee

SB 196 (Watson-1st)  
Bill Link
Allows the failure to wear a safety belt or safety restraints for children as admissible evidence in civil actions, and
prohibits cancellation of insurance coverage for failure to wear a safety belt or safety restraints for children. Status: Senate Transportation Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this WEDNESDAY.

SB 201 (Estevez-6th)  
Provides for the revival of claims for damages available to victims of human trafficking for 2 years (until July 1, 2025). Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SR 159 (Strickland-17th)  
Creates the Senate Study Committee on the Parenting Time Deviation in Georgia's Child Support Guidelines Statute. Status: Senate Rules Committee
Health and Behavioral Health

HB 4 (Scott-76th) Bill Link
Requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to create, operate, and maintain an electronic inpatient psychiatric bed registry.
Status: House Health Committee

HB 5 (Scott-76th) Bill Link
Requires the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia to make menstrual hygiene products available at no cost to students in certain facilities or portions of facilities of institutions.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 6 (Scott-76th) Bill Link
Provides for the submission of a waiver request by the Department of Human Services to permit the recipients of certain public assistance benefits to use such benefits for the purpose of purchasing diapers or menstrual hygiene products if the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service makes such waiver available to states.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 7 (Scott-76th) Bill Link
Establishes a school-linked behavioral health grant program to provide early identification of and intervention for students with mental health or substance use disorder needs and to build the capacity of K-12 schools to support students with mental health or substance use disorder needs in the classroom.
Status: House Health Committee

HB 9 (Scott-76th) Bill Link
Statutorily requires DBHDD to create, operate, and maintain the Georgia Crisis and Access Line, collect certain data and requires any state-operated registry of available inpatient psychiatric beds, crisis residential beds, or substance use disorder beds to report data for purposes of the access line.
Status: House Health Committee

HB 16 (Thomas-65th) Bill Link
Extends the sunset provision relating to the use of sick leave for the care of immediate family members to July 1, 2026.
Status: House Industry and Labor Committee

HB 37 (Beverly-143rd) Bill Link
Requires the Department of Community Health to mitigate the potential loss of Medicaid coverage caused by the discontinuation of the continuous enrollment condition of the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act by providing, continuing, and expanding services; and to improve training, processes, technology and communication to that end.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 38 (Beverly-143rd) Bill Link
Expands Medicaid to cover eligibility up to a maximum of 138 percent of the federal poverty level.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 41 (Lim-98th) Bill Link
Requires that when a person is committed involuntarily for emergency involuntary treatment for mental health and alcohol and drug dependency, the physician’s certificate or affidavits shall be affixed to the court order; Personally identifying the affiants shall be redacted and concealed in these instances.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 46 (Au-50th) Bill Link
Expands enhanced punishment for aggravated assault and aggravated battery committed upon emergency health workers to all healthcare workers in a hospital or healthcare facility.
HB 62  (Park-107th)  Bill Link
"Georgia Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership (HELP) Act" - Creates a public, premium formatted health insurance plan for eligible adults with low income.
Status: House Health Committee

HB 69  (Thomas-65th)  Bill Link
Creates a one-year pilot program to provide a monthly supplemental benefit of $75.00 for three months to federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients who have been diagnosed with high glucose, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure. The supplemental benefit can only be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets and cooperative marketing associations.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 70  (Thomas-65th)  Bill Link
"Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act" - Requires a nonparticipating provider, prior to performing any healthcare services, to notify a covered person if such services will require $100.00 or more in out-of-pocket costs.
Status: House Insurance Committee

HB 74  (Barnes-86th)  Bill Link
Would allow for Medicaid coverage for the prevention and treatment of lymphedema.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 76  (Powell-33rd)  Bill Link
Revises the requirements for an associate marriage and family therapist license to allow the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education to determine the coursework requirements, and the type and minimum amount of hours of clinical experience applicants must have. The bill also revises the clinical experience requirements for those currently licensed as an associate marriage and family therapist, those with a qualifying master's degree, and those with a qualifying doctorate degree.
Status: PASSED HOUSE. Assigned to Senate Children and Families Committee

HB 82  (Jackson-128th)  Bill Link
Limits eligibility for the rural physician tax credit to persons qualifying as a rural physician on or before December 31, 2023; and creates a new tax credit for rural physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

HB 85  (Cooper-45th)  Bill Link
Requires health benefit policy coverage for biomarker testing if supported by medical and scientific evidence.
Status: PASSED HOUSE. Assigned to Senate Health and Human Services Committee

HB 123  (Stephens-164th)  Bill Link
Creates an exemption from state sales and use tax for certain menstrual products.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

HB 129  (Hong-103rd)  Bill Link
Expands Temporary Assistance for Needy Families eligibility criteria to pregnant women and repeals a provision relating to elimination of increment in benefits.
Status: PASSED HOUSE. Assigned to Senate Children and Families Committee

HB 140  (Hawkins-27th)  Bill Link
Provides for a three-year pilot program to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infection (PANDAS) and pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) under the state health benefit plan.
Status: House Health Committee

HB 143  (Mathis-149th)  Bill Link
Requires the Department of Community Health to cover continuous glucose monitors through Medicaid as a
pharmacy benefit. Eligibility for coverage includes a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus and patient or caregiver training. Additionally, a patient must have use of daily insulin or a history of problematic hypoglycemia to receive the benefit. An in-person or telehealth visit is required within six months prior to and every six months after initial prescription.

Status: PASSED HOUSE. Awaits assignment to Senate Committee

HB 150 (Mainor-56th)  Bill Link
Revises the definition of "physical therapy" to include ordering diagnostic imaging and using ultrasound.
Status: House Health Committee

HB 161 (Au-50th)  Bill Link
Establishes the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child. The bill also provides for exceptions and affirmative defenses, for criminal penalties and requires a notice by certain firearm dealers.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 172 (Mainor-56th)  Bill Link
Requires that notice of admission of an involuntary minor patient under 12 years of age to certain facilities for treatment of mental illness shall be given to his or her parent or legal guardian representative by telephone or in person as soon as possible. Any such facility shall provide such parent or legal guardian representative with at least one update per calendar day as to the minor patient's state of health and well-being. The parent or legal guardian representative of a minor patient under 12 years of age may consult with the facility regarding the development of such minor patient's individualized service plan and the minor patient's treatment under such plan.
Status: House Juvenile Justice Committee

HB 181 (Townsend-179th)  Bill Link
Provides that mitragynine and hydroxymitragynine are Schedule I controlled substances and repeals provisions relating to the regulation of kratom.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this WEDNESDAY.

HB 184 (Lim-98th)  Bill Link
Includes a specific federal regulation under mental health parity requirements.
Status: House Insurance Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.

HB 191 (Stephens-164th)  Bill Link
Increases the rate of the tax on each pack of cigarettes from 37 cents per pack to 57 cents per pack and requires that the proceeds derived from such increase are intended to be appropriated for healthcare purposes.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this WEDNESDAY.

HB 192 (Stephens-164th)  Bill Link
Increase the rate of the tax on consumable vapor products by 15% of the wholesale cost and requires that the proceeds derived from such increase are intended to be appropriated for healthcare purposes.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee. This bill will be heard in subcommittee this WEDNESDAY.

HB 201 (Schofield-63rd)  Bill Link
Authorizes the Department of Public Health to carry out projects to increase education, awareness, or diagnosis of valvular heart disease and to reduce the incidence of sudden cardiac death caused by valvular heart disease.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 213 (Dempsey-13th)  Bill Link
Revises provisions relating to required information given to parents of students in K-12 schools stating that if a local board of education provides information on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues to parents and guardians, then certain information about influenza disease and its vaccine and the vaccine for meningococcal meningitis disease must be included.

HB 214 (Powell-33rd)  Bill Link
Authorizes advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants to execute affidavits certifying an individual is
disabled for purposes of obtaining special vehicle decals for persons with disabilities, to prescribe Schedule II controlled substances under certain conditions and with certain training. The bill also provides for automatic approval of identical job descriptions under certain conditions.
Status: House Health Committee

**HB 215** (Powell-33rd)  
Creates licensure requirements for advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) and changes the definition of APRN to a person licensed by the Georgia Board of Nursing who is either a certified nurse midwife; certified nurse practitioner; certified registered nurse anesthetist; clinical nurse specialist or clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health; or a recognized APRN before June 30, 2006. The bill makes it a misdemeanor to practice as an APRN without a license, and adds licensed APRN and physician assistant to the list of providers eligible to execute affidavits for specialty parking tags based on a person's disability.
Status: PASSED HOUSE. Awaits assignment to Senate Committee.

**HB 216** (Lim-98th)  
Allows for awards made from the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund to sexual assault survivors for medical treatment or counseling.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

**HB 226** (Cooper-45th)  
Allows the Department of Community Health to submit a waiver request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the U.S. Health Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of providing Medicaid coverage for HIV treatment services. Eligible individuals must have an HIV diagnosis, an income less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level, and no health insurance.

**HB 233** (Scott-76th)  
Provides for mental health treatment alternatives to imprisonment and for mental health treatment options (while imprisoned) for a defendant who has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, and who currently is, or at any prior time was, eligible for public mental health services due to a diagnosed serious mental illness or who currently is, or at any prior time was, eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance benefits due to a diagnosed serious mental illness.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

**HB 234** (Scott-76th)  
Requires that within 48 hours of taking custody of a person for or within a penal institution, and at any other time thereafter where there is reasonable cause to believe that such person has a mental illness, a custodian shall have a physician of a facility to evaluate such person for mental illness.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

**HB 257** (Schofield-63rd)  
Prohibits feminine hygiene products containing restricted substances from being distributed, sold, or offered for sale in this state.
Status: House Public Health Committee

**HB 258** (Schofield-63rd)  
Starting January 1, 2024, each package or box containing menstrual products sold in this state shall include a plain and conspicuous printed list of all ingredients which shall be listed in order of predominance.
Status: House Public Health Committee

**HB 266** (Byrd-20th)  
Repeals the authority of the Department of Public Health and all county boards of health to require persons to submit to vaccinations against or other measures to prevent contagious or infectious diseases, including, but not limited to, as a condition of: access to any government service, building, or space; employment; professional licensure; access to or enrollment and attendance at any public or private pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary, secondary, or
postsecondary educational institution; educational diploma, certification, licensure, or degree; access to any mode of transportation; access or admittance to any child care facility, healthcare facility, long-term care facility, or nursing home; or admittance to any place of business or entertainment.

Status: House Public Health Committee

**HB 280 (Gambill-15th) [Bill Link]**
Provides exclusions to unfair trade practices and unlawful inducements by allowing insurance companies to provide products to policyholders that incentivize behavior changes to improve health.

Status: Recommended Do Pass by House Insurance Committee. The bill will be on the House floor for a vote this TUESDAY.

**HB 286 (Au-50th) [Bill Link]**
Provides for certain consumer protections against surprise billing for ambulance service; and requires a healthcare plan to reimburse for ambulance service provided to a covered person by a nonparticipating ambulance provider.

Status: House Insurance Committee

**HB 295 (Hawkins-27th) [Bill Link]**
Improves policies and powers of the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance to combat surprise billing by insurers.

Status: House Insurance Committee. The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.

**HB 308 (Newton-127th) [Bill Link]**
Revises a tax credit for certain medical preceptor rotations, adding dentistry.

Status: House Ways & Means Committee

**HB 320 (Scott-76th) [Bill Link]**
Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules to require all certificated public school personnel to receive annual training in depression and suicide awareness and prevention.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 339 (Hutchinson-106th) [Bill Link]**
Requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to conduct or coordinate all audits of behavioral health providers.

Status: House Public Health Committee

**HB 343 (Newton-127th) [Bill Link]**
Requires pharmacy benefits managers to calculate defined cost sharing for insureds at the point of sale.

Status: House Health Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this WEDNESDAY.

**HB 345 (Mathiak-74th) [Bill Link]**
Eliminates sales and use tax for products for maintaining oral hygiene, including but not limited to toothbrushes, toothpaste, tooth powders, mouthwash, dental floss, or similar oral hygiene products.

Status: House Ways & Means Committee

**HB 358 (Bazemore-69th) [Bill Link]**
Provides for instruction on the best practices for and risks associated with the use of tampons in a course of study in sex education and AIDS prevention instruction, and encourages physicians and nurses providing a tampon for use by any female patient under his or her care to recite and provide certain written information regarding the best practices for and risks associated with the use of tampons.

Status: House Public Health Committee

**HB 361 (Jackson-128th) [Bill Link]**
"Eurie Lee Martin Act" - Creates a statewide data base by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to be known as the "ELM Data Base" which will include identifying information from arrest records of individuals who suffer from addictive disease, developmental disabilities, or mental illness. Requires law enforcement officers to use the ELM Data Base whenever practicable while responding to a call. The bill also provides for additional training on how to identify and respond to individuals who suffer from addictive disease, developmental disabilities, or mental illness.
HB 362 (Mathiak-74th)  
Requires a benefit provider upon written request from a treating healthcare provider to provide, within 30 days of such request, a written accounting of any and all payments and reimbursements for such provider’s healthcare.  
Status: House Insurance Committee. **The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.**

HB 378 (Hutchinson-106th)  
Updates the reference to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders relating to coverage for autism.  
Status: House Insurance Committee. **The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.**

HB 383 (Reeves-99th)  
Enhances penalties for aggravated assault and aggravated battery committed upon emergency health workers and healthcare workers located on a hospital campus.  
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 399 (Schofield-63rd)  
Creates the Commission for the Blind and the Visually Impaired.  
Status: House Human Resources Committee

HB 405 (Crawford-84th)  
Requires the Department of Community Health to conduct an annual review of medications and treatment for sickle cell disease for Medicaid recipients.  
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 414 (Blackmon-146th)  
Creates a grant program within the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to provide behavioral health services to military service members, veterans, and their families.  
Status: House Health Committee. **The bill will be heard in committee this WEDNESDAY.**

HB 416 (Silcox-53rd)  
Authorizes qualified pharmacy technicians to administer any COVID-19 vaccine and any vaccine that is included on the adult immunization schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to individuals 18 years of age or older.  
Status: House Health Committee

HB 417 (Knight-134th)  
Prohibits insurers from denying, restricting, refusing to authorize or approve, failing to cover, or reducing payment to a participating healthcare provider for a provider administered drug or the administration of a provider administered drug in certain circumstances.  
Status: House Insurance Committee

HB 428 (Hugley-141st)  
Requires the state to provide 12 months of continuous eligibility for Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program to children from birth through 18 years of age.  
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 440 (Stoner-40th)  
Authorizes public and private schools to stock a supply of undesignated ready-to-use glucagon. (Glucagon is a hormone that your pancreas makes to help regulate your blood glucose (sugar) levels.)  
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 441 (Dempsey-13th)  
Authorizes and regulates teledentistry in this state by licensed dentists pursuant to permits issued by the Georgia Board of Dentistry.  
Status: House Health Committee
HB 448  (Schofield-63rd)  Bill Link
Prohibits insurers from denying, restricting, refusing to authorize or approve, failing to cover, or reducing payment to a participating healthcare provider for a provider administered drug or the administration of a provider administered drug in certain circumstances.
Status: House Hopper

HB 487  (Newton-127th)  Bill Link
Expands enhanced punishment for aggravated assault and aggravated battery committed upon emergency health workers to all healthcare workers in a hospital or healthcare facility.
Status: House Hopper

HR 43  (Au-50th)  Bill Link
Creates the Costs and Effects of Smoking Joint Study Committee.
Status: House Health Committee

HR 185  (Bennett-94th)  Bill Link
Creates the House Healthy Food Retail Study Committee to investigate the lack of access to fresh, healthy food in certain rural and urban areas.
Status: House Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee

HR 232  (Hutchinson-106th)  Bill Link
Creates the House Study Committee on Evaluating, Simplifying, and Eliminating Duplication of Regulatory Requirements for Mental Health and Social Services Providers.
Status: House Hopper

SB 1  (Dolezal-27th)  Bill Link
Makes permanent (by removing the sunset provision) the prohibition on state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID vaccination for government services.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Assigned to House Public Health Committee

SB 8  (Davenport-44th)  Bill Link
Creates the Commission for the Blind and the Visually Impaired.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 9  (Rhett-33rd)  Bill Link
"Kathleen Cominski Act" - Requires state office buildings to have at least one functional automated external defibrillator on site at all times.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 16  (Albers-56th)  Bill Link
Authorizes local entities to establish boundaries for the provision of emergency medical services.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 17  (Rhett-33rd)  Bill Link
Creates a public, premium formatted health insurance plan for eligible adults with income between 100-138% of the Federal Poverty Level.
Status: Senate Insurance & Labor Committee

SB 20  (Kirkpatrick-32nd)  Bill Link
"Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act" - Ensures consumer access to quality healthcare by setting adequacy standards for network plans offered by an insurer.
Status: Senate Insurance & Labor Committee

SB 22  (Kirkpatrick-32nd)  Bill Link
Prohibits the purchase of, sale of, and the offering of samples of hemp products by or to any individual under the age of 18 years old.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee. The bill will be on the Senate floor for a vote this TUESDAY.

SB 24  (Butler-55th)  [Bill Link]
Authorizes appropriations for the purposes of obtaining federal financial participation for medical assistance payments to providers on behalf of Medicaid recipients and funding the state's portion of the cost to expand the Medicaid program.
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 47  (Hufstetler-52nd)  [Bill Link]
Provides that vaping in restricted areas is a misdemeanor punishable by fine.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Assigned to House Public Health Committee.

SB 51  (Islam-7th)  [Bill Link]
Exempts the sale or use of certain menstrual products.
Status: Senate Finance Committee

SB 76  (Merritt-9th)  [Bill Link]
Requires state health benefit plans to cover insulin medication at an amount not to exceed $35.00 per 30-day supply.
Status: Senate Industry and Labor Committee

SB 99  (Dolezal-27th)  [Bill Link]
Provides an exemption from certificate of need for acute care hospitals established in rural counties that meet certain criteria.
Status: Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.

SB 102  (Walker-20th)  [Bill Link]
Allows the administration of anesthesia by certified registered nurse anesthetists, pursuant to an order by a duly licensed physician, dentist, or podiatrist.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 109  (Echols-49th)  [Bill Link]
Requires the Department of Community Health to include continuous glucose monitors as a pharmacy benefit for Medicaid recipients.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee

SB 140  (Summers-13th)  [Bill Link]
Prohibits certain surgical procedures for the treatment of gender dysphoria in minors from being performed in hospitals and other licensed healthcare facilities.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 141  (Dixon-45th)  [Bill Link]
Prohibits health care providers from performing specified practices on minors relating to altering a person’s appearance relating to gender and from aiding or abetting such practices for minors. The bill also prohibits school nurses and other employees and officials from engaging in certain conduct relating to a minor’s perception of his or her gender.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 150  (Halpern-39th)  [Bill Link]
Requires certain public schools, health clubs, and public sports facilities to have at least one functional automated external defibrillator on site.
Status: Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee

SB 162  (Watson-1st)  [Bill Link]
Eliminates certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and
services.
Status: Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.

SB 164  (Hufstetler-52nd)  Bill Link
Provides for a misdemeanor to practice advanced nursing practice without a license. The bill also clarifies certain roles under the definition of advanced practice medical nurse (APRN) and specifies some licensure protocols.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 177  (Jones II-22nd)  Bill Link
"Food Insecurity Eradication Act" - Creates the Georgia Food Security Advisory Council.
Status: Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.

SB 198  (Harrell-40th)  Bill Link
Creates the Georgians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Innovation Commission.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee
Maternal Care and Child Care

HB 1  (Kendrick-95th)  Bill Link
Provides for the compensation of pregnant women who but for a fetal heartbeat law could choose to terminate the pregnancy but are compelled to carry the pregnancy to term and give birth to a child.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 75  (Roberts-52nd)  Bill Link
Provides that natural persons do not include an unborn child and shall not be included in certain population-based determinations.
Status: House Public Health Committee

HB 211  (Stephens-164th)  Bill Link
Creates a tax exemption for certain absorbent diapers, undergarments, and pads.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

HB 235  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Exempts from licensure early care and education programs that operate on a military installation or are licensed as a family child care provider by a branch of the armed services of the United States.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 236  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Provides for policies for breast milk storage and the breast feeding of a child of an inmate.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HB 298  (Daniel-117th)  Bill Link
Provides for an exemption or deferment from jury service for natural or adoptive mothers of children six months of age and younger.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

SB 15  (Harrell-40th)  Bill Link
Provides that natural persons do not include an unborn child and shall not be included in certain population based determinations.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 46  (Hufstetler-52nd)  Bill Link
Requires physicians and healthcare providers to test all willing pregnant women for HIV and syphilis at the first prenatal visit, at 28–32 weeks' gestation, and at delivery.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee

SB 81  (Anderson-43rd)  Bill Link
Creates the State Board of Community Midwifery and defines roles, responsibilities, and licensure requirements relating to community midwifery.
Status: Senate Health and Human Services Committee

SB 89  (Merritt-9th)  Bill Link
Allows child care and other caregiving services associated with a candidate's campaign to constitute ordinary and necessary expenses of a campaign.
Status: Senate Ethics Committee

SB 106  (Walker-20th)  Bill Link
Provides for a three-year pilot program to provide coverage for remote maternal health clinical services under the Medicaid program.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee
SB 187 (Setzler-37th)  

Bill Link

Includes child-placing agencies and churches as safe haven facilities where newborn infants can be left and sets law regarding when the Division of Family and Children Services would assume custody of infants left at "safe haven" locations.

Status: Senate Children and Families Committee
### Education

**HB 3**  
(Scott-76th)  
*Bill Link*  
Provides for grants by the State Board of Education to local units of administration to support students living in poverty.  
Status: House Education Committee

**HB 8**  
(Scott-76th)  
*Bill Link*  
Requires school attendance policies regarding excused absences take into consideration mental and behavioral health.  
Status: House Education Committee

**HB 14**  
(Kendrick-95th)  
*Bill Link*  
Requires the Department of Labor to establish criteria for the certification of workforce readiness programs and the certification of workforce-ready graduates. The bill allows that on and after January 1, 2024, an employer that employs a workforce-ready graduate in a full-time job for at least 40 weeks during a 12-month period shall be eligible for an income tax credit in the amount of $9,600.00 for each workforce-ready graduate.  
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

**HB 39**  
(Lim-98th)  
*Bill Link*  
Provides that no institution of higher education shall refuse to provide an unofficial transcript to a current or former student on the grounds that the student owes a debt, condition the provision of an unofficial transcript on the payment of a debt, or charge a higher fee for obtaining an unofficial transcript or provide less favorable treatment for such a request because a current or former student owes a debt.  
Status: House Higher Education Committee

**HB 51**  
(Pirkle-169th)  
*Bill Link*  
Authorizes local boards of education to use vehicles other than school buses for the transport of all students to and from school and school related activities.  
Status: House Education Committee. **The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.**

**HB 54**  
(Carson-46th)  
*Bill Link*  
Increases the annual aggregate limit of tax credits available for the qualified education tax credit from $120 million to $200 million per year starting in 2024.  
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

**HB 56**  
(Petrea-166th)  
*Bill Link*  
Provides for undergraduate full tuition grants to children of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and prison guards who were killed in the line of duty who attend institutions of the University System of Georgia, so long as the eligible student is under 22 years of age and maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or greater.  
Status: House Higher Education Committee

**HB 65**  
(Thomas-65th)  
*Bill Link*  
"Building Resourceful Individuals to Develop Georgia's Economy Act" - Provides for a pilot program to provide grants for up to six local school systems to develop learning recovery programs for at-risk students to mitigate COVID-19 related lost instructional time.  
Status: House Education Committee

**HB 81**  
(Corbett-174th)  
*Bill Link*  
Revises the eligibility criteria are that a local school system must be currently, or in the most recent three years, ranked in the bottom 25 percent of school systems in sales revenue per full-time equivalent (FTE) student count and value of property per FTE student count. For local school systems in which the amount of special purpose local option sales tax revenues is ranked in the bottom 25 percent of eligible local school systems receiving such sales tax revenues, that system may submit a request to the Department of Education for consideration. The system must commit five years of such revenues to the project. Educational facilities must be more than 35 years old to be consolidated. Once a local school system has received a capital outlay grant and its need is met as determined by the
department, it is not eligible to receive another grant for a period of 10 years.

Status: PASSED HOUSE. Awaits assignment to Senate Committee.

**HB 87  (Erwin-32nd)  Bill Link**
Provides for the transition of system-collaborative charter schools to completion special schools by July 1, 2023. Any system-collaborative charter school that did not transition to become an alternative charter school by July 1, 2021, will operate as a state chartered special school. If the state chartered special school does not transition to a completion special school by July 1, 2023, the school will cease operating upon expiration of its current charter with the State Board of Education. The board may not expand the current attendance zone of the school. The bill also creates the 'Completion Special Schools Act'. The board will adopt policies for the establishment, funding, and operation of completion special schools, which focus on dropout recovery/prevention or high school credit recovery for grades nine through 12. The board is authorized to provide up to $5 million in grant funding to encourage and authorize the creation of new completion special schools, subject to appropriation. The board will adopt policies for the dissolution or temporary dissolution of a completion special school upon the recommendation of the state school superintendent for failure to comply with the requirements of Article 31C.

Status: PASSED HOUSE. Assigned to Senate Education and Youth Committee.

**HB 111  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link**
Creates a pilot program with 6 school systems to implement the student-based funding recommendations of the 2015 Education Reform Commission, mandates pre-kindergarten and kindergarten for all children prior to entering first grade and includes funding for mandatory Pre-K programs.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 122  (Hawkins-27th)  Bill Link**
Provides for the governance of the Georgia ABLE program by the board of directors of the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan and revises the composition and chairperson of the board of directors of the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan. The bill also removes the maximum amount of contributions currently allowed per beneficiary and authorizes the board to establish such maximum amount.

Status: House Higher Education Committee. **The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.**

**HB 127  (Mainor-56th)  Bill Link**
Requires the State Board of Education to establish rules and regulations for local school system outreach efforts regarding the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs, and to engage in such community outreach efforts. The bill also provides for standards for foreign language interpreters providing services to students in educational settings and requires local school systems to provide certain notices concerning interpretation services.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 130  (Gambill-15th)  Bill Link**
Provides for student loan repayment for peace officers.

Status: House Higher Education Committee

**HB 131  (Carpenter-4th)  Bill Link**
Provides that certain students shall be deemed opportunity students and shall be classified for opportunity tuition, subject to certain conditions. The bill also provides for priority consideration for students classified for in-state tuition.

Status: House Higher Education Committee

**HB 141  (Mainor-56th)  Bill Link**
Requires local school systems to conduct suicide screenings on all students ages eight through 18.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 147  (Wade-9th)  Bill Link**
“Safe Schools Act” - Requires the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) to consult with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS), the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Georgia Public Safety Training Center to create a school safety and anti-gang endorsement for eligible certificated professional personnel who volunteer to complete a training program approved by the PSC in multidisciplinary best practices for
promoting and preserving safe schools, and for identifying and deterring youth gangs. The legislation adds GEMA/HS to those agencies to which the school must submit their school safety plan. Schools are required to conduct intruder alert drills by October 1 of each school year and report to GEMA/HS when the drill is completed. All students are required to participate, but each system may allow an option for a parent/legal guardian to elect, in writing, that the child is not participating.


**HB 148 (Hugley-141st)**  
Establishes grant funds to be paid by public schools to student teachers who successfully complete their student teaching requirements and requires the State Board of Education to establish rules and regulations to implement the program.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 152 (Scott-76th)**  
Adopts the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact, which expedites and enhances the ability of teachers to move across state lines.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 157 (Evans-57th)**  
Provides that students may receive HOPE grants for remedial and developmental courses within the Technical College System of Georgia that are required for seeking an associate degree there.

Status: House Higher Education Committee

**HB 173 (Kennard-101st)**  
Establishes mandatory pre-kindergarten and kindergarten for all children prior to entering into first grade and lowers the age of compulsory school attendance from six years old to four years old.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 174 (Bentley-150th)**  
Requires the Department of Education to provide to parents and guardians of students entering the sixth grade information regarding recommended adolescent vaccinations in print and electronic form.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 177 (Clark-108th)**  
Requires that the prescribed course of study in sex education and HIV prevention instruction under QBE is age appropriate; to include the subject of consent in such course of study.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 185 (Gaines-120th)**  
Provides for HOPE Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) grants for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Status: House Higher Education Committee

**HB 202 (Schofield-63rd)**  
Provides that student performers shall not be counted absent from school due to performing in certain productions and requires the instruction and related services provided by a studio teacher to a student performer are aligned with the curriculum and content standards being delivered at the student performer’s school. The bill also authorizes the Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Education, to develop certification forms and promulgate rules and regulations and provides for authorizations by parents or guardians relating to the education records of student performers.

Status: House Education Committee

**HB 228 (Dempsey-13th)**  
Expands the definition of "approved school" relating to definitions regarding tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities, so as to include certain nursing schools.

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Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 238  (Bruce-61st)  [Bill Link]
Establishes a five-year pilot program to incentivize qualified local units of administration to utilize school bus monitors to promote and enhance student safety and appropriate student conduct as part of the local unit of administration’s transportation program.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 249  (Martin-49th)  [Bill Link]
Changes the criteria for the needs-based financial aid program for a four-year program from 70% of the credit requirements toward the credential of his or her program of study to 80%; or if the program is a two-year program, to 45% of the credit requirements toward the credential.
Status: House Higher Education Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.

HB 276  (Scoggins-14th)  [Bill Link]
Revises the definition of approved school with regards to tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities to include those located in this state since on or before January 1, 2021.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 282  (Mainor-56th)  [Bill Link]
Provides for a minimum course of study in career readiness education for students in grades six through 12, including instruction and training experiences focused on employability and career readiness skills. The bill also directs the Department of Education to develop instructional resources and materials concerning employability and career readiness skills, career exploration, and career oriented learning experiences.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 297  (Neal-79th)  [Bill Link]
Revises the minimum base salary for certificated professional personnel with bachelor’s degrees and no experience, for certificated professional personnel with bachelor’s degrees and five years of creditable experience, and for a minimum base salary for licensed paraprofessionals. The bill also provides for periodic salary studies.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 310  (Wilkerson-38th)  [Bill Link]
Revises the definition of the term "Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar" by removing the SAT and ACT score requirements for students who graduate from eligible high schools and updates the SAT and ACT requirement for eligible high school students relating to dual enrollment.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 313  (Stephens-164th)  [Bill Link]
Creates a pilot program whereby qualifying private, nonprofit entities provide instruction and other services for eligible students 21 years of age and older to attain a high school diploma.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 316  (Evans-57th)  [Bill Link]
Provides that all HOPE grants shall equal the student’s undergraduate tuition amount for the current academic standard year and repeals the Zell Miller Grant Scholar program.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 318  (Hilton-48th)  [Bill Link]
Reestablishes the Office of Charter School Compliance under the State Charter Schools Commission.
Status: House Education Committee. The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.

HB 319  (Martin-49th)  [Bill Link]
Abolishes the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation and transfers any obligations, liabilities, or assets to the Georgia Student Finance Authority.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Higher Education Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.
HB 338 (Erwin-32nd) [Bill Link]
Provides for the inclusion of methods for the promotion of the safe and appropriate use of technology and responsible digital citizenship in the comprehensive character education program in public K-12 schools. The bill also establishes a pilot program to study whether the use of advanced technologies capable of reliably monitoring and detecting children at potential risk of harming themselves or others based on their internet use patterns is effective at reducing rates of youth suicide and violence; provided that such study is limited to internet use on school-issued devices.
Status: House Education Committee. **The bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.**

HB 340 (Corbett-174th) [Bill Link]
 Allows for daily duty-free planning periods for teachers in grades six through 12.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 341 (Scott-76th) [Bill Link]
Enacts the "Blind Persons' Braille Literacy Rights and Education Act". Among other things, the bill requires an evaluation of a blind or visually impaired student to determine such student's need for Braille instruction; and requires Braille instruction in the individualized education program of a blind or visually impaired student as
Status: House Education Committee

HB 367 (Scott-76th) [Bill Link]
Provided for up to $500,000 in matching grants by the State Board of Education to local units of administration for the purpose of providing home reading programs for students in kindergarten through fifth grade, prioritizing economically disadvantaged households.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 392 (Jasperse-11th) [Bill Link]
Creates the Georgia Endowment for Teaching Professionals to foster a public-private partnership for support of postsecondary teaching professionals in high demand courses, subjects, and disciplines.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 427 (Kennard-101st) [Bill Link]
Prohibits the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia, and public postsecondary institutions from asking applicants whether they have been arrested or convicted of certain crimes.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 443 (Horner-3rd) [Bill Link]
Requires a printed copy of the United States Constitution to be provided to every public school student in this state in a grade to be determined by the State School Superintendent; allows for a printed copy of the United States Constitution to be part of a bound volume including other historically significant documents; and for the volume to be distributed during Celebrate Freedom Week by public schools.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 457 (Ballard-147th) [Bill Link]
Removes the needs development rating from the group of performance evaluation ratings which may adversely impact an educator's ability to obtain a renewable certificate from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.
Status: House Hopper

HR 42 (Scoggins-14th) [Bill Link]
Constitutional Amendment - Authorizes the General Assembly to provide by law that local school superintendents shall be elected by voters as an alternative to being appointed by local boards of education, if approved by local referendum.
Status: House Education Committee

SB 4 (Davenport-44th) [Bill Link]
Enacts the "Blind Persons' Braille Literacy Rights and Education Act". Among other things, the bill requires an
evaluation of a blind or visually impaired student to determine such student's need for Braille instruction; and requires Braille instruction in the individualized education program of a blind or visually impaired student as appropriate. **Status:** Senate Education & Youth Committee

**SB 18** (James-35th) **Bill Link**

Allows students and their siblings to attend the same schools so long as they continue to reside in the same resident school system. **Status:** Senate Education & Youth Committee

**SB 32** (Anavitarte-31st) **Bill Link**

"Alyssa's Law" - Requires local education agencies to implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting disparate emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple state and local first responder agencies in the event of a school security emergency. **Status:** Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Education & Youth Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee.

**SB 45** (Anavitarte-45) **Bill Link**

Allows a parent or guardian of a student being treated for epilepsy or a seizure disorder to seek support and services for the student's seizures while the student is at school or participating in a school related function by submitting to the local school system or school at which the student is enrolled a copy of a seizure action plan. **Status:** Senate Children and Families Committee

**SB 50** (Burns-23rd) **Bill Link**

Allows that local boards of education which operate a school with grades nine through 12 may provide instruction in lifeguarding and aquatic safety. **Status:** Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Education & Youth Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee.

**SB 52** (Parent-42nd) **Bill Link**

Requires the Georgia Student Finance Commission to establish participation and performance targets for the Dual Enrollment program and to annually measure and evaluate the program and report certain data analyses related to the program to the Governor and the General Assembly. **Status:** Senate Higher Education Committee

**SB 58** (Hickman-4th) **Bill Link**

Revises and repeals certain provisions for alternative charter schools; provides for the continued operation of state chartered special schools until no later than the expiration of each such school's current charter with the State Board of Education. **Status:** Senate Education & Youth Committee

**SB 86** (Brass-28th) **Bill Link**

Allows eligible students participating in the Dual Enrollment program to access HOPE career grant funds for certain CTAE courses irrespective of whether they have reached maximum credit hour caps. **Status:** Senate Higher Education Committee

**SB 88** (Summers-13th) **Bill Link**

Prevents an adult acting in loco parentis from providing to or obtain from a child information of a sensitive nature (meaning sex ed or information regarding a child's sexual orientation or gender identity, other than the child's biological sex) without the express written permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, including if a child indicates a desire to discuss information of a sensitive nature with an adult acting in loco parentis. The bill also prohibits an adult acting in loco parentis from engaging in instruction, education, or training of a child while dressed in a sexually provocative manner, applying current community standards, as determined by the school, social services agency, library, camp, or similar facility or program, without the express written permission of the child's parent or legal guardian. In addition, any request to change a student's official school record to reflect a change in the student's gender shall be in writing and accompanied by a copy of the student's amended birth certificate reflecting the change in gender and a written consent form signed by all of the child's parents or legal guardians. **Status:** Senate Education & Youth Committee
SB 96 (Anavitarte-31st)  Bill Link
Provides that the Professional Standards Commission's standards and procedures for certification programs shall be neutral with respect to whether such programs are provided by for-profit or not-for-profit entities and shall consider teacher programs outside of this state which meet certain requirements of the commission.
Status: Senate Education & Youth Committee

SB 98 (Anavitarte-31st)  Bill Link
Prohibits local board of education members from discussing individual personnel matters with school officials except under certain circumstances provided by law; states that no local board of education member shall retaliate against the local school superintendent or a school administrator, teacher, or other school personnel for engaging in protected political activity; and that local board of education members should be professional and provide fair and courteous treatment in their dealings with members of the public.
Status: Senate Education & Youth Committee

SB 105 (Walker-20th)  Bill Link
Revises the minimum and maximum allowable benefit multiplier for current and future retiree retirement benefits payable upon normal, early, or delayed retirement in the Public School Employees Retirement System.
Status: Senate Retirement Committee

SB 112 (Anavitarte-31st)  Bill Link
Establishes a pilot program whereby qualifying private nonprofit entities provide instruction and other services for eligible students 21 years of age and older to attain a high school diploma.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Awaits assignment to House Committee

SB 123 (Anavitarte-31st)  Bill Link
Requires a state funded administration of a nationally recognized career and college readiness assessment and an assessment leading to a nationally recognized workforce credential to public school students in grades 11 and 12 who choose to participate.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Education & Youth Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee.

SB 137 (Burns-23rd)  Bill Link
Revises the definition of approved school with regards to tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities to include those located in this state since on or before January 1, 2021.
Status: Senate Higher Education Committee

SB 147 (Still-48th)  Bill Link
Permits student transfers between local school systems without contracts between the local school system where the student resides and the local school system where the student seeks to enroll. The bill also caps on tuition that can be charged to a student by an enrolling local unit of administration that exclusively provides virtual instruction to such student.
Status: Senate Hopper

SB 154 (Dolezal-27th)  Bill Link
Eliminates the library exception from the sale or distribution of harmful materials to minors law.
Status: Senate Education & Youth Committee

SB 169 (Payne-54th)  Bill Link
Provides for limits on the extension of hearing dates for student discipline tribunals and requires local school systems to provide appropriate grade-level instructional materials to any student subject to in-school suspension, short-term suspension, or long-term suspension pending completion of the student discipline tribunal.
Status: Senate Education & Youth Committee

SB 170 (Albers-56th)  Bill Link
Provides for the qualification and selection of students to advise the State Board of Education and local boards of education, and provides for the Georgia Teacher of the Year to be invited to advise the State Board of Education.
Status: Senate Education & Youth Committee
SB 202 (Rahman-5th)  Bill Link
Provides for the GaDOE to establish and study a pilot program of outdoor learning spaces on elementary and secondary school property in order to determine whether and how to implement best practices and design standards for outdoor learning spaces.
Status: Senate Education & Youth Committee

SB 204 (Dolezal-27th)  Bill Link
Recognizes certain accrediting agencies as evaluators of the quality of education offered in public schools in this state.
Status: Senate Hopper

SB 207 (Estevez-6th)  Bill Link
Revises the minimum base salary for certificated professional personnel with bachelor's degrees and from zero to two years of creditable service to no less than $49,092.00. The bill also provides for periodic salary studies.
Status: Senate Hopper

SB 208 (Dolezal-27th)  Bill Link
Allows each local board of education of a high growth school system to, by resolution, impose, levy, and collect educational development impact fees within any area of such school system with a total increase in student enrollment of 20% or more during the immediately preceding ten-year period.
Status: Senate Hopper

SB 211 (Hickman-4th)  Bill Link
Establishes the Georgia Council on Literacy and requires local school systems to develop and implement five-year literacy plans for such school system and individual literacy plans for students in kindergarten through grade five. The bill also replaces the Education Coordinating Council with the Alliance of Education Agency Heads.
Status: Senate Hopper

SR 121 (Butler-55th)  Bill Link
Creates the Senate Helping Georgia Students Overcome COVID-19 Related Learning Loss Study Committee.
Status: Senate Rules Committee

SR 144 (Estevez-6th)  Bill Link
Creates the Senate Expanding Early Childhood Education Study Committee.
Status: Senate Rules Committee
**Miscellaneous**

**HB 15 (Kendrick-95th) Bill Link**
Requires the state to establish a task force to evaluate and monitor the broadband equity of state-funded broadband network projects.
Status: House Technology and Infrastructure Innovation Committee

**HB 24 (Thomas-65th) Bill Link**
Provides for the placement of a digital monument within the state capitol building or upon the capitol grounds to memorialize the Georgians who have died from COVID-19.
Status: House Special Rules Committee

**HB 25 (Thomas-65th) Bill Link**
Allows each toy manufacturer that increases its expenditures incurred in this state for materials or labor used directly in the manufacture of wooden toys for children by at least 30 percent from its preceding taxable year to claim a tax credit in the amount of 20 percent of the increase in such expenditures.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

**HB 26 (Thomas-65th) Bill Link**
Requires the Department of Community affairs to include certain indoor air quality provisions in applicable state minimum standard codes to require the installation of indoor air quality equipment and utilization of best practices in new construction permitted on or after July 1, 2024. These provisions include (but are not limited to) HVAC systems that can utilize a MERV 13 filter; adequate humidity control to maintain the humidity near or below 50 percent at room temperature; and fresh air ventilation through HVAC systems.
Status: House Public Health Committee

**HB 30 (Carson-46th) Bill Link**
Defines the term 'antisemitism' has the same meaning as provided for in the working definition of antisemitism adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) on May 26, 2016. The bill also requires state agencies and departments to consider such definition when determining whether an alleged act was motivated by discriminatory antisemitic intent.
Status: House Judiciary Committee. **The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.**

**HB 32 (Douglas-78th) Bill Link**
Requires athletic associations to utilize instant replay or a video review protocol during Georgia high school football state championship games.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Education Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

**HB 44 (Au-50th) Bill Link**
Requires universal background checks in all manner of firearm transfers and purchases.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

**HB 68 (Thomas-65th) Bill Link**
Increases the tax credit available to employers that offer certain child care services for employees from 50% to 90% of the taxpayer's liability.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

**HB 78 (Alexander-66th) Bill Link**
Requires all employers to implement paid sick leave for employees. Requires an employee to be compensated at the same rate of pay and with the same benefits, including, but not limited to, healthcare benefits, as the employee earns from the employer at the time the employee uses the sick time.
Status: House Industry & Labor Committee

**HB 79 (Park-107th) Bill Link**
Revises a state income tax credit based to provide for a state income tax credit equal to 25% of the federal child tax credit, and for an income tax credit equal to 20% of the federal earned income tax credit.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

HB 83  (Gunther-8th)  Bill Link
Allows owners, operators, lessees, or tenants of the property at which an athletic contest, entertainment event, or performing arts event is being held, or the sponsor of such a contest or event, may restrict access to such property and may reserve the right to revoke the license granted by a ticket at any time and for any lawful reason, including without limitation for safety and security reasons or due to any other lawful purpose.
Status: House Regulated Industries Committee

HB 88  (Gaines-120th)  Bill Link
Establishes protocols for review of cold case murder files by law enforcement agencies.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill now rests in House Rules Committee

HB 89  (Bruce-61st)  Bill Link
Establishes the Georgia Equity and Fairness Commission for examining the impact of slavery on the descendants of slaves and recommending appropriate remedies.
Status: House Governmental Affairs Committee

HB 163  (McDonald-26th)  Bill Link
Provides for student loan repayment for medical examiners employed by the Division of Forensic Sciences of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 167  (Momtahan-17th)  Bill Link
Amends the list of individuals with a suspended, revoked, or cancelled license eligible to apply for a limited driving permit by adding persons not in compliance with a child support order. The bill provides conditions for revocation of a limited driving permit.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Motor Vehicles Committee. The bill now rests in House Rules Committee

HB 180  (Martinez-111th)  Bill Link
Exempts from taxes equipment sold to and used by a qualified food bank for their primary purposes.
Status: House Ways & Means Committee

HB 237  (Hagan-156th)  Bill Link
Designates the Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby as the official soap box derby of the State of Georgia.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Special Rules Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

HB 241  (McClain-109th)  Bill Link
Increases the minimum wage from $5.15 to $15.00 per hour. The bill states that employers of employees that meet the eligibility requirements for the tip credit under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. Section 203(t), may credit tips toward the satisfaction of up to 50% of the minimum wage. There are exclusions for various employment situations.
Status: House Industry and Labor Committee

HB 242  (Hitchens-161st)  Bill Link
Increases traffic violation under ‘Joshua’s Law’ fines by 3%.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Motor Vehicles Committee. The bill will be on the House floor for a vote this TUESDAY.

HB 245  (Evans-57th)  Bill Link
Repeals certain provisions relating to the preemption of wage and employment benefit mandates adopted by a local government entity.
Status: House Industry and Labor Committee

HB 291  (Scoggins-14th)  Bill Link
Adds advanced practice registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, registered professional nurse, physician assistant,
licensed master's social worker, marriage and family therapist, and professional counselor to the list of those authorized to participate in the processes for appointment of a guardian for an adult.
Status: House Juvenile Justice Committee

HB 293  (Byrd-20th)  Bill Link
Provides for protections against the infringements on the right to keep and bear arms and prohibits the enforcement or assistance in the enforcement of certain federal laws or actions relative to firearms, firearm accessories, and ammunition.
Status: House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

HB 301  (Ridley-6th)  Bill Link
Lowers the amount of civil monetary penalty for violations of improperly passing a school bus and speeding in a school zone when captured by cameras.
Status: House Motor Vehicles Committee. **The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.**

HB 304  (Neal-79th)  Bill Link
Increases protections for tenants of residential properties.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 321  (Scott-76th)  Bill Link
Establishes the Healthy Food Development Program to expand access to healthy foods in eligible areas by providing assistance to grocery stores, corner stores, farmers' markets, and other small food retailers.
Status: House Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee

HB 353  (Powell-33rd)  Bill Link
Legalizes coin-operated amusement machines overseen by the Georgia Lottery Corporation
Status: House Regulated Industries Committee

HB 357  (New-64th)  Bill Link
Provides a process for individuals to change their surname to their birth certificate surname.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 375  (Leverett-123rd)  Bill Link
Defines the term "gross settlement" to mean the present value of all amounts paid or to be paid in settlement of the claim, including cash, medical expenses, expenses of litigation, attorney’s fees, and any amounts allocated to a structured settlement or other similar financial arrangement when relating to authority of conservator and cooperation with guardian or other interested parties.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 380  (Wiedower-121st)  Bill Link
Authorizes and provides for the regulation and taxation of sports betting by the Georgia Lottery Corporation.
Status: House Higher Education Committee. **The bill will be heard in committee this TUESDAY.**

HB 420  (Roberts-52nd)  Bill Link
Prohibits a landlord from knowingly and willfully suspending air conditioning.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 432  (Schofield-63rd)  Bill Link
Prohibits discrimination based on hairstyles associated with race, color, or national origin with regards to housing.
Status: House Judiciary Committee

HB 433  (Schofield-63rd)  Bill Link
Requires the General Assembly to develop equity impact statements regarding policy areas including, but not limited to, racial, socioeconomic, health, and other similar factors, and that such statements be prepared for and attached to all proposed legislation that would impact such policy areas.
Status: House Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee
HB 485 (McClain-109th) [Bill Link]
Requires that by January 1, 2024, all eligible full-time state employees shall be paid a minimum wage of not less than $15.00 an hour.
Status: House Hopper

HR 10 (Thomas-65th) [Bill Link]
Creates the House Study Committee on Public Water Systems Serving Disadvantaged Communities.
Status: House Energy, Utilities, & Telecommunications Committee

HR 139 (Neal-79th) [Bill Link]
Creates the House Study Committee on Alternatives to Mass Shooter Prevention Methods.
Status: House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

HR 210 (Beverly-143rd) [Bill Link]
Constitutional Amendment - Authorizes the Georgia General Assembly to provide by general law for sports betting, pari-mutuel betting, and casino gambling and directs allocation of revenues of such activities to education, poverty reduction, infrastructure, economic development, the arts, and other priorities.
Status: House Regulated Industries Committee

SB 3 (Albers-56th) [Bill Link]
"Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023" - Requires every state department, agency, board, bureau, office, commission, public corporation, and authority to regularly assess the educational, experiential, and training requirements necessary for each position of employment within the entity and identify positions where the educational, experiential, and training requirements could be reduced from their present level; and when practicable, reduce the number of positions for which a four-year college degree is required as a condition of employment.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Awaits assignment to House Committee

SB 25 (Butler-55th) [Bill Link]
Increases the Georgia minimum wage to reflect cost of living increases.
Status: Senate Insurance & Labor Committee

SB 38 (Robertson-29th) [Bill Link]
Removes schools from signing off on cameras that enforce speed limits in school safety zones.
Status: Senate Public Safety Committee

SB 48 (James-35th) [Bill Link]
Creates the Equity and Reconciliation Commission of Georgia.
Status: Senate Government Oversight Committee

SB 55 (Parent-42nd) [Bill Link]
Prohibits the regulation of businesses of persons under 18 years of age which are located on private property with the permission of the property owner and generate gross receipts of $3,000.00 or less in a calendar year per business.
Status: Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee

SB 57 (Hickman-4th) [Bill Link]
Authorizes and provides for the regulation and taxation of sports betting and for additional powers and duties of the Georgia Lottery Corporation.
Status: House Insurance Committee. This bill will be heard in subcommittee this TUESDAY.

SB 62 (Summers-13th) [Bill Link]
Prohibits certain local ordinances or policies relating to public camping or sleeping; requires a performance audit by the state auditor on public spending on homeless programs; provides for sanctioned camping areas for the homeless; and among other things, requires the use of certain federal funds for supportive services in transitional housing for the homeless.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate State and Local Government Operations Committee. The bill now rests in Senate Rules Committee

Legislative Update – February 20, 2023  www.georgiavoices.org
SB 64 (Robertson-64th) Bill Link
Allows for the issuance of a copy of the original birth certificate to persons 18 years old or older who were adopted.
Status: Senate Children and Families Committee

SB 67 (Moore-53rd) Bill Link
Provides for protections against the infringements on the right to keep and bear arms and prohibits the enforcement or assistance in the enforcement of certain federal laws or actions relative to firearms, firearm accessories, and ammunition.
Status: Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee

SB 77 (Robertson-29th) Bill Link
Establishes protocols for review of cold case murder files by law enforcement agencies.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 82 (Anderson-43rd) Bill Link
Prohibits discrimination based on protective hairstyles associated with race, color, or national origin.
Status: Senate Industry and Labor Committee

SB 118 (Parent-42nd) Bill Link
Creates a state income tax credit equal to 25% of the federal child tax credit and an income tax credit equal to 20% of the federal earned income tax credit.
Status: Senate Finance Committee

SB 125 (James-35th) Bill Link
Repeals restrictions on rent regulation by local governments.
Status: Senate State and Local Government Operations Committee

SB 172 (Cowser-46th) Bill Link
Authorizes and provides for the regulation and taxation of sports betting, overseen by the Georgia Lottery Corporation.
Status: Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee

SB 174 (Dixon-45th) Bill Link
Legalizes coin-operated amusement machines overseen by the Georgia Lottery Corporation
Status: Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee

SB 180 (Setzler-37th) Bill Link
Provides for the preservation of religious freedom relating to state government.
Status: Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 195 (Walker-20th) Bill Link
Enacts statutes to facilitate licensure of transitioning service members, military spouses, and other qualified individuals who have certifications from or work experience in the military or licenses from or work experience in another state.
Status: Senate Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security Committee

SR 6 (Gooch-51st) Bill Link
Agreed upon adjournment resolution (schedule) for the General Assembly through Sine Die (the last day of the 2023 legislative session).
Status: ADOPTED by both chambers
2 MINUTE ADVOCACY ASK
Home Visiting
Be a voice for children!

The Ask: Ask members of the House Appropriations Health Subcommittee to include $2 Million in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget to fund Home Visiting pilots for new mothers and infants in 12 high needs counties.

The Why:

• This program will provide home visiting in at risk/underserved rural communities during pregnancy and early childhood to improve birth outcomes, reduce preterm deliveries, and decrease infant and maternal mortality/morbidity.

• Home visiting programs can:
  o Increase healthy pregnancies,
  o improve parenting skills,
  o improve child health and development,
  o strengthen family connectedness to community support, and
  o reduce child abuse and neglect.

• This pilot will provide a full spectrum of services to support families during this time, including:
  o Clinical Services for pregnant and postpartum women like blood pressure checks, temperature, weight, assessment of pregnancy warning signs, etc.
  o Support for mother/infant bonding, lactation support, postpartum depression screening and link to services, feeding assessment and weight checks for baby, assessment of safe sleep practices and education as indicated, age-appropriate infant development screening assessments, etc.
  o Link to resources and services as indicated including health care and care coordination with primary provider, Children 1st, WIC, SNAP/TANF, Medicaid, behavioral health services, infant items (car seats, clothing, etc.), dental services, domestic violence community resources, etc.

• This pilot will be conducted in the following counties: Coffee, Atkinson, Clinch, Jeff Davis, Evans, Candler, Toombs, Bulloch, Habersham, Stephens, Franklin, Hart, and Banks

• Learn more about Home Visiting with Voices Home Visiting Factsheet
The Message:
Dear Representative ______________,

Please include $2 Million in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget for the Department of Public Health to fund Home Visiting pilots for new mothers and infants in 12 high needs counties. This program will provide home visiting in at risk/underserved rural communities during pregnancy and early childhood to improve birth outcomes, reduce preterm deliveries, and decrease infant and maternal mortality and morbidity. What’s more, home visiting has been shown to improve parenting skills, improve child health and development, and reduce child abuse and neglect. Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the children and families of our great state.

The Contact Info.:

*House Appropriations Health Subcommittee Members*
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for these events:

Tuesday’s starting Jan 24  Talk Justice Tuesdays
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER]

Feb 22 (Wednesday)  Georgia ACT Housing Day at the Capitol
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER]