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)**

Bill Link

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)**

Bill Link

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)**

Bill Link

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.

**Status:** Recommended Do Pass by the House Public Health Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

**HB 233 (Scott-76th)**

Bill Link

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)**

Bill Link

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)**

Bill Link

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)**

Bill Link

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)**

Bill Link

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