Status: PASSED HOUSE. Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Finance Committee. The bill is scheduled for a vote on the Senate floor for either today (MONDAY) or this WEDNESDAY.

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. Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The bill is scheduled for a vote on the Senate floor for either today (MONDAY) or this WEDNESDAY.

HB 181 (Townsend-179th) Bill Link
Adds the compound 7-hydroxymitragynine to the definition of "kratom". The bill limits the methods that kratom can be ingested and requires that the sale of kratom be only behind the counter in stores. Anyone violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. The bill requires all kratom products to be derived from the natural kratom plant. A kratom processor cannot sell or distribute a kratom product that is adulterated or contains certain compounds or substances within it. An entity that manufactures, distributes, sells, or delivers kratom must maintain a registered agent in the state. A processor who knowingly or recklessly commits an act in violation will be guilty of a high and aggravated misdemeanor as a first offense and a felony on a second or subsequent offense, with a penalty of imprisonment between one to 15 years; a maximum fine of $100,000; or both. A processor who negligently commits an act in violation of O.C.G.A. 16-13-122 will be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a maximum fine of $1,000. A person who suffers injury or damages as a result of a violation of this Code section can also bring a civil action for actual damages, which are presumed to be at least $250, together with court costs. Status: PASSED HOUSE. Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The bill is scheduled for a vote on the Senate floor for either today (MONDAY) or this WEDNESDAY.

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. Assigned to Senate Health and Human Services 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: PASSED HOUSE. Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee.

HB 295 (Hawkins-27th) Bill Link
Relates to surprise billing and clarifies provisions relating to arbitration. The bill requires the designation of plans that are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the 'Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974'. The bill extends the time insurers have to submit data after an arbitration request is made from 30 to 60 days. Status: PASSED HOUSE. Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee. The bill is scheduled for a vote on the Senate floor for either today (MONDAY) or this WEDNESDAY.

HB 308 (Newton-127th) Bill Link
Replaces the structure for tax credits provided to a physician for medical preceptor rotations from a $500 credit for each of the first three rotations and a $1,000 credit for the fourth through 10th rotation in a calendar year to $1,000 for every medical preceptor rotation up to 10 in a calendar year. The structure for an advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant is also revised from a $375 credit for each of the first three rotations and a $750 credit for