HB 537  (Evans-89th)  Bill Link
Requires the Department of Early Care and Learning to develop evidence-based literacy instruction training requirements for childcare providers. The department must require annual training for teachers on developmentally-appropriate evidence-based literacy instruction. The Professional Standards Commission will create and implement standards for certifying educators and maintaining certification which focus on developmentally-appropriate evidence-based literacy instruction.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Education Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

HB 538  (Ballard-147th)  Bill Link
Creates the “Georgia Early Literacy Act” to implement the science of reading in Georgia. School systems will be required to teach high-quality instructional materials approved by the State Board of Education in grades kindergarten through third grade. The Department of Education must develop and provide training to kindergarten through third-grade teachers on the science of reading so teachers have the skills and knowledge to teach young students to read. Students across the state will take a universal reading screener assessment to monitor their progress in foundational literacy skills multiple times a year.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Education Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

HB 562  (Jones-25th)  Bill Link
Recognizes certain accrediting agencies as evaluators of the quality of education offered in public schools.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 579  (Barrett-24th)  Bill Link
Revises the prior school year requirement for the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Act and revises provisions for expedited completion of a student’s first Individualized Education Program as well as the requirement that students who previously qualified for the scholarship have an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 plan.
Status: House Education Committee

HB 585  (Jones-25th)  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: House Governmental Affairs Committee

HB 605  (Dickey-145th)  Bill Link
Provides that victims of human trafficking are eligible for the Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (REACH) Scholarship.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Higher Education Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

HB 607  (Pirkle-169th)  Bill Link
Changes the ACT score requirement for a Zell Miller Scholarship Scholar from 26 to a score equivalent to 1,200 on the SAT, as determined by the Georgia Student Finance Commission using nationally recognized standards.
Status: Recommended Do Pass by the House Higher Education Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

HB 640  (Holcomb-81st)  Bill Link
Provides that noncitizen students with certain refugee, special immigrant, or humanitarian parolee status under federal law are classified as in-state for tuition purposes subject to certain conditions.
Status: House Higher Education Committee

HB 641  (Bentley-150th)  Bill Link
Relating to definitions regarding tuition equalization grants at private colleges and universities, the bill revises the definition of approved school to include schools which were previously accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, are now accredited by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools.
Status: House Higher Education Committee