Miscellaneous

**PASSED BOTH CHAMBERS AND WAITING ON CONSIDERATION FROM THE GOVERNOR**

**HB 88**  
(Gaines-120th)  
*Bill Link*  
“Coleman-Baker Act” - It requires the head of an agency or their designee to review a cold case murder when requested in writing, and to determine if a full reinvestigation would result in the identification of probative investigative leads or a likely perpetrator. The review must: look at what procedures may have been missed initially; whether witnesses should be interviewed or reinterviewed; if forensic evidence was properly tested and analyzed; and perform an update of the case file using the most current investigative standards to the extent it would help develop probative leads. The agency must conduct a full investigation if, at the agency's sole discretion, the review concludes that a full reinvestigation would result in additional, previously unidentified probative leads or a likely perpetrator. An investigation cannot be fully conducted by a person who previously investigated the case, and only one full reinvestigation can be undertaken at one time with respect to the same victim. If a full reinvestigation is completed and a likely perpetrator is not identified, no additional investigation will occur for a period of five years from the conclusion of the reinvestigation, unless there is newly discovered material evidence. Each law enforcement agency is required to develop a written application and procedures, and the agency must provide a written notification of receipt of the application as soon as reasonably possible. If a request does not meet the criteria, then the agency must provide the requestor with a letter stating that final review is not necessary. The law enforcement agency has six months from receipt of the application to complete its case file review and conclude whether or not a full reinvestigation is warranted. The agency can extend the time limit once for a maximum of six months if the agency finds that it would be unfeasible to comply with the original time limit. The Carl Vinson Institute of Government will establish and maintain a case tracking system and searchable public website with information about the applications, extensions, number of reinvestigations, and statistical information on suspects, arrests, etc. This process applies to any cold case murders that occurred on or after January 1, 1970. The bill allows a coroner or medical examiner to issue a death certificate with a non-specific cause of death.  
Status: **PASSED HOUSE. PASSED SENATE.** Awaits the governor's consideration.

**HB 120**  
(Corbett-174th)  
*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 convicted of driving under the influence of a controlled substance or marijuana, and those in non-compliance with a child support order. The bill provides conditions for revocation of a limited driving permit. (Contains provisions of HB 167)  
Status: **PASSED HOUSE. PASSED SENATE.** Awaits the governor's consideration.

**HB 163**  
(McDonald-26th)  
*Bill Link*  
Establishes a student loan repayment program for full-time medical examiners employed with the Division of Forensic Sciences of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The total repayment amount must not exceed $120,000 or the total student debt amount, whichever is less, and the payments will be paid in annual installments, for a period not exceeding five years. The Georgia Student Finance Authority is authorized to establish rules and regulations to implement the program and the program is contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly.  
Status: **PASSED HOUSE. PASSED SENATE.** Awaits the governor's consideration.

**HB 242**  
(Hitchens-161st)  
*Bill Link*  
Increases traffic violation under ‘Joshua’s Law’ fines by 3%.  
Status: **PASSED HOUSE. PASSED SENATE.** Awaits consideration by the governor.

**SB 3**  
(Albers-56th)  
*Bill Link*  
"Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023" - Requires the Department of Administrative Services to regularly assess and reduce, when possible, the requirements for jobs within state government.  
Status: **PASSED SENATE. PASSED HOUSE.** Awaits consideration by the governor.

**SB 55**  
(Parent-42nd)  
*Bill Link*  
“Georgia Lemonade Stand Act” - Prohibits the regulation of businesses of individuals under 18 years of age selling non-consumable goods, prepackaged foods, lemonade, or nonalcoholic beverages on private property that earn $5,000 or