someone immediately exits a vehicle and discharges a firearm at a person, an occupied motor vehicle, or an occupied building. The crime of criminal damage to property in the first degree is modified to include when someone knowingly and without justification causes damage to a building by discharging a firearm while inside a vehicle or after immediately exiting a motor vehicle. This also increases the penalty for second or subsequent violations to imprisonment of between five and 20 years. The bill creates a new crime of drive-by shooting when a person who is either in a motor vehicle or is close to a motor vehicle that they used to drive to the location, discharges a firearm at another person, motor vehicle, or dwelling, with the intent to injure. The penalty is imprisonment of between five and 20 years. Penalties for drive-by shootings that result in serious bodily injuries or are against a person under the age of 16 years old are also imprisonment of between five to 20 years. The crime of drive-by shooting is added to the list of statutes that are eligible to be prosecuted under the racketeering influenced and corrupt organizations (RICO) framework. (Note this bill has been amended to include a number of policies from other bills.)

Status: PASSED SENATE. Recommended Do Pass by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill remained in House Rules Committee and therefore DID NOT PASS.

SB 64 (Robertson-64th)  Bill Link
Allows an adult who had been adopted to request and receive a copy of their original Georgia birth certificate following payment of a fee. The copy will indicate it is not a certified copy. A parent, sibling, or descendant of a deceased person may receive a copy of the decedent's birth certificate under the same procedure.

Status: PASSED SENATE. Recommended Do Pass by the House Judiciary Committee. The bill was recommitted to committee and therefore did NOT PASS.

SB 230 (Brass-28th)  Bill Link
Revises provisions relating to the foster parents bill of rights and include relative caregivers and fictive kin as parties to those rights.

Status: PASSED SENATE. Assigned to House Juvenile Justice Committee. The bill failed to receive any recommendation from the committee and therefore did not progress this session.

SR 159 (Strickland-17th)  Bill Link
Creates the Senate Study Committee on the Parenting Time Deviation in Georgia’s Child Support Guidelines Statute.

Status: Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Rules Committee. The bill failed to receive any recommendation from the committee and therefore did not progress this session.