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Weekly Legislative Report #5

Week Ending February 11, 2022

House Passes Amended FY 2022 Budget

Often referred to as the “little budget,” or the “supplemental budget” by old timers, the AFY 2022 budget is officially the “amended” budget, which directly describes its purpose. Each regular session, the legislature takes a look at the budget it passed the previous year and amends it to make sure expenses still balance with income as required by the Constitution. By the time the amended budget passes and is signed by the Governor, there is barely more than four months left in the fiscal year. Thus, changes are relatively small, just enough to balance the books in the few remaining months.

The amended budget ([HB 910](#)) is what passed the House on Friday. As described by Appropriations Chairman Terry England (Auburn-R), many of the changes in the bill are simply to “true-up” figures to how much was or will be actually spent. For example, when planned hires of personnel take place months later than anticipated by the original budget, money is taken back from the agency to make the amount allotted more precise. When expenses exceed what was anticipated, more funding must be made available. The largest apparent beneficiary in the little budget was the nursing home industry that got clobbered by the pandemic. The bill contains \$26 million in new dollars to provide a \$10 per patient day rate adjustment.

One trend of note in this amended budget is how often Chairman England mentioned that dollars originally put in the bond package were being moved forward and paid for with cash in this fiscal year. That, of course, will save on interest expenses long-term.

The amended budget will be taken up by Senate Appropriations subcommittees beginning Monday.

Communities Becoming Cities

Most people who live in metro Atlanta likely assumed that the venerable Cobb County communities of Mableton, Vinings and Lost Mountain were already officially small cities, and before long that may well be true. The census bureau considers them “census-designated places,” but each is currently the subject of legislation to incorporate them as true cities. ([Mableton HB 839](#); [Vinings HB 840](#); [Lost Mountain HB 826](#)). There’s also a bill ([HB 841](#)) to incorporate 25 square

miles of the eastern section of Cobb County (50,000 people) as the City of East Cobb. Each bill is at a separate step in the legislative process, but all are advancing.

One newly proposed city no longer moving through the process is that of Buckhead City. Both the Lt. Governor and the Speaker of the House have indicated that this proposal is dead for the current session. Buckhead City is different from the others mentioned above in that it would de-annex portions of an existing city – Atlanta. A week ago major businesses located in the heart of Buckhead made it clear they did not favor divorcing the City of Atlanta.

Legislature Studying Several Education Bills

Sen. Marty Harbin of Tyrone ushered [SB 435](#) through the Senate Education and Youth Cmte. on Wednesday. The “Save Girl Sports Act” would make it unlawful for any school that competes with a public school from facilitating athletic programs that “permit a person of one gender to participate in an athletic program designated for persons of the opposite gender.” [HB 1084](#) (Will Wade-R) passed out of a subcommittee, while [SB 377](#) (Bo Hatchett-R) was heard without a vote this week. Both are versions of “critical race theory” prohibitions that have been sweeping the country. Another bill, [HB 1217](#) (Chris Erwin-R), promising to filter out pornography and other obscene materials from internet and electronic devices in schools was introduced and assigned to the House Education Committee. And, finally, [SB 231](#) (Jason Anavitarte-R) cleared the Senate and is headed to the House for consideration. It would create a pilot program in certain charter schools, with cooperation from technical colleges, for people between ages 21 and 35 who have not received a high school diploma to do so.

Election Parity Perspective

There are too many election related bills to comment on, but one in particular made news this week. Current law doesn’t allow individual legislators to raise money while the General Assembly is in session. The appearance of malfeasance is too strong. However, incumbents have always complained that that rule gives challengers an advantage. Thus, Jeff Mullis (R-Chickamauga) the Rules Cmte. Chairman, amended [HB 333](#) (Chuck Efstration-R) which had been tabled at the end of last year’s session. Efstration’s Ethics in Government Act mainly dealt with how campaign money is raised and reported to the Ethics Commission. It was taken from the table and recommitted to the Rules Cmte. The Mullis amendment would change state law so that anyone running for state office would be prohibited from fundraising during the legislative session. The Rules Cmte. acted on the bill on a “do pass” motion, but it has not yet selected the bill for floor action. The House, of course, will still have the opportunity to agree (or not) with the changes made.

Heads Up! Bipartisanship Spotted

It’s worth mentioning whenever a concept under the gold dome receives complete bipartisan support. Two such bills moved through the Senate last week, receiving unanimous support on the Senate floor. [SB 370](#) (Bill Cowsert-R) would establish a tax credit for taxpayer’s donations to qualified child support organizations, while also authorizing the Department of Family and Children Services to certify such foster child support organizations. The ultimate aim is to assist children who age out of foster care, but have no support to move on in life. [SB 361](#) (Larry Walker-R) would create a tax credit for donations made to local law enforcement foundations.

In a somewhat unusual move, Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan testified in committee in support of the bills. The measures now head over to the House where someone may query . . . “I thought the Constitution required revenue bills to originate in the House! Aren’t tax credit bills tied to how we raise revenue?” Another tax credit bill that started in the Senate, [SB 330](#) (John Albers-R), benefitting living people who donate organs, was recently moved from the House Insurance Cmte. to the tax-writing Ways & Means Cmte.

Statistic of the Week

From 2009 to 2020 there was not a single outbreak of illness attributed to the consumption of raw milk in Georgia, a state that prohibits the sale of unpasteurized milk for human consumption. During the same period in Pennsylvania, where the sale for human consumption is legal, there were 20 outbreaks of raw milk-related illness documented.

--Dr. Nick Place, Dean of the UGA College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (and a native of Pennsylvania), in testimony before the House Agriculture Committee considering [HB 1175](#) (Clay Pirkle-R).

Next Week

The legislature is in session next week Monday through Thursday, taking us through legislative day 18. Friday is a recess day. The Senate will be taking up the AFY 2022 budget in various subcommittee hearings Monday. Late risers beware -- both the Community Health Subcommittee and the Criminal Justice/Public Safety Subcommittee hearings convene at 7:00 a.m.!

Legislative Tracking Report

Tracking List

Here are the bills we are tracking. **New activity is noted in green.** Click on the [Bill Number](#) to access the current version of the bill.

The 2022 Legislative Session is the second session of the 2021-2022 Term of the Georgia General Assembly. Therefore, bills not passed or defeated last session are carried over to the 2022 session. Bills tabled on the floor or pending in the House or Senate Rules Committees at adjournment sine die of the 2021 session have been recommitted to the committee from whence they came.

Sections:

[Aging](#)

[Behavioral/ Mental Health](#)

[Business](#)

[City & County Governments & Regional Commissions](#)

[Economic Development](#)

[Elections](#)

[Ethics](#)

[Gaming](#)

[Government](#)

[Public Health](#)

[Health – General](#)

[Hospitals](#)

[Insurance](#)
[Pharmaceuticals](#)
[Taxes](#)
[Transportation](#)

Aging

[HB 290](#), Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions (Rep. Ed Setzler-R)

Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to prohibit hospitals and nursing homes from instituting any policy during a declared public health emergency that limits patients' abilities to be visited by designated family members or friends as a condition precedent to obtaining or maintaining a permit to operate a hospital or nursing home. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Hearings Held, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, House Passed as Amended by the House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Motion made to Table, Tabled

[HB 605](#), Relating to care and protection of indigent and elderly patients (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to care and protection of indigent and elderly patients, so as to provide for authorized electronic monitoring in long-term care facilities. Status: Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Hearing Only, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed as Amended by the Senate, Sent to House for Agree/Disagree, House Disagreed

[HB 618](#), Elderly abuse protections regarding wills (Rep. Bert Reeves-R)

Relating to execution and attestation, so as to provide for elder abuse protections regarding wills; to provide for a definition; to provide for requesting a judgment of validity; and to provide for the admissibility of facts; to provide for revocation. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 628](#), Central caregiver registry (Rep. John LaHood-R)

Relating to the central caregiver registry, so as to provide for criminal background checks on individuals independently retained to provide personal care services for elderly persons who reside in a personal care home or assisted living facility; to revise definitions; to provide for procedures and notification; and to provide for limited liability. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations and Aging

[HB 1304](#), Georgia Caregivers Act (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)

To create the "Georgia Caregivers Act" to require hospitals to provide patients with the opportunity to identify lay caregivers; to provide that no new private right of action is created. **Status:** Dropped in Hopper and will be assigned to Cmte Monday

Behavioral/ Mental Health

[HB 1013](#), Mental Health Parity Act (Rep. David Ralston-R)

Relating to courts, education, health, insurance, mental health, public officers and employees, and social services, respectively, so as to implement the recommendations of the Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 403](#), Enact "Georgia Behavioral Health and Peace Officer Co-Responder Act" (Sen. Ben Watson-R)

Relating to mental health, so as to enact the "Georgia Behavioral Health and Peace Officer Co-Responder Act." **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

Business

[HB 961](#), Torts; Authorize appointment of damages in single-defendant lawsuits (Rep. Chuck Efstoration-R) Relating to reduction and apportionment of award or bar of recovery according to percentage of fault of parties and nonparties, so as to authorize apportionment of damages in single-defendant lawsuits; to provide for evidence of fault of nonparties. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, [Passed Cmte](#), [Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[HB 995](#), Provide 5 days of sick leave to take care of immediate family (Rep. William Boddie-D) Relating to labor and industrial relations, so as to require employers to provide at least five days of sick leave for an employee that can be used for the care of immediate family members. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte

[HB 1091](#), Land owner's liability if guns are prohibited (Rep. Marti Momtahan- R) Relating to general provisions regarding liability of owners and occupiers of land, so as to revise the duty of an owner or occupier of land to an invitee when such owner or occupier prohibits the carrying or possession of weapons. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[HB 1176](#), Enact Right to Repair Act (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R) Relating to selling and other trade practices, so as to require a manufacturer to provide certain items necessary for diagnostic, maintenance, or repair services on digital products. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs

[HB 1289](#), Prohibit director of Environmental Protection Division from issuing permits for surface mining on Trail Ridge (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R) Prohibit the director of the Environmental Protection Division of the Natural Resources Department from issuing, modifying, or renewing any permit or accepting any bond to conduct surface mining operations on the geological feature known as Trail Ridge between the St. Marys and Satilla Rivers for future permit applications and amendments; to provide for legislative findings. **Status:** [Referred to Natural Resources & Environment Cmte](#)

[SB 55](#), To create the Family Medical Leave Fund (Sen. Gloria Butler-D) To create the Family Medical Leave Fund; to provide for contributions to such fund; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations by the Department of Labor. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

[SB 189](#), Civil Practice; separate trials for issues of liability and damage (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R) Relating to civil practice, so as to provide for separate trials for issues of liability and damages under certain circumstances; to provide considerations for making determinations as to whether to provide for separate trials. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 190](#), Relating to torts, so as to provide for the recovery and admissibility (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R) Relating to torts, so as to provide for the recovery and admissibility of special damages for medical and health care expenses. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

City & County Governments and Regional Commissions

[HB 328](#), Public utilities; one-time right of way permit fee (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R) Relating to telephone service general provisions, so as to establish a one-time right of way permit fee and reduce annual right of way use fees as due compensation paid to municipal authorities by telephone companies that do not have retail, end user customers located within the boundaries of the municipal authority; to provide certain notice requirements; and to establish a civil penalty. **Status:** Referred to Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications, [Passed Cmte by Substitute](#), [Pending Rules Cmte](#), [Passed House](#),

Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries and Utilities Cmte, Cmte Tabled, Taken off Table, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed as Amended, Sent to House for Agree/Disagree

[HB 302](#), Require that proceeds of local government regulatory fees be used for regulatory activity (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding specific, business, and occupation taxes, so as to require that the proceeds of local government regulatory fees be used to pay for regulatory activity and not general operations; to revise the list of professions which may be subject to such regulatory fees; to remove provisions authorizing calculation of regulatory fees for new construction, renovation, and other construction projects. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, House Postponed, Passed/Adopted By Substitute in House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte

[HB 60](#), Georgia Educational Scholarship Act (Rep. Wes Cantrell-R)

Relating to education, so as to provide for the establishment of educational scholarship accounts; to provide for qualified education expenses; to provide for qualifications for students to participate in the account program. **Status:** Referred to Educational Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Withdrawn from Rules Calendar, Recommitted to Rules Cmte, Referred to Education Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute

[HB 107](#), Workforce Development Board Meetings (Rep. Carolyn Hugley-R)

Local workforce development board to conduct meetings via teleconference. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 854](#), Incorporate City of Buckhead City (Rep. Todd Jones-R)

To incorporate the City of Buckhead. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 933](#), Remove provisions, keeping ballots and election documents under seal (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, to revise provisions related to the retention and preservation of ballots and other election documents; to remove provisions for keeping such ballots and documents under seal; to provide for the inspection of such ballots and documents under certain conditions. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 934](#), Special district transportation sales and use tax (Rep. Rob Leverett-R)

Relating to the special district mass transportation sales and use tax, to provide for the maximum amount and time frame for the collection of such tax when an intergovernmental agreement has been entered into between a county and municipality. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte

[HB 1044](#), Creation of regional development authorities (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)

Relating to development authorities, so as to provide for the creation of regional development authorities; to provide an enhancement for the jobs tax credit for such authorities. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1085](#), Allow instant run off voting (Rep. Joseph Gullett-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the option for municipalities to adopt and use instant runoff voting for their elections. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 1180](#), Revise provisions for appointment of nonpublic members to regional commissions (Rep. John Corbett-R)

Relating to regional commissions, so as to revise provisions regarding the appointment of nonpublic members to the regional commission councils; to provide for executive committees for each regional commission council; to provide for filing audits with the Department of Community Affairs. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HB 1037](#), Establish state-wide peer workforce navigator pilot program (Rep. William Boddie-D)
Relating to administration of employment security, so as to provide for the development and implementation of a state-wide peer workforce navigator pilot program; to provide for definitions; to provide for program standards and qualifications; to provide for annual reporting by the Commissioner of Labor. **Status:** Referred to Industry and Labor Cmte

[HB 1237](#), Change description of the commissioner districts (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)
Change the description of the commissioner districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of current members; to provide for effective dates. **Status:** Referred to Intragovernmental Coordination Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Passed, Sent to Senate

[HR 594](#), Temporary tax relief to properties damaged or destroyed by a disaster or located in a nationally declared disaster area (Rep. Lynn Smith-R)
Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Georgia so as to provide that county and municipal governing authorities shall be authorized to grant temporary tax relief to properties severely damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster and located within a nationally declared disaster area; to provide for related matters; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[SB 95](#), Conditions for meetings to be held by teleconference (Sen. Frank Ginn-R)
Relating to state government, so as to provide conditions for meetings and public hearings to be held by teleconference in emergency conditions; and to provide conditions for certain agency members to participate in nonemergency meetings by teleconference. **Status:** Referred to Government Oversight Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Rules Calendar, House Recommitted to Rules Cmte, Defeated in House, House Voted to Reconsider its Action, Reconsideration Passed, Recommitted to House General Calendar, House Adopted Reconsideration, Passed House by Substitute, Sent to Senate

[SB 324](#), Incorporate City of Buckhead City (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)
To incorporate the City of Buckhead. **Status:** Referred to Urban Affairs Cmte

[SB 331](#), Restrictions on local governments' control on businesses (Sen. John Albers-R)
Relating to minimum wage law, so as to prohibit the regulation of employee work hours, scheduling, and output by local government entities. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Hearing Only, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[SB 494](#), Prohibit certain use restrictions on residential dwellings (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)
Relating to local government, so as to prohibit certain use restrictions on residential dwellings; to provide for definitions; to provide a limited waiver of sovereign immunity; to provide for interest prior to judgment; to provide for revocation of qualified local government status for a violation; to provide for reinstatement of qualified local government status under certain conditions; to provide for the promulgation of rules and regulations. **Status:**

[SR 26](#), An amendment to the Constitution to authorize GO Bonds (Sen. Tyler Harper-R)
Proposing an amendment to the Constitution to authorize the state to incur general obligation debt in order to make loans or grants to certain counties, cities, local authorities and local commissions that own airports. **Status:** Referred to Appropriations Cmte, Passed by the Appropriations Transportation Subcmte, Pending Appropriations Cmte, Passed Cmte, Sent to Rules Cmte, On Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken Off Table, Recommitted to Appropriations Cmte

Economic Development

[HB 359](#), Projects of regional significance sales tax exemption (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)
Relating to exemptions from state sales and use taxes, so as to extend the sunset date for the exemption for projects of regional significance. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 500](#), Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act (Rep. James Burchett-R)
Relating to the "Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act," so as to provide for a second round of funding and period for applications; to increase an application fee and provide for an annual maintenance fee. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[SB 65](#), Universal Access Fund (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)
Relating to public utilities so as to provide for funding of the deployment for certain communication services throughout the state, so as to allow for funds to be used for deployment of broadband services. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[SB 483](#), Revise Article 3 relating to bona fide coin operated amusement machines (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)
Relating to lottery for education, so as to comprehensively revise Article 3, relating to bona fide coin operated amusement machines. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

Elections

[HB 62](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Joseph Gullett-R)
Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to prohibit boards of elections, boards of elections and registration, local election superintendents, and county boards of registrars from accepting or expending private funds; to provide that such local elections officials can only accept lawful appropriations of public funds or authorized fees. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 64](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Houston Gaines-R)
Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the manner of handling the death of a candidate prior to a nonpartisan election; to provide that no candidate shall take or be sworn into any elected public office unless such candidate has received a majority of the votes cast for such office except as otherwise provided by law. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity, Hearing Only

[HB 113](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Kimberly Alexander-D)
Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for same day registration and voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 132](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Mesha Mainor-D)
Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for written operating procedures for elections and voter registration activities in each county; to provide for State Election Board approval; to provide for contents and scope of procedures; to provide for sanctions for failure to submit acceptable operating procedures. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 136](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Eddie Lumsden-R)
Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the appointment of acting election superintendents in the event of a vacancy or incapacitation in the office of judge of the probate court of counties without a board of elections. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 227](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Rep. Lee Hawkins-R)
Relating to elections and primaries so as to provide for submission of identification in connection with absentee ballot applications; to provide for the submission of photocopies of voter identification for absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 228](#), Relating to presentation of identification to poll worker (Charlice Byrd-R)

Relating to presentation of identification to poll workers, form of proper identification, so as to require the term Bearer Not a U.S. Citizen. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 267](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Brad Thomas-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that persons who register to vote by mail shall vote for the first time in person. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 270](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Barry Fleming-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the time periods for the mailing and issuance of absentee ballots. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted to Special Cmte on Election Integrity, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 280](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Rep. William Boddie-D)

Relating to primaries and elections, so as to eliminate certain electors list maintenance activities. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 284](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Wes Cantrell-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that counties and municipalities may choose to utilize instant run-off voting under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 285](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Rep. Wes Cantrell-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to provide for instant-run-off voting in the election of presidential electors; to provide for the implementation of the instant run-off voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 325](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the definition of "absentee elector"; to provide for reasons for voting by absentee ballot; and to provide for certain exceptions. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 326](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that voting devices or systems used in primaries, elections, and runoffs in this state shall not utilize any form of wireless network cards or wireless technology; to provide for the removal or disabling of such cards or technology before using such systems or devices in voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 365](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Williams-R)

relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that printed absentee ballot applications shall have the election cycle for which they are to be used printed on the application. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 366](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Martin Momtahan-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide that persons desiring to register to vote or update their voter registration through an application for a driver's license or identification card shall be required to affirmatively indicate such desire on such application. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 373](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that county registrars shall obtain monthly from the coroner, judge of the probate court, and funeral homes in the county identifying information about

persons who died in the county during the previous month. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 406](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Will Wade-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for audits of certain primaries and elections; to provide for access to election records for such auditors; and to provide for public access to the results of such audits. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 491](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide additional requirements on the State Election Board's power to adopt emergency rules and regulations. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 492](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to make the Secretary of State a nonvoting ex officio member of the State Election Board; to provide for the appointment, confirmation, term, and removal of the chairperson of the State Election Board; to revise provisions relating to a quorum of such board; to require the Secretary of State to support and assist the State Election Board. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 493](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the State Election Board to assume temporary control over local election and voter registration administration; to provide a definition; to provide for the appointment of the Secretary of State to carry out such local election and voter registration duties. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 494](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. James Burchett-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the submission of photocopies of voter identification documents for absentee voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 501](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Shaw Blackmon-R)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide that recounts shall count the text portions of ballots; to provide for discretionary recounts in certain circumstances; and to provide certain procedures for conducting recounts in partisan elections. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 506](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Matthew Gambill-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that the State Election Board shall promulgate minimum standards for voting equipment; to provide that the Secretary of State shall test and certify such equipment; to provide that each county shall be authorized to obtain whichever certified voting equipment it chooses. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 507](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Williams-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to regulate the distribution of absentee ballot applications by third-party entities; to provide for disclaimers and the use of proper forms by certain persons in distributing absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 512](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the times for advance voting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 537](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Mitchell Scoggins-R)

So as to provide for removal from office for boards of registrars and county boards of elections and registration under certain circumstances; to provide that absentee ballots shall be printed on safety paper;

to provide for the submission of certain forms of identification by electors with absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots; and to provide for audio and video recordings of ballot processing and counting. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 659](#), Relating to primaries and elections generally (Rep. Shea Roberts-D)

Relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for the scanning and publishing on a county website or the Secretary of State's website of paper ballots, unofficial precinct returns, and ballots from recounts; to provide for the inspection and copying of original ballots by certain persons following the completion of a recount. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 615](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Todd Jones-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for an automatic recount and recanvass under certain circumstances; to provide for certain reports. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[HB 701](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Rep. Barry Fleming-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise a definition; to provide additional powers of the State Election Board regarding suspending superintendents; to provide for the appointment of temporary and permanent replacement superintendents. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 29](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jason Anavitarte-R)

So as to provide for the submission of certain forms of identification by electors with absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 40](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jen Jordan-D)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the time and method for opening and tabulating absentee ballots; and to provide for an effective date. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 62](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Lindsey Tippins-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to provide the name and designation of the precinct appears on her ballot. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken off Table, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 67](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Larry Walker-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the submission of identification in connection with absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Pending Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 68](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to revise the manner of delivery of voted absentee ballots. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 69](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to provide that persons desiring to register to vote through an application for a driver's license shall be required to affirmatively indicate such desire on such application. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 70](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to Elections and Primaries, so as to provide that a person who votes in a general election in another state and subsequently moves to this state shall be ineligible to vote in a runoff in this state. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 71](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to Elections and Primaries, so as to revise the definition of “absentee elector” to provide for reasons for voting by absentee ballot and to provide for certain exemptions. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 72](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to Elections and Primaries, so as to provide that the county registrars shall obtain monthly from the coroner, probate judge and funeral homes in the county identifying information about who has died in the county during the previous month. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken off Table, Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 73](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to limit the distribution of absentee ballot applications. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 74](#), Relating to elections and primaries (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to elections and primaries, so as to revise the ability of poll watchers at tabulating centers to observe the vote county process. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Table, Taken off Table, Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 89](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Butch Miller-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for a chief elections assistance officer; to provide for the qualifications, appointment, supervision, and duties of such officer; to provide for election assistance coaches; to provide for the identification of low-performing county election superintendents; to provide for comprehensive on-site evaluation of election management practices. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Pending Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 93](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Randy Robertson-R)

elating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the use of portable and movable polling facilities in certain circumstances; and to provide for standards for such facilities. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Subcmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 99](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Elena Parent-D)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that all advance voting locations shall be open and available for voting on the day of a primary, election, or runoff for any elector of the county to vote; and to provide for procedures and requirements. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 141](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jason Anavitarte-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for immediate counting and tabulation of ballots after the close of the polls until such counting and tabulation is completed; and to provide notice of number of ballots cast. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Ethics Cmte

[SB 184](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the time for inputting credit for voting data; and to provide for sanctions for failure to meet deadlines. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 188](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Bill Cowsert-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for an election results reporting system to be established and maintained by the Secretary of State; and to provide for the submission of certain information to such reporting system by county superintendents. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Special Cmte on Election Integrity

[SB 192](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Jason Anavitarte-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for hearings and procedures when the right of a person to register to vote, vote, or remain on the list of electors is challenged. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 241](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Mike Dugan-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the establishment of a voter intimidation and illegal election activities hotline; to limit the ability of the State Election Board and the Secretary of State to enter into certain consent agreements; to amend Article 1 of Chapter 13 of Title 50 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions regarding administrative procedure, so as to provide for the submission and suspension of emergency rules by the State Election Board. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 253](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Nikki Merritt-D)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for notice when polling places are relocated. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 273](#), Relating to elections and primaries generally (Sen. Burt Jones-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to authorize local governments to conduct elections by paper ballot in 2021. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 325](#), Remove provisions for absentee ballot drop boxes (Sen. Butch Miller-R, Rep. Frank Ginn-R, Rep. Sheila McNeill-R, Rep. Jeff Mullis-R, Rep. Chuck Payne-R, and others)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to remove provisions relating to absentee ballot drop boxes and the requirements therefor. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

[SB 350](#), Provide for nonpartisan elections for any county offices (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by local legislation for nonpartisan elections for any county offices; to provide procedures for such nonpartisan general elections. **Status:** Referred to Ethics Cmte

Ethics

[HB 333](#), Georgia Government Transparency & Campaign Finance Commission (Rep. Chuck Efration-R)

Relating to ethics in government, so as to revise the powers and duties of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Ethics Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate Rules Cmte as Senate Rules Cmte Substitute, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Rules Cmte; **Passed by Cmte substitute, pending Rules Cmte**

Gaming

[HB 86](#), Sports Wagering (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

To provide for the lottery game of sports wagering; to provide oversight of such lottery game by the Georgia Lottery Corporation. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte, Sent to Rules Cmte, Withdrawn and recommitted to the Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Rules Calendar, House Postponed, Withdrawn from House Rules Calendar and Recommited to Rules Cmte

[HB 538](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to state government, so as to provide for pari-mutuel horse racing in this state at a limited number of licensed equestrian centers; to create the Georgia Horse Racing Commission; to provide for the comprehensive regulation of pari-mutuel and related activities; to provide for definitions; to enter into the Interstate Compact on Licensure of Participants in Live Racing with Pari-mutuel Wagering. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte

[HB 544](#), Relating to Lottery Board and COAM operators (Rep. Alan Powell-R)

Relating to lottery for education, so as to change the composition of the board of directors of the lottery; to comprehensively revise Article 3, relating to bona fide coin operated amusement machines. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte, Hearing Only

[HR 30](#), Authorizing Licensed Destination Resort Casinos (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for the local authorization of a limited number of licensed destination resort facilities casino resorts within the state; to authorize the operation and regulation of limited casino gaming within the state; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Cmte, Withdrawn from Economic Development & Tourism Cmte and Recommited to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed Lottery Oversight-Gaming Subcmte by Substitute, Pending Cmte

[HR 184](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Defeated in Cmte

[SB 30](#), To provide for pari-mutuel horse racing (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel horse racing in this state at a limited number of licensed equestrian centers and create the Georgia Horse Racing Commission. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[SB 142](#), Sports Wagering (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to lottery for education, so as to provide for the lottery game of sports wagering in this state; to provide for oversight of such lottery game by the Georgia Lottery Corporation. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte, Hearing Only, Passed by Cmte Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Rules Calendar, House Recommited back to Rules Cmte, House Rules Cmte Calendar, Recommited to Economic Development Cmte

[SB 212](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to state government, so as to provide for pari-mutuel horse racing in this state at a limited number of licensed equestrian centers; to create the Georgia Horse Racing Commission; to provide for the comprehensive regulation of pari-mutuel and related activities; to provide for definitions; to enter into the Interstate Compact on Licensure of Participants in Live Racing with Pari-mutuel Wagering. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities Cmte

[SR 53](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities

[SR 131](#), To provide for pari-mutuel betting (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

To provide for pari-mutuel betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities

[SR 135](#), To provide for sports betting (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

To provide for sports betting in this state; to provide for submission of a constitutional amendment for ratification. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries & Utilities, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Rules Calendar, House Recommitted back to Rules Cmte, House Rules Cmte Calendar, Recommitted to Economic Development Cmte

Government

[HB 608](#), Broadband Services (Rep. Marcus Wiedower-R)

Relating to state government, so as to provide for planning, deployment, and incentives of broadband services throughout the state; to provide for definitions; to provide for certain powers, duties, and responsibilities of the OneGeorgia Authority and the Department of Community Affairs relative to funding and contractual awards for the deployment of broadband services to unserved areas and unserved locations within such areas; to provide certain criteria and conditions for such awards. **Status:** Governmental Affairs Cmte, Hearing Only

[HB 1040](#), Require community action agencies to submit audit reports and IRS forms before contracts with DHS (Rep. Patty Bentley-D)

Relating to economic rehabilitation services, so as to require community action agencies to submit audit reports and IRS forms to the Department of Audits and Accounts before any contracts with the Department of Human Services are made or offered; to require each member of the board of directors of a community action agency to execute contracts between the community action agency and the Department of Human Services. **Status:** Referred to Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Cmte

Public Health

[HB 996](#), Provide additional exceptions to "Dietetics Practice Act" (Rep. Kasey Carpenter-R)

Relating to professions and businesses, so as change and provide for additional exceptions to the "Dietetics Practice Act," to allow individuals credentialed in the field of nutrition to provide advice, counseling, or evaluations in matters of food, diet, or nutrition under certain circumstances; to provide for conforming cross-references. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte, Passed SubCmte by Substitute, Pending Full Cmte

[HB 1000](#), Exception for inoculation of canines and felines against rabies (Rep. Stan Gunter-R)

Relating to control of rabies, so as to provide an exception for inoculation of canines and felines against rabies for animals for which such vaccine would compromise the animal's health or if it is medically unnecessary. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte

[HB 1005](#), Require local school systems to conduct suicide screenings (Rep. Meshia Mainor-D)

Relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to require local school systems to conduct suicide screenings on all students age eight through 18. **Status:** Referred to Education Cmte

[HB 1057](#), Provide standard suite of services for mental health that community service boards. (Rep. Gerald Greene-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding administration of mental health, developmental disabilities, addictive diseases, and other disability services, so as to provide for a standard suite of services that community service boards are required to provide in their respective service areas. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[HB 918](#), Establish the Georgia Rare Disease Advisory Council (Rep. Mike Cheokas-R)

Relating to health, so as to provide for the establishment of the Georgia Rare Disease Advisory Council; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for membership; to provide for the duties and powers of the advisory council; to provide for an annual report. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[HB 1086](#), Lower age to 50 years old to offer inpatients influenza vaccinations prior to discharge (Rep. Katie Dempsey-R)

Relating to influenza vaccinations for discharged patients aged 65 and older, vaccinations or other measures for health care workers in hospitals, immunity from liability, and standing orders, so as to lower the age to 50 years old for hospitals to offer inpatients vaccinations for the influenza virus prior to discharge. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, [Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[HB 1175](#), Regulate raw dairy products (Rep. Clay Pirkle-R)

Relating to standards, labeling, and adulteration of food, so as to authorize and regulate the production, handling, transporting, and sale of raw milk and raw milk products for human consumption; to provide standards for safety, cleanliness, and health for such products and animals producing them; to authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture to enforce such standards. **Status:** Referred to Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Cmte; [hearing only](#)

[HB 1192](#), Provisions for Medicaid services to persons with HIV (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to require the Department of Community Health to submit a Section 1115 waiver request to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a demonstration project to provide treatment services under Medicaid to persons in this state living with HIV. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[SB 338](#), Extension of postpartum coverage under Medicaid to one year after birth (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

To increase postpartum coverage under Medicaid from six months to one year following birth. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte, [Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed, Sent to House, Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte](#)

[SB 345](#), Prohibit state and local governments from mandating vaccine passports (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding state government, to prohibit state and local governments from mandating vaccine passports. **Status:** Referred to Health and Human Services Cmte

[SB 372](#), Provide that certain vaccination requirements or immunity passports are unlawful discriminatory practices (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)

Relating to control of hazardous conditions, preventable diseases, and metabolic disorders, so as to provide that certain requirements or actions relating to vaccination status or possession of immunity passport are unlawful discriminatory practices; to provide for exceptions; to provide that an individual may not be required to receive certain vaccines. **Status:** Referred to Judiciary Cmte

[SB 404](#), Authorize the GBI and FBI to retain certain fingerprints under certain conditions (Sen. John Albers-R)

Relating to emergency medical services personnel, so as to authorize the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to retain certain fingerprints under certain conditions. **Status:** [Referred to Public Safety Cmte, Pass Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[SB 487](#), Diagnostic breast examination be treated as favorably as screening mammography with respect to cost-sharing requirements (Sen. Sheila McNeill)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to provide that diagnostic breast examinations shall not be treated less favorably than screening mammography for breast cancer with respect to cost-sharing requirements.

Status: Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte

Health – General

[HB 394](#), Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products, so as to revise the rate of taxation for tobacco products and vapor products; and to provide for the taxation of certain products that contain nicotine. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Mean Cmte

[HB 702](#), Professional licensing boards (Rep. Joseph Gullett-R)

Relating to appointment and general powers of division director, members and meetings of professional licensing boards, examination standards, roster of licensees, and funding, so as to provide that home addresses of licensees are treated as confidential. **Status:** Referred to Governmental Affairs Cmte

[HR 236](#), House Study Committee on Safe Staffing of Nurses (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)

A Resolution creating the House Study Committee on the Safe Staffing of Nurses in Georgia. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte

[HB 972](#), Licensing requirements for professional counselors (Rep. Dave Belton-R)

Relating to licensing provisions regarding professional counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists, so as to change certain definitions; to provide for an additional member to the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists; to change the licensing requirement and exceptions; to change the eligibility for licensure requirements; to remove the ability of the board to issue a license without examination; to change the requirement for licensure in professional counseling; to eliminate certain continuing education requirements. **Status:** Referred to Regulated Industries Cmte

[HB 1038](#), Update of Rural Physician Tax Credit (Rep. Sharon Cooper-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits relative to state income taxes, so as to limit eligibility for the rural physician tax credit to persons qualifying as a rural physician on or before December 31, 2022; to provide for automatic repeal; to create a new tax credit for rural physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[SB 199](#), Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to taxes on tobacco and vaping products, so as to permit the sale and delivery of tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, and vapor products by licensed manufacturers located outside of this state directly to individuals in this state under certain conditions. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Finance Cmte

Hospitals

[HB 261](#), Care and protection of indigent and elderly (Rep. Todd Jones-R)

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to conduct a simulated exchange for health care facilities to purchase and sell charity care credits to meet their charity care requirements. **Status:** Referred to Human Resources & Aging Cmte, Hearing Only

[HB 290](#), Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions (Rep. Ed Setzler-R)

Relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to prohibit hospitals and nursing homes from instituting any policy during a declared public health emergency that limits patients' abilities to be visited by designated family members or friends as a condition precedent to obtaining or maintaining a permit to operate a hospital or nursing home. **Status:** Referred to Human Relations & Aging Cmte, Hearings Held, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, House Passed as Amended by the House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Motion made to Table, Tabled

[HB, 697](#), To require hospital data collection (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

Relating to health care data collection, so as to require hospitals to participate in a survey disclosing whether such hospitals maintain technology allowing the electronic sharing of certain patient information with other hospitals; to provide that the department shall collect the survey results and submit a report to the legislature; and to require the use of certified electronic health technology by certain hospitals. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 19](#), Surgical Smoke Evacuation Systems (Sen. Gloria Butler-D)

To require hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to utilize surgical smoke evacuation systems during surgical procedures to protect patients and health care works. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte

[SB 31](#), Care and protection of indigent and elderly (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler-R)

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to conduct a simulated exchange for health care facilities to purchase and sell charity care credits to meet their charity care requirements. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Recommitted to Finance Cmte

Insurance

[HB 115](#), Relating to insurance, so as to prohibit certain information (Rep. Mike Wilensky-R)

Relating to insurance, so as to prohibit certain insurers from using information derived from genetic testing for any nontherapeutic purpose in the absence of a diagnosis of a condition related to such information. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte

[HB 969](#), Update regulation of company holding systems (Rep. Tyler Paul Smith-R)

Relating to insurance holding company systems, so as to update the regulation of insurance company holding systems per direction from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; to provide guidelines for group capital calculation in insurance company holding systems; to provide guidelines for liquidity stress test framework in insurance company holding systems; to provide standards governing transactions within an insurance holding company system when an insurer is deemed to be in a hazardous financial condition; to provide protections for an affiliate in an insurance holding company system when a domestic insurer is subject to certain proceedings; to provide clarifications on confidentiality and to extend confidentiality protections to third-party consultants designated by the Commissioner. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 1021](#), Decrease minimum nonforfeiture interest rate for individual deferred annuities (Rep. Eddie Lumsden- R)

Relating to standard nonforfeiture provisions for individual deferred annuities, so as to decrease the minimum nonforfeiture interest rate for individual deferred annuities from 1 percent to 0.15 percent. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte, **Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte**

[HB 1288](#), Provide assignment of certain group term life insurance benefits to pay for funeral services (Rep. Darlene Taylor-R)

Relating to the State Employees' Assurance Department, so as to provide for the assignment of certain group term life insurance benefits to pay for funeral services of a deceased individual who was a member of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, Georgia Legislative Retirement System, or Georgia Judicial Retirement System; to provide for a definition. **Status:** Referred to Insurance Cmte

[SB 1](#), Georgia All-Payer Claims Database (Sen. Dean Burke-R)

Relating to the Georgia All-Payer Claims Database, so as to provide that entities that receive certain tax credits and that provide self-funded, employer sponsored health insurance plans are submitting entities and provide for related matter. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Hearing Only

[SB 112](#), Life insurance notification to policy owners and beneficiaries (Sen. Marty Harbin-R)

Relating to life insurance, so as to require annual notification to policy owners and requested beneficiaries of the existence of such policies; to require insurers to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners life insurance policy locator on a quarterly basis; and to provide for reporting. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Passed by Substitute, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Hearing Only

[SB 113](#), Life insurers' requirement to review national policy locator (Sen. Marty Harbin-R)

Relating to life insurance, so as to provide for life insurers' requirement to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' life insurance policy locator service; to provide for reporting; to provide for the Commissioner to prescribe reporting; to provide for a sunset provision for reporting requirements; and to provide for enforcement. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Hearing Only

[SB 330](#), Protection for applicants or insured who have donated organs (Sen. John Albers-R)

To amend Title 33 of the O.C.G.A., relating to insurance, so as to prohibit insurers from cancelling, modifying coverage, refusing to issue, or refusing to renew life insurance policies solely because the applicant or insured donated a liver or kidney; to amend Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the O.C.G.A., relating to income taxes, so as to revise an income tax deduction based on a taxpayer's living donation of all or part of his or her liver, pancreas, kidney, intestine, lung, or bone marrow. **Status:** Referred to Insurance & Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Insurance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Withdrawn from Insurance & Labor Cmte, Recommitted to Ways & Means Cmte

Pharmaceuticals

[HB 164](#), Prescription Drug Financial Protection Act (Rep. Demetrius Douglas-D)

Relating to insurance generally, so as to require all health insurers to pass along no less than 80 percent of all prescription drug rebates to enrollees that such insurer receives from third parties with regard to such enrollee's prescription drugs. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Hearing Only, Passed Cmte by Substitute As Amended, Pending Rules

[HB 447](#), Disclosure of health insurance plan data (Rep. David Knight-R)

Relating to the state employees' health insurance plan, so as to require that all contracts for health care coverage or services under the state health benefit plan contain provisions relating to disclosure of cost related data. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Hearing Only

[HB 448](#), Disclosure of cost related data for PeachCare for Kids Program (Rep. David Knight-R)

Relating to medical assistance generally, so as to require that all contracts for health care coverage or services under Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program contain provisions relating to disclosure of cost related data. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care, Hearing Only

[HB 867](#), Pharmacy Benefit Manager and Rebates (Rep. Mark Newton-R)

Relating to regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers, so as to revise the definition of "rebate"; to require pharmacy benefits managers to disclose the true net cost and final net cost, if applicable, of prescription drugs to insureds; to require pharmacy benefits managers to calculate cost sharing requirements for insureds based on the true net cost of prescription drugs; to provide for remittance of difference in cost sharing payments by insureds based on final net cost. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte on Access to Quality Health Care, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Passed House, Sent to Senate, [Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte](#)

[HB 963](#), Provisions for controlled substances (Rep. Butch Parrish-R)

Relating to controlled substances, so as to change certain provisions relating to Schedule I controlled substances and Schedule IV controlled substances; to change certain provisions relating to the definition of dangerous drugs. **Status:** Referred to Health & Human Services Cmte, [Passed Cmte](#), [Pending Rules Cmte](#)

[SB 341](#), Guidelines for prior authorization of prescribed medicine for chronic conditions (Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick-R)

Relating to the prior authorizations of healthcare services, to provide guidelines for the prior authorization of a prescribed medication for chronic conditions requiring ongoing medication therapy under certain circumstances. **Status:** Referred to Insurance and Labor Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

Taxes

[HB 100](#), Excise tax exemption for vehicles owned by public transportations systems (Rep. Carl Gilliard-D)

Relating to levy of excise tax, rate, taxation of motor fuels not commonly sold or measured by gallon, rate, prohibition of tax on motor fuel by political subdivisions, exception, and exempted sales, so as to provide for exemption from certain excise taxes on motor fuel and compressed natural gas for public mass transit vehicles owned by public transportation systems, certain vehicles owned by public campus transportation systems, and school buses operated by public school systems. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 104](#), Equipment Rental Tax (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

So as to levy and impose a tax on persons who enter certain rental agreements with certain equipment rental companies within a certain period of time. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte

[HB 122](#), To Extend Sales Tax Exemption for manufacturers of concrete (Rep. John Corbett-R)

To extend the sunset for a manufacturers' sales tax exemption for concrete mixers to 2026. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

Note: The language was added to SB 6.

[HB 304](#), Tax credit for medical equipment and pharmaceuticals (Rep. Jodi Lott-R)

Tax credit for medical equipment and supplies manufacturers and pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturers; provide tax credit. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 398](#), Relating to job tax credits (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to conditions for taking job tax credit by business enterprises and calculating credit, so as to remove the job cap. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 469](#), Tax Credits for historic structures (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, and computation and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to revise procedures, conditions, and limitations relating to tax credits for the rehabilitation of historic structures to provide for preapproval of additional tax credits for current recipients of tax credits. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Withdrawn from Rules Calendar and Recommitted to Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 452](#), Tax Credit for Class III railroads (Rep. Rick Jasperse-R)

Relating to tax credit for Class III railroads and reporting, so as to extend an income tax credit for expenditures on the maintenance of railroad track owned or leased by Class III railroads. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

Note: The language from HB 452 was added to [HB 587](#), Georgia Economic Renewal Act of 2021.

[HB 586](#), Georgia Economic Recovery Act of 2021 (Rep. Sam Watson-R)

Relating to general provisions regarding sales and use taxes, so as to extend the sunset date for the exemption for projects of regional significance. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Passed, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 587](#), Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to revenue and taxation, so as to provide for a tax credits for various expenditures and manufacturers. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, House Passed, Sent to Senate, Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Tabled, Taken from Table, Recommitted to Rules Cmte

[HB 979](#), Tax credit for lower income individuals who lease dwellings (Rep. Derek Mallow-D)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from income taxes, so as to provide for a tax credit for lower income individuals who lease dwellings under certain conditions. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 1039](#), Extend tax credit for expenditures on the maintenance of Class III railroads (Rep. Mack Jackson-D)

Relating to tax credit for Class III railroads and reporting, so as to extend the income tax credit for expenditures on the maintenance of railroad track owned or leased by Class III railroads. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[HB 1053](#), Extend tax credit for certain expenditures by postproduction companies (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits for state income tax, so as to extend a tax credit for certain expenditures made by postproduction companies. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte

[HB 1189](#), Include mining in tax credits allowable for purchases/acquisitions of qualified investment property (Rep. Bruce Williamson-R)

Relating to imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits relative to state income tax, so as to expand the credits allowable for purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property for manufacturing and telecommunications facilities to include mining facilities. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte

[SB 148](#), Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler-R)

To create the 2021 Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness for Georgians and the Special Joint Committee on Georgia Revenue Structure; to state legislative findings and intent; to make provisions relative to legislative procedure for consideration of legislation recommended by the council and the special joint committee. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Budget & Fiscal Affairs Oversight Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, On House Rules Calendar, Defeated in the House

[SB 323](#), Repeal state income tax (Sen. Butch Miller-R)

To repeal the state income tax in its entirety; to repeal various income tax credits; to provide for related matters. **Status:** Referred to Finance Cmte.

Transportation

[HB 496](#), Permits for vehicles of forest products for loads exceeding weight limit (Rep. James Burchett-R)
Relating to permits for vehicles and loads of excess weight and dimensions, so as to provide for issuance of an annual forest product permit for certain vehicles and loads exceeding weight and dimension maximums; to provide for fees for such permit. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte

[SB 98](#), Georgia Freight Railroad Program (Sen. Brandon Beach-R)
To provide for eligible expenditures for the Georgia Freight Railroad Program of GDOT; relating to composition of the Georgia Ports Authority, so as to add the commissioner of transportation as an ex official member of the Georgia Ports Authority. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Hearing Only, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Rules Cmte

[SB 118](#), Permits for vehicles of forest products for loads exceeding weight limit (Sen. Tyler Harper-R)
Relating to permits for vehicles and loads of excess weight and dimensions, so as to provide for issuance of an annual forest product permit for certain vehicles and loads exceeding weight and dimension maximums; to provide for fees for such permit. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Hearing Only

[SB 492](#), Deployment of electric vehicle charging equipment (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)
Relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to provide for the deployment of electric vehicle charging equipment. **Status:**

[SR 84](#), Airport Joint Study Committee (Sen. Tyler Harper-R)
Create Joint Study Committee for airport infrastructure and improvements. **Status:** Referred to Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Senate Rules Calendar, Senate Tabled, Taken off Table, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Senate Agreed.

[SR 102](#), Georgia Commission on E-Commerce and Freight Infrastructure Funding (Sen. Steve Gooch-R)
A Resolution creating the Georgia Commission on E-Commerce and Freight Infrastructure Funding; and for other purposes. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Senate, Sent to House, Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed Cmte, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed Cmte by Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte, Passed House, Sent to Senate for Agree/Disagree, Senate Agreed.

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