



Weekly Watch report

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SB 568 Voter Integrity bill Failed crossover due to Democrats & walkout RINO's SAD day for freedom in Georgia !!!

JUDICIARY COMMITTEES IN SENATE; HOUSE JUDICIARY (CIVIL), HOUSE NON-CIVIL, HOUSE JUVENILE

[SB 402](#) 🧠 **New Crossed over from Senate to House Juvenile Judiciary. House Favorably Reported 3/12/2026** Children and Youth; pilot program provision for screenings, clinical evaluations, training for autism spectrum disorder to children in foster care. Establish plans to expand pilot program; Adopt strategies to communicate with caregivers, ensure available medical consultants; provide technical assistance & dedicated staff. Written reports directed to GOV, SPKR OF HOUSE, PRES OF SENATE, CHAIRPERSONS OF HOUSE COMMITTEES on Public Health & include recommendations.

[SB 418](#) 📖 **Crossed – Senate Judiciary to House Technology & Infrastructural Innovation. House 2nd Readers 3/10/2026** TORTS. action against knowing and **unauthorized use of an individual's photograph or image** together with representations of nudity or sexually explicit conduct. Action against any person within 10 yrs of action. Relief sought up to \$1,000 per event, injunctive relief (prevent future harm). No liability of internet

[SB 443](#) 📖 **Crossed from Senate Judiciary to House Jud Non Civil. House 2nd Readers 3/6/2006** Offenses Against Public Order; the punishment for the offense of obstructing highways, streets, sidewalks, or other public passages. Guilty of a high and aggravated misdemeanor - fine, penalty, or restitution.

[SB 499](#) 📖 **Crossed over. House 2nd Read 3/10/2026** Dangerous Instrumentalities and Practices; prohibition on possessing a silencer. **Eliminates possession of silencer from the Code**

[SB 542](#) 📖 **Crossed Over from Senate Jud to House Jud. House 2nd Read 3/10/26** Sexual Offenses; clergy members to be charged with certain improper sexual contact offenses. **This Bill adds clergy members, pastoral counselors, employees, etc.** Felony conviction; various levels of fine and imprisonment.

[SB 547](#) **Crossed over. House 2nd Read 3/10/2026.** Offenses of **Pimping and Pandering**; modify the penalties. Guilty of felony 1-10 yrs imprisonment. Guilty of felony 1-10 yrs imprisonment punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than 25 years and by a fine not to exceed \$100,000.00

[SB 552](#) 🧠 📖 **Crossed House 2nd Readers 3/9/2026** True Patriotism and Universal Student Access (TPUSA) Act. Provide equal access to public schools for students engaging in political or philosophical expression; authorize of partisan and nonpartisan student groups and gatherings, provide for school disclaimers of sponsorship,




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prohibit discrimination based on the content of student speech within a limited open forum, provide maintenance of order and discipline.

[SB 572](#) **Crossed from Senate Judiciary to House Jud N/C, House 2nd Read 3/10/2026.** Criminal Prosecutions; an additional justification for use of force in defense of self or others. Use of force against individual is presumed to be reasonable and necessary for defense. Not justified when used or threatened force against a law enforcement officer acting in the performance of his or her official duties.


[SB 587](#)  **Crossed over. House 2nd Readers 3/10/26.** Offenses Against Public Health and Morals; the **establishment of an animal cruelty database**; provide purpose & funding; require Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of the State of Georgia to create, administer, and maintain such database; to provide for minimum requirements; provide for reporting and forms by 1/1/2027. List full names of convicted or pled G or nolo. Access at no cost.


[SB 591](#)  **Crossed from Senate Jud to House Jud N/C. House 2nd Readers 3/10/2026.** Offenses Against Public Order; the disruption of a religious service. Prohibits disruption of religious service include penalties.

[SB 592](#)  **Senate Tabled 3/6/2026 – DID NOT CROSS. ONE STRIKE ACT.** sexual offenses, rape, battery aggravated sexual battery under 12, designate violent felonies, remove probation, etc. 

[SB 594](#)  **Crossed from Senate Jud to House Technology & Infrastructure Innovation. House 2nd Read 3/10/2026.** **Internet and E-mail Fraud**; the criminal offense of digital identity fraud. Conviction felony 1- 20 yrs imprisonment, fine of \$1,000-500,000.

[HB 162](#) **Cross over from House Senate passed & adopted by Substitute 3/12/2026.** GA GBI restriction & seal of **1st Offender Act** sentences until status is revoked. **Records cannot to be provided** by Criminal Backgrounds Check Systems per 42-8-63.1

[HB 483](#)  **Crossed** from House Jud Non Civil to Senate Rules. **Senate Passed/Adopted 3/12/2026.** Crimes & offenses: protections for inspectors of code enforcement. Protections against assault & battery.


[HB 1196](#)  **Crossed** from House Jud non civil to Senate Judiciary. **Senate Read 2nd Time 3/12/2026.** Crimes; offense of criminal trespass involving a wild animal. Include current or historical to area, kept in aquariums, safaris, animal sanctuaries, **domestic animals, livestock**. Guilty if use of: item or substance in solid liquid gaseous form, can be consumed, inhaled or absorbed, electronics, biological materials, rock, sticks, etc. Conviction: 1st Degree-felony, prison 1 to 10 yrs; 2nd degree, misdemeanor, prison 12 mths or less; 3rd degree, misdemeanor, prison 12 mths., plus fine, penalty restitution for damage, etc.




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[HB 1506](#)  NEW House 2nd Readers 3/9/2026. Contracts; payment for business to business transactions. Prompt payment for services under contract within 30 days.

[HB 1518](#)  NEW House 2nd Readers 3/10/26. Still in House-did not cross but still “alive”. Criminal procedure; notice upon change of date, time, or location for a required court appearance from that listed upon a uniform traffic citation notify the accused by first-class mail or by postcard at the address listed on the traffic citation of new date, time & location required for appearance. Such notification shall be sent no later than 15 days prior to the date which appeared on the uniform traffic citation as the date required for appearance by the accused.

Rules

[HR 1008](#)

A RESOLUTION to ratify amendments to a certain comprehensive state-wide water management plan; to provide for force and effect; to provide for construction; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Reduce the number of government appointments in half. Appoint from three years to six years. More functional at six years.

Senate Read Second Time

[SB 195](#)

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 6 of Chapter 4 of Title 26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to pharmacies, so as to provide that pharmacists are authorized to dispense preexposure prophylaxis and postexposure prophylaxis under certain conditions; to amend Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to medical practice, so as to provide for the approval or development of a training program for pharmacists by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy; to require pharmacists to complete such training program before dispensing preexposure prophylaxis or postexposure prophylaxis; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Before and after medication to prevent HIV. **House Passed/Adopted by Substitute**

[HB 140](#)

Cap the amount of funds derived from court fines or forfeiture action that local governments may use as part of their yearly budgets; to provide that any funds collected in excess of such cap shall escheat (real property) to the state; to supersede any conflicting home rule powers of local governments; to provide for applicability; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. **House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute**

[HB 522](#)



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Relating to general provisions regarding health, so as to prohibit certain healthcare providers and facilities from discriminating against potential organ transplant recipients due solely to the vaccine status of the potential recipient; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Refusal of COVID vaccine is not the sole determining factor as to whether someone can get a transplant. **House Committee Favorably Reported**

[HB 110](#)

Provide certain protections for current military members and related persons; to prohibit pawnbrokers from making title pawns with covered borrowers; to provide a penalty for violations; to provide for a definition; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. **House Committee Favorably Reported**

[HB 985](#)

Georgia veterans cemeteries, so as to revise the terms of eligibility for persons to be buried in Georgia veterans cemeteries; to provide for a definition; to require an affidavit in certain circumstances; to provide for applicability; to provide for fees; to provide for the Veterans Service Board to have certain discretion; to provide for related matters; to provide for legislative findings; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Senate Read and Referred

[HR 251](#)

A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that all probate judges shall be elected in nonpartisan elections; to provide for related matters; to provide for submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes. **Senate Read and Referred**

[HB 676](#)

Relating to mechanics and materialmen relative to liens, so as to provide for a fine for any frivolous mechanic lien filed; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Senate Read and Referred

[HB 987](#)

Voluntary Portable Benefit Plan Act for independent contractors. This aims to provide benefits for independent contractors. **Senate Read and Referred**

[HB 991](#)



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Healthcare for part time and contractor workers. Allows a classification of a 1099. Typically, are nurses. **House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute**

HB 295

Property owners to seek relief in counties where local governments don't enforce local ordinances and state law. If frivolous lawsuit, make them responsible for attorney fees. Objections lie in the use of broad terms.

House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute

HB 350

To authorize the placement of newborn safety devices; to provide for definitions; to provide for limited liability; to provide for transport of newborns to nearest medical facility; to provide for specifications for newborn safety devices; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. **Senate Read and Referred**

HB 1015

Relating to the Self-insurers Guaranty Trust Fund regarding workers' compensation, so as to revise certain funded levels of such fund; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Raise the limit to adequately fund it. **Senate Read and Referred**

HB 960

Relating to the number of judges of superior courts, so as to provide for a twelfth judge of the superior courts of the Gwinnett Judicial Circuit; to provide for related matters; to provide for effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Gwinnett county is a democratic stronghold. Possible court pack issue. **Senate Read and Referred**

Example of small business benefiting from Ga law:

HB 131 - Streamlines the time of advertising for placing a lien on items in a storage unit that due to lack of payment on unit. **House Date Signed by Governor**

HB 934 - provide for the enforcement of unsigned rental agreements under certain circumstances, allow for electronic execution and delivery of rental agreements, and establish procedures for occupants to vacate and remove personal property from self-storage facilities when the rental agreement is terminated or not renewed. The bill also grants owners the ability to place reasonable restrictions on occupant access and dispose of any remaining personal property after the notice period. Overall, the bill aims to streamline the management of self-service storage facilities and the enforcement of rental agreements. **House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute**

SB 162



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Fast tracking certifications for healthcare providers. State medical board to regulate standalone ketamine clinics. This change aims to expedite hospital credentialing, helping to alleviate workforce shortages in healthcare.

House Passed/Adopted by Substitute

[HB 957](#)

Imported vehicles older than 25 years allowed on local roads (mini trucks).

Senate Read and Referred

[HB 1022](#)

Motor vehicles; prohibit electric tinting, to provide for penalties; to prohibit the use of digital license plates; to provide for a definition; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Senate Read and Referred

[HB 944](#)

Motor vehicles; federal regulations regarding safe operation of commercial motor carriers and commercial vehicles; update reference date.

Senate Read and Referred

[HB 629](#)

Stop the bleed kit. Provided free of charge. Removes the requirement for a physician present for use of the kits.

Senate Read and Referred

[HB 717](#)

Medical Practice Act; regulation of the administration of psychedelic-assisted treatment and therapy; to provide definitions, standards, establishment of rules and regulations, licensure of clinics; to provide for statutory construction; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. **House Passed/Adopted by Substitute**

[HB 948](#)

More disclosure when someone is foreclosing. How to get the funds back.

Senate Read and Referred

[HB 934](#)

Proposes the movement of the Securities Division from the Office of the Georgia Secretary of State to the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance. Stemmed from First Liberty Building and Loan, which is under investigation as a Ponzi scheme. Moving the investigation to a different department could prove to be a setback on the investigation itself. **House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute**

[HB 1009](#)



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No cellphones in high schools. Thirty-three states nationwide.

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Senate Read and Referred

[HB 1023](#)

Weapons detection systems in all schools, with state grants for funding. **Senate Read and Referred**

[HB 1215](#)

Middle Judicial Circuit- adding a third judge. **Senate Read and Referred**

[SB 74](#)

Georgia Senate Bill 74 aims to remove legal protections for librarians, making them potentially criminally liable for allowing minors to access materials deemed harmful under state obscenity laws. The bill has faced opposition for being seen as a form of censorship, particularly against LGBTQ-related content. “Bad” material is removed and re-catalogued in an appropriate section. Librarians are held accountable through existing laws for allowing “inappropriate” material in libraries. *Amended to state that the library exemption from selling harmful materials to minors will not apply if the library fails to comply with the governing authority's decisions regarding reconsideration requests or complaints about materials harmful to minors.* **House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute**

[HB 1063](#)

Requires electric utilities and new data centers to agree on contract terms that shield other power customers from costs of data center construction and operation. **Senate Read and Referred**

House Committee Governmental Affairs

HB 244-3/10/26 Senate Passed/Adopted by Substitute Senate Vote #702-Summary of changes: relating to financial audits of local governments, revise GA Code to require local governments with \$2.5 million or more in expenditures to audit annually. State Auditor may grant exemptions for unusual circumstances. Local governments with less than \$2.5 million in expenditures can submit audits within special purpose framework administered by State Auditor. County officers shall be required to cooperate with local governments in filing audit reports and if not, will be penalized.

HB 467-3/6/26 House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute-Summary of changes: relating to protection of government statues, monuments, plaques, and other commemorative symbols, revises GA Code to include officers and agencies and private monuments in the law forbidding mutilation,



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defacement and defilement of publicly displayed monuments. Violations of this code will be a misdemeanor, and the revision provides for a relevant third party to take over the ownership and preservation of such monument if it is to be moved. Department of Community Affairs shall establish a registry of all monuments located on public property in Georgia.

HB 613-3/6/26 House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute-Summary of changes: relating to high demand apprenticeship program, revise GA Code to require Office of Work Force Development to report a list of apprenticeship and employer sponsors that have been provided a complete contract award, provided that such sponsors may opt out and a list of the individuals who completed a registered apprenticeship program provided that such individuals may opt out.

HB 868-3/6/26 House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute; 02/10/2026 Withdrawn from Insurance and recommitted to Governmental Affairs- Summary of changes: Relating to retiring county officials' health insurance plans, revise GA code to allow any county officer, serving as probate judge, sheriff, tax commissioner or tax collector, clerk of the superior court, or county commissioner, eligible for retirement to be included with spouse and dependents in the county health care plan with certain premium restrictions.

HB 963-3/6/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/4/26 House Passed/Adopted Modified Structured Rule House Vote #633-Summary of changes: relating to government transparency and campaign finance, adds **NEW CODE** to limit and restrict foreign influence and funding of campaigns on voter ballot questions. Requires campaigns or campaign committee filings to affirm that no money over \$100,000 was funded by foreign nationals or companies owned by foreign nationals.

HB 1129-3/6/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/4/26 House Passed/Adopted Modified Structured Rule House Vote #637- Summary of changes: revise GA code to establish enterprise zones (urban redevelopment >\$400 million investment) and restrict exemption from sales tax rules and regulations for enterprise zones.

HB 1133-3/6/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/4/26 House Passed/Adopted Modified structured rule House Vote #638- Summary of changes: Amend the GA code section to promote building solar facilities on closed landfills.

HB 1166-3/9/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/6/26 House Passed/Adopted by Substitute House Vote #674- Summary of changes-relating to county zoning decisions-no zoning decision shall be required for dwellings of 400 square feet or fewer as a second unit on or upon any residential property where a homestead is already existing. This code shall not prohibit the power of a local government to enforce: septic regulations, historical districts or landmarks, flood plains, or mobile homes.

HB 1227-3/6/26 House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute-Summary of changes: revises code section to require **new voter registration** to include asking voter if they were registered to vote in



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another state & if so, what address they were registered to vote in that other state & that the voter is requesting cancellation of that registration in the other state. If the voter provides the info that they were registered to vote in another state, that info will be provided to the GA SOS who is to keep a database of such info and to send notice of the voter's application to the chief election official of the state where the voter was previously registered to vote informing such chief election official that the voter is now registered to vote in Georgia and to cancel the previous voter registration. Also requires the GA SOS to keep records of all such correspondence.

HB 1247- 3/6/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/3/26 House Passed/Adopted by Substitute House Vote #640-Georgia Bureaucratic Deference Elimination Act-Summary of changes: add **new code** section forbidding a court, or an officer of the court, hearing an administrative action, from deferring to a state agency's determination or interpretation.

HB 1396-3/4/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/3/26 House Passed/Adopted House Vote #597- Summary of changes: Regarding private organizations that provide services to 10 or more homeless individuals, **adds NEW CODE section** to require that if those organizations are operating within 1000 feet of schools or any area where children might be present, those organizations must participate in Georgia Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

HB 1442-3/6/26 House Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute-Summary of changes: in regard to moratoria on zoning decisions, adds **NEW CODE section** to restrict temp local moratorium on a zoning decision if the local government authority has in good faith given support for approval of a development beforehand.

HB 1478-3/4/26 2nd reader- - Summary of changes: also titled **Court Technology Funding Act**, relating to payment of court fees, fines and forfeitures, revises GA Code to authorize the chief judge of any court in the state to collect additional fees that may be used for court related technology needs. **This bill is very similar to HB 1511.**

HB 1482-3/6/26 House Committee Favorably Reported- Summary of changes: in regards to jails, adds **NEW CODE** section to require that cities make their detention facilities or jails available for use by a county sheriff if needed for a fee.

HB 1495-3/6/26 2nd reader- Summary of changes: Senior Stabilization Act relating to rentals to senior citizens, 62 or older and whose primary income is social security, adds **NEW CODE section** to place limitations on rental increases greater than 10% of existing rent. **All sponsors are Democrats.**

HB 1509-3/9/26 2nd reader- Summary of changes: relating to local zoning procedures, adds **NEW CODE section** that requires local zoning authorities to require special use permits for immigration detention centers. **All sponsors are Democrats.**



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HB 1510-3/9/26 2nd reader- Summary of changes: relating to electors' qualifications to vote in Georgia elections, revises GA Code to remove felons only if an amendment to the Georgia Constitution is ratified at the November 2026, general election that removes felony convictions as a disqualifier of a Georgia elector.

HB 1511- 3/9/26 2nd reader; 3/6/26 1st reader- Summary of changes: **Court Technology Funding Act**, relating to all Georgia courts, adds **NEW CODE section** allowing collection of technology fee not more than \$5 per civil filing to be used for computer hardware & software purchase, lease and maintenance and internet network costs.

SB 423- 3/10/26 2nd reader; 3/6/26 Senate Passed/Adopted by Substitute; Senate Vote #640 and #650- Summary of changes: relating to Georgia political campaigns and candidates, revise GA Code to restrict candidates and their campaigns from accepting contributions from Non-Georgia persons in an amount more than 50 percent of the total contributions and donations received. Exceptions are national political party contributions, family contributions, and political action committees making total expenditures of \$25,000.00 or less on behalf of candidates.

SB 437- 3/10/26 2nd reader; 3/3/26 Senate Passed/Adopted by Substitute Senate Vote #604- Summary of changes: relating to local enforcement, inspectors, and building permits, adds **NEW CODE subsection** that adds detailed rules and procedures thru State oversight of local building inspections and qualifications of private professional advisors of permit applicants. **This is a bill authorizing the State and the Department of Community Affairs to take control from local governments' building code enforcement and issuance of COs.**

SB 593- 3/10/26 2nd reader; 3/6/26 Senate Passed/Adopted by Substitute Senate Vote #677- Summary of changes: relating to development impact fees, add **NEW CODE section** to require full disclosure of total impact fees applied to real property upon written request in the event of a transfer or sale of said property.

Senate Committee Education and Youth

SB 425 -3/9/26 House 2nd Reader; 3/4/26 Senate Passed/Adopted Senate Vote #637-Summary of changes: Relating to state funded local school systems, adds **NEW CODE section** requiring all school students to receive instruction on cursive handwriting by no later than third grade.

SB 445-3/10/26 House 2nd Reader;3/6/26 Senate Passed/Adopted By Substitute Senate Vote # 646 & 647-Georgia Promise Scholarship Act-Summary of changes-relating to promise scholarship accounts, revise GA Code to not apply to a student whose family income exceeds 400 percent of the federal poverty level. Requires Education Savings Authority to report on its website as to funds available and number of students participating and to prioritize victims of bullying. If Ga Legislature doesn't allocate



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enough funds, **this bill allows Education Savings Authority to deduct from each active Promise Scholarship account, a pro rata share not to exceed 5 percent annually & not exceeding the amount necessary to cover costs. Provides for fraud protection of accounts.**

SB 475-3/10/26 House 2nd Reader; 3/6/26 Senate Passed/Adopted By Substitute Senate Vote #685
Summary of changes: regarding charter schools **add NEW CODE subsection** to require local boards of education to treat a local charter school no less favorably than other local schools with respect to the expenditure of the proceeds of a sales tax for educational purposes with exception of purchasing property or facilities.

SB 589-3/10/26 House 2nd Reader; Senate Passed/Adopted By Substitute Senate Vote #657-Quality Basic Education Act- Summary of changes: relating to enrollment in PreK programs, add **NEW CODE** subsection to allow parents to enroll 4- or 5-year-olds in a PreK program for no more than 1 year.

HB 1107- 3/12/26 Senate Committee Favorably Reported; 3/3/26 Senate Read & Referred; 2/26/26 House Passed/Adopted By Substitute House Vote #578; Excellent Teacher Preparation Act- Summary of changes: relating to Education Preparation Providers in Georgia, adds **NEW CODE** to require the Professional Standards Commission to evaluate the performance of EPPs & publicly publish the results.

HB 1114-3/9/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/6/26 House Passed/Adopted by Substitute from House Education Committee House Vote #652- Summary of changes: **Quality Basic Education Act** relating to minimum content standards for financial literacy instruction, revises GA Code to create grade level appropriate instruction standards, add gambling risk instruction, and prohibit gambling enterprises from donating money/materials to public schools.

HB 1164-3/12/26 Senate Committee Favorably Reported; 3/4/26 Senate Read & Referred; 2/26/26 House Passed/Adopted by Substitute House Vote #572- Summary of changes: relating to the State BOE inspection committees, revise GA Code to require the State BOE to appoint an audit committee to oversee local school systems' fiscal condition.

HB 1220-3/6/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/4/26 House Passed/Adopted by Substitute House Vote #616 from House Education Committee- Summary of changes: relating to student eligibility for scholarships from scholarship organizations, revise GA Code to waive public school enrollment & unused disbursement requirements for children of active duty military parents, students with IEPs and students with dyslexia, autism and other developmental disabilities.

HB 1284-3/6/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/4/26 House Passed/Adopted By Substitute House Vote #606 from House Education Committee- Summary of changes: relating to high school diplomas, adds **NEW CODE section** to allow local BOEs to award high school diplomas to students, regardless of credit earned, who have been diagnosed with a terminal health condition and are receiving end of life care.



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[HB 1293-3/9/26 Senate Read & Referred; 3/6/26 House Passed/Adopted by Substitute](#)

[House Vote #651 from House Higher Education Committee](#)-Summary of changes: relating to the Dual Achievement educational program, amends GA Code to change the program from a pilot program to a standard program. Authorizes the State BOE to develop eligibility requirements for enrollment and funding formula for budget requests.

[Regulated Industries and Utilities
Government Oversight](#)

[HB 377 Senate Passed/Adopted By Substitute Buildings and housing; manufactured homes; provisions](#) The purpose of this Code section is to provide the competitive process for local governments to acquire professional services on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualification for the type or types of professional services required at fair and reasonable fees.

[Bids for local government projects.](#)

[Regulated Industries and Utilities](#)

[SB 553 Senate Read and Referred](#) Said title is further amended by repealing Chapter 14, relating to electrical contractors, plumbers, conditioned air contractors, low voltage contractors, and utility contractors, and enacting a new Chapter 14 to read as follows. [Replaces the entire code section workers beware.](#)

[Technology and Infrastructure Innovation](#)

[SB 9](#) The House Committee on Rules offers the following substitute to SB 9: Appears to depict a real individual's speech or conduct that did not occur in reality; and would appear to a reasonable observer to be authentic. [Stop AI use in election.](#)

HOUSE CROSS OVERS

House Agriculture and Consumer Affairs:

HB117 From House A&C to Senate Rules on 2/11/2026

HB158 From House A&C to Senate Government Oversight. Modified on 03/03/2026

HB449 From House A&C to Senate Regulated Industries & Utilities - recommitted on 01/12/2026

HB947 From House A&C to Senate A&C. Modified on 03/29/2026

HB1182 From House A&C to Senate Natural Resources and Environment on 02/19/2026

HB1195 From House A&C to Senate A&C – favorably reported on 03/12/2026

HB1408 From House A&C to Senate A&C – modified on 03/24/2026

Economic Development and Tourism:

HB980 From House ED&T to Senate ED&T. Modified on 02/06/2026

HB998 From House ED&T to Senate ED&T. Modified on 02/12/2026

Game, Fish, and Parks



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HB115 From House GF&P to Senate NR&E. Recommitted 01/12/2026

HB432 From House GF&P to Senate NR&E. Recommitted on 01/12/2026

HB443 From House GF&P to Senate NR&E. House agreed to Senate Substitute on 01/28/2026

Rural Development

HB51 From House RDev to Senate RI&U. Recommitted on 01/12/2026

(House had a total of exactly 1700 Resolutions.)

SENATE CROSS OVERS

Agriculture and Consumer Affairs

SB435 From Senate AG&CA to House AG&C. Favorably Reported on 03/21/2026.

SB551 From Senate AG&CA to House AG&C. Favorably Reported on 03/12/2026.

Economic Development and Tourism

SB463 From Senate ED&T to House Judiciary. Read 2 nd time on 03/06/2026

Reapportionment and Redistricting

(This Committee had only one Bill, SB114, and it did not cross over.)

Senate Bill 427, sponsored by Sen. Ben Watson, advanced out of the House Health Committee on Monday, advancing a proposal to create a pathway in addition to the traditional residency programs for practicing foreign physicians to obtain their medical licensure in Georgia.

House Bill 1000, a one-time income tax credit for individual taxpayers who filed Georgia income tax returns for both the 2024 and 2025 tax years, passed out of the Senate Finance Committee on Monday.

House Bill 880 and **House Bill 1116**, both introduced by Rep. Shaw Blackmon. **HB 880** is a multi-year income tax rate reduction, cutting Georgia's individual rate by 0.10 percentage points per year starting in 2026, until the rate reaches 3.99%.

HB 1116 was originally introduced to phase out property taxes on owner-occupied homes by 2032. It required a constitutional amendment, which meant a two-thirds vote (instead of a simple majority) from lawmakers and subsequent ratification by Georgia voters. After failing to muster the two-thirds



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support required for **HR 1114**, the House passed a revised version of **HB 1116** that would limit growth in property tax revenue to the greater of 3% or the rate of inflation, and also includes a “Truth in Taxation” provision, which requires notification for all property owners when revenues will exceed the roll-back rate.

SB 410 would repeal the data center equipment sales tax exemption while preserving previously issued data center exemptions,

HB 1063 would require electric utilities to contract with new large data centers using terms that would protect residential and other retail customers from the costs of serving such facilities.

SB 410 was assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee, and **HB 1063** was assigned to the House Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee.

Senate Bill 472, This bill would give the state stronger tools to intervene when a local school district shows serious signs of financial mismanagement. That includes allowing local school board members to be suspended or removed and superintendents to be terminated for cause in certain cases involving financial misconduct. **SB 472** was approved by the House Education Policy and Innovation Subcommittee on March 11.

HB 947 would rein in this fraud by enacting measures to strengthen eligibility checks. The bill would ensure only people who need the program can use it. It also prevents people from using SNAP benefits at restaurants, because if you want luxury buy it yourself, don't ask us to buy it for you.

SB 572 This bill would enhance Georgia's Stand Your Ground Law. It would prevent corrupt prosecutors from destroying your life when you acted in self-defense. This is great legislation, which has been assigned to the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee.

Key Veterans Legislation/Budget Items Passing Crossover:

[SB 429 \(Housing for Heroes Act\)](#): Introduced by Sen. Jason T. Dickerson, this bill limits monthly income requirements (no more than twice the rent) for 100% disabled veterans seeking housing.

[HB 108 \(SAVE Act\)](#): Safeguarding American Veteran Empowerment Act, provides protections for veterans applying for benefits.



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HB 175 (Signed into law, 2023 but referenced for 2026): Creates specialty license plates for retired Georgia National Guard and Active Duty Reserve members.

Budgetary Support (Amended FY26 Budget): The Senate directed \$10 million in state housing funds specifically toward initiatives for veterans experiencing homelessness.

These public health bills are moving on

- **HB 657.** seeks to define recovery community organizations and the work they do in Georgia. It lays out requirements for recovery community organizations. Not to take away their individuality, but to make sure there is a baseline of good quality care and support. Seeks to define certified peer specialists, who work for the recovery organizations. Dissuades bad actors
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- **HB 961.** Extends surprise out of network billing protections to emergency ground Ambulance rides. Provides for patients paying no more than the in network rate.
- **HB 54.** Allows advanced practice registered nurses and Physician assistants to order home healthcare services. Was the only intent of the bill. Senate amended to provide for denying puberty blockers to children and insurance coverage restrictions. Bill passed senate and sent back to house to pass or substitute.
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- **HB 1238.** Directs the State to seek federal approval for Medicaid to pay for respite Care for families caring for children under 21 with serious behavioral conditions, who are at risk of going into foster care. Can be provided in-home or home community.
- **HB 1393.** Allows hospital authorities in small rural counties to coordinate on pricing, insurance negotiations, staffing and services without facing antitrust liability. Allows them to pool resources and negotiate better rates.
- **HB 291.** Provides for certifying Community Health workers who [help patients navigate the medical system and access services](#). House passed last year and now needs approval from the Senate Health and Human Services committee and the full Senate. Certifying CHWs would add respect and regularity to the profession and could be a first step toward getting Medicaid reimbursement for the services they provide.
- **SB 427.** Easing foreign doctors' paths to practicing in Georgia: This bill would [streamline the process for doctors trained abroad](#) who lawfully reside in Georgia to practice under local supervision before advancing to a full medical license, with requirements to practice in underserved areas. The House Health committee voted in favorably. Needs House approval before being sent to the governor's desk.
- **SB428.** Directs the state to seek federal approval by December 31, 2026, for a Medicaid waiver that would pay for home and community-based mental health services for adults over 21 who need ongoing support but don't need institutional care. Eligibility would be based on risk factors like hospitalization history, psychiatric crises, emergency visits, prior incarceration, or homelessness.



MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE WATCH GROUP

Weekly Watch report

03/15/26

- **SB 195.** HIV drugs at pharmacies: Pharmacists could [prescribe HIV prevention drugs](#), which advocates say would increase access and could decrease [Georgia's high rate of new infections](#). House and Senate have voted in favor of the bill. Awaits Senate approval of the amended version.
- **HB 1138.** Birth control at pharmacies: Pharmacists could dispense birth control pills and hormonal birth control shots. The bill would also require insurers to provide up to a year's supply of the drugs at a time. Most other states have similar provisions. Requires pharmacists to provide patients with materials about the drugs. Have to provide a statement that abstinence is the only method that is fully effective in preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. House passed. Needs the approval of the Senate Health and Human Services committee.
- **HB 1009.** High school cellphone ban: Extends a K-8 cellphone ban, already in existence, to the high school level. Supported by parents in [a recent Emory University poll](#). House voted favorably. Bill moved to the Senate Children and Families committee, then to the full Senate for a floor vote.
- **HB 1262.** Stiffer penalties for insurers that don't cover services: Follows a bill passed in 2022 that required insurers to provide mental health services at the same level they provide medical services. That bill included penalties for insurers who do not do so. This bill would increase some of the penalties imposed in the 2022 bill, especially for insurers who do not provide required data on mental health parity or follow the state's "surprise billing" law. House passed. Now in Senate Insurance and Labor committee and then the full Senate.
- **HB 334.** Closer look at sickle cell disease services: Georgia has the fourth highest rate of sickle cell disease in the United States. Requires the state Department of Community Health, which administers the Medicaid insurance program for low-income residents, to review every year, whether the services and medication it offers are sufficient to meet the needs of people living with sickle cell disease. Now in the Senate Health and Human Services committee and then the full Senate.
- **SB 440.** Cleaning-up obsolete public health laws: This bill would "clean up" and modernize older sections of the law to better match current conditions. For example, it eliminates certain reports and committees that are no longer active. Eliminates a 1973 requirement that couples registering for a marriage license must receive a Department of Public Health "marriage manual", information on family planning. Awaits a floor vote in the House before going to the governor's office.
- **SB 220.** Officially changes the term "low THC oil" to "medical cannabis" throughout the Georgia Code. Adds lupus, severe arthritis, and severe insomnia to the list of qualifying medical conditions. Replaces the current 5% THC potency cap with a total possession limit of 12000 milligrams of THC at any one time. Allows vaporization as a delivery method for those 21 yrs old and older.