



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

FINAL 2025-2026 SESSION



This legislative session was a conservative FAILURE for the people of Georgia and a bureaucratic success to burden the people of Georgia

Election Integrity FAILED AGAIN

If republicans run on “getting the job done “ then why aren’t they getting the job done!

Elections and Voting

- **QR Code Removal (SB 214)**: A major effort to address a self-imposed deadline for removing QR codes from ballots failed. While the House passed a version that would have extended the deadline to 2028, the **Senate did not bring it to a final vote.**
- **Hand-Marked Paper Ballots (SB 214 / HB 960)**: Despite various proposals to move from electronic voting machines to hand-marked paper ballots for the 2026 midterm elections, **no** final agreement was reached between the chambers. **Elected official failure**
- **Voter Proof of Citizenship**: A controversial Senate resolution that would have required voters to provide proof of citizenship failed early in the session. **Highly needed**

Taxation and Economy

- **Property Tax Relief (HB 1116)**: A bill that would have capped annual property tax increases at 3% or the rate of inflation failed in the Senate on the final day with a 24-28 vote.
- **Data Center Tax Breaks (SB 410)**: Legislation intended to eliminate tax breaks for data center equipment and require them to pay for new power infrastructure did not make it to a final floor vote. **Putting citizens at risk for higher bills**

Health and Public Safety

- **Ivermectin Expansion (SB 440)**: A bill that would have made the anti-parasitic drug ivermectin available over the counter passed the House, but the Senate did not take it up for a vote.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- Medical Freedom failed
- **Weapons Detectors in Schools:** A mandate to require weapons detection systems in every Georgia public school failed to cross the finish line. **Another epic Failure to protect our kids**
- **Public Health Cleanup:** A bill from the Department of Public Health aimed at cleaning up obsolete language failed after controversial amendments regarding Medicaid expansion and ivermectin were attached to it.
- **Social and Other Issues**
- **Anti-LGBTQ+ Legislation:** Advocacy groups reported that more than 20 Republican-backed bills focused on LGBTQ+ issues were either defeated or halted before the session's end.

Protecting Children from the Trans-Agenda **Protecting Children from the Trans-Agenda failed**

- **Confederate Monument Protection:** A bill seeking to provide new legal protections for public monuments, specifically targeting Confederate memorials, narrowly failed in the House.
- **Atlantic Standard Time (HB 154):** A proposal to move Georgia permanently to daylight saving time by switching to Atlantic Standard Time passed the Senate but was never called for a vote in the House. **Common sense and needed**
- **Ethics and State Contracts (SB 586):** A bill intended to bar individuals with financial interests in state agencies from running for office—seen as a move against certain gubernatorial candidates—passed the Senate but was not taken up by the House
- **Protecting Ratepayers from Data Center Subsidies**
- Legislation to prevent ratepayers from subsidizing large data centers did not pass

• What the 2026 Ga Legislature DID DO

\$38.5 billion state budget. The session, which was the final one for Governor Brian Kemp, focused heavily on tax relief and education.

Major Legislation Passed

- **Income Tax Reduction (HB 463):** Lawmakers approved a plan to reduce the state income tax rate from 5.19% to **4.99%** starting in 2026. The bill includes a "sliding scale" intended to gradually lower the rate to **3.99%** over the next eight years, provided state revenues remain strong.



MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE WATCH GROUP

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **Property Tax Relief:** A compromise was reached to cap annual property tax assessment increases at **3%** or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower. The measure also allows local governments to implement a 1% sales tax to offset potential revenue losses.
- **Education and Literacy:** A major literacy initiative was passed to fund over **1,300 literacy coaches** for elementary schools. Additionally, the legislature approved a ban on **cellphone use** in high school classrooms during the school day.
- **Healthcare Expansion:** New laws allow pharmacists to prescribe **hormonal contraception** (pills and shots) directly to patients without a doctor's visit. Another bill permits Georgia residents to access **HIV prevention medicine** at local pharmacies. **Open the door for medical mistakes**
- **Public Safety and Homeownership:** The "baby box" bill ([HB 1075](#)) allows emergency facilities to install **newborn safety devices**. Lawmakers also passed a comprehensive **HOA oversight bill**, the first of its kind in state history

Summary

State Budget	Passed (\$38.5 Billion)	HB 973
Income Tax	Passed (Rate cut to 4.99%)	HB 463
Property Tax	Passed (3% Assessment Cap)	HB 1116/SB 33
Cellphones	Passed (In-class ban)	

HOA Oversight Passed (Comprehensive)

Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight committee

The Georgia Legislature wrapped up its 2026 session on April 3, 2026, passing a **\$38.5 billion budget** (\$38.5B) and a significant Amended FY 2026 budget ([HB 973](#)) providing \$2 billion in tax relief, including \$250/\$500 income tax rebates and \$850 million for homeowners. Key fiscal bills sent to the Governor include need-based scholarships ([SB 556](#)) and potential property tax changes.

Key Budget and Fiscal Bills Passed (On the way to the Governor):

- **[HB 973 \(Amended FY 2026 Budget\)](#):** Approved by the Senate 49-1, this bill includes \$100 million for rural bridges, \$185 million for SR 316 upgrades, and \$15.94 million for airport aid. The final package notably includes \$850 million for the Homeowner Tax Relief Grant program.
- **[SB 556 \(Need-Based Scholarships\)](#):** Establishes a financial need-based scholarship program for students at public colleges and universities.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- [HB 1116 / HR 1114 \(Homestead Tax Relief\)](#): Aims to reduce homeowner property taxes by proposing a new sales tax.
- [SB 382 \(Homestead Exemption\)](#): Implements a mandatory statewide homestead exemption to cap annual property tax increases.
- [SB 34 / SB 410 \(Data Center Tax Policy\)](#): Proposed changes to repeal or limit sales and use tax exemptions for data center equipment.
- [HB 1063 \(Data Center Cost Management\)](#): Limits the ability of electric utilities to charge ratepayers for the cost of data center construction.
- [HB 1277 \(Infrastructure Funding\)](#): Raises the environmental evaluation threshold for road/airport projects and updates GDOT disposal regulations.

Notable Budgetary Items ([HB 973](#)):

- **Salary Supplement**: \$600 million+ for a one-time \$2,000 pay supplement for state employees and educators.
- **Mental Health/Corrections**: \$400 million to build a new mental health hospital.
- **Infrastructure**: \$85 million for rural bridge upgrades.

The session also saw passage of a bill to expand access to hormonal contraception. During the 2026 Georgia legislative session, several major fiscal and budget-related bills advanced through the House and Senate to the governor's desk. The **House Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee** also proposed to formally establish itself with specific duties, functions, and powers.

Key Budget & Fiscal Bills Passed

- [HB 973 \(Amended FY 2026 Budget\)](#): This was the primary budget legislation, [signed into law](#) by Governor Kemp on March 3, 2026. Key provisions included:
 - **\$850 million** for the Homeowner Tax Relief Grant program.
 - **\$600 million+** for one-time \$2,000 salary supplements for state employees and educators.
 - **\$325 million** for a new need-based college aid program, the **DREAMS Scholarship**.
 - **\$1.68 billion** for I-75 express lane expansion in Clayton and Henry counties.



MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE WATCH GROUP

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **HB 463 (Income Tax Cut)**: Reduces the flat personal income tax rate to **4.99% for 2026**, with further annual reductions until it reaches 3.99%. It also makes a portion of tips and overtime tax-free.
- **SB 33 (Property Tax Relief)**: Caps property tax assessment increases at the rate of inflation.
- **HB 1138 (Contraception Expansion)**: Allows pharmacists to prescribe hormonal contraception directly to patients without a doctor's sign-off.
- **HB 1009 (Education)**: Implements a cell phone ban for public high school students during the school day. **Significant Education & Infrastructure Appropriations**

The legislature also sent several education-focused measures to the governor, including:

- **\$70.4 million** to add literacy coaches to the Quality Basic Education (QBE) formula.
- **\$29.8 million** to establish a new college of optometry at Georgia Southern University.
- **\$100 million** specifically for the rehabilitation and replacement of **rural bridges**.

Governor Kemp has **40 days** from the session's adjournment on April 3 (until **May 12, 2026**) to sign or veto remaining measures.

Defense & Veterans Affairs committee

The Georgia Legislature concluded its 2026 session on April 3, with key legislation passing to Governor Kemp, including tax cuts (HB 463), Medicaid provider rate increases, and major education funding via the DREAMS Scholarship (SB 556). While specific final-day passage of Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee bills is still being tracked, HB 52 was in progress to expand homestead exemptions for disabled veterans.

Key Bills Passed on the Way to the Governor (2026 Session):

- **HB 463 (Income Tax Cut)**: Reduces the flat personal income tax rate to **3.99%** by 2028 and increases standard deductions.
- **SB 556 (DREAMS Scholarship)**: Establishes a new needs-based financial aid program and includes **\$300 million** for higher education funding.
- **HB 1075 (Fire/Police Safety)**: Passed the Senate to allow emergency services to use certain vehicles, among other measures.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- [HB 1076 \(Public Order/Felonies\)](#): Establishes new felonies for obstructing law enforcement or highways.
- [SB 443 \(Protest Regulation\)](#): Increases criminal penalties for obstructing streets, commonly referred to as anti-protest legislation.
- [SB 74 \(Library Materials\)](#): Subjects librarians to criminal liability regarding materials deemed "harmful to minors".
- [HB 52 \(Veteran Property Tax\)](#): Aims to amend homestead exemptions for disabled veterans to include unremarried spouses or minor children.
- The 2026 session ended with a focus on tax reductions, criminal justice, and education spending, with final reports confirming the passage of several contentious measures.

Georgia legislature session 2026 Defense & Veterans Affairs committee what bills passed on the way to the governor

During the 2026 Georgia legislative session, several key bills focused on veterans' benefits and military oversight passed both chambers and were sent to the Governor's desk for final approval.

Passed Legislation

The following bills successfully cleared the Georgia General Assembly and are awaiting or have reached the Governor:

- [House Bill 52](#): [This](#) bill extends a **homestead exemption** for unremarried surviving spouses or minor children of disabled veterans to include any future homestead they may acquire. It passed the Senate by substitute on April 2, 2026, with a unanimous 50-0 vote.
- [House Bill 108 \(SAVE Act\)](#): Known as the "Safeguarding American Veteran Empowerment Act," this legislation adds protections for veterans against deceptive practices by **unaccredited claims consultants**. It mandates written agreements for fees, prohibits charging for simple referrals, and requires providers to be accredited by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- [House Bill 1138](#): While focused on health, this bill gained final passage and allows **pharmacists to prescribe contraception** directly to patients. It was a priority for many families in the military community seeking to reduce medical delays.
- [Senate Bill 443](#): This bill increases criminal penalties for **obstructing streets**, a measure that saw final passage in the closing days of the session.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

Notable Committee Actions

Other bills remained under review or faced different outcomes as the session concluded:

- [HB 1450](#): This bill, which provides for **oversight of National Guard deployment** by the Governor, was last active in the House Defense and Veterans Affairs Committee in late February.
- [Senate Bill 129](#): A proposed constitutional amendment to increase homestead exemptions for **totally disabled veterans** to the full assessed value of their homes did not clear the legislature in time for the November 2026 ballot.

Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications committee

As of the close of the 2026 Georgia legislative session on April 3, key energy and utility-related measures, including potential data center cost-shifting protections (HB 1063) and Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) updates (HB 956), were monitored, with several bills aimed at grid modernization and utility, water, and waste infrastructure improvements advancing to the Governor.

Key 2026 Energy & Utility Legislation (Passed to Governor):

- [HB 956 - Solid Waste Trust Fund Changes](#): Expands the Georgia Environmental Protection Division's (EPD) Solid Waste Management Program authority, covering administrative spending for permitting, monitoring, regulation, and enforcement.
- [GEFA Infrastructure Legislation \(HB 54/Similar\)](#): Allows the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) to assist local governments with electrical line conversion and certain natural gas distribution projects, expanding beyond previous water/sewer/solid waste limits.
- [HB 1063 - Data Center Ratepayer Protection](#): Sought to protect residential electricity ratepayers from costs driven by high-demand data centers, ensuring costs are borne by the data centers rather than general consumers.
- **Grid Modernization (HB 1381)**: Aims to update integrated resource plans, requiring grid modernization assessments and justifications for new transmission construction over new technologies.

Key 2026 Energy/Utility Legislation (Stalled/Active):



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **SB 34/HB 1063 Amendment:** A measure designed to ensure data centers pay for energy infrastructure, which stalled in the Senate following a last-minute change that was opposed by industry critics.
- **HB 641:** Addresses medical hardship, prohibiting electric utilities from disconnecting residents who are behind on bills for medical necessity, extending similar protections already in place at Georgia Power.

2026 Legislative Context:

- The 2026 session prioritized affordability amid concerns about high energy demands from data centers, with substantial focus on protecting ratepayers from utility infrastructure costs.
- The session concluded with debates around the expansion of methane-burning facilities to meet energy demands, influencing the final push on data center legislation.

Georgia legislature session 2026 Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications committee what bills passed on the way to the governor

The 2026 Georgia legislative session concluded on **April 2, 2026**. While several high-profile energy bills were debated, the primary effort to protect residential customers from data center energy costs failed to reach the Governor's desk.

Key Legislation Sent to Governor

The following energy and utility-related measures successfully passed both chambers:

- **SB 382 (Mandatory Statewide Homestead Exemption):** Includes language to limit annual property tax assessment increases, which impacts local government revenue used for utility infrastructure.
- **HB 463 (Tax Reductions):** While primarily a tax bill, it includes provisions for income tax reductions related to energy-sector workers and general financial relief for utility ratepayers.
- **SB 478 (Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund):** Extends the sunset date for the fund that supports natural resources and conservation infrastructure by 10 years.
- **SR 882 (Energy Conservation Code):** A resolution urging the Department of Community Affairs to refrain from adopting the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code to maintain housing affordability.

Major Bills That Failed

Despite passing their respective committees or initial chambers, these bills did not gain final passage before the *Sine Die* adjournment:



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **Data Center Ratepayer Protections (SB 34 / HB 1063):** These bills aimed to prevent Georgia Power from passing infrastructure costs for data centers onto residential customers. Both versions stalled after the Senate abruptly adjourned before a final vote on an amended version.
- **Medical Equipment Shutoff Protections (HB 641):** This bill sought to mandate a 60-day postponement of power disconnection for residents relying on life-sustaining medical equipment.
- **Grid Modernization Assessments (HB 1381):** Would have required utilities to file grid modernization assessments with their integrated resource plans but did not clear both chambers.

Governor Brian Kemp has **40 days** (until **May 12, 2026**) to sign or veto the bills that reached his desk. Detailed tracking of all session legislation is available via the

Interstate Cooperation Committee

The 2026 Georgia legislative session concluded with several major bills passing both chambers and moving to Governor Brian Kemp's desk, including a 3.99% income tax reduction, contraception access expansion, and the DREAMS needs-based scholarship. Major actions focused on tax relief, data center regulations, and healthcare access rather than specifically identifying bills from the Interstate Cooperation committee.

Key Legislation Passed (as of April 2026):

- **Income Tax & Finance (HB 463):** Reduces the flat personal income tax rate to 3.99% by 2028, increases standard deductions, and makes some tips/overtime tax-free.
- **Contraception Access (HB 1138):** Allows pharmacists to prescribe hormonal contraception.
- **Education <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/73535> (SB 556):** Creates the DREAMS Scholarship (needs-based) and raises education savings plan contribution limits.
- **Data Center Tax (SB 410):** Limits or repeals new tax subsidies for data centers.
- **Healthcare (HB 1076/Other):** Includes provisions regarding public order and access to HIV prevention medicines.
- **Budget (HB 973):** Includes an amended 2026 budget with \$2 billion in tax relief, including rebates and homeowner grants.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

Status of Legislation in the Interstate Cooperation Committee

While the Georgia legislative session concluded in early April 2026, most major bills that passed were handled by other committees. The Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee was reportedly used as an "inactive" destination for specific legislation, effectively stalling its progress.

- **HB 383 (NIL Protections for Minor Athletes)**: This high-profile bill aimed to protect high school student-athletes from "street agents" seeking excessive commissions on Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) deals. Despite passing the House Education Committee, it was assigned to the **Interstate Cooperation Committee**, where it reportedly **stalled** and did not reach the Governor.
- **SB 541 (Law Enforcement Funding Restrictions)**: This bill, which sought to prohibit covered governmental entities from providing funds to certain law enforcement agencies, remained **pending** in the committee as of late February and did not receive final passage.
- **SR 560**: A resolution that was also referred to the committee but did not advance to final passage before the session ended.

Notable Passed Bills (Non-Committee Specific)

While the bills above stalled, several other significant measures did pass the full legislature and were sent to [Governor Kemp](#):

- **HB 463 (Income Tax Cuts)**: Reduces the flat personal income tax rate from 5.19% to 4.99% for 2026 and increases standard deductions.
- **HB 1138 (Contraception Expansion)**: Allows pharmacists to prescribe certain hormonal contraceptives directly to patients.
- **HB 945 (Financial Protections)**: Allows financial institutions to place 15-day holds on potentially fraudulent transactions, targeting AI-driven scams against the elderly.
- **SB 131 (Mental Health Parity Act Compliance)**: Establishes a review panel to ensure health care providers comply with existing mental health parity laws.
- **HB 295 (Anti-Homelessness Enforcement)**: Permits property owners to sue local governments if they fail to enforce public camping and loitering laws

Intergovernmental Coordination committee



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

The 2026 Georgia legislative session adjourned on April 6, 2026, with several key bills related to Intergovernmental Coordination, local government, and immigration passing both chambers and moving to Governor Brian Kemp's desk for signature.

Based on reported actions from the 2026 session, the following bills passed:

Immigration and Local Government Enforcement

- [Senate Bill 427](#): Eases licensing requirements for foreign-trained doctors.
- [House Bill 295](#): Allows property owners to seek compensation from local governments if they fail to enforce ordinances regarding immigration, homelessness, or public safety.
- [Senate Bill 116](#): Mandates the collection of DNA samples from individuals charged with felonies or certain misdemeanors who are subject to an ICE immigration detainer.
- **Soil & Erosion Bills (SB 447)**: Passed the Senate and House, setting 14-day review periods for erosion control permits, with automatic approval if the deadline is missed.

Fiscal and Administrative

- [HB 1193 \(Georgia Early Literacy Act\)](#): Passed and sent to the governor, implementing literacy/dyslexia screenings and tying funding to literacy coaches.
- [SB 131 \(Mental Health Parity Act Compliance\)](#): Establishes a review panel to monitor compliance with mental health parity laws.
- [HB 1535](#): Authorizes the City of Sandy Springs to exercise redevelopment powers.
- [HB 1070](#): Increases and extends an income tax credit for economic development.
- [HB 1129](#): Clarifies that enterprise zones are not exempt from state sales tax.

Bills That Failed/Did Not Pass

- **Immigration Regulation Bills**: Four bills proposed by Democrats to regulate ICE operations and restrict National Guard deployment did not pass.
- [HB 812](#): Soil and erosion permitting changes failed to pass the House.
- [HB 960](#): Mandated hand-marked paper ballots was not called for a vote.

The governor has 40 days following the session's end to sign or veto these bills.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

In the **2026 Georgia General Assembly**, the House and Senate Intergovernmental (or Intragovernmental) Coordination committees primarily handle **local legislation**, which includes charter changes, local homestead exemptions, and municipal annexations.

The following key bills that passed through these committees or addressed similar local coordination issues are currently on the way to **Governor [Brian Kemp](#)** or have been recently signed as of early April 2026:

General & Intergovernmental Bills

- **[HB 651 \(School Zone Speed Cameras\)](#)**: This bill, which passed both chambers, requires **local referendums** before a municipality or county can approve new contracts for automated traffic enforcement safety devices in school zones.
- **[SB 33 \(Property Tax Reform\)](#)**: After several other tax vehicles failed (such as **HB 1116**), SB 33 was used to pass supported local property tax provisions, including budget revenue caps.
- **[HB 295 \(Anti-Homelessness Enforcement\)](#)**: This bill allows property owners to sue local governments if they do not enforce laws related to public camping, panhandling, or loitering.
- **[HB 413 \(Mobile Sawmills\)](#)**: Prohibits local ordinances that would ban the operation of mobile sawmills on agricultural land.

Local Government & Charter Bills

Many of the bills passing through these committees are specific to individual municipalities or counties. Notable examples passed in the final days include:

- **[HB 1559](#)**: Revises the charter for the **City of Palmetto**, specifically qualifications and powers of the mayor.
- **[HB 1580](#)**: Repeals and replaces operative provisions for the **Henry County Airport Authority**.
- **[HB 1587](#)**: Abolishes the elected office of county surveyor in **Cobb County**, transitioning it to an appointed position starting in 2029.
- **[HB 1120](#)** **Union County; governing authority; change from a sole commissioner to a five-member board of commissioners; provide advisory referendum**
- **[SB 622](#)**: Provides for the annexation of territory into the **City of Tucker**.
- **[SB 625](#)**: Requires a referendum for issuing revenue bonds for certain projects in the **City of Decatur**.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **Charter Repeals:** [HB 1567](#) repeals the existing act for the **City of Quitman** to consolidate its municipal laws.

Bills that Failed or Stalled

- [SB 475 \(Charter School Funding\)](#): A major bill that would have required local boards to treat charter schools equally regarding **SPLOST proceeds** was recommitted to the House Rules Committee and did not receive a final vote.
- [SB 513 \(Every Day Counts Act\)](#): This bill, aimed at combating chronic absenteeism through local district interventions, failed in the House due to opposition over driver's license penalties

Public Safety and Homeland Security committee

Following the 2026 Georgia legislative session, key public safety legislation heading to the Governor includes bills regulating protests near sensitive areas (SB 591) and the FY 2026 budget, which includes funding for correctional facility technology and security. Other passed measures addressed school safety, mental health services, and various criminal justice updates.

Key Public Safety & Security Bills Passed (2026 Session):

- [SB 591 \(Protest Regulation\)](#): Prohibits protests at or near religious services, funerals, and memorial services.
- [HB 973 \(Amended FY 2026 Budget\)](#): Provides funding for the Department of Corrections, including \$19.7 million for infrastructure, technology, and contraband detection upgrades, plus \$17.5 million for emergency preparedness and security grants.
- [HB 1193 \(Literacy/School Safety\)](#): Included funding for school literacy coaches and screenings.
- **General Public Safety/Law Enforcement**: Additional legislation addressing offenses against public order and security-related enhancements passed in the final days of the session.

Bills That Failed/Did Not Pass:

- Several Democratic-sponsored bills aimed at restricting ICE operations and federal agent activity did not pass.
- [SB 499](#): A proposed bill to remove state-level penalties for firearm suppressors failed to pass.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

Government oversight committee senate

The 2026 Georgia legislative session concluded on April 2, 2026, with several key bills related to government oversight, tax, and property policy passed on the way to Governor Brian Kemp's desk. Based on the 2026 legislative trackers and reports, key bills passed and sent to the governor include:

- **[SB 131](#) (Mental Health Parity Compliance):** Establishes a panel to review health care provider compliance with Georgia's Mental Health Parity Act, allowing for penalties for noncompliance.
- **[HB 463](#) (Lower Flat Personal Income Tax Rate):** Reduces the personal income tax rate, raises standard deductions, and makes portions of overtime and tips tax-free.
- **[SB 447](#) (Land Disturbance Permitting):** Updates land disturbance permitting, establishing defined 14-day timelines and procedures for development review.
- **[HB 1116/SB 33](#) (Property Tax Reform/Homeowner Tax Relief):** The "Georgia Homeownership Opportunity and Market Equalization (HOME) Act of 2026," which focuses on property tax assessment limitations, including bringing cities under a floating homestead exemption framework.
- **[SB 410](#) (Data Center Tax Break Reform):** Limits the application of Georgia's data center sales tax exemption to prevent new certificates after a certain date.
- **[HB 1118](#) (Maternal Birth Leave):** Provides 80 hours of paid maternal birth leave for eligible employees.
- **[HB 1138](#) (Contraception Access):** Allows pharmacists to dispense self-administered hormonal contraceptives directly to patients over 18 without a doctor's signature.
- **[HB 1009](#) (High School Personal Device Ban):** Implements policies regarding the use of personal devices in public schools.
- **[SB 240/SB 478](#) (Outdoor Stewardship):** Addresses funding for the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund.
- **[HB 651](#) (School Zone Speed Cameras):** Adds guardrails to school zone camera usage, including voter approval requirements.

Bills that Did Not Pass/Died:

- **[HB 54](#):** The puberty blockers ban for trans youth, which had been added as an amendment to a home health bill, died in the House.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **SB 74:** Legislation that would have subjected librarians to criminal liability for content deemed "harmful to minors" failed to pass.
- **SB 94:** A bill to reestablish a Consumer Utility Council ("the ombudsmen") did not pass.

The Georgia General Assembly adjourned its 2026 session on **April 6, 2026**. Several key bills originating from or relating to the House and Senate Government Oversight committees reached final passage and were sent to **Governor Brian Kemp** for consideration.

Key Oversight & Regulatory Bills

- **HOA Oversight (HB 1560):** Created a new administrative process through the Secretary of State's office to settle disputes between homeowners and **Homeowners Associations (HOAs)**. It requires HOAs to register annually and provides a hearing officer for complaints, aiming to reduce legal costs for residents.
- **Agency Deference Reform (HB 1247):** Prohibits Georgia courts and administrative officers from deferring to a state agency's own interpretation of its laws and regulations.
- **Settlement Disclosure Requirement:** A measure requiring the public disclosure of sexual harassment settlements involving Georgia lawmakers passed in the session's final days.
- **Property Owner Rights (HB 295):** Allows property owners to sue local governments if they fail to enforce laws regarding public safety issues like illegal camping, panhandling, and loitering.

Financial & Administrative Oversight

- **Cash Transaction Rounding (HB 1112):** Authorizes businesses to round total cash transaction prices to the nearest nickel.
- **Solid Waste Trust Fund (HB 956):** Expands the **Environmental Protection Division's** authority to use fund money for administrative costs, including permitting and enforcement.
- **Magistrate Court Fees (HB 999):** Standardizes and revises the collection of various fees and sums authorized for magistrate courts.
- **Election QR Codes (SB 214):** Lawmakers failed to reach an agreement on the deadline to remove QR codes from ballots, despite a looming July deadline for compliance with existing state law.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **Candidate Financial Interest ([SB 586](#)):** A bill that would have barred individuals with significant financial interests in state agencies (like large state contracts) from running for office failed to pass.

Interstate Cooperation

The 2026 Georgia legislative session concluded on April 3, 2026, with major bills heading to Gov. Kemp, including [HB 54](#) (restricting gender-affirming care), [HB 1138](#) (expanding contraceptive access), and [SB 556](#) (DREAMS scholarship). Other passed legislation involves property owner rights (HB 295), tax cuts (HB 463), and public reporting.

Key legislation passing both chambers and heading to the governor include:

- **Health and Social Issues:**
 - [HB 54 \(Puberty Blockers Ban\)](#): Prohibits puberty-blocking medication for minors, bans state funds for gender-affirming care in hospitals, and prohibits state employees from using state health benefits for such care.
 - [HB 1138 \(Contraceptive Access\)](#): Expands access to hormonal contraception, including allowing pharmacists to prescribe it.
 - [SB 556 \(DREAMS Scholarship\)](#): Establishes a needs-based financial aid program for students, alongside provisions for college Narcan access.
- **Tax and Economic Policy:**
 - [HB 463 \(Income Tax Cut\)](#): Reduces the personal income tax rate to 3.99% by 2028, with immediate reductions to 4.99% for 2026, alongside tax-free tips and overtime.
 - [HB 973 \(Amended Budget\)](#): Provides $\$(2)$ billion in tax relief, including income tax rebates ($\$(250)$ for single, $\$(500)$ for joint) and property tax relief grants.
- **Civil and Public Safety:**
 - [HB 295 \(Property Rights\)](#): Allows property owners to sue local governments for losses related to non-enforcement of certain laws, such as homelessness and illegal immigration.
 - [HB 1409 \(Reporting Abuse\)](#): Revises child abuse reporting methods and adds groups like firefighters to mandatory reporting.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- [SB 443](#) (**Street Obstruction**): Increases criminal penalties for obstructing streets.
- **Elections and Government:**
 - [HB 960](#) (**Ballot Procedures**): Mandates hand-marked paper ballots, which may impact voting rights.
 - [HB 383](#) (**NIL Compensation for High School Athletes**): A high-profile bill aimed at protecting young athletes from "street agents" by regulating Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) compensation. Despite passing the House Education Committee, it was assigned to the Interstate Cooperation Committee in the Senate and remained there as the session concluded.
 - [SB 541](#) (**Funding Prohibitions for Law Enforcement**): Legislation introduced to prohibit certain governmental entities from providing funds to specific law enforcement agencies or activities.
 - [SR 441](#) (**Northern Border Resolution**): A resolution reaffirming the 35th parallel as Georgia's northern border and urging federal recognition of associated rights.
 - [SR 560](#) (**Athletic NIL Resolution**): A resolution related to NIL compensation and high school student athletes.

Regulated Industries and Utilities committee

- [SB 34](#): Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities considered a bill addressing contract terms between electric utilities and large load customers.
- **Income Tax & Economic Policy**: HB 463 was passed, which focuses on accelerating state income tax cuts to 3.99% and raising standard deductions.
- **Energy and Utility Regulation**: The legislature continued monitoring efforts regarding data center tax incentives ([SB 410](#)) and debated regulation regarding utility service connections.
 - **Failed Legislation**: Proposals to heavily regulate AI operators in certain sectors or significantly alter utility regulations saw limited movement or fell on the final day.

Electricity and Utilities

- [HB 1063](#) (**Data Center Energy Use**): Protects residential customers by requiring specific terms in electric utility contracts with data centers.
- [SB 410](#) (**Data Center Tax Exemption**): Restricts new sales tax exemptions for data centers while honoring existing certificates until 2031.
- [HB 1261](#) (**Freeport Exemption**): Allows local tax exemptions for certain spare electric utility equipment inventory.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **Infrastructure:** Legislation was passed to allow GEFA to support local government natural gas and electrical line conversion projects.

Professional Licensing and Regulation

- **SB 458 (Home Inspector Licensing Act):** Establishes mandatory licensure and continuing education for home inspectors.
- **HB 1138 (Contraception Access):** Authorizes pharmacists to prescribe oral and injectable contraceptives.
- **HB 1278 (Dental Licensure):** Streamlines licensing processes for dental professionals.

Regulated Products and Other Matters

- **Health Access:** Passed legislation enabling pharmacy access to HIV prevention medication.
- **SB 478 (Outdoor Stewardship Fund):** Extends the program to 2039 and increases sporting goods sales tax allocations.
- **SB 501 (Safety Fire Commissioner):** Updates investigative powers and deputy appointment capabilities.

Veterans , Military , and Home land security committee

- **SB 34:** Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities considered a bill addressing contract terms between electric utilities and large load customers.
- **Income Tax & Economic Policy:** **HB 463** was passed, which focuses on accelerating state income tax cuts to 3.99% and raising standard deductions.
- **Energy and Utility Regulation:** The legislature continued monitoring efforts regarding data center tax incentives (**SB 410**) and debated regulation regarding utility service connections.
 - **Failed Legislation:** Proposals to heavily regulate AI operators in certain sectors or significantly alter utility regulations saw limited movement or fell on the final day.

Utilities & Infrastructure

- **HB 1063 (Data Center Energy Costs):** This bill mandates that contracts between electric utilities and data centers include terms to protect residential and retail customers from the costs of constructing and operating data centers.



Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **SB 410 (Data Center Tax Exemption):** Aimed at restricting new tax subsidies, this bill prevents new certificates of exemption for high-technology data centers from being issued after the Governor signs it, while honoring existing ones.
- **HB 1133 (Solar on Landfills):** Authorizes the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) to finance and implement solar energy projects on closed landfills.

Professional Regulation & Healthcare

- **HB 1138 (Pharmacist Contraception Prescribing):** Allows pharmacists to prescribe certain types of contraception, such as birth control pills and shots, directly to patients without a separate doctor's prescription.
- **HIV Prevention Medicine:** A separate bill allowing residents to access HIV prevention medicine (PrEP/PEP) at local pharmacies also gained final passage.
- **HB 1278 (Dental Efficiency):** Sent to the Governor on April 6, 2026, this bill aims to improve efficiencies in the regulation of dentists, dental hygienists, and assistants.

Alcohol & Regulated Products

- **SB 478 (Outdoor Stewardship Fund):** Extends the sunset date for the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund and increases the tax revenue portion allocated to it to 60%.
- **Alcohol Sales:** While several bills regarding Sunday sales and brewery regulations (e.g., [HB 1466](#), [HB 1463](#)) were introduced, many remained in committee or did not receive final passage before the session ended.
- **HB 89.** **HB 89 aims to improve how the state of Georgia collects information on maternal deaths and provides care for mothers and babies. It gives the Maternal Mortality Review Committee more access to patient records, including mental health and pharmacy records, to better understand why mothers pass away during pregnancy or childbirth. The bill also creates a Regional Perinatal Center Advisory Committee, which will help make sure hospitals and doctors have the right resources to care for high-risk pregnancies and births. Lastly, the bill simplifies the process for investigating the deaths of pregnant women, so medical examiners don't always have to go through a regional perinatal center unless special circumstances require it**
- **Signed by Governor.**
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**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **HB 94. Requires Healthcare insurers to cover fertility preservation services for individuals**
 - **Undergoing treatment for cancer, sickle cell disease, or Lupus that may impact fertility.**
 - **Passed both Houses.**
 -
- **HB 197.** Bill ensures that treating healthcare providers have a fair chance to discuss their treatment decisions with an appropriately trained clinical peer before an insurance company or review entity makes an adverse determination(that denies or limits coverage for treatment.
 - **Passed both houses**
 -
- **HB 350. Authorizes the installation of climate controlled, secured “baby safe haven boxes” at**
 - **Fire stations, police stations, and medical facilities. This allows anonymous surrender of newborns, with alarms instantly alerting first responders to ensure immediate care and safety.**
 - **Passed. Sent to Governors desk.**
 -
- **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.**
 - In Senate Health and Human Services Committee: **Passed both Houses.**
 -
- **HB 506.** Extends surprise out of network billing protections to emergency ground Ambulance rides. Provides for patients paying no more than the in network rate. **Passed both Houses.**
-
- **HB 717.** Amends the “Medical Practice Act of the State of Georgia” to regulate psychedelic-assisted treatment [therapy](#) .It mandates the Medical Board of examiners to establish rules for clinic operation,practitioner competency, and patient safety by Dec 31, 2026. Clinics must be licensed by July 1, 2027, and meet specific requirements, including hospital affiliation.
 - The bill also defines who can administer these treatments and sets penalties for unlicensed operation, including felony charges.**Passed and sent to the Governor, April 6, 2026.**
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**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- **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. **Removed controversial amendments regard puberty blockers and transgender surgeries.** Passed the Senate and now back in the House to pass, amend, substitute. **Passed both Houses**
-
- **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. Passed both Houses.**
-
- **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. **Needs House approval before being sent to the governor's desk. House passed 3/18/26. Going to 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. **House passed 3/23/26. Going to Governor.**
-
- **SB 500.** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 10 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce, so as to **expand the Behavioral Health Care Workforce Data Base to include data from licensed health care professionals;** to revise definitions; to rename such data base as the Health Care Workforce Data Base; to provide for conforming changes; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. **Passed both Houses.**
-
- **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. **Passed by both Houses. Going to Governor's desk.**



**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

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- **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.. **Passed by both Houses.**
-
- **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. Senate passed and adopted 3/23/26. **Going to Governor's desk.**
-
- **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. **Passed both Houses.**
-
- **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. **Passed both houses**
-
- **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 medical cannabis for those 21 yrs old and older. Passed both Houses.**
-
- **HB 219.** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professions and businesses, so as to authorize the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists to



MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE WATCH GROUP

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

establish a professional health program to provide for monitoring and rehabilitation of impaired healthcare professionals; private and enabling them to not have license suspended. to authorize the Georgia Board of Nursing to establish a professional health program to provide for monitoring and rehabilitation of impaired healthcare professionals; to provide for funding or gifts in kind; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Senate passed. **Going to Governor's desk 3/12/26.**

- JUDICIARY COMMITTEES IN SENATE; HOUSE JUDICIARY (CIVIL), HOUSE NON-CIVIL, HOUSE JUVENILE
- **THE LEGISLATURE DID NOT PASS ELECTION INTEGRITY, BUT THIS IS WHAT THE HOUSE AND SENATE DID PASS** Bills noted as “Sent to GOV”. Others are pending.
- **HB 162** Sent to GOV 4/6/2026 GA GBI restriction & seal of First Offender Act sentences until status is revoked. When sentenced under Code Section, records are not to be provided by Criminal Backgrounds Check System per O.C.G.A. §42-8-63.1, limit public access.
- **HB 267** ~~Riley-Gaines Act~~ – **Changed by Substitution to: MOTOR VEHICLE**; DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk. Certified in person instructor to instruct in-person or remote participant. Anyone 18 yrs or older convicted causing death, make restitution to include financial assistance of decedent’s minor child/children up through HS, & other penalties. House Passed by SUB 2/27/2026; SENATE TABLED/THEN VOTED 3/31/2026
- **HB 304** Sent to GOV 4/6/2026 - Local GOVT – **GA Municipal Court Clerks’ Council-CREATE. Create office** of Senior Municipal Judges, create own laws; current municipal judge must apply. Paid by state funds & “other” appropriate sources. (?county?)
- **HB 378** **State Courts of counties online publishing of terms.** Terms of state court published. House Passed/Adopt 3/3/2026; **Senate Favorably Reported 3/25/2026**
- **HB 447** **Crimes of gift card theft, forgery & fraud.** 1-10 yrs; up to \$5,000 fine. **Senate Adopted 4/2/2026.**
- **HB 483** Sent to GOV 4/6/2026. **Protection for Inspectors of Code Enforcement against assault & battery.**
- **HB 530** Sent to GOV 4/6/2026 **Electronic filing of pleadings in PROBATE COURT on or after 1/1/2029**



**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- [HB 535](#) ~~Penal Institutions - Credit Time Served~~ **Completely changed by Substitution-Regulation of Controlled Substances.** 4 grams or more of fentanyl or components, increased time to serve & fines, effective July 1, 2026. **House Agreed Senate Amend or SUB 3/31/2026**
- [HB 1128](#) **SENT TO GOV. 4/6/2026 - State Board of Workers' Compensation; Provide notice of eligibility for compensation to injured employee or legal guardian; include peace officers.**
- [HB 1131](#) **Passed Senate & House 4/2/2026.** Personal Service for notice of warrant application.
- [HB 1185](#) **Courts; Certain Shareholder claims to be brought before Georgia State-wide Business Court.** Re: corporations, partnerships, etc. internal entity claims be brought before the court, **to include officer and inspection of records.** House Agreed Senate Amend or SUB 3/31/2026
- [HB 1196](#) **PASSED HOUSE & SENATE 3/16/2026. Offense of Criminal trespass involving "wild animal".** This bill includes all animals, domestic or otherwise. Felony conviction with prison & fines.
- [HB 1247](#) **Part 1 known as GA Bureaucratic Deference Elimination Act. Part 2 known as Red Tape Rollback Act of 2026.** Prohibits courts and administrative officials from deferring agency interpretations of laws & regulations. (Includes 12 pgs of regulations) **Senate Agreed to House Amend or SUB 4/2/2026**
- [HB 1268](#) **Official Code of Georgia Annotated – revise, modernize & correct errors in omissions by deleting obsolete terms, unconstitutional terms, etc. Senate Passed & Adopted from House 3/25/2026**
- [HB 1329](#) **Sent to GOV 4/2/2026. Controlled substances: add Schedule 1 drugs: alkyl, halide, cyano or acety, plus many others.**
- [HB 1470](#) **Abusive Litigation alleged website operating against American with Disabilities Act.** If claim against person or entity is found without merit, involuntarily dismissed, no standing Defendant entitled to damages from claimant and claimant's attorney up to \$10,000, plus attorney's fees. 2 year Statute of Limitations. Effective July 1, 2026. **Senate Passed 4/2/2026.**
- [SB 61](#) **BILL CHANGED FROM: DELINQUENCY to DIGITAL FRAUD ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS using individual's identity without consent, creates site mimicking another without consent etc. Commits Felony. Senate Passed by SUB 3/3/26; House Favorably Reported by SUB 3/27/2026.**



**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- [SB 163](#) **BILL CHANGED FROM BRADY LAW REGULATION to CRIMINAL PROCEDURE-CRIMINAL CASES.** Discovery proceedings and provisions, reciprocal discover info, etc. **House Favorably Reported SUB 3/25/2026**
- [SB 173](#) **Pleadings & Motions** Movants to file notices of uncontested motions in Superior & State Courts – **deemed granted if Judge doesn't properly serve motions. Senate Agree House Amend or SUB as Amended 4/2/2026**
- [SB 179](#) **CHANGED BY SUB FROM EDUCATION to COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE MANDATORY BY 2031-2032 for Elementary & Secondary & Mandatory for Graduation.** Includes career, technical, agricultural education (CTAE) embedded with computer science. **House Agreed to Senate Amend or SUB 3/23/2026**
- [SB 207](#) **Professions & Businesses.** Preclearance process licensing individuals with criminal records. **Senate Agreed to House Amend & Substitute 4/2/2026.**
- [SB 218](#) **Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission – establish** funded by State Judiciary branch. Provide appeals from decisions of hearing panels of commission. Receive daily expense & travel allowance. **Senate voted, Agreed to House Amend or Sub 2/25/2026**
- [SB 406](#) **"Georgia Property Owners' Bill of Rights Act" (Property Owners Association) SUB added: NEW CHAPTER 43-17a-1 thru 9, et al.** Identifies accelerated, special, specific assessments, governing documents, non-registered owners, owner, owner association, etc. **Senate Agreed to House Amend or SUB 3/31/2026**
- [SB 443](#) **Offenses Against Public Order – Obstructing Highways, streets, sidewalks or other public passages.** Guilty of high aggravated misdemeanor, fine, penalty or restitution. **Eliminated sidewalk or public passage. House passed/adopted by SUB 3/23/2026.**
- [SB 468](#) **Sexual Offender Risk Review Board – reporting requirements of sexual offenders.** Include provisions for "homeless" offenders & provide requirements to include ankle bracelets. **House Favorably Reported by SUB 3/25/2026; Senate Passed by SUB 3/3/2026.**
- [SB 470](#) **"Emergency & Public Safety Signal Protection Act – enact.** Prohibits possession, use, operation, manufacture, sale, offer for sale, distribution or import of signal jammers. **Senate Agreed House Amend or SUB 3/27/2026**



MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE WATCH GROUP

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- [SB 499](#) **Dangerous Instrumentalities and Practices; prohibition on possessing a silencer. Eliminates prohibition of possession of silencer.** House Favorably Reported 3/19/2026
- [SB 542](#) **Sexual Offenses: clergy members to be charged with certain improper sexual contact offenses. This Bill adds clergy members, pastoral counselors, employees, etc. to O.C.G.A. §16-6-5.1. Felony convictions, various levels of imprisonment.** Senate Agreed to House Amend or SUB 3/27/2026
- [SB 547](#) **Offenses of Pimping and Pandering.** Modify the penalties. Guilty of Felony 1-10 yrs. imprisonment...1st, 2nd & subsequent offenses. Senate Passed/Adopted 3/6/2026; **House Passed & Adopted 3/25/2026**
- [SB 552](#) ✨ ✨ Now reads: **True Patriotism and Universal Student Access (TPUSA) Act. BAD BILL – OPENS DOOR FOR ANTI-AMERICAN, SATANIC, ETC.** States: 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, prohibit discrimination based on the content of student speech within a limited open forum, provide maintenance of order and discipline. **SENATE AFREED TO HOUSE AMEEND OR SUB 3/31/2026**
- [SB 572](#) **Criminal Prosecutions. Additional justification for use of force in defense of self or others.** Use of force vs individual is presumed reasonable and necessary or defense but may be rebutted as justified when used or threatened against law enforcement officer in performance of his/her official duties.
- [SB 587](#) **Offenses against Public Health; establishment of animal cruelty data base. INCLUDES Court Order to locate victims of child or elder abuse (from HB 984).** Prosecuting Attorneys' Council provide full names of convicted, minimum requirements, reporting and forms by 1/1/2027 at no access cost. **Senate Agreed to House Amend/SUB 3/31/2026.**
- [SB 591](#) **Offenses Against Public Order; disruption of religious service.** Prohibits disruption of religious, memorial, military, funeral; inside or outside; **guilty of misdemeanor or aggravated misdemeanor.** Senate Passed/Adopted 3/6/2026; **House Passed/Adopted 3/31/2026**
- [SB 594](#) **BILL CHANGED FROM Internet & Email Fraud – SUBSTITUTED – RELATING TO ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH CRIMINAL OFFENSES OF FRAUDULENT ELECTION INTERFERENCE & SOLICITATIONS.** Provide: for State Election Board to publish results of investigations; for certain disclaimers on campaign advertisements that use AI generated media; **prohibit distribution of computer generated**



**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

obscene material depicting a child; relating to internet and e-mail fraud, to establish the criminal offense of digital identity fraud. With penalties. Senate Passed/Adopted by SUB 3/9/2026. House Passed & Adopted by SUB 3/25/2026

- [SB 604](#) AG concurrent jurisdiction with DA to conduct criminal prosecutions of violent crimes, illegal immigration offenses & fentanyl offenses. Parameters of cases DA to request assistance from AG. AG to replace disqualified DA. Senate Passed SUB 3/6/26; House Favorably Reported SUB 3/19/2026
- [SB 605](#) Prosecuting Attorneys; additional disciplinary actions for DA or Solicitor General for removal or involuntary retirement. Parameters outlines in Bill. Senate Passed SUB 3/326; House Pass/Adopted 3/27/2026.
- **DID NOT PASS:**
- [HB 960](#) **ELECTION INTEGRITY – FAILED – PASSED HOUSE & SENATE PASSED BY SUB 3/27/2026 – FAILED TO MOVE BACK THROUGH THE HOUSE IN TIME**
- **TABLED, STALLED, POSTPONED, ETC.**
- [HB 125](#) Online Menacing of Police Officer, including family members, vehicle, tags, home info. Stalled House 2nd Readers 1/19/2025
- [HB 415](#) HOMEOWNERS PROTECTION ACT – REMOVAL OF UNLAWFUL TENANT, ETC. Stalled House 2nd Readers 2/18/2025
- [HB 421](#) Interstate Sexual Predator Prevention Act - Senate Tabled 3/31/2026. Entice, solicit, molest child under 16.
- [HB 458](#) Fentanyl Possession. House 2nd Readers 2/19/2025. Mandatory incarceration & fines.
- [HB 626](#) Extend Retention period of all evidence of sexual assault when victim elects not to immediately report assault – for 30 years. HOUSE POSTPONED 3/4/2026.
- [HB 1076](#) Felony Offense of Obstruction of Obstruction of Law Enforcement Officer with motor vehicle. Imprisonment 1-5 yrs, fine up to \$100,000. Senate 2nd Read 3/25/2026.
- [HB 1154](#) Imposition of death penalty; include offense of trafficking of persons for labor & sexual servitude. House 2nd Read 2/4/2026
- [HB 1290](#) Protection of elder persons; sexual abuse. Senate 2nd Read 3/23/2026



**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- [HB 1456](#) Protective Orders or consent agreements for victims against persons committed sexual assault. House 2nd Readers 3/3/2026.
- [SB 9](#) **Ensuring Accountability for Illegal AI Activities Act-ENACT. New Code Section 21-2-605(a).** AI generated media includes fraudulent ads, **fraudulent election interference**, deceptive media, etc. with penalties. **Senate Disagreed – House to Amend 1/28/2026. STALLED.**
- [SB 27](#) **Stalking offense of doxxing. Penalties & Protective Order.** Includes Mental anguish, identity info; share info; economic injury; posts info social media. Penalties added: Doxxing: 1st offense misdemeanor; 2nd + - felony 1-2 yrs prison &/or both \$5,000; Aggravated Doxxing : felony - 1st- prison 1-5 yrs &/or both \$5,000; 2nd + 5-10 yrs &/or both \$10,000. **Senate Favorably Reported by SUB 3/19/2026**
- [SB 74](#) **Harmful materials to minors.** SALE, DISTRIBUTION OR EXHIBITING materials. Exempts libraries & librarians part of school, college, university. House Favorably reported 2/9/2026.
- [SB 184](#) GEORGIA ANTI-SQUATTING ACT OF 2025 – includes forgery charges & jail. Senate Read & Referred 2/19/2025. Never moved to House.
- SB 268 Crime of Interference with First Responder Regarding step-grandparent & step-grandchild – crime of Incest. Offense: misdemeanor to harass, interfere, impede first responder. House Favorably Reported SUB 3/19/2026. **Did not go back to Senate.**
- [SB 570](#) **“GEORGIA HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION TRAINING ACT.** Rights, duties, liabilities of innkeepers. Provide trafficking training for inns, short-term rentals & retention of records. Penalties for non-compliance. **03/27/2026 Senate Agreed House Amend or Sub; 03/19/2026 House Passed/Adopted By Substitute**
- The Georgia legislature sent to Governor Kemp to sign HB117, which requires a notice on shrimp if it is from a foreign source; HB1195, which allows telemedicine for veterinarians; HB1408, which authorize licensed veterinary technicians under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian to administer antirabies vaccinations; HB998, which authorize certain Tier 2 local exchange public utilities companies to elect to become subject to rate of return regulation; HB115, concerning what to do with abandoned watercraft.
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**MOUNTAIN LEGISLATIVE
WATCH GROUP**

Weekly Watch report

04/10/26

- They did not send HB158, which required registration of business trade names with the SoS (It died in the Senate Oversight Committee); HB449, which would put water service regulations under the Public Service Commission (It died in Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee.); HB947, which would have prohibited the purchase of certain food and beverage items with federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. (Died in Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee.). HB1182, Prohibits storing any soil amendment derived from industrial by-products within 100 feet of any property line or load or unload any soil amendment derived from industrial by-products within a public road. (Died in Senate Natural Resources and Environment Committee.); HB980, which would have created a Georgia-Ireland Trade Commission. (Died in Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee.); HB432, which would have reduced the cost of stamps for hunting turkey. (Senate Natural Resources and Environment Committee tabled.); HB443, which reduced the cost of reef/migratory fish endorsements. Also repealed Article 18, relating to raw dairy milk. (Died in Senate Natural Resources and Environment Committee.); HB51, which would include natural gas systems in the regulation of the construction, ownership, maintenance, or operation of any solid waste system, sewerage system, environmental facility, or water system owned by a local government. (Senate recommitted.); SB435, which would have renamed the Georgia Development Authority to Georgia Agricultural Development Authority. (House passed and adopted, not sent to Kemp.); SB551, would have repealed provisions related to eggs relating to standard, labeling, and adulteration of food. (House passed and adopted, not sent to Kemp.); and SB463, which had created new Rules, Proceedings, and penalties against squatters. (House Judiciary Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute, not sent to Kemp.)
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