



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

February 28, 2017

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Legislative Days 25-26

Convening on Monday, February 27, the General Assembly began its 25th Legislative Day. Friday, March 3 will be Legislative Day 28, also known as Crossover Day. All bills must be passed out of their chamber of origin by that day in order to continue forward towards passage. This year is notable in that Crossover Day has been moved up from its previous position on Legislative Day 30.

The General Assembly will reconvene on Wednesday, March 1, for Legislative Day 27.

This report is a compilation of the items acted on this week affecting Georgia's judiciary. To view more legislation pertaining to the judiciary, as well as bill summaries, previous reports, and committee meeting schedules, please visit legislation.georgiacourts.gov.

Floor and Committee Action

Legislation Supported by the Judicial Council

[HB 5 - Courts; compensation of juvenile court judges; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Johnnie Caldwell (R – Thomaston)

HB 5 amends O.C.G.A. § 15-11-52 relating to the funding of juvenile court judgeships.

Action: HB 5 was passed out of House Rules and will be heard on Legislative Day 27 (2/28/17).

[HB 308 - Domestic relations; child support; enact provisions recommended by Georgia Child Support Commission](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Beth Beskin (R – Atlanta)

HB 308 amends Title 19 of the O.C.G.A. by making mostly stylistic changes and also providing that separate child support worksheets should be filed for each child in need of financial support

Action: HB 308 was passed by the House by Substitute, by a vote of 164-0 (2/27/2017).

[HB 370 - Council of Municipal Court Judges of Georgia; create and administer savings and deferred compensation plans for members; authorize](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Hilton (R – Peachtree Corners)

HB 370 authorizes the Council of Municipal Court Judges to create and administer a savings plan for its members.

Action: HB 370 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/28/17).

[HB 433 - Property; expiry dates for writs of possession after issuance; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Hilton (R – Peachtree Corners)

HB 433 amends § 44-7-53 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated by making writs of possession issued by the court effective for 30 days after they have been issued, unless otherwise extended by a court order.

Action: HB 433 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/28/17)

Other Bills

[HB 32 - Crimes and offenses; sexual contact between school employees or agents and enrolled students; prohibit](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Joyce Chandler (R – Grayson)

Action: HB 32 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 50 - Livestock; liability protection for certain activities; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Clay Pirkle (R – Ashburn)

Action: HB 50 has received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (2/27/2017).

[HB 65 - Low THC Oil Patient Registry; conditions and eligibility; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Allen Peake (R – Macon)

Action: HB 65 received a Do Pass by House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 67 - Crimes and offenses; entering a motor vehicle with the intent to commit a theft or felony; provide for increased punishment](#)

Sponsor: Rep. William Boddie (D – East Point)

Action: HB 67 was passed out of House Rules and will be heard on Legislative Day 27 (2/27/17).

[HB 90 - Crimes and offenses; abuse of governmental office; provide definitions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Dan Gasaway (R – Homer)

Action: HB 90 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 116 - Juvenile Code; provide superior court with exclusive original jurisdiction for cases involving aggravated assault; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Bert Reeves (R – Marietta))

Action: HB 116 passed the House by Substitute, by a vote of 130-36 (2/27/2017).

[HB 124 - Public assistance; fraud; revisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. David Clark (R – Buford)

Action: HB 124 was postponed until the next legislative day (2/27/2017).

[HB 192 - Banks, trust companies, and corporations; responsibilities and standard of care of directors and officers; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Beth Beskin (R – Atlanta)

Action: HB 192 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (2/27/2017); and, received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/28/17).

[HB 213 - Crimes and offenses; sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession of fentanyl within the prohibition of trafficking certain drugs; include](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Rich Golick (R – Smyrna)

Action: HB 213 was passed by Committee Substitute by the House 161-5 (2/27/2017).

[HB 258- Crimes and offenses; sentencing for persons who knowingly commit aggravated assault upon a peace officer; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Alan Powell (R – Hartwell)

Action: HB 258 received a Do Pass by House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 261- Penal institutions; certain individuals sentenced between March 18, 1968 and October 31, 1982; allow to petition court for first offender status](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Bill Werkheiser (R – Glenville)

Action: HB 261 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 266 - Guardian and ward; personal property value guardian may receive without becoming legal conservator of minor; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Trey Kelley (R – Cedartown)

Action: HB 266 was passed out of House Rules and will be heard on Legislative Day 27 (2/28/17).

[HB 278 - Business corporations; benefit corporations; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Holcomb (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 278 has received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Kelley Subcommittee; and, received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Committee (2/28/17).

[HB 279 - Domestic relations; name change requested by victim of family violence; provide separate process \(AM 29 2592\)](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

Action: HB 279 was passed as amended (AM 29 2592) by the House 163-0 (2/27/2017).

[HB 280 - Firearms; license holders; carrying and possession of certain weapons in certain buildings or real property owned or leased to public institutions of postsecondary education; authorize](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

Action: HB 280 received a Do Pass by Substitute by the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 292 - Firearms; laws relating to the carrying of weapons and safety; revise and clarify](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Rick Jasperse (R – Jasper)

Action: HB 292 received a Do Pass by Substitute by the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 293 - Evidence; procedure relating to child's testimony of sexual contact or physical abuse; provide effective date](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Deborah Silcox (R – Sandy Springs)

Action: HB 293 was passed by Committee Substitute by the House 167 - 2 (2/27/2017).

[HB 319 - Habeas corpus; maximum amount counties may be reimbursed for certain costs; increase](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Bill Werkheiser (R – Glennville)

Action: HB 319 was passed by out of the House by a vote of 169-0.

[HB 341 - Crimes and offenses; mandatory terms for trafficking individuals for sexual servitude; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Bert Reeves (R – Marietta)

Action: HB 341 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 343 - Criminal procedure; certain outdated terminology; replace](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Hilton (R – Peachtree Corners)

Action: HB 343 was passed by Substitute by the House, 168-0 (2/27/2017).

[HB 344 – Paternity; parties beyond movants in a child support case request a genetic test; allow](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Katie Dempsey (R – Rome)

Action: HB was passed out of House Rules Committee and will be heard on Legislative Day 27 (2/28/17).

[HB 381 - Abandoned Mobile Home Act; enact](#)

Sponsor: Rep. John Corbett (R - Lake Park)

Action: HB 497 has been held by the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee (2/27/2017).

[HB 390 - Motor vehicles; assessment of no points and maximum fine for failure to obey traffic control device in certain instances; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Ed Setzler (R – Acworth)

Action: HB 390 received a Do Pass by the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 396 - Criminal procedure; probation portion of split sentence for certain sexual offenses; clarify provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Bert Reeves (R – Marietta)

Action: HB 396 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 404 - Rockdale Judicial Circuit; court reporters; make certain provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Vernon Jones (R – Lithonia)

Action: HB 404 was adopted from the local calendar 158-0 (2/27/2017).

[HB 406 - Weapons; reciprocity of recognizing and giving effect to licenses to carry from other states; revise requirements](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Alan Powell (R – Hartwell)

Action: The substantive language of HB 406 was integrated into HB 292 as an amendment by the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 436 - Counties; boundary disputes; provide all ad valorem property and sales and use taxes in disputed area be paid into an escrow account pending resolution](#)

Action: HB 436 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee (2/27/2017).

[HB 442 - Clayton County; State Court; provide for salaries of judges](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Mike Glanton (D – Jonesboro)

Action: HB 442 was adopted from the local calendar 158-0 (2/27/2017).

[HB 453 - County law library; board of trustees; add chief judge of magistrate court](#)

Sponsor: Rep. David Dreyer (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 453 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/28/17).

[HB 497 - Juvenile proceedings; filing a petition for delinquency when informal adjustment or other nonadjudicatory procedures are used; extend period](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

Action: HB 497 received a Do Pass from the Fleming Subcommittee of House Judiciary (2/27/2017); and, received a Do Pass from House Judiciary Committee (2/28/2017).

[SB 1 - "The Protect Act - Protecting Georgians Against Terrorism"; revise the definition of domestic terrorism](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Bill Cowsert (R – Athens)

Action: SB 1 was placed on the calendar for the Legislative Day 27 by the Senate Rules Committee (2/28/17).

[SB 95 - Selection of Jurors; state-wide master jury list; change provisions; Georgia Crime Information Center; pardons and paroles; provide conforming cross-references](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Jesse Stone (R – Waynesboro)

Action: SB 95 was placed on the calendar for the Legislative Day 27 by the Senate Rules Committee (2/28/17).

[SB 99 - Georgia Crime Information Center; purging a person's hospitalization information for purpose of National Instant Criminal Background Check; provide for a judicial procedure](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Elena Parent (D – Atlanta)

Action: SB 99 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the Senate Public Safety Committee (2/27/17).

[SB 105- Controlled Substances; possession of certain quantities of marijuana constitute a misdemeanor; provide; punishment; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Harold Jones (D – Augusta)

Action: SB 105 received a Do Pass by the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/27/17).

[SB 130 - Right To An Attorney; waiver of the right to counsel; provisions; clarify](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R –Vidalia)

Action: SB 130 was passed by the Senate with a vote of 52-0 (2/28/17).

[SB 145 - Sexual Offenses; offense of rape applicability to victims across genders; gender identities and sexual orientations; revise](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Donzella James (D–Atlanta)

Action: SB 145 received a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A (2/28/17).

[SB 159 - Criminal Trespass and Damage to Property; entry upon land or premises of another that has been marked with purple paint; provide for the crime of criminal trespass](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Lee Anderson (R–Grovetown)

Action: SB 159 was placed on the calendar for the Legislative Day 27 by the Senate Rules Committee (2/28/17).

[SB 174- Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform; reform for individuals supervised under accountability courts; provide](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

Action: SB 174 was placed on the calendar for the Legislative Day 27 by the Senate Rules Committee (2/28/17).

[SB 175 - Juvenile Code; juvenile court proceedings; enact reforms](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

Action: SB 175 was placed on the calendar for the Legislative Day 27 by the Senate Rules Committee (2/28/17).

[SB 176 - Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform; driving privileges; enact reforms](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

Action: SB 176 was placed on the calendar for Legislative Day 27 by the Senate Rules Committee (2/28/17).

[SB 177 - "Georgia Constitutional Carry Act of 2017"](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Josh McKoon (R – Columbus)

Action: SB 177 received a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A (2/28/17)

[SB 212 - Alcoholism, Drug Dependency or Abuse; administrative license suspension process for persons arrested of driving under the influence; provide for reforms](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

Action: SB 212 was tabled by the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/27/17).

[SB 250 - State Sexual Offender Registry; individual is convicted in another country; require registration](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga)

Action: SB 250 received a Do Pass by the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/27/17).

[HB 303 - State Commission on Family Violence; terms and qualifications of members; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

Action: HB 303 received a Do Pass by the Senate Special Judiciary Committee (2/27/17).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Wednesday, March 1, 2017 – Legislative Day 27

9:00 PM	House Rules	341 CAP
10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Thursday, March 2, 2017 – In Recess

1:00 PM	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:00 PM	Senate Public Safety	307 CLOB
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Friday, March 3, 2017 – Legislative Day 28

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber

**This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change*

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