



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

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Legislative Days 17-18

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The General Assembly reconvened on Monday, February 24, and will be in session all five days this week. With only ten legislative days remaining until Crossover Day (LD 28), both chambers have entered a period of high activity as more and more bills make their way through the legislative process.

As provided for in [HR 1170](#), Chief Justice Harold D. Melton [will deliver his second State of the Judiciary](#) address Wednesday, February 26 (LD 19) at 11:00 a.m. in the House chamber. The speech will be available via livestream at <https://www.gpb.org/lawmakers/2020/state-of-the-judiciary>.

Both chambers stand adjourned until Wednesday, February 26, at 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Day 19.

This report is a compilation of 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](https://legislation.georgiacourts.gov).

## **Floor & Committee Action**

### **HB 113 - Motor vehicles; prohibit license and instruction permit holders from using a stand-alone electronic**

Sponsor: Rep. John Carson (R – Marietta)

**Action:** HB 113 received Do Pass by Substitute from the House Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee (2/24/2020).

### **HB 417 - Law enforcement officers and agencies; comprehensive regulation of trauma scene cleanup services; provide**

Sponsor: Rep. Alan Powell (R – Hartwell)

**Actions:** HB 417 passed the House with a vote of 147-19 (2/24/2020).

### **HB 664 - Georgia Judicial Retirement System; membership for certain persons employed in certain full time positions requiring admission to the State Bar of Georgia as a condition of employment; require**

Sponsor: Rep. Barry Fleming (R – Harlem)

**Actions:** HB 664 passed out of House Rules (2/24/2020); and, passed the House with a vote of 154-0 (2/25/2020).

### **HB 719 - Crimes and offenses; modernization of HIV related laws; provide**

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

**Action:** HB 719 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Health & Human Services Committee (2/25/2020).

### **HB 765 - Courts; increase in the minimum compensation for chief magistrates; provide**

Sponsor: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (R – Cartersville)

**Action:** HB 765 received a Do Pass from the Senate State & Local Governmental Operations Committee (2/25/2020).

### **HB 787 - Crimes and offenses; weapons carry license reciprocity in this state; expand**

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

**Action:** HB 787 received a Do Pass from the House Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee (2/24/2020).

### **HB 859 - Motor vehicles; tinting of windows of windshields; provide maximum monetary penalty**

Sponsor: Rep. Clay Pirkle (R – Ashburn)

**Action:** HB 859 received a Do Pass from the House Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee (2/24/2020).

### **HB 890 - Drivers' licenses; notices of revocation and suspension by regular mail; provide**

Sponsor: Rep. Sam Watson (R – Moultrie)

**Action:** HB 890 received a Do Pass from the House Motor Vehicles Committee (2/25/2020).

HB 967 - Columbus, City of; Municipal Court; provide that the sheriff of Muscogee County shall be the ex officio marshal of said court

Sponsor: Rep. Vance Smith (R – Pine Mountain)

**Action:** HB 967 passed the House on the Local Calendar with a vote of 157-0 (2/25/2020).

HB 968 - Civil practice; clarify actions that may be brought pursuant to Code Section 9-3-51 regarding deficiencies in connection with improvements to realty

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstration (R – Dacula)

**Action:** HB 968 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/25/2020).

HB 969 - Housing; certain provisions pertaining to unlawful practices in selling or renting dwellings and the procedures, remedies, and judicial review related thereto; change

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstration (R – Dacula)

**Action:** HB 969 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/25/2020).

HB 987 - Health; additional measures for the protection of elderly persons; provide

Sponsor: Rep. Sharon Cooper (R – Marietta)

**Action:** HB 987 received a Do Pass from the House Health & Human Services Committee (2/25/2020).

HB 1003 - Ogeechee Judicial Circuit; provide additional judge of the superior courts

Sponsor: Rep. Jon Burns (R – Newington)

**Action:** HB 1003 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/25/2020).

SB 357 - Firearms; carry weapons in places of worship and in schools operated by such places of worship; revise the ability

Sponsor: Sen. Bill Heath (R – Bremen)

**Action:** SB 357 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/24/2020).

SB 375 - Cigarettes and Tobacco Related Products; additional penalties regarding any person under 21 years of age; provide; definition of vapor product; revise

Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga)

**Action:** No action was taken on SB 375 by the Senate Regulated Industries & Utilities Committee (2/25/2020).

SB 388 - General Income Tax Provisions; certain actions relating to false or fraudulent material matter on returns, affidavits, claims, or documents; penalties; increase

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

**Action:** SB 388 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/24/2020).

SB 393 - Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; duties and powers; revise; campus policemen and other security personnel of the university system; arrests for felony offenses

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

**Action:** SB 393 failed to receive a Do Pass from the Senate Public Safety Committee (2/24/2020).

[SB 394 - Attorney General; authority to investigate and prosecute certain crimes and offenses; provide](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John Albers (R – Roswell)

Action: SB 394 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Public Safety Committee (2/24/20).

[SB 402 - Bonds and Recognizances; conditions for unsecured judicial release on a person's own recognizance; provide](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Randy Robertson (R – Cataula)

**Actions:** SB 402 received a Do Pass from the Senate Public Safety Committee (2/24/2020).

[SB 405 - Superior Courts of the Cobb Judicial Circuit; eleventh judge; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Lindsey Tippins (R – Marietta)

**Action:** SB 405 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/24/2020).

## **Floor & Committee Meeting Schedule\***

**Wednesday, February 26, 2020 – Legislative Day 19**

7:00 AM	Senate Insurance & Labor Subcommittee <a href="#">SB 415</a> - Civil Practice and Litigation; several titles of the O.C.G.A.; amend and revise	450 CAP
9:00 AM	House Rules	341 CAP
10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
11:00 AM	State of the Judiciary address	House Chamber
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:00 PM	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1
1:00 PM	House Public Safety & Homeland Security Lumsden Subcommittee <a href="#">HB 641</a> - Georgia Bureau of Investigation; grant powers and duties to identify and investigate violations of the Georgia Computer Systems Protection Act and other computer crimes	415 CLOB
3:00 PM	House Judiciary Civil Welch Subcommittee <a href="#">HB 785</a> - Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority; revise powers; provisions	132 CAP
3:00 PM	House Public Safety & Homeland Security Powell Subcommittee <a href="#">HB 903</a> - Motor vehicles; issuance of a traffic citation to a vehicle owner in lieu of the individual operating the motor vehicle in certain instances; provide <a href="#">HB 917</a> - Firearms; issuance of weapon carry license renewal notices; require	415 CLOB

3:00 PM	House Governmental Affairs Elections Subcommittee <a href="#">HB 520</a> - Elections; change date of nonpartisan general elections	606 CLOB
3:00 PM	House Juvenile Justice <a href="#">HB 913</a> - Domestic relations; protection of children; strengthen, clarify, and update provisions	515 CLOB
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary <a href="#">SB 429</a> - Code Revision Commission; statutory portion of said Code; revise, modernize, correct errors or omissions in, and reenact. <a href="#">SB 435</a> - "The Debbie Vance Act"; court imposing sentence may grant the relief of vacatur for convictions and sentences of defendants; provide. <a href="#">SB 40</a> - Sexual Assault by Persons with Supervisory or Disciplinary Authority; sexual contact between an employee and student enrolled at such school; prohibit. <a href="#">SB 288</a> - Criminal History Record Information; automatic restriction; final disposition other than a conviction; provide. (Hearing only)	307 CLOB
4:00 PM	Senate Retirement	Mezz 1

**Thursday, February 27, 2020 – Legislative Day 20**

9:00 AM	House Rules	341 CAP
10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

**Friday, February 28, 2020 – Legislative Day 21**

8:00 AM	House Motor Vehicles <a href="#">HB 890</a> - Drivers' licenses; notices of revocation and suspension by regular mail; provide	515 CLOB
9:00 AM	House Rules	341 CAP
10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
TBD	Senate Rules	450 CAP

*\*Schedule reflects meetings and legislation relevant to the judiciary. This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please visit the [House Meetings page](#) and the [Senate Meetings page](#) for a complete list of meetings, the most current schedules and agendas.*

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