



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

**MID-WEEK  
LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS  
WEEK 7**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

[legislation.georgiacourts.gov](http://legislation.georgiacourts.gov)

Legislative Day 21

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- The General Assembly reconvened yesterday, Monday, February 22, for Legislative Day 20 and today for Legislative Day 21.
- The Legislature has entered a sustained period of high activity. This period will continue and intensify until Crossover Day (LD 28), which is the deadline for bills to pass out of their original chamber.
- While no date has been set for Crossover Day, it is currently expected to take place in early March.
- [SB 163](#), which provides for tolling of statutory speedy trial requirements following a judicial emergency, received a committee hearing yesterday.
- Adjournment resolution [SR 82](#) sets the schedule through Monday, March 1 (Legislative Day 25). The General Assembly will meet every day this week.
- To view all legislation pertaining to the judiciary, please visit [legislation.georgiacourts.gov](http://legislation.georgiacourts.gov). The General Assembly will reconvene tomorrow, Wednesday, February 24, 2021, for Legislative Day 22.

## Notable Bill Actions

### Judicial Council Supported Bills

[SB 163 - Judicial Emergency; suspension of statutory speedy trial requirements; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

**Action:** SB 163 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/22/2021).

[SB 234 - "Georgia Uniform Mediation Act"; enact](#)

Senate Author: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

**Action:** SB 234 was assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/23/2021).

### Other Bills

[HB 109 - Child Victim Protection Act of 2021; enact](#)

House Author: Rep. Heath Clark (R – Warner Robins)

**Action:** HB 109 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Gunter Subcommittee (2/22/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Committee (2/23/2021).

[HB 263 - Retirement; benefits for judges of probate courts; revise method through which certain actuarial equivalents are determined](#)

House Author: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (R – Cartersville)

**Action:** HB 263 received a hearing from the House Retirement Committee (2/23/2021).

[HB 333 - Ethics in Government Act of 2021; enact](#)

House Author: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

**Action:** HB 333 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Committee (2/23/2021).

[HB 334 - Superior courts; clerks; notaries public; provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Joseph Gullett (R – Dallas)

**Action:** HB 334 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Gunter Subcommittee (2/22/2021).

[HB 347 - State sexual offender registry; assessment classifications; revise certain risk](#)

House Author: Rep. Joseph Gullett (R – Dallas)

**Action:** HB 347 received a Do Pass from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (2/22/2021).

[HB 363 - Crimes and offenses; protection of elder persons; revise definitions](#)

House Author: Rep. John LaHood (R – Valdosta)

**Action:** HB 363 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (2/23/2021).

[HB 371 - Evidence; certain proceedings may be conducted by video conference; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville)

**Action:** HB 371 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute as Amended from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (2/23/2021).

[HB 409 - Judicial Legal Defense Fund Commission; establish](#)

House Author: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville)

**Action:** HB 409 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Scoggins Subcommittee (2/22/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Committee (2/23/2021).

[HB 488 - Courts; increase minimum compensation for chief magistrates and others; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (R – Cartersville)

**Action:** HB 488 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Gunter Subcommittee (2/22/2021); received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Committee (2/23/2021).

[SB 120 - Solicitors-General of State Courts; honorary office of solicitor-general emeritus; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Lindsey Tippins (R – Marietta)

**Action:** SB 120 received a Do Pass from the Senate Government Oversight Committee (2/23/2021).

[SB 166 - Courts; certain procedures for disqualification of jurors; require](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Bill Cowsert (R – Athens)

**Action:** SB 166 received a Do Pass as Amended from the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee (2/23/2021).

[SB 174 - Bonds and Recognizances; appointed judges who are fulfilling a vacancy of an elected judge to issue an unsecured judicial release under certain circumstances; authorize](#)

Senator Author: Sen. Steve Gooch (R – Dahlonega)

**Action:** SB 174 received a Do Pass from the Senate Public Safety Committee (2/23/2021).

[SR 100 - State-Wide Grand Juries; jurisdiction, powers, and duties; provide -CA](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Steve Gooch (R – Dahlonega)

**Action:** SR 100 received a Do Pass from the Senate Ethics Committee (2/22/2021).

## Floor & Committee Meeting Schedule\*

**Wednesday, February 24, 2021 – Legislative Day 22**

|          |   |                  |
|----------|---|------------------|
| 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          |
| 1:00 PM  | House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee A<br><a href="#">HB 368</a> - Georgia Bureau of Investigation; primary law enforcement agency for investigating certain deaths; provisions<br><a href="#">HB 438</a> - Law enforcement; prohibit any officer with an emergency suspension order against them from exercising the powers of a law enforcement officer   | 506 CLOB         |
| 1:30 PM  | House Judiciary Civil Scoggins Subcommittee<br><a href="#">HB 358</a> - Emergency Management Act; provide when a declaration of a state of emergency or disaster by the Governor shall expire<br><a href="#">HB 468</a> - Governor; continued operation of businesses during a public health state of emergency if they comply with certain health and safety measures; provide<br><a href="#">HB 536</a> - Emergency management; limitation on Governor's power to control the practice of any religion during an emergency; provide | 132 CAP<br>HYBID |
| 2:00 PM  | House Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight<br><a href="#">HB 166</a> - Courts; license fees and other moneys collected by the State Bar to be paid into the general fund of the state treasury and expended in compliance with the laws of this state and the rules and regulations of the State Bar; provide  | 506 CLOB         |
| 2:15 PM  | Senate Ethics   | 450 CAP          |

|         |  |                |
|---------|--|----------------|
| 3:00 PM | <p>House Judiciary Civil Gunter Subcommittee</p> <p><u>HB 470</u> - Property; no plans are required when units are not designated by physical structures; provide</p> <p><a href="#">HB 480</a> - Property; creation, declaration and priority of liens for labor, services, or materials performed or furnished by registered interior designers; provide</p> <p><a href="#">HB 553</a>- State government; participation in hearings by electronic communications; provide</p> <p><a href="#">HB 554</a> - Property; revise when an action may operate as a lis pendens</p> | 132 CAP HYBRID |
| 3:00 PM | <p>House Industry and Labor Committee</p> <p><u>HB 532</u> - Labor, Department of; employment security; change certain provisions</p> <p><a href="#">HB 389</a> - Employment security; change definition of employment to include services performed by an individual for wages</p> <p><u>HB 397</u> - Labor, Department of; employment security; change certain provisions</p>  | 506 CLOB       |
| 4:45 PM | Senate Judiciary   | 450 CAP        |

**Thursday, February 25, 2021 – Legislative Day 23**

|          |   |                |
|----------|---|----------------|
| 7:00 AM  | Senate Ethics   | 307 CLOB       |
| 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        |
| 1:00 PM  | Senate Public Safety  | Mezz 1         |
| 1:00 PM  | Senate Banking and Financial Institutions;<br><a href="#">HB 90</a> - Torts; certain persons, firms, or corporations who are buyers of land for conversion of timber shall be exempt from certain liabilities; provide <a href="#">HB 111</a> - Financial institutions; clarify and remove superfluous language; provisions | 307 CLOB       |

**Friday, February 26, 2021 – Legislative Day 24**

|          |                      |                |
|----------|----------------------|----------------|
| 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        |
| 12:00 PM | Senate Judiciary     | 307 CLOB       |

*\*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 [General Assembly Events Schedule](#) page for a complete list of meetings, livestream links, the most current schedules, and agendas.*

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