



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

**MID-WEEK  
LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS  
WEEK 8**

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

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

Legislative Day 25 & Recess Day

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- The General Assembly reconvened yesterday, Monday, March 1, for Legislative Day 25, and will alternate between legislative and recess days for the remainder of the week.
- The recess days on Tuesday and Thursday are designated as committee workdays; both days will have busy meeting schedules, with many bills being moved forward as Crossover Day approaches.
- Both chambers have now adopted [HR 264](#), which sets the calendar for the remainder of the session.
- Crossover Day (LD 28) is set as Monday, March 8. All bills that fail to pass out of their originating chamber before the end of Crossover Day will be considered dead for the rest of the session.
- To view all legislation pertaining to the judiciary, please visit [legislation.georgiacourts.gov](http://legislation.georgiacourts.gov). The General Assembly will reconvene tomorrow, Wednesday, March 3, 2021, for Legislative Day 26.

## **Notable Bill Actions**

### **Judicial Council Supported Bills**

#### **[HB 555 - Criminal procedure; pretrial proceedings; provisions](#)**

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

**Action:** HB 555 failed to receive a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021).

#### **[HB 556 - Criminal procedure; revise authority for trial upon accusations](#)**

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

**Action:** HB 556 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021).

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

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

**Action:** SB 234 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

### **Other Bills**

#### **Floor Votes**

#### **[HB 531 - Elections; no election superintendents or boards of registrars shall accept private funding; provide](#)**

House Author: Rep. Barry Fleming (R – Harlem)

**Action:** HB 531 passed the House by a vote of 97-72 (3/1/2021).

#### **Placed on Rules Calendar**

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

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

**Action:** HB 334 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 26 (3/2/2021).

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

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

**Action:** HB 371 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 26 (3/2/2021).

#### **[HB 548 - Social services; reasonable access to records concerning reports of child abuse to the Administrative Office of the Courts; provide](#)**

House Author: Rep. Katie Dempsey (R – Rome)

**Action:** HB 548 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 26 (3/2/2021).

## **Passed out of Full Committee**

### **[HB 582 - Cherokee County; probate judge; provide nonpartisan elections](#)**

House Author: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

**Action:** HB 582 received a Do Pass from the House Intergovernmental Coordination Committee (3/2/2021).

### **[HB 620 - Guardian and ward; payment of certain settlements involving claims of minors; clarify and revise procedures and requirements](#)**

House Author: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton)

**Action:** HB 620 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/1/2021).

### **[HB 624 - South Georgia Judicial Circuit; additional judge of the superior court; provide](#)**

House Author: Rep. Darlene Taylor (R – Thomasville)

**Action:** HB 624 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/1/2021).

### **[SB 162 - Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit; additional judge of the superior court; provide](#)**

Senate Author: Sen. Brandon Beach (R – Alpharetta)

**Action:** SB 162 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

### **[SB 276 - County Law Libraries; authorize the charging and collection of law library fees in county recorders' courts and magistrate courts; allow county governing authorities](#)**

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

**Action:** SB 276 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

## **Committee and Subcommittee Hearings**

### **[HB 133 - Crimes Victims' Bill of Rights; required judicial verifications of victim notifications; provide](#)**

House Author: Rep. Meshia Mainor (D – Atlanta)

**Action:** HB 133 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021).

### **[SB 18 - Limitations on Prosecution; offenses of rape, aggravated sodomy, and aggravated sexual battery; revise the statute of limitations](#)**

Senate Author: Sen. Harold Jones II (D – Augusta)

**Action:** No action was taken on SB 18 by the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

### **[SB 160 - Civil Practice; tolling of limitations for tort actions while criminal prosecution is pending; provisions; change](#)**

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

**Action:** SB 160 failed to receive passage from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

## Floor & Committee Meeting Schedule\*

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – Legislative Day 26**

7:00 AM	Senate Ethics	450 CAP
8:00 AM	House Agriculture and Consumer Affairs <a href="#">HB 609</a> - Animals; marketing of certain domestic animals at certain locations; prohibit <a href="#">HB 676</a> - Georgia Farmers' Market and Produce Terminal Development Authority Act; enact <a href="#">HB 693</a> - Motor vehicles; operation of farm tractors on interstate highways; prohibit	406 CLOB HYBRID
8:30 AM	House Rules Standing Committee	341 CAP
9:00 AM	House Rules	341 CAP
10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB
1:00 PM	House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee A <a href="#">HB 368</a> - Georgia Bureau of Investigation; primary law enforcement agency for investigating certain deaths; provisions <a href="#">HB 439</a> - Motor vehicles; installation of ignition interlock devices as a condition of probation for individuals convicted of a first offense of driving under the influence; require <a href="#">HB 534</a> - Crimes and offenses; promoting illegal drag racing and laying drags; provide for offense <a href="#">HB 631</a> - Georgia Crime Information Center; develop a system to collect information on an individual's ability to communicate with law	506 CLOB HYBRID

	enforcement or emergency responders; provisions <a href="#">HB 640</a> - Crimes and offenses; firearms and the carrying and possession of firearms and other weapons; revise various laws	
1:00 PM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
3:00 PM	House Industry and Labor <a href="#">HB 532</a> - Labor, Department of; employment security; change certain provisions <a href="#">HB 389</a> - Employment security; change definition of employment to include services performed by an individual for wages <a href="#">HB 674</a> - Financial institutions; earned wage access service providers; provide requirements	506 CLOB HYBRID
3:30 PM	House Public Safety and Homeland Security	606 CLOB HYBRID

**Thursday, March 4, 2021 – Recess Day**

8:00 AM	Senate Ethics	307 CLOB
9:00 AM	House Judiciary Civil Committee <a href="#">HB 138</a> - Property; certain landlords shall provide certain notices to existing and prospective tenants with regard to certain crimes occurring on the premises being leased; provide <a href="#">HB 358</a> - Emergency Management Act; provide when a declaration of a state of emergency or disaster by the Governor shall expire <a href="#">HB 479</a> - Criminal procedure; revise certain arrest powers; provisions	132 CAP

10:00 AM	House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee B <a href="#">HB 632</a> - Motor vehicles; enforcement of operating a commercial motor vehicle upon a highway in violation of a local ordinance; provisions HB 631 - Georgia Crime Information Center; develop a system to collect information on an individual's ability to communicate with law enforcement or emergency responders; provisions HB 495 - Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board; revise duties	606 CLOB HYBRID
12:00 PM	House Public Safety and Homeland Security	406 CLOB HYBRID
1:00 PM	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1

**Friday, March 5, 2021 – Legislative Day 27**

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

*\*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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