



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

March 6, 2018

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Legislative Day 30 & Recess

The General Assembly returned to the Capitol on Monday, March 6 for Legislative Day 30 and was in recess on Tuesday, March 7. Only nine legislative days remain before Sine Die and the rest of the adjournment resolution designates non-legislative days as “committee work days.” While the FY 2019 budget has not yet been passed by the House, Senate Appropriations subcommittees are holding hearings this week.

The House and Senate will convene on Wednesday, March 7 (LD 31) and Friday, March 9 (LD 32), with a number of committee meetings scheduled to take place on Thursday, March 8.

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 162 - Income tax; transfer of setoffs by the Administrative Office of the Courts; revise procedures](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Betty Price (R – Roswell)

Action: HB 162 passed the Senate by Substitute with a vote of 53-0. (3/5/18)

[SB 407 - Criminal Justice System; comprehensive reform for offenders; provide](#) (LC 29 7957S)

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

Action: SB 407 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee. (3/5/18)

[SB 436 - Probate Courts; general provisions; change and modernize](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

Action: SB 436 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee. (3/6/18)

[HB 571 - Magistrates Retirement Fund; member in arrears for dues payments for 90 days shall be suspended; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Sam Watson (R – Moultrie)

Action: HB 571 received a Do Pass from the Senate Retirement Committee. (3/6/18).

Other Bills

[HB 79 - Motor Vehicles; criminal offense and minimum fines for improper operation of an authorized emergency or law enforcement vehicle; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. John Pezold (R – Columbus)

Action: HB 79 received a Do Pass from the Senate Public Safety Committee. (3/5/18)

[HB 137 - Crimes and offenses; restrictions on contingency fee compensation of an attorney appointed in forfeiture actions; change provisions](#) (LC 29 7616S)

Sponsor: Rep. Scot Turner (R – Holly Springs)

Action: HB 137 received a Do Pass by Substitute as amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee. (3/5/18)

[HB 381 - Abandoned Mobile Home Act; enact](#) (LC 39 1819ERS)

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

Action: No action was taken on HB 381 by the Senate Judiciary Committee. (3/5/18)

[HB 668 - Guardian and ward; petitions for appointment of a guardian under certain circumstances; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Betty Price (R – Roswell)

Action: HB 668 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee. (3/5/18)

[HB 670 - Georgia State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision; number of legislative branch representatives; revise](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Alan Powell (R – Hartwell)

Action: HB 670 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee. (3/5/18)

[HB 683 – Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018](#)

Sponsor: Speaker David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

Action: The Senate Agreed to the House Amendment to the Senate Substitute to HB 683. (3/5/18)

[HB 808 - Courts; term of court in certain counties in the Waycross Circuit; change](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chad Nimmer (R – Blackshear)

Action: HB 808 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee. (3/5/18)

[HB 897 - Georgia Power of Attorney Act; revise](#) (LC 29 7837ER)

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

Action: HB 897 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee.

[HB 907 - Public officers and employees; appointment and election of successor in event of vacancy in the office of district attorney; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Barry Fleming (R – Harlem)

Action: HB 907 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee. (3/5/18)

[SB 194 - Garnishment Proceedings; maximum part of disposable earnings subject to garnishment; change](#) (LC 29 7744ERS)

Sponsor: Sen. Jesse Stone (R – Waynesboro)

Action: SB 194 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee. (3/5/18)

[SB 301 - "Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act"; enact](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John F. Kennedy (R – Macon)

Action: SB 301 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (3/5/18); and, received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/6/18).

[SB 321 - Medicaid Claims; false or fraudulent; recover the maximum penalty authorized by federal law; increase the civil penalties](#) (other)

Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia)

Action: SB 321 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (3/5/18); and, received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/6/18).

[SB 337 - Admissions and Confessions; effective date for the procedure; testimony of a child's description of sexual contact; provide](#) (LC 41 1422ER)

Sponsor: Sen. Renee Unterman (R – Buford)

Action: SB 337 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee. (3/5/18)

[SB 431 - Liability Not Limited; effect of an owner of land charging an admission price or fee; provisions; clarify](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia)

Action: SB 431 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (3/5/18); and, received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/6/18).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Wednesday, March 7, 2018 – Legislative Day 31

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 Judiciary Non-Civil SR 146 – Certain Rights for Victims; suffered or harmed due to an act committed; in violation of the criminal or juvenile delinquency laws; provide-CA (hearing only) SB 127 – Failure to Provide Notice Not Rendering Responsible Person Liable; victim to file a motion in a criminal case to assert his or her rights; allow (hearing only)	606 CLOB
1:00 PM	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1
1:00 PM	House Governmental Affairs SB 263 - City of Eagles Landing; incorporate; charter; provide	406 CLOB
1:30 PM	House Governmental Affairs Local Govt. Sbcm. SB 397 - Real and Personal Property; municipalities to hire state licensed real estate brokers to assist in sale; allow SB 414 - Charitable Solicitations; local governing authorities to issue written notices for failure to clean and maintain collection receptacles; allow SB 430 - Elections; compensation of various local government officials; modify	406 CLOB
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Thursday, March 8, 2018 – Recess

2:00 PM	Senate State & Local Governmental Operations	307 CLOB
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Friday, March 9, 2018 – Legislative Day 32

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 [House Meetings page](#) and the [Senate Meetings page](#) for a complete list of meetings, the most current schedules and agendas.*

Tracy Mason
Assistant Director
Governmental & Trial Court Liaison
(404) 463-0559
tracy.mason@georgiacourts.gov

Tyler Mashburn
Legislative Liaison
(404) 651-7616
tyler.mashburn@georgiacourts.gov

Robert Aycock
Trial Court Liaison
(404) 463-1023
robert.aycock@georgiacourts.gov

LaShawn Murphy
Trial Court Liaison
(404) 651-6325
lashawn.murphy@georgiacourts.gov

James Rodatus
Policy Analyst
(404) 656-5453
james.rodatus@georgiacourts.gov

Legislative Interns
Taylor Black
Brandon Liu

www.georgiacourts.gov
legislation.georgiacourts.gov
Twitter: @GACourtsLegis & @GACourts