



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

March 27, 2018

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Recess & Legislative Day 39

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The General Assembly returned to the Capitol on Tuesday, March 27 for Legislative Day 39 after standing in recess on Monday, March 26. With committee work largely finished, both chambers have turned their efforts to final passage of bills and resolutions. The Senate Rules Committee met on Monday and set a lengthy calendar designed to be covered over the final two legislative days. The House held three Rules Committee meetings on Tuesday and should set several supplemental calendars on Thursday.

The Conference Committee for [HB 684](#), the FY2019 budget, released its report on Monday. As of 10:30 p.m. Tuesday, the Senate had adopted the report, leaving final agreement left for the House. The report can be found [here](#). Many bills of interest to the judiciary still require agrees or adoption of conference committee reports in order to achieve final passage by midnight Thursday.

The House and Senate will be in recess on Wednesday, March 28 before returning on Thursday, March 29 for Legislative Day 40, Sine Die.

This report is a compilation of the items acted on this week<sup>1</sup> 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](http://legislation.georgiacourts.gov).

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<sup>1</sup> As of 10:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 27, 2018

## **Floor and Committee Action**

### **Legislation Supported by the Judicial Council**

#### **[SB 407 - Criminal Justice System; comprehensive reform for offenders; provide](#)**

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

**Action:** SB 407 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House by Substitute as amended with a vote of 170-0 (3/27/18).

#### **[SB 427 - Child Support in Final Verdict or Decree; court's discretion in making a final determination of support; provisions; change](#)**

*(Includes language from [HB 654](#), supported by the Judicial Council)*

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

**Action:** SB 427 passed out of House Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the House with a vote of 171-0 (3/27/18).

### **Other Bills**

#### **[HB 161 - Drug related objects; employees of harm reduction organizations are not subject to certain offenses; provide](#)**

Sponsor: Rep. Betty Price (R – Roswell)

**Action:** HB 161 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate as amended with a vote of 51-0 (3/27/18).

#### **[HB 185 - Probate court; associate judges; change provisions](#)**

Sponsor: Rep. Christian Coomer (R – Cartersville)

*(HB 185 has been stripped of its original language & now serves as enabling legislation for [HR 993](#))*

**Action:** HB 185 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

#### **[HB 190 - Domestic relations; marriage articles and antenuptial agreements; change provisions](#)**

Sponsor: Rep. Meagan Hanson (R – Brookhaven)

**Action:** HB 190 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 53-0 (3/27/18).

#### **[HB 605 - Hidden Predator Act of 2018; enact](#)**

Sponsor: Rep. Jason Spencer (R – Woodbine)

**Action:** HB 605 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

#### **[HB 657 - Firearms; providing to person on probation as a felony first offender; make unlawful](#)**

Sponsor: Rep. Jesse Petrea (R – Savannah)

**Action:** HB 657 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate by Substitute with a vote of 46-6 (3/27/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Betty Price (R – Roswell)

**Action:** HB 668 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

[HB 673 - Motor vehicles; prohibit actions which distract a driver while operating a motor vehicle; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. John Carson (R – Marietta)

**Action:** HB 673 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate by Substitute as amended with a vote of 55-0 (3/27/18).

[HB 684 - General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019](#)

Sponsor: Speaker David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

**Action:** The Senate adopted the conference committee report for HB 684 with a vote of 54-1 (3/27/18).

[HB 791 - State government; limited waiver of the state's sovereign immunity for declaratory or injunctive relief under certain circumstances; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

**Action:** HB 791 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

[HB 803 - Crimes and offenses; trafficking a disabled adult, elder person, or resident; prohibit](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Wendell Willard (R – Sandy Springs)

**Action:** HB 803 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate by Substitute with a vote of 49-0 (3/27/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Chad Nimmer (R – Blackshear)

**Action:** HB 808 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 54-0 (3/27/18). **Final passage.**

[HB 834 - Landlord and tenant; termination of a rental or lease agreement under circumstances involving family violence; provide](#)

*(Includes language from [SB 443](#))*

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

**Action:** HB 834 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate by Substitute as amended with a vote of 54-0 (3/27/18).

[HB 867 - Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council; quorum for transaction of business; revise](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Bill Hitchens (R – Rincon)

**Action:** HB 867 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18).

[HB 890 - Crimes and offenses; make it unlawful to use an emergency exit after having shoplifted](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Barry Fleming (R – Harlem)

**Action:** HB 890 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

[HB 917 - Crimes and offenses; restitution; update terminology and change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Matt Dollar (R – Marietta)

**Action:** HB 917 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

[HB 972 - Human Services, Department of; Division of Family and Children Services to offer extended care youth services under certain circumstances; allow](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Wendell Willard (R – Sandy Springs)

**Action:** HB 972 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18).

[HB 978 - Motor vehicles; automated traffic enforcement safety devices in school zones; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chad Nimmer (R – Blackshear)

**Action:** HB 978 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

[HB 982 - Courts; relative searches conducted by DFCS; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chad Nimmer (R – Blackshear)

**Action:** HB 982 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the Senate by Substitute with a vote of 52-0 (3/27/18).

[HB 999 - Weapons; carry license; inpatient hospitalization; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Christian Coomer (R – Cartersville)

**Action:** HB 999 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

[HR 993 - Business court; state-wide jurisdiction; create](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

**Action:** HR 993 passed out of Senate Rules (3/26/18); and, was tabled by the Senate (3/27/18).

[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](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

**Action:** SB 127 passed out of House Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 170-0 (3/27/18).

[SB 154 - Assault and Battery; public safety officer while engaged in his or her official duties; provide for the offenses of aggravated assault and aggravated battery](#)

*(SB 154 has been stripped of its original language and replaced with language from [HB 1006](#))*

Sponsor: Sen. Greg Kirk (R – Americus)

**Action:** SB 154 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 169-0. (3/27/18)

[SB 315 - Computer Crimes; create a new crime of unauthorized computer access; penalties; provide](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Bruce Thompson (R – White)

**Action:** SB 315 passed out of House Rules before passing the House by Substitute with a vote of 107-34 (3/27/18).

[SB 335 - Trafficking of Persons for Labor; offense of trafficking an individual for sexual servitude; expand](#)

*(SB 335 has been stripped of its original language and replaced with language from [HB 605](#))*

Sponsor: Sen. Renee Unterman (R – Buford)

**Action:** SB 335 passed out of House Rules (3/26/18).

[SB 338 - Administrative Procedure; agency rule making; modify requirements](#)

Sponsor: Sen. William Ligon (R – Brunswick)

**Action:** SB 338 passed out of House Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 173-0 (3/27/18).

[SB 369 - Revenues Collected from Fines and Fees; payments to Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; fees collected in criminal and quasi-criminal cases prior to adjudication of guilt; provide](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Greg Kirk (R – Americus)

**Action:** SB 369 passed out of House Rules and passed the House with a vote of 111-63 (3/27/18). **Final passage.**

[SB 430 - Elections; compensation of various local government officials; modify](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Matt Brass (R – Newnan)

**Action:** SB 430 passed out of House Rules as amended (3/27/18).

[SB 452 - Criminal Procedure and Penal Institutions; peace officer to take certain actions; verification that a suspect is illegal alien; require](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Jesse Stone (R – Waynesboro)

**Action:** SB 452 passed out of House Rules by Substitute (3/27/18).

[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](#)

Sponsor: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

**Action:** SR 146 passed out of House Rules (3/26/18); and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 169-0 (3/27/18).

## **Committee Meeting Schedule\***

**Wednesday, March 28, 2018 – In Recess**

No Meetings Planned

**Thursday, March 29, 2018 – Day 40 (Sine Die)**

9:00 AM	House Rules	341 CAP
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. 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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