



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

February 10, 2017

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Week 5 (Legislative Days 13-16)

The General Assembly reconvened on Tuesday for Week Five, and work this week included hearings on items supported by the Judicial Council. [HB 162](#), which provides enhancements to the Tax Refund Intercept Program, passed through the House Judiciary Committee. The bill now moves on to the House Rules Committee. The Senate passed its substitute to [HB 43](#), the budget for Amended Fiscal Year 2017, on Thursday, February 9. The tracking document for HB 43 can be found [here](#). The House also continued hearings on the Fiscal Year 2018 budget ([HB 44](#)). The tracking document for the FY18 budget can be found [here](#).

The General Assembly will reconvene, Tuesday, February 14, for Legislative Day 17.

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.

The following legislation supported by the Judicial Council was filed this week:

- [SB 132 - Civil practice; statutory civil case filing and disposition forms; allow Judicial Council of Georgia to promulgate forms; child custody proceedings; provide](#)
Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia)

SB 132 amends Title 9 of the O.C.G.A. to provide for the promulgation of civil and domestic relations case filing and disposition forms by the Judicial Council of Georgia.

Action: Filed (2/7/17); Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee

Floor and Committee Action

Legislation Supported by the Judicial Council

[HB 5 - Courts; compensation of juvenile court judges; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Johnnie Caldwell (R – Thomaston)

HB 5 amends O.C.G.A. § 15-11-52 relating to the funding of juvenile court judgeships.

Action: No action was taken on HB 5 by the House Juvenile Justice Committee (2/9/17)

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

Sponsor: Rep. Betty Price (R – Roswell)

HB 162 amends Title 48 of the O.C.G.A., to revise and enhance the procedures for the Tax Refund Intercept Program.

Action: HB 162 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary (Civil) Kelley Subcommittee (2/7/17); and, received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee (2/9/17).

Other Bills

[HB 14 - Courts; sheriff to collect and deposit certain fees; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Jeff Jones (R – Brunswick)

Action: HB 14 passed out of the House (2/7/17).

[HB 32 - Crimes and offenses; sexual contact between school employees or agents and enrolled students; prohibit](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Joyce Chandler (R-Grayson)

Action: HB 32 received a hearing by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (2/7/17).

[HB 43 - Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017](#)

Sponsor: Speaker David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

Action: HB 43 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Appropriations Committee (2/7/17); and, passed out of the Senate by Substitute (2/9/17).

[HB 75 - Social services; certain records from disclosure; exclude](#)

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

Action: HB 75 passed out of the House (2/9/17).

[HB 76 - Superior courts; change certain requirements and certifications for certain maps, plats, and plans for filing with clerk; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Rick Jasperse (R – Jasper)

Action: HB 76 and passed out of the House (2/8/17).

[HB 86 - Domestic relations; definition of sexual abuse; expand](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver (D – Decatur)

Action: HB 86 received a Do Pass from the House Juvenile Justice Committee (2/9/17).

[HB 88 - Superior courts; qualifications for judges; revise](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Barry Fleming (R – Harlem)

Action: HB 88 passed out of the House (2/7/17).

[HB 126 - Courts; Judicial Qualifications Commission; change provisions](#)

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

Action: HB 126 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee; and, passed out of the House by Substitute (2/9/17).

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

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

Action: HB 137 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary (Civil) Kelley Subcommittee (2/7/17); and, received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee (2/9/17).

[HB 138 - Superior Courts; fifth judge of the Northeastern Judicial Circuit; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Lee Hawkins (R – Gainesville)

Action: HB 138 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee (2/9/17).

[HB 159 - Domestic relations; adoption; substantially revise general provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Bert Reeves (R – Marietta)

Action: HB 159 received a hearing in the House Judiciary (Civil) Fleming Subcommittee (2/8/17).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Christian Coomer (R – Cartersville)

Action: HB 185 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary (Civil) Fleming Subcommittee (2/8/17); and, received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee (2/9/17).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Meagan Hanson (R – Brookhaven)

Action: HB 190 received a Do Pass as amended from the House Judiciary (Civil) Kelley Subcommittee (2/7/17); and, received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee (2/9/17).

[HB 203 - Breach of restrictive covenants; provide accrual periods of rights of action; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

Action: HB 203 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary (Civil) Fleming Subcommittee (2/10/17).

[SB 15 - Crimes and offenses; weapons carry license; add to the category of former law enforcement officers](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Michael Rhett (D – Marietta)

Action: SB 15 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee B (2/8/17); and, received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/9/17).

[SB 45 - Invasions of Privacy; to film under or through a person's clothing; prohibit the use of a device \(LC 29 7355S\)](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Larry Walker III (R – Perry)

Action: SB 45 was given a hearing by the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A (2/7/17); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/9/17).

[SB 72 - Corporations; land conveyances to churches or religious societies; change provisions \(LC 29 7287ER\)](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Hunter Hill (R – Atlanta)

Action: No action was taken on SB 72 by the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee B (2/8/17).

[SB 73 - Recorder's Court of Chatham County; chief judge; revise the responsibilities](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Ben Watson (R – Savannah)

Action: SB 73 received a Do Pass from the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee (2/8/17).

[SB 95 - Selection of Jurors; state-wide master jury list; change provisions; Georgia Crime Information Center; pardons and paroles; provide conforming cross-references](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Jesse Stone (R – Waynesboro)

Action: SB 95 was given a hearing by the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A (2/7/17); and, no action was taken on SB 95 by the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/9/17).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Monday, February 13, 2017 – Recess

1:30 PM	House Judiciary (Non-Civil) HB 9 (LC 29 7194S) - Crimes and offenses; use of device to film under or through person's clothing under certain circumstances; prohibit HB 30 (LC 29 7196) - Controlled substances; add synthetic opioid to Schedule I (Tanner, 9th) HB 213 (LC 29 7305) - Crimes and offenses; sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession of fentanyl within the prohibition of trafficking certain drugs; include HB 214 (LC 37 2296) - Crimes and offenses; consistent punishment for the unlawful manufacture, sale or distribution of a proof of insurance document; provide HB 231 (LC 33 6820) - Controlled substances; Schedules I, II, IV and V; change certain provisions	406 CLOB
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Tuesday, February 14, 2017 – Legislative Day 17

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
Upon Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CAP

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 – Legislative Day 18

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP
3:00 PM	Senate State and Local Governmental Operations	MEZZ
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CAP

Thursday, February 16, 2017 – Legislative Day 19

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP

Friday, February 17, 2017 – Legislative Day 20

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*

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