



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

February 17, 2017

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Week 6 (Legislative Days 17-20)

During a busy sixth week, the General Assembly heard several pieces of legislation relevant to the Judicial Council.

[SB 132](#), which authorizes the Judicial Council to promulgate civil and domestic filing forms, received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The budget for Amended Fiscal Year 2017 (HB 43) received final passage and was signed by the Governor on February 15. The tracking document can be found [here](#). HB 44, the budget for Fiscal Year 2018, was passed by the House on Friday, February 17; the tracking document can be found [here](#). The budget now moves to the Senate, and hearings are scheduled to take place next week.

The General Assembly will reconvene, Tuesday, February 21, for Legislative Day 21.

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:

[HB 366 - Georgia Judicial Retirement System; definition of salary for the purpose of determining benefit amounts; revise](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

HB 366 amends Article 6 of Chapter 23 of Title 47 of the O.C.G.A., relating to the retirement benefit calculation for state court judges, solicitors-general and juvenile court judges.

Action: HB 366 was assigned to the House Retirement Committee (2/15/17).

[HB 370 - Council of Municipal Court Judges of Georgia; create and administer savings and deferred compensation plans for members; authorize](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Hilton (R – Peachtree Corners)

HB 370 amends Article 3 of Chapter 32 of Title 36 of the O.C.G.A. by adding Code Section 36-32-41 to authorize the Council of Municipal Court Judges of Georgia to create and oversee savings plans and deferred compensation for members in good standings.

Action: HB 370 was assigned to the House Judiciary Committee (2/15/17).

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: HB 5 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the House Juvenile Justice Committee (2/16/17)

[HB 212 - Child support; recommendation by the Georgia Child Support Commission; enact](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Beth Beskin (R – Atlanta)

Action: HB 212 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee (2/17/17).

[HB 308 - Domestic relations; child support; enact provisions recommended by Georgia Child Support Commission](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Beth Beskin (R – Atlanta)

Action: HB 212 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee (2/17/17).

[SB 132 - Civil Practice; statutory civil case filing and disposition forms; allow Judicial Council of Georgia to promulgate forms; child custody proceedings; provide](#) (LC 29 7439S)

Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia)

SB 132 amends Title 9 of the O.C.G.A., relating to civil practice, to allow the Judicial Council to promulgate civil and domestic filing forms.

Action: SB 132 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee B (2/15/17); and, received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/16/17).

Other Bills

[HB 9 - Crimes and offenses; use of device to film under or through person's clothing under certain circumstances; prohibit](#) (LC 29 7392S)

Sponsor: Rep. Shaw Blackmon (R – Bonaire)

Action: HB 9 received a Do Pass by Substitute as amended by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/13/17); and, passed out of the House by Substitute (2/17/17).

[HB 15 - Courts; certain civil pleadings to be filed electronically; require](#) (LC 29 7442S)

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

Action: HB 15 received a Do Pass as amended by the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (2/17/17).

[HB 30 - Controlled substances; add synthetic opioid to Schedule I](#) (LC 29 7196)

Sponsor: Rep. Kevin Tanner (R – Dawsonville)

Action: HB 30 was adopted as an amendment onto HB 231 in the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/13/17).

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

Sponsor: Speaker David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

Action: The House agreed to Senate the Substitute to HB 43 as amended; and, the Senate agreed to House Amendment to the Senate Substitute (2/14/17); Signed by Governor (2/15/17).

[HB 44 - General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018](#)

Sponsor: Rep. David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

Action: HB 44 received a Do Pass by the House Appropriations Committee (2/16/17); and, passed out of the House (2/17/17).

[HB 78 - Commerce and trade; Georgia uniform securities; clarify a defined term; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Dar'shun Kendrick (D – Lithonia)

Action: HB 78 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (2/17/17)

[HB 116 - Juvenile Code; provide superior court with exclusive original jurisdiction for cases involving aggravated assault; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Bert Reeves (R–Marietta)

Action: No action was taken on HB 116 by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/13/17).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Lee Hawkins (R – Gainesville)

Action: HB 138 was passed out of the House (2/17/17).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Bert Reeves (R – Marietta)

Action: HB 159 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the House Judiciary (Civil) Fleming Subcommittee (2/14/17); and, received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute by the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee (2/16/17).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Christian Coomer (R – Cartersville)

Action: HB 185 passed out of the House (2/15/17).

[HB 212 - Child support; recommendation by the Georgia Child Support Commission; enact](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Beth Beskin (R – Atlanta)

Action: HB 212 received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee (2/17/17).

[HB 213 - Crimes and offenses; sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession of fentanyl within the prohibition of trafficking certain drugs; include](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Rich Golick (R – Smyrna)

Action: No action was taken on HB 213 by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/13/17).

[HB 214 - Crimes and offenses; consistent punishment for the unlawful manufacture, sale or distribution of a proof of insurance document; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Rich Golick (R – Smyrna)

Action: HB 214 passed out of the House by Substitute (2/16/17).

[HB 231 - Controlled substances; Schedules I, II, IV and V; change certain provisions](#) (LC 33 6878S)

Sponsor: Rep. Bruce Broadrick (R – Dalton)

Action: HB 231 received a Do Pass By Substitute by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/13/17); and, passed out of the House by Committee Substitute (2/16/17).

[HB 266 - Guardian and ward; personal property value guardian may receive without becoming legal conservator of minor; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Trey Kelley (R – Cedartown)

Action: HB 266 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Kelley Subcommittee (2/17/17).

[HB 268 - Elections; time period for certification of election officials; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Barry Fleming (R – Harlem)

Action: HB 268 received a Do Pass by the House Governmental Affairs Committee (2/15/17).

[HB 280 - Firearms; license holders; carrying and possession of certain weapons in certain buildings or real property owned or leased to public institutions of postsecondary education; authorize](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

Action: HB 280 received a Do Pass by the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (2/16/17).

[HB 305 - Domestic relations; category of third parties who may be awarded custody in certain circumstances; add stepparents](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Beth Beskin (R – Atlanta)

Action: HB 305 received a Do Pass by the House Juvenile Justice Committee (2/16/17)

[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 passed out of the Senate (2/16/17).

[SB 16 - Low THC Oil; definition; provisions relating to conditions eligible for use; change](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Ben Watson (R-Savannah)

Action: SB 16 passed out of the Senate (2/16/17).

[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 passed out of the Senate (2/15/17).

[SB 87 - Bankruptcy; judgments against exempt property; provide for the discharge](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Jesse Stone (R-Waynesboro)

Action: SB 87 passed put of the Senate (2/14/17).

[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 received a Do Pass by the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/16/17).

[SB 130 - Right To An Attorney; waiver of the right to counsel; provisions; clarify](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R-Vidalia)

Action: SB 130 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A (2/14/17); and, received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/16/17).

SB 131 - Juvenile Code; adoption proceedings be stayed while an appeal to terminate parental rights is pending; provide

Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia)

Action: SB 131 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A (2/14/17); and, received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/16/17).

SB 137 - Child Support Recovery Act; federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005; require the obligor to pay the full fee

Sponsor: Sen. Greg Kirk (R-Americus)

Action: SB 137 received a Do Pass from the Senate Health and Human Services Committee (2/14/17).

SB 159 - Criminal Trespass and Damage to Property; entry upon land or premises of another that has been marked with purple paint; provide for the crime of criminal trespass

Sponsor: Sen. Lee Anderson (R – Grovetown)

Action: SB 159 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee B (2/15/17); and received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/16/17).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Monday, February 20, 2017

10:00 AM	<p>Kelley Subcommittee of the House Judiciary (Civil) Committee</p> <p>HB 192 -Banks, trust companies, and corporations; responsibilities and standard of care of directors and officers; change provisions</p>	132 CAP
11:00 AM	<p>Subcommittee 2A of the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee</p> <p>HB 232 -Weapons; certain persons making application for a carry or renewal license; provide for training requirement</p> <p>HB 406 -Weapons; reciprocity of recognizing and giving effect to licenses to carry from other states; revise requirements</p>	406 CLOB

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

10:00 AM	House Session	House Chamber
10:00AM	Senate Session	Senate Chamber
Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:00 PM	<p>House Judiciary (Non-Civil)</p> <p>HB 65 -Low THC Oil Patient Registry; conditions and eligibility; change provisions</p> <p>HB 213- Crimes and offenses; sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession of fentanyl within the prohibition of trafficking certain drugs; include</p>	515 CLOB
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A	307 CLOB

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
1:00 PM	House Judiciary (Non-Civil) HB 67 -Crimes and offenses; entering a motor vehicle with the intent to commit a theft or felony; provide for increased punishment HB 116 - Juvenile Code; provide superior court with exclusive original jurisdiction for cases involving aggravated assault; provisions HB 124 -Public assistance; fraud; revisions HB 293 -Evidence; procedure relating to child's testimony of sexual contact or physical abuse; provide effective date HB 343 -Criminal procedure; certain outdated terminology; replace	132 CAP
1:00 PM	Senate Special Judiciary	125 CAP
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary Subcommittee B	307 CLOB

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
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Friday, February 17, 2017 – Legislative Day 20

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*

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