



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

# WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

March 2, 2018

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Week 8 (Legislative Day 27-29)

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During the eighth week of the 2018 legislative session, both chambers were extremely busy as they worked to pass many bills prior to the Crossover Day deadline.

Wednesday, February 28 was Legislative Day 28/Crossover Day. This was the last day in which a bill may be passed out of its originating chamber and remain open to final passage. Any bill which did not pass by this deadline can only be passed by having its language amended to another bill.

The legislature will return on Monday, March 5 for Legislative Day 30 and will convene on Wednesday, March 6 (LD 31) and Friday, March 8 (LD 32). Both chambers will be in recess Tuesday, March 6 and Thursday, March 7, and these days are designated as committee work days.

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](http://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. Price (R – Roswell)

**Action:** HB 162 passed out of Senate Rules (3/1/18).

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

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

**Action:** SB 407 passed the Senate by Substitute with a vote of 53-0 (2/26/18).

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

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

**Action:** SB 436 passed out of Senate Rules (2/27/18); and passed the Senate with a vote of 53-0 (2/28/18).

### **Other Bills**

[HB 121 - Trusts; minor or unborn beneficiaries; change provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

**Action:** HB 121 passed the House with a vote of 170-4 (2/26/18).

[HB 309 - State liability; activities of organized militia engaged in training or duty; provide exception](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Timothy Barr (R – Lawrenceville)

**Action:** HB 309 passed out of Senate Rules (3/1/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Jason Spencer (R – Woodbine)

**Action:** HB 605 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/26/18); passed out of House Rules and passed the House with a vote of 170-0 (2/28/18)

[HB 623 - Georgia Crime Information Center; retain fingerprints of certain individuals under certain circumstances and submit to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; allow](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Andy Welch (R – McDonough)

**Action:** HB 623 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/26/18); passed out of House Rules and failed to pass the House with a vote of 82-84 (2/28/18); HB 623 was reconsidered but failed to pass the House again with a vote of 85-84 (3/1/18).

[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 House Rules; and, passed the House by Substitute as amended with a vote of 151-20 (2/28/18).

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

Sponsor: Speaker David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

**Action:** The House Agreed to the Senate Substitute as amended with a vote of 155-8 (3/1/18).

[HB 764 - Crimes and offenses; lawful possession of certain quantities of low THC oil and marijuana; provide](#)

Sponsor: Rep. David Clark (R – Buford)

**Action:** HB 764 received a Do Pass by Substitute as amended from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/26/18); passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House with a vote of 145-17 (2/28/17).

[HB 765 - C.J.'s Law; enact](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Able “Mable” Thomas (D – Atlanta)

**Action:** HB 765 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House with a vote of 166-3 (2/28/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstration (R – Dacula)

**Action:** HB 791 passed out of House Rules (2/26/18); and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 177-0 (2/28/18).

[HB 802 - Criminal procedure; considerations in sentencing and paroling a defendant who was less than 18 years of age at the time he or she committed a crime; provide](#)

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

**Action:** HB 802 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Reeves Subcommittee (2/27/18).

[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 House Rules; and, passed the House with a vote of 165-1 (2/28/18).

[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 House Rules (2/26/18); and, passed the House with a vote of 173-0 (2/28/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R– Canton)

**Action:** HB 834 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 166-0 (2/28/18).

[HB 860 - Alcoholic beverages; social host's criminal responsibility; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Emory Dunahoo (R – Gainesville)

**Action:** HB 860 received a Do Pass by Substitute as amended from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee; and, failed to receive a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/18).

[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 the House with a vote of 114-46 (2/26/18).

[HB 904 - Torts; effect of a landowner charging an admission price or fee; clarify provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Megan Hanson (R – Brookhaven)

**Action:** HB 904 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House with a vote of 170-0 (2/28/18).

[HB 906 - Public records; public disclosure of personal information of certain foster parents; exclude](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Katie Dempsey (R – Rome)

**Action:** HB 906 passed the House with a vote of 172-0 (2/26/18).

[HB 910 - Crimes and offenses; sexual extortion; prohibit](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Paulette Rakestraw (R – Hiram)

**Action:** HB 910 was tabled by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Reeves Subcommittee (2/27/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Matt Dollar (R – Marietta)

**Action:** HB 917 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/26/18); passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 165-0 (2/28/18).

[HB 920 - Domestic relations; department's information concerning the parties to an adoption under certain circumstances; allow for the use](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Katie Dempsey (R – Rome)

**Action:** HB 920 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House with a vote of 167-0. (2/28/18)

[HB 927 - Courts; certain information be provided to caregiver upon placement of a child; require](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chad Nimmer (R – Blackshear)

**Action:** HB 927 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House with a vote of 170-0 (2/28/18).

[HB 934 - Thomas County; Magistrate Court chief judge; provide nonpartisan elections](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Darlene Taylor (R – Thomasville)

**Action:** HB 934 passed out of House Rules (2/26/18); and, passed the House with a vote of 112-50 (2/28/18).

[HB 969 - Civil practice; burden of proof required for civil forfeiture proceedings; change](#)

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

**Action:** HB 969 passed out of House Rules; and, was postponed by House (2/26/18).

[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 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Juvenile Justice Committee (2/26/18); passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 162-3 (2/28/18).

[HB 981 - Criminal procedure; record restriction for individuals convicted of certain felonies and misdemeanors under certain circumstances; provide](#)

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

**Action:** HB 981 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (2/27/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Chad Nimmer (R – Blackshear)

**Action:** HB 982 passed out of House Rules; and, passed the House with a vote of 168-0 (2/28/18).

[HB 986 - Waycross Judicial Circuit; judges of superior courts; increase supplements](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Chad Nimmer (R – Blackshear)

**Action:** HB 986 passed out of House Rules (2/26/18); and, passed the House with a vote of 168-0 (2/28/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Christian Coomer (R – Cartersville)

**Action:** HB 999 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/27/18); passed out of House Rules ; and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 161-4 (2/28/18).

[HB 1006 - Sexual offenses; crime of sexual assault by persons with supervisory or disciplinary authority; provisions](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Ed Setzler (R – Acworth)

**Action:** HB 1006 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (2/27/18).

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

Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

Action: HR 993 passed out of House Rules, and, passed the House by Substitute. (2/28/18)

[HR 1260 - House Study Committee on Juvenile Court Judges; create](#)

Sponsor: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

**Action:** HR 1260 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Juvenile Justice Committee (2/26/18).

[SB 39 - Pimping and Pandering; increase the penalty provisions](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Renee Unterman (R - Buford)

Action: SB 39 passed out of Senate Rules (2/27/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 47-0 (2/28/17).

[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 passed out of House Rules (2/28/18); and, passed the House by Substitute with a vote of 162-0 (3/1/18).

[SB 228 - Motor Vehicles; criminal offense and minimum fines for improper operation of an authorized emergency or law enforcement vehicle; provide](#)

Sponsor:

**Action:** SB 228 passed out of Senate Rules (2/26/18); and, passed the Senate by Substitute as amended with a vote of 41-12 (2/28/18).

[SB 236 - Driving Under the Influence; county department of family and children services be notified; endangering; require](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Donzella James (D – Atlanta)

**Action:** SB 236 passed out of Senate Rules (2/27/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 50-0 (2/28/17).

[SB 309 - Elections; time for opening and closing of the polls; provide](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Josh McKoon (R – Columbus)

**Action:** SB 309 passed the Senate by Substitute with a vote of 35-19 (2/26/18).

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

Sponsor: Sen. Renee Unterman (R – Buford)

**Action:** SB 335 passed out of Senate Rules (2/26/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 52-0 (2/28/18).

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

Sponsor: Sen. Renee Unterman (R – Buford)

**Action:** SB 337 passed the Senate with a vote of 51-0 (2/26/18).

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

Sponsor: Sen. William Ligon (R – Brunswick)

**Action:** SB 338 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Fleming Subcommittee (2/27/18).

[SB 403 - Primaries and Elections; uniform election equipment in this state; provide](#)

Sponsor: Senator Bruce Thompson (R – White)

**Action:** SB 403 passed out of Senate Rules (2/27/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 50-1 (2/28/17).

[SB 406 - "Georgia Long-term Care Background Check Program" enact; public safety; promote](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

**Action:** SB 406 passed the Senate as amended with a vote of 52-1 (2/26/18).

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

Sponsor: Sen. Matt Brass (R – Newnan)

**Action:** SB 430 passed out of Senate Rules (2/27/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 51-3 (2/28/17).

[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 passed out of Senate Rules (2/27/18); and, passed the Senate with a vote of 43-5 (2/28/17).

[SB 435 - School Buses; civil monetary penalties regarding violations of the duties of a driver; enforcement; revise](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Brandon Beach (R – Alpharetta)

**Action:** SB 435 passed out of Senate Rules (2/26/18); and, was not taken up by the Senate (2/28/18).

[SB 446 - Abandoned Motor Vehicles; motor vehicle or trailer becomes an abandoned motor vehicle; revise the times](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Tyler Harper (R – Ocilla)

**Action:** SB 446 passed the Senate with a vote of 49-1 (2/26/18).

[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 the Senate by Substitute as amended with a vote of 36-17 (2/26/18).

[SR 774 - Joint Study Committee on Adoption Expenses; create](#)

Sponsor: Sen. Jesse Stone (R – Waynesboro)

**Action:** SR 774 passed the Senate with a vote of 49-1 (2/26/18).



## **Committee Meeting Schedule\***

### **Monday, March 5, 2018 – Legislative Day 30**

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	Senate Public Safety <a href="#">HB 79</a> - Motor Vehicles; criminal offense and minimum fines for improper operation of an authorized emergency or law enforcement vehicle; provide	Mezz 1
1:30 PM	House Judiciary Non-Civil <a href="#">SB 407</a> - Criminal Justice System; comprehensive reform for offenders; provide ( <b>hearing only</b> )	406 CLOB
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

### **Tuesday, March 6, 2018 – In Recess**

TBD	Senate Rules	450 CAP
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### **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	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

### **Thursday, March 8, 2018 – In Recess**

9:00 AM	House Rules	341 CAP
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
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.*

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