



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

January 29, 2021

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Week 3 (Legislative Days 5-8)

After remaining in recess on Monday, the General Assembly returned to session on Tuesday, January 26 (LD 5). The previous week had been wholly devoted to hearings on the [Amended FY 2021 Budget \(HB 80\)](#). The amended budget has moved through the legislative process with near record speed and was passed out of the House of Representatives on Thursday, January 28 (LD 7).

HB 80 is now being heard in the subcommittees of the Senate Appropriations Committee and is expected to continue its quick march towards final passage. The current tracking document for the budget can be found [here](#).

Other bills and resolution have also begun to be heard as the committee process begins in earnest. Both chambers have now assigned all committee chairmanships. Notable changes for 2021 include changes to the chairmanships of the House Judiciary Civil, House Judiciary Non-Civil, and Senate Judiciary Committees. The Public Safety Subcommittee of House Appropriations, which hears judicial branch budget requests, also has a new chairman.

Both chambers have adopted a new adjournment resolution, [HR 31](#), which sets the schedule through Legislative Day 13. According to the schedule, the General Assembly will convene on Monday through Thursday of next week, stand in recess on Friday, and reconvene on the subsequent Monday for Legislative Day 13.

Both chambers stand adjourned until Monday, February 1, at 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Day 9.

This report is a compilation of 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 & Committee Action

Floor Votes

[HB 80 - Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021](#)

House Author: David Ralston – (R Blue Ridge)

Action: HB 80 received a Do Pass from the House Appropriations Committee and was passed out of House Rules (1/27/2020); passed the House with a vote of 149-20 and was immediately transferred to the Senate (1/28/2021); and, began hearings in subcommittees of the Senate Appropriations Committee (1/29/2021). **Crossed Over**

Placed on Rules Calendar

[SB 9 - Courts; the Columbia Judicial Circuit and to be composed of Columbia County; create a new judicial circuit for the State of Georgia](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Lee Anderson (R – Grovetown)

Action: SB 9 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (1/28/2021); and was passed out of Senate Rules for Legislative Day 9 (1/27/2020).

Passed out of Full Committee

[HB 56 - Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit; superior court; provide additional judge](#)

House Author: Rep. Wesley Cantrell (R – Woodstock)

Action: HB 56 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (1/26/2021).

Committee and Subcommittee Hearings

[HB 90 - Torts; certain persons, firms, or corporations who are buyers of land for conversion of timber shall be exempt from certain liabilities; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Bruce Williamson (R – Monroe)

Action: HB 90 received a Do Pass from the Gunter Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Civil Committee (1/28/2021).

[HB 97 - Courts; oath for certain clerks of the probate court; require and provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton)

Action: HB 97 receive a Do Pass from the Gunter Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Civil Committee (1/28/2021).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Monday, February 1, 2021 – Legislative Day 9

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
11:30 AM	Senate Appropriations Judiciary Subcommittee	Mezz 1
1:00 PM	House Public Safety & Homeland Security	606 CLOB
1:30 PM	House Judiciary Scoggins Subcommittee HB 134 - State government; meetings relating to cybersecurity contracting and planning from open meeting requirements; exclude	132 CAP
2:15 PM	Senate Judiciary Subcommittee A SB 18 - Limitations on Prosecution; offenses of rape, aggravated sodomy, and aggravated sexual battery; revise the statute of limitations	307 CLOB

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 – Legislative Day 10

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
2:15 PM	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 – Legislative Day 11

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:30 PM	House Judiciary Civil HB 90 - Torts; certain persons, firms, or corporations who are buyers of land for conversion of timber shall be exempt from certain liabilities; provide HB 97 - Courts; oath for certain clerks of the probate court; require and provide	132 CAP
4:45 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Thursday, February 4, 2021 – Legislative Day 12

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 Juvenile Justice	403 CAP
2:15 PM	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1

Friday, February 5, 2021 – Recess Day

No Relevant Meetings Scheduled

**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 [General Assembly Events Schedule](#) page for a complete list of meetings, livestream links, the most current schedules, and agendas.*

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