



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

February 5, 2021

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Week 4 (Legislative Days 9-12)

The General Assembly returned to session on Monday, February 1 (LD 9) and met through Thursday, February 4 (LD 9) before standing in recess on Friday.

After passing the House by Substitute last week, the [Amended FY 2021 Budget \(HB 80\)](#) has crossed chambers and is continuing with its expeditious journey towards final passage in the Senate. The bill most recently passed out of the full Senate Appropriations Committee by Substitute and awaits consideration by the Senate Rules Committee. The current tracking document for the budget can be found [here](#).

More proposed legislation continues with first introductions in both chambers, as bills and resolutions swiftly make their way through the legislative process. Bills have finally arrived to and passed the Senate floor this week, reflecting the increasing chamber activity. The House expects to take up additional legislation for a vote within the next week as well.

As dictated by adjournment resolution [HR 31](#), both chambers stand adjourned until Monday, February 8, for Legislative Day 13. The Senate will convene at 10:00 am and the House will convene at 1:00 pm. A new adjournment resolution is expected next week.

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

[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 was amended on the Senate floor and passed the Senate by Substitute with a vote of 51-0 (2/01/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/03/2021).

[SB 20 - Child Advocate Advisory Committee; composition; revise](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Chuck Payne (R – Dalton)

Action: SB 20 received a Do Pass by the Senate Education and Youth Committee (2/01/2021); and passed the Senate with a vote of 48-0 (2/04/2021).

Placed on Rules Calendar

No Relevant Legislation.

Passed out of Full Committee

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

House Author: Speaker David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

Action: HB 80 received hearings by Senate Appropriations Subcommittees; and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Appropriations Committee (2/04/2021).

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

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

Action: HB 97 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/03/2021).

[HB 112 - Torts; provide certain immunities from liability claims regarding COVID-19; extend applicability for one year](#)

House Author: Rep. Trey Kelley (R – Cedartown)

Action: HB 112 received a Do Pass from the Special Committee on Access to the Civil Justice System (2/03/2021).

[HB 134 - State government; meetings relating to cybersecurity contracting and planning from open meeting requirements; exclude](#)

House Author: Rep. Victor Anderson (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 134 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Scoggins Subcommittee (2/01/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (2/03/2021).

[HB 154 - Domestic relations; protection of children; strengthen, clarify, and update provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Bert Reeves (R – Marietta)

Action: HB 154 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Juvenile Justice Committee (2/04/2021).

[HB 270 - Elections; mailing and issuance of absentee ballots; provide time periods](#)

House Author: Rep. Barry Fleming (R – Harlem)

Action: HB 270 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Special Committee on Election Integrity (2/04/2021).

[SB 32 - Public Disclosure; certain personal records of state and federal employees; exempt](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Matt Brass (R – Newnan)

Action: SB 32 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/03/2021).

Committee and Subcommittee Hearings

[SB 54 - Child Custody Proceedings; judicial discretion in determining the right of a surviving parent; when such surviving parent is criminally charged with the murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other parent; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Ed Harbison (D – Columbus)

Action: SB 54 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/03/2021).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Monday, February 8, 2021 – Legislative Day 13

9:30 AM	House Judiciary Civil Gunter Subcommittee I HB 109 - Child Victim Protection Act of 2021; enact HB 229 - Fair Business Practices Act of 1975; certain actions by digital application distribution platforms with regard to application store processing services; prohibit HB 263 - Retirement; benefits for judges of probate courts; revise method through which certain actuarial equivalents are determined	132 CAP HYBRID
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
ADJ	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:00 PM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
2:00 PM	House Governmental Affairs General Government Subcommittee HB 98 - State government; conditions for meetings and public hearings to be held by teleconference in emerge HB 130 - Local government; fence detection system; define term	515 CLOB
2:15 PM	Senate Judiciary SB 33 - Torts; cause of action against perpetrators for victims of human trafficking; provide SB 34 - Domestic Relations; name change; victims of human trafficking may petition; provide	307 CLOB

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, Legislative Day 14[†]

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 Scoggins Subcommittee HB 138 - Property; certain landlords shall provide certain notices to existing and prospective tenants with regard to certain crimes occurring on the premises being leased; provide HB 183 - Fair Businesses Practices Act; allow actions for violations to be brought in a representative capacity HB 212 - Health; order not to resuscitate; revise parental requirement for consent	132 CAP
2:00 PM	House Health & Human Services HB 93 - Health; eliminate duplicative state licensure and regulation of clinical laboratories; provisions HB 128 - Health; prohibit providers from discriminating against potential organ transplant recipients due solely to the physical or mental disability of the potential recipient HB 146 - Public officers and employees; paid parental leave for eligible state employees and eligible local board of education employees; provide HB 128 - Health; prohibit providers from discriminating against potential organ transplant recipients due solely to the physical or mental disability of the potential recipient	606 CLOB
2:15 PM	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1

Wednesday, February 10, 2021, Legislative Day 15[†]

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	132 CAP
4:45 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Thursday, February 11, 2021, Legislative Day 16[†]

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

Friday, February 12, 2021, Legislative Day 17[†]

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

[†]Until a new adjournment resolution is adopted, all dates not covered by the current resolution will be legislative days by default.

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