



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

March 5, 2021

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Week 8 (Legislative Days 25-27)

The General Assembly returned to session this past Monday, March 1 (LD 25). While the eighth week of the legislative session only consisted of three legislative days, the Legislature dedicated its recess days to extensive committee work and many bills moved forward in the process.

The reason behind the increased committee activity and longer Rules calendars is the rapid approach of Crossover Day. This day, which will be held on Monday, March 8 (LD 28), is the final day in which a bill can pass out of its original chamber and still be considered by the other chamber. Any bill that does not pass by the end of Crossover Day will be considered dead for the remainder of the year and can only be revived by having its language attached to another bill.

The House passed its version of the [FY 2022 Budget \(HB 81\)](#) on Friday, March 5 (LD 27). The bill was immediately transferred to the Senate where it will be heard in subcommittees of the Senate Appropriations Committee next week.

Various bills supported by the Judicial Council advanced this week. [SB 163](#), which provides for tolling of statutory speedy trial requirements following a judicial emergency if compliance with such requirements is impracticable, passed the Senate on Friday, March 5. [HB 635](#), which contains language from [HB 405](#) regarding the use of alternative locations for court proceedings, passed the House on Wednesday, March 3 (LD 26). [HB 556](#) was passed out of full committee on Wednesday and awaits consideration by the House Rules Committee. This bill expands statutory authority for district attorneys to use accusations as formal charging instruments, except for cases involving serious violent felonies and only 45 days or more after charges are filed, and also contains language from [HB 555](#), which authorizes a court to approve an accused's waiver of the right to jury trial and proceed to bench trial. [SB 234](#), the Uniform Mediation Act, and [HB 620](#), which contains amendments to OCGA § 29-3-3 relating to settlements involving minors, also passed out their respective committees this week.

Adjournment Resolution [HR 264](#) sets the legislative calendar for the remainder of the legislative session. Both chambers stand adjourned until Monday, March 8, at 10:00 AM for Legislative Day 28 (Crossover Day).

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

Judicial Council Supported Bills

[SB 163 - Judicial Emergency; suspension of statutory speedy trial requirements; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

Action: SB 163 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar (3/4/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 46-2 (3/5/2021).

[HB 555 - Criminal procedure; pretrial proceedings; provisions](#)

(The language of this bill is now included in HB 556)

House Author: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville)

Action: HB 555 failed to receive a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021).

[HB 556 - Criminal procedure; revise authority for trial upon accusations](#)

(Includes language from HB 555)

House Author: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville)

Action: HB 556 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/3/2021).

[HB 635 - Courts; each judge of the superior court, state court, and probate court and each magistrate shall have authority to perform any lawful judicial act; provide](#)

(Includes language from [HB 405](#); The Judicial Council position applies to this language)

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

Action: HB 635 was placed on the House Supplemental Rules Calendar (3/3/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 166-0 (3/3/2021).

[HB 620 - Guardian and ward; payment of certain settlements involving claims of minors; clarify and revise procedures and requirements](#)

(Includes language related to OCGA § 29-3-3. The Judicial Council position applies to this language.)

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

Action: HB 620 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/1/2021); was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/4/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 164-0 (2/5/2021).

[SB 234 - "Georgia Uniform Mediation Act"; enact](#)

Senate Author: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

Action: SB 234 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for Legislative Day 28 (3/5/2021).

Other Bills

Floor Votes

[HB 81 - General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022](#)

House Author: Rep. David Ralston (R – Blue Ridge)

Action: HB 81 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Appropriations Committee (3/4/2021); was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/4/2021); received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Committee of the Whole House (3/5/2021); passed the House by a vote of 136-31 (3/5/2021); and was immediately transmitted to the Senate (3/5/2021).

[HB 94 - Crimes and offenses; provide for the crime of theft by possession of stolen mail](#)

House Author: Rep. Bonnie Rich (R – Suwanee)

Action: HB 94 was placed on the House Supplemental Rules Calendar (3/3/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 101-67 (3/3/2021).

[HB 248 - Motor vehicles; local governing body to apply for a permit to operate a traffic enforcement safety device which enforces the speed limit in a school zone by recorded image; authorize](#)

House Author: Rep. Alan Powell (R – Hartwell)

Action: HB 248 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/2/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 133-15 (3/3/2021).

[HB 322 - Juvenile Code; revise definition of sexual exploitation](#)

House Author: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (R – Watkinsville)

Action: HB 322 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/2/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 169-0 (3/3/2021).

[HB 333 - Ethics in Government Act of 2021; enact](#)

House Author: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (R – Dacula)

Action: HB 333 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/4/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 164-0 (2/5/2021).

[HB 334 - Superior courts; clerks; notaries public; provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Joseph Gullett (R – Dallas)

Action: HB 334 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/2/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 167-2 (3/3/2021).

[HB 363 - Crimes and offenses; protection of elder persons; revise definitions](#)

House Author: Rep. John LaHood (R – Valdosta)

Action: HB 363 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/2/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 171-0 (3/3/2021).

[HB 371 - Evidence; certain proceedings may be conducted by video conference; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville)

Action: HB 371 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/2/2021); and passed the House by Substitute by a vote of 157-9 (3/3/2021).

[HB 443 - Torts; transfer of structured settlement payment rights; provide new requirements](#)

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

Action: HB 443 passed the House by a vote of 443-2 (3/1/2021).

[HB 470 - Property; no plans are required when units are not designated by physical structures; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Dale Washburn (R – Macon)

Action: HB 470 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/2/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 165-7 (3/3/2021).

[HB 480 - Property; creation, declaration and priority of liens for labor, services, or materials performed or furnished by registered interior designers; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Dale Washburn (R – Macon)

Action: HB 480 was placed on the House Supplemental Rules Calendar (3/3/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 164-0 (3/3/2021).

[HB 531 - Elections; no election superintendents or boards of registrars shall accept private funding; provide](#)

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

Action: HB 531 passed the House by a vote of 97-72 (3/1/2021).

[HB 548 - Social services; reasonable access to records concerning reports of child abuse to the Administrative Office of the Courts; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Katie Dempsey (R – Rome)

Action: HB 548 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/2/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 171-0 (3/3/2021).

[HB 553 - State government; participation in hearings by electronic communications; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville)

Action: HB 553 was placed on the House Supplemental Rules Calendar (3/3/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 166-0 (3/3/2021).

[HB 554 - Property; revise when an action may operate as a lis pendens](#)

House Author: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville)

Action: HB 554 was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/4/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 159-0 (3/5/2021).

[HB 601 - Crimes and offenses; low THC oil, marijuana, and tetrahydrocannabinols do not include certain federally approved products; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Ron Stephens (R – Savannah)

Action: HB 601 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar (3/4/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 161-0 (3/5/2021).

[HB 634 - Wilkinson County; Magistrate Court; provide one-year terms of office for magistrates](#)

House Author: Rep. Danny Mathis

Action: HB 634 was placed on the House Local Legislation Calendar (3/4/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 155-0 (3/5/2021).

[HB 645 - Crimes and offenses; medical cannabis; update and revise provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Micah Gravley (R – Douglasville)

Action: HB 645 received a Do Pass from the House Regulated Industries Committee (3/1/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 27 (3/4/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 161-0 (3/5/2021).

[SB 75 - Termination of Residential Lease; victims of stalking; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Kim Jackson (D – Stone Mountain)

Action: SB 75 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 27 (3/4/2021); and passed the Senate by a vote of 48-0 (3/5/2021).

[SB 78 - Invasion of Privacy; prohibition on electronically transmitting or posting nude or sexually explicit photographs or videos for purposes of harassing the depicted person; revise](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Kim Jackson (D – Stone Mountain)

Action: SB 78 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 27 (3/4/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 46-1 (3/5/2021).

[SB 92 - Controlled Substances; sale to and by minors of drug products containing dextromethorphan; prohibit](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Randy Robertson (R – Cataula)

Action: SB 92 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 27 (3/4/2021); and passed the Senate by a vote of 44-1 (3/5/2021).

[SB 95 - State Government; conditions for meetings and public hearings to be held by teleconference in emergency conditions; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Frank Ginn (R – Danielsville)

Action: SB 95 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 27 (3/2/2021); and passed the Senate by a vote of 49-0 (3/3/2021).

[SB 114 - Professions and Businesses; grounds for refusing to grant or revoking a license; revise](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Randy Robertson (R – Cataula)

Action: SB 114 passed the Senate by a vote of 48-0 (3/1/2021).

[SB 117 - Department of Human Services; offenses of improper sexual contact by employee or agent in the first and second degrees; revise](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Butch Miller (R – Gainesville)

Action: SB 117 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 27 (3/2/2021); and passed the Senate by a vote of 52-0 (3/3/2021).

[SB 235 - Offenses Against Public Order; offense of wearing a mask, hood, or device which conceals the identity of the wearer; revise](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Ben Watson (R – Savannah)

Action: SB 235 passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 49-0 (3/1/2021).

[SB 236 - Alcoholic Beverages; food service establishments to sell mixed drinks for off-premises consumption in approved containers under certain conditions; allow](#)

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

Action: SB 326 received a Do Pass from the Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee (3/1/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 27 (3/4/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 36-10 (3/5/2021).

Placed on Rules Calendar

HB 86 - Georgia Lottery Mobile Sports Wagering Integrity Act; enact

House Author: Rep. Ron Stephens (R – Savannah)

Action: HB 86 was postponed until the next legislative day (3/1/2021); HB 86 was recommitted to the House Rules Committee (3/3/2021); received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Rules Committee (3/4/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

HB 247 - Uniform rules of the road; commission of an offense of distracted driving; provide for penalties

House Author: Rep. John Carson (R – Marietta)

Action: HB 247 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

HB 582 - Cherokee County; probate judge; provide nonpartisan elections

House Author: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

Action: HB 582 received a Do Pass from the House Intergovernmental Coordination Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

HB 693 - Motor vehicles; operation of farm tractors on interstate highways; prohibit

House Author: Rep. Steven Meeks (R - Screven)

Action: HB 693 was placed on the House Rules Calendar LD 28 (3/5/2021).

SB 10 - "Jaye Mize Law"; promoting illegal drag racing and laying drags; provide for an offense

Senate Author: Sen. Emanuel Jones (D – Decatur)

Action: SB 10 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

SB 62 - Elections and Primaries; name and designation of the precinct appears on every ballot; provide

Senate Author: Sen. Lindsey Tippins (R – Marietta)

Action: SB 62 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

SB 69 - Primaries and Elections; persons desiring to register to vote or update their voter registration through and application for a driver's license; indicate such desire on such application; provide

Senate Author: Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga)

Action: SB 69 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

SB 71 - Elections and Primaries; the definition of "absentee elector"; revise; reasons for voting by absentee ballot; provide

Senate Author: Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga)

Action: SB 71 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

SB 72 - Elections and Primaries; county registrars shall obtain monthly from the coroner, judge of the probate court, and funeral homes in the county identifying information about persons who died in the county during the previous month; provide

Senate Author: Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga)

Action: SB 72 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 74 - Elections and Primaries; ability of poll watchers at tabulating centers to observe the vote counting process; revise](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga)

Action: SB 74 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 120 - Solicitors-General of State Courts; honorary office of solicitor-general emeritus; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Lindsey Tippins (R – Marietta)

Action: SB 120 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 141 - Elections and Primaries; immediate counting and tabulation of ballots after the close of the polls until such counting and tabulation is completed; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Jason Anavitarte (R – Dallas)

Action: SB 141 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 162 - Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit; additional judge of the superior court; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Brandon Beach (R – Alpharetta)

Action: SB 162 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 166 - Courts; certain procedures for disqualification of jurors; require](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Bill Cowser (R – Athens)

Action: SB 166 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 178 - Elections and Primaries; absentee ballot applications shall not be sent without first receiving a request for such an application from such elector; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga)

Action: SB 178 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 202 - Elections and Primaries; persons or entities that mail absentee ballot applications shall mail such applications only to eligible registered electors; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Max Burns (R – Sylvania)

Action: SB 202 received a Do Pass from the Senate Ethics Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 214 - Governor's Emergency Powers; matters pertaining to firearms and other weapons; restrict use of emergency powers](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Tyler Harper (R – Ocilla)

Action: SB 214 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 218 - Vacation of Office; suspension of compensation for certain public officers who are suspended because of indictment for a felony; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Larry Walker, III (R – Perry)

Action: SB 218 received a Do Pass from the Senate Government Oversight Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 232 - Primaries and Elections; unique bar codes on individual absentee ballots; require](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Marty Harbin (R – Tyrone)

Action: SB 232 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Ethics Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 238 - Code Of Georgia; enactment of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated; revise provisions](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

Action: SB 238 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 241 - Elections and Voting; revise comprehensively](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Mike Dugan (R – Carrollton)

Action: SB 241 received a hearing from the Senate Ethics Committee (3/1/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Ethics Committee (3/2/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 253 - Elections and Primaries; notice when polling places are relocated; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Nikki Merritt (D – Grayson)

Action: SB 253 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SB 276 - County Law Libraries; authorize the charging and collection of law library fees in county recorders' courts and magistrate courts; allow county governing authorities](#)

Senate Author: Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)

Action: SB 276 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021); was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

[SR 100 - State-Wide Grand Juries; jurisdiction, powers, and duties; provide -CA](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Steve Gooch (R – Dahlonega)

Action: SR 100 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 28 (3/5/2021).

Passed out of Full Committee

[HB 106 - Georgia State Indemnification Fund; replace the term National Guard with the term organized militia](#)

House Author: Rep. Heath Clark (R – Warner Robins)

Action: HB 106 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee (3/3/2021).

[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](#)

House Author: Rep. Mesha Mainor (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 138 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 208 - State holidays; second Wednesday of February of each year as National Swearing-in Day in Georgia; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Mike Cheokas (R – Americus)

Action: HB 208 received a Do Pass by the Senate Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee (3/3/2021).

[HB 231 - Crimes and offenses; victims of stalking; expand applicability of protective orders](#)

House Author: Rep. Houston Gaines (R – Athens)

Action: HB 231 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 236 - Domestic relations; additional monitoring of victim after granting of a temporary protective order; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Yasmin Neal (D – Jonesboro)

Action: HB 236 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Reeves Subcommittee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/3/2021).

[HB 255 - Sexual Assault Reform Act of 2021; enact](#)

House Author: Rep. Scott Holcomb (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 255 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Reeves Subcommittee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/3/2021).

[HB 258 - Crimes and offenses; response to State v. Williams, 2020 Ga. LEXIS 85; provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Steven Sainz (R – Woodbine)

Action: HB 258 received Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 358 - Emergency Management Act; provide when a declaration of a state of emergency or disaster by the Governor shall expire](#)

House Author: Rep. Ed Setzler (R – Acworth)

Action: HB 358 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 389 - Employment security; change definition of employment to include services performed by an individual for wages](#)

House Author: Rep. Todd Jones (R – South Forsyth)

Action: HB 389 received a Do Pass from the House Industry and Labor Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 327 - Organized Retail Crime Prevention Act; enact](#)

House Author: Rep. Martin Momtahan (R – Dallas)

Action: HB 327 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Reeves Subcommittee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/3/2021).

[HB 367 - Controlled substances; Schedules I, II, III, IV, and V; change certain provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Butch Parrish (R – Swainsboro)

Action: HB 367 received a Do Pass from the Senate Public Safety Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 640 - Crimes and offenses; firearms and the carrying and possession of firearms and other weapons; revise various laws](#)

House Author: Rep. Tyler Smith (R – Bremen)

Action: HB 640 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee A (3/3/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 411 - Prosecuting Attorneys Oversight Commission; create](#)

House Author: Rep. Joseph Gullett (R – Dallas)

Action: HB 411 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Reeves Subcommittee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/3/2021).

[HB 465 - Local government; imposing civil penalties upon an alarm systems contractor for a false alarm that occurs through no fault of alarm systems contractor; prohibit](#)

House Author: Rep. Joseph Gullett (R – Dallas)

Action: HB 465 received Do Pass from the House Governmental Affairs General Committee (3/2/2021).

[HB 479 - Criminal procedure; revise certain arrest powers; provisions](#)

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

Action: HB 479 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 534 - Crimes and offenses; promoting illegal drag racing and laying drags; provide for offense](#)

House Author: Rep. Josh Bonner (R – Fayetteville)

Action: HB 534 received a hearing from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (3/2/2021); received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee A (3/3/2021); and received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 562 - Criminal procedure; add DFCS case managers to people for whom arrest warrants may be issued only by certain judicial officers](#)

House Author: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (R – Dalton)

Action: HB 562 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 624 - South Georgia Judicial Circuit; additional judge of the superior court; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Darlene Taylor (R – Thomasville)

Action: HB 624 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Civil Committee (3/1/2021).

[SB 160 - Civil Practice; tolling of limitations for tort actions while criminal prosecution is pending; provisions; change](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Bill Cowsert (R – Athens)

Action: SB 160 failed to receive passage from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

[SB 189 - Civil Practice; separate trials for issues of liability and damage under certain circumstances; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Bill Cowsert (R – Athens)

Action: SB 189 failed to receive a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

[SB 190 - Torts; recovery and admissibility of special damages for medical and health care expenses; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Bill Cowsert (R – Athens)

Action: SB 190 failed to receive a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

[SB 197 - Stalking; the definition of "place or places"; revise](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Kim Jackson (D – Stone Mountain)

Action: SB 197 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

[SB 226 - Sale or Distribution of Harmful Materials to Minors; provisions of Code Section 16-12-103 shall be applicable to libraries operated by schools; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Jason Anavitarte (R – Dallas)

Action: SB 226 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

Committee and Subcommittee Hearings

[HB 131 - Crimes and offenses; clarify that stalking and aggravated stalking can be committed both directly and indirectly; revise a definition](#)

House Author: Rep. Mesha Mainor (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 131 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021).

[HB 133 - Crimes Victims' Bill of Rights; required judicial verifications of victim notifications; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Mesha Mainor (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 133 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/2/2021).

[HB 218 - Crimes and offenses; weapons carry license reciprocity in this state; expand](#)

House Author: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (R – Canton)

Action: HB 218 received a hearing from the Senate Public Safety Committee (3/4/2021).

[HB 439 - Motor vehicles; installation of ignition interlock devices as a condition of probation for individuals convicted of a first offense of driving under the influence; require](#)

House Author: Rep. Bill Hitchens (R – Rincon)

Action: HB 439 received a hearing from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee A (3/3/2021).

[HB 506 - State Election Board; promulgate minimum standards for voting equipment; provide](#)

House Authors: Rep. Matthew Gambill (R – Cartersville)

Action: HB 506 received a hearing from the House Special Committee on Election Integrity Blackmon Subcommittee (3/4/2021).

[HB 609 - Animals; marketing of certain domestic animals at certain locations; prohibit](#)

House Author: Rep. Joseph Gullett (R – Dallas)

Action: HB 609 received a hearing from the House Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee (3/1/2021).

[HB 615 - Elections; automatic recount and recanvass under certain circumstances; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Todd Jones (R – South Forsyth)

Action: HB 615 received a hearing from the House Special Committee on Election Integrity Blackmon Subcommittee (3/4/2021).

[HB 632 - Motor vehicles; enforcement of operating a commercial motor vehicle upon a highway in violation of a local ordinance; provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Debra Bazemore (D – Riverdale)

Action: HB 632 received a hearing from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee B (3/4/2021).

[HB 640 - Crimes and offenses; firearms and the carrying and possession of firearms and other weapons; revise various laws](#)

House Author: Rep. Tyler Smith (R – Bremen)

Action: HB 640 received a hearing from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (3/2/2021); and received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Subcommittee A (3/3/2021).

[HB 659 - Elections; scanning and publishing of paper ballots, unofficial precinct returns, and ballots from recounts; provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Shea Roberts (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 659 received a hearing from the House Special Committee on Election Integrity Blackmon Subcommittee (3/4/2021).

[SB 18 - Limitations on Prosecution; offenses of rape, aggravated sodomy, and aggravated sexual battery; revise the statute of limitations](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Harold Jones II (D – Augusta)

Action: SB 18 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

[SB 171 - "Safe Communities Act of 2021; enact](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Randy Robertson (R – Cataula)

Action: SB 171 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/2/2021).

[SB 223 - "Community Rebound Act"; enact](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Randy Robertson (R – Cataula)

Action: SB 223 received a hearing from the Senate Public Safety Committee (3/4/2021).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Monday, March 8, 2021 – Legislative Day 28 (Crossover Day)

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

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 – Legislative Day 29

9:00 PM	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
2:15 PM	Senate Public Safety	Mezz 1
4:30 PM	Senate Appropriations Judicial Committee	Mezz 1

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 – Legislative Day 30

8:00 AM	Senate Appropriations Public Safety Committee	450 CAP
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
4:45 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Thursday, March 11, 2021 – Legislative Day 31

8:00 AM	Senate Ethics	450 CAP
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

Friday, March 12, 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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