



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

March 26, 2021

legislation.georgiacourts.gov

Week 11 (Legislative Days 36-38)

The General Assembly returned to session this past Monday, March 22 (LD 36) and also convened on Tuesday, March 23 (LD 37) and Thursday, March 25 (LD 38). Wednesday, March 24 and Friday, March 26 were designated as recess committee work days.

With few legislative days remaining, both chambers worked furiously this week to consider, modify, and pass bills. The last two legislative days will focus on reaching final agreement between the chambers before the 2021 Legislative Session ends next Wednesday, March 31 (LD 40, Sine Die).

As a note regarding procedure, both the House and Senate must pass the same version of a bill. If no changes were made by a bill's second chamber, then simply passing both the House and Senate will constitute final passage for that bill. Commonly though, the House and Senate will make changes to each other's bills, either in committee or through various substitutes or amendments. When this happens, a bill may then achieve final passage if either chamber relents on their position and agrees to the other chamber's version. If both chambers insist on their positions, a Conference Committee may be formed to work out any differences and find a mutually acceptable version of the bill. If both chambers accept the Conference Committee report of a bill, the bill achieves final passage.

Two bills supported by the Judicial Council advanced this week. [HB 635](#), which contains language from [HB 405](#) regarding the use of alternative locations for court proceedings and language from [HB 556](#) regarding bench trials and the use of accusations, passed out of full committee on Wednesday and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for Legislative Day 39. [SB 234](#), the Uniform Mediation Act, passed the House yesterday and now awaits the Governor's signature. [SB 163](#), which provides for tolling of statutory speedy trial requirements following a judicial emergency if compliance with such requirements is impracticable, passed the House last week and now awaits a final agreement.

The Senate passed the [FY 2022 Budget \(HB 81\)](#) by Substitute on Tuesday, March 23 (LD 37). As is standard, both chambers insisted on their version of the bill and a conference committee was formed to work out the final version. The current tracking document can be found [here](#).

Adjournment Resolution [HR 264](#) sets the legislative calendar for the remainder of the session. Both chambers stand adjourned until Monday, March 29, at 10:00 AM for Legislative Day 39.

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

[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](#) and [HB 556](#); the Judicial Council position applies to this language)

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

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

Action: HB 635 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: SB 234 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/23/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 159-6 (3/25/2021). **Final Passage.**

Other Bills

Final Passage

[HB 168 - Penal institutions; certain information within inmate files of the Department of Corrections shall not be classified as confidential state secrets when requested by the district attorney; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Jesse Petrea (R – Savannah)

Senate Sponsor: Ben Watson (R – Savannah)

Action: HB 168 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); and passed the Senate by a vote of 40-11 (3/23/2021). **Final Passage.**

[HB 353 - Motor vehicles; clarify what constitutes an obstruction for purposes of exceptions to when a vehicle is to drive on the right side of roadway](#)

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. John Albers (R – Roswell)

Action: HB 353 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate by 38-12 (3/25/2021). **Final Passage.**

[HB 703 - Bleckley County; probate judge; provide nonpartisan elections](#)

House Author: Rep. Danny Mathis (R – Cochran)

Action: HB 703 was placed on the Senate Local Consent Calendar for LD 38; and passed the Senate by a vote of 48-1 (3/25/2021). **Final Passage.**

[HB 704 - Bleckley County; Magistrate Court chief judge; provide nonpartisan elections](#)

House Author: Rep. Danny Mathis (R – Cochran)

Action: HB 704 was placed on the Senate Local Consent Calendar for LD 38; and passed the Senate by a vote of 48-1 (3/25/2021). **Final Passage.**

[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)

House Sponsor: Rep. Mark Newton (R – Augusta)

Action: SB 9 passed the House by Substitute by a vote of 96-70 (3/22/2021); was immediately transmitted to the Senate (3/22/2021); and the Senate agreed to the House Substitute by a vote of 51-0 (3/22/2021). **Final Passage.**

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

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

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

Action: SB 32 passed the House by Substitute by a vote of 165-0 (3/22/2021); and the Senate agreed to the House Substitute by a vote of 52-0 (3/23/2021). **Final Passage.**

[SB 33 - Torts; cause of action against perpetrators for victims of human trafficking; provide](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Clint Dixon (R – Gwinnett)

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

Action: SB 33 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 164-0 (3/23/2021). **Final Passage.**

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

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

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

Action: SB 75 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/23/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 158-0 (3/25/2021). **Final Passage.**

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

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

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

Action: SB 114 passed the House by a vote of 152-14 (3/22/2021). **Final Passage.**

[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)

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

Action: SB 202 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Special Committee on Election Integrity 3/22/2021); received a Do Pass by Rules Committee Substitute from the House Rules Committee (3/23/2021); was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/23/2021); passed the House by Substitute by a vote of 100-75 (3/25/2021); was immediately transmitted to the Senate by a vote of 100-74 (3/25/2021); and the Senate agreed to the House Substitute by a vote of 34-20 (3/25/2021); and was signed by the Governor (3/25/2021). **Final Passage**

Floor Votes

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia)

Action: HB 81 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Appropriations Committee (3/22/2021); was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 54-0 (3/23/2021); was immediately transmitted to the House (3/23/2021); both chambers insisted on their positions and a conference committee was formed (3/23/2021); and received a hearing from the Joint House and Senate Appropriations Conference Committee (3/24/2021).

[HB 98 - State government; conditions for meetings and public hearings to be held by teleconference in emergency conditions; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (R – Armuchee)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Greg Dolezal (R – Cumming)

Action: HB 98 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Science and Technology Committee (3/23/2021); was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 43-1 (3/25/2021).

[HB 141 - Criminal procedure; requirements for awards made from Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund to medical service providers; provide](#)

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

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

Action: HB 141 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 48-0 (3/25/2021).

[HB 146 - Public officers and employees; paid parental leave for eligible state employees and eligible local board of education employees; provide](#)

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

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

Action: HB 146 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 52-0 (3/25/2021).

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 154 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute a vote 51-0 (3/23/2021).

[HB 286 - Local government; restrict ability of county governing authorities to reduce funding for county police departments](#)

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

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

Action: HB 286 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 36-15 (3/25/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 363 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/22/2021); was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate as Amended by a vote of 47-0 (3/25/2021).

[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)

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

Action: HB 465 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 41-7 (3/25/2021).

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 553 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/24/2021); and passed the Senate by Substitute by a vote of 48-0 (3/25/2021).

[HB 709 - Waycross Judicial Circuit; Superior Court judges; increase salary supplement](#)

House Author: Rep. Dominic LaRiccica

Action: HB 709 was placed on the House Local Legislation Calendar for LD 38; and passed the House by a vote of 108-56 (3/25/2021).

[HB 767 - Lee County; Magistrate Court; law library fee; revise permitted uses of funds raised](#)

House Author: Rep. Bill Yeara (R – Sylvester)

Action: HB 767 was placed on the House Local Legislation Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 156-1 (3/23/2021).

[HB 770 - Gilmer County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee](#)

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

Action: HB 770 was placed on the House Local Legislation Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 156-1 (3/23/2021).

[HB 777 - DeKalb County; State Court; provide definitions](#)

House Author: Rep. Matthew Wilson (D – Brookhaven)

Action: HB 777 was placed on the House Local Legislation Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); and passed the House by a vote of 156-1 (3/23/2021).

[HB 795 - Glascock County; Probate Court Judge; repeal Act providing for supplement to compensation; provide for an applicability date](#)

House Author: Rep. Mack Jackson (D – Sandersville)

Action: HB 795 was placed on the House Local Legislation Calendar for LD 38; and passed the House by a vote of 108-56 (3/25/2021).

[SB 28 - Juvenile Code and Domestic Relations; provisions relating to the protection of children; strengthen, clarify and update](#)

Senate Author: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

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

Action: SB 28 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/23/2021); and passed the House by Substitute by a vote of 123-46 (3/25/2021).

[SB 195 - Hemp Farming; definition; revise](#)

(Includes language from [HB 645](#) and [HB 601](#))

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

House Sponsor: Rep. John Corbett (R – Lake Park)

Action: SB 195 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee (3/23/2021); was placed on the House Second Supplemental Rules Calendar for LD 38; and passed the House by Substitute by a vote of 165-1 (3/25/2021).

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

(Includes language from [HB 411](#))

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

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

Action: SB 218 received a Do Pass by Rules Committee Substitute from the House Rules Committee (3/23/2021); was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/23/2021); and passed the House by Substitute by a vote of 101-66 (3/25/2021).

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

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

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

Action: SB 238 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 37 (3/22/2021); and passed the House by Substitute a vote of 166-0 (3/23/2021).

Placed on Rules Calendar

[HB 67 - State government; public property; extend automatic repeals of certain provisions](#)

House Author: Rep. Chuck Martin (R – Alpharetta)

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

Action: HB 67 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 94 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/22/2021); received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 134 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[HB 165 - Motor vehicles; use of mounts on windshields for the support of wireless telecommunications devices and stand-alone electronic devices under certain circumstances; allow](#)

House Author: Rep. Timothy Barr (R – Lawrenceville)

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

Action: HB 165 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: The Senate Rules substitute for HB 218 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 231 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. John Albers (R – Roswell)

Action: HB 255 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Public Safety Committee (3/23/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Blake Tillery (R – Vidalia)

Action: HB 334 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 371 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[HB 409 - Judicial Legal Defense Fund Commission; establish](#)

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

Senate Author: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 409 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Government Oversight Committee (3/24/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 411 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Billy Hickman (R – Statesboro)

Action: HB 443 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/22/2021); received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[HB 466 - Motor vehicles; number of required hours in the intervention component of DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk Reduction Programs; reduce](#)

House Author: Alan Powell (R – Hartwell)

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

Action: HB 466 received a Do Pass form the Senate Public Safety Committee (3/23/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 470 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 479 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[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)

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

Action: HB 480 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 534 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[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)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 548 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[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)

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

Action: HB 562 was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[HB 714 - Georgia Civil Practice Act; revise and provide for new requirements](#)

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

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

Action: HB 714 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee (3/23/2021); and was placed on the Senate Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/26/2021).

[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)

House Sponsor: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (R – Armuchee)

Action: SB 95 received a Do Pass by Rules Committee Substitute from the House Rules Committee (3/23/2021); was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 38 (3/23/2021); and was recommitted to the House Rules Committee (3/25/2021).

[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. Harold Jones II (D – Augusta)

House Sponsor: Rep. Tyler Paul Smith (R – Bremen)

Action: SB 78 received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/22/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/25/2021).

[SB 100 - State Government; this state shall observe standard time year round; provide](#)

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

House Sponsor: Rep. Wes Cantrell (R – Woodstock)

Action: SB 100 was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/25/2021).

[SB 105 - State-Wide Probation System; conditions and procedures under which probation may be terminated early; revise](#)

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

House Sponsor: Rep. Tyler Paul Smith (R – Bremen)

Action: SB 105 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/22/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/25/2021).

[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)

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

Action: SB 117 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/22/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/25/2021).

[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)

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

Action: SB 236 received a Do Pass from the House Regulated Industries Committee (3/22/2021); and was placed on the House Rules Calendar for LD 39 (3/25/2021).

Passed out of Full Committee

[HB 194 - Criminal procedure; term of probation shall follow mandatory term of imprisonment for persons convicted of a sexual offense; clarify](#)

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 194 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021).

[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 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Public Safety Committee (3/23/2021).

[HB 272 - Juvenile Code; juvenile court to include children who are under 18 years of age; change jurisdiction](#)

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Elena Parent (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 272 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/22/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021).

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

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

Senate Sponsor: Sen. John Albers (R – Roswell)

Action: HB 327 received a hearing from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/22/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 333 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Ethics Committee (3/22/2021).

[HB 464 - Guardian and ward; petition for appointment of temporary guardian of minor filed in probate court may be transferred to juvenile court; provide](#)

House Author: Rep. Mitchell Scoggins (R – Cartersville)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)

Action: HB 464 received a Do Pass from the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/24/2021).

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

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

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

Action: HB 531 received a hearing from the Senate Ethics Committee (3/22/2021); and received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the Senate Ethics Committee (3/23/2021).

[HB 579 - Public Safety and Judicial Facilities Act; enact](#)

House Author: Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver (D – Decatur)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Emmanuel Jones (D – Decatur)

Action: HB 579 received a Do Pass form the Senate Public Safety Committee (3/23/2021).

[SB 85 - "Max Gruver Act"; enact](#)

Senate Author: Sen. John Albers (R – Roswell)

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

Action: SB 85 received a hearing from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/22/2021); and received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/25/2021).

[SB 174 - Bonds and Recognizances; appointed judges who are fulfilling a vacancy of an elected judge to issue an unsecured judicial release under certain circumstances; authorize](#)

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

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

Action: SB 174 received a Do Pass from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Setzler Subcommittee (3/24/2021); and received a Do Pass by Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/25/2021).

[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)

House Sponsor: Rep. James Burchett (R – Waycross)

Action: SB 235 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (3/22/2021).

[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)

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

Action: SB 276 received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Committee (3/25/2021).

Committee and Subcommittee Hearings

[HB 356 - Labor and industrial relations; prohibition of age discrimination in employment; change age of individuals protected](#)

House Author: Rep. Kim Schofield (D – Atlanta)

Action: HB 356 received a hearing from the House Industry and Labor Committee (3/22/2021).

[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 hearing from the Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities (3/23/2021).

Committee Meeting Schedule*

Monday, March 29, 2021 – Legislative Day 39

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber

Tuesday, March 30, 2021 – Recess Day/Committee Work Day

No Relevant Meetings Scheduled

Wednesday, March 31, 2021 – Legislative Day 40 (Sine Die)

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber

**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.*

Tracy Mason
Senior Assistant Director
Governmental & Trial Court Liaison
(404) 831-8368
tracy.mason@georgiacourts.gov

Cheryl Karounos
Governmental Affairs Liaison
(404) 309-5214
cheryl.karounos@georgiacourts.gov

Robert Aycock
Governmental Affairs Coordinator
(404) 463-1023
robert.aycock@georgiacourts.gov

Darron Enns
Policy Counsel
(404) 656-5453
darron.enns@georgiacourts.gov

LaShawn Murphy
Trial Court Liaison
(404) 651-6325
lashawn.murphy@georgiacourts.gov

Legislative Intern
Sierra Yao

www.georgiacourts.gov
legislation.georgiacourts.gov
Twitter: [@GACourtsLegis](https://twitter.com/GACourtsLegis) & [@GACourts](https://twitter.com/GACourts)