

**GEORGIA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS/STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
2017 GEORGIA LEGISLATIVE REPORT
FEBRUARY 10, 2017
[2017 – 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION]**

Prepared by:

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BILLS THAT APPEAR TO BE MOVING
(i.e., at third reader or committee favorably reported
status in originating body or further in process)

HOUSE BILLS

HB 33 – Local government; individuals appointed to authorities and boards be United States citizens; require

Representatives: Brad Raffensperger (R), 50th District Darlene Taylor (R), 173rd District
Ed Rynders (R), 152nd District Bruce Williamson (R), 115th District
Buzz Brockway (R), 102nd District Tom Kirby (R), 114th District

House Committee: Judiciary

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 80 of Title 36, Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 45, and Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions applicable to counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental entities; general provisions regarding eligibility and qualifications for public office; and general provisions relating to state government, respectively, so as to require that individuals appointed to authorities, boards, councils, and commissions be United States citizens or nationals, lawful permanent residents, or aliens having lawful status to be present in the United States; to provide for other residency requirements; to provide an effective date and applicability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 12, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB33>

HB 61 – Sales and use tax; certain retailers to either collect and remit or notify purchaser and state; require Sales and use tax; certain retailers to either collect and remit or notify purchaser and state; require

Representatives: Jay Powell (R), 171st District Terry England (R), 116th District
John Meadows (R), 5th District Stacey Abrams (D), 89th District
Trey Kelley (R), 16th District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 48-8-30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to imposition of tax, rates, and collection, so as to require certain retailers to either collect and remit sales and use taxes or provide certain notifications to each purchaser and the state; to define a term; to provide for penalties; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 24, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB61>

HB 62 – Appeal and error; judgments and rulings deemed directly appealable; revise provisions

Representatives: Jay Powell (R), 171st District Terry England (R), 116th District
John Meadows (R), 5th District Stacey Abrams (D), 89th District
Trey Kelley (R), 16th District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to appellate practice, so as to revise provisions regarding those judgments and rulings deemed directly appealable; to amend Article 1 of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state sales and use tax, so as to revise a definition; to provide for certain legal actions, injunctions, and appeals under certain circumstances; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 24, 2017 – House withdrawn from Judiciary and recommitted to Ways & Means

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB62>

HB 69 – Income tax; reporting of statistics related to the classification of counties into tiers for economic development purposes; provide

Representatives: Paulette Rakestraw (R), 19th District Jason Spencer (R), 180th District
Howard Maxwell (R), 17th District Ron Stephens (R), 164th District
Jay Powell (R), 171st District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to provide for the reporting of statistics related to the classification of counties into tiers for economic development purposes; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 25, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB69>

HB 70 – Income tax; county with a certain percentage of workers who commute outside the county for work; provisions

Representatives: Paulette Rakestraw (R), 19th District Jason Spencer (R), 180th District
Howard Maxwell (R), 17th District Ron Stephens (R), 164th District
Jay Powell (R), 171st District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxes, so as to provide that a county with a certain percentage of workers who commute outside such county for work shall be reclassified one tier lower in the county tier system for economic development purposes; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 25, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB70>

HB 73 – Income tax credit; incentives to promote the revitalization of rural Georgia downtowns; provide

Representatives: Penny Houston (R), 170th District Jason Shaw (R), 176th District
Jay Powell (R), 171st District Trey Kelley (R), 16th District
John Meadows (R), 5th District Sam Watson, (R), 172nd District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to amend Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxation, so as to provide tax credit incentives to promote the revitalization of vacant rural Georgia downtowns by encouraging investment, job creation, and economic growth in long-established business districts; to provide for definitions; to delineate procedures, conditions, eligibility, and limitations; to provide for powers, duties, and authority of the commissioner of community affairs, the commissioner of economic development, and the revenue commissioner; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 25, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB73>

HB 85 – Ad valorem tax; methodology used to establish forest land fair market value; revise

Representatives: Jay Powell (R), 171st District
Terry England (R), 116th District
Tom McCall (R), 33rd District

Chuck Williams (R), 119th District
Gerald Green (R), 151st District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 48-5-271 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to table of values for conservation use value of forest land, so as to revise the methodology used to establish forest land fair market value; to provide for a sales data bank; to provide for publication; to provide for appeals; to provide for an administrative fee; to provide for related matters; to provide for a contingent effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 25, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB85>

HB 204 – Ad valorem tax; property tax bills shall not include nontax related fees or assessments; provide

Representatives: Brett Harrell (R), 106th District
Jay Powell (R), 171st District
Terry England (R), 116th District

David Knight (R), 130th District
Penny Houston (R), 170th District
Sam Teasley (R), 37th District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide that property tax bills shall not include any nontax related fees or assessments; to provide for applicability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: February 2, 2017 – House First Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB204>

HB 238 – Ad valorem tax; use of property for solar power generation; provide exception to a breach of covenants

Representatives: Matt Hatchett (R), 150th District
Stacey Abrams (D), 89st District
Terry England (R), 116th District
Dominic LaRiccia (R), 169th District
Terry England (R), 116th District
Sam Watson (R), 172nd District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide an exception to a breach of the covenants for use of the property for solar power generation; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: February 8, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB228>

HB 257 – Local government authorities; register with Department of Community Affairs; require

Representatives: Jan Tankersley (R), 160th District
Lynn Smith (R), 70th District
Jay Powell (R), 171st District
Bubber Epps (R), 144th District
Matt Hatchett (R), 150th District
Ron Stephens (R), 164th District

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to local government, so as to require local government authorities to register with the Department of Community Affairs in order to be eligible for state funds; to change the deadline for local government authorities to register with said department; to prohibit authorities from incurring debt or credit obligations prior to submitting a report to said department; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: February 8, 2017 – House First Reader

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HB257>

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

HR 58 – Municipalities; establish by local law an independent school system; authorize - CA

Representatives: Tom Taylor (R), 79th District
Valencia Stovall (D), 74th District
Buzz Brockway (R), 102nd District

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize any municipality in the State of Georgia to establish by local law an independent school system; to provide definitions; to provide for related matters; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 26, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HR58>

HR 158 – General Assembly; provide for dedication of revenues derived from fees or other taxes to the public purpose for which such fees or other taxes were imposed; authorize - CA

Representatives: Jay Powell (R), 171st District
Stacey Abrams (D), 89th District
Andrew Welch (R), 110th District
Brett Harrell (R), 106th District
John Meadows (R), 5th District
Geoff Duncan (R), 26th District

House Committee: Ways & Means

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to provide by general law for the dedication of revenues derived from fees or taxes to the public purpose for which such fees or taxes were imposed; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations; to provide for the redesignation of a current subparagraph of the Constitution; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

Current Status: February 7, 2017 – House Second Readers

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/HR158>

SENATE BILLS

SB 2 – "The FAST Act - Fairness, Accountability, Simplification, and Transparency - Empowering Our Small Businesses to Succeed"

Representatives: Mike Dugan (R), 30th Steve Gooch (R), 51st
David Shafer (R), 48th Judson Hill (R), 32nd
Bill Cowsert (R), 46th John Wilkinson (R), 50th

House Committee: Economic Development and Tourism

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 60 of Title 36, Chapter 1 of Title 43, and Title 50 of the O.C.G.A., relating to general provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, general provisions regarding professions and businesses, and state government, respectively, so as to enhance accountability and notice requirements for agency rule making so as to reduce regulatory burdens on businesses; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: January 12, 2017 – Senate Read and Referred

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/SB2>

SB 116 – Counties and Municipal Corporations; assessment of storm-water utility fees on water-neutral properties; prohibit

Representatives: Frank Ginn (R), 47th David Shafer (R), 48th
Burt Jones (R), 25th Rick Jeffares (R), 17th
Michael Williams (R), 27st Steve Gooch (R), 51st

House Committee: Regulated Industries and Utilities

Senate Committee:

First Reader Summary: A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to prohibit the assessment of storm-water utility fees on water-neutral properties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Current Status: February 7, 2017 – Senate Read and Referred

GMA Summary: <http://www.gmanet.com/Legislative-Session/Bill/SB116>

SENATE RESOLUTIONS