



Georgia Senate Press Office Staff

Ines Owens
Director

Elisabeth Fletcher
Communications Specialist

Andrew Allison
Broadcast Specialist

Annie Wimbush
Communications Associate

Charlotte Densmore
2019 Legislative Intern

LaDarius Dennison
2019 Broadcast Aide

Lara Ijitoye
2019 Legislative Aide

Gabriela Tedesco
2019 Legislative Aide

Ananda Wiggins
2019 Broadcast Aide

Keenan Rogers
2019 Senate Photographer

201 Coverdell Legislative Office Building
18 Capitol Square S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303
p: 404.656.0028

FOLLOW US

 fb.com/GeorgiaStateSenate

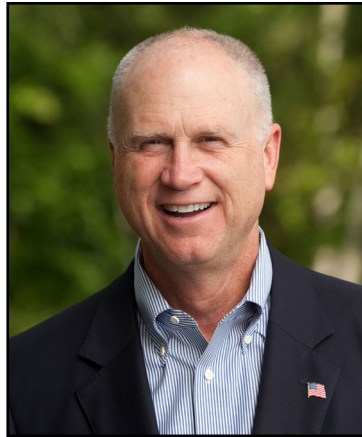
 @gasenatepress

 @gasenatepress

 GeorgiaStateSenate

This Week in the Senate

March 4-8, 2019



Eleven Legislative Days to *Sine Die*

We passed the Crossover Day deadline on Thursday, March 7 and are now just 11 legislative days away from *Sine Die*. The Senate was in session four legislative days this week – Monday, March 4, Tuesday, March 5, Thursday, March 7 and Friday, March 8. Over these four days, the Senate debated and voted on over 60 pieces of legislation.

On Monday, our standing committees wrapped preparation for Crossover Day. I want to commend all of our chairmen and staff for working hard to make sure each committee meeting ran well and for properly vetting legislation assigned to their committee. Although committee meetings can sometimes last late into the evening or become contentious, this is where the work gets done to ensure that each piece of legislation is thoroughly vetted and any stakeholders, including agencies, advocates and citizens, can be heard on important issues that will impact their lives. Although committee meetings on Senate bills wrapped up Monday, our committees will pick up their work again next week when we start our Senate Appropriations Subcommittee hearings and standing committees begin to hear House Bills.

In addition to wrapping up committee meetings, the Senate debated 13 bills on Monday. We had a productive day addressing issues dealing with law enforcement, education, insurance and nursing. Our second longest serving member of the Senate, Sen. Ed Harbison (D – Columbus), passed his second bill of the week with unanimous support. Sen. Harbison sponsored Senate Bill 140 which would extend the sunset provision of the World War I Centennial Commission to either December 31, 2019, or to the completion of activities honoring the centennial observation of World War I, whichever is earlier. As a veteran and Purple Heart recipient, Sen. Harbison's support and belief in Senate Bill 140 inspires, reminding us not just of the heroes of the Great War, but of the wars and battlefields before and since.

On Tuesday, our day began with the Chaplain of the Day, who I was proud to host in the Senate Chamber. Dr. Dock Hollingsworth, Senior Pastor of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, led us in our morning devotional. His prayer and insight helped us get through a long day on which 22 pieces of legislation were debated, sometimes at length.

Our busiest day was Crossover on March 7, when we debated and voted on 33 pieces of legislation. We worked long into the evening, addressing a number of topics including broadband access, health care, criminal justice reform and medical services throughout the state. I would like to personally thank all of the members and staff for their hard work and efforts during the long hours of this week. Next week we will meet for four legislative days with one day reserved for committee meetings. If you have any questions, feedback or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Senator Butch Miller
President Pro Tempore, Georgia Senate

MONDAY, MARCH 4

Clarifying Liability for Law Enforcement

Sen. Michael Rhett (D – Marietta) sponsored Senate Bill 31. Currently, officers are exempt from liability when responding to an emergency. SB 31 adds “the rescuing of a person or pet out of a locked vehicle” to the definition of an emergency. SB 31 passed with a vote of 54 to 0. – **SB 31**

“Jeremy Nelson and Nick Blakely Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act” Passes Senate

Senate Bill 60, sponsored by Sen. P.K. Martin (R – Lawrenceville), would require the Georgia Department of Education to develop guidelines to inform high school students, parents and coaches involved in athletic activities about the dangers and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest. SB 60 would also require students to be removed from participation in a sport if they faint. SB 60 passed with a vote of 54 to 0. – **SB 60**

Expanding Electives in Religious Education

Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga) sponsored Senate Bill 83 which would expand curriculum provisions to allow high schools to provide elective courses on the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. SB 83 passed with a vote of 56 to 0. – **SB 83**

Including Mobile Phones in the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program

Senate Bill 100, sponsored by Sen. P.K. Martin (R – Lawrenceville), would extend the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program for physically impaired individuals to include issuance of mobile devices and applications. Currently, the program is only available for landline phones. SB 100 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 100**

Revising the Retirement Systems Standards Law

Sen. Ellis Black (R – Valdosta) sponsored Senate Bill 117 which would prohibit a member of a public retirement system from obtaining creditable service without paying the actuarial cost of obtaining the service. SB 117 would also allow for installment plans to assist with payment. SB 117 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 117**

“Georgia Measuring Success Act” Passes Senate

Senate Bill 119, sponsored by Sen. John Albers (R – Roswell), would require an economic analysis to be conducted by the state auditor prior to the passage of legislation related to taxation. SB 119 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 119**

Extending the Sunset Provision of the World War I Centennial Commission

Sen. Ed Harbison (D – Columbus) sponsored Senate Bill 140 which would extend the sunset provision of the World War I Centennial Commission to either December 31, 2019, or the completion of activities honoring the centennial observation of World War I, whichever is earlier. SB 140 passed with a vote of 56 to 0. – **SB 140**



Stating Full Insurance Coverage

Senate Bill 142, sponsored by Sen. Larry Walker (R – Perry), would require a statement indicating whether a subscriber’s health policy is fully insured or subject to regulations to be written on the subscriber’s insurance card. This bill would exempt any licensed group model health maintenance organization that has an exclusive medical group contract. SB 142 passed with a vote of 56 to 0. – **SB 142**

Creating Regulations for Trauma Scene Cleanup

Sen. Tyler Harper (R – Ocilla) sponsored Senate Bill 153 which would create regulations and define terms related to the commercial trauma scene clean up industry. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation would oversee the implementation of these regulations including licensing procedures, background screening and procurement of liability insurance. Senate Bill 153 passed with a vote of 50 to 4. – **SB 153**

Providing an Option for Community Banks to Secure Public Funds

Senate Bill 157, sponsored by Sen. John F. Kennedy (R – Macon), would establish a deposit placement program that gives local banks the option to secure public funds through the use of third party collateral. This third party would place the deposit into accounts that are fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. SB 157 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 157**



Allowing Nurses with Multistate Licenses to Practice in Georgia

Sen. Greg Kirk (R – Americus) sponsored Senate Bill 168 which would allow advanced practice registered nurses who hold multi-state licenses to practice in Georgia, as long as the license was issued by another state under the Nurse Licensure Compact. SB 168 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 168**

Displaying the “Honor and Remember” Flag

Senate Bill 170, sponsored by Sen. Bruce Thompson (R – White), would allow local governments to display the “Honor and Remember” flag in dedication of armed servicemen and women who died in the line of duty. SB 170 designates acceptable days and locations on which the flag should be displayed. SB 170 passed with a vote of 56 to 0. – **SB 170**

Modernizing Language Regarding Law Assistants

Sen. John F. Kennedy (R – Macon) sponsored Senate Bill 191 which would update Georgia Code and replace the terms “law clerk” and “staff attorney,” with “law assistant” in reference to state courts. SB 191 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 191**



TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Criminalizing Sexual Extortion

Senate Bill 9, sponsored by Sen. Harold Jones II (D – Augusta), would criminalize the act of coercing an individual to distribute nude videos or images. SB 9 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 9**

Expanding Sovereign Immunity for Sheriff’s Office Employees

Sen. Harold Jones II (D – Augusta) sponsored Senate Bill 29 which would clarify that sheriffs, sheriff’s deputies and other sheriff’s office employees have sovereign immunity in motor vehicle claims, if the motor vehicle incident occurs while carrying out official duties. SB 29 passed with a vote of 52 to 1. – **SB 29**



“Consumer Coverage and Protection for Out-of-Network Medical Care Act” Passes Senate

Senate Bill 56, sponsored by Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (R – Rome), would require hospitals and physicians to make information regarding the providers and standard prices of specific health care services available to the patient. SB 56 would also set standards for information that insurers must provide to customers in regards to their health plan. The bill would also require health insurance providers to notify patients when emergency health care services are not covered by their insurance and allow for insurance and health care providers to determine the method of compensation for emergency services rendered. SB 56 passed with a vote of 52 to 0. – **SB 56**

Addressing Protections for All Monuments

Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga) sponsored Senate Bill 77 which would prohibit individuals and agencies from removing or concealing monuments and regulations would be put into place that would protect and preserve all monuments. The two events in which it would be appropriate for the relocation of a monument include: construction in an area where a monument is currently located, or the expansion or alteration of the monument. The bill also specifies when a monument must be relocated and where the monument can and cannot be relocated. SB 77 passed with a vote of 34 to 17. – **SB 77**

Defaulting on Student Loans and Licensing Procedures

Senate Bill 92, sponsored by Sen. Brandon Beach (R – Alpharetta), would prohibit professional licensing boards from revoking, suspending or denying a person’s license for defaulting on a student loan. These provisions apply if the loan was obtained through the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation or the federal government. SB 92 passed with a vote of 51 to 0. – **SB 92**



Extending Local Government Contracts for Energy Utilities

Sen. Randy Robertson (R – Cataula) sponsored Senate Bill 95 which would allow counties, cities and local governments to extend contracts for energy utilities, including solar and wind derived energy, from 10 to 20 years. SB 95 passed with a vote of 51 to 0. – **SB 95**



Revising DNR Requirements for Minors

Senate Bill 104, sponsored by Sen. Chuck Payne (R – Dalton), would clarify that a “do not resuscitate” (DNR) order for a minor may only be carried out if the parent gives explicit written or oral consent. SB 104 also changes the definition of a “parent” in regards to DNR orders to include a legal guardian or a person with legal authority. SB 104 passed with a vote of 46 to 0. – **SB 104**

Updating Motor Vehicle Franchise Laws

Sen. John F. Kennedy (R – Macon) sponsored Senate Bill 122 which would alter and clarify current franchise laws regarding the relationship between motor vehicle manufacturers and dealers. SB 122 would set up regulations regarding consumer data protection, incentive programs, audits and performance criteria. SB 122 passed with a vote of 50 to 0. – **SB 122**

Changing Provisions Regarding the State Board of Workers’ Compensation

Senate Bill 135, sponsored by Sen. Larry Walker (R – Perry), would set provisions regarding when the Director and Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) of the State Board of Workers’ Compensation may be named Director and ALJ Emeritus. SB 135 would also make adjustments to workers’ compensation benefit plans, including medical services provided and the caps on certain benefits. SB 135 passed with a vote of 51 to 0. – **SB 135**

Allowing the Sale of Tobacco Off-Premise

Sen. Lee Anderson (R – Grovetown) sponsored Senate Bill 144 which would enable the Department of Revenue (DOR) to issue off-premise sales permits for tobacco products at specific tobacco events. Permits would be valid for 1-10 days & DOR would set rules and regulations related to the permits. SB 144 passed with a vote of 53 to 0. – **SB 144**

Allowing Liquor Stores to Conduct Alcohol Tastings

Senate Bill 146, sponsored by Sen. Frank Ginn (R – Danielsville), would permit alcohol tasting events to occur in retail liquor stores with limitations including: 52 tastings per year, one event a day, one and a half ounces per pour and a four hour limit. Stores would be required to notify localities when tasting events occur. Senate Bill 146



Strengthening the Composite Score of Eligible Scholarship Students

Sen. Lindsey Tippins (R – Marietta) sponsored Senate Bill 161 which would give high school students who receive an “A” grade in Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment classes an extra half point to their composite eligibility for the HOPE and Zell Miller scholarships. Under current law, students with a “B,” “C” or “D” grade receive an extra half point, and this bill would extend this provision to include those who make an “A.” SB 161 passed with a vote of 53 to 1. – **SB 161**



The “Education Scholarship Act” Program

Senate Bill 173, sponsored by Sen. Greg Dolezal (R – Cumming), would establish Educational Scholarship Accounts (ESAs) in which parents could have their child’s state education funding deposited for multiple educational uses. If a student meets certain provisions, their parents can direct ESA funds to the following: tuition at a qualified private school, tutoring, educational therapies, curriculum, textbooks, online courses and other approved education enrichment expenses. SB 173 failed with a vote of 25 to 28. – **SB 173**

School Board Contribution to the Teachers Retirement System

Sen. Ellis Black (R – Valdosta) sponsored Senate Bill 175 which would require school boards that hire returning retired employees to pay employee and employer contributions to the Teachers Retirement System. SB 175 passed with a vote of 52 to 2. – **SB 175**

Public Employer Contributions to Employees’ Retirement System of Georgia (ERSGA)

Senate Bill 176, sponsored by Sen. Ellis Black (R – Valdosta), would require public employers to contribute to the Employees’ Retirement System of Georgia on behalf of returning retired employees. SB 176 passed with a vote of 52 to 1. – **SB 176**

Electronic Filing of 1099-K Forms with the Georgia Department of Revenue

Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (R – Rome) sponsored Senate Bill 183 which would require individuals who file a 1099-K form with the Internal Revenue Service to electronically file a copy with the Georgia Department of Revenue on or before the set deadline. SB 183 passed with a vote of 52 to 0. – **SB 183**

State Employees Health Insurance Plan Coverage

Senate Bill 184, sponsored by Sen. Greg Kirk (R – Americus), would require state employee health insurance plans to pay for services provided by federally qualified health centers at the same rates as Medicare. This provision excludes licensed group health maintenance organizations with exclusive medical contracts. SB 184 passed with a vote of 53 to 0. – **SB 184**



Updating the Credit for Reinsurance Model Law

Sen. Larry Walker (R – Perry) sponsored Senate Bill 188 which would allow an insurance company that buys reinsurance to receive credit on its balance sheet for the liability that it has ceded to the reinsurance company. SB 188 passed with a vote of 52 to 0. – **SB 188**

Extending Title Insurance to Personal Property

Senate Bill 202, sponsored by Sen. William Ligon (R – White Oak), would clarify that the term “personal property” is the same as “real property” for title insurance purposes. SB 202 passed with a vote of 53 to 0. – **SB 202**

Renaming the Georgia Board of Physician Workforce

Sen. Dean Burke (R – Bainbridge) sponsored Senate Bill 207 which would change the name of the Georgia Board of Physician Workforce to the “Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce.” SB 207 would also update the board membership to include eight physicians and seven physicians or health care providers selected by the Governor. SB 207 passed with a vote of 52 to 0. – **SB 207**



Implied Consent Laws

Senate Bill 208, sponsored by Sen. Randy Robertson (R – Cataula), would revise Georgia’s current implied consent notice provision to remove the term “breath.” SB 208 would amend the script of the implied consent notice, which is read by a law enforcement officer to those suspected of driving under the influence, by clarifying that only a refusal to submit blood or urine can be used against them in court. SB 208 passed with a vote of 46 to 4. – **SB 208**

Granting Easements of State Property

Sen. Ed Harbison (D – Columbus) carried House Resolution 182 which would permit the grant of non-exclusive easements for the construction, operation and maintenance of facilities, utilities and roads on specific state-owned properties. HR 182 passed with a vote of 53 to 0. – **HR 182**

U.S. Representative Barry Loudermilk Visits Senate

Congressman Barry Loudermilk (GA – 11) was welcomed to the Georgia Senate on Tuesday, where he said the General Assembly exemplifies the goals of our founding fathers to have a government that is “close to the people, effective and efficient.”

Columbus Day Celebrated at the Capitol

Senate Resolution 258, sponsored by Sen. Ed Harbison (D – Columbus), recognized Tuesday, March 5, as Columbus Day at the Capitol. The City of Columbus was the first consolidated government in Georgia and is ranked 75th in the nation for livability because of its size, diversity and young population. – **SR 258**



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Secretary of the Senate Staff “Walks the Dog”

The job of “walking the dog” or compiling all the paper copies of bills and resolutions in the right order for all 56 senators, staff and media belongs to the Sec. of Senate’s crew.



THURSDAY, MARCH 7

EMCs Providing Broadband Services

Sen. Steve Gooch (R – Dahlonega) sponsored Senate Bill 2 which would enable Georgia’s 41 Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs) to provide internet services and broadband to their customers directly or indirectly through a broadband affiliate. Under SB 2, EMCs would be prohibited from cross subsidizing their broadband services with any other service they provide and the Georgia Public Service Commission would handle any disputes between the EMCs and companies they work with to provide broadband services. SB 2 passed with a vote of 53 to 1. – **SB 2**



Updating Whistleblower Civil Action Process

Senate Bill 58, sponsored by Sen. Zahra Karinshak (D – Duluth), would remove the current requirement that the Attorney General must provide approval when an individual seeks to bring a civil whistleblower action under the Taxpayer Protection False Claims Act. SB 58 passed with a vote of 47 to 5. – **SB 58**

Updating Language Regarding Georgia Halls of Fame

Sen. David Lucas (D – Macon) sponsored Senate Bill 80 which would clarify language regarding the issuance and proposals for a new location, ownership, management or operation of the Georgia Music and Georgia Sports halls of fame. The bill also requires state funds issued to the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame to be utilized for preservation of artifacts with historical significance. SB 80 passed with a vote of 54 to 0. – **SB 80**



Adding Parking Spaces for Disabled Veterans

Senate Bill 103, sponsored by Sen. Gail Davenport (D – Jonesboro), would require airports owned or operated by any political subdivision to provide a minimum of three parking spaces for disabled veterans who display certain license plates recognizing their status. SB 103 passed with a vote of 47 to 4. – **SB 103**

Adding Computer Science Classes to High Schools

Sen. P.K. Martin (R – Lawrenceville) sponsored Senate Bill 108 which would require all public high schools to offer a course in computer science by the 2024-2025 school year. SB 108 details a phase-in schedule, lays out the requirements for charter and middle schools and allows the General Assembly to offer grants, which are subject to appropriations, for professional development for teachers who wish to teach computer science courses. SB 108 passed with a vote of 51 to 1. – **SB 108**

Georgia’s State-wide Business Court

Senate Bill 110, sponsored by Sen. Jesse Stone (R – Waynesboro), would add new provisions to Georgia Code relating to the Statewide Business Court. Specifically, SB 110 clarifies that the Court will be based in Macon-Bibb County, defines the Court’s jurisdiction, outlines the procedures for hearing a case before the Court and establishes the qualifications and selection process for the judge of the Court. SB 110 passed with a vote of 52 to 2. – **SB 110**



Making Changes and Additions to the PDMP

Sen. Larry Walker (R – Perry) sponsored Senate Bill 121 which would increase the amount of time that information is available in the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) from two to five years and would add the Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to those who can have access to the PDMP. SB 121 passed with a vote of 51 to 1. – **SB 121**

“Georgia Major Airport Authority Act”

Senate Bill 131, sponsored by Sen. Burt Jones (R – Jackson), would create a state authority to oversee Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport operations. This legislation would enable the proposed authority to contract with the county where the majority of the airport is located for any necessary services. Additionally, under SB 131 members of the General Assembly, the authority or its employees would have to disclose if they have a direct or indirect interest in a contract that is under consideration by the authority. Under SB 131, there are provisions that if the Georgia General Assembly and the City of Atlanta can come to a joint governance plan by July 1, 2020, the creation of the authority would be dissolved. SB 131 passed with a vote of 34 to 22. – **SB 131**



Updating Georgia’s Insurance Code

Sen. Marty Harbin (R – Tyrone) sponsored Senate Bill 132 which would update Georgia’s Insurance Code by repealing antiquated sections and making updates related to health maintenance organizations. Under SB 132, certain duties of the Insurance Commissioner are outlined and “supervisory college” is defined. SB 132 passed with a vote of 54 to 0. – **SB 132**

TAVT Exemptions and Free License Plates for Disabled First Responders

Senate Bill 138, sponsored by Sen. P.K. Martin (R – Lawrenceville), would allow disabled first responders to receive a free motor vehicle license plate and revalidation decals, would allow them to be exempt from title ad valorem tax on a limited basis and would exempt their disability benefits from income tax. SB 138 passed with a vote of 52 to 0. – **SB 138**

Expanding Financing Opportunities for Broadband Services

Sen. Matt Brass (R – Newnan) sponsored Senate Bill 162 which would expand financing opportunities for development, including downtown development, authorities by enabling them to apply and use Property Access Clean Energy financing for broadband services infrastructure and disaster mitigation improvements. SB 162 passed with a vote of 39 to 14. – **SB 162**

Allowing Homeschoolers to Participate in School Activities

Senate Bill 163, sponsored by Sen. Bruce Thompson (R – White), would allow students who are home schooled to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities in the student’s designated public school system. The bill also outlines eligibility requirements and school systems’ limitations. SB 163 passed with a vote of 35 to 19. – **SB 163**



Expanding Scope of Search for Relatives

Sen. Matt Brass (R – Newnan) sponsored Senate Bill 167 which would require the Department of Family and Child Services (DFCS) to include relatives or fictive kin during their search to house a child. SB 167 would also provide that, if after a thorough search no family members or fictive kin are found, the court can allow the child to continue to be placed with a foster parent. SB 167 passed with a vote of 55 to 0. – **SB 167**

Increasing Salary of Local Government Officials

Senate Bill 171, sponsored by Sen. John Wilkinson (R – Toccoa), updates the compensation of several local government officials including clerks, judges, sheriffs, tax collectors and tax commissioners based on the population of the county in which they serve. This bill would become effective on January 1, 2021. Senate Bill 171 passed with a vote of 51 to 1. – **SB 171**

Creating Boundaries for Municipal Elections

Sen. Matt Brass (R – Newnan) sponsored Senate Bill 177 which would require that any local legislation that addresses the district boundaries of county boards of commissioners, county boards of education, independent boards of education, municipal governing authorities or plans that would create a new municipality must be approved by the Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment Office of the General Assembly before it may be adopted. SB 177 passed with a vote of 54 to 1. – **SB 177**

Establishing Self-Settled Spendthrift Trusts

Sen. Bill Cowsert (R – Athens) sponsored Senate Bill 186 which would establish qualified self-settled spendthrift trusts and define the rights and powers of all associated parties under Georgia law. SB 186 also specifies that assets within the trust are not exempt from legal restitution or court-ordered judgments. In addition, the transfer of assets to a trust may be considered a transfer to an insider. SB 186 passed with a vote of 36 to 18. – **SB 186**



Updating the Child Custody Intrastate Jurisdiction Act

Senate Bill 190, sponsored by Sen. John F. Kennedy (R – Macon), would make several changes to the Child Custody Intrastate Jurisdiction Act. Specifically, SB 190 would remove certain definitions of terms related to child custody and add definitions for “legal custody” and “physical custody.” The bill would also revise procedures relating to child custody including changing the legal status of a child, as well as visitation rights. SB 190 passed with a vote of 52 to 0. – **SB 190**

Requiring Insurance Coverage to Be Listed on Drug Formularies

Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (R – Rome) sponsored Senate Bill 195 which would require insurers and pharmacy benefit managers to post on their webpage the list of drugs that are covered under their health care plans, which drugs are covered for pharmacy and medical and the tier of coverage, if applicable to a plan. SB 195 passed with a vote of 56 to 0. – **SB 195**



Establishing a Public Works Contract Appeals Process

Senate Bill 200, sponsored by Sen. Steve Gooch (R – Dahlonge), would require the Georgia Department of Transportation to create a procedure for contractors to appeal rejected bids for public works projects. SB 200 passed with a vote of 54 to 0. – **SB 200**

Marketing of Meat

Sen. Tyler Harper (R – Ocilla) sponsored Senate Bill 211 which would prohibit marketing food that is not at least 90 percent from a live animal as meat. Under this bill, cattle, swine, sheep, goats, fish and poultry would be defined as “animals.” SB 211 passed with a vote of 48 to 7. – **SB 211**

Adding Options to Courses Student Drivers Can Take

Senate Bill 212, sponsored by Sen. P.K. Martin (R – Lawrenceville), would expand the types of courses a student driver can take to meet state requirements for eligibility to take the written and driving tests. SB 212 passed with a vote of 53 to 1. – **SB 212**

Setting New Deadlines for Campaign Reports

Sen. Bill Heath (R – Breman) sponsored Senate Bill 213 which would outline content required for campaign reports and specify deadlines for reports in election and nonelection years. SB 213 would require campaign contribution disclosure reports in each nonelection year to be filed on June 30 and December 31. The bill would also require campaign contributions made seven days prior to the date of an election that are greater than \$1,000 to be reported within two business days of receipt. SB 213 passed with a vote of 51 to 0. – **SB 213**

Aligning Requirements for Students and Apprenticeships

Senate Bill 412, sponsored by Sen. P.K. Martin (R – Lawrenceville), would align study course requirements for a student and apprentice for the following occupations: cosmetologist, hair designer, esthetician, nail technician, master barber and barber II. SB 214 passed with a vote of 47 to 6. – **SB 214**

Prepaying Property Taxes

Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga) sponsored Senate Bill 216 which would allow homeowners to pay property taxes in advance, if the taxpayer and local government agree to do so. SB 216 passed with a vote of 54 to 0. – **SB 216**

Requiring High School Students to Pass the U.S. Civics Test

Senate Bill 219, sponsored by Sen. Jen Jordan (D – Atlanta), would require high school students and those wishing to receive their general education diploma to take and pass the U.S. Citizenship Civics Test. This test would be included in a student’s U.S. History course of study and students may take the test as many times as necessary. SB 219 passed with a vote of 49 to 0. – **SB 219**



Re-Establishing the Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform

Sen. Jesse Stone (R – Waynesboro) sponsored Senate Bill 222 which would re-establish the Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform which was automatically repealed in 2018. SB 222 specifies that the Council would be composed of 15 members appointed by the governor and must include the chair of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles or their designee. The bill would also require the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to develop a uniform misdemeanor citation and complaint form. SB 222 passed with a vote of 53 to 0. – **SB 222**

Creating Uniform State and Federal Law Regarding Foster Care

Senate Bill 225, sponsored by Sen. Larry Walker (R – Perry), would make several updates to state law regarding foster care. SB 225 makes changes to the definition of “reviewing agency,” requires documentation proving a child was in foster care to be given to those who are aging out of the program and adds a new program for foster care in a “qualified residential treatment program.” SB 225 passed with a vote of 51 to 0. – **SB 225**



Boys & Girls Clubs, Inc. License Plates

Sen. P.K. Martin (R – Lawrenceville) sponsored Senate Bill 227 which would create a specialty license plate for the Georgia Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, Inc. with all proceeds from sales benefiting the clubs. SB 227 passed with a vote of 51 to 1. – **SB 227**

Dedicating Roads and Bridges

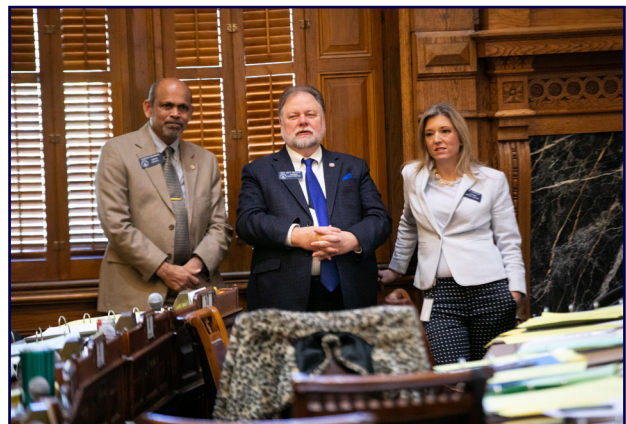
Senate Resolution 67, sponsored by Sen. Lee Anderson (R – Grovetown), would dedicate the names of certain roads and bridges throughout the state to prominent citizens and officers killed in the line of duty. SR 67 passed with a vote of 50 to 0. – **SR 67**

Limiting Congressional Seat Terms

Sen. Bill Cowsert (R – Athens) sponsored Senate Resolution 237 which would limit the terms for members of Congress. SR 237 is an urging resolution asking Congress to call a convention to address term limits and would only be effective if two-thirds of states pass the same urging resolution calling for a convention. SR 237 passed with a vote of 31 to 20. – **SR 237**

Joint Emergency Medical Services Study Committee

Senate Resolution 264, sponsored by Sen. Jeff Mullis (R – Chickamauga), would create the 10-member Joint Emergency Medical Services Study Committee. This committee would review the following regarding emergency medical services: safety standards, accreditation requirements, zoning for 9-1-1 response, proper education, technological advancements and any other applicable topics. SR 264 passed with a vote of 52 to 1. – **SR 264**



Joint Innovation and Emerging Technologies Study Committee

Sen. Renee Unterman (R – Buford) sponsored Senate Resolution 275 which would create the Joint Innovation and Emerging Technologies Study Committee. The 14-member committee would review policies addressing emerging technologies and ways to promote innovation throughout Georgia. SR 275 passed with a vote of 51 to 1. – **SR 275**

Allowing Municipal Court Judges' Training Hours to Roll-Over

House Bill 92, carried by Sen. Matt Brass (R – Newnan), would allow municipal court judges who complete more training hours than required for the year to carry hours over for credit in the next calendar year. The bill caps the number of hours permitted for roll-over to not exceed six hours. HB 92 passed with a vote of 46 to 0. – **HB 92**

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

The Senate Honors the STEM Academy

Senate Resolution 216, sponsored by Sen. Ben Watson (R – Savannah), honored the STEM Academy, a middle school in Savannah-Chatham County, for its contributions to the education and welfare of young Georgians. This January, the STEM Academy was awarded the STEM Excellence Award, a national honor which recognizes innovation in the field of STEM education. – **SR 216**

Senate Celebrates Superintendent Dr. Curtis Jones

Sen. John F. Kennedy (R – Macon) sponsored Senate Resolution 295 which celebrates Dr. Curtis Jones for being named the 2019 National Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Jones serves as Superintendent of the Bibb County School System where he has received Georgia's College Board Linking Award in 2017 and the 2018 Digital School District Survey Award for Large Student Population Districts. – **SR 295**

Spelman College Day at the Capitol

Senate Resolution 311, sponsored by Sen. Gail Davenport (D – Jonesboro), recognized March 8, 2019, as Spelman College Day at the state Capitol. Spelman College was founded in 1881 and will celebrate its 138th anniversary this year. The Senate welcomed members of school leadership and graduates of Spelman College to the state Capitol, recognizing the socio-political activists and cultural influencers who comprise the college. – **SR 311**



**The Georgia Senate will reconvene at 1:00 p.m. on
MONDAY, MARCH 11.**