

**OFFICE OF COMMITTEE SERVICES**

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**TOMORROW'S FORECAST**

- \* The House will reconvene for its 33rd Legislative Day on Thursday, April 1, at 1:00 PM.
- \* 2 bills are expected to be debated on the floor.

**GEORGIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES****DAILY REPORT**

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

32nd Legislative Day

**TODAY ON THE FLOOR****RULES CALENDAR****SB 319 - Education; definition of "textbook" include computer hardware/technical equipment to support use of nonprint or digital content**

- BILL SUMMARY: Allows the State Board of Education to broaden the definition of "textbook" (as pertains to elementary and secondary education) to include textbooks in a digital format, including any computer hardware, software and technical equipment necessary to support such material. Also provides that these provisions are not to be construed to exempt computer hardware or related equipment acquired by the state from competitive bidding.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Cecil Staton of the 18th
- **House Committee:** Science and Technology
- **Rule:** Modified-Open
- **Yeas:** 159; **Nays:** 0

**SB 341 - HOPE; provide person shall be legal Georgia resident to be eligible for a HOPE GED voucher**

- BILL SUMMARY: Senate Bill 341 states that in order to be eligible for the HOPE GED voucher of \$500.00, students must adhere to the eligibility requirements established by the Georgia Student Finance Commission. These requirements are the used in determining eligibility for the HOPE scholarship already.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Seth Harp of the 29th
- **House Committee:** Higher Education
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured
- **Yeas:** 156; **Nays:** 0

**LOCAL CALENDAR****HB 1446 - Clayton County; become participant in MARTA; hold nonbinding referendum**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide a nonbinding referendum for the purpose of deciding whether Clayton County shall become a full participant in MARTA and levy a sales tax in support of MARTA and Clayton County's public transportation needs.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Roberta Abdul-Salaam of the 74th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

**HB 1461 - Tennille, City of; mayor's vote; provide**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide for the mayor's vote in council and a time for signing ordinances passed by council in the City of Tennille.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Mack Jackson of the 142nd
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

**HB 1462 - Coolidge, City of; create new charter**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide a new charter for the City of Coolidge.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Mike Keown of the 173rd
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

**HB 1463 - Lee County, Magistrate Court; increase law library fee; authorize**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide an increase in the law library fee for the Magistrate Court of Lee County.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Bob Hanner of the 148th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

**HB 1467 - Cornelia, City of; levy excise tax; authorize**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to authorize the City of Cornelia to levy a hotel/motel tax.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Rick Austin of the 10th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

**HB 1468 - Dade County Water and Sewer Authority; composition; provide**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide for the composition, selection, terms of office, and filling of vacancies for the Dade County Water and Sewer Authority and to provide for certain duties and responsibilities.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Martin Scott of the 2nd
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

**HB 1469 - Talbot County; elections; composition and appointment of board; change**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to amend the Act which created the board of elections and registration for Talbot County so as to change the composition and manner of appointment of the board members.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Debbie Buckner of the 130th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

**HB 1472 - Gray, Town of; powers of mayor; provide**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to amend the charter of the Town of Gray so as to clarify and add to the duties and responsibilities of the mayor.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Jim Cole of the 125th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 136; **Nays:** 0

*\* The House will reconvene Thursday, April 1, at 1:00 PM, for its 33rd Legislative Day*

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## COMMITTEE ON RULES

**The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 33rd Legislative Day, Thursday, April 1, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker.**

### TOMORROW ON THE FLOOR

#### **SB 206 - Governor; require tax expenditure reviews as part of budget report; provide for definition**

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill requires that the Department of Audits and Accounts prepare a tax expenditure review for the state, and provide such to the Office of Planning and Budget to be included as part of the budget report. The report must detail for each tax expenditure item the amount of tax revenue foregone for a three-year period, including the period covered in the Governor's budget submitted in the preceding January, the current budget, and an estimate of the following year. It will also include the citation of the statutory or other legal authority and the year it was enacted or became effective. The Department of Revenue will be responsible for tracking, compiling, and transferring of said expenditure information to the Department of Audits and Accounts. In the event that required tax expenditure information cannot be accurately determined, the Department of Revenue is authorized to provide estimations.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Greg Goggans of the 7th
- **House Committee:** Appropriations
- **House Committee Passed:** 3/23/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

#### **SB 374 - Legislative Economic Development Council; create**

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill creates the Legislative Economic Development Council to be co-chaired by the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Council will serve the purpose of evaluating the state's overall economic development strategy as well as reviewing all state funded activities and expenditures that go into implementing such strategy. This bill further outlines the composition of the Council as well as the Council's powers and duties. It also requires the Department of Economic Development to prepare a yearly report for submission to the members of the Council and the Governor, detailing the state's programs and activities related to job creation and economic development in Georgia.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Chip Pearson of the 51st
- **House Committee:** Economic Development & Tourism
- **House Committee Passed:** 3/9/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Open

*\* The Rules Committee will next meet on Thursday, April 1, at 11:00 AM, to set the Rules Calendar for the 34th Legislative Day.*

## COMMITTEE ACTION REPORT

### **Health & Human Services**

#### **HR 1449 - Georgia Composite Medical Board; surgery and anesthesia; establish regulations; urge**

- BILL SUMMARY: This resolution urges the Georgia Composite Medical Board to create rules for office-based surgeries.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Sharon Cooper of the 41st
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

### **Health & Human Services**

#### **SB 317 - Health; provide that no law shall compel any person to participate in any health care system; authorize to pay directly without penalties/fines**

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 317 amends 31-1-11 so that no Georgia citizen or company would have to participate in a particular health care system. Additionally the legislation would allow for companies and citizens to purchase health care services in a legal manner without being fined for such activities.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Judson Hill of the 32nd

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Health & Human Services**

### **SB 344 - 'Health Share' Volunteers in Medicine Act'; provide sovereign immunity protection for physician assistants in safety net clinics**

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 344 amends the "Health Share' Volunteers in Medicine Act", 31-8-195.1 O.C.G.A., to include physicians assistants in the group of medical professionals who may be considered an employee of the state in relation to immunity for work performed according to the Health Share' Volunteers in Medicine Act.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Lee Hawkins of the 49th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Health & Human Services**

### **SB 353 - Controlled Substances; Schedule I, II, IV, and V; definition of "dangerous drug"; provisions**

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 353 amends 16-13 to classify new drugs into their respective schedules, as well reclassify certain drugs to different schedules. This is the annual drug list update bill.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Earl "Buddy" Carter of the 1st

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Interstate Cooperation**

### **HR 1646 - President Obama and Congress; reject legalizing illegal aliens; urge**

- BILL SUMMARY: This Resolution urges The President of the United States and Congress to reject legalizing illegal aliens.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Bobby C Reese of the 98th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Intragovernmental Coordination - Local**

### **HB 1470 - Henry County; levy excise tax; authorize**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to authorize Henry County to levy a hotel/motel tax.

- **Authored By:** Rep. John Lunsford of the 110th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Intragovernmental Coordination - Local**

### **HB 1478 - Dexter, town of; municipal corporate limits; change**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to change the corporate limits of the Town of Dexter.

- **Authored By:** Rep. DuBose Porter of the 143rd

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Intragovernmental Coordination - Local**

### **HB 1480 - Clinch County; composition and election of governing authority; change**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide a referendum in Clinch County to determine whether to abolish the position of county-wide elected chairperson of the Clinch County Board of Commissioners and replace it with a five-member board elected by district.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Jay Shaw of the 176th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Intragovernmental Coordination - Local**

### **HB 1482 - Stockbridge, City of; councilmember elections; advisory referendum; provide**

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide a referendum in the City of Stockbridge to determine whether the councilmembers should continue to be elected at-large or from a combination of single-member and at-large districts.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Steve Davis of the 109th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## Judiciary

### **HR 1646 - President Obama and Congress; reject legalizing illegal aliens; urge**

- BILL SUMMARY: This Resolution urges The President of the United States and Congress to reject legalizing illegal aliens.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Bobby C Reese of the 98th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## Judiciary Non-Civil

### **SB 6 - Driver's Licenses; restricted; change the penalty for violation**

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill provides that when a person is required to wear prescription glasses but is not wearing them at the time of a traffic offense the court may order the Department of Driver Services to suspend the license for a period not to exceed six months, but is not required to do so.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Bill Jackson of the 24th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

## Judiciary Non-Civil

### **SB 112 - Courts; additional criminal penalties for purposes of drug abuse treatment/education programs; revise provisions**

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill addresses the Accountability Courts. Currently O.C.G.A. § 15-21-100 requires that courts impose additional fines for certain drug convictions, and O.C.G.A. § 15-21-101 requires that these funds be deposited into each county's Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Fund. SB 112 would expand the number of offenses for which this additional fine will be imposed to include many other drug offenses listed in the Georgia Code. SB 112 would also amend this code section to state that funds from the county Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Fund may be allocated to the county drug court division if such division has been established, which would expand the funds available to drug courts.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Preston W. Smith of the 52nd
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

## Judiciary Non-Civil

### **SB 299 - Juvenile Proceedings; zero tolerance policy on weapons in schools; change provisions**

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill changes provisions regarding the zero tolerance policy on weapons in schools, but only for cases involving children. Currently, school administrators are not given the opportunity to use any discretion in applying the policy. This bill will provide needed flexibility.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Emanuel Jones of the 10th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

## Public Safety and Homeland Security

### **HR 1826 - Georgia Building Authority; additional disabled persons parking; urge**

- BILL SUMMARY: HR 1826 urges the Georgia Building Authority to provide additional parking for disabled persons visiting the state capitol building.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Earnest Williams of the 89th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## Public Safety and Homeland Security

### **SB 397 - "Blue Alert"; create state-wide system to speed the apprehension of violent criminals; local, state, and federal law enforcement officers**

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 397 establishes a state-wide alert system known as "Blue Alert" for when a law enforcement officer is injured by a perpetrator who has not been apprehended.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis of the 53rd
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Public Safety and Homeland Security**

### **SB 410 - Motor Vehicles; designate ambulances as emergency vehicles; exclude certain ambulance providers from certain permit requirements**

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 410 eliminates the permitting and fee requirement for emergency lights on licensed ambulances.
- **Authored By:** Sen. John Douglas of the 17th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **Retirement**

### **SB 436 - Retirement; repeal certain obsolete and inoperative provisions**

- BILL SUMMARY: No Summary Available
- **Authored By:** Sen. Bill Heath of the 31st
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **State Institutions & Property**

### **SB 455 - State Properties Code; modifying certain provisions; acquiring real property through commission**

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill amends Title 50, Chapter 16 relating to the acquisition of real property through the State Properties Commission. The bill clarifies current language of code section 50-16-38, clarifying the amount of real property acquisitions requiring SPC approval, and increases the efficiency with which the SPC can provide executed deeds to local governments who need them to clear titles.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Johnny Grant of the 25th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

## **State Institutions & Property**

### **SR 1083 - Public Property; conveyance; 11 counties**

- BILL SUMMARY: This Resolution authorizes the State of Georgia, acting through its State Properties Commission to convey certain State owned properties.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Johnny Grant of the 25th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

*\* Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office, and are then placed on the General Calendar.*

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## COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

### Thursday, April 01, 2010

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	<u>Environmental Quality Subcommittee of Natural Resources</u>	403 CAP
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	<u>Resource Management Subcommittee of Natural Resources</u>	403 CAP- or Upon Adj. of Environmental Sub.
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	<u>GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS</u>	406 CLOB
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<u>MOTOR VEHICLES</u>	406 CLOB
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<u>Setzler Subcommittee of Judiciary Non-Civil</u>	403 CAP
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<u>ENERGY, UTILITIES &amp; TELECOMMUNICATIONS</u>	606 CLOB
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<u>Science &amp; Technology Subcommittee</u>	415 CLOB
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<u>STATE PLANNING &amp; COMMUNITY AFFAIRS</u>	515 CLOB
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<u>JUDICIARY CIVIL</u>	132 CAP
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<u>RULES</u>	341 CAP

\* This broadcast schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meetings dates and times are subject to change. To keep up with the latest schedule please visit the General Assembly website [www.legis.ga.gov](http://www.legis.ga.gov) and click on House Meetings. To view the live stream of these meetings, please visit the Georgia Legislative Network.