

OFFICE OF COMMITTEE SERVICES

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NEXT WEEKS FORECAST

- * The House will reconvene for its 38th Legislative Day on Wednesday, April 21, at 10:00 AM.
- * 15 bills are expected to be debated on the floor.



GEORGIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DAILY REPORT



Tuesday, April 20, 2010

37th Legislative Day

TODAY ON THE FLOOR

MOTIONS TO AGREE

HB 703 - County property; granted first right to purchase condemned property; provide

- BILL SUMMARY: House Bill 703 requires that county's contact original owners before selling previously condemned property or their next of kin if the original owner is deceased. This will allow for either the original owner or next of kin to be the first to purchase property that is being disposed of.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Tommy Smith of the 168th
- **House Committee:** State Planning & Community Affairs
- **A motion to agree represents final passage of this bill.**

RULES CALENDAR

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
- **House Committee:** Judiciary Non-Civil
- **Rule:** Modified-Open
- **Yeas:** 167; **Nays:** 0

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
- **House Committee:** Health & Human Services
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured
- **Yeas:** 158; **Nays:** 2

SB 354 - Public Roads; further declare authority of counties/municipalities to remove roads from their systems when removal is in best public interest

- BILL SUMMARY: Allows county or municipal governments to abandon roads from the respective local road system if it is deemed in the best interest of the public.
- **Authored By:** Sen. David Shafer of the 48th
- **House Committee:** Transportation
- **Rule:** Modified-Open
- **Yeas:** 163; **Nays:** 0

SB 456 - Redevelopment; directors of downtown development authority designated as urban redevelopment agency; serve as commissioners

- BILL SUMMARY: Senate Bill 456 would allow directors and elected officials to serve as commissioners of urban redevelopment agencies.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis of the 53rd
- **House Committee:** State Planning & Community Affairs
- **Rule:** Modified-Open
- **Amendments(s):** AM 25 1211: Rep. Mark Hatfield
- **Yeas:** 158; **Nays:** 3

LOCAL CALENDAR

HB 1483 - Johns Creek, City of; maximum ad valorem tax levied by city; change provisions

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to change provisions relating to the maximum rate of ad valorem taxation to be levied by the City of Johns Creek and to change the corporate limits.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Mark Burkhalter of the 50th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 144; **Nays:** 0

HB 1502 - Hinesville, City of; limit compensation increases for mayor and councilmembers; provide

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide compensation limitations for the mayor and councilmembers of the City of Hinesville and to clarify their powers and duties.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Terry Barnard of the 166th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 144; **Nays:** 0

HB 1503 - Clayton County Civil Service Act; review and appeal decisions; change provisions

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide for review by certiorari to the superior court relating to review and appeal of decisions of the Clayton County civil service board.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Mike Glanton of the 76th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 144; **Nays:** 0

HB 1504 - St. Marys Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority; two additional members; provide

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide for two additional members to the St. Marys Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority, to provide for their removal, to provide for their method of selection, to provide for terms, to provide for staggered terms for initial members, to provide for a quorum, and to provide standards to avoid conflicts of interest.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Cecily Hill of the 180th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 144; **Nays:** 0

HB 1505 - Waco, City of; provide new charter

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide a new charter for the City of Waco.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Mark Butler of the 18th
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 144; **Nays:** 0

HB 1506 - Turner County; board of elections and registration; create

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to create the Turner County Board of Elections and Registration and to provide for its powers and duties.
- **Authored By:** Rep. Austin Scott of the 153rd
- **House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
- **Rule:** Open
- **Yeas:** 144; **Nays:** 0

NOTES

SB 432 initially passed the House floor, but was reconsidered and recommitted to the Rules Committee to make a technical spelling change.

* *The House will reconvene Wednesday, April 21, at 10:00 AM, for its 38th Legislative Day*

COMMITTEE ON RULES

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 38th Legislative Day, Wednesday, April 21, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker.

TOMORROW ON THE FLOOR

HR 1435 - House Study Committee on Hotel-Motel Tax; create

- BILL SUMMARY: This resolution forms the House Study Committee on Hotel-Motel Tax charged with evaluating matters relating to hotel-motel tax administration, collections, accounting and expenditures. It further provides for the composition of this study committee and authorizes it to appoint an advisory council.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Ron Stephens of the 164th
- **House Committee:** Economic Development & Tourism
- **House Committee Passed:** 3/22/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Open

HR 1713 - Health Departments; support system for Georgians with Disabilities; submit plan; request

- BILL SUMMARY: This urging resolution asks the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the Department of Community Health, and the Department of Human Services to provide the General Assembly with a strategic plan, developed in conjunction with the Olmstead coordinator. The plan should set priorities for home and community based services for people with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, mental health issues, and traumatic brain injury and to support a multiyear funding commitment projecting the appropriations necessary to address the need for services for these Georgians.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Judy Manning of the 32nd
- **House Committee:** Children & Youth
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/13/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 17 - Election; increase filing fees/fines for campaign, financial, and lobbyist disclosure reports that are filed late

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill renames the State Ethics Commissions the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission. It would have the authority to investigate all public officials in the state. The General Assembly's Joint Legislative Ethics Committee would be abolished. Anyone would be allowed to file a complaint against an elected official, but if the commission ruled the case was frivolous, the person bringing the suit would have to pay the official's legal fees. It requires lobbyists to disclose spending every 15 days instead of 30 days during the legislative session and 30 days instead of three months when not in session. Lobbyists would be required to pay a \$300 annual registration fee and fines for violating rules would be increased. Financial disclosure requirements for legislators would be increased. Fines for officials and candidates who did not file would be increased. Lobbyists would not be allowed to initiate electronic communication with legislators when they were in session or committee.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Seth Harp of the 29th
- **House Committee:** Ethics
- **House Committee Passed:** 3/25/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 136 - Penal Institutions; U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Rapid Removal of Eligible Parolees Accepted for Transfer; participate

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill provides for renewal and codification of agreements between the state and the federal government regarding implementation of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Rapid Removal of Eligible Parolees Accepted for Transfer (REPAT) Program.

Georgia signed a similar agreement on October 3, 2008 which allowed the state to participate in a trial version of this program. This bill codifies that agreement and brings the language in the statute in line with the current federal guidelines for the program.

- **Authored By:** Sen. John Douglas of the 17th
- **House Committee:** Judiciary Non-Civil
- **House Committee Passed:** 3/25/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 237 - Commerce/Trade; prohibit pricing practices during an abnormal market disruption; petroleum products; define terms

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 237 will require the Governor to specify what goods and services cannot increase their prices during a state of emergency. Currently, all previously listed goods and services are automatically frozen, even if they are not directly affected by the state of emergency.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis of the 53rd
- **House Committee:** Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/12/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 310 - Insurance; pharmacy benefits managers; regulation and licensure

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 310 provides that Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM's) shall be regulated and licensed by the Insurance Commissioner's Office. Further, this bill provides for regulation and licensure of multiple employer self-insured health plans by the Commissioner of Insurance.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Lee Hawkins of the 49th
- **House Committee:** Insurance
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/13/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 324 - Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council; clarify the authority of the council to impose administrative fees

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill amends 35-8-7 to add the imposition of administrative fees for services provided pursuant to Code to the duties and powers of the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training Council.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Johnny Grant of the 25th
- **House Committee:** Public Safety and Homeland Security
- **House Committee Passed:** 2/17/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 340 - Education; require school systems to adopt a reporting system for the purpose of determining potential HOPE eligibility

- BILL SUMMARY: Senate Bill 340 would require each school system, private and public, to send an electronic transcript to the Georgia Student Finance Commission for each student (9th-11th grade). In order to give school counselors, parents and students the ability to determine whether their academic standing will render them eligible for HOPE before 12th grade, the Georgia Student Finance Commission will evaluate grades as well as the schools grading scale to give an accurate record through out a students academic career. Each school system will be required to begin sending electronic transcripts of all students to GSFC in 2011. This measure will also insure that each school will be required to send the student current HOPE GPA to the parent.

While currently, this type of reporting is required for 12th grade students, Senate Bill 340 would initiate the tracking process when students enter high school. This tool will insure that students are fully aware of their eligibility status for the HOPE scholarship before applying or entering a postsecondary institution.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Seth Harp of the 29th
- **House Committee:** Higher Education
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/14/2010
- **Rule:** Open

SB 346 - Ad Valorem Taxes; revise comprehensive provisions

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 346 provides for comprehensive changes to the property tax code. It provides that notices of property value assessments will be sent out by the board of assessors annually, rather than only in years when the value is changed. This will ensure every property owner has a right to appeal their valuation every year. It also provides for a state-wide uniform assessment notice to be established by the commissioner of the Department of Revenue. This notice must contain an estimate of current year's taxes which will use the current assessment and the previous year's millage rate.

The bill also provides for a new appeal process for non-homestead properties valued at \$1 million or more. Appeals on these properties may be made to a hearing officer which will be a certified appraiser. Just as with appeals to the board of equalization, decisions of the hearing officers may be appealed to the superior court. The bill provides for oversight of the boards of equalization and the hearing officers by the clerk of the superior court. The bill also provides that the transaction amount of an arms length, bona fide sale shall be the maximum fair market value for tax purposes in the next taxable year following the sale. "Arms length, bona fide sale" is defined in the bill as a transaction between unaffiliated parties.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Chip Rogers of the 21st

- **House Committee:** Ways & Means

- **House Committee Passed:** 4/14/2010

- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 389 - State Auditor; website of Dept. of Audits and Accounts; applicable to public information; operation, maintenance; provisions

- BILL SUMMARY: This legislation amends sections of the Georgia Code known as the Transparency in Government Act. It changes reporting requirements of the Department of Audits and Accounts by mandating the creation of a public information website that will display: the State of Georgia Comprehensive Annual Financial Report; the annual Budgetary Compliance Report; the annual State of Georgia Single Audit Report; salaries and expenses of all employees and board members; a list of consultant and professional services expenses; State Budget in brief, indexed by reporting agency; all performance audits conducted by the department for the preceding five years; and an indexed listing of all agencies and end users receiving federal funding and their expenditures. At the close of each fiscal year, information will be added to the website that shows grant and contract payments made or due to vendors by agencies, including all payments made through economic and incentive programs operated by the Department of Economic Development, the Department of Labor, the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, and the Georgia Lottery Corporation for state fiscal year 2009 and each year after. Available information will include a list of all obligations entered into by the agency in excess of \$50,000, as well as the names of individuals or corporations receiving more than \$20,000 in the preceding fiscal year.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Jim Butterworth of the 50th

- **House Committee:** Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight

- **House Committee Passed:** 4/12/2010

- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 421 - Budget/Financial Affairs; Revenue Shortfall Reserve; not exceed 15 percent of previous year's net revenue for any fiscal year

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill prohibits the Revenue Shortfall Reserve from exceeding 15 percent of the previous fiscal year's net revenue for any given fiscal year.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Jack Hill of the 4th

- **House Committee:** Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight

- **House Committee Passed:** 4/12/2010

- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 447 - State; preference to in-state materialmen, contractors, builders, when preference does not impair quality and cost considerations

- BILL SUMMARY: The provisions of SB 447 seek to discourage other states from adopting laws that give preference to in-state

contractors, contracting with their state agencies, to the competitive disadvantage of Georgia contractors and vendors. To this end, SB 447 has three main provisions.

The first provision establishes a new definition for a Georgia resident business to be any business that regularly maintains a place

from which business is physically conducted in Georgia for at least one year prior to any bid or proposal submitted pursuant to this

Code section or a new business that is domiciled in Georgia which regularly maintains a place from which business is physically conducted in Georgia.

Secondly, SB 447 creates a reciprocity arrangement with other states that adopt laws preferential to their in-state resident businesses.

Finally, this bill requires all entities of state government to adhere to the policies and procedures contained in the State Construction Manual.

- **Authored By:** Sen. John Bulloch of the 11th
- **House Committee:** Governmental Affairs
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/1/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Open

SB 457 - Education; provide local board of education may act on petition for a conversion charter school for a high school cluster; referendum

- **BILL SUMMARY:** Senate Bill 457 relates to the approval or denial of charter petitions for conversion charter schools for a high school cluster. The high school cluster petition must receive at least 60% approval from the combined vote of the faculty and instructional staff of the high school cluster and parents or guardians of students to be approved for submitting to the local board.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Dan Weber of the 40th
- **House Committee:** Education
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/13/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SB 480 - State Council of Economic Advisors; creation; provide composition, duties, and responsibilities

- **BILL SUMMARY:** This legislation calls for the creation of the State Council of Economic Advisors. The Council will consist of five members, three of which will be appointed by the Governor, one by the Speaker of the House and one by the President of the Senate. Each member must either be an economist or have expertise in Georgia state revenues. The council will be charged with determining the amount of unappropriated surplus expected to have accrued in the state treasury and anticipated revenue collections for the next fiscal year. The Governor is authorized to reduce these estimates after they've been submitted, but cannot increase figures without the agreement of the council.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Jack Hill of the 4th
- **House Committee:** Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/12/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Structured

SR 822 - Transportation, Dept. of; urged to seek waiver from Federal Highway Administration to allow retail developments along interstate highway

- **BILL SUMMARY:** This resolution urges the Georgia Department of Transportation to seek a waiver from the Federal Highway Administration in order allow retail developments in rest areas along the interstate highway system.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis of the 53rd
- **House Committee:** Transportation
- **House Committee Passed:** 4/13/2010
- **Rule:** Modified-Open

** The Rules Committee will next meet on Wednesday, April 21, at 9:00 AM, to set the Rules Calendar for the 39th Legislative Day.*

COMMITTEE ACTION REPORT

Defense & Veterans Affairs

SB 518 - Education; require study of the pledge of allegiance to the flag of United States and Georgia flag; American institutions and ideals

- BILL SUMMARY: The legislation adds a requirement that the pledge of allegiance and the history of the pledge be taught in Georgia Schools.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis of the 53rd

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Education

HR 1950 - Education, Department of; inform students about dangers of explicit or graphic texts; urge

- BILL SUMMARY: House Resolution 1950 urges the Georgia Department of Education to implement a strategy for informing students about the danger of sending explicit or graphic texts. HR 1950 asks the schools to provide education materials and hold an age-appropriate assembly or other forum on the issue.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Sheila Jones of the 44th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Education

SB 521 - Education; provide for enrollment counts for students in certain dual enrollment programs

- BILL SUMMARY: Senate Bill 521 relates to financing for enrollment counts for students in certain dual enrollment programs under the Quality Basic Education Formula. The State Board of Education shall designate the specific assigned program for each student in each of the one-sixth segments of the day two times a year. In the past, students that were dual enrolled were not counted for the segments they would be assigned to in the high school, if they were attending a postsecondary course. With the passage of SB 521 students that are dual enrolled but stay at the high school for the postsecondary program will be counted at the full funding costs. Senate Bill 521 also establishes that the State Board of Education will provide a common statewide evaluation system for assessing teacher's performance.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Dan Weber of the 40th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Education

SR 153 - Education Improvement Districts; provide creation and comprehensive regulation -CA

- BILL SUMMARY: Senate Resolution 153 proposes Constitutional Amendment to authorize the General Assembly to provide, by local law, for the creation of education improvement districts. The education improvement districts will be used to provide facilities or land for one or more public schools. Facilities or land may be used for construction of new school facilities, capitol improvements to existing school facilities, leasing school facilities or a combination.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Dan Weber of the 40th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Governmental Affairs

SB 384 - Buildings; pre-owned manufactured homes; provide Safety Fire Commissioner shall promulgate standards

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 384 provides that the Safety Fire Commissioner (Insurance Commissioner) shall promulgate standards for pre-owned manufactured homes to protect the safety, health, and welfare of the inhabitants of pre-owned manufactured homes. Further, it establishes the procedure for inspection of said homes.

Under SB 384, local governments will be allowed to establish their own standards so long as they are not more stringent than the state standard and/or do not conflict with the state standard.

- **Authored By:** Sen. John Bulloch of the 11th

- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Governmental Affairs

SB 493 - Vital Records; provide for execution of death certificates for burn victims

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 493 provides that whenever the death of a nonresident burn victim occurs in a treatment facility following the transportation of such victim from an incident occurring in another state, only the attending physician shall be required to complete and sign the death certificate.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Hardie Davis of the 22nd
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Insurance

SB 50 - Insurance; contracting entities; prohibit access to a provider's health care services/contractual discount by certain contracting entities; definitions

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 50 seeks to provide transparency within the contracting processes of health insurance companies' rental networks. The bill defines "rental networks" and requires them to register with the Department of Insurance. Finally, it provides a remedy for Doctor's that are not reimbursed at the correct contracted rate.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Ralph T Hudgens of the 47th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Insurance

SB 363 - State Employee's Health Insurance Plan; Georgia Student Finance Authority; contract in any state health insurance plan

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 363 allows the Department of Community Health to contract with the Georgia Student Finance Authority for the purpose of participating in the State Health Benefit Plan. Because the Georgia Student Finance Authority is self funding, there is no cost to the state.

- **Authored By:** Sen. Greg Goggans of the 7th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

HB 1430 - Bartow County; levy excise tax; authorize

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

- **Authored By:** Rep. Paul Battles of the 15th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

HB 1507 - Clarkston, City of; election and powers of the mayor; provide

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide for the powers of the mayor, to provide for the election and terms of the mayor and councilmembers and, to provide for the appointment of a city manager in the City of Clarkston.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Karla Drenner of the 86th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

HB 1508 - DeKalb County; district services; change definition

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide a definition for the term 'district services' in the DeKalb County Special Services Tax Districts Act, so as to impose certain requirements and limitations upon ad valorem taxes levied by DeKalb County to finance the provision of certain governmental services.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Stephanie Benfield of the 85th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

HB 1509 - Savannah, City of; Chatham County; board of education members; add qualifications

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to provide for terms of office and additional qualifications for the members of the Savannah and Chatham County Board of Education.

- **Authored By:** Rep. Mickey Stephens of the 161st
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

SB 543 - Baldwin County; ad valorem taxes for county purposes; reduce the age for qualifying for such homestead exemption from 65 to 60 years

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to change the age for qualifying for a homestead exemption from Baldwin County ad valorem taxes for county purposes for senior citizens from 65 to 60 years of age.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Johnny Grant of the 25th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local

SB 544 - DeKalb County Ad Valorem Taxes; extend exemption for another five-year period

- BILL SUMMARY: A Bill to amend the homestead exemption from DeKalb County ad valorem taxes for county purposes in an amount equal to the amount by which the current year assessed value of a homestead exceeds the base year assessed value of such homestead by extending the exemption for another five-year period.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Dan Weber of the 40th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Judiciary

HR 1994 - House Study Committee on Damages for Conversion of Timber; create

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill creates a House Study Committee on Damages for Conversion for Timber and Property Law Modernization and Standardization and Surveying (establishment of boundaries, surveying, and the use the processioning).
- **Authored By:** Rep. Debbie Buckner of the 130th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Judiciary

SB 7 - Truth in Testimony Act; require an oath for purposes of presenting certain evidence to committee/subcommittee of General Assembly

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill amends Code Section 15-10-105 to provide that the General Assembly may at any time specify by local law who shall serve as clerk of magistrate court.
This bill also includes a provision whereby the clerk of superior court and the clerk of state court shall be given notice at least on week prior to a successor being appointed.
Finally, this bill raises the limit for claims in magistrate court to \$25,000. The current limit is \$15,000.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Ed Tarver of the 22nd
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Judiciary

SB 362 - Property; liens of mechanics/materialmen; waiver and release upon payment

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill allows a claim of lien to be amended at any time to reduce the amount claimed. The amended claim of lien shall relate back to the date of filing for record of the original claim of lien.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Dan Weber of the 40th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Judiciary

SB 414 - "Jared Little Act"; Georgia State Indemnification Fund; payment shall be made to parents/siblings

- BILL SUMMARY: This act is known as the "Jared Little Act." The bill provides that, in the case of death or organic brain damage suffered in the line of duty by a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management specialist, or prison guard, if such person does not have an unremarried spouse or dependents, the indemnification payment shall be made to the parents or siblings of such person.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis of the 53rd
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Public Safety and Homeland Security

SB 291 - Firearms; laws concerning carrying of concealed weapons; revise comprehensively

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 291 streamlines the renewal process for permit holders and clarifies the ability for permit holders to carry in the non-secure areas of the airport.
- **Authored By:** Sen. David Shafer of the 48th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass

Public Safety and Homeland Security

SB 360 - Motor Vehicles; prohibit persons 18 years of age or younger from using wireless telecommunications devices; text messages

- BILL SUMMARY: SB 360 bans texting while driving for all drivers while drivers with an instruction permit or Class D license and under 18 years of age are banned from all cell phone use altogether.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Jack Murphy of the 27th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Regulated Industries

SB 148 - Georgia Occupational Regulation Review Law; review of existing regulatory entities to determine the need for change to current reg.

- BILL SUMMARY: This bill authorizes the Georgia Occupational Regulation Review Council to conduct periodic reviews of each existing regulatory entity to determine applicability and necessity of such entity's authority. It also requires the Council to follow such review with a report to the Georgia General Assembly recommending the changes it deems necessary. Upon evaluation of the Council's report and consideration of governmental and societal costs and benefits, the Georgia General Assembly will make the choice to keep, amend or repeal the regulation of a regulatory agency in question. In addition, this bill establishes a Georgia Government Accountability Act which provides a method that can be used to review the efficiency and productivity of state agencies. It further requires the Legislative Sunset Committee, comprised of the Senate and House appropriations committees, to conduct such reviews and recommend keeping, reorganizing or abolishing such agencies to the General Assembly.
- **Authored By:** Sen. David Shafer of the 48th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Transportation

SB 526 - Public Roads; provide for regulation of oversize and overweight loads on streets or highway

- BILL SUMMARY: Allows State Road and Tollway Authority to extend credit or make loans to any person, firm, corporation, limited liability company or other type of entity for planning, design, construction, acquisition, financing, refinancing, operating, maintenance, or carrying out of any projects that the authority may deem necessary.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Hardie Davis of the 22nd
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Ways & Means

SB 118 - Appraisers; prohibit persons who are serving/have served a member of county board of tax assessors from serving as employee of the board

- BILL SUMMARY: Senate Bill 118 prohibits persons serving on county board of tax assessors, or who have served during the preceding 12 month period, from serving as an employee of such board until the expiration of the 12 month period following their service as a member of the board. This bill grandfathers in those serving as a board member or employee of the board on July 1, 2010, but only for the remainder of the term the person is appointed for.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Robert Brown of the 26th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Ways & Means

SB 409 - Taxes; provide statement of intent of General Assembly; granting a tax break; raw forest products

- BILL SUMMARY: Senate Bill 409 expresses the intent of the General Assembly to offer any non-statutory economic incentives granted on or after July 1, 2010 to any entity engaged in the use of raw forest products equitably to all users in this state. The bill attempts to prevent direct price subsidies being granted by the state to any specific entity which uses raw forest products without providing it to all users.
- **Authored By:** Sen. Ronnie Chance of the 16th
- **Committee Action:** Do Pass



COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	<u>RULES</u>	341 CAP
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Thursday, April 22, 2010

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<u>JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL</u>	132 CAP
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Friday, April 23, 2010 : No Meetings Today

** 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 and click on House Meetings. To view the live stream of these meetings, please visit the Georgia Legislative Network.*