



**FULTON
COUNTY**

**Fulton County Board of Commissioners
March 2, 2022**

State Legislative Update

Ensure Local Home Rule: Redistricting

**Strengthen Behavioral Health Model & Funding
For Substance Abuse Treatment & Prevention**

**Create A More Efficient & Effective
Justice System - Compensation for Officials**

**Create A More Efficient & Effective Justice System
– Diversion & Reentry Programs**

**Create A More Efficient & Effective Justice System
– Codify Judicial Practices**

Support Certain Evictions Record Sealing

**Support Homeowner Protections With Greater
HOA Transparency**



2022 State Legislative Agenda

Fulton County Redistricting

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<u>SB 437</u> – Fulton County Board of Commissioners; Change description of Districts; Sen. Albers (56th)	Bill provides new district lines and map for Fulton County District. Map used for this bill is the original map designed for Senator Albers, which is based on the Board of Commissioners' approved map.	Adopted by both chambers; awaiting Governor's signature

Evictions Public Relief

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 894 – Property; prospective tenant shall not be refused a rental or lease agreement solely based upon a previous eviction due to COVID-19; Rep. Boddie (62nd)	No landlord or owner of real estate shall refuse to enter into a rental or lease agreement with a prospective tenant if such refusal is solely based upon such prospective tenant being previously evicted during a period when a public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic was declared to exist by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services.	Second Readers; House Judiciary Committee
HB 1149 – Georgia Evictions Records Restriction Act; Rep. Burnough (77th) & Rep. Boddie (62nd)	Bill provides for one-time sealing of evictions records caused by non-payment of rent during a public health emergency and under other adjudication terms.	Second Readers; House Judiciary Committee

Health & Human Services

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<u>HB 1092</u> – Georgia Women's CARE Act: Court Sentence Deference for Pregnant Women; Rep. Cooper (43 rd)	This bill allows women who are pregnant at the time of conviction of a crime to have their sentence deferred until six weeks after they have given birth.	House Adopted; Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee
<u>HB 1192</u> – Treatment under Medicaid to persons with HIV; Rep. Cooper (43 rd)	This bill requires the Department of Community Health to submit a Section 1115 waiver request to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid for a demonstration project to provide treatment services under Medicaid to persons in this state living with HIV.	House Adopted; Referred to Senate Health and Human Services Committee
<u>HB 1404</u> – Community Health, Department; submit waiver request to qualify for Medicaid reimbursement	This bill requires the Department of Community Health to apply for federal approval in order for Crisis-Stabilization Units to qualify for Medicaid reimbursement.	House Second Readers; Health & Human Services Committee
<u>SB 338</u> – Medicaid; Postpartum coverage; Sen. Burke (11 th)	Postpartum care for mothers would be extended for a period of six months to one year.	House Second Readers; Health & Human Services Committee
<u>HB 752</u> – Psychiatric Advance Directive; Rep. Cooper (43 rd)	Provides for a competent adult to express their preference for mental health care treatment thru instructions or an agent.	House Adopted; Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

Behavioral Health Reforms

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 853 – Mental Health treatment alternatives to imprisonment; Rep. Scott (76th)	Bill would address defendants with mental health issues who plead guilty or nolo contendere. This bill would allow any defendant who was eligible for public mental health services to petition the court for mental health treatment to be included in their sentence.	House Second Readers; Judiciary Non-Civil
HB 1013 – Mental Health Parity Act; (Omnibus) Speaker David Ralston (7th)	Bill proposes to: Require parity for mental health insurance coverage; Increase the number of mental health professionals in the state; Provide help to first responders help on mental health crisis calls; Improve data and transparency including enforcement of the Federal Parity Act of 2008 by requiring public reports	Second Hearing in House Health & Human Services Committee
SB 342 – Sen Kirkpatrick Mental Health Parity Insurance; Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd)	This bill establishes reporting requirements for insurance companies to ensure that there is mental health parity within healthcare plans.	Senate Adopted; House Second Readers; Health and Human Services

Elections

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 886 – Security Tracking of the Security Ballot Paper; Rep. Powell (32nd)	This bill requires new security ballot paper be in locked containers; sealed and numbered, with the numbers recorded on tracking forms. Persons in possession of the containers must provide written confirmation with the date/time, number of ballots to tract chain of custody.	Governmental Affairs Favorably Reported
HB 933 – Retention of ballots; Rep. Blackmon, (146th)	This bill allows persons to inspect ballots and other elections documents (following election returns) held by the Clerk of Superior Court. No one outside the Clerk’s office will physically handle the ballots.	Hearing in Governmental Affairs
HB 1085 – Elections; option for municipalities to adopt and use instant runoff voting; Rep. Gullett (19th)	Bill would allow for instant runoff (or ranked choice) voting in municipal elections. Voters would indicate their preference for each office by marking a “1” next to their first choice, a “2” for the second choice, etc. for the political party in whose primary the elector desires to vote. In the case of a runoff, the candidate who receives the elector’s highest designation would receive the vote.	Hearing in Governmental Affairs
SB 325 – Elections and Primaries; Sen. Miller (49th)	Bill eliminates the use of absentee ballot drop boxes and related legal provisions in the Official Code of Georgia.	Senate Read & Referred to Ethics
SB 0538 – Elections and Primaries; fraud countermeasures on physical absentee ballots; require; Sen. Harbin (16th)	This bill requires certain fraud countermeasures on physical absentee ballots including the use of unique security paper. These ballots shall only be required in the event of a specific appropriation of funds by the General Assembly to the office of the Secretary of State to reimburse each election superintendent, county, or municipality for the costs of acquiring the ballots and associated equipment.	Senate Read & Referred to Ethics

Public Safety and the Courts

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 1134 – Prosecute offenses involving criminal gang activity; provide for concurrent authority; Rep. Efstration (104th)	This bill amends Code Section 16-15-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to participation in criminal gang activity prohibited, so as to provide for the concurrent authority of prosecuting attorneys and the Attorney General to prosecute offenses involving criminal gang activity.	House Adopted; Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee
SB 277 – Firearms Carry laws for court; Sen. Mullis (53rd)	This bill authorizes Solicitors to carry handguns in any courthouse.	Senate Adopted; House Second Readers; Public Safety Committee
SB 319 – "Georgia Constitutional Carry Act of 2021"; Sen. Anavitarte (31st)	Bill would eliminate gun permit requirement in order to carry a gun in public if the individual is a lawful weapons carrier.	Senate Adopted
SB 505 – Communications Officers: Require Training to Deliver of High-quality Telephone Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation; Sen. Robertson (29th)	This bill requires 911 Communications Officers to receive training for performing high-quality telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation.	Senate Adopted; House First Readers; Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

Study Committees

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
SR 0298 – Senate Annexation Study Committee; Sen. Beach (21st)	This resolution creates a five-member Senate Annexation Study Committee to study Article 7 of Chapter 36 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated in 2007 to provide an annexation dispute resolution procedure update.	Referred to Senate Rules
SR 477 – Joint Georgia Music Heritage Study Committee; Sen. Mullis (53rd)	This resolution creates the Joint Georgia Music Heritage Study Committee composed of 14 members. This study committee will examine several aspects of the music industry in Georgia including ways to measure, expand, and promote the music economy statewide and foster integration with other creative industries, including film, digital media, and gaming; Georgia Music Hall of Fame promotions; and the current state of the music tourism sector.	Adopted by the Senate; House First Readers; Creative Arts & Entertainment Committee

Vaccination Prohibitions

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 1394 – Public Health, Dept. of; require persons to submit to vaccinations or other measures to prevent contagious or infectious diseases; repeal authority; Rep. Byrd (20th)	This bill does not allow county boards of health to require vaccinations against contagious or infectious diseases and restricts counties from requiring a person to wear a face mask. The bill also prohibits an individual or business from requiring customers to show proof of vaccination or wear a mask to enter their facility.	House Second Readers; Health & Human Services Committee
SB 345 – State Government; state and local governments from mandating vaccine passports; prohibit; Sen. Mullis (53rd)	This bill prohibits state and local governments from requiring proof of a COVID-19 vaccination from any person as a condition of providing any service or access to any facility, issuing any license, permit, or other type of authorization, or performing any duty of such agency. Local governments cannot require any person or private entity to provide proof of vaccination as a condition of providing any service or access to any facility, or as a condition of a person/entity performance of any regular activity by such person or private entity. The bill does not apply if it interferes with compliance with regulations of the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services and the law would sunset on June 30, 2023.	Senate Health and Human Services Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

Development Authorities

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 923 – Development authorities; cap the per diem allowance; Rep. Oliver (82nd)	This bill caps per diem allowance for development authority boards at the salary level of State General Assembly members. Adds enforcement powers to the State Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission.	House Second Readers; Government Affairs
HB 1044 – Creation of regional development authorities; Rep. Pirkle (155th)	This bill provides for the creation of regional development authorities and an enhancement for the jobs tax credit for such authorities. A county shall not belong to more than one regional development authority.	House Adopted By Substitute; Referred to Senate Economic Development & Tourism Committee
HB 1181 – Directors of development authorities shall not serve as chairperson or chief executive officers; Rep. Jackson (64th)	This bill prohibits members of a county or municipal governing authority that are appointed as directors of development authorities from serving as chairpersons or chief executive officers of such authority. It also requires consent of impacted municipalities and school boards for tax abated projects and deals.	House Second Readers; Governmental Affairs
HB 1382 – Local government; require directors to do yearly continuing education; Rep. Stephens (164th)	This bill requires each director or member of the governing board or body of a development authority to complete at least four hours of continuing education training courses yearly on development and redevelopment programs. This training is not required if you're a member of a governing body of a municipality or county. The training can occur either in person or online and is required to access funding from or administered by the OneGeorgia Authority.	House Second Readers; Governmental Affairs

Annexation & Cityhood

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 0836 – Atlanta, City of; change corporate limits; Rep. Bruce (61st)	Bill would incorporate currently unincorporated property in the Fulton Industrial District that lies north of U.S. Interstate 20.	Referred to Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee

Public Works

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
SB 438 – Contracts; certain provisions relating to retainage of progress payments; Sen. Tippins (37th)	Senate Bill 438 alters the maximum percentage local governments can retain for progress payments in relation to public works construction projects.	Senate Adopted; House Second Readers; Judiciary

Georgia Safe Outdoor Dog Act

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<u>HB 1450</u> – Georgia Safe Outdoor Dog Act; Rep. Rich (97th)	This bill requires that dogs kept outside be provided adequate shelter, water, food, area and shade which are all defined in the bill. It also requires dogs be lawfully restrained including several exemptions.	House First Readers; Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

Revenue and Taxation

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 1094 – Revenue and taxation; notices of current assessment; revise language required; Rep. Leverett (33rd)	This bill eliminates the estimated tax amount on the annual assessment notice.	House Second Readers; Ways and Means
HB 1280 – Tax Commissioners: Provide for Collection Contracting Requirements and Compensation; Rep. Lim (99th)	This bill establishes a 3-way collection contract between municipalities, counties and tax commissioners regarding the annual collection of property taxes and fees. This bill also provides for the tax commissioner's compensation requirements to be included in the contract with a municipality or county and caps their pay at 50% of their base salary.	House Second Readers; Ways and Means

Business, Consumers & Taxation

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
SB 331 – "Protecting Georgia Businesses and Workers Act"; Sen. Albers (56th)	Bill prohibits local governments from regulating the hours or scheduling that an employer is required to provide employees or otherwise regulate employee output during work hours, with the exception of regulating business operating hours.	Senate Adopted by Substitute; House Second Readers; Industry and Labor Committee
SB 332 – "Inform Consumers Act"; Sen. Albers (56th)	Bill regulates third-party, high-volume sellers operating on online platforms requiring certain business or tax identification, financial and related registration information within 10 days of beginning operations. Failure to comply will cause suspension on online marketplace platform. Marketplace must provide for electronic or telephonic consumer reporting of suspected suspicious activity. Effective: January 2023.	Senate Adopted; House Second Readers; Judiciary Committee

Veterans Affairs

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
SB 11 – "Senator Jack Hill Veterans Act"; Sen. Rhett (33rd) and others	This bill authorizes Georgia taxpayers to make certain voluntary contributions through the income tax payment and refund process to aid and assist service-disabled veterans through a qualified service-disabled veterans benefit organization that meets rules set by the Department of Revenue. This law shall apply to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021.	Senate Recommitted to Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security Committee
SB 87 – "Senator Jack Hill Veterans' Act"; Sen. Rhett (33rd) and others	This bill authorizes Georgia taxpayers to make certain voluntary contributions through the income tax payment and refund process to aid and assist service-disabled veterans through scholarships to the Technical College System of Georgia. This law shall apply to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2023.	House Ways & Means Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute
SB 0339 – 'Green Call Act'; Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd)	This bill will establish a program called the "green alert program" which is a system that will help the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and local law enforcement identify missing military veterans who have physical or mental health conditions, and who are at risk of imminent self-harm.	Referred to Senate Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee
SB 0358 – GA Public Safety Training Center reimbursements; Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd)	This bill will ensure that the appropriations designated to reimburse certain costs incurred in training active duty, retired, or honorably discharged members of the United States armed forces who are attending basic law enforcement training at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center are sufficient. If appropriations are not sufficient, the cost shall be reduced to match the designated appropriations.	House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee Favorably Reported
SR 542 – Women Veterans Day; Sen. Halpern (39th)	This resolution recognizes the first Tuesday of March as Women Veterans Day at the state capitol.	Referred to Senate Rules Committee

Study Committee: Consolidate Governments

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HR 630 – Joint Study Committee for Consolidation of County Governments and School Systems; Rep. Taylor, (173rd)	This resolution establishes a joint House/Senate study committee to review county and school system consolidation, including possible incentives and economies of scale that may come with consolidation. The study committee would consist of 10 members, including three House members, three Senators, one member appointed by GMA, one member appointed by ACCG, and three members appointed by the Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia. The committee would be abolished on December 1, 2022. All findings and recommendations must be filed by that date.	House Governmental Affairs Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

Upcoming Events

- March 9: ACCG Legislative Breakfast
- April 28-May 1: ACCG Annual Conference

