



**FULTON
COUNTY**

**Fulton County Board of Commissioners
February 23, 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**



**FULTON
COUNTY**

**2022
State Legislative
Agenda**

Fulton County Redistricting

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
HB 1199 - Fulton County Board of Commissioners; Change description of Districts; Rep. Mainor (56th)	Bill provides new district lines and map for Fulton County District. Map used for this bill is a revised, substitute map of Senator Albers' original map.	House Second Readers; Governmental Affairs
HB 1244 – Fulton County Board of Commissioners; Change description of Districts; Rep. Dreyer (59th)	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.	Favorably Approved by the House Government Affairs Committee
SB 437 - 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.	Senate Adopted; House Adopted by Substitute

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 Reader; House Judiciary Committee

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.	Senate Read & Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations
HB 0854 -Buckhead City, incorporate; Rep. Jones (25 th)	This bill would establish the City of Buckhead in Fulton County.	House Second Readers; Governmental Affairs*
SB 324 - Buckhead City, incorporate; Sen. Beach (21 st)	This bill would establish the City of Buckhead in Fulton County.	Senate Read & Referred to Urban Affairs*
SR 0298 - Senate Annexation Study Committee; Sen. Beach (21 st)	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.	Senate Rules

*General Assembly leadership indicates that these bills will not be taken up during the 2022 Legislative Session, but we will continue to monitor.

Elections

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<p>HB 886 –Security Tracking of the Security Ballot Paper; Rep. Powell (32nd)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Governmental Affairs Favorably Reported</p>
<p>HB 933 - Retention of ballots; Rep. Blackmon, (146th)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Governmental Affairs Favorably Reported</p>
<p>HB 1085 - Elections; option for municipalities to adopt and use instant runoff voting; Rep. Gullett (19th)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Heard in Governmental Affairs</p>
<p>SB 325 - Elections and Primaries; Sen. Miller (49th)</p>	<p>Bill eliminates the use of absentee ballot drop boxes and related legal provisions in the Official Code of Georgia.</p>	<p>Senate Read & Referred to Ethics</p>

Development Authorities

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<p>HB 923 - Development authorities; cap the per diem allowance; Rep. Oliver (82nd)</p>	<p>Bill would cap 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.</p>	<p>House Second Readers: Government Affairs</p>
<p>HB 1044 - Creation of regional development authorities; Rep. Pirkle (155th)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>House Adopted By Substitute; Senate Read and Referred to Econ Dev & Tourism</p>
<p>HB 1181 - Directors of development authorities shall not serve as chairperson or chief executive officers; Rep. Jackson (64th)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>House Second Readers; Governmental Affairs</p>

Health & Human Services

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<p>HB 1192 - Treatment under Medicaid to persons with HIV; Rep. Cooper (43rd)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>House Adopted 2/22/2022</p>
<p>SB 338 - Medicaid; Postpartum coverage; Sen. Burke (11th)</p>	<p>Postpartum care for mothers would be extended for a period of six months to one year.</p>	<p>House Second Readers; Health & Human Svcs</p>
<p>HB 752 –Psychiatric Advance Directive; Rep. Cooper (43rd)</p>	<p>Provides for a competent adult to express their preference for mental health care treatment thru instructions or an agent.</p>	<p>House Adopted; Senate Read & Referred to Judiciary Comm.</p>

Behavioral Health Reforms

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<p>HB 853 – Mental Health treatment alternatives to imprisonment; Rep. Scott (76th)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>House Second Readers; Judiciary Non-Civil</p>
<p>HB 1013 -Mental Health Parity Act; (Omnibus) Speaker David Ralston (7th)</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>First Hearing in Health & Human Services</p>
<p>SB 342 – Sen Kirkpatrick Mental Health Parity Insurance; Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd)</p>	<p>This bill establishes reporting requirements for insurance companies to ensure that there is mental health parity within healthcare plans.</p>	<p>Senate Adopted; House Read & Referred; Health and Human Services</p>

Public Safety and the Courts

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<p>HB 1134 - Prosecute offenses involving criminal gang activity; provide for concurrent authority; Rep. Efstrotation (104th)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>House Adopted; Senate Read & Referred to Judiciary Committee</p>
<p>SB 277 - Firearms Carry laws for court; Sen. Mullis (53rd)</p>	<p>This bill authorizes Solicitors to carry handguns in any courthouse.</p>	<p>Senate Adopted; House Readers; Public Safety Comm.</p>
<p>SB 319 – "Georgia Constitutional Carry Act of 2021"; Sen. Anavitarte (31st)</p>	<p>Bill would eliminate gun permit requirement in order to carry a gun in public if the individual is a lawful weapons carrier.</p>	<p>Senate Read Second Time; Judiciary Committee</p>

TSPLOST

Bill Caption/Author	Bill Description	Status
<p>HB 907 - Special Elections; related to sales & use taxes for transportation; Rep. Smith (18th)</p>	<p>This legislation changes current law so that the 3rd Tuesday in March of even-numbered years is an authorized date to present a question to voters for Regional TSPLOST, Single County TSPLOST, and Transit SPLOST.</p>	<p>Signed by Governor; Act 310 (effective 2/15/2022)</p>
<p>HB 934 Sales and use tax; special district mass transportation; local government; Rep. Leverett (33rd)</p>	<p>This bill is an ACCG legislative priority that amends the GA Code to allow a Single County Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) to be collected for the full amount of time (five years), as opposed to terminating once the estimated amount is collected. In order to collect for the maximum amount of time, an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) would have to be in place between the county and cities, and all proceeds would be spent according to the IGA - on transportation purposes. NOTE: This bill is not retroactive but will apply to TSPLOST referendums once enacted.</p>	<p>House Second Readers: Ways & Means</p>

Public Works

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

Revenue and Taxation

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.	Second Adopted by Substitute
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

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.	Governmental Affairs; House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

Upcoming Events

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

