



**FULTON
COUNTY**

2026 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION FINAL REPORT



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Introduction

The 2026 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly marked the 159th in the state's history, convening on Monday, January 12 and adjourning Sine Die on Thursday, April 2. This report provides a summary of bills considered during the session that may impact Fulton County operations and services.

A central focus of the 2026 Legislative Session was tax policy, particularly property tax reform and state income tax adjustments. The General Assembly passed Senate Bill 33, which expands and restructures Georgia's homestead exemption framework by building on the statewide system established under House Bill 581 (2024) and introduces a new local option sales tax (LHOST) intended to offset related revenue impacts (see page 10). The General Assembly also passed Senate Bill 566, which revises the annual property tax notice of assessment to improve transparency, simplify taxpayer information and strengthen homestead exemption administration (see page 11).

Additional issues considered included election administration changes, state income tax adjustments and one-time refunds and education initiatives focused on early literacy for students in kindergarten through third grade.

Fulton County Highlights

Several bills aligned with Fulton County's 2026 Legislative Agenda were passed this session (see page 8). Notably, House Bill 1283 was unanimously approved in both chambers and authorizes the creation of Family Justice Centers across Georgia. These centers are coordinated, multi-agency facilities that co-locate victim services, law enforcement and community-based providers to improve access and delivery of services for survivors of family violence, sexual assault, elder abuse and related crimes.

The session also included bills related to a top policy priority for Superior Court resources. House Bill 1215, which would have authorized an additional Superior Court judge for the Atlanta Judicial Circuit, did not receive the necessary funding in the Fiscal Year 2027 state budget. Similarly, Senate Bill 10, which would have authorized the Chief Judge of the Superior Court to appoint up to five judicial officers to assist with caseload management, including civil matters and non-serious felony cases, did not receive final passage. Fulton County will continue advocating for additional judgeships.

The background of the entire page is a faded, light blue-tinted image of the Fulton County Courthouse, showing its prominent golden dome and classical architectural details.

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26**

Legislative Agenda

*Adopted by the Fulton County
Board of Commissioners | December 17, 2025*



FULTON COUNTY'S TOP POLICY PRIORITIES

Resources for Superior Court

The Atlanta Judicial Circuit ranks first among Georgia's 50 judicial circuits in both the volume and complexity of its caseloads. Analysis by the State Administrative Office of the Courts indicates that the current workload requires 25.6 judges; the Atlanta Judicial Circuit bench currently includes 20 judges. For the Superior Court to continue to efficiently handle the massive caseloads under its jurisdiction, additional judicial resources are needed. Fulton County makes the following requests to the Georgia General Assembly:

- Fulton County requests the creation of one or more additional Superior Court judgeships to effectively manage the consistently high volume and increasing complexity of cases within the Circuit, which includes those initiated by the State of Georgia.
- Fulton County supports final passage of **Senate Bill 10**, which authorizes the Chief Judge of Superior Court to appoint up to five judicial officers. These officers would handle civil and non-serious felony cases, as assigned by the Chief Judge, to alleviate caseloads and improve efficiency.

Online Publication of Legal Notices

- Fulton County supports legislation allowing the publication of legal notices on the legal organ's website, to ensure timely and efficient advertisement.
- Fulton County supports an amendment to the Georgia Taxpayer Bill of Rights to permit the online publication of millage rate advertisements.

Support Local Control and Oppose Sovereign Immunity Waivers

Fulton County opposes any legislation that diminishes home rule authority or restricts the rights of duly elected officials to govern local affairs. The County also opposes efforts to weaken local control or to waive sovereign immunity protections.

Fulton County is proud to serve as Georgia's Capital County

ADDITIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

The Fulton County Board of Commissioners supports the legislative efforts of partner agencies and officials pursuing the following:

Increase State Support for Behavioral Health and Diversion Programs

- Fulton County supports continued investment by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) to expand behavioral health resources, including increased funding for the crisis care network, hospital beds and forensic beds. The County also supports additional state funding to expand the availability of community-based services.
- Fulton County supports advocacy for DBHDD programs that reduce the cost burden of behavioral health medications for individuals in county jails.
- Fulton County requests state support to increase use of the Fulton County Diversion Center by local law enforcement and to expand pre-arrest diversion programs as alternatives to incarceration.

Expand Healthcare Access and Strengthen the Healthcare Workforce

- Fulton County advocates for increased healthcare access for residents, particularly in communities that have experienced limited access to healthcare providers and facilities.
- Fulton County supports expansive access to health insurance programs including Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act healthcare marketplace and other affordable healthcare solutions.
- Fulton County supports the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG)'s initiative urging the Department of Community Health and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to maintain healthcare coverage for pre-adjudication inmates. Federal and state funding ends when individuals enter jail, causing excessive healthcare costs that strain local budgets.
- Fulton County supports increased state funding for medical residency programs to grow the healthcare workforce and improve access to care, particularly in underserved areas.

Housing Authority of Fulton County

Fulton County requests an amendment to the requirements for resident commissioners of the Fulton County Housing Authority to ensure compliance with O.C.G.A. § 8-3-50.

Cybersecurity and Ransomware Protection

Fulton County supports final passage of **House Bill 886**, which prohibits the use of public funds for ransom payments and requires state and local entities to report ransomware incidents to the Georgia Technology Authority, ensuring a coordinated statewide response.

Support for Clarification of Estimated Rollback Rate Implementation

Fulton County supports ACCG's efforts to clarify and improve the implementation of the estimated rollback rate, established under **House Bill 581** (2024) and revised under **House Bill 92** (2025). Confusion remains due to inconsistent application across jurisdictions:

- Mixed Notices: Some jurisdictions included the estimated rollback rate in notices while others did not, causing the Department of

Revenue to issue three notice forms: one with estimated rollback rates only, one without and one mixed. Fulton County supports efforts to standardize and clarify the Annual Notice of Assessment (NOA).

- M&O Only: The estimated rollback rate applies only to the maintenance and operations (M&O) millage levy and does not include special service district or other levy types. This causes those levies to be underrepresented or not represented on the NOA. Fulton County supports efforts to clarify this issue.

Next Generation 911

Fulton County, in alignment with ACCG, fully supports the work of the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority's implementation of a statewide Next Generation 911 system. While the Fulton County 911 Center, which serves 5 South Fulton cities, is NextGen 911 compatible, implementation of consistent standards across the state will improve interface with all 8 public safety answering points operating within Fulton County.

Ensure Secure, Fair and Accessible Elections

- Fulton County is committed to administering secure, fair and accessible elections in compliance with state law. The County supports legislation that provides clear state guidance for new election laws and state funding to cover related county costs.
- Fulton County supports ACCG's efforts to require the State to reimburse counties for all expenses incurred in special elections to fill vacancies in statewide offices, the Georgia General Assembly, the U.S. Congress or to approve statewide referendum.
- Fulton County also seeks state support for costs associated with changes in state law related to equipment and supplies used for election operations.

Transit Board Representation

Fulton County seeks a permanent seat on the ATL Board and parity with other MARTA agencies in appointment of MARTA Board members.

Support for Legalization of Gambling and Casinos

Fulton County supports the new sources of local government revenue, including from casinos or parimutuel sports betting, with the recommendation of dedicating funding for public safety, mental health and public health services.

Eviction Writ Execution Administrative Fee Authorization; Clarification of H.B. 1203 Language

Fulton County supports amending O.C.G.A. § 44-7-55, as previously amended by **House Bill 1203** (2024), to allow the Fulton County Marshal's Office and other agencies responsible for carrying out eviction writs to collect a \$50 administrative fee from landlords when an off-duty officer is used to complete the eviction. The fee would help offset the additional burdens placed on local law enforcement agencies and would be used for official law enforcement purposes only, such as paying officers and support staff. Fulton County also supports amending O.C.G.A. § 44-7-55 to clarify the provisions relating to evictions by off-duty officers.

Family Justice Centers

Fulton County supports legislation to create and fund Family Justice Centers statewide. These centers centralize law enforcement, victim advocacy, and social services to better address domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and human trafficking.

- Existing centers in Bibb, Ware, and Cobb counties have demonstrated measurable success in improving survivor outcomes and streamlining local responses to violence.
- Centralized service delivery also reduces court and healthcare burdens, prevents future crimes, and saves taxpayer dollars. Establishing a center in Fulton County would create a model for tracking and improving outcomes statewide.

Repeal Living Infants and Fairness Equality (LIFE) Act (H.B. 481)

Fulton County urges the Georgia General Assembly to repeal the Living Infants and Fairness Equality (LIFE) Act (**House Bill 481**). The law bans abortions after six weeks and went into effect in 2022, causing significant health risks and legal complications for healthcare providers and patients. Repeal of this law will protect the health and rights of women in Georgia.

Contact information for the Department of External Affairs:

Jessica Corbitt-Dominguez, Director
404-713-5990
Jessica.Corbitt@fultoncountyga.gov

Jasmine Campbell, Legislative Policy Analyst
678-296-6725
Jasmine.Campbell@fultoncountyga.gov

Adopted Legislation Related to the 2026 Legislative Agenda

Resources for Superior Court

[House Bill 1215](#) creates one additional judge in the Middle, Gwinnett, Northeastern, Clayton and Atlanta Judicial Circuits. Funding for the Atlanta and Clayton Judicial Circuit judgeships was subject to appropriations and not included in the state's Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

Effective: January 1, 2027

Next Generation 911

[House Resolution 1243](#) proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the General Assembly to dedicate certain existing revenues to a non-lapsing fund used exclusively for the expansion, maintenance and operation of emergency 911 systems, including the statewide transition to Next Generation 911.

Effective: Upon ratification by the voters in the 2026 General Election

Transit Board Representation

[House Bill 297](#) extends the MARTA sales tax from 2057 to 2067 and establishes the Georgia Transportation Efficiency Authority (GTEA), replacing the Atlanta Transit Link (ATL) Authority and assuming certain functions of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA). ATL and GRTA personnel and assets are transferred to GTEA. The 13-member GTEA board includes 8 appointments by the Governor, 2 by the Lieutenant Governor, 2 by the Speaker of the House and 1 by the Georgia Department of Transportation Commissioner. At least 7 members must reside in a nonattainment area (13-county metro Atlanta region). GTEA may provide transit services in any county with an agreement and requires board approval and a referendum for counties initiating service after 2026. The authority assumes responsibility for federal transit funds and transportation improvement programs in nonattainment areas and must submit an annual report to the House and Senate Transportation Committees.

Effective: July 1, 2026

Family Justice Centers

[House Bill 1283](#) authorizes the creation of Family Justice Centers (FJC), which are multiagency service hubs providing coordinated services to victims of family violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse, human trafficking and related crimes. FJCs may be operated by a county, municipality, district attorney's office or nonprofit corporation designated or certified by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) and may include nonprofit and community-based organizations as participating service providers. The CJCC is authorized to administer grants and distribute funds from state, federal and other sources, prioritizing collaboration, demonstrated need, sustainability, service to underserved communities and measurable outcomes. FJCs must submit annual reports to the CJCC, which will share with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House.

Effective: July 1, 2026

Georgia State Budget

Amended Fiscal Year 2026

The [Amended Fiscal Year 2026 Budget](#) is set by a revised revenue estimate of \$43.6 billion. In addition to revenue growth, the Governor's revised estimate includes \$4.5 billion in unrestricted surplus funds and \$145 million in lottery surplus funds, for a total increase of \$5.9 billion, or 15.6 percent over the original Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Highlights:

- \$850 million for the Homeowner Tax Relief Grant Program.
- \$409 million to construct a 300-bed facility at Georgia Regional Hospital.
- \$45 million for the State Housing Trust Fund to address homelessness through matching grants to local governments, along with an additional \$5 million for the Department of Veterans Service to support services for homeless veterans.
- Within the Secretary of State's Office: \$15 million for grants to county election offices, \$1.8 million to implement text-based ballot scanning technology for vote tabulation and \$5 million for hand recounts of ballots in statewide elections during the 2026 election cycle.
- \$10.3 million for the Local Jail Subsidy to reimburse counties for housing inmates who have been sentenced but not transferred to state custody within 15 days.
- \$2 million in one-time funding to support GIS mapping and Next Generation 911 preparedness.

Fiscal Year 2027

The [Fiscal Year 2027 Budget](#) is set by a revenue estimate of \$38.5 billion, an increase of \$738 million or 1.95 percent over the original Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Highlights:

- \$20.7 million for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to increase grants and offset the loss of federal funding for victim services providers, including child advocacy centers, domestic violence shelters and sexual assault centers.
- \$13.6 million for Local Maintenance and Improvement Grants (LMIG) to support local resurfacing projects.
- \$2.5 million to support the Department of Veterans Service in eliminating veteran homelessness.
- \$2.4 million for behavioral and mental health services stabilization and \$916,000 to conduct a colorectal cancer (CRC) screening project for uninsured patients.
- Addition of 900 NOW/COMP waivers to expand services to Georgians with intellectual or developmental disabilities, as well as \$284,380 for waiver staffing.
- \$997,925 for supportive services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including community support, independent living services and assistive equipment.
- Directs the Judicial Council to study and report on an alternative caseload formula for determining the creation of new judgeships each year.

Georgia State Property Tax Reform

The [Homeownership Opportunity and Market Equalization Act of 2026](#) is a comprehensive reform of Georgia's property tax and homestead exemption system that expands the statewide implementation of the floating base year homestead exemption established under [House Bill 581](#) (2024). It also establishes uniform standards for the application and administration of homestead exemptions across all counties, cities and school systems and updates related definitions and administrative procedures governing property tax assessments.

The Act creates the Local Homestead Option Sales Tax (LHOST), which may be authorized by local legislation at a rate of up to one percent and is designed to offset revenue losses associated with homestead exemptions. LHOST serves as an alternative to the Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST) established under House Bill 581 (2024) and modifies the timing and structure of millage rate reductions associated with FLOST proceeds.

The legislation revises school finance provisions by adjusting equalized adjusted school property tax calculations to reflect homestead exemptions and increases the allowable reserve fund balance for local school boards from 15 percent to 25 percent. It also prohibits retroactive property tax assessments where a homestead exemption was mistakenly applied and reinforces taxpayer responsibility to notify tax commissioners when exemption eligibility changes.

Additional technical changes and a summary of the legislation are available from the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) [here](#).

Effective: May, 11, 2026; various provisions apply beginning with the 2025 taxable year, while the LHOST may be imposed beginning January 1, 2028

Georgia State Property Tax Notice and Homestead Exemption Reform

Senate Bill 566 revises the annual notice of assessment and property tax bill to improve clarity for taxpayers by focusing on property value, exemptions and appeal rights. It simplifies required notice information by clearly showing year-to-year changes in assessed value, exemptions applied, estimated tax savings and available appeal options, while eliminating the estimated rollback rate.

The Act strengthens homestead exemption administration by requiring taxpayers to report when they are no longer eligible for a homestead exemption and establishes a penalty for failure to do so equal to 50 percent of the tax benefit received. It also requires written notice from the tax commissioner when a homestead exemption is denied or removed.

The Act creates a statewide homestead exemption database under the Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) to improve accuracy and allow local tax officials to verify eligibility prior to approval and during the annual assessment process. It further revises the format of tax bills to separately identify taxes owed to each taxing authority and to show the impact of exemptions, credits and preferential assessments.

The Act modifies and updates provisions related to homestead exemption administration and aligns implementation with statewide oversight procedures to ensure consistency and accuracy in property tax reporting. The DOR is directed to consult with the chairpersons of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee in developing and implementing the revised requirements.

Effective: April 22, 2026; Applicable to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026

More Information for Fulton County Taxpayers

To support understanding of these changes and implementation, Fulton County will prepare educational materials for property owners, in coordination with the Board of Assessors.

Georgia State Income Tax Reform

The General Assembly passed two substantial income tax relief bills during the 2026 Legislative Session: House Bill 463 and House Bill 1000. House Bill 463 makes broad structural changes to Georgia's income tax system by reducing the state's personal income tax rate and expanding exemptions and deductions over time. House Bill 1000 authorizes a one-time income tax refund for eligible taxpayers. Together, these new laws provide both immediate financial relief and long-term tax reductions for Georgia taxpayers. These bills do not have a direct impact on Fulton County government, but will have an impact on Fulton County residents.

Income Tax Rate Reduction and Structural Changes

House Bill 463 reduces Georgia's state income tax rate from 4.99 percent to 3.99 percent and phases in increases to personal exemptions and standard deductions based on specified economic performance triggers. The bill increases the dependent exemption and gradually raises standard deduction levels for both single and joint filers as state economic benchmarks are met. It also increases the retirement income exclusion beginning in 2027 and creates a temporary deduction for tips and overtime income through 2028.

Additionally, the bill strengthens the state's revenue reserve framework by increasing reserve thresholds and establishing a Taxpayer Relief Fund to support future tax relief measures as authorized by the General Assembly. The legislation further repeals or sunsets several existing tax credit and incentive programs as part of broader tax code simplification and consolidation.

One-Time Income Tax Refund

House Bill 1000 provides a one-time special income tax refund funded from the state's surplus for eligible Georgia taxpayers. The refund will be issued by the Department of Revenue. Eligible taxpayers include Georgia residents, part-year residents and nonresidents who had a 2024 state income tax liability and filed returns by the applicable deadline, including approved extensions. Refund amounts are up to \$250 for single filers, \$375 for heads of household and \$500 for married couples filing jointly.

General Services

*Bills marked with asterisks (**) indicate a potential budgetary impact.*

***[HB 244](#)* State auditor; local governments to request and receive in certain circumstances due date extensions related to filing annual audits; provide – Rep. Charles H. Cannon**

Grants counties 90-day extensions on their audits if constitutional officers, public officers and employees serving a given county or consolidated government, and state officers and employees specifically assigned to the county, cause the failure to file the audit in a timely manner.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 369](#)* Primaries and Elections; the nonpartisan election for county officers and district attorneys in certain counties; provide – Rep. Dexter Sharper**

Establishes nonpartisan elections for certain county officers and district attorneys in a consolidated law enforcement county where the office of county coroner has been abolished, with exemptions for the offices of sheriff, boards of education and county governing authority offices established by local constitutional amendment.

Effective: January 1, 2028

***[HB 1344](#)* Georgia Insurance Affordability and Claims Integrity Act; enact – Rep. Matt Reeves**

Requires counties to file an annual report with the Commissioner of Insurance detailing how revenues from insurance premium taxes were expended in accordance with law. The report may be submitted on a form prescribed by the Commissioner, or the county may instead provide a copy of its annual budget report, which is already required as part of the county's budgeting process.

Effective: January 1, 2027

[HB 1367](#) Fulton County; appointment of a certain number of board members in the case of vacancies on the board; provide – Rep. Shea Roberts

Revises procedures for filling board vacancies on community improvement districts in unincorporated Fulton. Allows the board to appoint a replacement within 60 days, limits appointed members to serving until the next regular election, caps the number of board-appointed members serving at one time to two and requires a special election under certain circumstances.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[HB 1535](#) Sandy Springs, City of; Redevelopment Powers Law; provide for a referendum – Rep. Deborah Silcox

Authorizes the City of Sandy Springs to exercise redevelopment powers under Georgia's Redevelopment Powers Law, including creating tax allocation districts and issuing tax allocation bonds for community redevelopment projects.

Effective: May 12, 2026; Section 2 upon ratification by the voters in the 2026 General Election

***[SB 285](#)* Emergency Communications Authority; increase in the percentage of all 9-1-1 charges to be remitted to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; increase – Sen. Randy Robertson**

Requires each county and municipal corporation to remit 1.5 percent of Insurance Premium Tax distributions to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund (POAB). Funds remitted under *O.C.G.A. §*

33-8-8.3 must be used solely to pay benefits to POAB members. The General Assembly intends to appropriate an amount equal to one-half of one percent of state insurance premium tax collections to the Fund. The bill defines “funded ratio” as the actuarial value of plan assets divided by actuarial accrued liabilities. Beginning July 1, 2027, the Fund’s board may increase the benefit multiplier from \$30 per month up to \$35 per month in increments of at least \$1, provided the funded ratio does not fall below 90 percent.

Effective: July 1, 2026

SB 406 "Georgia Property Owners' Bill of Rights Act" – Sen. Matt Brass

Establishes new oversight and consumer protections for homeowners’ and property owners’ associations (HOAs/POAs) in Georgia. It requires associations to register annually with the Secretary of State, pay fees and submit basic financial information, with failure to register preventing them from collecting dues, issuing fines, placing liens or foreclosing properties. The Secretary of State is granted authority to investigate complaints and enforce compliance.

Effective: Section 7 on July 1, 2026; All remaining sections on January 1, 2027

SB 587 Offenses Against Public Health and Morals; the establishment of an animal cruelty database; provide – Sen. Shawn Still

Directs the Prosecuting Attorneys’ Council of the State of Georgia (PAC) to create and maintain a statewide, publicly searchable animal cruelty database. The database is intended to assist animal shelters, animal protection and control agencies and the public in screening prospective animal owners and preventing placement of animals in unsafe environments. PAC is required to create the animal cruelty database by January 1, 2027.

Effective: July 1, 2026, subject to funding

SB 616 Fulton County; written consent for the creation of community improvement districts; provide – Sen. Sonya Halpern

Requires the written consent of a majority homeowners within a proposed Community Improvement District of Fulton County before the board can exercise any powers or conduct any business.

Effective: July 1, 2026

Public Health

***HB 506* Surprise Billing for Out-of-Network Ambulance Service – Rep. Scott Hilton**

Requires insurance companies to cover out-of-network ambulance transportation services. Local governments that pay the upfront costs receive either full reimbursement based on a contract with an ambulance provider, or the lesser option between 325% of the Medicaid reimbursement rate or the charges billed by the ambulance provider.

Effective: January 1, 2027

HB 1097 Mental health; criminal background, license status, and registry checks for owners, applicants, and employees of certain mental health facilities; provide – Rep. Jesse Petrea

Allows the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) to conduct national background checks for authorized facilities serving those with developmental disabilities, mental health conditions and substance use disorders. National background checks may be used for facility owners, employees, contractors and license applicants. The bill allows all state agencies to request national background checks from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) in accordance with the federal 'National Child Protection Act of 1993.'

Effective: July 1, 2026

SB 428 Medical Assistance; Department of Community Health to submit a waiver request to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; direct – Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick

Permits the Department of Community Health to submit a waiver request to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to authorize Medicaid reimbursement for home and community-based services for adults receiving medical assistance for mental health care services.

Effective: July 1, 2026

SB 535 Mental Health; the re-creation of community service boards; provide – Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick

Updates provisions relating to community service boards (CSB). CSB executive directors can serve on governing boards, must be appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and will become an employees of the state department. Those serving as executive directors as of June 30, 2026 can continue as CSB employees if they choose to do so by August 1, 2026. CSB governing boards must incorporate minimum bylaws as established by the department.

Effective: July 1, 2026

Public Safety, Courts and Justice

***[HB 295](#)* Local government; procedures for real property owners to make claims for compensation for loss of property value or expenses incurred; provisions – Rep. Houston Gaines**

Provides procedures for real property owners to seek compensation from local governments for loss of property value or expenses incurred when the local government fails to comply with or enforce certain laws, ordinances or resolutions, or when it maintains a public nuisance. Covered circumstances include noncompliance with immigration sanctuary policies and failures to enforce prohibitions on illegal camping, loitering and public intoxication. The bill also authorizes property owners to petition the superior court for mandamus relief.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[HB 414](#) Elections; "person" to include certain nonresidents; revise definition – Rep. Todd Jones

Allows the State Ethics Commission to request documentation or information from a person located out of state. The commission is authorized to petition the superior court to obtain such documentation or information if said person refuses to comply.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 530](#)* Courts; authorization for electronic filing of pleadings in probate court; provide – Rep. Rob Leverett**

Requires all probate courts on or before January 1, 2029, to provide electronic filing of all pleadings and any other documents related to civil matters in probate court. A court's electronic filing service provider may charge a fee not to exceed \$30 per filer per case, in addition to a convenience fee for credit card and bank drafting services. A fee will not be charged for the filing of pleadings or leaves of absences. A portion of the transaction fee will be retained by the probate court and remitted to the local governing authority. An attorney will be allowed unlimited access to view and download electronically filed documents and the judge and their staff will have access to all electronically filed pleadings and documents.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[HB 535](#) Penal institutions; credit for time served regarding probation revocation sentencing; provide – Rep. Tyler Paul Smith

Section 1 clarifies that fentanyl trafficking requires possession of four or more grams of fentanyl or any salt, isomer or salt of an isomer thereof. Numerous maximum fines are increased, and maximum fines and terms of imprisonment are set. Section 2 addresses the Georgia Court of Appeals' case in *Kellum v. State* (2023). Regarding time served calculations for a person who has been incarcerated, that person will be given full credit for each day served in confinement, since the date of the commission of the violation, per *O.C.G.A. 17- 10-11*, excluding time tolled per *O.C.G.A. 42-8-36*.

Effective: May 5, 2026; Section 2 on July 1, 2026

***[HB 549](#)* Peace officers; extend time frame for which reimbursement of total training expenses by a subsequent employer may be sought – Rep. Devan Seabaugh**

Extends the time frame for reimbursement of training expenses by a subsequent employer of a peace officer from 15 months to 36 months after the completion of training. It clarifies that the reimbursable expenses include the actual cost of equipment and materials required by the training school, salary,

housing, meals and transportation costs incurred during basic training, and up to 90 days of salary for participation in a field training program. The bill also specifies that reimbursement is required unless an employment contract states otherwise.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 999](#)* Magistrate courts; collecting sums and fees authorized by law; revise provisions – Rep. Rob Leverett**

Clarifies that costs collected in court-connected alternative dispute resolution programs are in addition to fees and costs collected by magistrate courts. The bill clarifies that legislation passed in 2026 for the non-partisan election of magistrates will go into effect in 2027 regardless of whether a constitutional amendment related to the non-partisan election of probate judges is ratified prior to 2027. The bill increases the maximum dollar amount of claims to be heard in magistrate courts from \$15,000 to \$25,000.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 1020](#)* Judicial Retirement System; payment of monthly retirement benefits for creditable service as a district attorney at the age of 65 years; provide – Rep. Matt Reeves**

Revises the compensation structure for district attorneys by providing that annual salaries shall be set by the General Assembly and may not exceed 88 percent of the salary of U.S. District Court judges for the Northern District of Georgia. Establishes a locality pay cap equal to the lesser of 10 percent of the state salary or \$20,608.05, with an adjusted cap formula when salaries exceed \$206,805. Allows district attorneys to opt into the new structure by January 1, 2034, and specifies that existing retirement benefits are not altered. Temporarily suspends all local laws, ordinances and resolutions that tie state, county or local salaries to district attorney compensation until July 1, 2027, during which affected salaries remain unchanged. Amends the Judicial Retirement System (JRS) to require district attorneys hired after June 30, 2026, to reach age 65, rather than 60, to receive full retirement benefits and establishes tiered benefit rules based on date of system entry. The bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[HB 1131](#) Criminal procedure; personal service of process for notice of a warrant application hearing; provide – Rep. Soo Hong

Requires attempting to provide notice by personal service (or any other approved means) to the person whose arrest is sought before conducting a warrant application hearing. If an affidavit is made or a warrant is issued for arrest, then the accused person must be informed by personal service of the specific charge against them and of other basic, relevant information. The bill amends *O.C.G.A. 17-6-15* to exclude persons posting cash bonds on behalf of immediate family members from the requirement that no more than three cash bonds may be posted per year by any individual.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[HB 1230](#) Aviation; prohibit operation of unmanned aircraft systems over a place of incarceration – Rep. Todd Jones

Prohibits the operation of unmanned aircraft systems over any place of incarceration, including state, federal, local and privately operated facilities. Violations are a felony punishable by 1-10 years for criminal recording and 5-10 years for operating above a facility. Law enforcement may take reasonable

mitigation measures, including jamming, hacking or physical capture of a drone if there is reasonable suspicion of criminal activity or a threat to public safety.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 1470](#)* Torts; abusive litigation based on alleged website access violations under federal and state law; create a cause of action – Rep. Trey Kelley**

Requires that when a civil action brought by a claimant alleging that the opposite party operates a website that violates the Americans with Disabilities Act, and that claim is either adjudicated on the merits, involuntarily dismissed, or dismissed on standing grounds, the claimant will be entitled to recover the greater of actual damages or \$10,000; reasonable attorney fees; and treble damages. Any action will be brought within two years after the entry of judgment in the underlying unsuccessful action.

Effective: July 1, 2026, and shall apply to causes of action accruing on or after such date

[HR 251](#) Local government; probate judges shall be elected in nonpartisan elections; provide - CA – Rep. Kimberly New

Proposes a constitutional amendment to require all probate judges be elected in nonpartisan elections.

Effective: Upon ratification by the voters in the 2026 General Election

***[SB 399](#)* "Mason Sells AED Coordination Act" – Sen. Marty Harbin**

Requires all persons and state agencies that possess automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to notify public safety answering points (911 centers) of their locations. Requires all communications officers to complete training by January 1, 2028, on providing telephone instructions to assist in the use of AEDs, unless they are already certified in emergency medical dispatch.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[SB 433](#) "Rio's Law" – Sen. Brain Strickland

On or after January 1, 2027, owners of passenger vehicles who meet certain requirements are authorized to receive specialized "Autism Spectrum Disorder" or "Developmental Disability" license plates indicating (bearing the official 'Just Bee' symbol or reasonable facsimile thereof) that they, their spouse, child or ward, have autism. It then requires that peace officers' training, beginning January 1, 2027, include training in interactions with persons with autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[SB 443](#) Offenses Against Public Order; the punishment for the offense of obstructing highways, streets, sidewalks, or other public passages; increase – Sen. Carden Summers

Creates the offense of purposely or recklessly obstructing a highway, street, sidewalk or other public passage and classifies such conduct as a high and aggravated misdemeanor. If the obstruction results in harm to another person or damage to property, the offense is elevated to a felony.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[SB 470](#) "Emergency & Public Safety Signal Protection Act" – Sen. John Albers

Defines terms related to signal jammers. These are devices capable of interfering with wireless, cellular, GPS, radar, radio or cable communication signals. The bill makes it unlawful to possess, use or operate a signal jammer with the intent to disrupt or interfere with such communications. Violations are

punishable as a felony, with heightened penalties if the interference targets communications involving public safety agencies, 911 call centers or components of critical infrastructure. The bill prohibits the manufacture, sale, distribution or importation of signal jammers in the state, with exemptions for devices authorized under federal law and for law enforcement.

Effective: July 1, 2026

SB 570 "Georgia Human Trafficking Prevention Training Act" – Sen. Shawn Still

Requires the Criminal Justice Coordination Council and the Georgia Hotel and Lodging Association to develop or identify human trafficking awareness training for the hospitality industry. The training must include the definition of human trafficking and commercial exploitation of children, guidance on identifying individuals at risk and recognizing signs of trafficking or individuals potentially engaged in trafficking. It must also explain the differences between labor and sex trafficking as they relate to the hotel and lodging industry. Additionally, the training must provide guidance on the role of hospitality employees in reporting and responding to suspected trafficking. The training must also include contact information for the National Human Trafficking Hotline, the Statewide Georgia Hotline for Domestic Minor Trafficking (866-END-HTGA) or a local law enforcement agency.

Effective: May 12, 2026

SB 605 Prosecuting Attorneys; additional grounds for discipline of a district attorney or solicitor-general or for his or her removal or involuntary retirement from office; provide – Sen. Bill Cowsert Amends *O.C.G.A. 15-18-32(h)*, relating to grounds for discipline of a district attorney or solicitor general or for their removal or involuntary retirement. Adds several additional grounds for discipline or removal, including: failure to make reasonable efforts to strictly comply with the 'Crime Victims' Bill of Rights'; failure to make reasonable efforts to comply with *Title 50, Chapter 18, Article 4*, relating to inspection of public records; knowingly authorizing or making a decision based upon certain factors relating to bias or failure to disclose a conflict of interest; failure to make reasonable efforts to comply with discovery requirements; and failure to make reasonable efforts to comply with the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Georgia.

Effective: May 12, 2026

Taxation and Certain Exemptions

***HB 141* Revenue and taxation; allow businesses and practitioners to provide affidavits of certified public accountants in lieu of tax returns – Rep. Martin Momtahan**

Authorizes a business or practitioner to elect to provide affidavits of certified public accountants in lieu of tax returns or other financial information to local governments to facilitate the local government's determination of the amount of occupation tax to be levied on the business or practitioner.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***HB 165* Income tax credit; business enterprises for leased motor vehicles; repeal and reserve – Rep. Lehman Franklin**

Amends *O.C.G.A. 48-8-3*, relating to sales and use tax, by eliminating language that excludes the local portion of sales and use tax from a 50 percent exemption on the sales price of a manufactured home that has been converted to real property.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 439](#)* Revenue and taxation; revise deductions allowed to dealers – Rep. Bill Yearta**

Authorizes counties and local school systems that levy ad valorem taxes to establish a local homeowner’s incentive adjustment grant fund to provide tax credits that reduce property tax liability on qualified homesteads after all applicable homestead exemptions are applied. Participation requires approval through a local referendum.

Effective: January 1, 2027

***[HB 445](#)* Ad valorem tax; language required to be included in notices of current assessment; revise – Rep. Chuck Martin**

Amends *O.C.G.A. § 48-1-2* to include private water and sewage systems with at least 10,000 connections in the definition of “public utility.” Amends *O.C.G.A. § 48-5-306* to require that annual assessment notices include the option to appeal directly to a hearing officer for tangible personal property with a fair market value over \$200,000. Amends *O.C.G.A. § 48-5-311* to allow such appeals and establish eligibility requirements for hearing officers, including prior experience as an appraiser IV or chief appraiser and registration with the Georgia Real Estate Commission and the Georgia Real Estate Appraisers Board. Hearing officers are prohibited from serving in any county where they previously held such a role.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[HB 463](#) Income Tax Rate Cuts – Rep. Shaw Blackmon

Reduces the individual tax rate from 5.19 percent to 4.99 percent for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026. Beginning annually on January 1, 2027, the rate of tax will be reduced by .125 percent annually until the rate reaches 3.99 percent. The bill provides that these reductions must be delayed if certain economic performance conditions are not met. The bill also increases the standard deduction and provides for certain income from overtime and tips to be exempt from state income tax.

Effective: May 11, 2026; Applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026

***[HB 1129](#)* Local government; designation of enterprise zones; provisions – Rep. Devan Seabaugh**

Prohibits a local governing body from designating or redesignating a geographic area as an enterprise zone, on or after July 1, 2031. The bill prohibits the exemption of state sales and use tax for any redevelopment projects used to qualify an area for designation as an enterprise zone, unless specifically exempted by the governor. The bill prohibits the use of revenue bond principal funds from being used in specified instances. The bill limits the number of enterprise zones that can exist within an urban redevelopment area to a maximum of four.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 1261](#)* Revenue and taxation; level 1 freeport exemptions for certain goods in inventory for electric utilities; provide – Rep. David Huddleston**

Amends *O.C.G.A. 48-5-48.2*, relating to level 1 freeport exemptions, to exempt electric utility equipment held in inventory by an electric utility. An ad valorem exemption will not be provided if the equipment has been incorporated into operating electric generation, distribution, or transmission facilities. A

corresponding change is made in *O.C.G.A. 48-5-48.1*, relating to applications for the level 1 freeport exemption, to require a summary of inventory related to electric utility taxpayer's operations.

Effective: July 1, 2026

***[HB 1558](#)* Palmetto, City of; ad valorem tax for municipal purposes; provide homestead exemption – Rep. Lydia Glaize**

Provides a homestead exemption from City of Palmetto ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in the amount of the full assessed value of the homestead for residents of that city who are 65 years of age or older.

Effective: January 1, 2027, if approved by voters in the 2026 General Election

***[SB 306](#)* Bona Fide Conservation Use Property; impending expiration to be sent via certified mail; require notices – Sen. Randy Robertson**

Amends *O.C.G.A. 48-5-7.4*, relating to preferential assessment for bona fide conservation use property. It allows for a single property owner with parcels of bona fide conservation use property subject to multiple covenants to consolidate the parcels under a one, new and 10-year covenant, provided all property involved would otherwise be eligible to be placed under a renewal covenant. The bill allows for notification of the expiration date of a covenant to be sent via certified mail if requested by the taxpayer. The county board of tax assessors will send an electronic copy of the notification to a submitted email address at the request of the taxpayer. The bill clarifies that the purpose of bona fide conservation use property may also be for carbon sequestration as a secondary use. The bill places an annual cap on the state low income housing tax credit provided for in *O.C.G.A. 48- 7-29.6* of \$100 million for each of tax years 2026 through 2028.

Effective: May 6, 2026; Sections 1 and 2 will be applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2027

Transportation

***[HB 1277](#)* Increases Project Cost Threshold for Public Roads or Airports – Rep. Matt Barton**

Makes several changes to the state’s current environmental review requirements, including increasing the project cost threshold for environmental evaluations for public road and airport projects from \$100 million to \$200 million and connecting the threshold value to the cost of inflation. The bill also increases the value threshold for property being disposed by the Department of Natural Resources from \$75,000 or less to \$150,000 or less and authorizes the department to negotiate the sale of disposed property with an adjacent property owner for no less than 15 percent under the market value at the time of disposition. [Section 2](#) of this Act further delays the implementation of a new regulatory and taxation scheme for commercial electric vehicle charging through the Department of Agriculture.

Effective: July 1, 2026; Authorization to annually adjust cost thresholds begins on July 1, 2027

***[HB 1434](#)* Aviation; air facilities; identification of airport affected areas; provide – Rep. David Jenkins**

Requires local governments to adopt and enforce regulations by July 1, 2027, limiting building heights and natural growth within designated airport-affected areas consistent with federal FAA standards. Airport sponsors must identify affected areas and notify relevant local governments by January 1, 2027. Local governments that fail to comply will be suspended from LMIG funding eligibility for up to three years.

Effective: July 1, 2026

[SR 624](#) Omnibus Road Dedications and Designations – Sen. Ed Setzler

Consolidates several roadway dedication measures into a single act, including: honoring the life of Victoria Travis Jackson by designating a portion of Georgia State Route 139 from Georgia State Route 280 to Fairburn Road in Fulton County as the “Victoria Travis Jackson Memorial Highway”; recognizing former State Representative Roger Bruce by dedicating the intersection of State Route 6 (Camp Creek Parkway) and State Route 70 (Fulton County Industrial Boulevard SW) in Fulton County as the “State Representative Roger Bruce Intersection”; renaming of a City of Atlanta intersection in honor of former Representative “Able” Mable Thomas; and recognizing U.S. Treasurer Brandon L. Beach for his service to Georgia by designating a portion of Georgia State Route 9 from Old Milton Parkway to Mayfield Road in Fulton County as the “United States Treasurer Brandon L. Beach Highway.”

Effective: July 1, 2026

2026 Study Committees Impacting Fulton County Services

Blue-Ribbon Study Committee on Community Health and Healthcare Oversight

Examine Georgia's healthcare landscape to improve access, strengthen patient protections, and identify practical policy solutions to enhance outcomes, efficiency and accountability.

Blue-Ribbon Study Committee on Transportation Infrastructure and Vehicle Regulation

Review transportation networks and regulations to improve efficiency, streamline utility right-of-way coordination, control costs and strengthen safety.

Blue-Ribbon Study Committee on Local Government Taxation, Funding and Budgeting

Evaluate local funding mechanisms to strengthen transparency, ensure fairness for hardworking taxpayers and increase fiscal accountability for local governments.

Senate Study Committee on the Impact of Artificial Intelligence

Study the impact of artificial intelligence on creative industries, including filmmaking, writing and television.

Senate Study Committee on Protecting Free and Fair Markets in Georgia

Examine antitrust enforcement, economic concentration, and impacts on consumers, small businesses, housing and other key industries.

Senate Study Committee on a Museum of African American History and Culture of Georgia

Study the conditions, needs and policy considerations for establishing a statewide museum to preserve, collect and promote African American history and culture in Georgia, including opportunities for collaboration with public, educational and private institutions.

Governor Brian P. Kemp's Veto and Signing Statements

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Disregard Letter and Statements and Line Item Vetoes can be found [here](#).

VETO 1

[House Bill 14](#) would establish a Georgia Music Office under the Georgia Department of Economic Development to promote the state's music industry. The General Assembly did not appropriate funds for this purpose, nor is such an office necessary for the music industry to take advantage of the numerous economic development incentives that are presently available. While I support the continued development of Georgia's music industry, the costs this bill imposes are unnecessary, and the goals of this bill can be achieved through other means.

For the foregoing reasons, I **VETO HOUSE BILL 14**.

VETO 2

[House Bill 376](#) would increase tax credits for historic properties. The General Assembly failed to account for this loss of revenue in the appropriations process, instead prioritizing general taxpayer relief.

For the foregoing reasons, I **VETO HOUSE BILL 376**.

VETO 3

[House Bill 519](#) would create a tax credit to mirror the federal work opportunity tax credit, if one were to be passed at the federal level. This credit does not yet exist federally, and the General Assembly failed to account for this loss of revenue in the appropriations process.

For the foregoing reasons, I **VETO HOUSE BILL 519**.

VETO 4

[House Bill 1070](#) would increase a tax credit for Class III railroad track maintenance. The General Assembly failed to account for this loss of revenue in the appropriations process, instead prioritizing general taxpayer relief.

For the foregoing reasons, I **VETO HOUSE BILL 1070**.

VETO 5

[House Bill 1077](#) would extend sunset tax exemptions for certain fine arts performances and museum exhibitions. The General Assembly failed to account for this loss of revenue in the appropriations process, instead prioritizing general taxpayer relief.

For the foregoing reasons, I **VETO HOUSE BILL 1077**.

VETO 6

House Bill 1192 would require funds appropriated to the Department of Community Health and the Department of Human Services and designated for specific purposes to be maintained in separate accounts, not co-mingled with other funds, and used for only designated purposes. While the General Assembly can and does exercise significant oversight through the appropriations process, this requirement goes beyond such authority and interjects the General Assembly into the operational oversight of executive branch agencies.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO HOUSE BILL 1192.**

VETO 7

House Bill 1409 would, among other things, require the Department of Family and Children Services (“DFCS”) to implement an online platform for receiving reports of child abuse from mandatory reporters. Undoubtedly, DFCS must improve on the present system and address the litany of complaints from mandatory reporters and other interested parties. House Bill 1409, however, would preclude DFCS from competitively procuring solutions because the operational requirements are so narrowly specified. While the General Assembly should, by statute, impose requirements on state agencies under a proper construction of the separation of powers, the implementation of those requirements is properly the domain of the executive branch.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO HOUSE BILL 1409.**

VETO 8

Senate Bill 23 would allow Georgia’s large public retirement systems, excluding the Employees’ Retirement System of Georgia and the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia, to invest up to ten percent of their total fund assets in real estate. Additionally, the bill would increase the cap for eligible large retirement systems to invest in alternative investments.

The underlying bill provides well-intentioned, deliberate changes that permit certain public retirement funds to diversify their investment portfolio. But in the final days of the legislative session, the underlying bill was amended to preclude investment in “any investment vehicle investing in, acquiring, purchasing, owning, renting, managing, or holding single-family homes or residences as a material component of such investment.”

Many of the proponents of this bill have expressed justifiable outrage at the notion of public retirement systems investing based on environmental or diversity, equity, and inclusion considerations, rather than financial performance. Although the politics on this issue may be different, the principle is not. Public retirement systems have a fiduciary duty to act in the best interest of their beneficiaries and should be making investment decisions based on performance, not political talking points.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO SENATE BILL 23.**

VETO 9

[Senate Bill 59](#) would increase the cap on the Reforestation Tax Credit by \$50 million. The original \$200 million appropriated to this credit has been fully allotted. This tax credit was created during the 2025 legislative session to help restore timber lost in the wake of Hurricane Helene. While I continue to support this tax credit and the restoration of the timber industry after the storm and proudly signed measures to stimulate the long-term growth of this critical industry this year, the General Assembly did not account for an increase and extension to this tax credit in the appropriations process.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO SENATE BILL 59.**

VETO 10

[Senate Bill 204](#) would strengthen the existing cause of action lawful gun owners may bring against a local government that attempts to impose limits on possession, ownership, transport, or purchase of firearms beyond state and federal requirements. In addition to increasing the statutory damages available, the bill would remove the existing requirement that such a lawsuit be brought against the county or municipal corporation that enacted the offending ordinance. This would open the door to lawsuits against law enforcement officers, including in their personal capacity, who do not have a say in enacting the ordinance in question. I wholeheartedly support increasing the monetary penalties for local governments that attempt to impede the rights of lawful weapon carriers; however, such penalties should be targeted towards the leaders who enact such ordinances, not the officers who are tasked with enforcing them.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO SENATE BILL 204.**

VETO 11

[Senate Bill 478](#) would increase the percentage of sales tax revenue from transactions involving outdoor recreation equipment that is dedicated to the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund from 40 percent to 60 percent. The General Assembly failed to account for this loss of revenue in the appropriations process, instead prioritizing general taxpayer relief.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO SENATE BILL 478.**

VETO 12

[Senate Bill 569](#) would revise certain rules for the issuance of red emergency light permits. Vehicles must yield the right of way to a vehicle that bears such lights and has them activated. This bill would require the Department of Public Safety to issue a red emergency light permit to a towing service company that is “authorized by contract with a local government to perform towing services or clear roadways[.]” This broad language would ultimately leave local government contracts—unbridled by a requirement of uniformity—to supply most of the terms under which these permits would issue. However, at least some

terms should be consistent state-wide to facilitate the judicious use of red emergency lights on Georgia's roads.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO SENATE BILL 569.**

SIGNING STATEMENT 1

House Bill 1247 revises the statutes relating to the General Assembly's power to void executive branch agency rules by resolution. Such resolutions are legislative acts and must follow the constitutional process like any other legislative act. However, the bill could be interpreted to provide that the General Assembly may void an agency rule by a majority but less than two-thirds vote, without the Governor's approval. Late in the legislative process, the General Assembly made amendments to correct these defects, but some potential for confusion remains. The General Assembly cannot alter the constitutional requirements for legislative acts through statute, and any interpretation purporting to alter the constitutional requirements for legislative acts would not have any effect. *See, e.g., Premier Health Care Investments v. UHS of Anchor*, 310 Ga. 32, 48 (849 S.E.2d 441) (2020) ("Under the canon of constitutional doubt, if a statute is susceptible of more than one meaning, one of which is constitutional and the other not, [a court will] interpret the statute as being consistent with the Constitution." (citation and punctuation omitted)). I sign this bill with the expectation and understanding that the constitutional requirements for the passage of legislation, which includes legislative overrides of agency rules and regulations, will be followed, notwithstanding any language in this bill that could be interpreted to the contrary.

SIGNING STATEMENT 2

Senate Bill 220 makes small changes to Georgia's medical cannabis program, including modifying the list of eligible conditions and expanding the methods of consumption for patients. These changes, while meaningful to the affected patients, do not materially alter where Georgia sits in the national landscape on this issue. This bill passed with a constitutional majority in both chambers of the General Assembly. I, like many of those who expressed opposition to this bill, have reservations about the legalization of recreational cannabis. Many states that have legalized recreational cannabis have come to regret that decision. I also recognize that for some patients, medical cannabis provides significant relief to symptoms that would otherwise go untreated or would be treated with even more harmful opioids. I do not believe that a well-implemented medical cannabis program must inevitably lead to the legalization of recreational use in Georgia, nor is the question of recreational use anywhere in the bill on my desk for signature.

I therefore sign Senate Bill 220 into law.

2026 Failed Legislation

BILL #	BILL SPONSOR	BILL TITLE
<u>HB 377</u>	Rep. Rob Leverett	QBS Mandate for Procuring Professional Services
<u>HB 400</u>	Rep. Spencer Frye	CHOICE Act
<u>HB 560</u>	Rep. Chuck Martin	Joint county and municipal sales and use tax (LOST); negotiations for distribution of tax proceeds; revise provisions
<u>HB 880</u>	Rep. Shaw Blackmon	Reduce income tax rate reached under certain conditions
<u>HB 886</u>	Rep. Stacey Evans	Prohibit state agencies and local government entities from responding to ransomware activity
<u>HB 960</u>	Rep. Jasmine Clark	Omnibus Elections Code Changes
<u>HB 963</u>	Rep. Chuck Martin	Prohibit foreign nationals from contributing to or participating in any Elections campaign
<u>HB 997</u>	Rep. Rob Leverett	Increase Per Diem for State Inmates Held in County Jails
<u>HB 111</u>	Rep. Shaw Blackmon	Omnibus Property Tax Reform
<u>HB 124</u>	Rep. Chuck Martin	Local government; total ad valorem tax digest limitation upon creating new tax allocation districts shall also apply to the renewal of existing tax allocation districts
<u>HB 133</u>	Rep. Clint Crowe	Ad valorem tax; levy and collection of tax upon apportioned valuation of aircraft by local tax jurisdictions
<u>HB 138</u>	Rep. Robert Dawson	Local government; county development authorities for certain counties shall not operate within certain municipalities
<u>HB 148</u>	Rep. Chuck Martin	Jails; certain municipal corporations make municipal detention facilities or jails available for use by a sheriff under certain conditions; require
<u>HR 450</u>	Rep. Wiedower	General Assembly; authorize sports betting in Georgia - CA
<u>HR 111</u>	Rep. Shaw Blackmon	Homeowner's Incentive Adjustment clause cap removal - CA
<u>SB 21</u>	Sen. Black Tillery	Local Governments; violation of the prohibition on immigration sanctuary policies; waive sovereign immunity
<u>SB 29</u>	Sen. Rick Williams	DNA Sampling, Collection, and Analysis; revisions
<u>SB 74</u>	Sen. Max Burns	Penalties for Librarians who Fail to Remove Harmful Material
<u>SB 175</u>	Sen. Randy Robertson	Elections; use of ranked-choice voting; prohibit
<u>SB 214</u>	Sen. Max Burns	Election System Change and QR Code Removal
<u>SB 382</u>	Sen. Chuck Hufstetler	Omnibus Property Tax Reform
<u>SB 476</u>	Sen. Black Tillery	Income Tax Reduction Act of 2026
<u>SB 477</u>	Sen. Black Tillery	Income Taxes; personal income tax rate
<u>SB 568</u>	Sen. Greg Dolezal	Elections and Primaries; the list of eligible voters is posted and made public prior to each primary or election; require
<u>SB 573</u>	Sen. Ed Setzler	Primaries and Elections; the nonpartisan election for county officers and district attorneys in certain counties
<u>SB 604</u>	Sen. Bill Cowsert	Crimes and Offenses; the Attorney General concurrent jurisdiction with district attorneys to conduct criminal prosecutions of violent crimes, illegal immigration offenses, and fentanyl offenses

2026 FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



CHAIRMAN ROBB PITTS

At Large

404-613-9810

Robb.Pitts@fultoncountyga.gov



BRIDGET THORNE

District 1

404-612-8213

Bridget.Thorne@fultoncountyga.gov



BOB ELLIS

District 2

404-612-8216

Bob.Ellis@fultoncountyga.gov



DANA BARRETT

District 3

404-612-9800

Dana.Barrett@fultoncountyga.gov

Vacant

District 4



MARVIN S. ARRINGTON JR.

District 5

404-613-0200

Marvin.Arrington@fultoncountyga.gov



VICE CHAIR

KHADIJAH ABDUR-RAHMAN

District 6

404-612-8222

Khadijah.Rahman@fultoncountyga.gov

FULTON COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEAM



DICK ANDERSON

County Manager

404-808-4751

Dick.Anderson@fultoncountyga.gov



DR. PAMELA ROSHELL

Chief Operating Officer

404-612-1243

Pamela.Roshell@fultoncountyga.gov



SHARON WHITMORE

Chief Financial Officer

404-612-7385

Sharon.Whitmore@fultoncountyga.gov

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ

Director

404-713-5990

Jessica.Corbitt@fultoncountyga.gov

JASMINE CAMPBELL

Legislative Policy Analyst

678-296-6725

Jasmine.Campbell@fultoncountyga.gov



**FULTON
COUNTY**