

Legislative Update March 4, 2019

Status Code Legend

- Beneficial for Mental Health/Support
- Detrimental for Mental Health/Against
- Watching Details for Impact
- Unlikely to move/Off the table

Senate Bills & Resolutions

<p>SB 15: Schools Safe Act</p> <p>Senators Albers, Mullis, Dugan, Miller, Gooch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To amend Article 27 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to loitering at or disrupting schools, so as to require public and private schools to have performed certain threat assessments; to provide for definitions; to require every public and private school to prepare a school safety plan; to revise requirements for the contents of school safety plans <p>Referred to: House Education Committee</p> <p>This proposes to require schools to go through new safety measures, including yearly threat assessments and trainings, create safety plans, and report a wider definition of possible threats.</p>
<p>SB 16: Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act</p> <p>Senators Kirkpatrick, Hufstetler, Watson, Burke, Ginn and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To amend Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to physicians, assistants, and others, so as to enter into an interstate compact known as the "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act"; to authorize the Georgia Composite Medical Board to administer the compact in this state <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee; House Second Readers</p> <p>This proposes the creation of an Interstate Compact between physicians in Georgia and the surrounding states, allowing them to work within the larger area.</p>
<p>SB 18: Direct Primary Care Act</p> <p>Senators Kirkpatrick, Jones, Watson, Burke, and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 7 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to kinds of insurance, limits of risks, and reinsurance, so as to provide definitions; to provide that direct primary care agreements are not insurance; to exempt such agreements from regulation as insurance; to provide for discontinuance of services under certain circumstances; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Rules Committee; Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute</p> <p>This proposes amendments to specification in Georgia's current code that clarify the difference between insurance and a direct primary care agreement.</p>
<p>SB 34: Dangerous Instrumentalities and Practices; persons who are ineligible for weapons carry licenses</p> <p>Senators Jones, Butler, Harrell, Orrock, Seay and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the O.C.G.A., relating to dangerous instrumentalities and practices, so as change provisions relating to persons who are ineligible for weapons carry licenses; to amend Code Section 35-3-34 of the O.C.G.A., relating to disclosure and dissemination of criminal records to private persons and businesses, resulting responsibility and liability of issuing center, and providing certain information to the FBI in conjunction with the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, so as to change provisions relating to the retention of certain information; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Judiciary Committee</p> <p>This proposes changing the eligibility to carry weapons licenses for certain individuals. It would also allow the state to provide information regarding criminal records to the FBI. This bill uses language that more broadly stigmatizes person's with a mental illness.</p>
<p>SB 36: Medical Assistance; authorization of appropriations for purposes of obtaining federal financial participation; Medicaid expansion</p> <p>Senators Henson, Jones II, Butler, Harrell, Seay and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide for the authorization of appropriations for the purposes of obtaining federal financial participation for medical assistance payments to providers of Medicaid expansion under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010; to provide for certain restrictions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

	<p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>This proposes utilizing state funds in conjunction with federal funds for the creation of Medicaid expansion under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.</p>
<p>SB 56: "Consumer Coverage and Protection for Out-of-Network Medical Care Act"</p> <p>Senators Hufstetler, Watson, Burke, Parent, Jackson and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 33 of the O.C.G.A., relating to insurance, so as to establish standards for carriers and health care providers with regard to payment under a managed care plan in the provision of emergency medical care; to provide for applicability; to provide for definitions; to provide for certain patient or prospective patient disclosures; to provide for insurer disclosures; to provide for requirements regarding the provision of emergency medical care for covered persons under a managed care plan; to provide for requirements for managed care plan contracts between carriers and covered persons; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Insurance and Labor Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes establishing standards for insurance and health care providers in regards to disclosures of payment in emergency medical situations.</p>
<p>SB 74: Health; certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term facilities and services; eliminate</p> <p>Senators Brass, Watson, Albers, Kirkpatrick and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to health, so as to eliminate certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services; to amend Code Section 50-18-70 of the O.C.G.A., relating to legislative intent and definitions relative to open records laws, so as to revise definitions; to amend Code Section 48-7-29.20 of the O.C.G.A., relating to tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations, so as to revise provisions relating to the rural hospital tax credit program; to amend other provisions in various titles of the O.C.G.A., for purposes of conformity; to provide for related matters; to provide for effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee</p> <p>This proposes eliminating certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except long-term care facilities.</p>
<p>SB 106: Patients First Act</p> <p>Senators Tillery, Strickland, Miller, Dugan, Kennedy, Kirkpatrick</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 and Title 33 of the O.C.G.A., relating to medical assistance and insurance, respectively, so as to authorize the Department of Community Health to submit a Section 1115 waiver request to the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; to authorize the Governor to submit a Section 1332 innovation waiver proposal to the United States Secretaries of Health and Human Services and the Treasury; to provide for implementation of approved Section 1332 waivers; to provide for expiration of authority; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for related matters; to provide for a short title; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: House Special Committee on Access to Quality Healthcare; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes allowing the state of Georgia to authorize the Governor to submit a Section 1115 waiver and Section 1332 waiver in regards to insurance and Medicaid services.</p>
<p>SB 115: Medical Practice Act of the State of Georgia; telemedicine licenses for physicians in other states; engage in the practice of medicine with patients in this state through telemedicine; provide</p> <p>Senators Unterman, Walker III, Burke, Beach, and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the "Medical Practice Act of the State of Georgia," so as to provide for telemedicine licenses for physicians licensed in other states to engage in the practice of medicine with patients in this state through telemedicine; to provide for requirements for issuance of a telemedicine license; to provide for restrictions; to provide for notice of restrictions placed on a license by another state; to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for revocation; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: House Health and Human Services Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes allowing physicians in other states to practice telemedicine in the state of Georgia with the issuance of a proper license.</p>
<p>SB 118: Insurance; Georgia Telemedicine Act; modernize; Telemedicine Act the Telehealth Act; rename</p> <p>Senators Unterman, Hufstetler, Burke, Walker, Kirk, Sims</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance generally, so as to modernize the Georgia Telemedicine Act; to rename the Telemedicine Act the Telehealth Act; to revise the definition of telemedicine; to provide a definition of telehealth; to prohibit insurers from requiring insureds to use telemedicine; to provide for pay equity for health care providers using telemedicine; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: House Insurance Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes updating telemedicine in relation to insurance by revising the definition and certain parameters insurers or health care providers must follow when implementing telemedicine.</p>

<p>SB 121: Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data Base; length of time prescription information is retained from two years to five years; increase</p> <p>Senators Walker III, Stone, Hufstetler, Burke, Unterman, Kirk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 13 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the prescription drug monitoring program data base, so as to increase the length of time that prescription information is retained in the data base from two years to five years; to authorize the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to access the data base for enforcement purposes; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee; Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute</p> <p>This proposes increasing the length of time that prescription drug information stays within the database from two years to five years.</p>
<p>SB 125: Handicapped Persons; installation and maintenance of adult changing stations in certain commercial public facilities for persons with disabilities; provide</p> <p>Senator Seay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to handicapped persons, so as to provide for the installation and maintenance of adult changing stations in certain commercial public facilities for persons with disabilities; to provide for definitions; to provide for the powers and duties of the Safety Fire Commissioner; to provide for limitations; to provide for enforcement; to provide for exemptions; to provide for penalties; to provide for federal law compliance; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>This proposes mandating the installation and regular maintenance of changing facilities for physically or mentally handicapped adults in certain public facilities around Georgia.</p>
<p>SB 151: The Health Act</p> <p>Senators Burke, Watson, Kirkpatrick, Hufstetler, and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to health, so as to provide for improvements in the state's health care system and coordination of state health related entities; to provide for legislative findings and declarations; to provide for definitions; to provide for duties and responsibilities; to provide for the creation of the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination; to provide for a director of health strategy and coordination; to provide for the creation of the Board of the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination; to amend other provisions of the O.C.G.A., so as to provide for conforming changes; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>This proposes providing improvements to the current healthcare system in Georgia by creating the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination.</p>
<p>SB 195: "Prescription Drug Benefits Freedom of Information and Consumer Protection Act"</p> <p>Senators Hufstetler, Burke, Kirkpatrick</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance, so as to provide for consumer protections and freedom of information regarding prescription drug benefits; to provide for intent and applicability; to provide for definitions; to provide for requirements; to provide for an advisory committee; to provide for related matters; to provide for a short title; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee; Senate Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute</p> <p>This proposes providing consumer protections via freedom of information regarding prescription drugs.</p>
<p>SB 206: Insurance; preexisting conditions under short-term health benefit policies or certificates; definitions; provide</p> <p>Senators Jordan, Karinshak, Parent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance generally, so as to provide for preexisting conditions under short-term health benefit policies or certificates; to provide for definitions; to provide for the use of "preexisting condition" in short-term health policies and exclusions; to provide for related matters; to provide for applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>This proposes mandating that short-term insurance plans include coverage for those with preexisting conditions.</p>
<p>SR 193: Senate Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health; create</p> <p>Senators Kirk), Dugan, Walker III, Unterman, Beach, Hufstetler</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A RESOLUTION creating the Senate Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Rules Committee</p> <p>This proposes creating a new Senate study committee on transferring oversight of developmental disabilities to the Department of Community Health.</p>

<p>SR 194: Joint Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health; create</p> <p>Senators Kirk, Dugan, Walker III, Unterman, Beach, Hufstetler</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Rules Committee</p> <p>This proposes creating a new joint study committee on transferring oversight of developmental disabilities to the Department of Community Health.</p>
<p>SR 202: Joint Study Committee on Evaluating and Simplifying Physician Oversight of Midlevel Providers; create</p> <p>Senators Hufstetler, Watson, Orrock, Burke</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Evaluating and Simplifying Physician Oversight of Midlevel Providers; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Rules Committee</p> <p>This proposes creating new oint study committee on evaluating and simplifying physician oversight of midlevel providers (such as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, etc.).</p>
<p>SR 217: Senate Study Committee on Prescribing Patterns for Antidepressants and Other Psychotropic Medications; create</p> <p>Senators Ligon, Unterman</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A RESOLUTION creating the Senate Study Committee on Prescribing Patterns for Antidepressants and Other Psychotropic Medications; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services</p> <p>This proposes creating a new Senate study committee on prescribing patterns for antidepressants and other psychotropic medications.</p>

House Bills & Resolutions

<p>HB 26: Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact:</p> <p>Representatives Belton, Hitchens, Williams, Blackmon, Glanton, and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 39 of Title 43 of the O.C.G.A., relating to psychologists, so as to enter into an interstate compact known as the "Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact"; to authorize the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists to administer the compact in this state; to revise provisions relating to exceptions to licensure; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. Status: HC: Interstate Cooperation <p>Referred to: Senate Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>This proposes allowing Psychologists in Georgia to participate in an interstate compact which would allow them to practice in neighboring states also in the compact; it would also allow Psychologists from neighboring states that have entered into the compact to practice in Georgia.</p>
<p>HB: 32 Chief Turnaround Officer; revise and clarify certain provisions</p> <p>Representatives Tanner, Dickey, Jasperse, Glanton, Nix and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 3A of Article 2 of Chapter 14 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to turnaround schools, so as to revise and clarify certain provisions relating to the duties of the Chief Turnaround Officer; to revise the term "turnaround coach" to "transformation specialist"; to revise biannual reporting dates; to provide for the establishment of the Georgia Turnaround Collaborative; to provide for stipends for turnaround instructional innovation specialists; to provide for criteria; to provide for retention of stipend; to provide for conversion of stipend to permanent salary increase; to provide for contingency based on appropriations by the General Assembly; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Education Committee</p> <p>This proposes making changes to provisions regarding the Chief Turnaround Officer position in relation to turnaround schools, including the definition of the position and the creation of new rules and regulations.</p>
<p>HB 37: Expand Medicaid Now Act</p> <p>Representatives Trammell, Boddie, Beverly, Alexander, Gardner, and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to medical assistance generally, so as to provide for the authorization of appropriations for the purposes of obtaining federal financial participation for medical assistance payments to providers of Medicaid expansion under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010; to provide for a maximum percent of the federal poverty level; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Appropriations Committee</p> <p>This proposes expanding Medicaid in the state of Georgia under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.</p>
<p>HB 63: Insurance; health benefit plans to establish step therapy protocols; require</p> <p>Representatives Cooper, R. Smith, Silcox, Hawkins, Wilensky</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance generally, so as to require health benefit plans to establish step therapy protocols; to provide for a step therapy exception process; to provide for definitions; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for applicability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Senate Insurance and Labor Committee</p> <p>This proposes mandating that insurance plans generally require step therapy protocols when starting a treatment process, as well as also create an exemption plan.</p>
<p>HB 178: Mental health; provide for assisted outpatient treatment programs</p> <p>Representatives Hogan, Hawkins, Shephens, Dempsey and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 3 of Title 37 of the O.C.G.A., relating to examination and treatment for mental illness, so as to provide for assisted outpatient treatment programs; to create a unit within the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability to provide support and coordination; to provide for an advisory council; to provide for applicability; to provide for a pilot program; to provide for procedures, standards, and criteria; to provide for due process; to provide for services and treatment plans; to provide for evaluative information and reports; to provide for training; to provide for patient's right to refuse medication; to provide for an annual report; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>This proposes creating a unit within the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability that would specifically focus on providing assisted outpatient treatment programs to those with mental illness.</p>

<p>HB 197: Provide for the establishment of the Strategic Integrated Data System</p> <p>Rep Dempsey, Houston, Gardner, England, Powell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Office of Planning and Budget, so as to provide for the establishment of the Strategic Integrated Data System; to provide for definitions; to establish a governing board and provide for its membership and terms; to provide for oversight of the operation of the project by the governing board; to provide for data submission from state agencies and departments; to provide for reporting; to provide for funding; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>House Passed/Adopted by Substitute</p> <p>This proposes establishing a Strategic Integrated Data System and a governing board, as well as its rules and regulations, for the Office of Planning and Budget.</p>
<p>HB 198: eliminate (CON) certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services</p> <p>Representatives Hatchett, England, Powell, Brazemore and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 31 of the O.C.G.A., relating to health, so as to eliminate certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services; to amend Code Section 50-18-70 of the O.C.G.A., relating to legislative intent and definitions relative to open records laws, so as to revise definitions; to amend Code Section 48-7-29.20 of the O.C.G.A., relating to tax credits for contributions to rural hospital organizations, so as to revise provisions relating to the rural hospital tax credit program; to amend other provisions in various titles of the O.C.G.A., for purposes of conformity; to provide for related matters; to provide for effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Special Committee on Access to Quality Healthcare; House Withdrawn/Recommitted</p> <p>This proposes eliminating certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term care facilities and services.</p>
<p>HB 229: Law enforcement agencies; retention of a person's involuntary hospitalization information</p> <p>Representatives Buckner, Robichaux, Hutchinson, Frye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 35-3-34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to disclosure and dissemination of criminal records to private persons and businesses, resulting responsibility and liability of the Georgia Crime Information Center, and provision of certain information to the FBI in conjunction with the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, so as to change provisions relating to the retention of a person's involuntary hospitalization information; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Judiciary Committee</p> <p>This proposes changing provisions relating to the retention of a person's involuntary hospitalization information by private persons and businesses.</p>
<p>HB 364: Crimes and offenses; authorize second chances under conditional discharge for controlled substances violations under certain circumstances</p> <p>Representatives Boddie, Trammell, Shannon,everly, Thomas, Scott</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 13 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding controlled substances, so as to authorize second chances under conditional discharge for controlled substances violations under certain circumstances; to provide for terms and conditions and procedures; to amend Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to probation for first offenders, so as to authorize second chances under first offender treatment of criminal charges under certain circumstances; to provide for terms and conditions and procedures; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Judiciary Non-Civil Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes authorizing certain second chances for individuals under conditional discharge for controlled substances violations under certain circumstances.</p>
<p>HB 369: Education; development of an educational fact sheet that provides information concerning the use and misuse of opioid drugs in the event that a student-athlete or cheerleader is prescribed an opioid for a sport-related injury; require</p> <p>Representatives Wilkerson, Dickerson, Dukes, Mitchell, Howard, Clark</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to require the development of an educational fact sheet that provides information concerning the use and misuse of opioid drugs in the event that a student-athlete or cheerleader is prescribed an opioid for a sports-related injury; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Education Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes mandating the education of opioid use and misuse in the case that a student-athlete or cheerleader is prescribed an opioid for a sports-related injury.</p>

<p>HB 370: Professions and businesses; number of advanced practice registered nurses with which a delegating physician can enter into a protocol agreement for nurses practicing in an emergency medical services system; revise exception</p> <p>Representatives Cooper, Netwon, Bazemore, Silcox</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 43-34-25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurses, so as to revise the exception to the number of advanced practice registered nurses with which a delegating physician can enter into a protocol agreement for nurses practicing in an emergency medical services system; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes allowing the delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice medical nurses.</p>
<p>HB 374: Health; administer medications to residents under hospice care pursuant to a physician's written orders; authorize certified medication aides</p> <p>Representatives LaHood, Cooper, Petrea</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 31-7-12.2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to regulation and licensing of assisted living communities, legislative intent, definitions, procedures, and requirements for medication aides, so as to authorize certified medication aides to administer medications to residents under hospice care pursuant to a physician's written orders; to amend Code Section 43-26-12, relating to exceptions to the licensure of registered professional nurses, so as to provide that the administration of medication by certified medication aides under specific criteria does not require licensure as a registered professional nurse; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee; Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute</p> <p>This proposes allowing certified medication aides to administer medications to residents under hospice care under a physician's written orders.</p>
<p>HB 441: Juvenile Code; treatment program within the juvenile court relating to the prevention and treatment of substance abuse; create</p> <p>Representatives Bruce, Collins, Alexander</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding the Juvenile Code, so as to create a treatment program within the juvenile court relating to the prevention and treatment of substance abuse; to provide for a definition; to include such program within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court; to provide for a privilege against self-incrimination for participation in such program; to provide for an order requiring participation in such program; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Juvenile Justice Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes creating a treatment program within the juvenile court system that relates to the prevention and treatment of substance abuse.</p>
<p>HB 483: Controlled substances; Schedules I, IV, and V; change certain provisions</p> <p>Representatives Stephens, Parrish</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 13 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to controlled substances, so as to change certain provisions relating to Schedules I, IV, and V controlled substances; to change certain provisions relating to the definition of dangerous drug; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Judiciary Non-Civil Committee; Second Read</p> <p>This proposes changing provisions relating to the definitions of dangerous controlled substances via their Scheduling label.</p>
<p>HB 514: Georgia Mental Health Reform and Innovation Commission; create</p> <p>Representatives Tanner, Ralston, Jones, Cooper, Oliver</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 1 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to governing and regulation of mental health, so as to create the Georgia Mental Health Reform and Innovation Commission; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for a definition; to provide for members and officers; to provide for meetings, agendas, quorum, and compensation; to provide for the commission's duties and powers; to provide for subcommittees; to provide for automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>This proposes creating the Georgia Mental Health Reform and Innovation Commission, which will provide legislative findings on the state of mental health in Georgia.</p>
<p>HB 524: Mental health; provide for a foundation to fund Georgia Apex Program</p> <p>Representative Stover</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to administration of mental health, so as to provide for a foundation to fund the Georgia Apex Program; to amend Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state income taxes, so as to provide an income tax credit for donations to the Public School Mental Health Services Foundation; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Ways and Means Committee</p> <p>This proposes creating a foundation (the Public School Mental Health Services Foundation) to fund the Georgia Apex Program, and to create an income tax credit for donations to said foundation.</p>

<p>HB 544: Mental health; procedures regarding emergency involuntary treatment; revise</p> <p>Representatives Efration, Oliver</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 7 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to hospitalization and treatment of alcoholics, drug dependent individuals, and drug abusers, so as to revise procedures regarding emergency involuntary treatment; to require the affidavits of the persons upon which an emergency involuntary treatment order is based to be made part of the patient evaluation and among the documents that influence treatment decisions; to provide for notification of such persons; to allow such persons to be designated as patient representatives; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to: Judiciary Committee</p> <p>This proposes revising procedures regarding emergency involuntary treatment for alcoholics, drug dependents and drug abusers by requiring the affidavit of the person who has decided to propose treatment, as well as allowing such person to become the patient representative.</p>
<p>HR 261: Joint Study Committee on Evaluating and Simplifying Physician Oversight of Midlevel Providers; create</p> <p>Representatives Newton, Cooper, Burns, Silcox, Holcomb, Hutchinson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Evaluating and Simplifying Physician Oversight of Midlevel Providers; and for other purposes. <p>Referred to Health and Human Services Committee; Committee Favorably Reported by Substitute</p> <p>This proposes the creation of a new joint study committee on evaluating and simplifying physician oversight of midlevel providers (such as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, etc.).</p>

Additional Information

General Assembly Adjournment Resolution [HR152](#)

3/7 – Crossover Say

4/2 – Sine Die

Committee Assignments for the General Assembly can be found at the following links:

[House of Representatives Committees](#)

[Senate Committees](#)

Appointees for the

[House Special Access to Quality Healthcare Committee](#)