



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

# WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

January 30, 2026

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Week 3 (Legislative Days 6-9)

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## Appropriations

The Governor's Budget report was released on Thursday, January 15. The Amended FY26 Budget will be [HB 973](#) and the FY27 General Budget will be [HB 974](#). On Tuesday, January 27, the House Appropriations Judicial Subcommittee met on the Amended FY26 Budget.

The General Assembly will reconvene on Monday, February 2, for Legislative Day 10.

This report is a compilation of items acted on this week affecting Georgia's judiciary. To view more legislation pertaining to the judiciary as well as bill summaries and previous reports, please visit [georgiacourts.gov/legislation](http://georgiacourts.gov/legislation).

## **Judicial Council Supported Bills**

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

House Sponsor: Rep. Kimberly New (R – Villa Rica)

This resolution provides a constitutional amendment for the nonpartisan election of probate court judges.

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (2/13/25); Received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Committee (2/20/25); House withdrawn and recommitted to House Judiciary Committee (4/4/25); Received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

### [HB 1042 - Real Estate Security and Title Act; enact](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Matt Reeves (R – Duluth)

HB 1042 provides for amendments related to OCGA §§ 15-5-110, 112, relating to redaction of personally identifiable information. The Council's position applies to these provisions, currently in Sections 3 & 4.

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

## **Other Bills**

### **Floor Votes**

### [SB 09 - "Ensuring Accountability for Illegal AI Activities Act"; enact](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. John Albers (R – Roswell)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee (1/15/2025); Received a Do Pass by Substitute by the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/10/25); Passed Senate by vote of 46-9 (3/4/25); House recommitted to House Technology and Infrastructure Innovation Committee (3/11/25); Received a Do Pass by Substitute by the House Technology and Infrastructure Innovation Committee (3/20/25); Passed House by vote of 152-12 (3/27/25); Senate Disagreed with House Substitute (1/28/26).

### **Committee and Subcommittee Hearings & Action**

### [HB 483 - Crimes and offenses; protections for inspectors of code enforcement; provide](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Brian Prince (D – Augusta)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (2/19/25); Passed House by vote of 168-5 (3/6/25); Received a Do Pass by the Senate Judiciary Committee (3/13/25); Senate Recommended (1/12/26); Received a Do Pass by Substitute by Senate Rules Committee (1/28/26).

### [HB 557 – Northeastern Judicial Circuit; superior courts; provide for a sixth judge](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Lee Hawkins (R – Gainesville)

**Action:** House Hopper (2/20/25); Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (2/21/25); Received a Do Pass from House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

### [HB 676 - Property; fine for any frivolous mechanic lien filed; provide](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Rob Clifton (R – Evans)

**Action:** House Hopper (2/27/25); Received a Do Pass by the House Judiciary Committee (3/4/25); House withdrawn and recommitted to the House Judiciary Committee (4/4/25); Received a Do Pass by House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 960 - Gwinnett Judicial Circuit; superior courts; provide twelfth judge](#)

House Sponsor Rep. Jasmine Clark (D – Lilburn)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/13/26); Received a Do Pass by House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 984 - Crimes and offenses; court order to locate an alleged victim of child or elder abuse; provide](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Beth Camp (R – Concord)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (1/27/26).

[HB 994 - Crimes and offenses; riot; provide for a felony penalty](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Mike Cheokas (R – Americus)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (1/27/26).

[HB 997 - Penal institutions; limit time that Department of Community Supervision can hold certain inmates in a county facility](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (1/27/26).

[HB 999 - Magistrate courts; collecting sums and fees authorized by law; revise provisions](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/13/26); Received a Do Pass by House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1016 - Magistrate courts; expand existing remedies regarding unauthorized possession of real property](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Dar’Shun Kendrick (D – Lithonia)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1021 - Courts; increase amount of funds the authority is authorized to retain for administrative costs](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Lauren McDonald III (R – Cumming)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1022 - Motor vehicles; prohibit electric tinting](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Lauren McDonald III (R – Cumming)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Motor Vehicle Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1028 - District Attorney Compensation Reform Act; enact](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Matt Reeves (R – Duluth)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1037 - Cobb County; State Court; change compensation of judges](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Terry Cummings (D – Mableton)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Intragovernmental Coordination Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1041 - Courts; expedition of child custody and visitation modification hearings in certain circumstances; provide](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Sandra Scott (D – Rex)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Juvenile Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1043 - Georgia Trauma Informed Child and Youth Trafficking Response Act; enact](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Sandra Scott (D – Rex)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Juvenile Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1044 - Torts; deprivation of constitutional rights of state citizens by civil immigration enforcement officers; provide remedies](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Shea Roberts (D – Atlanta)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1049 - Donation Without Hesitation Act; enact](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Spencer Frye (D – Athens)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Committee (1/28/26).

[HB 1057 - Gwinnett County; State Court; provide eighth judge January 1, 2027 and ninth judge January 1, 2028](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Dar'shun Kendrick (D – Lithonia)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Intergovernmental Coordination Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1060 - Georgia Public Safety Transparency and Citizen Protection Act of 2026; enact](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Derrick Jackson (D – Tyrone)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1061 - Mandi Ballinger Act; enact](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Beth Camp (R – Concord)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Juvenile Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1065 - West Point, City of; ad valorem tax for municipal purposes; provide homestead exemption](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Vance Smith (R – Pine Mountain)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Intergovernmental Coordination Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1066 - Nuisances; immunity from public and private nuisance claims; provide](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Will Wade (R – Dawsonville)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Governmental Affairs Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1067 - West Point, City of; ad valorem tax for municipal purposes; provide homestead exemption](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Vance Smith (R – Pine Mountain)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Intergovernmental Coordination Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1075 - Sexual offenses; modify penalty for offenders previously convicted of the offense of trafficking of persons for labor or sexual servitude](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Johnny Chastain (R – Blue Ridge)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1076 - Crimes and offenses; create felony offense of obstruction of a law enforcement officer with a motor vehicle](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Ginny Ehrhart (R – Powder Springs)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee (1/29/26).

[HB 1080 - Georgia Public Safety Support Fund Act; enact](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Yasmin Neal (D – Jonesboro)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (1/29/26).

[HR 1109 - Mental Health Sentencing and Treatment Alternatives Act; commend advancement by General Assembly; recognize urgent need for sentencing alternatives for Georgians with serious mental illness](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Sandra Scott (D – Rex)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to House Special Rules (1/29/26).

[SB 29 - DNA Sampling, Collection, and Analysis; collection of DNA samples of individuals arrested for the commission of a felony at the time such individuals are booked or otherwise processed by a detention facility; provide](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Rick Williams (R – Milledgeville)

**Action:** Received a Do Pass by the Senate Judiciary Committee (2/26/25); Passed Senate by vote of 44-11 (3/3/25); Received a Do Pass by Committee Substitute as Amended by House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (3/26/25); House withdrawn and recommitted to the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (4/4/25); Received a Do Pass by Substitute by the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee (1/29/26).

[SB 116 - DNA Sampling; the collection of DNA samples from any individual in a detention facility charged with a misdemeanor or felony who is subject to an immigration detainer notice; require](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Anthony Bearden (R – Carrollton)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Public Safety Committee (2/10/25); Received a Do Pass by the Senate Public Safety Committee (2/19/25); Senate recommitted to Senate Public Safety Committee (1/12/26); Received a Do Pass by Substitute by the Senate Public Safety Committee (1/29/26).

[SB 166 - Counties; ordinances for governing and policing unincorporated areas of counties; revise provisions](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Nikki Merritt (D – Grayson)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee (2/13/25); Senate withdrawn and recommitted to Senate Urban Affairs Committee (1/27/26).

[SB 383 - Child Abuse; local child fatality review committees; modify the review](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (R – Marietta)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Children and Families Committee (1/13/26); Received a Do Pass by Senate Children and Families Committee (1/28/26).

[SB 413 - Landlord and Tenant; residential rental or lease agreement terminations if a tenant or a legal occupant of a residence experienced residential firearm violence; provide](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Kim Jackson (D – Stone Mountain)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee (1/27/26).

[SB 417 - Public Officers and Employees; public employees to self-organize or to be represented by a labor organization and bargain collectively with the state; authorize](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Nikki Merritt (D – Grayson)

**Action:** Senate Hopper (1/16/26); Introduced and assigned to Senate State and Local Government Operations Committee (1/27/26).

[SB 418 - Torts; cause of action against the knowing and unauthorized use of an individual's photograph or image together with representations of nudity or sexually explicit conduct; provide](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Max Burns (R – Sylvania)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee (1/27/26).

[SB 419 - “Eric’s ID Law”](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Donzella James (D – Atlanta)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Public Safety Committee (1/27/26).

[SB 420 - License, Permit, Tag, and Stamp Fees; fees for reef and migratory fish endorsement; provide](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Drew Echols (R – Gainesville)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee (1/27/26); Received a Do Pass by Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee (1/29/26).

[SB 433- “Rio’s Law”](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Brian Strickland (R – McDonough)

**Action:** Introduced and assigned to Senate Public Safety Committee (1/29/26).

### **New Bills Introduced This Week**

[HB 1083 - Madison County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton)

**Action:** House Hopper (1/29/26).

[HB 1084 - Madison County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee](#)

House Sponsor: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton)

**Action:** House Hopper (1/29/26).

[SB 442 - Drivers' Licenses; revocation and expiration of commercial drivers' licenses for noncitizens; provide](#)

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Jason Dickerson (R – Canton)

**Action:** Senate Hopper (1/29/26).

To view more legislation pertaining to the judiciary as well as bill summaries, please visit [georgiacourts.gov/legislation](http://georgiacourts.gov/legislation).

Monday, February 2, 2026 – Legislative Day 10

9:00 AM	House Rules	341 CAP
10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
Upon Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:00 PM	Senate Public Safety	450 CAP
4:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 – Legislative Day 11

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
Upon Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP
3:00 PM	Hong Subcommittee of Judiciary Non-Civil	132 CAP

Wednesday, February 4, 2026 – Legislative Day 12

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
Upon Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:00 PM	Senate Public Safety	450 CAP

Thursday, February 5, 2026 – Legislative Day 13

7:00 AM	Senate Criminal Justice and Public Safety Appropriations Subcommittee	450 CAP
10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber
Upon Adj.	Senate Rules	450 CAP
1:30 PM	House Judiciary Non-Civil	132 CAP
2:00 PM	Senate Judiciary	307 CLOB

Friday, February 6, 2026 – Legislative Day 14

10:00 AM	House Floor Session	House Chamber
10:00 AM	Senate Floor Session	Senate Chamber

The committee schedule is subject to change at the legislature’s discretion. For the most current committee schedule information, please go to [georgiacourts.gov/legislation](http://georgiacourts.gov/legislation).