

Georgia School Safety and Homeland Security Conference

2023 Legislative Update

*Matt Cardoza
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House of Representatives – 180 members



Senate – 56 members

A BILL to be entitled an Act to make and provide appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019; to make and provide such appropriations for the operation of the state government and its departments, boards, bureaus, commissions, institutions, and other agencies, for the university system, common schools, counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions, for all other governmental activities, projects, and undertakings authorized by law, and for all leases, contracts, agreements, and grants authorized by law; to provide for the control and administration of funds; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

HB 684

Status History

Apr/03/2018 - House Sent to Governor
Mar/29/2018 - House Conference Committee Report Adopted
Mar/27/2018 - Senate Conference Committee Report Adopted
Mar/23/2018 - Senate Conference Committee Appointed 49th, 46th, 4th
Mar/23/2018 - House Conference Committee Appointed 116th, 159th, 47th
Mar/23/2018 - House Insisted
Mar/23/2018 - Senate Insisted
Mar/23/2018 - House Disagreed Senate Amend or Sub
Mar/23/2018 - Senate Transmitted House
Mar/23/2018 - Senate Passed/Adopted By Substitute
Mar/23/2018 - Senate Third Read
Mar/21/2018 - Senate Read Second Time
Mar/21/2018 - Senate Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute
Mar/12/2018 - Senate Read and Referred
Mar/09/2018 - House Passed/Adopted By Substitute
Mar/09/2018 - House Third Readers
Mar/07/2018 - House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute
Jan/19/2018 - House Second Readers
Jan/18/2018 - House First Readers
Jan/11/2018 - House Hopper

Georgia General Assembly



Tracking a Bill Through the Georgia General Assembly

Georgia General Assembly



Tracking a Bill Through the Georgia General Assembly

IDEA

- Legislator sees need for a new law or changes in existing law and decides to introduce a bill.

DRAFTING

- Legislator goes to Office of Legislative Counsel. There, attorney advises legislator on legal issues and drafts bill.

Georgia General Assembly



Tracking a Bill Through the Georgia General Assembly

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

- Legislator files a bill with the Clerk of the House or Secretary of the Senate. On legislative day after filing, the bill is formally introduced and begins a **two-year cycle**.
- In chamber, the bill's title is read during period of first readings.
- Immediately after first reading, presiding officer assigns bill to a standing committee.

Georgia General Assembly



Tracking a Bill Through the Georgia General Assembly

COMMITTEE ACTION

- Bill is considered by a committee. Author and other legislators may testify at the committee. If controversial, public hearings may be held. Final committee action is reported in a written report. Committee options are:
 - ✓ Recommend Bill or Resolution Do Pass;
 - ✓ Recommend Do NOT Pass;
 - ✓ Recommend Do Pass with changes (amendments or substitutes);
 - ✓ Hold Bill.

Georgia General Assembly



Tracking a Bill Through the Georgia General Assembly THIRD READING AND PASSAGE

Clerk or Secretary prepares a General Calendar of bills favorably reported from committee.

- ✓ Legislation which was second read the day before is placed on a calendar in numeric order for floor action prior to the Rules Committee meeting to choose bills for consideration.
- ✓ After a certain point, set by rule, the Rules Committee meets and prepares a Rules Calendar for the next day's floor consideration from bills on General Calendar.

Georgia General Assembly



Tracking a Bill Through the Georgia General Assembly

- ✓ The presiding officer (Speaker of the House, Lt. Governor) calls up bills from the Rules Calendar for floor action in order as they appear on this calendar.
- *Once presiding officer calls bill up from Rules Calendar, Clerk or Secretary reads bill's title (third reading).*
- *Bill is now ready for floor debate, amendments, and voting.*
- *After debate, main question is called and members vote.*
- *If bill is approved by majority of total membership of that chamber, it is sent to the other chamber.*

Georgia General Assembly



TRANSMITTAL TO OTHER CHAMBER

Bill is passed:

- ✓ If second chamber passes a bill, it is returned to chamber where bill was introduced.
- ✓ If first chamber rejects changes and second chamber insists, a conference committee may be appointed.
- ✓ Committee report must be accepted by both chambers to move forward.

Georgia General Assembly



GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE/VETO

- ✓ Governor may sign bill or do nothing, and bill becomes law.
- ✓ Governor may veto bill, which requires two-thirds of members of each chamber to override.

Georgia General Assembly



LAWS

- ✓ Laws enacted during the session are printed in the Georgia Laws series.
- ✓ Also incorporated into the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
- ✓ Law becomes effective the following July 1, unless a different effective date is provided in the bill or upon signature of the Governor.



The Session Ends

FY23 Amended Budget

School Security Grants

- \$50,000 per school – \$115,000,000 total
- Eligibility criteria the same as AFY 2019 security grants
- Beginning July 1, 2023, systems may begin requesting funding for items purchased between March 10, 2023, and March 1, 2024

Character Education Program

- \$50,000 per school – \$115,000,000 total

FY24 Budget

- Fully funded the school counselor ratio – \$26,000,000

Legislative Update (House Bills)

Bill Number	Summary
HB 87 (Rep. Erwin)	Nontraditional Special Schools Act; revises and repeals certain provisions for alternative charter schools; provide for the continued operation of state chartered special schools until expiration of current charter; establishes completion special schools
HB 147 (Rep. Wade)	Safe Schools Act; provides for a school safety and anti-gang endorsement for eligible certificated professional personnel issued by the Professional Standards Commission; requires intruder alert drills in all public schools in this state
HB 340 (Rep. Corbett)	Provides for daily duty-free planning periods for teachers in grades K - 12, with limited exceptions; extends the sunset date for the Qualified Education Donation Tax Credit to December 31, 2026; prohibits individual local board of education members from discussing individual personnel matters with school officials except under certain circumstances provided by law; amends accreditation appeals language in SB 204

Legislative Update (House Bills)

Bill Number	Summary
HB 440 (Rep. Stoner)	Authorizes schools to stock a supply of undesignated ready-to-use glucagon
HB 538 (Rep. Ballard)	Georgia Early Literacy Act; requires the State Board to approve high-quality instructional materials to be used for teaching K – 3 students; administration of universal reading screeners, three times per year, for all K – 3 public school students; development of training; completion of training for all K – 3 teachers

Legislative Update (Senate Bills)

Bill Number	Summary
SB 1 (Sen. Dolezal)	Removes automatic repeals on the prohibition of state and local governments to require proof of COVID vaccinations and on the prohibition of local board of educations from mandating masks
SB 45 (Sen. Anavitarte)	Provides for the completion, submission, and review of seizure action plans for students being treated for epilepsy or a seizure disorder; requires the development of training guidelines and model seizure action plans; provides for the training of designated school personnel
SB 211 (Sen. Hickman)	Establishes the Georgia Council on Literacy and replace the Education Coordinating Council with the Alliance of Education Agency Heads

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