

Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)

January 15, 2021

The FOP has already seen legislation addressing law enforcement, and we are working as we speak to ensure negative legislation the FOP does not want doesn't pass and positive legislation the FOP is pushing does pass.

[HB 69](#) from Representative Kendrick removes certain immunities from the actions of certain state officers or employees, provides that certain state officers or employees shall be liable when causing the deprivation of certain rights, waives sovereign immunity, revises limitations on amounts of damages, and provides that certain local law enforcement officers may be subject to lawsuit or liability. It is currently in the House Judiciary Committee.

We expect to see more legislation like this throughout the legislative session.

As a reminder, Senator Albers bill, SB 249, related to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund and helping our members a great deal passed both Chambers and was signed by the Governor in 2020!

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Members of the Georgia General Assembly convened on Monday, January 11, 2021 to commence the first year of the two-year biennial session. All members were sworn-in, which included 10 new senators and 26 new representatives.

The House and Senate held a Joint Session for Governor Kemp to give his [State of the State address](#). Each new biennium, one of the first tasks for legislative leaders is the assignment of new legislators to committees. The Senate tackled that this week, but we have yet to hear from the House. As anticipated, very few bills have dropped in these first few days but that will pick up tremendously when they return.

This week the legislature completed days 1-4 with next week dedicated to budget hearings. Per the House Adjournment resolution ([HR 10](#)), they will return for day 5 on Tuesday, January 26th.

As always, Thrash-Haliburton is diligently watching and working to stop any detrimental legislation to our industry and push the legislation we support. Our governmental affairs team continues every day to work on, look out for and answer requests, needs and interests, as we act at the direction of the group's leadership.

2021-2022 Regular Session

This is the first year of the two-year (2021-2022) biennial session. As a reminder, any bills introduced this year will be considered “alive” for the 2022 legislative session. We are monitoring the following legislation, and watchful for any bills that may impact our industry.

Bill	Summary	House Comm	Sen Comm	House Sponsor	Sen Sponsor	Keywords	Link
HB 18	Police Accountability Act; enact			Sandra Scott		body-worn camera	https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58803
HB 69	State government; certain immunities from actions of certain state officers or employees; remove	Judiciary		Dar'shun Kendrick			https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58885
HB 2	Georgia Constitutional Carry Act of 2021; enact			Philip Singleton		guns	https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/58787