

Union County GOP

The Union County GOP (<https://unioncountygagop.com/>)

Mountain Legislative Watch Group

Legislative report for week ending 02/14/2025

About the report

HB (House Bill) **HR** (House Resolution) **SB** (Senate bill) **SR** (Senate Resolution)

Year to date numbers HB 466, , SB 181, Total 1113

1. **Mountain Legislative Watch Group** (<https://mountainlegislativewatch.org/>) produce this report. Each member reports as they see fit. Some members will express opinions on bill other may not. The purpose of the report is to inform so you can monitor government by seeing what new laws are being considered. To provide input on the legislative process contact

Senator Steve Gooch **Email Address:** steve.gooch@senate.ga.gov.

Rep. Stan Gunter. **Email Address:** stan.gunter@house.ga.gov.

Rep. Johnny Chastain **Email Address:** johnny.chastain@house.ga.gov

👍 SB-81 To amend Article 22 of Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,

relating to motor vehicle franchise practices, so as provide for protection of consumer data in motor vehicle sales or lease transactions limitations on the use of motor vehicle dealer data

Status: 02/13/2025 - Senate Read Second Time

👍 SB-91 To amend Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the state employees' health insurance plan, so as to prohibit the Board of Community Health from entering into, executing, or renewing a contract or contracts with any pharmacy benefits manager that owns or has an ownership interest in any retail pharmacy

Status: 02/13/2025 - Senate Committee Favorably Reported

👍 SB-94 To amend Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to public utilities and public transportation, so as to reestablish a consumer utility counsel to represent consumers in matters before the Public Service Commission or other agencies

Status: 02/13/2025 - Senate Read Second Time

👍 SB-112 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to selling and other trade practices, so as to extend certain protections for consumers relative to warranties of HVAC systems and components of such systems; to allow for transfers of

certain manufacturers' warranties of HVAC systems and components of such systems; to prohibit manufacturers', distributors', and retailers' warranties of HVAC systems and components of such systems from being conditioned upon product registration

Status: 02/13/2025 - Senate Read Second Time

Please note most are either giving someone tax dollars or keeping them from having to pay taxes.

Senate Action on the following bills as Senate Committee Favorably Reported or Senate Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

SB 2 Relating to the imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits for state income tax, so as to exclude tips from taxation.

SB 24 Relating to general provisions relative to ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide for an extension of preferential assessment periods for certain historic properties.

SB 45 & SB47 Relating to preferential assessment for bona fide conservation use property and bona fide residential transitional property, so as to increase the maximum acreage to qualify for assessment and taxation as a bona fide conservation use property

SB 52 Relating to ad valorem taxation of property, so as to authorize certain local governing authorities to provide temporary tax relief from the taxes levied for the harvest or sale of standing timber in certain disaster areas.

SB 59 Relating to preferential assessment for bona fide conservation use property and bona fide residential transitional property, so as to remove a limitation on leased property as to certain entities.

SB 89 Relating to income taxes, so as to increase the amount of a tax credit based on the federal tax credit for certain child and dependent care expenses to 40 percent of such federal tax credit; to provide for a child income tax credit.

SB 46 Relating to general provisions relative to state government, so as to improve government service delivery in this state; to provide for the appointment of a State of Georgia Government Service Delivery Lead within the Georgia Technology Authority to coordinate such efforts; to establish the powers and duties of such individual; to establish the heads of each state agency as responsible for the government service delivery of their agency and provide for related powers and duties.

SB96 To modernize and update provisions creating certain boards, panels, authorities, centers, commissions, committees, councils, task forces, and other such bodies.

House action on the following bills House Committee Favorably Reported or House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

HB38 Relating to the needs based financial aid program, so as to revise the definition of "eligible student".

HB56 Relating to grants to children of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and prison guards, so as to provide for tuition grants to spouses of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and prison guards who were killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty.

HB 172 Relating to state veterinary education, so as to provide for limits on the student loan forgiveness program.

HB147 Relating to the Georgia Technology Authority, so as to provide for an annual inventory of artificial intelligence usage by state agencies; to provide for annual reports of such; to provide for the authority to develop and establish certain policies.

HB 58 Relating to general provisions relative to aviation, so as to authorize the adoption of local ordinances, resolutions, regulations, or policies that restrict the flight of unmanned aircraft systems over mass public gatherings.

HB 147 Relating to the Georgia Technology Authority, so as to provide for an annual inventory of artificial intelligence usage by state agencies; to provide for annual reports of such; to provide for the authority to develop and establish certain policies.

Ethics SB14 Authorizes non-partisan elections of District Attorneys and Solicitor General

Read and Referred – Sponsored by 5 Republicans

SB15 – Authorizes non-partisan election of County Commissioners

Read and Referred – Sponsored by 5 Republicans

SB18 – Increases per diem for Legislators – from \$7 thousand to \$33 thousand for Senators and from \$7 thousand up to \$11 thousand for House members **Read and Referred** – Sponsored by 9 Republicans and 4 Democrats

SB-23 Retirement; total percentage of funds that the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may invest in alternative investments; raise the limitSenate/**Referred&Read**

SB14 and SB15. They do NOT create non-partisan offices. They both create an authorization for the State Assembly to write laws for a (any) specific County for non-partisan elections.

Retirement SB-13 authorize the authority to finance and perform certain duties in connection with projects relating to natural gas facilities

SB-11 service creditable toward retirement benefits, so as to provide for creditable service for certain military service

SB-31 Income Taxes; all income received as retirement benefits derived from service in the armed forces of the United States or the reserve components; exempt from taxation

Public Safety and Homeland Security SB-07 Jails; certain municipal corporations make municipal detention facilities or jails available for use by a sheriff; require

SB-21 Local Governments; violation of the prohibition on immigration sanctuary policies; waive sovereign and governmental immunities

SB-25 Pardons and Paroles; procedures when a person is denied parole after completing certain prerequisites; provide

Retirement 👉 HB-78 "Public Retirement Systems Investment Authority Law," so as to raise the limit for the total percentage of funds that the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may invest in alternative investmentsHouse **Second Readers**

Public Safety and Homeland Security HB-1 relating to carrying and possession of firearms, so as to establish the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child : **Unnecessary GUN CONTROL**

HB-3 relating to Brady Law Regulations, so as to require universal background checks in all manner of firearm transfers : **Unnecessary GUN CONTROL**

HB-4 relating to Brady Law Regulations, so as to require a three-day waiting period for the purchase or transfer of certain firearms : **Unnecessary GUN CONTROL**

HB-63 relating to carrying and possession of firearms, so as to establish the offense of failure to adequately secure a loaded or unloaded firearm : **Unnecessary GUN CONTROL**

HB-64 relating to crimes and offenses and insurance, respectively, so as to require an owner of an assault weapon to procure and maintain sufficient liability insurance to protect against legal liability arising out of the ownership, maintenance, operation, or use of such weapon; to

HB36 – **Passed and Adopted** - GA HB36 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan – revise the list of providers who are authorized to participate in the processes for appointment of a guardian

for an adult. (Neutral Position)

HB199 - **Passed and Adopted** - GA HB199 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan - to modify provisions related to protection of personally identifiable information of judges and their spouses

– Gunter sponsored (Good)

SB44 – **Passed and Adopted** - GA SB44 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan – revise the definition of the term “qualified local school system”; (Needs further study)

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(Special attention will be paid to these below)

HB400 - [GA HB400 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan](#) - "Community Housing Options Increase Cost Efficiency (CHOICE) Act., **WorkForce Housing** specifications and grants for Counties within those specs. – 1st Reader

HR192 - [GA HR192 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan](#) – **Vote on Constitutional Amendment**; The General Assembly may by general law provide for the creation of, and comprehensive regulation of, **community development districts** – 2nd Reader

HB304 - [GA HB304 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan](#) - **Created the Georgia Municipal Court Clerks' Council** – Sponsored by Gunter - 2nd Reader

HB327 - [GA HB327 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan](#) – **105 pages** of changes regarding power of attorney and fiduciary duties – Sponsored by Gunter – 2nd Reader

HB392 - [GA HB392 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan](#) - April 1, 2026, **initial chief tax court judge** begins term; cases can begin on July 1, 2026 – 2nd Reader

HB406 - [GA HB406 | 2025-2026 | Regular Session | LegiScan](#) - Increases the retirement age of superior court judges first taking office on or after July 1, 2026 – 1 Repub – 2nd Reader (**Hopper on 11, 1st Reader on 12, 2nd Reader on 13**)

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – CAROLANN BROOKS – 2/15/2025

SENATE:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

SB 28 Red Tape Rollback Act of 2025 2/12/2025 Senate Committee **favorably reported**

JUDICIARY

SB 9 Ensuring Accountability for Illegal AI Activities Act"; enact
02/11/2025 **Senate Read Second time**

SB 10 Superior Courts of the Alapaha Judicial Circuit; additional judge; provide
2/11/2025 **Senate Read Second Time**

SB 12 Inspection of Public Records; documents and records in the possession of private persons or entities; revise provisions
2/11/2025 **Senate read second time**

PUBLIC SAFETY

SB 7 Jails; certain municipal corporations make municipal detention facilities or jails available for use by a sheriff; require
02/10/2025 **Senate read second time**

SB 21 Local Governments; violation of the prohibition on immigration sanctuary policies; waive sovereign and governmental immunities
02/10/2025 Senate read second time **02/13/2025 SENATE PASSED/ADOPTED**

HOUSE

JUDICIARY

HB 85 Superior Court Judicial Compensation Reform Act; enact
2/12/2025 House Committee Favorably Reported SUB

HB 86 Public officers and employees; calculating and setting the salaries of certain state
officials; revise provisions
2/12/2025 House Committee Favorably Reported SUB