

**SUMMARY OF
GENERAL STATUTES ENACTED
AT THE 2014 SESSION
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
GEORGIA**

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

**316 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334**



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FOREWORD

We are pleased to present to you the Summary of General Statutes Enacted at the 2014 Session of the General Assembly of Georgia. This represents one of the services which the Legislative Services Committee and the Office of Legislative Counsel perform for the legislative branch of government. Other services include bill drafting, research, statutory and Code revision, rendering of opinions, counseling, legislative reference, interim committee staffing, and preparation of reports.

This document contains a summary of the general statutes of state-wide application which were enacted at the 2014 regular session of the General Assembly of Georgia. No resolutions, local Acts, or uncodified "population Acts" have been included. The document also includes a table of Code sections amended and enacted at the 2014 session.

Minutely analyzing each statute would be impractical, because doing so would defeat the main purpose which we hope that this document accomplishes. It is intended to be used as a convenient reference for persons desiring to know which laws were enacted or to ascertain the main features of each Act without the necessity of reading the Act in its entirety.

For specific, detailed information on any particular law, the Act itself should be examined. Acts may be readily located in the Georgia Laws by Act number, since the Acts are published in the Georgia Laws in numerical order by Act number. In addition, the Georgia Laws contain a table for converting Act numbers to Georgia Laws page numbers.

This summary is not to be deemed in any manner as an opinion from the Office of Legislative Counsel, and the question of constitutionality has not been considered with respect to any Act.

We hope that this document will benefit all who have occasion to use it. Comments and suggestions for improvement are welcomed and should be directed to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

Wayne R. Allen
Legislative Counsel

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The Acts in this summary are arranged according to the title of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated which they amend. In those cases in which an Act amends more than one Code title, the Act appears under only one of the affected titles. A table of titles appears below. No Acts are listed for those titles which are indicated by an asterisk. Click on the title or page number and it will take you to the designated title.

TITLE 1	GENERAL PROVISIONS.	1
TITLE 2*	AGRICULTURE	
TITLE 3	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.	1
TITLE 4	ANIMALS.	2
TITLE 5	APPEAL AND ERROR.	3
TITLE 6	AVIATION.	3
TITLE 7	BANKING AND FINANCE.	3
TITLE 8*	BUILDINGS AND HOUSING	
TITLE 9	CIVIL PRACTICE.	4
TITLE 10	COMMERCE AND TRADE.	4
TITLE 11*	COMMERCIAL CODE	
TITLE 12	CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES.	5
TITLE 13*	CONTRACTS	
TITLE 14*	CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS	
TITLE 15	COURTS.	7
TITLE 16	CRIMES AND OFFENSES.	10
TITLE 17	CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.	12
TITLE 18*	DEBTOR AND CREDITOR	
TITLE 19	DOMESTIC RELATIONS.	13
TITLE 20	EDUCATION.	13
TITLE 21	ELECTIONS.	16
TITLE 22*	EMINENT DOMAIN	
TITLE 23*	EQUITY	
TITLE 24	EVIDENCE.	16
TITLE 25	FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY.	16
TITLE 26	FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS.	17
TITLE 27	GAME AND FISH.	18
TITLE 28	GENERAL ASSEMBLY.	18
TITLE 29*	GUARDIAN AND WARD	
TITLE 30*	HANDICAPPED PERSONS	
TITLE 31	HEALTH.	19
TITLE 32	HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, AND FERRIES.	20
TITLE 33	INSURANCE.	21
TITLE 34	LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.	23
TITLE 35	LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND AGENCIES.	24
TITLE 36	LOCAL GOVERNMENT.	25
TITLE 37	MENTAL HEALTH.	26
TITLE 38	MILITARY, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, AND VETERANS AFFAIRS. ..	26
TITLE 39*	MINORS	
TITLE 40	MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.	27
TITLE 41*	NUISANCES	
TITLE 42	PENAL INSTITUTIONS.	28
TITLE 43	PROFESSIONALS AND BUSINESSES.	28
TITLE 44	PROPERTY.	29
TITLE 45	PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.	30

TITLE 46*	PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION	
TITLE 47	RETIREMENT AND PENSIONS.	30
TITLE 48	REVENUE AND TAXATION.	32
TITLE 49	SOCIAL SERVICES.	35
TITLE 50	STATE GOVERNMENT.	37
TITLE 51	TORTS.	38
TITLE 52	WATERS OF THE STATE.	38
TITLE 53*	WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES	

Listed below are the bill numbers in numerical order. Click on the bill number to be taken to the designated bill summary.

House Bills			
HB 60.....	10	HB 719.....	35
HB 128.....	37	HB 729.....	33
HB 135.....	25	HB 737.....	2
HB 176.....	25	HB 740.....	18
HB 215.....	8	HB 741.....	6
HB 229.....	22	HB 742.....	7
HB 246.....	5	HB 743.....	37
HB 251.....	12	HB 744.....	37
HB 265.....	35	HB 749.....	11
HB 271.....	10	HB 750.....	3
HB 291.....	28	HB 753.....	21
HB 292.....	32	HB 755.....	33
HB 310.....	16	HB 761.....	32
HB 348.....	34	HB 763.....	15
HB 375.....	22	HB 764.....	31
HB 399.....	3	HB 766.....	13
HB 405.....	14	HB 770.....	11
HB 438.....	9	HB 772.....	36
HB 449.....	38	HB 773.....	12
HB 459.....	28	HB 774.....	20
HB 460.....	31	HB 776.....	7
HB 477.....	31	HB 777.....	38
HB 490.....	14	HB 778.....	17
HB 494.....	21	HB 782.....	33
HB 495.....	37	HB 783.....	18
HB 511.....	19	HB 786.....	18
HB 513.....	15	HB 788.....	33
HB 549.....	6	HB 790.....	6
HB 580.....	32	HB 791.....	34
HB 601.....	31	HB 794.....	38
HB 610.....	22	HB 804.....	12
HB 645.....	22	HB 809.....	4
HB 646.....	32	HB 810.....	15
HB 658.....	35	HB 816.....	34
HB 670.....	8	HB 820.....	29
HB 697.....	15	HB 824.....	3
HB 702.....	37	HB 825.....	2
HB 714.....	23	HB 826.....	10
HB 715.....	5	HB 828.....	23
		HB 834.....	25
		HB 835.....	12
		HB 837.....	28
		HB 838.....	11
		HB 840.....	22
		HB 842.....	3
		HB 843.....	30
		HB 845.....	24
		HB 863.....	12
		HB 870.....	9
		HB 872.....	16
		HB 877.....	27
		HB 881.....	27
		HB 883.....	3
		HB 898.....	35
		HB 899.....	20
		HB 900.....	35
		HB 904.....	5
		HB 908.....	7
		HB 911.....	10
		HB 915.....	4
		HB 918.....	33
		HB 920.....	23
		HB 930.....	37
		HB 933.....	34
		HB 943.....	21
		HB 954.....	33
		HB 957.....	7
		HB 958.....	34
		HB 965.....	20
		HB 966.....	19
		HB 973.....	36
		HB 979.....	13
		HB 982.....	4
		HB 983.....	32
		HB 985.....	11
		HB 990.....	36
		HB 998.....	15
		HB 1000.....	34
		HB 1009.....	35
		HB 1042.....	28

HB 1078.....	9
HB 1080.....	37

Senate Bills

SB 23.....	25
SB 60.....	18
SB 65.....	26
SB 98.....	23
SB 117.....	17
SB 125.....	38
SB 128.....	29
SB 134.....	12
SB 187.....	13
SB 206.....	18
SB 207.....	20
SB 213.....	6
SB 235.....	31
SB 240.....	1
SB 273.....	19
SB 274.....	30

SB 276.....	1
SB 281.....	30
SB 282.....	13
SB 286.....	1
SB 288.....	14
SB 290.....	2
SB 296.....	6
SB 297.....	16
SB 298.....	27
SB 299.....	5
SB 301.....	14
SB 304.....	23
SB 305.....	16
SB 318.....	1
SB 320.....	7
SB 322.....	18
SB 324.....	36
SB 325.....	17
SB 326.....	14
SB 333.....	5

SB 336.....	29
SB 337.....	29
SB 339.....	31
SB 340.....	1
SB 341.....	8
SB 342.....	16
SB 349.....	26
SB 352.....	19
SB 358.....	25
SB 361.....	6
SB 364.....	8
SB 365.....	9
SB 367.....	30
SB 381.....	26
SB 382.....	11
SB 383.....	30
SB 386.....	4
SB 391.....	20
SB 392.....	27

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2014 SESSION SUMMARY

HOUSE BILLS	Introduced	Passed	Prefiled Not Intro.	Governor Signed	Governor Vetoed
Pending from the 2013 Session	429	40	16	39	1
Introduced during the 2014 Session	<u>462</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>207</u>	<u>7</u>
	891	254	21	246	8
Generals Passed.	135				
Locals Passed.	<u>119</u>				
Total Passed.	254				
			Sent to the Governor for approval. 254		

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS	Introduced	Adopted	Prefiled Not Intro.	Governor Signed	Governor Vetoed
Pending from the 2013 Session	112	3	0	0	0
Introduced during the 2014 Session	<u>1029</u>	<u>934</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>
	1141	937	1	4	0
Generals Adopted.	5				
Other Non-Privileged Adopted.	25				
Locals Adopted.	0				
Constitutional Amendments.	1				
Privileged Adopted.	<u>906</u>				
Total Adopted.	937				
			Sent to the Governor for approval. 4		

SENATE BILLS	Introduced	Passed	Prefiled Not Intro.	Governor Signed	Governor Vetoed
Pending from the 2013 Session	206	17	2	17	0
Introduced during the 2014 Session	<u>153</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>2</u>
	359	68	2	66	2
Generals Passed.	55				
Locals Passed.	<u>13</u>				
Total Passed.	68				
			Sent to the Governor for approval. 68		

SENATE RESOLUTIONS	Introduced	Adopted	Prefiled Not Intro.	Governor Signed	Governor Vetoed
Pending from the 2013 Session	49	2	0	1	0
Introduced during the 2014 Session	<u>545</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>
	594	519	0	11	0
Generals Adopted.	11				
Other Non-Privileged Adopted.	15				
Locals Adopted.	0				
Constitutional Amendments.	1				
Privileged Adopted.	<u>492</u>				
Total Adopted.	519				
			Sent to the Governor for approval. 11		



TOTAL BILLS	Introduced	Passed	Prefiled Not Intro.	Governor Signed	Governor Vetoed
HOUSE BILLS.	891	254	21	246	8
SENATE BILLS.	<u>359</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL FOR BOTH HOUSES.	1250	322	23	312	10

Total number of Bills sent to the Governor for approval. 322

TOTAL RESOLUTIONS	Introduced	Passed	Prefiled Not Intro.	Governor Signed	Governor Vetoed
HOUSE RESOLUTIONS.	1141	937	1	4	0
SENATE RESOLUTIONS.	<u>594</u>	<u>519</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL FOR BOTH HOUSES.	1735	1456	1	15	0

Total number of Resolutions sent to the Governor for approval. 15



**TITLE 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Act 669; SB 340

This Act makes extensive editorial amendments to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated to correct typographical, stylistic, capitalization, punctuation, and other errors and omissions and reenacts the statutory portion of the Code as so amended.

Effective April 29, 2014; except for certain provisions which are effective on July 1, 2014, or when funds are specifically appropriated.

Act 630; SB 276

This Act designates August 7 of every year as Purple Heart Day and designates Georgia as a Purple Heart State.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 1-4-21 and 50-3-86.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 3
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

Act 552; SB 286

This Act redefines the term "distilled spirits" to mean any alcoholic beverage obtained by distillation or containing more than 24 percent alcohol by volume. The Act also redefines the terms "wine" and "dessert wine" so as to change the maximum allowable percent of alcohol by volume to 24 percent.

The Act authorizes a winery to purchase distilled spirits directly from a manufacturer and blend with wine manufactured by the winery to produce fortified wine.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 3-1-2, 3-6-1, and 3-6-25 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 3-6-21.5.

Effective April 21, 2014.

Act 351; SB 318

This Act authorizes the governing authority of a county or municipality in which the sale of alcoholic beverages is lawful for consumption on the premises to adopt a resolution or ordinance authorizing the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises from 12:30 P.M. until 12:00 Midnight on any Sunday which occurs during the St. Patrick's Day holiday period. The Act defines the term "St. Patrick's Day holiday period" as March 16 through March 18 of each year.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 3-3-7.

Effective March 13, 2014.

Act 631; SB 240

This Act provides for the licensing of the production of distilled spirits by nonprofit museums for educational purposes. The Act authorizes the commissioner of revenue to issue a nonprofit distiller license to a nonprofit museum upon the filing of an application and payment of an annual occupational

TITLE 3 (continued)

license tax of \$100.00 but specifies that the filing of a bond shall not be required. The Act limits the nonprofit museum to the production of 800 liters of distilled spirits each calendar year. The Act also limits the provision of a complimentary sample of the distilled spirits produced at the museum to a guest who has completed an educational tour of the distillery to not more than one-half of one ounce per calendar day. The Act further limits the annual license fee to be charged by a local government for a nonprofit distiller license to not more than \$100.00.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 3-4-22 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 3-9-7.
Effective April 26, 2014.

Act 516; HB 825

This Act authorizes the commissioner of revenue to issue a license to a fruit grower licensed as a farm winery permitting the fruit grower to manufacture distilled spirits and fortified wines for sale exclusively through a licensed and designated wholesaler, provided that the farm winery has no more than one tasting room located on its licensed premises.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 3-4-24 and 3-6-21.1.
Effective April 15, 2014.

Act 505; HB 737

This Act repeals O.C.G.A. Section 3-3-24.1 which defined the term "business establishment primarily engaged in the retail sale of alcoholic beverages in unbroken packages" and provided a penalty.

The Act provides that not more than 128 ounces of malt beverages produced in a private residence may be transported by the producer at one time to a location other than that for which a home-brew special event permit has been issued. The Act also provides that any governing authority desiring to allow home-brew special events to be held within its jurisdiction shall provide by resolution or ordinance for the issuance of home-brew special event permits and shall specify the events that shall qualify as home-brew special events.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 3-3-24.1 and 3-5-4.
Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 4 ANIMALS

Act 554; SB 290

This Act grants the probate courts jurisdiction over violations of Article 2 of Chapter 8 of Title 4, the "Responsible Dog Ownership Law." The Act provides that appeals from classification of a dog as a dangerous dog shall lie on the probate courts. The Act shortens the time between sending notice to an owner and disposal of a dog classified as a dangerous dog.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 4-8-22, 4-8-23, 4-8-30, and 4-14-2 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-9-30.9.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 5
APPEAL AND ERROR**

Act 520; HB 842

This Act clarifies provisions relating to payment of costs and indigency affidavits.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 5-6-4.
Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 6
AVIATION**

Act 657; HB 399

This Act clarifies which type of interests in real property acquired, owned, leased, controlled, or occupied by counties, municipalities, or other political subdivisions for airports or landing fields may be subject to ad valorem taxation.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 6-3-21.
Effective April 29, 2014.

**TITLE 7
BANKING AND FINANCE**

Act 571; HB 750

This Act exempts employees of certain nonprofit corporations from the requirement of holding a mortgage originator, broker, or lender license.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 7-1-1001.
Effective April 21, 2014.

Act 515; HB 824

This Act modifies the definition of interest and the applicability of state usury laws so as to exclude fees agreed upon in contract by a financial institution and depositor, including overdraft fees, delinquent charges, automated teller charges, and stop payment fees.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 7-4-2 and 7-4-18.
Effective April 15, 2014.

Act 523; HB 883

This Act corrects cross-references in the chapter governing merchant acquirer limited purpose banks.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 7-9-2 and 7-9-13.
Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 7 (continued)

Act 532; HB 982

This Act repeals Articles 4 and 4A of Chapter 1 of Title 7 relating to the sale of checks or money orders and the cashing of checks, drafts, or money orders and replaces these articles in order to update language and processes to coincide with changes in banking technology.

The Act repeals Articles 4 and 4A of O.C.G.A. Chapter 7-1 and enacts new Articles 4 and 4A. Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 9 CIVIL PRACTICE

Act 586; SB 386

This Act provides that court filings be redacted so as to protect a filer's social security number and other personal information. The Act provides for procedure for filings and remedies and is applicable to most all court filings, including filings in magistrate courts, other than probate cases and other exceptions applicable in garnishments. The Act also corrects cross-references. The Act also changes the terms of court for the Superior Court of Bartow County.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 9-11-133, 15-6-3, 15-10-42, 15-10-53, 18-4-20, and 18-4-66 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 9-11-7.1 and 15-10-54.

The Act that changes the terms of court is effective January 1, 2015, and the Act having to do with redacted filings is effective on July 1, 2014, and applicable to filings made after that date.

TITLE 10 COMMERCE AND TRADE

Act 513; HB 809

This Act prohibits bad faith assertions of patent infringement, provides for factors for determining whether a bad faith assertion of patent infringement has been made, and requires the posting of a bond when a bad faith claim of patent infringement has been made. The Act provides for a civil cause of action, for enforcement, and for damages.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 10-1-770, 10-1-771, 10-1-772, 10-1-773, and 10-1-774. Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 611; HB 915

This Act provides for security freezes for minors, for requirements for requesting and executing such security freezes, and for removal of such security freezes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 10-1-913, and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 10-1-914.1. Effective January 1, 2015.

TITLE 10 (continued)

Act 490; HB 246

This Act provides that the Geo. L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center Authority shall have the power to provide benefit programs to its officers, employees, and other agents, including a retirement plan and a group insurance plan. The Acts extends the option to elect coverage in the program to the Geo. L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center Authority.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 10-9-4 and 45-18-54.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 12

CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Act 644; HB 904

This Act provides that persons are not aggrieved by the listing of property on the hazardous site inventory if the property was listed prior to July 1, 2014.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 12-2-2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 642; SB 333

This Act establishes that persons are not aggrieved by listings on the hazardous site inventory that occur after July 1, 2014.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 12-2-2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 602; SB 299

This Act provides flexibility for establishing watershed protection standards and requires submission of local government watershed protection plans to the Department of Natural Resources.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 12-2-8.

Effective April 23, 2014.

Act 479; HB 715

This Act revises the authority of the Jekyll Island - State Park Authority. The Act authorizes the authority to convert certain land to developed land under certain conditions and to survey, subdivide, and lease such converted land. The Act amends the master plan.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-3-231, 12-3-243, and 12-3-243.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 12 (continued)

Act 480; SB 296

This Act revises the powers and responsibilities of the Jekyll Island State Park Authority and revises the components of the master plan. The Act also clarifies the development powers and restrictions of the authority.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-3-231, 12-3-243, and 12-3-243.1.
Effective April 14, 2014.

Act 565; SB 361

This Act creates the Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council and provides for membership, purposes, reports, and automatic repeal.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 12-5-9.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 603; HB 741

This Act provides that prior to the application of sludge to land, the director of the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources shall verify that such application complies with local zoning or land use ordinances. The Act requires a public hearing.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 12-5-30.3.
Effective April 23, 2014.

Act 501; HB 549

This Act establishes procedures in response to the discharge into the waters of the state of any dangerous pollutant. The Act provides for emergency action and immediate corrective action.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 12-5-30.4.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 537; SB 213

This Act revises the Flint River Drought Protection Act so as to clarify legislative intent, revise certain definitions, to provide additional powers to the director, to provide for new irrigation efficiency requirements, and to provide for participation in augmented flow programs.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-5-541, 12-5-542, 12-5-544, 12-5-546, and 12-5-549 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 12-5-546.1, and 12-5-546.2.
Effective April 16, 2014.

Act 619; HB 790

This Act provides a statute of limitation of four years for stealing timber. The Act provides for additional enforcement authority to investigators of the State Forestry Commission. The Act requires purchasers of timber to provide tickets to sellers within 20 days. The Act repeals provisions relative to processions. The Act changes provisions relative to the tort of cutting and carrying away timber.

TITLE 12 (continued)

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 9-3-32, 12-6-20, 12-6-23, 51-10-6, and 51-12-50; repeals O.C.G.A. Chapter 44-4; and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 51-11-10.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 525; HB 908

This Act extends the sunset date for tire disposal fees.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 12-8-40.1.
Effective June 30, 2014.

Act 530; HB 957

This Act changes the short title of the "Georgia Hazardous Site Reuse and Redevelopment Act" to the "Georgia Brownfield Act." The Act extends the limitation of liability to certain purchasers of property and provides for the transfer of a limitation of liability.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-200, 12-8-202, 12-8-205, 12-8-207, and 12-8-208 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 12-8-211.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 15 COURTS

Act 483; SB 320

This Act creates veterans court divisions so that certain criminal cases involving veterans can be prosecuted in a specific court division that is focused on services for veterans. The Act also provides for cross-references to the new court division.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 35-3-37 and 40-5-76 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-1-17.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 506; HB 742

This Act provides for an additional judge of the superior court for the Coweta and Waycross Judicial Circuits and provides for the selection process for the judges.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 15-6-2.

Effective July 1, 2014, except that the ability to appoint the initial judgeships is effective April 15, 2014.

Act 578; HB 776

This Act clarifies the information to be provided by the Department of Driver Services, the Secretary of State, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Corrections, the Georgia Crime Information Center division of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, and the State Board of Pardons and Paroles to the Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia in order to compile the state-wide master jury list, and it eliminates a county's board of jury commissioners. The Act corrects cross-references.

TITLE 15 (continued)

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-6-50.2, 15-6-61, 15-12-1, 15-12-1.1, 15-12-4, 15-12-40.1, 21-2-231, 31-2A-4, 35-3-33, 40-5-2, 42-2-5, 42-9-20, and 50-18-72; enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-12-12; and repeals Article 2 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 15-12.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 488; HB 215

This Act changes provisions relating to real or personal property filings by superior court clerks and the office hours for the clerk of superior court.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-6-61 and 15-6-93.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Veto No. 3; HB 670

This Act establishes a trade name registry and revises provisions relating to registering trade names with the clerk of superior court. The Act provides for increased fees for registering a trade name and creates fees for cancelling a trade name registration or reregistering an existing trade name. Part of the Act sunsets on December 31, 2019, and thereafter a different fee structure is imposed.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 10-1-490, 15-6-61, 15-6-77, 15-6-97, 15-6-98, and 15-6-99.

Act 563; SB 341

This Act repeals a population provision relating to a probate court clerk's authority to act on uncontested matters and reenacts such provision applicable to all probate court clerks. The Act also changes provisions relating to compensation for probate judges.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-9-36, 15-9-63, 15-9-63.1, and 15-9-64.

Effective April 21, 2014.

Act 635; SB 364

This Act enacts recommendations of the Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform and changes provisions relating to the appointment of a testamentary guardian. Parts I and II of the Act correct errors, omissions, and cross-references in the Juvenile Code, clarifies a definition relating to how to weigh controlled substances, and clarifies a provision relating to earned time and parole for those convicted of trafficking in certain drugs. Part III of the Act clarifies a definition relating to how to weigh controlled substances in Codes sections that don't take effect until July 1, 2014. Part IV of the Act relates to the procedure for appointing a testamentary guardian.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-2, 15-11-5, 15-11-10, 15-11-16, 15-11-31, 15-11-32, 15-11-38, 15-11-105, 15-11-110, 15-11-135, 15-11-150, 15-11-201, 15-11-210, 15-11-211, 15-11-212, 15-11-216, 15-11-262, 15-11-265, 15-11-270, 15-11-280, 15-11-282, 15-11-283, 15-11-322, 15-11-390, 15-11-400, 15-11-402, 15-11-410, 15-11-411, 15-11-413, 15-11-414, 15-11-415, 15-11-420, 15-11-441, 15-11-442, 15-11-443, 15-11-476, 15-11-450, 15-11-451, 15-11-511, 15-11-531, 15-11-532, 15-11-566, 15-11-582, 15-11-602, 15-11-604, 15-11-656, 16-13-30, 16-13-31, 16-13-31.1, 19-7-1, 29-2-4, and 53-5-21 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-11-304.

TITLE 15 (continued)

Effective April 28, 2014, for Parts I, II, and V; effective July 1, 2014, for Part III; and effective January 1, 2015, for Part IV; and with regard to parole, the Act will apply to all sentences entered after July 1, 2013.

Act 476; SB 365

This Act enacts offender reentry reforms recommended by the Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform, including changing provisions relating to delinquency disposition hearings, calculating time frames, providing for periodic review hearings and permanency plans under certain circumstances, allowing a driver's license to be restored when a defendant is convicted of certain drug related crimes, providing for a Board of Corrections Program and Treatment Completion Certificate in certain circumstances, and having such certificate create a rebuttable presumption of due care in certain liability situations. The Act also moves the responsibility of coordinating and supervising the work of the Georgia Child Fatality Review Panel from the Child Advocate for the Protection of Children to the director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, clarifies provisions relating to thereto, and provides for legislative intent.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-600, 15-11-620, 15-11-621, 15-11-743, 19-15-1, 19-15-2, 19-15-3, 19-15-4, 19-15-6, 35-3-5, 40-5-76, 42-2-5.1, and 49-5-41 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-623, 42-2-5.2, and 51-1-54.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 668; HB 1078

This Act revises how grand jurors are chosen and deals with other matters relevant to selecting grand jurors. The Act clarifies language dealing with trial and grand jurors.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-12-1, 15-12-1.1, 15-12-3, 15-12-4, 15-12-7, 15-12-10, 15-12-11, 15-12-23, 15-12-46, 15-12-62.1, 15-12-63, and 15-12-66.1 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-12-66.

Effective April 29, 2014.

Act 522; HB 870

This Act provides for additional fees for reckless driving convictions that are earmarked for the Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-21-151.

Effective January 1, 2015, if a constitutional amendment is ratified by the voters in the November, 2014, General Election.

Act 494; HB 438

This Act increases the maximum fee that may be collected on all civil filings for the purpose of funding court-connected or court-referred alternative dispute resolution programs.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 15-23-7.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 16
CRIMES AND OFFENSES**

Act 604; HB 60

This Act substantially revises certain gun laws, including a prohibition against prohibiting, as a condition of tenancy in public housing, the possession of a firearm; authorizing hunting using a firearm silencer or suppressor; expanding stand your ground defenses; allowing weapons in bars; allowing weapons in places of worship under certain circumstances; changing prohibitions regarding carrying weapons in school safety zones; clarifying exemptions from weapon carrying laws for judges and former judges; allowing local school boards of education to have a protocol for personnel to carry weapons in school safety zones; authorizing the carrying of weapons into certain secure airport areas; and changing provisions relating to preemption of local regulations of firearms, ammunition, and weapons. The Act revises the issuance of weapon carry licenses to remove fingerprinting requirements for renewal licenses, to allow people with revoked licenses to become eligible for licensing, and to prohibit data bases for licenses. The Act repeals the law relating to the licensing of firearms dealers. The Act changes provisions relating to the Governor's and other officials' powers during a declared state of emergency as it relates to firearms. The Act also corrects cross-references.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 8-3-202, 16-3-24.2, 16-5-21, 16-5-24, 16-11-126, 16-11-127, 16-11-127.1, 16-11-129, 16-11-130, 16-11-173, 16-12-1, 20-2-1180, 20-2-1185, 27-3-4, 35-3-34, 38-3-51, and 43-38-10; repeals O.C.G.A. Chapter 43-16; and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 16-11-130.1, 16-11-130.2, 16-11-137, 16-11-138, 16-12-129, and 38-3-37.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 577; HB 271

This Act creates the offense of murder in the second degree and provides for cross-references to the new crime. The Act also changes provisions relating to forms of collateral required for professional bonding companies and increases the allowable fees for sureties.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-1-16, 15-11-203, 15-11-233, 15-11-560, 16-5-1, 16-11-131, 16-11-133, 16-12-1.1, 17-6-15, 17-6-30, 31-2-9, 31-7-250, 35-3-190, 42-5-85, 42-9-45, and 49-2-14.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 576; HB 911

This Act adds the act of strangulation to the offense of aggravated assault and corrects cross-references for the new offense.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-2 and 16-5-21.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 575; HB 826

This Act changes the zero tolerance prohibition of weapons in school safety zones to make zero tolerance applicable only to firearms and clarifies the ability of local boards of education to modify expulsion or discipline of students who violate the zero tolerance policy. The Act provides for definitions and corrects cross-references for the newly defined crime.

TITLE 16 (continued)

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-2, 16-5-21, 16-5-24, 16-5-44.1, 16-11-127, 16-11-127.1, 16-11-127.2, 16-12-1, 16-13-31, 16-13-31.1, 20-2-751, 20-2-751.1, 20-2-751.5, 20-2-1180, 20-2-1184, 20-2-1185, and 40-5-22 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 16-11-137.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 574; HB 770

This Act creates the new offense of home invasion in the first and second degrees, provides for penalties, and corrects cross-references for the new offense.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-2, 16-11-131, 16-11-133, 16-11-160, 16-16-1, 16-16-2, 17-6-1, 17-10-9.1, and 42-1-11 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 16-7-5.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 566; SB 382

This Act creates the new offense of refund fraud, provides for penalties, provides for courts to have jurisdiction for such offense, corrects cross-references for the new offense, and increases the amount of liquidated damages recoverable for property that is damaged or willfully taken.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-10-260, 35-3-37, 36-32-9, 51-7-60, and 51-10-6 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 16-8-14.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 507; HB 749

This Act creates the new offense of cargo theft and unlawful possession of a fifth wheel, provides for definitions, and provides for penalties.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-8-12 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 16-8-22 and 16-8-23.

Effective July 1, 2014, and applies to offenses committed on and after July 1, 2014.

Act 626; HB 985

This Act revises the offense of filing false liens or encumbrances against public employees to the offense of filing false liens or documents against any person.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-10-20.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 519; HB 838

This Act creates a new offense which prohibits the transmission of photographs or video depicting nudity or sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of harassment or other similar circumstances, provides for definitions, and provides for penalties.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 16-11-90.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 16 (continued)

Act 509; HB 773

This Act substantially revises the offense of discharging a gun or pistol near a public highway or street so as to provide for exceptions. The Act also defines certain terms.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-11-103.

Effective April 15, 2014.

Act 588; HB 863

This Act substantially revises the offense of cruelty to animals, provides for and clarifies definitions, and clarifies justification provisions.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-12-4.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 491; HB 251

This Act revises the offense of sale or distribution to, or possession by, minors of cigarettes and tobacco related objects to provide for the regulation of alternative nicotine products and vapor products.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-12-170, 16-12-171, 16-12-172, 16-12-173, 16-12-174, and 16-12-175.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 550; SB 134

This Act revises the definition of "dispenser" and "prescriber" for the regulation of controlled substances.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 16-13-21.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 518; HB 835

This Act makes changes to the list of Schedules I, III, and IV controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 16-13-25, 16-13-27, 16-13-28, and 16-13-71.

Effective April 15, 2014.

**TITLE 17
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**

Act 512; HB 804

This Act changes how the testimony of children will be allowed outside the physical presence of an accused. The Act changes the maximum age from under the age of 11 to under the age of 17, changes applicability from only a victim's testimony to apply also to children who are called to testify as a

TITLE 17 (continued)

witness, and changes the nature and number of crimes for which such procedure may be utilized. The Act provides for procedure to allow for such testimony.

The Act repeals and reenacts O.C.G.A. Sections 17-8-55.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 551; SB 187

This Act extends the time frames for victims of certain crimes to seek compensation from the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Board, allows for the payment of forensic interviews, and clarifies terminology.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Chapter 17-15.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 19 DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Act 579; SB 282

This Act revises definitions used in calculating child support. The Act clarifies several provisions relative to determining child support and determining income. The Act augments the powers and duties of the Georgia Child Support Commission.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 19-6-15, 19-6-53, 19-11-3, 19-11-30.2, 19-11-32, and 19-11-39.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 20 EDUCATION

Act 350; HB 979

This Act provides for membership for boards of education in counties which collect a homestead option sales and use tax and a county sales and use tax for educational purposes if a local law providing for such membership is not enacted prior to the qualifying period for the 2014 elections.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-52.1.

Effective February 26, 2014.

Act 543; HB 766

This Act allows for students who are 16 or over and enrolled in public schools to participate in a work based learning program for dual credit and provides for the requirements and parameters for such programs.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-159.5, 20-2-161.2, 20-2-327, and 20-2-329.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 20 (continued)

Act 639; SB 301

This Act disallows prohibitions on wood construction in public schools if such wood construction is otherwise in compliance with the state minimum standard codes as they existed on January 1, 2014.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-261.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 553; SB 288

This Act prohibits a high school which receives funding under the "Quality Basic Education Act" from participating in or sponsoring interscholastic sports events conducted by any athletic association unless the association releases annual financial reports. The Act provides for the creation of the High School Athletics Overview Committee and the composition, powers, duties, reports, and fund expenditures of such committee.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-316.2 and 20-2-2100 through 20-2-2104.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 498; HB 490

This Act revises health insurance plan coverage for employees of county and regional libraries.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-880.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 493; HB 405

This Act requires board members for charter schools to participate in governance training. The Act requires local school systems to calculate and provide a grade point average for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors in high school in order to determine HOPE scholarship eligibility.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-2-157, 20-2-2083, and 20-2-2084 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-2072.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Veto No. 2; SB 326

This Act authorizes the Private Colleges and Universities Authority to meet by teleconference and other methods permitted by law to reach quorum. The Act provides that a member of the authority who attends a meeting by teleconference or by a means other than in person shall not be entitled to receive a per diem payment for attending such a meeting.

The Act provides that certain boards and commissions of state government shall receive the same per diem as members of the General Assembly and that daily expense allowances are authorized only if the member of the board or commission is physically present at the meeting of the board or commission.

The Act further provides limitations on and reporting of real property capital lease obligations of the Board of Regents.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-3-202, 45-7-21, and 50-1-5 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-88.

TITLE 20 (continued)

Act 636; HB 697

This Act revises the powers and duties of the Georgia Student Finance Commission and Georgia Student Finance Authority. The Act revises the composition of the board of directors of the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation and Georgia Student Finance Authority. The Act revises the allocation amount and distribution method of funds contributed by taxpayers to fund student loans. The Act revises terminology associated with the Zell Miller Scholarship and establishes the Zell Miller Grant Scholar program.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-3-236, 20-3-264, 20-3-314, 20-3-316, 20-3-519, 20-3-519.2, and 20-3-519.5; repeals O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-409; and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-316.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 539; HB 998

This Act revises provisions relating to medical student scholarships and loans issued by the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 20-3-512, 20-3-514, and 20-3-518; repeals O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-513; and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-513.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 587; HB 810

This Act changes eligibility requirements for the HOPE scholarship program for high school students graduating from an ineligible high school.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-519.2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 581; HB 763

This Act revises the legislative intent language regarding postsecondary study beyond the second year level at the Georgia Military College.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-560.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 500; HB 513

This Act abolishes the Georgia Medical Center Authority and provides for the disposition of its funds and obligations.

The Act repeals O.C.G.A. Chapter 20-15.

Effective April 15, 2014.

**TITLE 21
ELECTIONS**

Act 343; HB 310

This Act revises the dates for primaries, elections, and runoffs, times for qualifying for office, times for calling special elections, and times for filing campaign financing disclosure reports.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 21-2-132, 21-2-150, 21-2-153, 21-2-172, 21-2-187, 21-2-385, 21-2-501, 21-2-540, and 21-5-34.

Effective January 21, 2014.

Act 345; SB 297

This Act assigns the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission for budgetary purposes to the State Accounting Office. The Act provides for the filing of notice of intention to accept campaign contributions by county and municipal candidates. The Act provides that county, school board, and municipal elected officials may file notice of intent not to accept or expend more than \$2,500.00 and be exempt from filing a disclosure report.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 21-5-30 and 21-5-34.

Effective January 31, 2014.

**TITLE 24
EVIDENCE**

Act 542; HB 872

This Act creates the protection of privileged communications between law enforcement officers and peer counselors under certain circumstances and defines terms.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 24-5-510.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 640; SB 342

This Act allows the Department of Public Health to disclose HIV status to certain health care providers when such provider is consulted for medical treatment or advice.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 24-12-21.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 25
FIRE SAFETY AND PROTECTION**

Act 556; SB 305

This Act provides that written notification and an opportunity to remedy be given prior to the denial of a permit or request for a certificate of occupancy or certificate of completion or the issuance of a

TITLE 25 (continued)

stop-work order with regard to buildings or structures required to meet the state minimum fire safety standards.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-14.2.

Effective July 1, 2014, and applicable to any application for a permit, request for a certificate of occupancy or certificate of completion, and stop-work order submitted or issued on or after such date.

Act 610; SB 117

This Act provides for responses by facility owners and operators regarding design locate requests relating to blasting or excavating near utility facilities. The Act clarifies the effect of a design locate request, requires that the time frame for the requested excavation be defined in a locate request, and provides that white lining shall not obstruct certain signage and markings. The Act limits the expansion of tracts for blasting or excavation, revises the time frame for acting on locate requests, and provides for strict liability for certain costs by facility owners and operators under certain circumstances. The Act provides for the promulgation of certain rules by the Public Service Commission, the use of reasonable care by excavators to protect utilities in tolerance zones, and direction with regard to certain enforcement actions, and changes the composition of the advisory committee and provides for an attendance policy at its meetings.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 25-9-3, 25-9-4, 25-9-6, 25-9-7, 25-9-8, 25-9-9, and 25-9-13.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 559; SB 325

This Act changes provisions related to regulation of fire protection sprinkler contractors and fire extinguishers and suppression systems. The Act provides for changes to cease and desist orders and for written notices. The Act changes provisions relating to additional grounds for revocation or suspension of licenses. The Act provides for penalties and for a civil action to enjoin violations of such provisions, rules, regulations, or orders issued by the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 25-11-16, 25-11-17, and 25-12-18.
Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 26

FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS

Act 666; HB 778

This Act exempts certain nonprofit, charitable organizations from the term "food service establishment" when operating on their own property for the purpose of operating a house or other residential structures where seriously ill or injured children and their families are provided temporary accommodations in proximity to their treatment hospitals and where food is prepared, served, transported, or stored by volunteer personnel.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 26-2-370.
Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 27
GAME AND FISH**

Act 485; HB 740

This Act provides that full-time military personnel on active duty and their dependents shall be considered residents of Georgia for purposes of certain hunting and fishing licenses.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 27-1-2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 557; SB 322

This Act provides for the protection of certain wildlife habitats and proscribes certain methods used to drive wildlife out of such habitats.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 27-1-30.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 544; HB 783

This Act updates provisions relating to rules and regulations used to establish criminal violations of such rules as promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources and revises provisions relating to the implied consent warning for hunting under the influence.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 27-1-39, 27-3-7, 52-7-26, and 52-7-51.

Effective May 1, 2014, and applicable to offenses occurring on or after that date.

Act 667; HB 786

This Act provides for a Type I nonresident infant lifetime sportsman's license and clarifies fees for replacement licenses.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 27-2-3.1 and 27-2-30.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 28
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Act 545; SB 60

This Act provides that all official communications required to be sent to the General Assembly be in an electronic format.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 28-3-24.2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 641; SB 206

This Act provides for delegations from the State of Georgia for conventions to propose amendments to Article V of the United States Constitution.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 28-6-8.

TITLE 28 (continued)

Effective upon the adoption of a resolution during the 2013-2014 biennium calling for a convention to propose amendments to Article V of the United States Constitution.

**TITLE 31
HEALTH**

Act 564; SB 352

This Act authorizes the Department of Community Health to approve medical-legal partnerships. The Act creates the Georgia Council on Lupus Education and Awareness within the Department of Community Health.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 31-2-4 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 31-49-1, 31-49-2, 31-49-3, 31-49-4, 31-49-5, and 31-49-6.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 499; HB 511

This Act provides for the Department of Community Health to conduct a two-year pilot program to provide coverage for bariatric surgical procedures for the treatment and management of obesity and related conditions under the state employees' health insurance plan, the health insurance plan for public school teachers, and the health insurance plan for public school employees.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-2-12.

Effective upon funds being specifically appropriated for the purposes of this Act in an Appropriations Act enacted by the General Assembly; provided, however, that if funds are so appropriated, then this Act shall become effective on the later of the date on which such Appropriations Act becomes effective or the beginning date of the fiscal year for which such appropriations are made.

Act 646; HB 966

This Act establishes within the Department of Public Health the Alzheimer's Disease Registry.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-2A-16.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 540; SB 273

This Act requires the Department of Public Health to establish the Maternal Mortality Review Committee to review maternal deaths.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-2A-16.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 31 (continued)

Act 615; HB 899

This Act revises provisions relating to penalties for owning or operating an unlicensed personal care home.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 31-7-12.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 484; SB 391

This Act requires each medical facility to make a good faith application to the southern regional TRICARE managed care support coordinator to join the TRICARE program. The Act provides for a limited deduction for certain medical core clerkships.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-7-27 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 31-7-20.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 583; SB 207

This Act revises the definition of "long-term care facility" in relation to the long-term care ombudsman program.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 31-8-51.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 616; HB 965

This Act enacts the "Georgia 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law." The Act provides immunities from certain arrests, charges, or prosecutions for persons seeking medical assistance for a drug overdose. The Act authorizes licensed health practitioners to prescribe opioid antagonists to certain individuals and entities pursuant to a protocol. The Act authorizes emergency medical services personnel to administer opioid antagonists and first responders to maintain and administer opioid antagonists. The Act provides immunities from certain arrests, charges, or prosecutions for persons seeking medical assistance for an alcohol related overdose.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 3-3-23, 31-11-53, 31-11-54, and 31-11-55, and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 16-13-5, 26-4-116.2, and 31-11-55.1.

Effective April 24, 2014; provided, however, that the provisions relating to the "Georgia 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law" in Part I of the Act and the provisions relating to "opioid antagonist" in Part II of the Act shall apply to all acts committed on or after such effective date.

TITLE 32 HIGHWAYS

Act 665; HB 774

This Act provides for the annual submission of certain reports by the Department of Transportation and increases the minimum contract amount which requires negotiation by counties and municipalities. The Act removes a requirement of retaining certain records by the Department of Driver Services. The

TITLE 32 (continued)

Act provides for an explanation of a traffic signal, clarifies when a vehicle is not required to yield to a pedestrian, and increases the maximum lawful speed on certain highways.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 32-2-41.1, 32-2-41.2, 32-4-63, 32-4-113, 40-5-2, 40-6-21, 40-6-70, and 40-6-181.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 638; HB 753

This Act clarifies when tire chains are required on vehicles operating on state highways during inclement weather conditions and provides for fines for accidents or road blockages caused by failure to use such chains during declared states of emergency for inclement weather conditions. The Act updates the equipment requirements of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles to mirror the federal requirements for such vehicles. The Act prohibits travel by commercial motor vehicles and trucks with more than six wheels within the arc of Interstate 285 in Atlanta except in certain instances. The Act revises the lien and foreclosure sale procedure for abandoned motor vehicles and the disposition of funds for the sale of such vehicles.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 32-6-5, 40-1-8, 40-6-51, 40-11-4, 40-11-5, and 40-11-8.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 658; HB 494

This Act provides for the installation of safety markers on utility lines to indicate the presence of a private airstrip. The Act limits liability and the duty of care for property owners conducting aviation activities for recreational purposes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 51-3-21 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 32-9-8.1.

Effective October 1, 2014, except with regard to regulation and rule making authority by the Department of Transportation, which shall be effective April 29, 2014.

TITLE 33 INSURANCE

Act 529; HB 943

This Act enacts the "Georgia Health Care Freedom Act" to provide that the state, nor any extension of the state shall support voluntary expansion of medical assistance in furtherance of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Act also provides for limitations to establish, create, or otherwise operate an exchange, or apply for, accept, or expend federal moneys of such exchange, and prohibits any departments, agencies, bureaus, authorities, offices, or other units of the state and its political subdivisions from providing navigator programs. The Act further provides that a health benefit policy that provides coverage for intravenously administered or injected chemotherapy for the treatment of cancer shall provide coverage no less favorable for orally administered chemotherapy.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 31-1-40, 33-1-23, and 33-24-56.5.

Effective April 15, 2014, relating to provisions of the "Georgia Health Care Freedom Act," and effective January 1, 2015, relating to provisions of the "Cancer Treatment Fairness Act."

TITLE 33 (continued)

Act 643; HB 840

This Act provides for certain revisions to the Commissioner of Insurance's enforcement of title rules, regulations, and orders, issuance of orders without hearings, civil actions, criminal violations, and penalties to subject any person duly licensed or who should be licensed to probation or monetary penalty.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-2-24.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 659; HB 645

This Act provides that Chapter 12 of Title 10, the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act," shall apply to Title 33, and the Commissioner shall not penalize an insurer for complying with such Act. The Act further provides for the delivery of policies electronically, provides for certain requirements and conditions to provide that any mailing required under Title 33 may be transmitted electronically, and provides for certain notices.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-2-24, 33-22-13, 33-24-1, 33-24-14, 33-24-44, 33-24-44.1, 33-24-45, 33-24-46, and 33-24-47.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 489; HB 229

This Act provides for changes to the submission of reports by property and casualty insurers to remove certain annual report requirements.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-3-21.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 504; HB 610

This Act provides for changes to the licensing and regulation of public adjusters by expanding the definition of "public adjuster" and providing for written contracts, standard of conduct, and penalties. The Act further expands the definition of "guaranteed asset protection waiver" to include excess wear and use charges.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-23-1, 33-23-4, 33-23-43, and 33-63-3 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 33-23-43.1 and 33-23-43.2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 656; HB 375

This Act provides for cancellations of certain policies that permit an audit and there is noncompliance by the insured.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-44.

Effective for policies issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2014.

TITLE 33 (continued)

Act 570; HB 828

This Act prohibits the solicitation, release, or sale of automobile accident information and provides for definitions, exceptions, and penalties. The Act further changes provisions relating to when public disclosure of records is not required so as to require written authorization to obtain motor vehicle accident reports by certain parties.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 50-18-72 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-53.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 547; SB 98

This Act prohibits coverage of certain abortions by qualified health plans created by the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, excludes expenses for abortion services under the state health benefit plan, and provides that the General Assembly, by joint resolution, may appoint one or more of its members to intervene as a matter of right in any case in which the constitutionality of this Act or any portion thereof is challenged.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 45-18-4 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-24-59.17.
Effective April 21, 2014.

Act 527; HB 920

This Act enacts the "Unclaimed Life Insurance Benefits Act" to provide for the use of the Death Master File in order to determine the payment of benefits from a life insurance policy, annuity, or retained asset account pursuant to the terms of the contract or, if applicable, in accordance with probate law.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-25-14.
Effective July 1, 2014, and applicable to policies issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2015.

Act 555; SB 304

This Act provides that a continuing care provider with a certificate of authority and written approval of the Commissioner of Insurance may offer, as part of the continuing care agreement, continuing care in which the resident purchases a resident owned living unit. The Act also provides for notices of disclosure statements.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 33-45-1, 33-45-3, 33-45-7 and 33-45-10, and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 33-45-7.1.
Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 34 LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Act 625; HB 714

This Act changes certain provisions, processes, and procedures affecting unemployment insurance and benefits.

TITLE 34 (continued)

Section 1 of the Act provides for penalties collected on fraud overpayments of benefits pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 34-8-255 to be paid into this state's Unemployment Compensation Fund. Section 8 of the Act specifies that penalties assessed for a fraudulent overpayment of benefits shall not be waived. Section 9 of the Act increases the penalties for a fraud overpayment of benefits to 15 percent.

Section 2 of the Act provides that employers who fail to respond timely or adequately to a notice of claim filing or written requests by the Department of Revenue for information relating to a claim for benefits three times, each of which results in an overpayment, during a single calendar year shall not be relieved of charges to their tax experience for any subsequent such failure during the same calendar year unless good cause is shown.

Section 3 of the Act adds as a condition to the payment of additional weekly unemployment compensation payable under O.C.G.A. Section 34-8-193(d)(2) that the average rate of total unemployment in this state for the preceding three months shall equal or exceed 11 percent.

Section 4 of the Act provides that unemployment insurance benefit claims shall not be allowed based upon service by an educational service worker where there is a reasonable assurance of returning to work for the educational institution or educational service contractor immediately following a period of unemployment. This section of the Act also defines the terms "educational institution," "educational service contractor," and "educational service worker."

Section 5 of the Act provides for a decision of the Board of Review of the Department of Labor to become final 15 days from the date of mailing the decision to the parties.

Section 6 of the Act provides that applicants for judicial review shall serve the Commissioner of Labor within 30 days from the date of filing an application in superior court. This section of the Act also provides that all petitions filed with a court shall be served on the Commissioner with appropriate copies at a specified address.

Section 7 of the Act authorizes the Commissioner, the board of review, the chief administrative hearing officer, or any duly authorized representative of any of them to quash, modify, or withdraw subpoenas they issue.

Section 10 of the Act removes hearings related to unemployment benefits or overpayment of unemployment benefits from the provisions of O.C.G.A. Chapter 50-13, the "Georgia Administrative Procedure Act."

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 34-8-92, 34-8-157, 34-8-193, 34-8-196, 34-8-221, 34-8-223, 34-8-253, 34-8-254, 34-8-255, and 50-13-2.

Effective April 24, 2014, except that Section 4 amending O.C.G.A. Section 34-8-196 is effective January 1, 2015.

TITLE 35 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND AGENCIES

Act 627; HB 845

This Act prohibits the disclosure of arrest booking photographs under certain circumstances.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 50-18-72 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 35-1-18.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 35 (continued)

Act 585; SB 358

This Act provides for missing child reports for foster children.
The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 35-3-83.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 622; SB 23

This Act establishes the "Stacey Nicole English Act" to aid in the location of missing persons who may be incapacitated due to serious medical conditions. The Act prohibits minimum waiting periods for initiating a missing person report, authorizes a state-wide endangered person advisory based on a missing person's severe medical condition, and provides for emergency contact information in vehicle application registration forms.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 35-3-171, 35-3-172, 35-3-173, 35-3-176, 35-3-177, 35-3-179, and 40-2-26 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 35-1-18.

Effective July 1, 2013, except for Code Section 40-2-26, which is effective January 1, 2014.

TITLE 36

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Act 487; HB 135

This Act requires ante litem notices for municipalities to specify the amount of damages sought. The Act provides for service of such notices upon the mayor or the chairperson of the city council or city commission by delivering the claim to such official personally or by certified mail or statutory overnight delivery.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 36-33-5.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 569; HB 176

This Act changes certain provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations related to the streamlined processing of applications for advanced broadband collocation or modification of wireless facilities. The Act places limitations on the time allowed for the review of new wireless support structures and limits the amount of fees that may be charged for the review of wireless facilities and wireless support structures. The Act also prohibits certain acts by a local governing authority in the regulation of the placement or construction of any new wireless facility or wireless support structure.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 36-66B-1 through 36-66B-4 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 36-66B-5 through 36-66B-7.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 517; HB 834

This Act repeals a provision which prohibited the holding of a county-wide bond election or school bond election in the unincorporated areas of any county in this state having a population of 800,000 or

TITLE 36 (continued)

more according to the United States decennial census of 2000 or any future such census on any date other than the date of the November general election.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 36-82-1.

Effective April 15, 2014.

TITLE 37 MENTAL HEALTH

Act 538; SB 349

This Act provides for changes to the powers and duties of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the administration of mental health, developmental disabilities, addictive diseases, and other disability services. The Act provides for the re-creation of community service boards and establishes governing boards to oversee the community service boards. The Act also changes the powers and duties of community service boards and provisions relating to the program directors, staff, budget, facilities, debts, obligations, liabilities, and other aspects of such boards. The Act changes certain provisions relating to the redesignation of boundaries of community service board areas and changes certain aspects of the emergency powers of the commissioner of behavioral health and developmental disabilities upon the failure of a community service board to establish and administer certain programs.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 37-1-20, 37-2-2, 37-2-3, 37-2-6, 37-2-6.1, 37-2-6.3, 37-2-6.5, and 37-2-10.

Effective April 16, 2014.

Act 546; SB 65

This Act authorizes a licensed professional counselor to perform certain acts which physicians, psychologists, and clinical nurse specialists in psychiatric/mental health are authorized to perform regarding emergency admissions of persons for involuntary evaluation of persons who appear to be mentally ill, an alcoholic, a drug abuser, or drug dependent. The Act provides for an automatic repealer.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 37-3-41 and 37-7-41.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 38 MILITARY, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Act 614; SB 381

This Act provides for the designation of first informer broadcasters to disseminate information to the public during times of emergency. The Act provides that such broadcasters shall have access to affected areas and logistical support necessary to sustain such emergency broadcasts. The Act provides for the training of personnel.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 38-3-57.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 40
MOTOR VEHICLES**

Act 629; HB 877

This Act authorizes local authorities to regulate the use of personal transportation vehicles upon roadways and designated paths and lanes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 40-1-1, 40-2-20, 40-3-4, 40-3-30.1, 40-4-2, 40-5-20, 40-5-21, 40-6-51, 40-6-330, 40-6-331, 40-6-363, 40-6-371, and 40-8-1 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 40-4-5.1, 40-6-330.1, and 40-6-364 through 40-6-369.1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 567; SB 392

This Act allows for the acceptance of applications for registration and titling of former military motor vehicles.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 40-1-1, 40-2-27, 40-3-30, 40-3-30.1, and 40-5-24.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 624; SB 298

This Act enacts recommendations of the House Comprehensive Motor Vehicle and Traffic Reform Study Committee relating to Department of Driver Services certified or approved driving programs, unlicensed drivers, completion of DUI alcohol or drug use reduction programs, and contents, fees, and fingerprinting for driving programs. The Act allows for the issuance of a temporary vehicle parking decal for persons with disabilities upon the submission of a doctor's prescription. The Act waives the license fee for volunteer firefighters and amends the required contents of a personal identification card and commercial driver's license.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 3-3-23.1, 17-10-3, 33-9-42, 40-1-1, 40-2-74.1, 40-5-1, 40-5-20, 40-5-27 through 40-5-29, 40-5-57, 40-5-57.1, 40-5-58, 40-5-62, 40-5-63, 40-5-80 through 40-5-84, 40-5-86, 40-5-100, 40-5-150, 40-6-391, 42-8-112, 52-7-12, and 52-7-12.6 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 15-18-31.

Effective July 1, 2014, except for portions relating to the waiver of license fees for volunteer firefighters and the contents of personal identification cards and commercial drivers' licenses, which shall become effective on January 1, 2015.

Act 481; HB 881

This Act revises the allocation of funds generated by the sale of motor vehicle license plates related to the conservation of nongame species of wildlife and requires the submission of an annual audit of the disposition of the funds generated by such license plates. The Act provides for a new special motor vehicle license plate for the Grady Health Foundation.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-2-86.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 40 (continued)

Act 495; HB 459

This Act prohibits the operation of a motor vehicle in the passing lane at a slower speed than a vehicle approaching from behind at a higher rate of speed except in certain instances.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 40-6-184.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 42

PENAL INSTITUTIONS

Veto No. 6; HB 837

This Act provides for the supervision of misdemeanor and county and city ordinance offenders by county and municipal probation officers and private probation services providers. The Act provides for the revocation, modification, and tolling of sentences under certain circumstances by county and municipal courts, the conditions of probation, and the assessment and collection of costs of probation. The Act revises certain standards for private corporations, private enterprises, and private agencies who enter into written contracts for probation services, and revises certain standards for counties, municipalities, or consolidated governments who enter into written agreements to provide probation services.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 42-8-100, 42-8-103, 42-8-106, and 42-8-108 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 42-8-100.1.

TITLE 43

PROFESSIONS AND BUSINESSES

Act 492; HB 291

This Act transfers the Georgia State Board of Accountancy from being administratively attached to the Secretary of State to being a division within the State Accounting Office. The Act authorizes the state accounting officer to appoint and employ an executive director of the Georgia State Board of Accountancy and provides for the powers and duties of such executive director. The Act changes provisions governing the practice of public accountancy so as to update terminology and practice to current usage. The Act also corrects and conforms cross-references due to changes made in other parts of the Act.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 24-5-501, 36-81-8.1, and 43-1-9, O.C.G.A. Chapter 43-3, and O.C.G.A. Section 50-5B-2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 535; HB 1042

This Act eliminates the authority for the Georgia Auctioneers Commission to issue apprentice auctioneer licenses and removes any references to such licenses from O.C.G.A. Chapter 43-6.

TITLE 43 (continued)

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-6-1, 43-6-9, 43-6-10, 43-6-11, 43-6-12, 43-6-14, 43-6-16, 43-6-18, 43-6-20, 43-6-21, 43-6-22, and 43-6-25.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 561; SB 337

This Act provides that the fines imposed by the State Board of Barbers for certain violations shall not exceed certain specified amounts.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 43-7-23.

Effective April 21, 2014, and applicable to all violations occurring on or after such date.

Act 560; SB 336

This Act lowers the minimum age requirement from 17 to 16 years of age for learning the occupation of cosmetology, hair design, esthetics, or nail care or manicuring under a cosmetologist. The Act provides that the fines imposed by the State Board of Cosmetology for certain violations shall not exceed certain specified amounts.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 43-10-14 and 43-10-15.

Effective April 21, 2014, and applicable to all violations occurring on or after such date.

Act 549; SB 128

This Act redefines the term "The Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education" to mean the national accrediting agency for marriage and family therapy education as recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation instead of the United States Department of Education.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 43-10A-3.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 44
PROPERTY**

Act 514; HB 820

This Act clarifies provisions relating to standing for condominium associations in tort actions.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 44-3-106.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 45
PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

Act 462; SB 367

This Act provides for the appointment of a temporary replacement officer under certain circumstances when the Governor appoints a member of a governing authority as a temporary replacement for a suspended public official. The Act changes eligibility to be a member of a metropolitan area planning and development commission.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 45-5-6 and 50-8-84.
Effective April 10, 2014.

Act 618; SB 274

This Act provides for the designation of areas within the capitol museum as the Georgia Capitol Agricultural History Museum areas.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 45-13-71, 45-13-72, and 45-13-73.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 623; SB 383

This Act provides that property of value of a deceased person of which a coroner or medical examiner takes possession shall not be converted to the coroner or medical examiner's personal use and that property of value of which the coroner or medical examiner takes possession for use in determining the cause or manner of death of the deceased or to identify the deceased shall be returned to the next of kin of the deceased when no longer needed in the investigation or for evidence in a prosecution.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 45-16-25.
Effective April 24, 2014.

Veto No. 1; SB 281

This Act requires that a high deductible health care plan with a health savings account be offered as an option for persons covered under the state employees' health insurance plan.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 45-18-2.

**TITLE 47
RETIREMENT AND PENSIONS**

Act 521; HB 843

This Act changes certain provisions in Title 47 to ensure compliance with federal pension laws and regulations. The Act changes provisions relative to maximum allowable benefits and the rights of certain employees to receive as cash certain employer paid benefits.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 47-1-82, 47-1-83, 47-6-60, 47-23-80, 47-23-81, and 47-23-82.
Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 47 (continued)

Act 497; HB 477

This Act provides for the transfer of creditable service from the Georgia Judicial Retirement System to the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia. The Act provides conditions for such transfer and for payment.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 47-2-96.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 562; SB 339

This Act revises, modernizes, and corrects errors and omissions in Title 47.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Title 47.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 663; HB 764

This Act amends the Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings Plan to provide that, unless otherwise elected, employees shall contribute an amount equal to 5 percent into the plan.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 47-2-357.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 584; SB 235

This Act expands the definition of the term "part-time employment" to permit certain part-time firefighters to become members of the Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund. The Act provides for creditable service for certain prior service.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 47-7-1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 496; HB 460

This Act provides that incarcerated persons shall not be eligible for membership in the Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 47-7-40 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 47-7-90.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 503; HB 601

This Act repeals automatic cost-of-living adjustments in the Judges of the Probate Courts Retirement Fund of Georgia.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 47-11-1, 47-11-22, and 47-11-71.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 47 (continued)

Act 502; HB 580

This Act changes provisions relative to the spouses' survival option under the Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund to provide for a benefit based upon actuarial calculations. The Act provides for a return to normal benefits in the event of death or divorce.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 47-14-70.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 508; HB 761

This Act updates certain references to Government Accounting Standards Board Statements 25 and 27.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 47-20-3 and 47-20-10.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 660; HB 646

This Act provides that part-time chief magistrates shall be eligible for membership in the Magistrates Retirement Fund of Georgia.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 47-25-20, 47-25-21, 47-25-40, 47-25-80, 47-25-82, 47-25-83, 47-25-84, and 47-25-86 and repeals O.C.G.A. Section 47-25-1.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 621; HB 292

This Act provides for retirement benefits under the Magistrates Retirement Fund of Georgia based upon county population. The Act provides for employee contributions into the fund.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 47-25-21, 47-25-41, and 47-25-81 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 47-25-42.

Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 48
REVENUE AND TAXATION**

Act 533; HB 983

This Act clarifies the exemption from state sales and use taxes for certain agricultural machinery and equipment.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 2-1-5 and 48-8-3.3.

Effective January 1, 2015, and applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after that date.

TITLE 48 (continued)

Veto No. 4; HB 729

This Act changes the manner in which the fair market value of certain motor vehicles subject to the tax is determined and provides a credit for trade-in vehicles in certain circumstances. The Act also provides for tag agent fees, submissions of title forms by dealers and penalties for failure to submit such forms, and transfers of title in cases of a divorce decree or other court order.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 40-2-8, 40-2-29, 40-3-21, 40-3-32, and 48-5C-1.

Act 526; HB 918

This Act defines the terms "Internal Revenue Code" and "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" in order to incorporate certain provisions of the federal law into Georgia law. The Act also provides for the electronic submission of state withholding tax registration applications.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-1-2 and 48-2-32.

Effective April 15, 2014, and Section 1 of the Act shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2013.

Act 510; HB 782

This Act grants immunity from certain tax liabilities to businesses and employees entering Georgia to repair damage due to a disaster or emergency.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 48-2-100.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 645; HB 954

This Act changes the definition of fair market value of property to require the tax assessor to consider rent limitations and other restrictions placed on the property when determining the fair market value.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 612; HB 755

This Act provides for a revised definition of forest land fair market value and changes the procedures for approval of tax digests when assessments are in arbitration or on appeal. The Act also provides for procedures regarding refunds of taxes and license fees by counties and municipalities.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-5-2, 48-5-29, 48-5-304, 48-5-311, and 48-5-380.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 613; HB 788

This Act provides for an ad valorem tax exemption, upon approval in a state-wide referendum, for private interests in property of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia that is operated by a third party.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-5-41 and 48-5-421.1.

Effective April 24, 2014.

TITLE 48 (continued)

Act 355; HB 348

This Act provides an income tax credit for purchasers of alternative fuel heavy-duty and medium-duty vehicles.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 48-7-29.18 and 48-7-29.19.

Effective April 4, 2014, and applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2015.

Act 511; HB 791

This Act provides that the redrawing of census tracts shall not disqualify a designated military zone from its designation as a less developed area.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-7-40.1.

Effective April 15, 2014.

Act 477; HB 958

This Act revises the state income tax credit for qualified interactive entertainment production companies and provides an exemption from state sales and uses taxes for qualified food banks, qualified back to school items, energy or water efficient products, and projects of regional significance.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-7-40.26 and 48-8-3.

Effective April 14, 2014, and the exemption for qualified interactive entertainment production companies shall be applicable to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

Act 478; HB 1000

This Act provides for setoff debt collection against state income tax refunds for debts owed to certain courts.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 48-7-160 through 48-7-170 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 48-7-162.1 and 48-7-165.1.

Effective January 1, 2015.

Act 620; HB 816

This Act revises the definition of delivery charges for purposes of state sales and use taxes.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 606; HB 933

This Act removes the expiration from the exemption from state sales and use taxes for property used in the maintenance or repair of certain aircraft and provides an exemption for a civil rights museum.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-3.

Effective July 1, 2014.

TITLE 48 (continued)

Act 524; HB 900

This Act includes consumable supplies in the state sales tax exemption for machinery and other items used in manufacturing.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-3.2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 582; HB 1009

This Act extends the date for the exemption to the local sales and use tax cap for a county that levied a tax for the purposes of a metropolitan area system of public transportation.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-6.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 608; HB 265

This Act repeals the provisions pertaining to the use of proceeds from the local sales tax used by MARTA and repeals the provisions relating to the membership on the board of directors. The Act also extends the date for the exemption to the local sales and use tax cap for a county that levied a tax for the purposes of a metropolitan area system of public transportation.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-6 and repeals O.C.G.A. Sections 32-9-13 and 32-9-14.

Effective June 1, 2014.

Act 662; HB 719

This Act provides for the continuation of the joint county and municipal sales tax (LOST).

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-89 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-83.1.

Effective April 29, 2014.

Act 633; HB 658

This Act repeals the Georgia estate tax.

The Act repeals O.C.G.A. Chapter 48-12 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 48-12-1.

Effective April 28, 2014.

TITLE 49 SOCIAL SERVICES

Act 634; HB 898

Part I of this Act repeals the Interstate Compact on Juveniles enacted in 1972. Part II of the Act enacts a new Interstate Compact for Juveniles in O.C.G.A. Title 49 and provides for an interstate commission, compact administrator, and a state council. This part of the Act also provides for withdrawal, default, termination, and judicial enforcement of the compact. Part III of the Act revises O.C.G.A. Section 15-11-10 and O.C.G.A. Title 49, relating to the exclusive original jurisdiction of

TITLE 49 (continued)

juvenile courts and social services, respectively, so as to correct cross-references due to changes in other parts of the Act.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 15-11-10, 49-A-7, and 49-5-8; repeals O.C.G.A. Chapter 39-3 and enacts O.C.G.A. Chapter 49-4B.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 558; SB 324

This Act amends redefines terms pertaining to the employing and training of peace officers, the Georgia State Indemnification Fund, the Temporary Disability Compensation Program, and the commitment of delinquent children so as to harmonize definitions relating to peace officers employed or appointed by the Department of Juvenile Justice regarding their duties.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 35-8-2, 45-9-81, 45-9-101, and 49-4A-8.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 664; HB 772

This Act provides for drug testing for applicants and recipients of food stamps or TANF benefits upon a reasonable suspicion of drug use. The Act also provides for drug testing requirements, penalties for failing a drug test, reapplication for food stamps after failure of a drug test, and confidentiality of records. The Act requires electronic benefits transfer cards for food stamp benefits to contain a photo of the recipient.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 49-4-193 and enacts O.C.G.A. Sections 49-4-20 and 49-4-21.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 534; HB 990

This Act prohibits the expansion of Medicaid eligibility through an increase in the income threshold, without prior legislative approval. The Act specifies that such prohibition does not apply to any increase resulting from a cost-of-living increase in the federal poverty level. The Act provides that the required legislative approval shall be in the form of an Act of the General Assembly or the adoption of a joint resolution of the General Assembly.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 49-4-142.2.

Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 482; HB 973

This Act provides for changes to civil penalties for false or fraudulent Medicaid claims by revising certain provisions relating to conspiracy to commit certain violations and by defining the term "Georgia Medicaid program." The Act also revises provisions relating to when the court shall dismiss a civil action or claim.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 49-4-168.1 and 49-4-168.2.

Effective April 15, 2014.

**TITLE 50
STATE GOVERNMENT**

Act 347; HB 743

This Act amends the 2013-2014 "General Appropriations Act" to change certain appropriations for State Fiscal Year 2013-2014.
Effective February 26, 2014.

Act 632; HB 744

This Act, the "General Appropriations Act," provides appropriations for the operation of state government for State Fiscal Year 2014-2015.
Effective April 28, 2014.

Act 528; HB 930

This Act provides for the selection of delegates in the event two-thirds of the states call for a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution.
The Act enacts Article 2 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 50-1.
Effective January 1, 2015.

Act 637; HB 1080

This Act provides for the placement of a statue of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.
The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 50-3-105.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 661; HB 702

This Act provides for the placement of a granite monument in the capitol building depicting the biblical ten commandments and other documents.
The Act enacts Article 5 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 50-3.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 536; HB 128

This Act enacts the "Georgia Downtown Renaissance Fund Act." The Act establishes a fund administered by the commissioner of community affairs to provide financial assistance to local governments to encourage economic development, historic preservation, investment, and public improvements.
The Act enacts Article 11 of O.C.G.A. Chapter 50-8.
Effective April 16, 2014.

Act 580; HB 495

This Act amends provisions relative to the conveyance of public property by the General Assembly. The Act provides that the State Properties Commission may approve of the conveyance of property

TITLE 50 (continued)

valued at more than \$500,000.00. The Act provides for notices of intent to convey property. The Act provides procedures for the conveyance of property valued in excess of \$500,000.00 by the General Assembly.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Sections 50-16-31, 50-16-34, 50-16-39, and 51-16-40.
Effective April 22, 2014.

Act 617; HB 449

This Act restricts the public disclosure of certain 9-1-1 emergency calls which contain the voice of a minor or a person who died during the call.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 50-18-72.
Effective July 1, 2014.

Act 475; HB 794

This Act adopts a Compact for a Balanced Budget. The Act provides for a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Chapter 50-38.
Effective April 12, 2014.

**TITLE 51
TORTS**

Act 548; SB 125

This Act codifies the duty of a lawful possessor of land to a trespasser against harm.

The Act enacts O.C.G.A. Section 51-3-3.
Effective July 1, 2014.

**TITLE 52
WATERS OF THE STATE, PORTS, AND WATERCRAFT**

Act 605; HB 777

This Act enacts the "Interstate Boating Violator Compact." The Act provides for the suspension of privileges to operate a vessel in Georgia based upon violations of the vessel laws of this and other compact states.

The Act amends O.C.G.A. Section 52-7-26 and enacts O.C.G.A. Section 52-7-12.7 and Article 1A of O.C.G.A. Chapter 52-7.

Effective July 1, 2014.

O.C.G.A. INDEX

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 1-4-21; enacted.	SB 276	1
Code Section 2-1-5; amended.	HB 983	32
Code Section 2-8-90; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 2-8-93; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 2-8-98; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 2-8-99; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 3-1-2; amended.	SB 286	1
Code Section 3-3-7; amended.	SB 318	1
Code Section 3-3-23; amended.	HB 965	20
Code Section 3-3-23.1; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 3-3-24.1; repealed.	HB 737	2
Code Section 3-4-22; amended.	SB 240	1
Code Section 3-4-24; amended.	HB 825	2
Code Section 3-5-4; amended.	HB 737	2
Code Section 3-6-1; amended.	SB 286	1
Code Section 3-6-21.1; amended.	HB 825	2
Code Section 3-6-21.5; enacted.	SB 286	1
Code Section 3-6-25; amended.	SB 286	1
Code Section 3-9-7; enacted.	SB 240	1
Code Section 4-8-22; amended.	SB 290	2
Code Section 4-8-23; amended.	SB 290	2
Code Section 4-8-30; amended.	SB 290	2
Code Section 4-14-2; amended.	SB 290	2
Code Section 5-6-4; amended.	HB 842	3
Code Section 6-3-21; amended.	HB 399	3
Code Title 7, Chapter 1, Article 4; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-680 through 7-1-683; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-683.1 through 7-1-683.3; enacted.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-684 and 7-1-684.1; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-684.2; enacted.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-685 through 7-1-687; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-687.1; repealed.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-688 and 7-1-689; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-689.1 and 7-1-689.2; repealed.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-690 through 7-1-692; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-693 through 7-1-698; enacted.	HB 982	4
Code Title 7, Chapter 1, Article 4A; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-700 and 7-1-701; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-701.1; enacted.	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-702; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-702.1 and 7-1-702.2; enacted.	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-703; amended.	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-703.1 and 7-1-703.2; enacted.	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-704; amended.	HB 982	4

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 7-1-704.1; enacted.....	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-705; amended.....	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-705.1; enacted.....	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-706; amended.....	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-706.1; enacted.....	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-707 and 7-1-707.1; amended.....	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-707.2 and 7-1-707.3; repealed.....	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-708; amended.....	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-708.1 and 7-1-708.2; enacted.....	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-709; amended.....	HB 982	4
Code Sections 7-1-709.1 and 7-1-709.2; enacted.....	HB 982	4
Code Section 7-1-1001; amended.....	HB 750	3
Code Section 7-4-2; amended.....	HB 824	3
Code Section 7-4-18; amended.....	HB 824	3
Code Section 7-9-2; amended.....	HB 883	3
Code Section 7-9-13; amended.....	HB 883	3
Code Section 8-2-144; amended.....	SB 340	1
Code Section 8-3-202; amended.....	HB 60	10
Code Section 9-3-32; amended.....	HB 790	6
Code Section 9-11-7.1; enacted.....	SB 386	4
Code Section 9-11-133; amended.....	SB 386	4
Code Section 10-1-393; amended.....	SB 340	1
Code Section 10-1-490; amended.....	HB 670	8
Code Title 10, Chapter 1, Article 27A; enacted.....	HB 809	4
Code Sections 10-1-770 through 10-1-774; enacted.....	HB 809	4
Code Section 10-1-913; amended.....	HB 915	4
Code Section 10-1-914.1; enacted.....	HB 915	4
Code Section 10-9-4; amended.....	HB 246	5
Code Section 12-2-2; amended.....	HB 904	5
Code Section 12-2-2; amended.....	SB 333	5
Code Section 12-2-8; amended.....	SB 299	5
Code Section 12-3-50; amended.....	SB 340	1
Code Section 12-3-231; amended.....	HB 715	5
Code Section 12-3-231; amended.....	SB 296	6
Code Sections 12-3-243 and 12-3-243.1; amended.....	HB 715	5
Code Sections 12-3-243 and 12-3-243.1; amended.....	SB 296	6
Code Section 12-5-9; enacted.....	SB 361	6
Code Section 12-5-30.3; amended.....	HB 741	6
Code Section 12-5-30.4; enacted.....	HB 549	6
Code Sections 12-5-541 and 12-5-542; amended.....	SB 213	6
Code Section 12-5-544; amended.....	SB 213	6
Code Section 12-5-546; amended.....	SB 213	6
Code Sections 12-5-546.1 and 12-5-546.2; enacted.....	SB 213	6
Code Section 12-5-549; amended.....	SB 213	6
Code Section 12-6-20; amended.....	HB 790	6
Code Section 12-6-23; amended.....	HB 790	6

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 12-8-40.1; amended.....	HB 908	7
Code Section 12-8-200; amended.....	HB 957	7
Code Section 12-8-202; amended.....	HB 957	7
Code Section 12-8-205; amended.....	HB 957	7
Code Sections 12-8-207 and 12-8-208; amended.....	HB 957	7
Code Section 12-8-211; enacted.....	HB 957	7
Code Section 15-1-16; amended.....	HB 271	10
Code Section 15-1-16; amended.....	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-1-17; enacted.....	SB 320	7
Code Section 15-3-4; amended.....	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-6-2; amended.....	HB 742	7
Code Section 15-6-3; amended.....	SB 386	4
Code Section 15-6-50.2; amended.....	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-6-61; amended.....	HB 215	8
Code Section 15-6-61; amended.....	HB 670	8
Code Section 15-6-61; amended.....	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-6-77; amended.....	HB 670	8
Code Section 15-6-77.4; amended.....	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-6-93; amended.....	HB 215	8
Code Section 15-6-97; amended.....	HB 670	8
Code Sections 15-6-98 and 15-6-99; amended.....	HB 670	8
Code Section 15-9-30.9; enacted.....	SB 290	2
Code Section 15-9-36; amended.....	SB 341	8
Code Section 15-9-60.1; amended.....	SB 340	1
Code Sections 15-9-63 through 15-9-64; amended.....	SB 341	8
Code Section 15-10-42; amended.....	SB 386	4
Code Section 15-10-53; amended.....	SB 386	4
Code Section 15-10-54; enacted.....	SB 386	4
Code Section 15-10-260; amended.....	SB 382	11
Code Section 15-11-2; amended.....	HB 770	11
Code Section 15-11-2; amended.....	HB 826	10
Code Section 15-11-2; amended.....	HB 911	10
Code Section 15-11-2; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-5; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-10; amended.....	HB 898	35
Code Section 15-11-10; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-16; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-32; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-38; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-105; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-110; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-135; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-150; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-201; amended.....	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-203; amended.....	HB 271	10
Code Section 15-11-210; amended.....	SB 364	8

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 15-11-211; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-212; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-216; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-233; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 15-11-262; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-265; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-270; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-280; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-282; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-11-282; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-283; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-304; enacted.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-322; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-390; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-400; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-402; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-410; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-411; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-413; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-414; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-415; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-420; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-441; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-442; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-443; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-450; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-451; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-476; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-511; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-531; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-532; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-560; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 15-11-566; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-582; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-600; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 15-11-602; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-604; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-620; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 15-11-621; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 15-11-623; enacted.	SB 365	9
Code Section 15-11-656; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 15-11-743; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 15-12-1; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-12-1; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Section 15-12-1.1; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-12-1.1; amended.	HB 1078	9

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Sections 15-12-3 and 15-12-4; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Section 15-12-4; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-12-7; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Sections 15-12-10 and 15-12-11; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Section 15-12-12; enacted.	HB 776	7
Code Title 15, Chapter 12, Article 2; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-12-20; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Sections 15-12-21 through 15-12-24; repealed.	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-12-23; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Section 15-12-40.1; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 15-12-46; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Section 15-12-62.1; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Section 15-12-63; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Sections 15-12-66 and 15-12-66.1; amended.	HB 1078	9
Code Section 15-18-12; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-18-31; enacted.	SB 298	27
Code Section 15-21-74; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-21-113; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-21-151; amended.	HB 870	9
Code Section 15-21A-6.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-21A-6.2; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-21A-7; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 15-23-7; amended.	HB 438	9
Code Section 16-3-24.2; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 16-5-1; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 16-5-21; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 16-5-21; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 16-5-21; amended.	HB 911	10
Code Section 16-5-24; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 16-5-24; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 16-5-44.1; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Title 16, Chapter 7, Article 1A; enacted.	HB 770	11
Code Section 16-7-5; enacted.	HB 770	11
Code Section 16-8-12; amended.	HB 749	11
Code Section 16-8-14.1; enacted.	SB 382	11
Code Sections 16-8-22 and 16-8-23; enacted.	HB 749	11
Code Section 16-10-20.1; amended.	HB 985	11
Code Title 16, Chapter 11, Article 3, Part 3; enacted.	HB 838	11
Code Section 16-11-90; enacted.	HB 838	11
Code Section 16-11-103; amended.	HB 773	12
Code Sections 16-11-126 through 16-11-127.1; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 16-11-127; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 16-11-127.1; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 16-11-127.2; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Sections 16-11-129 and 16-11-130; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Sections 16-11-130.1 and 16-11-130.2; enacted.	HB 60	10

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 16-11-131; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 16-11-131; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Section 16-11-133; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 16-11-133; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Sections 16-11-137 and 16-11-138; enacted.	HB 60	10
Code Section 16-11-137; enacted.	HB 826	10
Code Section 16-11-160; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Section 16-11-173; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 16-12-1; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 16-12-1; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 16-12-1.1; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 16-12-4; amended.	HB 863	12
Code Section 16-12-129; enacted.	HB 60	10
Code Sections 16-12-170 through 16-12-175; amended.	HB 251	12
Code Section 16-13-5; enacted.	HB 965	20
Code Section 16-13-21; amended.	SB 134	12
Code Section 16-13-21; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 16-13-25; amended.	HB 835	12
Code Section 16-13-27; amended.	HB 835	12
Code Section 16-13-28; amended.	HB 835	12
Code Section 16-13-30; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Sections 16-13-31 and 16-13-31.1; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Sections 16-13-31 and 16-13-31.1; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 16-13-71; amended.	HB 835	12
Code Section 16-13-71; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 16-16-1; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Section 16-16-2; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Section 17-5-22; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 17-5-32; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 17-6-1; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Section 17-6-15; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 17-6-30; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 17-8-55; amended.	HB 804	12
Code Section 17-10-3; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 17-10-6.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 17-10-9.1; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Section 17-12-7; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 17, Chapter 15; amended.	SB 187	13
Code Sections 17-15-1 through 17-15-15; amended.	SB 187	13
Code Section 17-15-8; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 17-15-16; enacted.	SB 187	13
Code Section 17-17-7; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 17-17-9; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 17-17-14; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 18-4-20; amended.	SB 386	4
Code Section 18-4-66; amended.	SB 386	4

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 18-4-118; amended.	SB 386	4
Code Section 19-6-15; amended.	SB 282	13
Code Section 19-6-53; amended.	SB 282	13
Code Section 19-7-1; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 19-11-3; amended.	SB 282	13
Code Section 19-11-30.2; amended.	SB 282	13
Code Section 19-11-30.2; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 19-11-32; amended.	SB 282	13
Code Section 19-11-32; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 19-11-39; amended.	SB 282	13
Code Sections 19-15-1 through 19-15-4; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 19-15-6; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 20-1A-30; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-52.1; amended.	HB 979	13
Code Section 20-2-54; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-102; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-105; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-106; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-107; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-157; amended.	HB 405	14
Code Section 20-2-159.5; amended.	HB 766	13
Code Section 20-2-161.2; amended.	HB 766	13
Code Section 20-2-261; amended.	SB 301	14
Code Section 20-2-316.2; enacted.	SB 288	14
Code Section 20-2-320; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-327; amended.	HB 766	13
Code Section 20-2-329; amended.	HB 766	13
Code Title 20, Chapter 2, Article 13; reserved.	SB 340	1
Code Sections 20-2-751 and 20-2-751.1; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 20-2-751.5; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 20-2-880; amended.	HB 490	14
Code Title 20, Chapter 2, Article 24; reserved.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-1180; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 20-2-1180; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Sections 20-2-1184 and 20-2-1185; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 20-2-1185; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 20-2-2062; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-2-2072; enacted.	HB 405	14
Code Section 20-2-2083; amended.	HB 405	14
Code Section 20-2-2084; amended.	HB 405	14
Code Title 20, Chapter 2, Article 32; amended.	SB 288	14
Code Section 20-2-2100; amended.	SB 288	14
Code Sections 20-2-2101 through 20-2-2104; enacted.	SB 288	14
Code Section 20-2-2114; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-3-45.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-3-88; enacted.	SB 326	14

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 20-3-133; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 20-3-202; amended.	SB 326	14
Code Section 20-3-236; amended.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-264; amended.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-314; amended.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-316; amended.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-316.1; enacted.	HB 697	15
Code Title 20, Chapter 3, Article 7, Part 3, Subpart 4D; repealed.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-409; repealed.	HB 697	15
Code Sections 20-3-512 through 20-3-514; amended.	HB 998	15
Code Section 20-3-518; amended.	HB 998	15
Code Section 20-3-519; amended.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-519.2; amended.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-519.2; amended.	HB 810	15
Code Section 20-3-519.5; amended.	HB 697	15
Code Section 20-3-560; amended.	HB 763	15
Code Section 20-14-26.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 20, Chapter 15; amended.	HB 513	15
Code Section 20-15-1; amended.	HB 513	15
Code Sections 20-15-2 through 20-15-16; repealed.	HB 513	15
Code Section 21-2-132; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-2-150; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-2-153; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-2-172; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-2-187; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-2-231; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 21-2-385; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-2-501; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-2-540; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-4-3; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 21-5-30; amended.	SB 297	16
Code Section 21-5-34; amended.	HB 310	16
Code Section 21-5-34; amended.	SB 297	16
Code Section 23-3-125; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 24-5-501; amended.	HB 291	28
Code Section 24-5-510; enacted.	HB 872	16
Code Section 24-12-21; amended.	SB 342	16
Code Section 25-2-14.2; enacted.	SB 305	16
Code Section 25-9-3; amended.	SB 117	17
Code Section 25-9-4; amended.	SB 117	17
Code Section 25-9-6; amended.	SB 117	17
Code Section 25-9-7; amended.	SB 117	17
Code Section 25-9-8; amended.	SB 117	17
Code Section 25-9-9; amended.	SB 117	17
Code Section 25-9-13; amended.	SB 117	17
Code Section 25-9-13; amended.	SB 340	1

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Sections 25-11-16 and 25-11-17; amended.	SB 325	17
Code Section 25-12-18; amended.	SB 325	17
Code Section 26-2-370; amended.	HB 778	17
Code Section 26-4-116.2; enacted.	HB 965	20
Code Section 27-1-2; amended.	HB 740	18
Code Section 27-1-30; amended.	SB 322	18
Code Section 27-1-39; amended.	HB 783	18
Code Section 27-2-3.1; amended.	HB 786	18
Code Section 27-2-30; amended.	HB 786	18
Code Section 27-3-4; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 27-3-7; amended.	HB 783	18
Code Section 28-3-24.2; enacted.	SB 60	18
Code Section 28-5-6; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 28-5-42; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 28-6-8; enacted.	SB 206	18
Code Section 28-9-5; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 29-2-4; amended.	SB 364	8
Code Section 29-5-32; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 31, Chapter 1, Article 3; enacted.	HB 943	21
Code Section 31-1-40; enacted.	HB 943	21
Code Section 31-2-4; amended.	SB 352	19
Code Section 31-2-9; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 31-2-12; enacted.	HB 511	19
Code Section 31-2A-4; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 31-2A-16; enacted.	HB 966	19
Code Section 31-2A-16; enacted.	SB 273	19
Code Section 31-7-12.1; amended.	HB 899	20
Code Section 31-7-20; enacted.	SB 391	20
Code Section 31-7-250; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 31-8-51; amended.	SB 207	20
Code Section 31-8-179.2; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 31, Chapter 8, Article 10; repealed.	SB 340	1
Code Sections 31-8-300 through 31-8-306; repealed.	SB 340	1
Code Section 31-11-53; amended.	HB 965	20
Code Sections 31-11-54 and 31-11-55; amended.	HB 965	20
Code Section 31-11-55.1; enacted.	HB 965	20
Code Title 31, Chapter 49; enacted.	SB 352	19
Code Sections 31-49-1 through 31-49-6; enacted.	SB 352	19
Code Section 32-2-41.1; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 32-2-41.2; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 32-4-63; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 32-4-113; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 32-6-5; amended.	HB 753	21
Code Section 32-9-8.1; enacted.	HB 494	21
Code Sections 32-9-13 and 32-9-14; repealed.	HB 265	35
Code Section 33-1-23; enacted.	HB 943	21

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 33-2-24; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-2-24; amended.	HB 840	22
Code Section 33-3-21.1; amended.	HB 229	22
Code Section 33-9-42; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 33-13-3.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 33-22-13; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-23-1; amended.	HB 610	22
Code Section 33-23-4; amended.	HB 610	22
Code Section 33-23-12; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 33-23-43; amended.	HB 610	22
Code Sections 33-23-43.1 and 33-23-43.2; enacted.	HB 610	22
Code Section 33-24-1; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-24-14; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-24-21.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 33-24-44; amended.	HB 375	22
Code Section 33-24-44; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-24-44.1; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-24-45; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-24-46; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-24-47; amended.	HB 645	22
Code Section 33-24-53; amended.	HB 828	23
Code Section 33-24-56.5; enacted.	HB 943	21
Code Section 33-24-59.17; enacted.	SB 98	23
Code Section 33-25-14; enacted.	HB 920	23
Code Section 33-29-22; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 33-29A-9; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 33-30-13; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 33-45-1; amended.	SB 304	23
Code Section 33-45-3; amended.	SB 304	23
Code Section 33-45-7; amended.	SB 304	23
Code Section 33-45-7.1; enacted.	SB 304	23
Code Section 33-45-10; amended.	SB 304	23
Code Section 33-63-3; amended.	HB 610	22
Code Section 34-8-92; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-157; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-193; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-196; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-221; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-223; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-253; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-254; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-8-255; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 34-14-20; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 34-14-28; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 35-1-18; enacted.	HB 845	24
Code Section 35-1-18; enacted.	SB 23	25

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 35-2-41.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 35-3-5; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 35-3-33; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 35-3-34; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 35-3-37; amended.	SB 320	7
Code Section 35-3-37; amended.	SB 382	11
Code Section 35-3-83; amended.	SB 358	25
Code Title 35, Chapter 3, Article 7; amended.	SB 23	25
Code Sections 35-3-171 through 35-3-173; amended.	SB 23	25
Code Sections 35-3-176 and 35-3-177; amended.	SB 23	25
Code Section 35-3-179; amended.	SB 23	25
Code Section 35-3-190; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 35-8-2; amended.	SB 324	36
Code Section 36-32-9; amended.	SB 382	11
Code Section 36-33-5; amended.	HB 135	25
Code Title 36, Chapter 66B; amended.	HB 176	25
Code Sections 36-66B-1 through 36-66B-4; amended.	HB 176	25
Code Sections 36-66B-5 through 36-66B-7; enacted.	HB 176	25
Code Section 36-80-21; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 36-81-8.1; amended.	HB 291	28
Code Section 36-82-1; amended.	HB 834	25
Code Section 37-1-20; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-2-2; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-2-3; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-2-6; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-2-6.1; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-2-6.3; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-2-6.5; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-2-10; amended.	SB 349	26
Code Section 37-3-41; amended.	SB 65	26
Code Section 37-7-41; amended.	SB 65	26
Code Section 38-3-37; enacted.	HB 60	10
Code Section 38-3-51; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 38-3-57; amended.	SB 381	26
Code Title 39, Chapter 3; amended.	HB 898	35
Code Section 39-3-1; amended.	HB 898	35
Code Sections 39-3-2 through 39-3-7; repealed.	HB 898	35
Code Section 40-1-1; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-1-1; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-1-1; amended.	SB 392	27
Code Section 40-1-8; amended.	HB 753	21
Code Section 40-1-161; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 40-2-8; amended.	HB 729	33
Code Section 40-2-20; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-2-26; amended.	SB 23	25
Code Section 40-2-27; amended.	SB 392	27

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 40-2-29; amended.	HB 729	33
Code Section 40-2-74.1; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-2-86; amended.	HB 881	27
Code Section 40-2-152; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 40-3-4; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-3-21; amended.	HB 729	33
Code Section 40-3-30; amended.	SB 392	27
Code Section 40-3-30.1; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-3-30.1; amended.	SB 392	27
Code Section 40-3-32; amended.	HB 729	33
Code Section 40-4-2; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-4-5.1; enacted.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-5-1; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-2; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 40-5-2; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 40-5-20; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-5-20; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-21; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-5-22; amended.	HB 826	10
Code Section 40-5-24; amended.	SB 392	27
Code Section 40-5-27; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-28; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-29; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Sections 40-5-57 and 40-5-57.1; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-58; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Sections 40-5-62 and 40-5-63; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-76; amended.	SB 320	7
Code Section 40-5-76; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Sections 40-5-80 through 40-5-84; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-86; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-100; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-5-150; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-6-21; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 40-6-51; amended.	HB 753	21
Code Section 40-6-51; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-6-70; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 40-6-181; amended.	HB 774	20
Code Section 40-6-184; amended.	HB 459	28
Code Title 40, Chapter 6, Article 13, Part 3; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-6-330; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-6-330.1; enacted.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-6-331; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Title 40, Chapter 6, Article 13, Part 6; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-6-363; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Sections 40-6-364 through 40-6-369.1; enacted.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-6-371; amended.	HB 877	27

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 40-6-391; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 40-8-1; amended.	HB 877	27
Code Section 40-8-91; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Sections 40-11-4 and 40-11-5; amended.	HB 753	21
Code Section 40-11-8; amended.	HB 753	21
Code Section 42-1-11; amended.	HB 770	11
Code Section 42-2-5; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 42-2-5.1; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 42-2-5.2; enacted.	SB 365	9
Code Section 42-5-85; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 42-8-1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 42-8-100; amended.	HB 837	28
Code Section 42-8-100.1; enacted.	HB 837	28
Code Section 42-8-103; amended.	HB 837	28
Code Section 42-8-106; amended.	HB 837	28
Code Section 42-8-108; amended.	HB 837	28
Code Section 42-8-112; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 42-9-20; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 42-9-45; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Section 43-1-9; amended.	HB 291	28
Code Title 43, Chapter 3; amended.	HB 291	28
Code Sections 43-3-1 through 43-3-34; amended.	HB 291	28
Code Sections 43-3-35 through 43-3-38; repealed.	HB 291	28
Code Section 43-6-1; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-9; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-10; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-11; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-12; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-14; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-16; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-18; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Sections 43-6-20 through 43-6-22; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-6-25; amended.	HB 1042	28
Code Section 43-7-23; amended.	SB 337	29
Code Sections 43-10-14 and 43-10-15; amended.	SB 336	29
Code Section 43-10A-3; amended.	SB 128	29
Code Section 43-11-1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-14-6; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-14-15; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 43, Chapter 16; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 43-16-1; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Sections 43-16-2 through 43-16-12; repealed.	HB 60	10
Code Section 43-26-50; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-26-51; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-26-52; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-26-53; amended.	SB 340	1

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 43-26-54; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-26-55; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-34-5; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 43-38-10; amended.	HB 60	10
Code Section 43-41-18; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 44-3-106; amended.	HB 820	29
Code Title 44, Chapter 4, Article 1; amended.	HB 790	6
Code Section 44-4-1; amended.	HB 790	6
Code Sections 44-4-2 through 44-4-10; repealed.	HB 790	6
Code Section 44-14-361.5; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-5-6; amended.	SB 367	30
Code Section 45-7-21; amended.	SB 326	14
Code Section 45-9-4; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-9-81; amended.	SB 324	36
Code Section 45-9-101; amended.	SB 324	36
Code Section 45-11-4; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-12-75.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-12-82; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-12-85; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-12-95; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-12-110; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-13-22; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 45, Chapter 13, Article 3; reserved.	SB 340	1
Code Sections 45-13-71 through 45-13-73; amended.	SB 274	30
Code Section 45-15-13; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-16-25; amended.	SB 383	30
Code Section 45-16-27; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 45-18-2; amended.	SB 281	30
Code Section 45-18-4; amended.	SB 98	23
Code Section 45-18-54; amended.	HB 246	5
Code Section 46-2-26.3; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 46-3-128; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 46-5-1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 46-5-121; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 47-1-82; amended.	HB 843	30
Code Section 47-1-83; amended.	HB 843	30
Code Section 47-2-96; amended.	HB 477	31
Code Section 47-2-295.1; amended.	SB 339	31
Code Section 47-2-357; amended.	HB 764	31
Code Section 47-6-60; amended.	HB 843	30
Code Section 47-7-1; amended.	SB 235	31
Code Section 47-7-40; amended.	HB 460	31
Code Section 47-7-87; amended.	SB 235	31
Code Section 47-7-90; enacted.	HB 460	31
Code Section 47-11-1; amended.	HB 601	31
Code Section 47-11-22; amended.	HB 601	31

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 47-11-71; amended.	HB 601	31
Code Section 47-14-70; amended.	HB 580	32
Code Section 47-17-1; amended.	SB 339	31
Code Section 47-20-3; amended.	HB 761	32
Code Section 47-20-10; amended.	HB 761	32
Code Section 47-23-1; amended.	SB 339	31
Code Section 47-23-80; amended.	HB 843	30
Code Section 47-23-81; amended.	HB 843	30
Code Section 47-23-82; amended.	HB 843	30
Code Section 47-25-1; amended.	HB 646	32
Code Sections 47-25-20 and 47-25-21; amended.	HB 646	32
Code Section 47-25-21; amended.	HB 292	32
Code Section 47-25-40; amended.	HB 646	32
Code Section 47-25-41; amended.	HB 292	32
Code Section 47-25-42; enacted.	HB 292	32
Code Section 47-25-80; amended.	HB 646	32
Code Section 47-25-81; amended.	HB 292	32
Code Sections 47-25-82 through 47-25-84; amended.	HB 646	32
Code Section 47-25-86; amended.	HB 646	32
Code Section 48-1-2; amended.	HB 918	33
Code Section 48-2-32; amended.	HB 918	33
Code Title 48, Chapter 2, Article 4; enacted.	HB 782	33
Code Section 48-2-100; enacted.	HB 782	33
Code Section 48-5-2; amended.	HB 755	33
Code Section 48-5-2; amended.	HB 954	33
Code Section 48-5-7.6; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-5-29; amended.	HB 755	33
Code Section 48-5-41; amended.	HB 788	33
Code Section 48-5-304; amended.	HB 755	33
Code Section 48-5-311; amended.	HB 755	33
Code Section 48-5-380; amended.	HB 755	33
Code Section 48-5-421.1; amended.	HB 788	33
Code Title 48, Chapter 5B; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-5B-1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-5C-1; amended.	HB 729	33
Code Section 48-7-27; amended.	SB 391	20
Code Sections 48-7-29.18 and 48-7-29.19; enacted.	HB 348	34
Code Section 48-7-40.1; amended.	HB 791	34
Code Section 48-7-40.26; amended.	HB 958	34
Code Title 48, Chapter 7, Article 7; amended.	HB 1000	34
Code Sections 48-7-160 and 40-7-161; amended.	HB 1000	34
Code Section 48-7-162.1; enacted.	HB 1000	34
Code Sections 48-7-163 and 48-7-164; amended.	HB 1000	34
Code Section 48-7-165.1; enacted.	HB 1000	34
Code Section 48-7-166; amended.	HB 1000	34
Code Sections 48-7-168 through 48-7-170; amended.	HB 1000	34

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Section 48-8-2; amended.	HB 816	34
Code Section 48-8-2; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-8-3; amended.	HB 933	34
Code Section 48-8-3; amended.	HB 958	34
Code Section 48-8-3; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-8-3.2; amended.	HB 900	35
Code Section 48-8-3.3; amended.	HB 983	32
Code Section 48-8-6; amended.	HB 265	35
Code Section 48-8-6; amended.	HB 1009	35
Code Section 48-8-17; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-8-75; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-8-83.1; enacted.	HB 719	35
Code Section 48-8-89; amended.	HB 719	35
Code Section 48-8-89; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 48-8-161; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 48, Chapter 12; amended.	HB 658	35
Code Section 48-12-1; amended.	HB 658	35
Code Sections 48-12-1.1 through 48-12-6; repealed.	HB 658	35
Code Section 49-2-14.1; amended.	HB 271	10
Code Sections 49-4-20 and 49-4-21; enacted.	HB 772	36
Code Section 49-4-142.2; enacted.	HB 990	36
Code Sections 49-4-168.1 and 49-4-168.2; amended.	HB 973	36
Code Section 49-4-193; amended.	HB 772	36
Code Section 49-4-193; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 49-4A-2; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 49-4A-7; amended.	HB 898	35
Code Section 49-4A-8; amended.	SB 324	36
Code Title 49, Chapter 4B; enacted.	HB 898	35
Code Sections 49-4B-1 through 49-4B-3; enacted.	HB 898	35
Code Section 49-5-8; amended.	HB 898	35
Code Section 49-5-41; amended.	SB 365	9
Code Section 49-6-62; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-1-5; amended.	SB 326	14
Code Title 50, Chapter 1, Article 1; enacted.	HB 930	37
Code Title 50, Chapter 1, Article 2; enacted.	HB 930	37
Code Sections 50-1-30 through 50-1-43; enacted.	HB 930	37
Code Section 50-3-86; enacted.	SB 276	1
Code Title 50, Chapter 3, Article 5; enacted.	HB 702	37
Code Section 50-3-105; enacted.	HB 702	37
Code Title 50, Chapter 3, Article 5; enacted.	HB 1080	37
Code Section 50-3-105; enacted.	HB 1080	37
Code Section 50-5B-2; amended.	HB 291	28
Code Section 50-7-17; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-8-18; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-8-84; amended.	SB 367	30
Code Title 50, Chapter 8, Article 11; enacted.	HB 128	37

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Code Sections 50-8-260 and 50-8-261; enacted.	HB 128	37
Code Section 50-13-2; amended.	HB 714	23
Code Section 50-16-31; amended.	HB 495	37
Code Section 50-16-34; amended.	HB 495	37
Code Section 50-16-39; amended.	HB 495	37
Code Section 50-16-40; amended.	HB 495	37
Code Section 50-17-21; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-18-72; amended.	HB 449	38
Code Section 50-18-72; amended.	HB 776	7
Code Section 50-18-72; amended.	HB 828	23
Code Section 50-18-72; amended.	HB 845	24
Code Section 50-18-72; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-25-7.1; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-27-70; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-27-87; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-32-11; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 50-34-17; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Title 50, Chapter 38; enacted.	HB 794	38
Code Section 50-38-1; enacted.	HB 794	38
Code Section 51-1-54; enacted.	SB 365	9
Code Section 51-3-3; enacted.	SB 125	38
Code Section 51-3-21; amended.	HB 494	21
Code Section 51-7-60; amended.	SB 382	11
Code Section 51-10-6; amended.	HB 790	6
Code Section 51-10-6; amended.	SB 382	11
Code Section 51-11-10; enacted.	HB 790	6
Code Section 51-12-50; amended.	HB 790	6
Code Section 52-7-8; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 52-7-12; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 52-7-12; amended.	SB 340	1
Code Section 52-7-12.6; amended.	SB 298	27
Code Section 52-7-12.7; enacted.	HB 777	38
Code Section 52-7-26; amended.	HB 777	38
Code Section 52-7-26; amended.	HB 783	18
Code Title 52, Chapter 7, Article 1A; enacted.	HB 777	38
Code Sections 52-7-30 and 52-7-31; enacted.	HB 777	38
Code Section 52-7-51; amended.	HB 783	18
Code Section 53-5-21; amended.	SB 364	8

SUBJECT MATTER INDEX

Bill **Page**

- A -

ABORTION

Qualified health plans; public employees' insurance and benefit plans; coverage prohibited. SB 98 23

AD VALOREM TAX

Air facilities; local government powers; real property interests subject to ad valorem taxation. HB 399 3

Forest land fair market value; definitions; conditions and procedures; ad valorem property tax litigation limitation; superior court; tax digest; approval; property valuations; refunds. HB 755 33

Motor vehicles; fair market value; determination; appealable; ad valorem tax fees; license plate expiration; registration; period and place. HB 729 33

Owned property; Board of Regents, University System of Georgia; third-party operation; exemption; referendum. HB 788 33

Property; fair market value; definition. HB 954 33

AGRICULTURE

Fruit growers licensed as farm wineries; production authorization; distilled spirits and fortified wines; conditions. HB 825 2

Sales and use tax; exemptions; agricultural. HB 983 32

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses. SB 298 27

Distilled spirits; production; nonprofit museums; educational purposes SB 240 1

Fruit growers licensed as farm wineries; production authorization; distilled spirits and fortified wines; conditions. HB 825 2

Georgia 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law; overdose reporting and medical amnesty; opioid antagonist; definitions; overdose reversal; definitions; emergency medical personnel; first responders; administer; minors; alcohol overdose; immunity. HB 965 20

Malt beverages; private residence production; home brew special events; transportation; local governing authority duties. HB 737 2

Sale for consumption on premises; Sundays during St. Patrick's Day holiday period; local authorization. SB 318 1

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Wine; maximum percent by volume; definitions; wineries; purchase and use certain products; authorization.	SB 286	1
ALIMONY AND CHILD SUPPORT		
Extensive revisions.	SB 282	13
ANIMALS		
Cruelty to animals; aggravated cruelty to animals; definitions; justification; clarify.	HB 863	12
Dog ownership; sterilization; dog control officers; local governments designation; dangerous dogs; euthanasia; jurisdiction; probate courts.	SB 290	2
APPEAL AND ERROR		
Indigency affidavits; payment of costs.	HB 842	3
APPROPRIATIONS		
General appropriations; Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015.	HB 744	37
Supplemental appropriations; Fiscal Year 2013 - 2014.	HB 743	37
AUCTIONEER		
Apprentice licenses; eliminate.	HB 1042	28
AVIATION		
Air facilities; local government powers; real property interests subject to ad valorem taxation.	HB 399	3
Safety markers on utility lines; private airstrips; adequate visual warning	HB 494	21
Sales and use tax; exemption; property; maintenance or repair of aircraft; sunset exemption; removal.	HB 933	34
- B -		
BANKING AND FINANCE		
Checks, drafts, and money orders; sale and cashing; comprehensive revision.	HB 982	4
Georgia merchant acquirer limited purpose banks; cross-references corrections.	HB 883	3
Interest; certain fees excluded.	HB 824	3

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Mortgage loan originator licensing requirements; exception.....	HB 750	3
BARBERS		
Violation fines; limitations.	SB 337	29
BARTOW COUNTY		
Superior Court of Bartow County; terms.....	SB 386	4
BOARD OF REGENTS, UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA		
Ad valorem tax; owned property; Board of Regents, University System of Georgia; third-party operation; exemption; referendum.	HB 788	33
Georgia Medical Center Authority; abolish; transfer contracts, licenses, and obligations.	HB 513	15
Georgia Military College; postsecondary study; legislative intent; revision.	HB 763	15
Real property capital lease obligations reporting; limitations.	SB 326	14
BOATS		
Interstate Boating Violator Compact; enact; vessel operation; privilege suspension.....	HB 777	38
BUILDINGS AND HOUSING		
Fire safety standards; certificate of occupancy, completion, or stop-work order; written notification; opportunity to remedy; denial of a permit.	SB 305	16
Firearms; comprehensive revision of law regarding the carrying and possession.	HB 60	10
Public school facilities; prohibitions on wood construction; disallowance; minimum standard code.	SB 301	14
- C -		
CAPITOL ARTS STANDARDS COMMISSION		
Georgia Capitol Agricultural History Museum; capitol museum areas designation.....	SB 274	30
CARGO THEFT		
Crime created; definitions and penalties; unlawful possession or use of a fifth wheel.	HB 749	11

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
CHARTER SCHOOLS		
Education; nonprofit organizations governing board members; charter schools; governance training; requirement; HOPE eligibility; grade point averages calculation.....	HB 405	14
CIVIL PRACTICE		
Condominium associations; tort actions; standing	HB 820	29
Redacted information in certain filings; protective orders.....	SB 386	4
Timber removal; statute of limitations; State Forestry Commission investigation; wood load tickets; requirement; unauthorized cutting and carrying away; defenses; measure of damages.	HB 790	6
COMMERCE AND TRADE		
Georgia World Congress Center Authority; benefit programs election option.....	HB 246	5
Identity theft; security freezes for minors; definitions; requirements; fees; exceptions; penalties.....	HB 915	4
Patent infringement; bad faith assertions; prohibit; remedies.	HB 809	4
Trade names; clerk of superior court; duties and fees; trade name registry; establishment.	HB 670	8
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF		
Georgia Downtown Renaissance Investment Fund; creation.	HB 128	37
CONDOMINIUMS		
Condominium associations; tort actions; standing	HB 820	29
CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES		
Civil actions; timber removal; statute of limitations; State Forestry Commission investigation; wood load tickets; requirement; unauthorized cutting and carrying away; defenses; measure of damages.....	HB 790	6
Flint River Drought Protection Act; legislative intent; definitions; program expansion.	SB 213	6
Georgia Brownfield Act; definitions; liability limitation; expansion; transfer.....	HB 957	7
Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council; create.	SB 361	6
Hazardous site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	HB 904	5
Hazardous site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	SB 333	5

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Jekyll Island - State Park Authority; powers and responsibilities; definitions; master plan; development powers and restrictions.	SB 296	6
Jekyll Island-State Park Authority; powers and responsibilities; revision; master plan; components and development powers and restrictions; revision and clarification.	HB 715	5
Sludge land application permits; requirements revision.	HB 741	6
Tire disposal restrictions; tire fees; sunset date extension.	HB 908	7
Water pollution; water emergency response procedures.	HB 549	6
Watershed protection standards; flexibility; local government; plans submission.	SB 299	5

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Controlled substances; schedules; revise; dangerous drug; definition.	HB 835	12
Definition revision.	SB 134	12

CORONERS

Medical examiners; property of deceased; conversion prohibited; next of kin; return; investigation or prosecution complete; penalties.	SB 383	30
--	--------	----

COSMETOLOGISTS

Minimum age; requirement; violation fines; limitations	SB 336	29
--	--------	----

COUNTIES

Advanced broadband collocation; definitions; streamlined processing; new facilities procedure; fees and review of wireless facilities.	HB 176	25
Boards of education; composition and election; homestead option sales and use tax; educational purposes; terms of service; 2014 local legislation passage exception.	HB 979	13
Bonded debt; approval elections; repeal population provision.	HB 834	25

COURTS

Appeal and error; indigency affidavits; payment of costs.	HB 842	3
Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund; reckless driving; additional fine; contingent effective date.	HB 870	9
Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.	SB 298	27
Condominium associations; tort actions; standing	HB 820	29

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Court-connected or court-referred alternative dispute resolution programs; legal costs; maximum amount of additional cost increase. . .	HB 438	9
Coweta Judicial Circuit; Waycross Judicial Circuit; superior courts; additional judge.	HB 742	7
Crime of home invasion; create; penalties; definitions.	HB 770	11
Crime of refund fraud; create; penalties; court jurisdiction; increases liquidated damages.. . . .	SB 382	11
Dog ownership; sterilization; dog control officers; local governments designation; dangerous dogs; euthanasia; jurisdiction; probate courts.	SB 290	2
Income tax refunds; setoff debt collection; political subdivisions and courts; collection policies and procedures.	HB 1000	34
Interstate Compact for Juveniles; enact.	HB 898	35
Juries and grand juries; definitions; clarify provisions.	HB 1078	9
Juvenile code; revision; parental power; testamentary guardian.	SB 364	8
Murder in second degree; offense creation; state-wide alert system for certain suspects; bonding company collateral forms; sureties fees.	HB 271	10
Offender reentry reforms; disposition hearings; calculation times; foster care children review hearings; driver's license restoration or suspension; limited driving permits; adult offender programs; child fatality review; definitions; disclosure.. . . .	SB 365	9
Probate courts; clerk's authority; uncontested matters; population provision; repeal; judges; compensation.	SB 341	8
State-wide and county master jury lists; information provided; clarify. . . .	HB 776	7
Strangulation as aggravated assault; juvenile proceedings; cross-references.	HB 911	10
Superior Court of Bartow County; terms.	SB 386	4
Superior courts; filings in the clerk's office; office hours.	HB 215	8
Trade names; clerk of superior court; duties and fees; trade name registry; establishment.	HB 670	8
Veterans court divisions; establishment.	SB 320	7
Weapons; school safety zones and functions; definitions; exemptions; disciplinary policy; student codes of conduct; school bus safety rules.	HB 826	10

COWETA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Superior courts; additional judge.	HB 742	7
--	--------	---

CRIMES AND OFFENSES

Alternative nicotine products or components; regulation	HB 251	12
Cargo theft; crime created; definitions and penalties; unlawful possession or use of a fifth wheel	HB 749	11
Controlled substances; definition revision.	SB 134	12

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Controlled substances; schedules; revise; dangerous drug; definition.	HB 835	12
Coroners or medical examiners; property of deceased; conversion prohibited; next of kin; return; investigation or prosecution complete; penalties.	SB 383	30
Cruelty to animals; aggravated cruelty to animals; definitions; justification; clarify.	HB 863	12
Discharging a gun or pistol near public highway or street; definitions and exceptions.	HB 773	12
False liens or encumbrances; public employees; definition; expand protection; exceptions.	HB 985	11
Firearms; comprehensive revision of law regarding the carrying and possession.	HB 60	10
Georgia 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law; overdose reporting and medical amnesty; opioid antagonist; definitions; overdose reversal; definitions; emergency medical personnel; first responders; administer; minors; alcohol overdose; immunity.	HB 965	20
Home invasion; create; penalties; definitions.	HB 770	11
Identity theft; security freezes for minors; definitions; requirements; fees; exceptions; penalties.	HB 915	4
Invasions of privacy; photography or video transmission; depicting nudity; sexually explicit conduct of an adult; venue; exceptions.	HB 838	11
Juvenile code; revision; parental power; testamentary guardian.	SB 364	8
Murder in second degree; offense creation; state-wide alert system for certain suspects; bonding company collateral forms; sureties fees.	HB 271	10
Peace officers; employed or appointed; Department of Juvenile Justice; Georgia State Indemnification Fund; Temporary Disability Compensation Program; delinquent children; commitment.	SB 324	36
Probation services; misdemeanor supervision.	HB 837	28
Refund fraud; create; penalties; court jurisdiction; increases liquidated damages.	SB 382	11
Rules and regulations; criminal violations update; hunting under the influence; implied consent warning; revision.	HB 783	18
Strangulation as aggravated assault; juvenile proceedings; cross-references.	HB 911	10
Trial proceedings; testimony; child as witness; closed circuit television; repeal; outside presence of an accused; circumstances.	HB 804	12
Unlicensed personal care homes; penalties	HB 899	20
Victim compensation; requests; time extended; terminology clarification; forensic interview; payment.	SB 187	13
Weapons; school safety zones and functions; definitions; exemptions; disciplinary policy; student codes of conduct; school bus safety rules.	HB 826	10

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE		
Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.....	SB 298	27
Crime of home invasion; create; penalties; definitions.	HB 770	11
Invasions of privacy; photography or video transmission; depicting nudity; sexually explicit conduct of an adult; venue; exceptions.	HB 838	11
Murder in second degree; offense creation; state-wide alert system for certain suspects; bonding company collateral forms; sureties fees.	HB 271	10
Trial proceedings; testimony; child as witness; closed circuit television; repeal; outside presence of an accused; circumstances.	HB 804	12
Victim compensation; requests; time extended; terminology clarification; forensic interview; payment.	SB 187	13

- D -

DEBTOR AND CREDITOR

Redacted information in certain filings; protective orders.....	SB 386	4
---	--------	---

DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS

HIV status; health care providers; disclosure.....	SB 342	16
--	--------	----

**DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Powers and duties; program administration; community service boards; re-creation.	SB 349	26
---	--------	----

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

Medical-legal partnership; approval authorization; Georgia Council on Lupus Education and Awareness; create.....	SB 352	19
---	--------	----

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

HIV status; health care providers; disclosure.....	SB 342	16
--	--------	----

DISTILLED SPIRITS

See ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
DOGS		
Ownership; sterilization; dog control officers; local governments designation; dangerous dogs; euthanasia; jurisdiction; probate courts.	SB 290	2

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Child support; extensive revisions.	SB 282	13
Juvenile code; revision; parental power; testamentary guardian.	SB 364	8
Offender reentry reforms; disposition hearings; calculation times; foster care children review hearings; driver's license restoration or suspension; limited driving permits; adult offender programs; child fatality review; definitions; disclosure.	SB 365	9

- E -

EDUCATION

Bariatric surgery coverage; treatment of obesity and related disorders; pilot program; state employees' health insurance plan; health plan for public school teachers and employees.	HB 511	19
Boards of education; composition and election; homestead option sales and use tax; educational purposes; terms of service; 2014 local legislation passage exception.	HB 979	13
Georgia Medical Center Authority; abolish.	HB 513	15
Georgia Military College; postsecondary study; legislative intent; revision.	HB 763	15
Georgia Student Finance Commission and Georgia Student Finance Authority; powers and duties; revision; Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation; student loan funds; Zell Miller Grant Scholars; eligibility revision.	HB 697	15
Health insurance plans for public school teachers; county and regional libraries; employee coverage revision.	HB 490	14
High school participation in interscholastic sports events; annual financial reports not released; prohibited; High School Athletics Overview Committee; creation.	SB 288	14
HOPE scholarships; eligibility; home study students scores; standardized college admission test; requirements.	HB 810	15
Medical scholarship and loans; conditions; repayment.	HB 998	15
Nonprofit organizations governing board members; charter schools; governance training; requirement; HOPE eligibility; grade point averages calculation.	HB 405	14

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Private Colleges and Universities Authority; meet by teleconference; authorization; per diem; amount; physical presence requirement; Board of Regents; real property capital lease obligations reporting; limitations.	SB 326	14
Public school facilities; prohibitions on wood construction; disallowance; minimum standard code.	SB 301	14
Weapons; school safety zones and functions; definitions; exemptions; disciplinary policy; student codes of conduct; school bus safety rules.	HB 826	10
Work based learning programs; requirements.	HB 766	13

ELECTIONS

Campaign contributions; intention to accept campaign contributions; filings; Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission; State Accounting Office; assignment transfer.	SB 297	16
Candidates or campaign committees; disclosure reports; date requirement.	HB 310	16
State-wide and county master jury lists; information provided; clarify.	HB 776	7

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN COUNCIL

Georgia World Congress Center Authority; benefit programs election option.	HB 246	5
--	--------	---

EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

Bariatric surgery coverage; treatment of obesity and related disorders; pilot program; state employees' health insurance plan; health plan for public school teachers and employees.	HB 511	19
High deductible health care plan with health savings account; option requirement.	SB 281	30
Qualified health plans; public employees' insurance and benefit plans; abortions; coverage prohibited.	SB 98	23

EMPLOYEES' PENSION AND SAVINGS PLAN

Employee contributions.	HB 764	31
---------------------------------	--------	----

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Georgia Judicial Retirement System; service credit and funds; transfer.	HB 477	31
---	--------	----

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

Unemployment insurance and benefits; comprehensive revision.	HB 714	23
--	--------	----

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION		
Hazardous site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	HB 904	5
Hazardous site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	SB 333	5
ETHICS		
Campaign contributions; intention to accept campaign contributions; filings; Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission; State Accounting Office; assignment transfer.	SB 297	16
Elections; candidates or campaign committees; disclosure reports; date requirement.	HB 310	16
EVIDENCE		
HIV status; health care providers; disclosure.	SB 342	16
Privileged communication; law enforcement and peer counselors; definitions; exceptions.	HB 872	16
State Board of Accountancy; comprehensive revision; administration transfer.	HB 291	28
- F -		
FACILITATING BUSINESS RAPID RESPONSE TO STATE DECLARED DISASTERS ACT OF 2014		
Enact.	HB 782	33
FAMILY VIOLENCE		
Child support; extensive revisions.	SB 282	13
FARMS		
See AGRICULTURE		
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT		
Compact for a Balanced Budget; adoption; United States Constitution; amendment; proposal and ratification; promote.	HB 794	38
General Assembly; standards and instructions for Article V convention delegates; adoption.	HB 930	37

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY		
Blasting or excavating; near utility facilities; extensive revision; rule promulgation.	SB 117	17
Sprinkler contractors; fire extinguisher and suppression systems; cease and desist orders; licenses; revocation and suspension; penalties and sanctions.	SB 325	17
Standards; certificate of occupancy, completion, or stop-work order; written notification; opportunity to remedy; denial of a permit.	SB 305	16

FIREARMS AND WEAPONS

Comprehensive revision of law regarding the carrying and possession. . . .	HB 60	10
Crimes and offenses; discharging a gun or pistol near public highway or street; definitions and exceptions.	HB 773	12
Weapons; school safety zones and functions; definitions; exemptions; disciplinary policy; student codes of conduct; school bus safety rules.	HB 826	10

FLINT RIVER DROUGHT PROTECTION ACT

Legislative intent; definitions; program expansion.	SB 213	6
---	--------	---

FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS

Controlled substances; definition revision.	SB 134	12
Food service establishments; nonprofit charitable entities; regulation exemption.	HB 778	17
Georgia 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law; overdose reporting and medical amnesty; opioid antagonist; definitions; overdose reversal; definitions; emergency medical personnel; first responders; administer; minors; alcohol overdose; immunity.	HB 965	20

- G -

GAME AND FISH

Firearms; comprehensive revision of law regarding the carrying and possession.	HB 60	10
Hunting and fishing licenses; full-time military personnel on active duty and dependents; eligibility.	HB 740	18
Nonresident infant lifetime sportsman's license; add; replacement license; fees.	HB 786	18
Rules and regulations; criminal violations update; hunting under the influence; implied consent warning; revision.	HB 783	18

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Wildlife habitats; disturbing or destroying; prohibitions.....	SB 322	18
GENERAL ASSEMBLY		
General appropriations; Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015.	HB 744	37
Official communications; electronic format.	SB 60	18
Standards and instructions for Article V convention delegates; adoption.	HB 930	37
Supplemental appropriations; Fiscal Year 2013 - 2014.....	HB 743	37
United States Constitutional convention delegations; state of Georgia.....	SB 206	18
GENERAL PROVISIONS		
Official Code of Georgia Annotated; general reviser bill.	SB 340	1
Purple Heart Day; Purple Heart State; designations.	SB 276	1
GEORGE L. SMITH II GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER AUTHORITY		
Benefit programs election option.....	HB 246	5
GEORGIA BROWNFIELD ACT		
Definitions; liability limitation; expansion; transfer.	HB 957	7
GEORGIA COUNCIL ON LUPUS EDUCATION AND AWARENESS		
Create.....	SB 352	19
GEORGIA CRIME INFORMATION CENTER		
State-wide and county master jury lists; information provided; clarify.....	HB 776	7
GEORGIA FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION FUND		
Definition; creditable service; prior service.....	SB 235	31
Membership eligibility; sentence of confinement; effect.....	HB 460	31
GEORGIA FIRST INFORMER BROADCASTERS ACT		
Enact; emergency operations; definitions.	SB 381	26
GEORGIA GEOSPATIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL		
Create.....	SB 361	6

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
GEORGIA HEALTH CARE FREEDOM ACT		
Department, agency, bureau, authority, or other unit of state; prohibits support of expansion of medical assistance; prohibits support of an exchange; orally administered chemotherapy; definitions; prohibitions.....	HB 943	21
GEORGIA MEDICAL CENTER AUTHORITY		
Abolish; Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia; transfer contracts, licenses, and obligations.....	HB 513	15
GEORGIA MILITARY COLLEGE		
Postsecondary study; legislative intent; revision.....	HB 763	15
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY		
Comprehensive revision; administration transfer.....	HB 291	28
GEORGIA STATE INDEMNIFICATION FUND		
Peace officers; employed or appointed; Department of Juvenile Justice; Georgia State Indemnification Fund; Temporary Disability Compensation Program; delinquent children; commitment.....	SB 324	36
GEORGIA STUDENT FINANCE AUTHORITY		
Georgia Student Finance Authority; powers and duties; revision; Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation; student loan funds; Zell Miller Grant Scholars; eligibility revision.....	HB 697	15
GUARDIAN AND WARD		
Juvenile code; revision; parental power; testamentary guardian.....	SB 364	8
GUNS		
See FIREARMS AND WEAPONS		
- H -		
HANDICAPPED PERSONS		
Unlicensed personal care homes; penalties	HB 899	20

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
HAZARDOUS WASTE		
Site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	SB 333	5
Site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	HB 904	5

HEALTH

Alzheimer's disease registry; establish; rules; promulgation and criteria; data confidentiality; federal law; compliance.	HB 966	19
Bariatric surgery coverage; treatment of obesity and related disorders; pilot program; state employees' health insurance plan; health plan for public school teachers and employees.	HB 511	19
Continuing care providers and facilities; certificate of authority; approval; resident owned living unit.	SB 304	23
Department of Community Health; medical-legal partnership; approval authorization; Georgia Council on Lupus Education and Awareness; create.	SB 352	19
Georgia 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law; overdose reporting and medical amnesty; opioid antagonist; definitions; overdose reversal; definitions; emergency medical personnel; first responders; administer; minors; alcohol overdose; immunity.	HB 965	20
Georgia Health Care Freedom Act; department, agency, bureau, authority, or other unit of state; prohibits support of expansion of medical assistance; prohibits support of an exchange; orally administered chemotherapy; definitions; prohibitions.	HB 943	21
HIV status; health care providers; disclosure.	SB 342	16
Licensed professional counselor; emergency examinations; persons mentally ill or alcoholic or drug dependent; authorization.	SB 65	26
Long-term care ombudsman program; facility definition.	SB 207	20
Maternal Mortality Review Committee; establish.	SB 273	19
Special license plates; Grady Health Foundation.	HB 881	27
State-wide and county master jury lists; information provided; clarify.	HB 776	7
TRICARE network; medical facilities; good faith application; income tax deduction; medical care clerkship.	SB 391	20
Unlicensed personal care homes; penalties	HB 899	20

HEALTH INSURANCE

See INSURANCE

HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, AND FERRIES

Public transit authorities; suspension of restrictions on the use of sales and use taxes; applicability of sales tax cap exemption for certain counties; extension.	HB 265	35
---	--------	----

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Safety markers on utility lines; private airstrips; adequate visual warning	HB 494	21
State-wide strategic transportation progress report; public road contracts; limitations of counties and municipalities; estimates requirements; Department of Driver Services; record maintenance; traffic signals; speed limits; increase.	HB 774	20
Tire chains; inclement weather; requirement; controlled access roadways; restrictions; abandoned motor vehicles; liens and proceeds from sale disposition.....	HB 753	21

HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

Purple Heart Day; Purple Heart State; designations.	SB 276	1
--	--------	---

HOMESTEAD OPTION SALES AND USE TAX

Boards of education; composition and election; homestead option sales and use tax; educational purposes; terms of service; 2014 local legislation passage exception.	HB 979	13
---	--------	----

HOPE SCHOLARSHIPS

Education; nonprofit organizations governing board members; charter schools; governance training; requirement; HOPE eligibility; grade point averages calculation.....	HB 405	14
Eligibility; home study students scores; standardized college admission test; requirements.	HB 810	15
Georgia Student Finance Commission and Georgia Student Finance Authority; powers and duties; revision; Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation; student loan funds; Zell Miller Grant Scholars; eligibility revision.	HB 697	15

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

See GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- I -

INCOME TAX

Census tracts; redrawing; designated military zone; disqualification prohibited.....	HB 791	34
Federal tax law; state law; incorporate; state registration applications.	HB 918	33

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Income tax credit; entertainment production companies; sales and use tax; exemptions; qualified food banks; covered items on specified dates; energy or water efficient products; regional significant competitive projects.	HB 958	34
Refunds; setoff debt collection; political subdivisions and courts; collection policies and procedures.	HB 1000	34
Tax credit; purchasers of certain alternative fuel vehicles.	HB 348	34
TRICARE network; medical facilities; good faith application; income tax deduction; medical care clerkship.	SB 391	20

INSURANCE

Automobile accident information; solicitation, release, and sale; prohibit; exceptions.	HB 828	23
Cancellations; insured audit or rate investigation and noncompliance policies	HB 375	22
Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.	SB 298	27
Continuing care providers and facilities; certificate of authority; approval; resident owned living unit.	SB 304	23
Georgia Health Care Freedom Act; department, agency, bureau, authority, or other unit of state; prohibits support of expansion of medical assistance; prohibits support of an exchange; orally administered chemotherapy; definitions; prohibitions.	HB 943	21
Insurance; Commissioner enforcement authority; clarify persons.	HB 840	22
Insurer annual publication requirement; removal.	HB 229	22
Insurer notices and documents; Uniform Electronic Transactions Act; applicable.	HB 645	22
Public adjusters; licensing and regulation; guaranteed asset protection waivers; expand definition.	HB 610	22
Qualified health plans; public employees' insurance and benefit plans; abortions; coverage prohibited.	SB 98	23
Unclaimed life insurance benefits; definitions; insurer conduct; insurer unclaimed property reporting.	HB 920	23

- J -

JEKYLL ISLAND - STATE PARK AUTHORITY

Powers and responsibilities; definitions; master plan; development powers and restrictions.	SB 296	6
Powers and responsibilities; revision; master plan; components and development powers and restrictions; revision and clarification.	HB 715	5

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
JUDGES OF THE PROBATE COURTS RETIREMENT FUND OF GEORGIA		
Definitions; automatic cost-of-living benefit increase; restrict and repeal.	HB 601	31
JUDICIAL CIRCUITS		
Coweta Judicial Circuit; Waycross Judicial Circuit; additional judge.	HB 742	7
JUDICIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM		
Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; service credit and funds; transfer.	HB 477	31
JURIES		
Definitions; clarify provisions.	HB 1078	9
JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS		
Interstate Compact for Juveniles; enact.	HB 898	35
Juvenile code; revision; parental power; testamentary guardian.	SB 364	8
Peace officers; employed or appointed; Department of Juvenile Justice; Georgia State Indemnification Fund; Temporary Disability Compensation Program; delinquent children; commitment.	SB 324	36
Strangulation as aggravated assault; juvenile proceedings; cross-references.	HB 911	10
- K -		
- L -		
LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS		
Unemployment insurance and benefits; comprehensive revision.	HB 714	23
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND AGENCIES		
Crime of refund fraud; create; penalties; court jurisdiction; increases liquidated damages.	SB 382	11
Firearms; comprehensive revision of law regarding the carrying and possession.	HB 60	10
Missing Children Information Center; foster children; reports.	SB 358	25
Missing persons location aid; medically incapacitated; prohibit minimum waiting period; state-wide endangered person advisory; emergency contact information; vehicle registration forms. . .	SB 23	25

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Murder in second degree; offense creation; state-wide alert system for certain suspects; bonding company collateral forms; sureties fees.	HB 271	10
Offender reentry reforms; disposition hearings; calculation times; foster care children review hearings; driver's license restoration or suspension; limited driving permits; adult offender programs; child fatality review; definitions; disclosure.	SB 365	9
Peace officers; employed or appointed; Department of Juvenile Justice; Georgia State Indemnification Fund; Temporary Disability Compensation Program; delinquent children; commitment.	SB 324	36
Privileged communication; law enforcement and peer counselors; definitions; exceptions.	HB 872	16
Public disclosure; arrest booking photographs; release; prohibition.	HB 845	24
Veterans court divisions; establishment.	SB 320	7

LIBRARIES

Health insurance plans for public school teachers; county and regional libraries; employee coverage revision.	HB 490	14
---	--------	----

LICENSE PLATES AND REGISTRATION

Special license plates; Grady Health Foundation.	HB 881	27
--	--------	----

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Advanced broadband collocation; definitions; streamlined processing; new facilities procedure; fees and review of wireless facilities.	HB 176	25
Air facilities; local government powers; real property interests subject to ad valorem taxation.	HB 399	3
Ante litem notice; damages sought; specify amount.	HB 135	25
Bonded debt; approval elections; repeal population provision.	HB 834	25
Campaign contributions; intention to accept campaign contributions; filings; Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission; State Accounting Office; assignment transfer.	SB 297	16
Crime of refund fraud; create; penalties; court jurisdiction; increases liquidated damages.	SB 382	11
Health insurance plans for public school teachers; county and regional libraries; employee coverage revision.	HB 490	14
Personal transportation vehicles; regulation.	HB 877	27
Sale for consumption on premises; Sundays during St. Patrick's Day holiday period; local authorization.	SB 318	1
Sales and use tax; exemption; local tax cap; metropolitan area system of public transportation; extend date.	HB 1009	35

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
State Board of Accountancy; comprehensive revision; administration transfer.	HB 291	28
LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM		
Facility definition.	SB 207	20
- M -		
MAGISTRATE COURTS		
Redacted information in certain filings; protective orders.	SB 386	4
MAGISTRATES RETIREMENT FUND		
Part-time chief magistrates; membership eligibility.	HB 646	32
Retirement benefit; membership dues; maximum average final monthly compensation.	HB 292	32
MALT BEVERAGES		
Alcoholic beverages; private residence production; home brew special events; transportation; local governing authority duties.	HB 737	2
MEDICAL EXAMINERS		
Coroners; property of deceased; conversion prohibited; next of kin; return; investigation or prosecution complete; penalties.	SB 383	30
MENTAL HEALTH		
Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities; powers and duties; program administration; community service boards; re-creation.	SB 349	26
Licensed professional counselor; emergency examinations; persons mentally ill or alcoholic or drug dependent; authorization.	SB 65	26
METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY		
Public transit authorities; suspension of restrictions on the use of sales and use taxes; applicability of sales tax cap exemption for certain counties; extension.	HB 265	35

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
MILITARY, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, AND VETERANS AFFAIRS		
Facilitating Business Rapid Response to State Declared Disasters Act of 2014; enact.	HB 782	33
Firearms; comprehensive revision of law regarding the carrying and possession.	HB 60	10
Georgia First Informer Broadcasters Act; enact; emergency operations; definitions.	SB 381	26
Hunting and fishing licenses; full-time military personnel on active duty and dependents; eligibility.	HB 740	18
TRICARE network; medical facilities; good faith application; income tax deduction; medical care clerkship.	SB 391	20
Veterans court divisions; establishment.	SB 320	7

MINORS

Alternative nicotine products or components; regulation	HB 251	12
Child support; extensive revisions.	SB 282	13
Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.	SB 298	27
Georgia 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law; overdose reporting and medical amnesty; opioid antagonist; definitions; overdose reversal; definitions; emergency medical personnel; first responders; administer; minors; alcohol overdose; immunity.	HB 965	20
High school participation in interscholastic sports events; annual financial reports not released; prohibited; High School Athletics Overview Committee; creation.	SB 288	14
HOPE scholarships; eligibility; home study students scores; standardized college admission test; requirements.	HB 810	15
Identity theft; security freezes for minors; definitions; requirements; fees; exceptions; penalties.	HB 915	4
Interstate Compact for Juveniles; enact.	HB 898	35
Missing Children Information Center; foster children; reports.	SB 358	25
Peace officers; employed or appointed; Department of Juvenile Justice; Georgia State Indemnification Fund; Temporary Disability Compensation Program; delinquent children; commitment.	SB 324	36
Trial proceedings; testimony; child as witness; closed circuit television; repeal; outside presence of an accused; circumstances.	HB 804	12
Weapons; school safety zones and functions; definitions; exemptions; disciplinary policy; student codes of conduct; school bus safety rules.	HB 826	10

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
MORTGAGES, LIENS, AND SECURITY		
False liens or encumbrances; public employees; definition; expand protection; exceptions.	HB 985	11
Mortgage loan originator licensing requirements; exception.. . . .	HB 750	3
MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC		
Automobile accident information; solicitation, release, and sale; prohibit; exceptions.	HB 828	23
Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund; reckless driving; additional fine; contingent effective date.	HB 870	9
Comprehensive reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.	SB 298	27
Fair market value; determination; appealable; ad valorem tax fees; license plate expiration; registration; period and place.	HB 729	33
Missing persons location aid; medically incapacitated; prohibit minimum waiting period; state-wide endangered person advisory; emergency contact information; vehicle registration forms. . .	SB 23	25
Motor vehicles; registration and title; definitions; federal emissions standards; noncompliance; Class D license.	SB 392	27
Offender reentry reforms; disposition hearings; calculation times; foster care children review hearings; driver's license restoration or suspension; limited driving permits; adult offender programs; child fatality review; definitions; disclosure.	SB 365	9
Personal transportation vehicles; regulation.	HB 877	27
Special license plates; Grady Health Foundation.	HB 881	27
State-wide and county master jury lists; information provided; clarify. . . .	HB 776	7
State-wide strategic transportation progress report; public road contracts; limitations of counties and municipalities; estimates requirements; Department of Driver Services; record maintenance; traffic signals; speed limits; increase.	HB 774	20
Tire chains; inclement weather; requirement; controlled access roadways; restrictions; abandoned motor vehicles; liens and proceeds from sale disposition.	HB 753	21
Traffic flow; left-hand lanes; minimum speed; traffic impediment; exceptions.	HB 459	28
Veterans court divisions; establishment.	SB 320	7
Weapons; school safety zones and functions; definitions; exemptions; disciplinary policy; student codes of conduct; school bus safety rules.	HB 826	10

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
MUNICIPALITIES		
Advanced broadband collocation; definitions; streamlined processing; new facilities procedure; fees and review of wireless facilities.	HB 176	25
Ante litem notice; damages sought; specify amount.	HB 135	25
MUSEUMS		
Distilled spirits; production; nonprofit museums; educational purposes	SB 240	1
Georgia Capitol Agricultural History Museum; capitol museum areas designation.	SB 274	30
- N -		
NUISANCES		
Unlicensed personal care homes; penalties	HB 899	20
NURSES		
HIV status; health care providers; disclosure.	SB 342	16
- O -		
OPEN RECORDS LAW		
Agency records; 9-1-1 telephone calls; audio recordings release; exemptions.	HB 449	38
- P -		
PARENT AND CHILD		
Juvenile code; revision; parental power; testamentary guardian.	SB 364	8
PENAL INSTITUTIONS		
Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.	SB 298	27
Crime of home invasion; create; penalties; definitions.	HB 770	11
Murder in second degree; offense creation; state-wide alert system for certain suspects; bonding company collateral forms; sureties fees.	HB 271	10

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Probation services; misdemeanor supervision.	HB 837	28
State-wide and county master jury lists; information provided; clarify.	HB 776	7
 PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACIES		
Controlled substances; definition revision.	SB 134	12
 PHYSICIANS, PHYSICIANS ASSISTANTS, AND RESPIRATORY CARE		
HIV status; health care providers; disclosure.	SB 342	16
Medical scholarship and loans; conditions; repayment.	HB 998	15
 PROBATE COURTS		
Clerk's authority; uncontested matters; population provision; repeal; judges; compensation.	SB 341	8
Dog ownership; sterilization; dog control officers; local governments designation; dangerous dogs; euthanasia; jurisdiction; probate courts.	SB 290	2
 PROBATION		
Misdemeanor supervision.	HB 837	28
 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS, SOCIAL WORKERS, AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS		
Definitions revision.	SB 128	29
Emergency examinations; persons mentally ill or alcoholic or drug dependent; authorization.	SB 65	26
 PROFESSIONS AND BUSINESSES		
Apprentice auctioneer licenses; eliminate.	HB 1042	28
Barbers; violation fines; limitations.	SB 337	29
Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.	SB 298	27
Cosmetologists; minimum age; requirement; violation fines; limitations	SB 336	29
Firearms; comprehensive revision of law regarding the carrying and possession.	HB 60	10
HIV status; health care providers; disclosure.	SB 342	16
Marriage and family therapy; definitions revision.	SB 128	29
Medical scholarship and loans; conditions; repayment.	HB 998	15

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
State Board of Accountancy; comprehensive revision; administration transfer.	HB 291	28

PROPERTY

Civil actions; timber removal; statute of limitations; State Forestry Commission investigation; wood load tickets; requirement; unauthorized cutting and carrying away; defenses; measure of damages.	HB 790	6
Condominium associations; tort actions; standing	HB 820	29
Owners and occupiers of land; trespasser; duty.	SB 125	38

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

See SOCIAL SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF

Maternal Mortality Review Committee; establish.	SB 273	19
---	--------	----

PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Bariatric surgery coverage; treatment of obesity and related disorders; pilot program; state employees' health insurance plan; health plan for public school teachers and employees.	HB 511	19
Campaign contributions; intention to accept campaign contributions; filings; Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission; State Accounting Office; assignment transfer.	SB 297	16
Coroners or medical examiners; property of deceased; conversion prohibited; next of kin; return; investigation or prosecution complete; penalties.	SB 383	30
Georgia Capitol Agricultural History Museum; capitol museum areas designation.	SB 274	30
Georgia World Congress Center Authority; benefit programs election option.	HB 246	5
High deductible health care plan with health savings account; option requirement.	SB 281	30
Peace officers; employed or appointed; Department of Juvenile Justice; Georgia State Indemnification Fund; Temporary Disability Compensation Program; delinquent children; commitment.	SB 324	36
Private Colleges and Universities Authority; meet by teleconference; authorization; per diem; amount; physical presence requirement; Board of Regents; real property capital lease obligations reporting; limitations.	SB 326	14
Qualified health plans; public employees' insurance and benefit plans; abortions; coverage prohibited.	SB 98	23

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Temporary replacement officers; certain circumstances; metropolitan area planning and development commissions; membership eligibility.	SB 367	30
PUBLIC PROPERTY		
Conveyance of state property; consideration; public bidding.	HB 495	37
PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEMS STANDARDS LAW		
Annual required contribution; definition.	HB 761	32
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
Blasting or excavating; near utility facilities; extensive revision; rule promulgation.	SB 117	17
- Q -		
- R -		
REDEVELOPMENT POWERS		
Georgia Downtown Renaissance Investment Fund; creation.	HB 128	37
RETIREMENT AND PENSIONS		
Annual required contribution; definition.	HB 761	32
Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; Georgia Judicial Retirement System; service credit and funds; transfer.	HB 477	31
Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund; definition; creditable service; prior service.	SB 235	31
Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund; membership eligibility; sentence of confinement; effect.	HB 460	31
Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings Plan; employee contributions.	HB 764	31
Judges of the Probate Courts Retirement Fund of Georgia; definitions; automatic cost-of-living benefit increase; restrict and repeal.	HB 601	31
Magistrates Retirement Fund of Georgia; part-time chief magistrates; membership eligibility.	HB 646	32
Magistrates Retirement Fund of Georgia; retirement benefit; membership dues; maximum average final monthly compensation. . . .	HB 292	32
Retirement and pensions; federal laws and regulations; ensure compliance.	HB 843	30

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund; spousal survivor's benefit; member's benefit actuarially reduced; death of spouse or divorce; benefits increase; concurrently funded requirement.	HB 580	32
Title provisions; revise, modernize, and correct errors.	SB 339	31

REVENUE AND TAXATION

Ad valorem tax; forest land fair market value; definitions; conditions and procedures; ad valorem property tax litigation limitation; superior court; tax digest; approval; property valuations; refunds.	HB 755	33
Ad valorem tax; owned property; Board of Regents, University System of Georgia; third-party operation; exemption; referendum.	HB 788	33
Ad valorem tax; property; fair market value; definition.	HB 954	33
Boards of education; composition and election; homestead option sales and use tax; educational purposes; terms of service; 2014 local legislation passage exception.	HB 979	13
Census tracts; redrawing; designated military zone; disqualification prohibited.	HB 791	34
Estate tax; repeal.	HB 658	35
Facilitating Business Rapid Response to State Declared Disasters Act of 2014; enact.	HB 782	33
Federal tax law; state law; incorporate; state registration applications.	HB 918	33
Income tax credit; entertainment production companies; sales and use tax; exemptions; qualified food banks; covered items on specified dates; energy or water efficient products; regional significant competitive projects.	HB 958	34
Income tax refunds; setoff debt collection; political subdivisions and courts; collection policies and procedures.	HB 1000	34
Motor vehicles; fair market value; determination; appealable; ad valorem tax fees; license plate expiration; registration; period and place.	HB 729	33
Public transit authorities; suspension of restrictions on the use of sales and use taxes; applicability of sales tax cap exemption for certain counties; extension.	HB 265	35
Sales and use tax; delivery charges; definition.	HB 816	34
Sales and use tax; exemption; local tax cap; metropolitan area system of public transportation; extend date.	HB 1009	35
Sales and use tax; exemption; machinery, items used in manufacturing; consumable supplies.	HB 900	35
Sales and use tax; exemption; property; maintenance or repair of aircraft; sunset exemption; removal.	HB 933	34
Sales and use tax; exemptions; agricultural.	HB 983	32
Sales and use tax; joint county and municipal tax; continuation; distribution of proceeds; repeal.	HB 719	35

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Tax credit; purchasers of certain alternative fuel vehicles..	HB 348	34
TRICARE network; medical facilities; good faith application; income tax deduction; medical care clerkship..	SB 391	20

REVISER BILLS

Official Code of Georgia Annotated; general reviser bill.	SB 340	1
Retirement and pensions; title provisions; revise, modernize, and correct errors.	SB 339	31

- S -

SALES AND USE TAX

Boards of education; composition and election; homestead option sales and use tax; educational purposes; terms of service; 2014 local legislation passage exception.	HB 979	13
Delivery charges; definition..	HB 816	34
Exemption; local tax cap; metropolitan area system of public transportation; extend date..	HB 1009	35
Exemption; machinery, items used in manufacturing; consumable supplies.	HB 900	35
Exemption; property; maintenance or repair of aircraft; sunset exemption; removal.	HB 933	34
Exemptions; agricultural.	HB 983	32
Exemptions; qualified food banks; covered items on specified dates; energy or water efficient products; regional significant competitive projects..	HB 958	34
Joint county and municipal tax; continuation; distribution of proceeds; repeal.	HB 719	35
Public transit authorities; suspension of restrictions on the use of sales and use taxes; applicability of sales tax cap exemption for certain counties; extension.	HB 265	35

SCHOOLS

See EDUCATION

SECRETARY OF STATE

State Board of Accountancy; comprehensive revision; administration transfer.	HB 291	28
---	--------	----

SENATE

See GENERAL ASSEMBLY

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
SOCIAL SERVICES		
Interstate Compact for Juveniles; enact.	HB 898	35
Medicaid eligibility expansion; prohibit without legislative approval.	HB 990	36
Medicaid; false or fraudulent claims; civil penalties; court; civil action or claim; dismissal.	HB 973	36
Murder in second degree; offense creation; state-wide alert system for certain suspects; bonding company collateral forms; sureties fees.	HB 271	10
Offender reentry reforms; disposition hearings; calculation times; foster care children review hearings; driver's license restoration or suspension; limited driving permits; adult offender programs; child fatality review; definitions; disclosure.	SB 365	9
TANF benefits and food stamp applicant; drug testing requirement; photo requirement.	HB 772	36
STACEY NICOLE ENGLISH ACT		
Missing persons location aid; medically incapacitated; prohibit minimum waiting period; state-wide endangered person advisory; emergency contact information; vehicle registration forms.	SB 23	25
STATE FLAG, SEAL, AND OTHER SYMBOLS		
Capitol grounds; Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.; statue.	HB 1080	37
STATE GOVERNMENT		
Agency records; 9-1-1 telephone calls; audio recordings release; exemptions.	HB 449	38
Automobile accident information; solicitation, release, and sale; prohibit; exceptions.	HB 828	23
Capitol grounds; Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.; statue.	HB 1080	37
Compact for a Balanced Budget; adoption; United States Constitution; amendment; proposal and ratification; promote.	HB 794	38
Conveyance of state property; consideration; public bidding.	HB 495	37
Facilitating Business Rapid Response to State Declared Disasters Act of 2014; enact.	HB 782	33
General Assembly; standards and instructions for Article V convention delegates; adoption.	HB 930	37
Georgia Downtown Renaissance Investment Fund; creation.	HB 128	37
Monument of religious liberty; capitol grounds placement; authorization.	HB 702	37

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
Private Colleges and Universities Authority; meet by teleconference; authorization; per diem; amount; physical presence requirement; Board of Regents; real property capital lease obligations reporting; limitations.	SB 326	14
Public disclosure; arrest booking photographs; release; prohibition.	HB 845	24
Purple Heart Day; Purple Heart State; designations.	SB 276	1
State Board of Accountancy; comprehensive revision; administration transfer.	HB 291	28
State-wide and county master jury lists; information provided; clarify.	HB 776	7
Temporary replacement officers; certain circumstances; metropolitan area planning and development commissions; membership eligibility.	SB 367	30
Unemployment insurance and benefits; comprehensive revision.	HB 714	23

STATE SYMBOLS

Purple Heart Day; Purple Heart State; designations.	SB 276	1
---	--------	---

SUPERIOR COURT CLERKS' RETIREMENT FUND

Spousal survivor's benefit; member's benefit actuarially reduced; death of spouse or divorce; benefits increase; concurrently funded requirement.	HB 580	32
---	--------	----

SUPERIOR COURTS

Coweta Judicial Circuit; Waycross Judicial Circuit; additional judge.	HB 742	7
Superior Court of Bartow County; terms.	SB 386	4
Superior courts; filings in the clerk's office; office hours.	HB 215	8
Trade names; clerk; duties and fees; trade name registry; establishment.	HB 670	8

- T -

TANF BENEFITS

Food stamp applicant; drug testing requirement; photo requirement.	HB 772	36
--	--------	----

TEACHERS

See EDUCATION

TOBACCO AND TOBACCO RELATED PRODUCTS

Alternative nicotine products or components; regulation	HB 251	12
---	--------	----

	<u>Bill</u>	<u>Page</u>
TORTS		
Civil actions; timber removal; statute of limitations; State Forestry Commission investigation; wood load tickets; requirement; unauthorized cutting and carrying away; defenses; measure of damages.	HB 790	6
Crime of refund fraud; create; penalties; court jurisdiction; increases liquidated damages.. . . .	SB 382	11
Owners and occupiers of land; trespasser; duty.. . . .	SB 125	38
Safety markers on utility lines; private airstrips; adequate visual warning	HB 494	21

TRANSPORTATION

Safety markers on utility lines; private airstrips; adequate visual warning	HB 494	21
State-wide strategic transportation progress report; public road contracts; limitations of counties and municipalities; estimates requirements; Department of Driver Services; record maintenance; traffic signals; speed limits; increase.	HB 774	20

- U -

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

Comprehensive revision.. . . .	HB 714	23
--------------------------------	--------	----

UNIFORM RULES OF THE ROAD

Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund; reckless driving; additional fine; contingent effective date.	HB 870	9
Traffic flow; left-hand lanes; minimum speed; traffic impediment; exceptions.	HB 459	28

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

Convention delegations; state of Georgia.	SB 206	18
---	--------	----

- V -

VICTIMS OF CRIME

Compensation; requests; time extended; terminology clarification; forensic interview; payment.. . . .	SB 187	13
---	--------	----

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Georgia Brownfield Act; definitions; liability limitation; expansion; transfer.	HB 957	7
Hazardous site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	SB 333	5
Hazardous site inventory listings; persons not aggrieved; establish.	HB 904	5
Tire disposal restrictions; tire fees; sunset date extension.	HB 908	7

WATER AND WASTEWATER

Pollution; emergency response procedures.	HB 549	6
Sludge land application permits; requirements revision.	HB 741	6

WATER RESOURCES

Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council; create.	SB 361	6
--	--------	---

WATERS, PORTS, AND WATERCRAFT

Comprehensive motor vehicle and traffic reform; alcohol; furnishing to minors; driving impaired; procedures; penalties; persons with disabilities; vehicle decals; drivers' licenses.	SB 298	27
Flint River Drought Protection Act; legislative intent; definitions; program expansion.	SB 213	6
Interstate Boating Violator Compact; enact; vessel operation; privilege suspension.	HB 777	38
Rules and regulations; criminal violations update; hunting under the influence; implied consent warning; revision.	HB 783	18
Watershed protection standards; flexibility; local government; plans submission.	SB 299	5

WAYCROSS JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Superior courts; additional judge.	HB 742	7
--	--------	---

WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES

Juvenile code; revision; parental power; testamentary guardian.	SB 364	8
---	--------	---

WINE

Maximum percent by volume; definitions; wineries; purchase and use certain products; authorization.	SB 286	1
--	--------	---

- X -

- Y -

- Z -

ZELL MILLER GRANT SCHOLARS

Eligibility revision; Georgia Student Finance Commission and Georgia Student Finance Authority; powers and duties; revision; Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation; student loan funds.	HB 697	15
---	--------	----