

FIRST READERS IN HOUSE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026
NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE DAY

*Rules Suspended

[HB 1292.](#)

By Representatives Frye of the 122nd, Bonner of the 73rd, Hitchens of the 161st, Holcomb of the 101st, Prince of the 132nd, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 3 of Chapter 6 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to certificate of need program, so as to exempt from certificate of need requirements certain nursing homes for war veterans; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on HEALTH

[HB 1293.](#)

By Representatives Jones of the 47th, Martin of the 49th, Dickey of the 134th, Carpenter of the 4th, and Fleming of the 114th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 4 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to vocational, technical, and adult education, so as to provide updated eligibility requirements for the Dual Achievement Program; to provide for continued eligibility for students already enrolled in the program; to provide for the creation of a funding formula; to provide for policies, rules, and regulations; to repeal provisions regarding participation agreements, QBE funding, and accountability assessments for the program; to provide for continuation of the program and eliminate a provision providing for automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION

[HB 1294.](#)

By Representatives Lupton of the 83rd, Townsend of the 179th, Lim of the 98th, and Wilkerson of the 38th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for a grace period of up to 180 days for transfer students to be evaluated for and receive medical and education services based upon medical forms executed by out-of-state physicians; to provide for exceptions; to require the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Health to adopt rules,

regulations, and procedures; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on EDUCATION

[HB 1295.](#)

By Representatives Cooper of the 45th, Stephens of the 164th, Hawkins of the 27th, Au of the 50th, LaHood of the 175th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 4 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the O.C.G.A., relating to physician assistants, so as to enter into an interstate compact known as the "PA Licensure Compact"; to revise provisions relating to the Georgia Composite Medical Board; to provide for date of implementation, withdrawal, and amendment; to provide for construction and severability; to provide for effect of the compact; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on HEALTH

[HB 1296.](#)

By Representatives Momtahan of the 17th, Hitchens of the 161st, Bonner of the 73rd, Cannon of the 172nd, Prince of the 132nd, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 1 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions for governing and regulation of mental health, so as to provide for a pilot program to support clinical research of certain eligible breakthrough treatments and provide such treatments to certain veterans and first responders suffering from certain conditions; to provide for definitions; to provide for funding and use of funds; to provide for eligibility; to provide for an annual report; to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for termination and automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to provide for contingent effectiveness upon appropriation of funds; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY

[HB 1297.](#)

By Representative Meeks of the 178th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Pierce County; to identify the authorized uses of such technology fee; to provide for the termination of such technology fee and dedication of residual funds; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on INTRAGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION -
LOCAL

[HB 1298.](#)

By Representatives Cannon of the 172nd, Corbett of the 174th, Huddleston of the 72nd, Kelley of the 16th, and Blackmon of the 146th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, so as to exempt the retail sale of electricity and natural gas for use by any residential property from sales and use taxes; to provide for the start date for such exemption; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on WAYS & MEANS

[HB 1299.](#)

By Representatives Jasperse of the 11th, Burchett of the 176th, O'Steen of the 169th, Barton of the 5th, Gunter of the 8th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 4 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county and municipal hospital authorities, so as to allow hospital authorities to acquire, develop, operate, or equip certain outpatient healthcare facilities; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

[HB 1300.](#)

By Representatives Seabaugh of the 34th, Camp of the 135th, Jones of the 47th, Rice of the 139th, Kelley of the 16th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 20-3-634 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to savings trust accounts, availability, and terms and provisions under the "Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan Act," so as to raise the maximum amount of contributions allowed per beneficiary for savings trust accounts for higher education expenses; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION

[HB 1301.](#)

By Representatives Parsons of the 44th, Stephens of the 164th, Kelley of the 16th, Park of the 107th, Smith of the 18th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 10-1-393.14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to requirements relating to consumer reports furnished for employment purposes, so as to clarify the requirements for certain data reported by

consumer reporting agencies; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

[HB 1303.](#)

By Representatives Kelley of the 16th, Smith of the 18th, Lumsden of the 12th, Fincher of the 23rd, and Panitch of the 51st:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 5 of Chapter 5 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to cruelty to children, so as to provide for the offense of possession of a controlled substance in the presence of a child; to provide for definitions; to provide for penalties; to provide for limitations on the merger of other offenses arising from the same conduct; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL

[HB 1304.](#)

By Representatives Barnes of the 86th, Gisler of the 121st, Drenner of the 85th, Park of the 107th, Ridley of the 22nd, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 3 of Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to sale of electricity by facility generating electricity, steam, or other forms of energy for its own consumption, so as to provide for portable solar generation devices; to exempt electricity generation devices below 1,200 watts from certain requirements of interconnection and operation; to prohibit electric service providers from requiring certain criteria prior to the operation of portable solar generation devices; to limit liability; to prohibit the sale of electricity generated by portable solar generation devices; to provide for a definition; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on ENERGY, UTILITIES & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

[HB 1305.](#)

By Representatives Crowe of the 118th, Camp of the 135th, Washburn of the 144th, Paris of the 142nd, and Powell of the 33rd:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 41 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to residential and commercial general contractors, so as to provide for licensure of home inspectors; to provide for reciprocity of licensure; to provide for licensure of companies performing home inspections; to provide for minimum requirements to apply for licensure; to provide for continuing education requirements; to require home inspectors to maintain insurance; to provide for standards

of practice and unfair trade practices; to provide for exceptions; to provide for definitions; to provide for a short title; to provide for a legislative purpose; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on REGULATED INDUSTRIES

[HB 1306.](#)

By Representatives Jones of the 25th, Cox of the 28th, Chastain of the 7th, Bonner of the 73rd, and Cannon of the 172nd:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 5A of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Office of State Treasurer, so as to provide for gold and silver specie as legal tender; to provide for a bullion depository; to provide for an electronic payment system; to provide for guidelines, rules and regulations; to provide for insured deposits; to prohibit social credit scoring systems; to provide for annual reports; to prohibit taxation of transactions involving gold and silver specie and legal tender; to provide for an implementation date; to provide for construction; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for definitions; to provide for a short title; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on BANKS & BANKING

[HB 1307.](#)

By Representatives Roberts of the 52nd, Lupton of the 83rd, and Holcomb of the 101st:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend an Act to incorporate the City of Brookhaven in DeKalb County, approved April 16, 2012 (Ga. L. 2012, p. 5527), as amended, so as to increase the existing homestead exemption for senior citizens and disabled persons to \$200,000.00; to specify the terms and conditions of the exemption and the procedures relating thereto; to provide for applicability; to provide for compliance with constitutional requirements; to provide for a referendum, effective dates, automatic repeal, mandatory execution of election, and judicial remedies regarding failure to comply; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on INTRAGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION -
LOCAL

[HB 1308.](#)

By Representatives Silcox of the 53rd, Hilton of the 48th, Jones of the 47th, Rice of the 139th, and Cox of the 28th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for local and state charter schools and charter school petitioners to have the right to lease, utilize, or buy unused facilities of a local board of education, subject to conditions; to provide for such conditions; to provide for construction; to revise a definition; to make

conforming changes and to modernize certain terms; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on EDUCATION

[HB 1309.](#)

By Representatives Newton of the 127th, Stephens of the 164th, Taylor of the 173rd, and Buckner of the 137th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to practitioners of the healing arts, so as to clarify that all practitioners who dispense drugs are engaged in the practice of pharmacy and shall comply with all record keeping and other requirements; to provide for the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy to enforce rules and regulations; to amend Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to medical practice, so as to expand the authority of physicians to delegate the authority to dispense certain drugs; to remove certain limitations on the authority of physicians to delegate the authority to order certain drugs, treatments, or studies; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on HEALTH

[HB 1310.](#)

By Representatives Ford of the 170th, Dickey of the 134th, Meeks of the 178th, O'Steen of the 169th, Williams of the 168th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to other state symbols, so as to designate cotton as the official state fabric; to provide legislative findings; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on SPECIAL RULES

[HB 1311.](#)

By Representatives Santos of the 117th and Crawford of the 89th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 15 of Title 9 and Chapter 6 of Title 13 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to court and litigation costs and damages and costs generally, respectively, so as to prohibit courts from awarding attorney's fees to defendants who have been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a sexual offense when the plaintiff is the victim of such offense; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on JUDICIARY

[HB 1312.](#)

By Representatives Santos of the 117th and Crawford of the 89th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 and Title 19 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to carrying and possession of firearms and domestic relations, respectively, so as to prohibit persons subject to a protective order for family violence or dating violence from possessing a firearm or ammunition; to provide for penalties; to require reporting by the court issuing such prohibition; to require the surrender or transfer of firearms or ammunition in such person's possession; to provide for petitions for return of firearms or ammunition and restoration of rights; to provide for the adoption of procedures; to provide for applicability; to provide for definitions; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL

[HB 1313.](#)

By Representatives Evans of the 57th, Miller of the 62nd, Roberts of the 52nd, Clark of the 108th, Cannon of the 58th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to crimes and offenses, so as to provide for certain legal action protections for healthcare professionals administering medical treatment to pregnant women; to amend Code Section 43-34-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to authority to refuse license, certificate, or permit or issue discipline, suspension, restoration, investigations, hearings on fitness, immunity, and publication of final disciplinary actions, so as to provide for clarification regarding what defines "unprofessional conduct" pursuant to certain medical care licensing provisions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL

[HB 1314.](#)

By Representatives Lim of the 98th, Washburn of the 144th, Clark of the 108th, and Barrett of the 24th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 7 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to operating procedures, so as to require licensees to disclose whether a transaction is reportable to a credit reporting agency; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on BANKS & BANKING

[*HB 1342.](#)

By Representatives McDonald III of the 26th, Jasperse of the 11th, Hawkins of the 27th, Parsons of the 44th, Cox of the 28th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 1 of Article 6 of Chapter 6 of Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to regulation of maintenance and use of public road relative to public utilities in general, so as to provide for procedures and remedies when a highway improvement project is delayed due to the removal, relocation, or adjustment of utility facilities; to provide for damages; to repeal provisions relative to mediation boards; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION

[*HB 1343.](#)

By Representatives Barrett of the 24th, Reese of the 140th, Burns of the 159th, Hugley of the 141st, Gunter of the 8th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Titles 15 and 19 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the courts and domestic relations, respectively, so as to revise the definition of legal father; to amend Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to health, so as to require that licensed general hospitals and birthing centers make available a petition for legitimation education video to parents or guardians of newborn infants; to provide that a putative father may indicate on a certificate of birth that he has submitted to genetic testing to establish paternity of a child born out of wedlock; to amend Title 53 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wills, trusts, and administration of estates, so as to provide for inheritance by legitimation in certain circumstances; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on JUDICIARY

[*HB 1344.](#)

By Representatives Reeves of the 99th, Burns of the 159th, Lumsden of the 12th, Kelley of the 16th, Hugley of the 141st, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Titles 33 and 40 of the O.C.G.A., relating to insurance and motor vehicles and traffic, respectively, so as to strengthen the enforcement authority of the Commissioner of Insurance and to clarify regulations on insurance, insurance fraud, uninsured motorists, excluded drivers, premium tax, insurance rates, claims processing, and uninsured or unregistered motor vehicles; to provide for related matters; to provide for short titles; to provide for legislative purposes; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on INSURANCE

[HR 1346.](#)

By Representatives New of the 40th, Alexander of the 66th, Momtahan of the 17th, Gullett of the 19th, Kelley of the 16th, and others:

A RESOLUTION honoring the life of Zander Trayvon Whatley and dedicating an intersection in his memory; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION

[HR 1347.](#)

By Representatives New of the 40th, Alexander of the 66th, and Baker of the 64th:

A RESOLUTION honoring the life of Mr. Andrew "Drew" Keith Slay and dedicating a bridge in his memory; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION

[HR 1348.](#)

By Representatives Powell of the 33rd, Wilkerson of the 38th, Kelley of the 16th, Glaize of the 67th, Hugley of the 141st, and others:

A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that the qualifications, duties, and salary of the school superintendent shall be established by the board of education as provided by general law and to authorize the General Assembly to provide by law that local school superintendents shall be elected by voters as an alternative to being appointed by local boards of education, if approved by local referendum; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SENATE FIRST READERS IN HOUSE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026
NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE DAY

[SB 476.](#)

By Senators Tillery of the 19th, Walker III of the 20th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Robertson of the 29th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 33 and Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance and revenue and taxation, respectively, so as to reduce the personal income tax rate; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to provide a short title; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on WAYS & MEANS

[SB 477.](#)

By Senators Tillery of the 19th, Walker III of the 20th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Gooch of the 51st, Robertson of the 29th, and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the imposition, rate, computation, exemptions, and credits relative to income taxes, so as to reduce the personal income tax rate; to revise provisions relative to annual reductions of the income tax; to reduce the rates of taxation on corporate and partnership income; to increase the amount of the standard deduction from state taxable income for individuals; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on WAYS & MEANS