

SENATE FIRST READERS

FRIDAY, APRIL 04, 2025

FORTIETH LEGISLATIVE DAY

SB 373. By Senators Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Still of the 48th, Dolezal of the 27th and Watson of the 1st:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 17 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding notaries public, so as to provide for notarial acts to be performed using electronic means when certain requirements are satisfied; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to Judiciary Committee.

SB 374. By Senator Strickland of the 42nd:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding buildings generally, so as to authorize local fire ordinances requiring fire sprinklers in certain multifamily dwellings; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to Public Safety Committee.

SB 375. By Senators Still of the 48th, Jones of the 10th, Esteves of the 35th and Dixon of the 45th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 1 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to state government, so as to require certain agencies to consider the definition of hinduphobia provided for in this Act to apply to laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin; to authorize fact finders in certain criminal cases to consider hinduphobia when determining whether a defendant intentionally selected any victim or group of victims or any property as the object of the offense; to provide for limitations and construction; to provide for definitions; to provide for nonseverability; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to Judiciary Committee.

SB 376. By Senator Robertson of the 29th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the O.C.G.A., relating to selling and other trade practices, so as to enact the "Georgia Restaurant Franchise Relations Act"; to prohibit a franchisor from terminating a franchise except under certain circumstances; to provide for circumstances which warrant the termination of a franchise; to provide conditions for arbitration; to provide for the renewal of a franchise; to prohibit a franchisor from discriminating against franchise operations over franchisor owned operations; to prohibit forum selection; to provide that a franchisor shall provide an opportunity for the survivor of a deceased franchisee to operate the franchise; to provide for definitions; to provide for penalties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to Judiciary Committee.

SB 377. By Senators Burns of the 23rd, Williams of the 25th, Jones II of the 22nd, Hickman of the 4th, Harrell of the 40th and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to authorize curbside voting for certain voters who because of disability or age cannot enter a polling place or are unable to wait in line to vote; to provide procedures for form, collection, and tabulation of ballots for such electors; to provide for a pilot program; to revise reporting provisions to reference such ballots; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to Ethics Committee.

SB 378. By Senator Moore of the 53rd:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to government transparency and campaign finance, so as to prohibit leadership committees; to prohibit lobbying activities by any organization that is the beneficiary of public funds; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to Ethics Committee.

[SR 534.](#) By Senators Dolezal of the 27th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Walker III of the 20th, Anavitarte of the 31st and others:

A RESOLUTION applauding Senator Brandon Beach for his exceptional service in the Georgia State Senate, his leadership in both public and private sectors, and congratulating him on his recent appointment as United States Treasurer in the current Trump Administration; and for other purposes.

Referred to Rules Committee.

[SR 535.](#) By Senators Brass of the 6th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Robertson of the 29th, Anavitarte of the 31st and others:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Denney H. Rogers; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

[SR 536.](#) By Senators Kennedy of the 18th, Goodman of the 8th, Brass of the 6th, Mangham of the 55th, Robertson of the 29th and others:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Chief Justice Michael P. Boggs; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

[SR 537.](#) By Senators Esteves of the 35th and Kemp of the 38th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending the contributions of Poder Latinx in Georgia; and for other

Referred to Rules Committee.

[SR 538.](#) By Senators Dixon of the 45th, Goodman of the 8th and Watson of the 11th:

A RESOLUTION commending PCOM Georgia and PCOM South Georgia; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

[SR 539.](#) By Senators Hatchett of the 50th and Gooch of the 51st:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Betsy Harris; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 540. By Senators Dolezal of the 27th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Walker III of the 20th, Anavitarte of the 31st and others:

A RESOLUTION applauding Senator Brandon Beach for his exceptional service in the Georgia State Senate, his leadership in both public and private sectors, and congratulating him on his recent appointment as United States Treasurer in the current Trump Administration; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 541. By Senators Wicks of the 34th, Davenport of the 17th, Parent of the 44th, Anderson of the 43rd, Kemp of the 38th and others:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending the Sheriff's Klean Initiative Program (S.K.I.P.) Unit; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 542. By Senators Bearden of the 30th and Anavitarte of the 31st:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Bill Hembree; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 543. By Senators Orrock of the 36th, Kemp of the 38th, Esteves of the 35th, Halpern of the 39th, Harrell of the 40th and others:

A RESOLUTION commending and congratulating Mother Willie Bell Beatles; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 544. By Senators Jackson of the 41st, Anderson of the 43rd, Davenport of the 17th, Brass of the 6th and Jones II of the 22nd:

A RESOLUTION recognizing April 11-17, 2025, as Black Maternal Health Week; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 545. By Senators Kemp of the 38th, Esteves of the 35th, Sims of the 12th, Jones II of the 22nd, Jackson of the 41st and others:

A RESOLUTION creating the Senate Paid Student Teaching Study Committee; and for other purposes.

Referred to Education and Youth Committee.

SR 546. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Wicks of the 34th, Anderson of the 43rd, Rhett of the 33rd and Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Nyala Allen; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 547. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Wicks of the 34th, Anderson of the 43rd, Rhett of the 33rd and Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Shelly-Ann Simpson on Women Veterans Appreciation Day at the Capitol; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 548. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Wicks of the 34th, Anderson of the 43rd, Rhett of the 33rd and Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Kimia Irmesha Flourney on Women Veterans Appreciation Day at the Capitol; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 549. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Wicks of the 34th, Anderson of the 43rd, Rhett of the 33rd and Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Etesta Y Causey on Women Veterans Appreciation Day at the Capitol; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 550. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Wicks of the 34th, Anderson of the 43rd, Rhett of the 33rd and Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Nikki Glanton on Women Veterans Appreciation Day at the Capitol; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 551. By Senators Rahman of the 5th, Islam Parkes of the 7th, Harbison of the 15th, Mangham of the 55th, James of the 28th and others:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending the Country of Bangladesh; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 552. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Orrock of the 36th, Jackson of the 41st, McLaurin of the 14th, James of the 28th and others:

A RESOLUTION honoring and celebrating the 80th birthday of Marilyn Arrington; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 553. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Jones II of the 22nd, Dixon of the 45th, Kemp of the 38th and Parent of the 44th:

A RESOLUTION creating the Senate Study Committee on Funding for Charter School Capital Improvements; and for other purposes.

Referred to Education and Youth Committee.

SR 554. By Senators Halpern of the 39th, Kemp of the 38th, James of the 28th, Anderson of the 43rd and Wicks of the 34th:

A RESOLUTION honoring Lawrence A. Reeves Jr. for his service and leadership; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 555. By Senator Mallow of the 2nd:

A RESOLUTION commending Dr. Quentina M. Miller-Fields; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

SR 556. By Senator Mallow of the 2nd:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Bishop Pierce Moore Jr.; and for other purposes.

Read and Adopted.

HB 896. By Representatives Clark of the 100th, Dubnik of the 29th, Hawkins of the 27th, Cox of the 28th, Hong of the 103rd and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to authorize the governing authority of Hall County to levy an excise tax pursuant to subsection (b) of Code Section 48-13-51 of the O.C.G.A.; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to State and Local Governmental Operations Committee.