

2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



HB 1374

- Limits Prequalification: *“The award of contracts, however, may shall not be conditioned upon prequalification; provided, however, that prequalification may be included among evaluation factors and criteria used in making an award.”*
- Closes potential loophole on bidding: *No contract for any purchase that was effectuated without competitive bidding solely because the contract price did not exceed a threshold amount required for competitive bidding as set forth under this part shall be subsequently renewed or extended at any time for a contract price that exceeds such threshold amount.*
- Look for DOAS rules





HB 463

Reduces the Individual Income Tax Rate from 4.99% this year to 3.99% over the next 8 years – provided the state meets certain revenue targets

Raises standard deduction from \$12k to \$15k for singles and from \$24k to \$30k for couples

Raises dependent deduction from \$4k to \$5k per child

Lower Income Tax Rates

SB 33

Gives counties and municipalities the option to institute a 1% Local Homestead Option Sales Tax to replace a portion of the property tax revenue on homesteads

Must be approved by referendum or in some cases counties and municipalities may automatically covert other OST programs (HOST, LOST, EHOST, FLOST)

Property Tax Regulations





Income Tax Refund

HB 1000

Creates one time tax refund for those who filed for tax years 2024 and 2025

Single/married filing jointly = \$250 refund

Head of Household = \$375

Married filing jointly = \$500

HB 483

- Adds heightened penalties for assault, battery, aggravated assault, and aggravated battery of a Code Enforcement Official
- Aggravated assault and aggravated battery of a Code Enforcement Official is punishable by not less than 3 or more than 20 years in prison
- (So don't yell at the building inspector!)





HB 369

Makes Election for County Offices
Non Partisan

- District Attorney
- Solicitor General
- County Commissioners
- Clerk of Court
- BUT NOT Sherrif

ONLY Applies to 'Consolidated Law
Enforcement' Counties

=

Counties where General Assembly
has abolished position of County
Coroner and Created position of
Medical Examiner

=

Cobb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Dekalb



HB 651 – Traffic Cameras In School Zones

- Transfers approval of camera placement to GDOT from DPS (previously had joint regulation)
- Adds restrictions on school speed zone cameras
 - Requires clearer warning signs (flashing lights)
 - Must be 10 mph or more over speed limit for ticket
 - Requires mailed citations to be more clearly marked on outside envelope
 - Restricts use of revenue generated to fund local law enforcement or public safety initiatives, but not salaries of law enforcement personnel
- Requires voter approval of use of cameras every 6 years



HB 295

Allows property owners to sue local governments for supposed reduction in Fair Market Value caused by government's failure to enforce existing laws against:

- i) Illegal public camping;
- (ii) Loitering;
- (iii) Obstructing public thoroughfares;
- (iv) Panhandling;
- (v) Possession or use of controlled substances in violation of Chapter 13 of Title 16;
- (vi) Shoplifting; or
- (vii) Public intoxication or public urination while trespassing on private property; or
- Sanctuary cities
- Or if the municipality maintains a public nuisance

If a claim is approved, the government must compensate the owner based on either the documented mitigation expenses or the supposed reduction in fair market value, with payments capped at the amount of property taxes paid by the owner in the current tax year.

Bill puts burden of proof on municipality and allows for claimants to collect attorney's fees.

The bill waives sovereign immunity to allow lawsuits against local governments



SB 440

- Allows Ivermectin to be distributed by pharmacists without prescriptions
- Deletes a requirement for DPH to produce educational materials about Sickle Cell
- Deletes a requirement for DPH to produce educational materials about HIV/AIDS and provide information about free testing sites

HB 1112

Allows retailers to round up or round down prices to the nearest nickel when giving change.



HB 1123

Extends after school programs
to cover students in Georgia
Pre-K programs



HB 1009

- Current cell phone ban in schools for kids grades K-8
- Bill extends ban for kids in grades 9-12



HB 1118

Increases paid
parental leave for
state employees from
6 weeks to 9 weeks



Special Session?

From _____

APPLY
FIRST-CLASS
MAIL POSTAGE
HERE

OFFICIAL ELECTION MAIL
Authorized by the U.S. Postal Service

A. Do not attempt to mark through the selection or attempt to erase. If the Registrar receives this ballot and deems the return acceptable, a new official absentee ballot will be mailed to you.
B. Mail or return the spoiled ballot and envelope to your county board of registrars, a new official absentee ballot will be mailed to you.

If you decide to vote in-person, Surrender the ballot to the poll manager of an early voting site within your county of the precinct to which you are assigned. You will then be permitted to vote a regular ballot.

I understand that the offer or acceptance of money or any other object of value to vote for any particular candidate, list of candidates, issue, or list of issues included in this election constitutes an act of voter fraud and is a felony under Georgia law. (O.C.G.A. 21-2-284(c), 21-2-285(b) and 21-2-383(a))

SPECIAL ELECTION	
For President of the United States (Vote for One)	For United States Senate (To Fill the Unexpired Term of Johnny Isakson, Resigned) (Vote for One)
☐ Donald J. Trump - President Michael R. Pence - Vice President (Incumbent) Republican	☐ Al Bartell Independent
☐ Joseph R. Biden - President Kamala D. Harris - Vice President Democrat	☐ Allen Buckley Independent
☐ Jo Jorgensen - President Jeremy "Spike" Cohen - Vice President Libertarian	☐ Doug Collins Republican
☐	☐ John Fortuin Green
☐	☐ Derrick E. Grayson Republican
Write-in	

For Public Service Commissioner
(To Succeed Jason Shaw)
(Vote for One)

☐ Jason Shaw
(Incumbent) Republican

☐ Robert G. Bryant
Democrat

☐ Elizabeth M.
Libertarian

☐

Write-in

HB 466

Designates the Marsh Tacky Horse as the official Georgia Heritage Breed Horse

Designates the pinewoods cattle as the official Georgia Heritage Breed Cattle



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