

## Legislative Bills of Interest – February 8, 2012

Bills of Interest from the 2011 Session are Listed First (continue to be active)

Bills Introduced in the 2012 Session begin with HB 658 and SB 293

Bill Nr.	Author/Description	Committee/Status (H=House; S=Senate)
HB 33	Allison 8th; Harden 28th: Provides for the application of <b>zero-base budgeting to the</b> budget process; to provide for consideration of alternative funding levels.	Passed House (CS) 3/14/11 Assigned to Senate Appropriations
HB 76	Kidd, 141st; Powell, 29th; Epps, Bubber 140th Authorizes the Dept. of Economic Development to coordinate the development and planning of the program with other state and local groups to <b>encourage retirees and those planning to retire to make their homes in Georgia and to certify retirement communities. Baldwin County and Milledgeville may serve as the pilot.</b>	Recommitted to Economic Development Committee – 4/14/11
HB 109	Hamilton 23rd; Amerson 9th; Peake 137th Provides that <b>public employees shall not use government</b> owned or leased computers or telecommunications devices to promote or oppose the passage of any legislation by the General Assembly or to promote or oppose the approval or veto of any legislation by the Governor. The bill excludes employees whose duties require such activity.	H: Government Affairs (2/2 /11)
HB 159	Lucas 139th: Limits <b>HOPE grants</b> to families having income less than \$66,000 annually.	H: Higher Education 2/7/11
HB 171	Casasd 103rd; Coleman 97th; Hembree 67th Allows a <b>local school system</b> to provide a <b>scholarship equal</b> to ½ of the per student expenditure for student's tuition for higher education when the student completes high school course prior to entering the 12 <sup>th</sup> grade.	H: Education 2/9/11
HB 182	Marin 96th; Requires <b>health benefit policies</b> to cover the diagnosis and treatment of <b>infertility</b> .	H: Insurance 2/9/11
HB 183	Maxwell 17th; Meadows 5th; Benton 31st Requires mandatory membership in the <b>Legislative Retirement System</b> beginning 7/1/12, and allows an irrevocable election for those who previously declined membership.	H: Retirement 2/9/11
HB187	Channell 116th; Cooper 41st; Huckaby 113th Requires a competitive contract for <b>dental services for all Medicaid and Peach Care participants.</b>	H: Health & Human Services 2/9/11
HB 208	Maxwell, Howard 17th: Adds the definition of board to the <b>Employees Retirement System</b> law.	H: Retirement (2/10/11)
HB 236	Maxwell 17th; Benton 31st; Pruett 144th: Allows the governing authority of each county to elect either a local pension or ERS, but not both for <b>local tax commissioners</b> and other tax employees taking office after July 1, 2012.	H: Retirement (2/10/11)
HB 246	Johnson, Terry 37 <sup>th</sup> ; Yates, John 73 <sup>rd</sup> ; Black, Ellis 174 <sup>th</sup> : Prohibits <b>employees of ERS &amp; TRS increase in compensation</b> (including incentives and bonuses) in any year in excess of 50% of prior year's salary.	H: Retirement (2/16/11)
HB 250	Weldon 3rd; Maxwell 17th; Benton 31st. Provides that a <b>Judicial Retirement System member who rejected survivor's benefits</b> may elect such benefits by paying the actuarial cost; to provide for a revised survivor's benefit option for persons who become members on or after July 1, 2012	H: Retirement (2/16/11)

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HB 293	Benton 31st; Maxwell 17th; Meadows 5th: Amends the <b>definition of retirement fiscal bills</b> to include any bill that grants an insurable interest on lives of pension members for which the pension plan must obligate funds.	Passed House 3/2/11 Favorably Reported by Senate Retirement (1/9/12)
HB 295	Maxwell, 17th; Benton 31st; Meadows 5th: Provide a method of <b>calculating accrued benefits</b> for persons subject to the Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings Plan ( <b>GSEPS</b> ) who transfer between the Georgia ERS or TRS.	Passed House 1/24/12; Assigned Senate Retirement 1/25/12.
HB 297	Maxwell 17th; Meadows 5th; Benton 31st: <b>No public retirement system shall have an insurable interest in members of such retirement system nor have authority</b> to expend or obligate funds to purchase life insurance except where all benefits are paid to the beneficiary designated by the member.	Passed House 3/2/11 Favorably Reported by Senate Retirement – 1/9/12
HB 308	Maxwell 17th: The <b>duties of the boards of trustees of public retirement systems or pension plans</b> contained in this title are in addition to, and not in limitation of, the common law duties of the trustee found in Title 53, ( <b>WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES</b> ) except to the extent inconsistent with those within this title."	Substitute Passed House 3/11/11 Favorably Reported by Senate Retirement 1/9/12.
HB 337	Greene 149 <sup>th</sup> , Maxwell 17 <sup>th</sup> , and Benton 31 <sup>st</sup> This bill deals with the <b>Sheriffs Retirement System</b> options for <b>divorce and remarriage</b> .	Passed House. Favorably Reported by Senate Retirement 1/26/12
HB 344	Baker 78 <sup>th</sup> , Weldon 3 <sup>rd</sup> , Allison 8 <sup>th</sup> , Epps 140 <sup>th</sup> , Neal 75 <sup>th</sup> Juvenile court judges and other members of such retirement system may obtain <b>creditable service</b> for prior service as a <b>full-time associate juvenile court judge</b> in the <b>Judicial Retirement System</b>	H: Retirement 2/24/11
HB 351	Maxwell of the 17 <sup>th</sup> \$3.00 of such fines and forfeited bonds shall be paid to the <b>Judges of the Probate Courts Retirement Fund</b> of Georgia	Passed House. Assigned Senate Retirement 1/26/12
HB 354	Martin 47 <sup>th</sup> This bill increases individual state <b>income tax standard deductions</b> .	H. Ways and Means 2/24/11
HB 355	Martin 47 <sup>th</sup> <b>The bill repeals corporate net worth taxes</b>	H. Ways and Means 2/24/11
HB 371	Maxwell 17th, Benton 31st, and Meadows of the 5 <sup>th</sup> The state and any political subdivision of the state may only <b>purchase insurance</b> on the life of active or retired public officers or employees when all benefits are paid to an officer's or employee's estate or to a beneficiary designated by the individual officer or employee	Passed House 3/14/11 Favorably report by Senate Insurance & Labor – 2/3/12
HB 380	Jacobs 80 <sup>th</sup> Requirements for <b>continuing care providers and facilities</b> would be revised.	Insurance 2/28/11
HB 385	Channell 116 <sup>th</sup> , O'Neal 146 <sup>th</sup>	Special Joint

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	<b>This is a tax structure bill.</b>	Committee on Georgia Revenue Structure 2/28/11
HB 386 HB 387 HB 388	Channell 116 <sup>th</sup> , O'Neal 146 <sup>th</sup> <b>These are tax structure bill.</b>	Recommitted to Special Joint Committee on Georgia Revenue Structure 4/14/
HB 397	Powell 171 <sup>st</sup> , Bearden 68 <sup>th</sup> , Powell 29 <sup>th</sup> , Greene 149 <sup>th</sup> , Baker 78 <sup>th</sup> The bill is a comprehensive revision of the law regarding <b>open meeting and open records.</b>	Judiciary 3/2/11
HB 403	Stephens 164 <sup>th</sup> This bill increases a <b>business tax break.</b>	H. Ways and Means 2/28/11
HB 405	Martin 47 <sup>th</sup> , Lindsey 54 <sup>th</sup> , Abrams 84 <sup>th</sup> , Houston 170 <sup>th</sup> , Dickson 6 <sup>th</sup> <b>Assisted living communities</b> regulations and licensing requirements are stated. <b>Certified Medication Aides</b> may be employed. An assisted living community shall not be permitted to enroll as a provider of Title XIX eligible medical assistance. <b>Personal Care Homes</b> shall not admit individuals in need of continuous medical or nursing care or a resident who is not ambulatory.	Recommitted to House Health & Human Services Committee – 4/14/11
HB 412	Stephens 164 <sup>th</sup> The bill removes certain limitations on the use of a <b>tax credit for research and development</b> by a business enterprise	Ways and Means 3/1/11
HB 416	Franklin of the 43 <sup>rd</sup> <b>Prohibits collective bargaining by public employees</b>	Industrial Relations 3/2/11
HB 424	Weldon 3 <sup>rd</sup> , Maxwell 17 <sup>th</sup> , Meadows 5 <sup>th</sup> , Benton 31 <sup>st</sup> , Brooks 63 <sup>rd</sup> The bill provides for a death benefit for <b>active or retired</b> members under the <b>Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund</b>	<b>Pass House 1/24/12.</b> <b>Assigned to Senate Retirement – 1/25/12.</b>
HB 432	Dempsey 13 <sup>th</sup> , Manning 32 <sup>nd</sup> , Smith 129 <sup>th</sup> , McKillip 115 <sup>th</sup> , Sims 119 <sup>th</sup> Employees would be allowed to use <b>sick leave</b> for care of immediate family members.	Industrial Relations 3/2/11
HB 446	Mitchell 88 <sup>th</sup> An <b>employee of a financial institution</b> shall be <b>immune</b> from all civil and criminal liability for actions taken in good faith related to the investigation into or <b>reporting of fraud or possible fraudulent actions committed against an elder person or disabled adult</b> , including the gathering of information from consumers.	Judiciary Non Civil 3/3/11
HB 456	Byrd 20 <sup>th</sup> , Hill 21 <sup>st</sup> , Braddock 19 <sup>th</sup> , Jerguson 22 <sup>nd</sup> , Sheldon 105 <sup>th</sup> The "Georgia Government Accountability Act" creates the <b>Legislative Sunset Advisory Committee</b> ; to authorize the committee to review and evaluate state agencies' productivity, efficiency, and responsiveness; to provide for the automatic abolition of certain state agencies contingent upon adoption of a	H: Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight 3/4/11

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Bill Nr.	Author/Description	Committee/Status (H=House; S=Senate)
	resolution by the General Assembly	
HB 458	Bruce 64 <sup>th</sup> , Kidd 141 <sup>st</sup> , Mayo 91 <sup>st</sup> , Long 61 <sup>st</sup> , Frazier 123 <sup>rd</sup> This bill creates the Georgia Commission on Family Economic Security to determine the extent of poverty throughout the state and to seek policy remedies aimed <b>to protect and afford opportunity to all citizens</b> , including job training, educational and work opportunities, health care, and safety	H: Special Rules 3/4/11
HB 460	Gardner 57 <sup>th</sup> , Neal 1 <sup>st</sup> , Lindsey 54 <sup>th</sup> , Jacobs 80 <sup>th</sup> , Stephenson 92 <sup>nd</sup> The <b>Psychiatric Advance Directive Act</b> provide a means for a competent adult to control either directly through instructions written in advance or indirectly through appointing an agent to make mental health care decisions on behalf of such person according to a written psychiatric advance directive	H: Health and Human Services 3/4/11
HB 464	Harden 28 <sup>th</sup> , Allison 8 <sup>th</sup> , Pruett 144 <sup>th</sup> , Smith 129 <sup>th</sup> , Morris 155 <sup>th</sup> The Department of Human Services shall institute a <b>random drug testing program for recipients of state public assistance</b> and state administered federal public assistance where the recipient is 18 years of age or older; provided, however, that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any public assistance related to the provision of medical care or any public assistance provided, directly or indirectly, for the benefit of persons under the age 18	H: Judiciary 3/4/11
HB 473	Coleman 97 <sup>th</sup> , Meadows 5 <sup>th</sup> , Benton 31 <sup>st</sup> , Buckner 130 <sup>th</sup> , Weldon 3 <sup>rd</sup> The monthly contribution to the <b>Public School Employees Retirement System</b> for new members would rise from \$4.00 to \$10.00 and the pensions will rise.	H: Retirement 3/7/11
HB 476	Smith 131 <sup>st</sup> and Meadows 5 <sup>th</sup> The purpose of this Act is to provide for a <b>Georgia Health Exchange</b> to facilitate the purchase and sale of qualified health plans in the individual market in this state in accordance with federal law. This Act also provides for the establishment of a <b>Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Exchange</b> to assist qualified small employers in this state in facilitating the enrollment of their employees in qualified health plans offered in the small group market. The intent of the exchanges are to reduce the number of uninsured people in this state, provide a transparent exchange, provide consumer education, and assist individuals with access to programs, premium assistance tax credits, and cost-sharing reductions.	Recommitted to Rules Committee 3/16/11.
HB 479	Dempsey 13 <sup>th</sup> , Channell 116 <sup>th</sup> , Parrish 156 <sup>th</sup> , Drenner 86 <sup>th</sup> , and Sheldon 105 <sup>th</sup> <b>Private home care providers</b> shall only include services provided by individuals who are employees, and not independent contractors, of a private home care provider or another employer who contracts with such private home care provider. See SB 196	H: Health and Human Services 3/7/11

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HB 486	Morris 155 <sup>th</sup> , Dollar 45 <sup>th</sup> , Davis 109 <sup>th</sup> , and Heard 114 <sup>th</sup> Membership subscription agreements for <b>prepaid air ambulance service</b> shall not constitute a contract of insurance.	Recommitted to Health & Human Services 4/14/11
HB 521	Morris 155 <sup>th</sup> This bill reduce the amount of the employee contribution to the <b>Superior Courts Clerks' Retirement Fund</b> for creditable service for certain prior service as a deputy clerk	H. Retirement 3/11/11
HB 533	Baker 78 <sup>th</sup> and Weldon 3 <sup>rd</sup> Juvenile Court Judges would also be able to transfer previous contributions to the <b>Judicial Retirement System</b>	H: Retirement 3/14/11
HB 625	Hatfield 177 <sup>th</sup> : The <b>Peace Officer' Annuity and Benefit will cover communications officers.</b>	H: Retirement 3/30/11
HB 630	Drenner 86 <sup>th</sup> , Jacobs 80 <sup>th</sup> , Abrams 84 <sup>th</sup> , Kidd 141 <sup>st</sup> , Bell 58 <sup>th</sup> The bill <b>prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identify</b>	H: Judiciary 3/31/11
HB 642	Collins of 27 <sup>th</sup> ; Hamilton of the 23 <sup>rd</sup> , England of the 108 <sup>th</sup> , Meadows of the 5 <sup>th</sup> , Ehrhart of the 36 <sup>th</sup> , Braddock of the 19 <sup>th</sup> <b>Eliminates the Commissioner of Personnel Administration</b> , transfers the functions of the State Personnel Administration to the Department of Administrative Services, eliminates authorization for certain functions.	Substitute passed House 2/7/12.
HB 644	Commission to Implement the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.	H: Insurance 4/14/11
HB 801	Gardner of the 57 <sup>th</sup> , Beverly of the 139 <sup>th</sup> , Dobbs of the 53 <sup>rd</sup> , Smyre of the 132 <sup>nd</sup> , Buckner of the 130 <sup>th</sup> , Abrams of the 84 <sup>th</sup> . Establishes the <b>Georgia Health Insurance Marketplace Authority</b> to facilitate the purchase and sale of qualified health plans. Establishes a small business health insurance marketplace to assist qualified small employers enroll their employees so as to reduce the number of uninsured people.	H. Insurance 1/26/12
HB 805	Collins of the 27 <sup>th</sup> . Amends Title 47, to make conforming amendments and correct references with the abolition of the State Personnel Administration, places the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services on the ERS Board of Trustees.	Passed House 2/7/12.
HB 831	McCall of the 30 <sup>th</sup> , Collins of the 27 <sup>th</sup> , Hatchett of the 143 <sup>rd</sup> , Carter of the 175 <sup>th</sup> . Transfers the Division of Rehabilitation Services, including the disability adjudication section and the Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation from the Department of Labor to the Department of Human Services; transfers the direction and supervision of the Georgia Industries for the Blind to the Department of Human Services	Assigned to Human Relations & Aging 1/31/12.
HR 342	Clark 98 <sup>th</sup> ; Cooke 18 <sup>th</sup> ; Braddock 19 <sup>th</sup> : A Resolution titled a <b>Taxpayer Dividend Amendment</b> . The resolution provides for a	H: Budget & Fiscal Affairs Oversight 2/22/11

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Bill Nr.	Author/Description	Committee/Status (H=House; S=Senate)
	State Constitution amendment to provide a priority for appropriating excess revenue received over that appropriated. It also limits expenditures from the Revenue Shortfall Reserve to one-time needs.	
HR 421	Channell of the 116 <sup>th</sup> and O`Neal of the 146 <sup>th</sup> Citizens could vote on a constitutional amendment to create an <b>Economic Development Trust Fund</b> .	H, Special Committee on Small Business and Job Creation 2/28/11
HR 422	Channell of the 116 <sup>th</sup> and O`Neal of the 146 <sup>th</sup> Citizens could vote on a constitutional amendment to require any general bill or resolution that enacts or amends a <b>tax exemption or tax credit</b> comply with <b>fiscal impact standards</b> unless waived by a two thirds vote.	H. Special Committee on Small Business and Job Creation 2/28/11
HR 425	Neal 1 <sup>st</sup> , Walker 107 <sup>th</sup> , Mills 25 <sup>th</sup> , Collins 27 <sup>th</sup> , Clark 98 <sup>th</sup> This bill proposes a constitutional amendment to allow public funding of social service by a religious or faith based organizations.	H. Judiciary 3/1/11
HR 549	Kidd of the 141 <sup>st</sup> The bill creates the <b>House Durable Medical Equipment Study Committee</b>	H. Health and Human Services 3/11/11
HR 640	Bruce of the 65 <sup>th</sup> , Kidd of the 141s, Buckner of the 130h, Fludd of the 66 <sup>th</sup> , and Gardner of the 57 <sup>th</sup> : A resolution to create House Family Economic Security Study Committee.	H: Health & Human Services 3/22/11
HR 757	Lucas of the 139 <sup>th</sup> , Stephens of the 164 <sup>th</sup> , Parrish of the 156 <sup>th</sup> , Harden of the 147 <sup>th</sup> , Heard of the 114 <sup>th</sup> : The <b>House State Health Benefit Plan Study Committee</b> will do a thorough legislative study of the SHBP in order to provide adequate and effective coverage for employees while ensuring actuarial soundness and budgetary responsibility, and no such study has been conducted for some time.	Favorably Reported by House on 4/11/11 and recommitted to Health & Human Services on 4/14/11.
HR 810	Rogers 26 <sup>th</sup> , Meadows 5 <sup>th</sup> , England 108 <sup>th</sup> , Parrish 156 <sup>th</sup> , Stephens 164 <sup>th</sup> , Gardner 57 <sup>th</sup> . The Resolution creates the <b>House State Health Insurance Plan Alternative Funding Study Committee</b> to study <b>alternative funding, cost management strategies, and reinsurance options</b> in order to provide adequate and effective coverage for employees while ensuring actuarial soundness and budgetary responsibility.	Adopted 4/14/11. <b>Committee appointed and held meetings during 2011 Summer/Fall. Awaiting the Committee's Report.</b>
SB 20	Hill 32nd. <b>Prohibits</b> implementation of the <b>Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act</b> until analysis and report to the General Assembly.	S: Health & Human Services 1/26/11
SB 25	Hill 32nd. <b>Prohibits</b> implementation of the <b>Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act</b> until analysis and report to the General Assembly.	S: Health & Human Services (1/27/11)
SB 33	Shafer 48th; Chance 16th; Davis 22nd Provides for the application of <b>zero-base budgeting</b> to the budget process; to provide for consideration of alternative funding levels.	Conference Committee Report not Adopted 4/14/11.
SB 35	Seabaugh, Mitch 28th; Heath, Bill 31st; Cowsert, Bill 46th: Prohibits <b>State Treasury from withdrawing funds</b> from bank accounts without the account holder's permission	<b>Recommitted to Banking &amp; Finance – 1/9/12</b>

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Bill Nr.	Author/Description	Committee/Status (H=House; S=Senate)
SB 38	Rogers 21st; Millar 40th: Transfer the <b>authority</b> from the <b>State Board of Education</b> solely to the State School <b>Superintendent</b> to hire and fire employees of the Dept. of Education, including employees in the classified service.	CS Passed Senate 2/22/11, House Committee Substitute with a FA. Passed House 4/12/11. Recommitted to House Education on 4/14/11.
SB 137	Hamrick 30 <sup>th</sup> : Some <b>Department of Juvenile Justice county probation and intake employees</b> will need to opt for a state or local pension. The bill also references <b>Juvenile Court Judges</b> .	Assigned to Senate Retirement – 2/23/11.
SB 159	Mullis 53rd, Chance 16th, Rogers 21st, Gooch 51st, Miller 49 <sup>th</sup> <b>No meeting</b> of a government agency <b>discussing matters related to an economic development project</b> of a private person or entity shall be a public meeting or be <b>required to be opened</b> to the public.	Recommitted to Economic Development Com – 1/9/12
SB 167	Hill 4th, Williams 19th, Albers 56th, Bethel 54th, Millar 40 <sup>th</sup> <b>Weekly unemployment benefits would be reduced by a benefit received from</b> a private retirement system regulated by the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, 29 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq., and any public retirement system or fund created by an Act of the General Assembly or by any political subdivision of the state upon which public funds are expended. Such term also means any association of like political subdivisions the purpose of which is the pooling of funds for retirement or pension purposes. Such term shall not mean a defined contribution fund established under Section 401(k) or Section 457 of the federal Internal Revenue Code.	Recommitted to Insurance & Labor 1/9/12.
SB 176	Chance 16th, Mullis 53rd, Gooch 51st, Stoner 6th, Davis 22 <sup>nd</sup> All agencies would be able to <b>conduct meetings by telecommunications conference</b> and not just those agencies with state wide jurisdiction	Recommitted to State & Local Govern 1/9/12
SB 177	<i>Bethel of the 54th; Mullis of the 53rd; Butterworth of the 50th; Gooch of the 51st; Albers of the 56th; Shafer of the 48th:</i> To amend the insurance code so as to provide that health insurance exchange plans shall specifically prohibit use of tax credits and cost-sharing reduction payments to pay for abortion services; to provide for segregation of 4 such plans.	Passed Senate. Recommitted to House Insurance Committee – 4/12/11.
SB 196	Seabaugh 28 <sup>th</sup> <b>Private home care providers</b> shall only include services provided by individuals who are <b>employees, and not independent contractors</b> , of a private home care provider or another employer who contracts with such private home care provider	S. Health and Human Services 3/3/11

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SB 197	Seabaugh 28 <sup>th</sup> To <b>eliminate unproductive employees</b> the Commissioner of Personnel Administration shall do a comprehensive review of each state employment position compensation package and the person and whether the position is duplicated and deliver a report by 12/31/2011.	S. Appropriations 3/3/11
SB 215	Hill 32 <sup>nd</sup> Convert <b>Medicaid and the PeachCare</b> for Kids Program funds to premium assistance to allow low-income families to participate in <b>private sector health insurance</b> plans	S: Health and Human Service 3/7/11
SB 216	Hill 32 <sup>nd</sup> , Rogers 21 <sup>st</sup> The Commissioner of Insurance may authorize insurers to offer <b>individual medical and surgical health insurance</b> policies in Georgia that have been approved for issuance in selected <b>other states</b>	S: Interstate Cooperation 3/7/11
SB 223	Ligon, Jr. 3rd, Rogers 21st, Hill 32nd, Ginn 47th, Albers 56 <sup>th</sup> The " <b>Georgia Government Accountability Act</b> "; creates the Legislative Sunset Advisory Committee; to review and evaluate state agencies' productivity, efficiency, and responsiveness and provided for the <b>automatic abolition of certain state agencies</b> contingent upon adoption of a resolution by the General Assembly. <b>See HB 456</b>	Different versions passed House & Senate. <b>Senate adopted 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference Report 1/30/12.</b>
SB 246	Hill 4 <sup>th</sup> Increase the employee contribution to the <b>Public School Employees Retirement System</b> to provide for an increase in the retirement benefit	<b>Favorably Reported Senate Retirement 2/7/12.</b>
SB 249	Mullis 53rd, McKoon 29 <sup>th</sup> , Staton 18 <sup>th</sup> that notice of <b>meetings</b> open to public of government agencies be <b>posted on agency websites</b>	<b>Passed Senate. Passed House 1/9/12.</b>
SB 283	Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Gooch of the 51st, Stoner of the 6th, Miller of the 49th and Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup> . Creates a Georgia Department of Public Transit to develop and implement a business plan for combining all regional public transit entities in this state into a streamlined and 50 integrated state-wide public transit system	Senate Transportation Committee – 4/12/11
SB 286	Heath 31 <sup>st</sup> , Hill 4 <sup>th</sup> , Stoner 6 <sup>th</sup> , Hooks 14 <sup>th</sup> , Murphy 27 <sup>th</sup> . <b>No person</b> who first or again, (not including reelection), becomes a <b>tax commissioner, tax collector, tax receiver, or an employee of any such officer on or after July 1, 2012, shall be eligible</b> for membership in the Employees Retirement System of Georgia.	<b>Favorably Reported by Senate Retirement 2/7/12.</b>
SB 287	Gin 47 <sup>th</sup> , Cowser 46 <sup>th</sup> , Butterworth 50 <sup>th</sup> . An election to participate in the <b>Regents Retirement Plan in lieu of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia</b> shall be revocable at will.	S. Retirement 4/14/11
SB 310	Senators Jeffares of the 17th, Chance of the 16th, Gooch of the 51st, Hill of the 4th, Millar of the 40th and others	<b>Assigned to Senate Appropriations 1/13/12</b>



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	Amends the Lottery provisions for <b>unclaimed prize money</b> and eliminates the provision to transfer up to \$200,000 to the Department of Behavioral Health for treatment of the compulsive gambling persons.	
SB 330	Senators Fort of the 39th, Henson of the 41st, Stoner of the 6th, Orrock of the 36th and Thompson of the 5 <sup>th</sup> Requires individual insurance policies to include coverage for dependent children's cancer and autism.	Assigned to Senate Insurance & Labor 1/24/12
SB 334	Senators Sims of the 12th, Jones of the 10th, James of the 35th, Henson of the 41st, Davenport of the 44th and others. Modifies the <b>definition for the Zell Miller Scholarship for HOPE</b> , changes the grade-point requirement to the top 3% of the class for eligibility	Assigned to Higher Education Committee on 1/25/12.
SB 335	Senators Carter of the 42nd, Jones of the 10th, James of the 35th, Henson of the 41st, Davenport of the 44th and others. <b>Removes academic requirements for eligibility for HOPE.</b>	Assigned to Higher Education Committee on 1/25/12
SB 343	Senators Heath of the 31st, Hill of the 32nd, Miller of the 49th, Chance of the 16th and Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup> . Designates <b>the State Accounting Officer as the Comptroller General and transfers the Comptroller General</b> functions from the Commissioner of Insurance to the State Accounting Officer (Comptroller General).	Senate Government Oversight Favorably Reported on 2/3/12.
SB 349	Senators Stoner of the 6th, Harbison of the 15th, Jackson of the 2nd, Jones of the 10th, Sims of the 12th and others. Permits a <b>\$3,500 tax credit for employers who hire a veteran</b> under certain circumstances.	Assigned to the Finance Committee – 1/26/12
SR 20	Rogers 21st; Williams, 19th; Heath 31st: A Resolution to <b>amend the State Constitution</b> by setting a <b>cap</b> on the amount of <b>revenue the state can budget each year</b> . The Resolution provides for the state budget to be equal to either of the prior two years' spending levels or can increase over the previous year's spending level by a formula of population growth plus government inflation growth.	Committee Substitute with Floor Amendment Passed Senate 2/24/11, H. Ways and Means 2/28/11
SR 54	Hill 32nd The <b>Health Care Transformation Study Committee</b> shall undertake a study of issues surrounding the <b>availability and affordability of health care insurance, access to health care services, and the federal requirements for the states to implement the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P. L. 111-148)</b> and its impact on the states.	Recommitted to Health & Human Service 1/9/12.
SR 473	Seay 34 <sup>th</sup> <b>Bridging the Digital Divide in Aging Communities Study Committee.</b>	Recommitted to S & T Committee 1/9/12