

Legislative Bills of Interest – February 24, 2011

Bill Nr.	Author/Description	Committee/Status (H=House; S=Senate)
HB 33	Allison, Stephen 8th; Harden, Michael 28th: Provides for the application of zero-base budgeting to the budget process; to provide for consideration of alternative funding levels.	H: Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight (1/25/11)
HB 47	Ramsey, Matt 72nd; Meadows, John 5th; Maxwell, Howard 17th To authorize insurers to offer individual accident and sickness insurance policies in Georgia that have been approved for issuance in other states.	H: Insurance (1/25/10) Favorably Reported 2/24/11
HB 76	Kidd, E. Culver "Rusty" 141st; Powell, Alan 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 encourage retirees and those planning to retire to make their homes in Georgia.	H: Economic Development & Tourism (1/16/11) Substitute favorably reported 2/24/11
HB 77	Budget bills (Other budget bills – HB 78, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, and 86)	Various
HB 87	Ramsey, Matt 72nd; Golick, Rich 34th; Dempsey, Katie 13th "Illegal Immigration Reform and Enforcement Act of 2011" ; Requires private employers to use an employment eligibility verification system and provide for civil penalties, etc.	H: Judicial Non-Civil (1/30/11)
HB 107	Ralston, David 7th; Bearden, Timothy 68th; Parsons, Don 42nd (Johnny Grant in Senate) Provides for dependents of state employees who are killed acting within the scope of his or her employment shall be eligible to continue health insurance at the same rate as state employees.	H: Passed House and Passed Senate as a committee substitute on 2/15/11.
HB 109	Hamilton, Mark 23rd; Amerson, Amos 9th; Peake, Allen 137th Provides that public employees shall not use government 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 144	Willard 49 th : Revise, modernize, and correct errors or omissions in retirement and pensions – Title 47.	H: Retirement favorably reported 2/22/11
HB 159	Lucas, David 139th: Limits HOPE grants to families having income less than \$66,000 annually.	H: Higher Education (2/7/11)
HB 156	Cheokas, Mike 134 th ; Meadows, John 5 th ; Roberts, Jay 154 th ; England, Terry 108 th : Add State Highway employees to indemnification for partial permanent disability in the line of duty.	H: Insurance (2/7/11) Favorably Reported 2/
HB 171	Casas, David 103rd; Coleman, Brooks 97th; Hembree, Bill 67th Allows a local school system to provide a scholarship equal 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 th grade.	H: Education (2/9/11)
HB 182	Marin, Pedro "Pete" 96th; Requires health benefit policies to cover the diagnosis and treatment of infertility.	H: Insurance (2/9/11)
HB 183	Maxwell, Howard 17th; Meadows, John 5th; Benton, Tommy 31st Requires mandatory membership in the Legislative Retirement System beginning 7/1/12, and allows an irrevocable election for those who previously declined membership.	H: Retirement
HB187	Channell, Mickey 116th; Cooper, Sharon 41st; Huckaby, Hank 113th	H: Health & Human

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	Requires a competitive contract for dental services for all Medicaid and Peach Care participants .	Services (2/9/11)
HB 189	Wilkinson, Joe 52nd ; Maxwell, Howard 17th ; Shaw, Jason 176th : Provides that no contract or agreement between a dental insurer or network and a dentist shall require the dentist to accept an amount for dental care services that are not covered dental services under a dental benefit plan; to provide that no dental insurer shall publish or otherwise communicate that discounts are available for noncovered dental services.	H: Insurance (2/9/11) Substitute Favorably reported 2/24/11
HB 206	Knight, David 126th : Prohibits adverse action against an employee reporting fraud or abuse in state services.	H: Judiciary (2/10/11)
HB 208	Maxwell, Howard 17th : Adds the definition of board to the Employees Retirement System law.	H: Retirement (2/10/11)
HB 214	Channell, Mickey 116th ; Parrish, Butch 156th ; England, Terry 108th . Establishes a Department of Public Health and transfers functions from the Department of Community Health	H: HHS (2/15/11) Favorably Reported 2/24/11
HB 236	Maxwell, Howard 17th ; Benton, Tommy 31st ; Pruett, Jimmy 144th : Allows the governing authority of each county to elect either a local pension or ERS, but not both for local tax commissioners and other tax employees taking office after July 1, 2012. The local employer will pay the employer contribution to ERS.	H: Retirement (2/10/11)
HB 246	Johnson, Terry 37th ; Yates, John 73rd ; Black, Ellis 174th : Prohibits employees of ERS & TRS increase in compensation (including incentives and bonuses) in any year in excess of 50% of prior year's salary.	H: Retirement (2/16/11)
HB 250	Weldon, Tom 3rd ; Maxwell, Howard 17th ; Benton, Tommy 31st . Provides that a member who rejected survivor's benefits in the judicial retirement system 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)
HB 293	Benton, Tommy 31st ; Maxwell, Howard 17th ; Meadows, John 5th : Amends the definition of retirement fiscal bills to include any bill that grants an insurable interest on lives of pension members for which the pension plan must obligate funds.	H: Retirement (2/22/11) Favorably Reported 2/23/11
HB 295	Maxwell, Howard 17th ; Benton, Tommy 31st ; Meadows, John 5th : Provide a method of calculating accrued benefits for persons subject to the Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings Plan (GSEPS) who transfer between the Georgia ERS or TRS.	H: Retirement (2/22/11)
HB 297	Maxwell, Howard 17th ; Meadows, John 5th ; Benton, Tommy 31st : No public retirement system shall have an insurable interest in members of such retirement system nor have authority to expend or obligate funds to purchase life insurance except where all benefits are paid to the beneficiary designated by the member.	H: Retirement (2/22/11) Favorably Reported 2/23/11
HB 308	Maxwell, Howard 17th : The duties of the boards of trustees of	H: Retirement (2/22/11) Favorably Reported 2/23/11

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	public retirement systems or pension plans contained in this title are in addition to, and not in limitation of, the common law duties of the trustee except to the extent inconsistent therewith.	
HR 342	Clark, Josh 98th; Cooke, Kevin 18th; Braddock, Paulette 19th: A Resolution titled a Taxpayer Dividend Amendment . The resolution provides for a 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.	H: Budget & Fiscal Affairs Oversight (2/22/11)
HB 354	Martin 47th, Increases individual state income tax standard deductions.	H: Ways & Means (2/24/11)
HB 355	Martin 47 th Repeals corporate net worth taxes.	H: Ways & Means (2/24/11)
HB 371	Maxwell 17 th , Benton 31 st , and Meadows of the 5 th : Permits stat and political subdivisions to purchase insurance on the life of active or retired public officers or employees when all benefits are paid to the estate of beneficiary designed by the individual.	H: Hopper 2/24/11
HB 380	Jacobs 80 th : Revises the requirements for continuing care providers and facilities.	H: Hopper 2/24/11
HBs 385, 386, 387, 388	Channell, Mickey 116th, O’Neal, Larry, 146th: Revenue and taxation; revenue structure; comprehensive revision	H: Hopper 2/24/11
SB 17	Golden, Tim 8th; Goggans, Greg 7th; Shafer, David 48th establish the Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits ; to provide for review of proposed legislation containing a mandated health insurance benefit or provider;	S: Insurance & Labor (Favorably Reported a substitute– 2/15/11)
SB 19	Hill, Judson 32nd; Butterworth, Jim 50th: Provide for punishment & punitive damages for victims of medical identify fraud .	S: Judiciary (1/26/11) Substitute Favorably Reported 2/24/11
SB 20	Hill, Judson 32nd. Prohibits implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act until analysis and report to the General Assembly.	S: Amended and passed Senate 2/24/11
SB 25	Hill, Judson 32nd. Prohibits implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act until analysis and report to the General Assembly.	S: Health & Human Services (1/27/11)
SB 33	Shafer, David 48th; Chance, Ronnie 16th; Davis, Hardie 22nd Provides for the application of zero-base budgeting to the budget process; to provide for consideration of alternative funding levels.	S: Appropriations (Favorably Reported - 2/15/11)
SB 35	Seabaugh, Mitch 28th; Heath, Bill 31st; Cowsert, Bill 46th: Prohibits State Treasury from withdrawing funds from bank accounts without the account holder’s permission	S: Banking & Finance (2/3/11)
SB 38	Rogers, Chip 21st; Millar, Fran 40th: Transfer the authority from the State Board of Education solely to the State School Superintendent to hire and fire employees of the Dept. of	S: Education & Youth; (Favorably Reported 2/15/11)

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	Education, including employees in the classified service.	
SR 20	Rogers, Chip 21st ; Williams, Tommie 19th ; Heath, Bill 31st : A Resolution to amend the State Constitution by setting a cap on the amount of revenue the state can budget each year . 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.	S: Finance (Favorably Reported – 1/27/11)
SR 29	Mullis, Jeff 53rd ; Rogers, Chip 21st ; Williams, Tommie 19th . A Resolution to encourage a 25% reduction in DOT employees by 6/30/15	S: Passed Senate (2/22/11)
SR 54	Hill, Judson 32nd : Create a committee to study issues surrounding the availability and affordability of health care insurance, access to health care services, and the requirements on the states to implement the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and its impact on the states.	S: HHS (1/27/11)
SR 55	Hill, Judson 32nd ; Butterworth, Jim 50th ; Shafer, David 48th : A resolution to amend the Constitution so as to provide that no law or rule or regulation shall compel any person, employer, or health care provider to participate in any health care system and to authorize persons and employers to pay directly for lawful health care services without penalties or fines.	S: Gov. Oversight Favorably Reported (2/10/11)