



Senate District 15 – Session Update – 2019

Senate Action

HB 35 would create a sales tax exemption for certain state funded poultry labs.

HB 168 would extend the sunset for 5 more years on the sales tax exemption for sale of personal property to non-profit health centers.

HB 374 would allow trained medication aides to administer limited amounts of liquid morphine. Also lays out the amount of the substance assisted living facilities can have at a time.

HB 419 would make updates to Georgia Code in relation to revenue and taxation to make uniform with internal revenue code.

HB 501 which would add create regulations to establish a commercial shellfish industry (oyster farming).

HB 325 would require GA POST to keep the records of all investigations on law enforcement officers for 30 years after the investigation is concluded and provides guidelines for the destroying of these records after that time.

HB 387 would allow nonprofit volunteer fire departments to file liens.

HB 279 would allow law enforcement officer and special agents to use DOR vehicles when working certain off-duty jobs.

HB 471 rewrites the implied consent notice police read when someone is suspected of DUI with hunting or fishing to clarify that only a refusal of blood or urine test can be used against you in court.

HB 514 would create the Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission.

HB 196 would require public retirement system trustees to have proper training in relation to their fiduciary duties.

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Other Bills Passing the Senate...

HB 507 would allow data concerning income-producing property to be considered (previous wording was ‘utilized’) when determining fair market value.

HB 481 states that abortions should not be performed after a heartbeat is detected, with certain exceptions (rape, incest, the pregnancy is medically futile, or in cases of a medical emergency of a pregnant woman). Also states that ‘unborn children’ w/a heartbeat is included in the state population and is considered a person for the purposes of taxation, civil damages & disclosures.

House Action

Senate Bill 17 would revise the current ‘Rural Telephone Cooperative Act’ by giving cooperative non-profit corporations the ability to furnish, improve, and expand broadband services.

Senate Bill 167 increases the amount of preference given to foster parents in custody cases during court proceedings. Currently, a child’s relative in foster care has six months from the date they receive notice of a dependency hearing to demonstrate an interest or willingness in providing a permanent home for the child.

House Resolution 259 works to protect our student athletes from heat related injuries through the formation of the Johnny Tolbert III House Study Committee. The CDC reports that more than 9,000 heat-related illnesses occur annually among high school athletes. This study committee will submit their report at the end of 2019, and their findings will determine what legislation, if any, is needed to further protect our student athletes.

Senate Bill 1, also known as, “C.J.’s Law” would make those leaving the scene of an unintentional hit-and-run, resulting in bodily injury and/or death, guilty of a felony. This bill will allow courts to prosecute these crimes by increasing our current maximum sentence from five years to ten years.

Senate Bill 67 allows school systems suffering damage from a fire or natural disaster to immediately qualify for certain funding to repair school facilities.