

## Legislative Report Days 9-12

### **Immigration:**

This past week, legislators introduced three new bills regarding immigration. Those bills were:

[HB 915](#) by Rep. Phillip Singleton (R-Newnan) known as the ‘Georgia Anti-Sanctuary Act’. Under this bill, local governments or law enforcement cannot adopt or have in effect a sanctuary policy. This bill also makes local law enforcement support the enforcement of federal immigration law. This bill also forces each county correctional, department of corrections, and municipal correctional facility to enter an agreement with the federal immigration agency for temporary housing to individuals who have an immigration detainer. There are also county fines ranging from \$1,500-25,000 to counties, law enforcement agencies or entities who fail to comply with this law. Finally, this bill would allow individuals who have been hurt by criminal actions from an undocumented individual to sue the local government, state entity, or law enforcement if they feel that they violated of this law.

[HR 1060](#) by Rep. Wes Cantrell (R-Woodstock) would create the House Study Committee on Business and Legal Immigration. This resolution would allow legislator to get together over the summer and fall to address the barriers that immigrants such as refugees face.

[HB 896](#) by Rep. Bob Trammel (D-Luthersville) would allow undocumented students to pay in-state tuition rates if they have at least attending a Georgia high school for three years and graduated.

*There was no movement in the following bills but will continue to monitor them:*

[HB 202](#) by Rep. Jesse Petrea (R-Savannah) requires the Commissioner of Corrections to, on the official website used by the department, publish a report of aggregate data on the immigration status, offenses, and home countries of inmates who are not United States citizens and who are confined under the authority of the department. Additionally, the commissioner must report, in a similar manner, the percentage of inmates, in relation to the population in confinement, that are not citizens of the United States.

[HB 270](#) by Rep. Jeff Jones (R-Brunswick) mandates the Department of Motor Vehicles to participate in the E-Verify (RIDE) program and prohibits anyone from using their foreign I.D. as a form of identification when going to vote.

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[HB 360](#) by Rep. Pedro Marin (D-Duluth) allows the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue driver safety cards noncitizen residents who are ineligible for a driver's license, temporary permit, or identification card.

[HB 400](#) by Rep. Jeff Jones (R-Brunswick) mandates the Department of Motor vehicles to participate in the E-Verify (RIDE) program. The bill would also replace the licenses of those with DACA with one that has the words "NOT U.S. CITIZEN" AND "NOT FOR FEDERAL USE".

[HB 670](#) by Representative Bee Nguyen (D-Atlanta) by Representative Bee Nguyen (D-Atlanta) allows the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants.

## **Taxes**

*The following bills were introduced this past week:*

[HB 882](#) by Rep. Penny Houston (R-Nashville) seeks to amend current law regarding an exemption from state sales and use taxes for sale of food and food ingredients to qualified food banks and the use of food and food ingredients donated to qualified nonprofit agencies for disaster relief.

[SR 654](#) by Sen. Sally Harrell (D-Atlanta) seeks an amendment to Georgia's constitution to provide that taxes on motor fuels are to be appropriated for any or all public transportation purposes in Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI at subparagraph (b).

## **Business/Economic Development**

The House chamber passed [HR 935](#) by Rep. Kevin Tanner (R-Dawsonville) this past week. This bill would allow the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics Commission to exist for another year.

*The following bills were introduced this past week:*

[HB 837](#) by Rep. Chuck Martin (R-Alpharetta) would require the Fulton County Development Authority to get the approval of a city any county or independent school system in which any acquisition, project or tax abatement is located before undertaking any project.

[HB 820](#) by Rep. Kevin Tanner (R-Dawsonville) would allow the transportation commissioner to administer a Georgia Freight Railroad Program, subject to appropriations. The purpose of the program would be to enhance the state's investment

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in freight rail projects and support a safe and balanced transportation system for the state

[HB 879](#) by Rep. Brett Harrell (R-Snellville) would provide for the delivery of alcohol by a licensed packaged goods retailer. The legislation would allow the retailer to deliver themselves or through a third-party unbroken package alcohol to any address within its licensing jurisdiction. The legislation would require the purchaser to register with the retailer and provide a valid ID and signature upon delivery.

## Local Government

The Senate passed unanimously [SB 159](#) by Sen. his legislation allows local authorities the ability to regulate the operation of electric scooters on highways in their jurisdiction.

*The following bills were introduced last week:*

[HB 867](#) by Rep. Chuck Martin (R-Alpharetta) would mandate that a city with more than 125 square miles within its boundaries could not annex any portion of property that has a county-operated public airport unless the county adopts a resolution approving the proposed annexation 90 days before the city voting on the annexation.

[HB 834](#) by Rep. Rick Jaspers (R-Jasper) would recognize broadband projects, with the ability to transmit data at a rate not less than 200 kilobits per second, as a qualified undertaking for the usage of revenue bonds by local governments.

## Insurance/Healthcare

[SB 303](#) by Sen. Ben Watson (R-Savannah) known as the “right to shop Act” received a DO PASS by Substitute and was sent to the Rules Committee. This bill will require the posting of procedure pricing by in-network providers on insurers’ websites along with some quality of care indicators by procedure. The Committee adopted an amendment that would exempt health maintenance organization health plans from the price disclosure requirements because these plans have limited networks by their terms that don’t involve provider shopping opportunities.

Both Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (R-Rome) and Rep. Lee Hawkins (R-Gainesville) introduced their versions of the Surprise billing Consumer Protection Act. [HB 888](#) and [SB 359](#) stipulates that any insurer that provides emergency benefits must pay for these services without prior authorization or retrospective denial of medically necessary services and regardless of if the provider of the services is a participating provider.

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[SB 352](#) by Sen. Dean Burke (R-Bainbridge) was also introduced this past week and would add a new paragraph to O.C.G.A. 33-20C-2 to stipulate that an insurer must charge the in-network rate for any provider that appears on the insurance network's directory at the time of an insured's enrollment in a plan.