

Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

Friday, February 25, 2022

The legislature convened on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, for legislative day 19, and Thursday, February 24, 2022, for legislative day 20. Wednesday, February 23 was a committee workday.

Next week, the general assembly will convene on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday with Wednesday, March 2 as a committee workday.

To view Senate Resolution 382, the current adjournment resolution dictating the legislative calendar, [click here](#).

GHCC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST LOCATION CHANGE

FREIGHT DEPOT

The Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is hosting our annual legislative breakfast on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. The event will begin promptly at **8:00 A.M. at the Freight Depot**. We are expecting several special guest speakers so please save the date. This breakfast will only be open to GHCC members.

For more information about our legislative breakfast, click [here](#).



SOLD OUT & NEW VENUE

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST
MEMBERS ONLY

MARCH 1, 2022
8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Georgia Freight Depot
65 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Atlanta, GA 30303
<https://ghcc.org/en/legislative-breakfast/>

SPEAKERS

 BRIAN KEMP Governor of Georgia	 DAVID RALSTON Speaker of the House	 GEOFF DUNCAN LT. Governor
 REP. PEDRO MARIN 96th District	 REP. ZULMA LOPEZ 86th District	 SENATOR JASON ANAVITARTE 31st District
 C. LEROY CAVAZOS-REYNA Vice President of Government and International Affairs United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	 VERONICA MALDONADO-TORRES President & CEO Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	 JASMINE KING Director of State & Federal Affairs, GHCC Liaison

PLATINUM
Fidelity

MEDIA
NBC

GOLD
Delta, Georgia Power, Afia, omgo, AT&T, C&C, Corporate Healthcare

SILVER
Indelible, Express Scripts, Grady, JP Morgan Chase & Co., McDonald's, 7-Eleven

LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

KEY LEGISLATIVE ACTION

House Bill 1064: Income tax; certain retirement income for military service; provide exemption

House Sponsor: [Jesse Petrea \(Savannah\)](#)

GHCC Position: **Support**

House Bill 1064 allows for Georgians receiving military retirement income to have most, or all income exempt from state tax. HB 1064 passed out of the House Ways and Means Committee unanimously on Thursday, February 17. The full House of Representatives will vote on HB 1064 on Monday, February 28.

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

House Bill 1150: Freedom to Farm Act; enact

House Sponsor: [Robert Dickey \(Musella\)](#)

House Bill 1150, also known as the Freedom to Farm Act, aims to protect farmers from nuisance litigation from urban neighbors that encroach on existing agricultural areas. Additionally, the bill addresses vagueness and ambiguity in the law that Georgia shares with other states whose farmers have fallen victim to undue litigation. The bill passed out of the House Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee on Thursday, February 24. The business community is in support of this legislation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TAXATION

House Bill 1058: Income tax; affiliated corporations file separate or consolidated returns; provisions

House Sponsor: [Bruce Williamson \(Monroe\)](#)

House Bill 1058 allows for elective consolidated corporate tax returns. Currently, the law allows for the Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) Commissioner to give permission for consolidated reporting, this bill removes the DOR discretion and allows taxpayers to make their own filing determinations. HB 1058 is supported by the business community. HB 1058 passed out of the House Ways and Means Committee on Thursday, February 24.

House Bill 1291: Sales and use tax; exemption for sale or lease of computer equipment of high-technology companies; revise spending threshold and extend sunset date

House Sponsor: [Vance Smith \(Pine Mountain\)](#)

House Bill 1291 contains a slight modification to the tax exemption for the sale or lease of the computer equipment of high-technology companies. HB 1291 extends the current exemption's sunset and raises the required spend from \$15 million to \$18 million annually to qualify for the credit. HB 1291 had a second hearing in the House Ways and Means Subcommittee meeting on Wednesday, February 23. The business community is in support of HB 1291.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

House Bill 932: Education; noncitizen students with certain refugee, special immigration, or humanitarian parole status under federal law are classified as in-state for tuition purposes; provide

House Sponsor: [Wes Cantrell \(Woodstock\)](#)

GHCC Position: **Support**

House Bill 932 would classify lawful permanent residences, refugees, and special immigrant visa (SIV) holders as in-state students for tuition purposes. This bill provides a pathway to grow our much-needed workforce. Many of these federally approved students eligible from these educational opportunities have already contributed to the U.S. workforce, and this legislation would further enhance their skillsets to contribute to Georgia's economy upon relocation. On Wednesday, February 23, HB 932 was heard in the House Higher Education Committee.

Senate Bill 452: Education; administration of a nationally recognized college entrance exam to public school students in grade 11 who choose to participate; require

Senate Sponsor: [Sheila McNeill \(Brunswick\)](#)

Senate Bill 452 seeks to ensure every 11th grade student in Georgia has the opportunity to take a college entrance exam during the school day. Currently, students take college entrance exams off-site and during the weekend. If passed, this legislation will be subject to appropriations to fund testing and be fully enacted in future years. Currently, SB 452 has been assigned to the Senate Education & Youth Committee and on Wednesday, February 23, it was heard in committee for the first time. [House Bill 1184](#) is the companion bill which has been assigned to the House Education Committee. The business community is in support of this legislation.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

House Bill 1013: Mental Health Parity Act; enact

House Sponsor: [David Ralston \(Blue Ridge\)](#)

GHCC Position: **Support**

House Bill 1013 seeks to expand access to much-needed behavioral mental health services in the state; address alternative outcomes for mental health individuals to alleviate overcrowding in our criminal justice system; enhance resources for frontline responders; address parity for providers and clients; and provide solutions for individuals dealing with substance abuse. On Wednesday, February 22, HB 1013 was in House Health & Human Services Committee for the second hearing that included a committee substitute.

LAW & JUDICIARY

Senate Bill 441: Courts; reestablishment of the Criminal Case Data Exchange Board as an advisory board to The Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia; provide

Senate Sponsor: [Bo Hatchett \(Cornelia\)](#)

Senate Bill 441 is a comprehensive bill tackling issues with Georgia's "GCIC" criminal record database. The bill creates a new advisory board with the aim of improving the speed and accuracy of data transmission to the state database, ensuring all criminal records in Georgia are complete and accessible. The business community is in support of this legislation. The business community is in support of SB 441.

Senate Bill 470: Mortgage Lenders and Brokers; different categories of felony convictions for purposes of investigations of mortgage loan originator applicants; provide

Senate Sponsor: [Randy Robertson \(Cataula\)](#)

Senate Bill 470 allows for mortgage lending companies to employ individuals with non-financial felony convictions in certain circumstances. SB 470 was passed out of the Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee on Tuesday, February 22. The business community is in support of this legislation.

ENTERTAINMENT

House Bill 1053: Income tax; certain expenditures made by postproduction companies; extend tax credit

House Sponsor: [Ron Stephens \(Savannah\)](#)

House Bill 1053 extends the film post-production tax credit set to expire on January 1, 2023, through 2027. The tax credit has been fully subscribed since its inception and has successfully supported an extending post-production industry in Georgia. The House Creative Arts and Entertainment Committee unanimously voted to recommend adoption of HB 1053 on Wednesday, February 2. The bill had its first of two subcommittee hearings in the House Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday, February 22. The business community is in support of this legislation.