

## Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

### LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

January 28, 2022

The legislature convened on Monday, January 24 for legislative day 5 and worked through Thursday, January 27 for legislative day 8. This week the General Assembly passed an updated adjournment resolution, and will reconvene on Tuesday, February 1, for legislative day 9 and work through Thursday, February 3.

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

### LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

#### BUSINESS

**House Bill 389: Employment security; change definition of employment to include services performed by an individual for wages**

House Sponsor: [Todd Jones \(South Forsyth\)](#)

A carry-over bill from the 2021 legislative session, House Bill 389 requires an employer to apply for pre-approval from the Georgia Department of Labor to hire a 1099 worker by providing evidence that said 1099 contract passes a 7-part test for non-W2 employment. The bill also provides for increased penalties in instances of worker misclassification. HB 389 passed out of the House Industry and Labor Committee on Wednesday, January 26 and is now eligible in the House Rules Committee for consideration by the full House of Representatives.

**Senate Bill 331: "Protecting Georgia Businesses and Workers Act"; enact**

Senate Sponsor: [John Albers \(Roswell\)](#)

Senate Bill 331 is a local preemption bill designed to prevent local governments from enacting ordinances dictating employee hours, scheduling, or regulating employee output during work hours. On Tuesday, the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee heard SB 331, but did not take action. The committee is expected to further consider the measure on Tuesday, February 1.

#### LAW & JUDICIARY

**House Bill 961: Torts; authorize apportionment of damages in single-defendant lawsuits; provide for evidence of fault of nonparties**

House Sponsor: [Chuck Efstration \(Dacula\)](#)

House Bill 961 cleans up statutory language in Georgia's apportionment statute addressing damages in civil litigation originally passed in 2005. In a recent Georgia Supreme Court ruling, *Hatcher v. Alston &*

*Bird*, inconsistencies in the statute were an issue. Under the guidance of the ruling in that case, HB 961 clarifies the legislative intent of the statute and reinstates the apportionment of damages aligned with the apportionment of fault in single-defendant cases. HB 961 unanimously passed the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, January 25 and is now eligible for further consideration by the full House of Representatives.

**Senate Bill 257: Georgia Crime Information Center; criminal history record restrictions for certain persons cited with or convicted of certain criminal offenses; provide**

Senate Sponsor: [Tonya Anderson \(Lithonia\)](#)

Senate Bill 257 clarifies and prudently extends Georgians' access to criminal record restriction and sealing, commonly known as expungement. SB 257 includes provisions allowing for automatic expungement upon receiving a pardon, clarification of certain misdemeanor crimes eligible for expungement, the sealing of citation records when charges are dismissed, and earlier access to expungement for human trafficking victims. SB 257 was heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee during the 2021 special session and is now eligible for a vote in committee.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**House Bill 934: Sales and use tax; special district mass transportation; local government; provisions**

House Sponsor: [Rob Leverett \(Elberton\)](#)

Current law prohibits (in the case of single county TSPLOST) a county from collecting past the projected revenue number cited after the adoption of the resolution, even if that number is reached before the full term of the program. House Bill 934 would allow the county to continue that revenue collection until the conclusion of the SPLOST program for the full five years.

## GHCC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

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. 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](#).



**Annual LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST**  
MEMBERS ONLY

**MARCH 1, 2022**  
8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

**REGISTER NOW**

James H. "Sloppy" Floyd Building  
200 Piedmont Ave. SE  
Atlanta, GA 30303

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