



GEDA

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

-PREPARED BY-



Mathews & Maxwell, Inc.

Governmental Affairs Consultants

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Weekly Legislative Report # 12

Week ending April 2, 2010

This Week

Several Senate Appropriations Subcommittees will meet this week but the General Assembly will be in recess until Monday, April 12. House subcommittees are scheduled to report out their budgets for specific agencies on the 12th. There is no schedule set beyond that date.

Tracking List

Here are the bills we are tracking. **New activity is noted in red ink.**

Economic Development, Education and Regional Planning

Public Water Systems. HB 158 (Rep. Judy Manning-R)

Relating to public water systems to revise provisions relative to allocating water and waste-water usage among tenants and charging tenants for usage, to provide for metering and separate charging of water to tenants in new construction. **Status:** Pending Natural Resources and Environment Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House, Referred to Senate Natural Resources Cmte.

Development Authorities Subject to Certain Referendums. HB 203 (Rep. Mike Jacobs-R)

Relating to local government, so to provide an express exception to the prohibition against requiring development authorities to be subject to certain referendums. **Status:** Pending State Planning and Community Affairs Cmte., Passed Cmte. by Cmte. Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House, Senate Referred to State and Local Government Cmte., **Withdrawn, Recommitted to Economic Development Cmte.**

Commission on Regional Planning. HB 867 (Rep. Ron Stephens-R)

To create the Commission on Regional Planning. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development & Tourism Cmte., Passed Cmte. as Cmte. Substitute, Pending Rules, Passed House, Referred to State and Local Governments Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte. Passed State & Local Government Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte.

Jobs, Opportunity, and Business Success Act of 2010. HB 1023 (Rep. Tom Graves-R)

To amend Title 14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to corporations, partnerships, and associations, so as to provide for a period of time for the waiver of certain filing fees otherwise charged in connection with such entities; to amend Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to labor and industrial relations, so as to provide that, for a period of time, employers who hire persons receiving employment security benefits shall be entitled to a credit against employer contributions; to amend Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Georgia Public Revenue Code," so as to provide that a portion of net long-term capital gains shall be excluded from state taxable income of corporations and individuals. **Status:** Referred to Special Cmte. on Small Business Development and Job Creation, Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte., House Passed, Senate Referred to Finance Cmte., **Passed Cmte. by Cmte. Substitute, Passed Senate.**

Tax Refunds for New Tourism Attractions. HB 1251 (Rep. Cecily Hill-R)

To provide for a program of tax refunds for companies creating new tourism attractions; to provide for conditions of eligibility and approval; to provide for powers, duties, and responsibilities of the commissioner of economic development and the Department of Economic Development and the governing authorities of counties and municipalities; to provide for powers, duties, and authority of the state revenue commissioner and the Department of Revenue; to provide for related matters. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte., Passed Cmte. as Cmte. Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House, **Senate Referred to Economic Development Cmte.**

State Financing and Investment Commission. HB 1258 (Rep. James Mills-R)

To provide for certain powers of the State Financing and Investment Commission in order to meet the requirements of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. **Status:** Referred to Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House, Sent to Senate, Referred to State & Local Government Cmte., **Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte.**

Definition of Development Authorities. HB 1388 (Rep. John Lunsford-R)

Relating to definitions regarding development authorities so as to change certain definitions. **Status:** Referred to Special Committee on Small Business and Job Creation., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House, Senate Referred to Economic Development Cmte.

Economic Development Council. SB 374 (Sen. Chip Pearson-R)

To create the Legislative Economic Development Council; to provide for the council's duties; to provide for the council's powers; to provide for the council's membership; to provide for an annual report. **Status:** Referred to Economic Development Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte., Passed Senate, Referred to House Economic Development Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending House Rules Cmte., **House Rules Calendar, House Postponed to Next Legislative Day.**

Downtown Development Authorities. SB 456 (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

To provide that directors of a downtown development authority designated as an urban redevelopment agency and other public officers of the municipality or county may serve as commissioners of the urban redevelopment agency. **Status:** Referred to State and Local Governments Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte., Passed Senate, **House Referred to State Planning and Community Affairs Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte.**

Taxes and Fees

Ad Valorem Taxation. HB 483 (Rep. Jay Roberts-R)

Relating to ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide for the modernization and revision of provisions regarding ad valorem taxes. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte., Passed House, Senate Referred to Finance Cmte.

Joint County and Municipal Sales and Use Tax. HB 991 (Rep. Wendell Willard-R)

Relating to the joint county and municipal sales and use tax, so as to revise comprehensively provisions regarding distribution of proceeds and renegotiation of distribution certificates; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations; to provide for applicability regarding certain new qualified municipalities or newly expanded qualified municipalities; to change provisions relating to the procedure for call of a referendum election on discontinuing imposition of the tax. **Status:** Referred to Ways & Means Cmte., Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House, Referred to Senate Finance Cmte.

2010 Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness. HB 1405 (Rep. Larry O’Neal-R)

To create the 2010 Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness for Georgians and the Special Joint Committee on Georgia Revenue Structure. **Status:** Referred to Ways and Means Cmte., Passed Cmte. as Cmte. Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House, Senate Referred to Finance Cmte., **Passed Cmte., Pending Rules Cmte.**

State Revenue Increases. SR 1 (Sen. Chip Rogers-R)

Propose an amendment to the Constitution that would set limits on what future legislatures can do when economic growth increases state revenues. **Status:** Referred to Senate Finance Cmte., Passed Senate, House referred to Ways and Means Cmte., Passed Cmte., **On House Rules Calendar, House Postponed and Recommitted back to Rules Cmte.**

Transportation

Transportation Funding. HB 277 (Rep. Vance Smith-R)

To create Georgia 2020 Transportation Trust Fund Oversight Committee, to provide for allocation of funds from trust fund and to implement an additional 1% special transportation sales and use tax. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte, Passed House, Referred to Senate Finance Cmte., Senate Passed As Cmte. Substitute, House Disagreed, Conference Cmte. Appointed, Pending Conference Cmte., Speaker Discharged Conference Cmte. and Appointed New Cmte.: Reps. Jay Roberts, Jerry Keen and Donna Sheldon. Lt. Governor Discharged Conference Cmte. and Appointed New Cmte: Senators Jeff Mullis, Tommie Williams and Preston Smith.

Constitutional Amendment for Transportation Funding. HR 206 (Rep. Vance Smith-R)

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution to provide for the creation of a Transportation Trust Fund and to provide for a levy of a 1% sales and use tax for deposit in the Trust Fund for transportation projects. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte. Passed House, Referred to Senate Finance Cmte., Senate Passed As Cmte. Substitute, House Disagreed, Conference Cmte. Appointed, Pending Conference Cmte., Speaker Discharged Conference Cmte. and Appointed New Cmte.: Reps. Jay Roberts, Jerry Keen and Donna Sheldon. Lt. Governor Discharged Conference Cmte. and Appointed New Cmte: Senators Jeff Mullis, Tommie Williams and Preston Smith.

Ga. Coordinating Council for Rural and Human Services Transportation. SB 22 (Sen. Doug Stoner-D)

Establishes the Georgia Coordinating Council for Rural and Human Services Transportation to encourage efficient transportation service delivery in the rural areas of the state and to coordinate human service transportation services in both the rural and urban areas of the state. **Status:** Pending Transportation Cmte; Passed Transportation Cmte. by Cmte. Substitute; Pending Rules Cmte., Passed Senate, House Referred to Transportation Cmte., **Passed Subcmte. by Cmte. Substitute, Pending Transportation Cmte.**

Transportation Funding. SB 39 (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

To provide for a 1% sales tax to be used to fund transportation projects in special transportation districts; to provide for creation of such districts with counties being able to opt out and to provide for the district to pass a resolution calling for a referendum within the district. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte., Passed Senate, Sent to the House and Referred to Transportation Cmte., which stripped all language of the bill and inserted the language of SB 120 (see below), Passed House, Sent to

Senate for Agree/Disagree, Senate Disagreed by Amending to Include Transportation Governance Language, Passed Senate, Pending in House.

Design-build Method Implementation. SB 305 (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Relating to use of the design-build method of implementation of transportation projects. **Status:** Referred to Transportation Cmte.; Passed Transportation Cmte.; Pending Rules Cmte.; Passed Senate; House Referred to Transportation Cmte., Passed Cmte. as Cmte. Substitute, Pending Rules Cmte., Passed House.

Constitutional Amendment for Transportation Funding. SR 44 (Sen. Jeff Mullis-R)

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution to provide for a 1% regional local option sales and use tax to fund transportation projects. **Status:** Passed Senate, Sent to the House and Referred to Transportation Cmte.

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