2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Veto Period ends May 7

HB/Sponsor	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT STATUS
HB 51 **Pirkle – R** **(DM)**	Allows school districts to transport students in vehicles other than school buses. Currently, this transportation option is only open to students experiencing homelessness and special education students. The State Board of Education would set the minimum standards for vehicles and drivers. Amended to allow schools that are part of the Georgia Independent School Association (GISA) to be an affiliate of the National Federation of High Schools in order to compete across state lines.	**Act 470** ***Effective Date 04.23.2024.***
HB 318 **Hilton – R** **N/A**	Re-establishes the Office of Charter School Compliance, also includes language which allows low-wealth schools in the bottom 25 percent of tax collections in the last three years to access capital outlay grants to build school facilities if they meet certain criteria (HB81). After a school system's needs have been met, they will roll off the list and cannot qualify for the capital outlay grants again for 10 years.	**Act 459** ***Effective Date 04.23.2024***
HB 409 **Daniel – R** **(BC/DM)**	"Addy's Law:" addresses the behavior of passing school buses. Encourages school districts from having stops on roads 40 mph and over, second offense sends contact info to the insurer, and increases the fine from $250 to $1,000. Allows for state charter schools to contract with "education service providers" for services including but not limited to curriculum design, professional development, student assessments, financial and operational management, facilities management, human resources management, or employee benefits.	**Act 458** ***Effective Date 04.23.2024***
HB 451 **Seabaugh – R** **(BC)**	Requires that public officers and employees who are first responders with illness-specific insurance for occupational post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) be covered. This applies to school districts.	**Act 511** ***Effective Date 01.01.2025; Section 3 applicable to taxable years beginning on or after 01.01.2024***
HB 581 **Blackmon – R** **(KO/MMc)**	Creates a statewide floating homestead exemption for school, county, and city taxes which limits increases in assessed value to no more than the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from year to year. This will be in addition to any other exemptions already in place. • If your district already has a similar exemption, the homeowner gets whichever one is greater. • It requires a constitutional amendment that would be on the November ballot and then would go into effect January 1,	**Act 379** ***Effective Date 01.01.2025***

	2025. An opt-out provision requires that the district follow a similar process to the "Taxpayer Bill of Rights" with three public hearings, legal advertisements, adopting a resolution to opt out, and getting it to the Secretary of State by March 1, 2025. • Removes prohibition of simultaneously levying a LOST and a HOST All this will take effect if the Constitutional Amendment, HR 1022, passes by voter referendum.	
HB 808 **Cheokas – R** **(KO)**	Increases the statewide exemption for tangible personal property, including equipment and inventory, from $7,500 to $20,000 if a statewide referendum passes in November.	**Act 581** ***Effective Date 05.06.2024; Section 3 requires State to submit Act to electors on 11.05.2024 ballot. If approved, Act will become of full force on 01.01.2025; If not approved, Act will be automatically repealed 01.01.2025.***
HB 874 **Hawkins – R** **(DM/BC)**	Requires all K-12 public schools to have at least one automated external defibrillator (AED), establish a written emergency action plan and internal response team, conduct at least two emergency action plan drills, and ensure internal response team members are trained in CPR and AED use.	**Act 465** ***Effective Date 04.23.2024; One defibrillator on site no later than 07.01.2025***
HB 915 **Burns – R** **(KO)**	Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	**Act 366** ***Effective Date 02.29.2024***
HB 916 **Burns – R** **(KO)**	General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 • SHBP increases to $1580 PMPM on Jan. 1, 2025 with a note to increase as needed in future fiscal years to match certified rate (which will go to $1760 in July)	**Act 709** ***Effective Date 05.06.2024***
HB 935 **Vance – R** **(BC)**	Provides for times when a school zone speed limit may be enforced through the use of an automated traffic enforcement safety device	**Act 570** ***Effective Date 05.06.2024***

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HB 970 **Dickey – R** **(NH)**	Allows for REACH scholarship eligibility for victims of human trafficking. The bill also requires that school systems be responsible for $1,000 of the $10,000 provided for each REACH scholarship.	**Act 553** ***Effective Date*** ***05.02.2024***
HB 982 **Gambill – R** **(NH)**	Workforce Development Board; annually publish a High-demand Career List identifying those careers most critical to the state's current and future workforce needs	**Act 554** ***Effective Date*** ***05.02.2024***
HB 995 **Bonner – R** **(NH)**	Requires high schools to administer ASVAB in grades 11 and 12	**Act 487** ***Effective Date*** ***04.24.2024***
HB 1010 **Jones – R** **(RB)**	Increases to 240 hours of paid parental leave, including teachers, and requires notification of the benefit	**Act 464** ***Effective Date*** ***04.23.2024***
HB 1015 **McDonald – R** **(KO)**	Accelerates plans first passed in 2022 to gradually reduce the state income tax rate from 5.75% to 4.99% (currently 5.49% would drop to 5.39%)	**Act 378** ***Effective Date*** ***01.01.2025***
HB 1019 **Reeves – R** **(KO)**	The state minimum homestead exemption would increase from $2,000 to $4,000 or $10,000 *(both numbers are stated in the bill that passed)*	**VETO V5** ***Effective Date*** ***05.07.2024***
HB 1023 **Williamson– R** **(KO)**	Ties the corporate income tax rate to the individual rate, reducing it from 5.75% to 5.39%	**Act 376** ***Effective Date*** ***07.01.2024***
HB 1053 **Carter – R** **(KO)**	Prohibits any government agency, including political subdivisions like schools, from accepting payment using "central bank digital currency" or participating in any test of "central bank digital currency."	**Act 593** ***Effective Date*** ***05.06.2024***
HB 1105 **Petrea – R** **(DM)**	Requires school districts to report enrollment of illegal immigrants *(Conflicts with Pyler vs. Doe, U.S. Supreme Court, 1982)*	**Act 505** ***Effective Date*** ***05.01.2024;*** ***Section 10 effective*** ***12.31.2024***
HB 1122 **Hilton – R** **(NH)**	Updates conflict-of-interest governance board policies regarding state charter schools. The bill authorizes charter schools to earn more funding for more school leaders. State charter schools would also receive funding for a school superintendent under the bill. The bill includes language mandating a single statewide school accountability score, which was amended in the Senate to include the five components used by the Georgia Department of	**Act 460** ***Effective Date*** ***Sections 1-4*** ***07.01.2025;*** ***All other sections*** ***04.23.2024***

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	Education (GaDOE) to determine a single score. The score must be published on the GOSA website, GaDOE website, school system website, and the school website if one exists.	
HB 1183 **Dempsey – R** **(DM)**	Requires all local school systems that provide information on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues to parents and guardians of students in grades six through 12 to also provide information on Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.	**Act 551** ***Effective Date 05.02.2024***
HB 1207 **Fleming – R** **(SBM)**	Reopens qualifying if no one qualifies for an elected office, including school board, during the set qualifying period among other elections provisions.	**Act 599** ***Effective Date 05.06.2024***
HR/Sponsor	**DESCRIPTION**	**CURRENT STATUS**
HR 1022 **Camp – R** **(KO/MMc)**	Constitutional Amendment: provides option to offer a state-wide homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes when current year assessed value exceeds the inflation rate and includes opt out provisions.	**House Receded from Amend or Sub 03.28.2024** ***On November ballot***
SB/Sponsor	**DESCRIPTION**	**CURRENT STATUS**
SB 50 **Burns – R** **(NH)**	Allows schools to provide lifeguarding and aquatic safety instruction for students in grades nine through 12. The bill does not mandate that schools offer the program. The course would count as a half credit for students who complete the program.	**Act 414** ***Effective Date 04.22.2024***
SB 105 **Walker – R** **(RB/KO)**	Increases PSERS multiplier to $17 and removes the cap so the PSERS board of trustees can adjust benefits as they see fit	**Act 606** ***Effective Date 07.01.2024***
SB 169 **Payne – R** **(DM)**	Requires school disciplinary hearings to be held no later than 15 days, rather than 10 days, after the beginning of the student's suspension. The disciplinary hearing can be held later than 15 days if the school receives a written request from the student's parent. Schools must provide appropriate grade-level instructional materials to any suspended student after the hearing.	**Act 466** ***Effective Date 04.23.2024***
SB 233 **Dolezal – R** **(KO)**	'The Georgia Promise Scholarship Act'; establishment of promise scholarship accounts; amendments contain modification of QBE program weights, testing requirements; pre-K capital outlay funding; triples the existing public school tax credit from $5 million to $15 million and designates that $10 million of funds be reserved for schools at the lowest 25% of performance; also includes "public school choice" as proposed in HB 1221, with a limit on tuition that can be charged by receiving school	**Act 457** ***Effective Date 04.23.2024; EXCEPT Pt. II: Effective only if QBE is fully funded; Applicable to school years***

	districts. The Scholarships cannot exceed 1% of QBE annually and will not be implemented until SY2025-26. Priority for students from families making less than 400% of the federal poverty level, and eligibility limited to students from schools in the bottom 25% in performance.	***beginning on 07.01.2025; Repealed in 2035 or 10 yrs after it takes effect*** ***Pt V: Effective 04.23.2024; Applies to taxable year 01.01.2024***
SB 351 **Anavitarte – R** **(BB/DM/NH)**	***Effective July 1, 2025:*** "Protecting Georgia's Children on Social Media Act of 2024:" requires policies and programs for school districts concerning social media and cyberbullying. Local school boards must implement a program "promoting responsible digital citizenship and the safe and appropriate use of technology, the internet, and social media" at the beginning of the SY2025-26 school year. Local boards must adopt a social media policy and submit it to GaDOE for compliance review by April 1, 2026. Boards must also adopt a policy to prohibit cyberbullying by July 1, 2026, and establish a process to regularly evaluate and update technology solutions to prevent cyberbullying. Section 3-2 added HB 910 language, which adds regulations, including fines, around identity and age verification and other issues for pornographic websites. Requires schools to add grade appropriate filtering systems for school/state owned devices and networks to prevent students from viewing inappropriate material. (HB 338)	**Act 463** ***Effective Date 07.01.2025***
SB 366 **Hufstetler – R** **N/A**	"Tax Expenditures Transparency Act of 2024:" refines the budget process and includes a summary of the tax expenditure report, which shows revenue loss due to tax exemptions, exclusions, or credits. This includes the revenue loss from the $120 million approved for income tax credits for those who contribute to student scholarship organizations to provide vouchers to private school students.	**Act 419** ***Effective Date 01.01.2025***
SB 388 **Kirkpatrick-R** **(KO/MMc)**	Provides for full value exemption for senior and disabled residents of school tax – Cherokee County	**Act 359** ***Effective Date: 01.01.2025***
SB 395 **Dixon – R** **(DM/BC)**	"Wesley's Law:" requires schools to make a "reasonable effort" to maintain a supply of naloxone/Narcan, an opioid antagonist. The legislation allows teachers to carry and keep the drug in classrooms. The bill protects anyone who uses or chooses not to use naloxone in a school from liability and shields school districts and staff from	**Act 462** ***Effective Date 04.23.2024***

	civil liability. A parent or other emergency contact must be notified after an opioid antagonist has been used on a student. Allows for placement of naloxone/Narcan vending machines on college campuses and requiring public government buildings equipped with automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to carry naloxone/Narcan where the AEDs are located.	
SB 399 **Echols – R** **(NH)**	Requires the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia and Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to produce a report of approved courses that are transferable between the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) and the University System of Georgia (USG),	**Act 552** ***Effective Date*** ***05.02.2024***
SB 440 **Brass – R** **(NH)**	Creates Accelerated Career Diploma programs and outlines requirements for students to receive a related high school diploma, including requiring them to complete an associate degree in a program included on the High-Demand Career List published by the State Workforce Development Board. The bill also establishes the ACE Grants program to award accelerated career education grants to students participating in the Accelerated Career Diploma Program. Finally, SB 440 requires all students to complete at least a half-credit course in the foundations of algebra. Extends program sunset to 2027.	**Act 559** ***Effective Date*** ***07.01.2024***
SB 464 **Dixon – R** **(NH)**	Creates the School Supplies for Teachers Program which would provide financial support to educators, including paraprofessionals and administrators, purchasing school supplies online. This assistance would be subject to appropriation by the General Assembly, which is not provided in the FY 2025 budget. By May 15, 2025, the State Board of Education and the Literacy Council shall approve a memorandum of agreement for a list of no more than 5 universal reading screeners, and one of those 5 will be free to the school district. The Literacy Council, the Deal Center, and the Office of Planning and Budget shall identify the free screener from the list of 5. GaDOE shall publish the free screener and the list of 5 approved screeners. School districts must select one of the 5 screeners from the list by July 2025. Also, creates a five-member executive committee of the Georgia Council on Literacy. Membership of this committee would be made up of members of the Literacy Council. Each member would be designated by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House. The other two members would be a State Board representative and the Council Chair.	**Act 461** ***Effective Date*** ***04.23.2024***

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SB 496 **Burns – R** **(KO)**	Allows rehabilitated historic properties to maintain their classification and assessment for up to an additional twelve years for income-producing real property if the county approves it. The bill allows properties to start the process before receiving the full designation and extends the sunset by five years. A sunset was also added for the Downtown Historic Tax Credit.	**Act 375** ***Effective Date*** ***04.18.2024***
SB 497 **Hickman – R** **(NH)**	Expands and re-designates the High-Demand Initiatives Program as the High-Demand Apprenticeship Program. The public service apprenticeship program prioritizes students aged 15-21 and is administered by the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). It reduces the apprenticeship award to apprentice employers from $10,000 to $5,000. *Was amended to confirm that only people who are legally allowed to work in the state can participate in the program.*	**Act 560** ***Effective Date*** ***05.02.2024***
SR/Sponsor	**DESCRIPTION**	**CURRENT STATUS**
SR 476 **Albers – R** **(BB/NH)**	Creates the Senate Study Committee on Artificial Intelligence (AI).	**Senate Passed** ***03.26.2024***