

2018 Legislative Update
Week 11 – March 26, 2018

Legislative Days 33-35

The Georgia General Assembly completed day 38 of its 40 day session late on Friday, March 23. The legislature will reconvene on Tuesday, March 27 at 10:00 a.m. and will be in session for two days this week on Tuesday and Thursday for legislative days 39 and 40 (Sine Die). Monday and Wednesday are committee work days, when a number of conference committees will meet.

Bills of Interest:

Transportation:

[HB 930](#) by Representative Kevin Tanner (Dawsonville) and [SB 386](#) by Senator Brandon Beach (Alpharetta) both attempt to expand and coordinate transit in the metro region. HB 930, which was substituted with SB 386, passed the Senate on Friday, March 23. Senate conferees have been appointed for a conference committee on SB 386. They are Senator Brandon Beach (Alpharetta), Senator Steve Gooch (Dahlonega) and Senator David Lucas (Macon). House conferees are Representative Kevin Tanner (Dawsonville), Representative Jan Jones (Milton) and Representative Calvin Smyre (Columbus). SB 386, which was substituted with HB 930, is awaiting further action in the House Rules Committee.

Economic Development:

[HB 696](#) by Representative Trey Kelley (Cedartown) creates a tax exemption for certain high technology computer equipment used in data centers. The bill passed the Senate on Friday, March 23 and now goes back to the House for further action.

[HB 793](#) by Representative Dominic Lariccia (Douglas) allows for a sales tax exemption for construction at the Georgia Aquarium. The bill passed the Senate on Monday, March 19.

Judiciary:

[HR 993](#) by Representative Chuck Efstoration (Dacula) proposes an amendment to the Constitution to create a business court with statewide jurisdiction. The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee by Substitute on Thursday, March 22 and will be voted on in the Senate either on Tuesday or Thursday.

For detailed information on specific legislation, visit the General Assembly's website [here](#).

The Douglas County Chamber is part of the Regional Business Coalition of Metropolitan Atlanta (RBC), an organization of over a dozen of the largest and most active Chambers of Commerce throughout the metro Atlanta region. RBC member chambers represent over 15,000 member companies who employ millions of metro Atlanta residents. The RBC's primary goal is to represent the interests of RBC Chamber members on regional public policy issues impacting our transportation, water and air quality and to advocate for solutions that improve metro Atlanta's quality of life and economic vitality.