

2018 Legislative Update Week 8– March 2, 2018

Legislative Days 27 - 29

The Georgia General Assembly completed day 29 of its 40 day session on Thursday, March 1. “Cross-over” day was on Wednesday, February 28, when the legislative session went past 1:00 am. The Legislature will reconvene on Monday, March 5 at 10:00 am. The Legislature will be in session for three days next week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday for legislative days 30 - 32. Tuesday and Thursday are committee work days. The Legislature is on track to “Sine Die” on Thursday, March 29. You can review the full legislative calendar for the remainder of the 2018 session [here](#).

Bills of Interest:

[HB 930](#) by Representative Kevin Tanner (Dawsonville) and [SB 386](#) by Senator Brandon Beach (Alpharetta) attempt to expand and coordinate transit in the metro region. Both bills passed their respective chambers on Wednesday, February 28. HB 930 has been assigned to the Senate Transportation Committee and SB 386 has been assigned to the House Transportation Committee.

[HB 918](#) by Representative Chuck Efstration (Dacula) reduces Georgia’s income tax rate. The jet fuel tax exemption was removed from the bill. HB 918 was passed by the Senate via substitute then the House agreed to it on Thursday, March 1. Now it goes to the Governor for his signature.

[HB 696](#) by Representative Trey Kelley (Cedartown) creates a tax exemption for certain high technology computer equipment used in data centers. This bill passed the House on a reconsideration vote on Wednesday, February 28 and has been assigned to the Senate Finance Committee.

[HB 793](#) by Representative Dominic Lariccia (Douglas) allows certain aquarium construction to be exempt from state sales and use tax. The bill passed the House on a reconsideration vote on Wednesday February 28 and has been assigned to the Senate Finance Committee.

[HR 993](#) by Representative Chuck Efstration (Dacula) proposes an amendment to the Constitution to create a business court with statewide jurisdiction. The bill passed the House on Wednesday, February 28, and has been assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

[SB 2](#) by Senator Mike Dugan (Carrollton) entitled the FAST Act, aims to enhance accountability and notice requirements for agency rule making so as to reduce regulatory burdens on businesses. The bill passed the House on a reconsideration vote on Wednesday, February 28.

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.