



## **2020 Legislative Update February 28, 2020**

The General Assembly was in session Monday through Friday of last week. They completed days 17-21 of the legislative session which moves us beyond the halfway point of the legislative session. Crossover day is scheduled for March 12 and is less than two weeks away. Crossover day is the last day for a bill to pass the Chamber in which it originated in. This week the legislature is scheduled to be in session Monday-Thursday, for legislative days 22-25.

### **Economic Development:**

[HB 1037](#) sponsored by Representative Matt Dollar (R-Marietta) updates the Georgia Entertainment Industry Investment Act. The bill was heard and is awaiting action in the House Working Group on Creative Arts and Entertainment.

[SB 316](#) sponsored by Senator Bruce Thompson (R-White) would provide reciprocity to military spouses who are licensed in other states to practice certain professions and occupations in Georgia. The bill passed the Senate on Thursday.

[SB 415](#) sponsored by Senator Steve Gooch (R-Dahlonega) the bill addresses legal reform including premises liability, trucking lawsuits, seat belt admissibility, asbestos litigation, truth in medical damages, among others. SB 415 was heard in the subcommittee of the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee on Wednesday and passed the full Senate Insurance and Labor Committee on Friday.

### **Taxation:**

[HB 105](#) sponsored by Representative Sam Watson (R-Moultrie), the hurricane Michael disaster relief bill was amended in the Senate to include provisions that reduce taxes on rideshare companies and direct such dollars collected to transportation related expenses. The bill awaits action in the Senate Rules Committee.

### **Transportation:**

[SB 371](#) sponsored by Senator Steve Gooch (R-Dahlonega) creates a line item in the Georgia Department of Transportation budget to allocate funds, as needed, directly to freight rail. This bill identifies freight rail as a priority for Georgia and allows for direct state investment specifically in railways and railroads. SB 371 passed the Senate on Friday.

[HB 820](#) sponsored by Chairman Kevin Tanner (R-Dawsonville) creates a line item in the Georgia Department of Transportation budget to allocate funds, as needed, directly to freight rail. This bill identifies freight rail as a priority for Georgia and allows for direct state investment specifically in railways and railroads. HB 820 passed the House on Monday.

*The Regional Business Coalition of Metropolitan Atlanta (RBC) is 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.*