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# Capitol Overview from the Greater North Fulton Chamber of Commerce



January 30, 2017

After being in recess for Budget Hearings last week, the GA General Assembly was back in session last week and has completed Legislative Day 8 of the 40 Day Session. On Legislative Day 1, the Senate adopted [SR1](#) which outlines various rule changes that include Crossover Day being shifted from Legislative Day 30 to Legislative Day 28.

Today is Legislative Day 9, with the session continuing this week through Thursday, Legislative Day 12.

Some big items were introduced such as Destination Resort legislation and Regional Transit Commission legislation. After Budget Hearings last week, the [FY-2016 Supplemental Budget](#) was passed by the House on Day 8. Supplemental Budget details will be included in the next legislative report.

There are already [256](#) bills between both chambers.

This weekly update seeks to inform you on legislative issues that may effect your North Fulton business or quality of life. Your comments and questions are welcome. For more information regarding the North Fulton Chamber's legislative efforts, contact Liz Hausmann, Public Policy Coordinator, at 678-397-0572 or [lhausmann@gnfcc.com](mailto:lhausmann@gnfcc.com).

*The mission of the North Fulton Chamber is to be the catalyst for economic development, business growth, and quality of life in North Fulton.*

## **2017 LEGISLATION**

### **Business**

SB 2 The FAST Act

SPONSOR: Sen. Mike Dugan (R-30th)

STATUS: Economic Development and Tourism Committee

Seeks to streamline regulations and licensing requirements for small business.

SB 17 BRUNCH BILL

SPONSOR: Sen. Rene Unterman, (R-45th)

STATUS: Senate Regulated Industries Committee

Allows for premise alcohol sales on Sundays beginning at 10:30 am and other purposes.

**SB 79 DESTINATION RESORT ACT HB 158**

**SPONSOR:** Sen. Brandon Beach (R-21st) and Rep. Ron Stephens (R-164th)  
Respectively

**STATUS:** Senate and House Hoppers

Create the Georgia Gaming Commission and allow two "Destination Resorts" requiring a \$2 Billion minimum investment in Atlanta with \$450 Million required for the second location, a 24% resort tax with HOPE Scholarship funds being directed 70/30 to merit and needs based initiatives, respectively.

**HB 60 CRAFT BREWERY BEER SALES**

**SPONSOR:** Rep. Ron Stephens, (R- 164th)

**STATUS:** House Regulated Industries Committee

Provides for issuance of retail package liquor store licences to distillers with certain restrictions.

**Education**

**SB 3 Creating Opportunities Needed Now to Expand Credentialed Training (CONNECT) Act**

**SPONSOR:** Sen. Lindsey Tippens, (R-37th)

**STATUS:** Senate Education and Youth Committee

Provide for industry credentialing for students who completed certain focused programs of study.

**Health**

**SB 4 MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE**

**SPONSOR:** Sen. Rene Unterman, (R-45th)

**STATUS:** Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Recommendation of the Mental Health Study Committee from last fall.

**Revenue and Taxation**

**HB43 FY 2016 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

**SPONSOR:** Speaker David Ralston, (R-7th)

**STATUS:** Passed the House

**Transportation**

**SB6 GEORGIA REGIONAL TRANSIT COUNCIL HB 160**

**SPONSOR:** Sen. Steve Gooch, (R-51st) and Rep. Kevin Tanner (R-9th)  
Respectively

Status: Senate Transportation Committee

Create a statewide regional transit council to address regional solutions to issues of infrastructure, particularly transit.

## **RECENT NEWS**

### **South Georgia Relief**

Please consider making a donation to directly help families in south Georgia who are experiencing heartbreaking circumstances in the tornado aftermath. A \$1 donation at this link allows Second Harvest of South Georgia to dispense four pounds of food. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those effected by this tragedy.

### **Georgia Cabinet Nominations**

Georgians are top picks for two of the Trump Administration Cabinet members. No other state has multiple cabinet nominations.

Former Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue is the nominee for Agriculture Secretary and confirmation hearings are expected in the next few weeks. The Agriculture Department oversees farm policy and food safety, funds food stamps, other nutrition programs and the Forest Service.

Rep. Tom Price from Georgia's Sixth District, the nominee for Health and Human Services Secretary, completed the second Congressional hearing this week, and awaits Senate confirmation.

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