

Welcome to the Georgia Bio Legislative Watch, a weekly update on the 2013 legislative session of the Georgia General Assembly provided by Brock Clay Attorneys exclusively for Georgia Bio members.

Legislative Schedule

Friday-Sunday March 8-10	In Adjournment
Monday, March 11	Legislative Day 31
Tuesday, March 12	Legislative Day 32
Wednesday, March 13	Legislative Day 33
Thursday, March 14	Legislative Day 34
Friday-Tuesday, March 15-19	In adjournment
Wednesday, March 20	Legislative Day 35

Legislative Tracking Grid

HB105	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 105 Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013	(1) Ralston, David 7th (2) Jones, Jan 47th (3) O'Neal, Larry 146th (4) England, Terry 116th	HC: Appropriations SC: Appropriations	Summary Mar/05/2013 - House Conference Committee Report Adopted	(Monitor) New coverage of the final passage of the 2013 amended budget can be found here: http://www.ajc.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/general-assembly-approves-midyear-budget/nWhhc/
HB106	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 106 General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014	(1) Ralston, David 7th (2) Jones, Jan 47th (3) O'Neal, Larry 146th (4) England, Terry 116th	HC: Appropriations SC:	Summary Jan/29/2013 - House Second Readers	This is the general appropriations act for the Fiscal year 2014. This week, Governor Nathan Deal's office reported that revenue collections for February increased by \$31 million or 4%. Year to date, the state's revenue has increased 5.2%. To date, we have been told by multiple sources that the entire .74% rate cut will be restored in the FY2014 budget. Some extra money was found in the DCH budget that will cover the cut, and the legislature has chosen to, rather than pick winners and losers, restore the entire cut.
HB142	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 142 Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission; change certain provisions	(1) Ralston, David 7th (2) O'Neal, Larry 146th (3) Smyre, Calvin 135th (4) Jones, Jan 47th (5) Lindsey, Edward 54th (6) Smith, Richard 134th	HC: Rules SC: Rules	Summary Feb/26/2013 - Senate Read and Referred	(Monitor) Several weeks ago, Speaker David Ralston (R - Blue Ridge) released his widely discussed ethics reform package. In short, HB 142 and HB 143 would ban most individual "gifts" from lobbyists, while broadening requirements for lobbyist registration and granted expanded authority to the State Ethics Commission. As drafted, the legislation did exempt legislative committees, sub-committees, and caucuses. As the committee process continued, Speaker Ralston introduced several amendments to his legislation. Those amendments include: - Reducing the lobbyist registration fee from \$300 to \$25 for all registrants - Restricts spending on legislator travel and travel for legislative spouses - Allows the waiver of reporting requirements if

					individual advocates swear an affidavit not to spend on legislators - Allows advocates to bypass the lobbyist registration process if they aren't at the Capitol more than five days each year. The legislation was passed by the House and assigned by the Lt. Governor to the powerful Senate Rules Committee. It is widely expected to become a political bargaining chip as the session progresses.
HB143	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 143 Campaign contributions; disclosure reports; change certain provisions	(1) Ralston, David 7th (2) O'Neal, Larry 146th (3) Smyre, Calvin 135th (4) Jones, Jan 47th (5) Lindsey, Edward 54th (6) Smith, Richard 134th	HC: Rules SC: Rules	Summary Feb/26/2013 - Senate Read and Referred	(Monitor) This is the second of Speaker Ralston's two ethics bills.
HB266	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 266 Internal Revenue Code; certain provisions of federal law into Georgia law; incorporate	(1) Peake, Allen 141st	HC: Ways & Means SC: Finance	Summary Mar/05/2013 - Act 8	(Monitor) Last week, a potential breakdown began with an attempted fix to the state's car tax law that was passed in 2012. The legislature previously overhauled the state's "birthday tax" and created a new system for a title transfer fee, the proceeds of which would be distributed between state and local government authorities. Last week, the House passed the legislative fix aimed at the double taxation of leased cars without a fiscal note, and the legislation quickly ran into problems in the Senate as the Senate discovered the fiscal note would cost the taxpayers \$140 million. Several legislators protested as the Senate shifted operations this week in an effort to fix the legal challenges by the March 1 deadline. The Senate proposed to fix the penalty by adjusting the state rental car tax slightly upward. After several days of political maneuvering and conference committee meetings, the legislature arrived at a compromise. News coverage can be found here: http://www.ajc.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/fix-found-for-new-car-tax/nWhmJ/
HR548	2013-2014 Regular Session - HR 548 Adjournment;	(1) O'Neal, Larry 146th	HC: SC:	Summary Mar/01/2013 - Senate Passed/Adopte	The current legislative schedule is as follows: Friday-Sunday March 8-10 In

	relative to			d	Adjournment Monday, March 11 Legislative Day 31 Tuesday, March 12 Legislative Day 32 Wednesday, March 13 Legislative Day 33 Thursday, March 14 Legislative Day 34 Friday-Tuesday, March 15-19 In adjournment Wednesday, March 20 Legislative Day 35
SB163	2013-2014 Regular Session - SB 163 Community Health, Dept. of; required to study and identify options for Medicaid reform	(1) Ligon, Jr., William 3rd (2) Albers, John 56th (3) Millar, Fran 40th (4) Loudermilk, Barry 14th (5) McKoon, Joshua 29th (6) Crane, Mike 28th	HC: Health & Human Services SC: Health and Human Services	Summary Mar/07/2013 - House First Readers	(Monitor) This legislation requires the Georgia Department of Community Health to study ways to cut costs in the Medicaid program. News coverage here: http://www.ajc.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/bill-seeking-study-of-medicaid-costs-passes-senate/nWhYd/
HB178	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 178 Georgia Pain Management Clinic Act; enact	(1) Weldon, Tom 3rd (2) Cooper, Sharon 43rd (3) Taylor, Tom 79th (4) Channell, Mickey 120th (5) Parrish, Butch 158th (6) Oliver, Mary Margaret 82nd	HC: Health & Human Services SC: Health and Human Services	Summary Feb/21/2013 - Senate Read and Referred	(Monitor) This legislation, sponsored by Rep. Tom Weldon, grants new power to the Composite Board of Medical Examiners whereby the Board can license and regulate pain management clinics. Specifically, the legislation would prevent ownership by convicted felons and require all owners to be license physicians in the state of Georgia. HB 178 passed the House 150-15 and currently awaits action in the Senate.
HB272	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 272 Income tax credit; certain qualified investments for limited period of time; extend	(1) Peake, Allen 141st (2) Lindsey, Edward 54th (3) Dudgeon, Mike 25th (4) Williamson, Bruce 115th (5) Abrams, Stacey 89th (6) Stephens, Ron 164th	HC: Ways & Means SC:	Summary Mar/04/2013 - House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute	(Monitor) This legislation renews Georgia's angel investor tax credit.
HB481	2013-2014 Regular Session - HB 481 Ethical Treatment of Human Embryos Act; enact	(1) Neal, Jay 2nd (2) Kirby, Tom 114th (3) Taylor, Darlene 173rd (4) England, Terry 116th (5) Sheldon,	HC: Judiciary SC:	Summary Feb/27/2013 - House Second Readers	H.B. 481, sponsored by state Rep. Jay Neal, R-LaFayette, is titled the "Ethical Treatment of Human Embryos Act." SB 481 would make it illegal to: -- "Create or attempt to create a human-animal hybrid;" -- "Transfer or attempt to transfer a human embryo into a nonhuman womb;" -- "Transfer or attempt to

		Donna 104th (6) Nix, Randy 69th			transfer a nonhuman embryo into a human womb" -- Transport or receive for any purpose a human-animal hybrid or any product "derived from such a hybrid." Nothing in the bill would prohibit: -- "Research involving the use of transgenic animal models containing human genes; -- "Xenotransplantation of human organs, tissues or cells into recipient animals; -- "An individual from receiving nonhybrid organs, tissues or cells delivered from outside of this state...." The legislation also states that: "In disputes arising between any parties regarding the in vitro human embryo, the judicial standard for resolving such disputes shall be in the best interest of the in vitro human embryo."
SB244	2013-2014 Regular Session - SB 244 Corporations, Partnership and Associations; there shall not be a penalty; member of U.S. armed forces/national guard; annual registration	(1) Carter , Buddy 1st	HC: SC: Veterans , Military and Homeland Security	Summary Mar/04/2013 - Senate Read and Referred	(Support) Invest Georgia will be overseen by a five-member appointed board. Through a competitive bid process the board will select a third-party fund administrator, which will then competitively select venture capital funds to manage investment activities focused on both Georgia early or seed stage and growth stage companies. The venture capital funds must have or establish a physical presence in Georgia in order to ensure that the investments are Georgia-focused. The State will contribute \$95 million over a five-year period into the Fund to serve as principal. The returns from the investments by the venture funds would be distributed in the following manner: the principal amounts of the investment will be retained by the Invest Georgia Fund as well as 80 percent of the profit, while the remaining 20 percent will be retained by the venture fund as profit. The Invest Georgia Fund is created as a separate fund maintained by the board and will be capitalized through grants from the existing Seed-Capital Fund, designated State appropriations to ATDC, and private contributions to the board. The capital raised will be periodically distributed to the venture capital funds selected by the fund administrator. State funding will be dispersed annually over a five-year period in the following amounts: \$10 million; \$10 million; \$15 million; \$25 million; and \$35 million. There are two types of businesses

					that can receive money from a venture capital firm: Qualified Early Stage or Seed Businesses and Qualified Growth Stage Businesses. Both types of companies must have their principal business operations in Georgia and intend to maintain operations in the state for at least three and five years respectively after receiving an investment from the venture capital fund, or risk losing the investment.
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