

# Legislative Watch

presented by

GEORGIA BIO™

policy & advocacy committee



## Georgia Bio Legislative Report February 28, 2020

*Days 17-21 of 40 Day Session*

### GENERAL UPDATE:

This week [SB 359](#) "Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act" sponsored by Senator Chuck Hufstetler was unanimously passed/adopted by the Senate on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, [SB 303](#) "Georgia Right to Shop Act" sponsored by Senator Ben Watson relating to greater transparency of prices of nonemergency health care services was passed/adopted by the Senate on February 25<sup>th</sup>. These bills are headed to the House for consideration.

This morning the House Special Committee On Access to Quality Health Care passed [HB 888](#), [HB 918](#), [HB 946](#), and [HB 952](#) relating to pharmacies, surprise billing, and pharmacy benefit managers. These bills are now headed to the House Rules Committee.

### GEORGIA LIFE SCIENCES DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL:

Georgia Bio celebrated the life science industry at the Georgia State Capitol February 25, 2020. During our day at the Georgia State Capitol, Georgia Bio had over thirty members in attendance focused on discussing with legislatures workforce & talent initiatives, patient access to care, and the creation of a Georgia Rare Disease Advisory Council. Georgia Bio received special recognition on the Georgia House of Representatives chamber floor and Georgia Senate gallery.



### GEORGIA BIO LEGISLATIVE TRACKING SHEET

Georgia Bio will provide updates on specific legislation of interest to the Georgia Bio membership. If you have bills that you would like included in the weekly bill update, please email [jsantoro@gabio.org](mailto:jsantoro@gabio.org).

[Legislative Tracking Sheet](#)

### GEORGIA BIO POLICY & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETINGS/CALL SCHEDULE FOR 2019 GEORGIA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

~~Wed. January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11am~~  
~~Mon. February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11am~~  
~~Mon. February 17<sup>th</sup> at 11am~~  
Mon. March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am  
Mon. March 16<sup>th</sup> at 11am  
Mon. March 30<sup>th</sup> at 11am

If you would like to participate on a Georgia Bio Policy Committee call, please contact Joseph Santoro at [jsantoro@gabio.org](mailto:jsantoro@gabio.org).

**GEORGIA BIO LEGISLATIVE TRACKING SHEET:**

Georgia Bio will provide updates on specific legislation of interest to the Georgia Bio membership. Please see below for legislation that has been added to our legislative tracker this week.

**[SB 415 - Civil Practice and Litigation; several titles of the O.C.G.A.; amend and revise](#)**

**Bill Author:** Senator Steve Gooch (R- Dahlenega)

**Bill Status:** Senate Read and Referred February 21, 2020

**Summary:** SB 415 relates to a lawsuit reform package to streamline the process of litigation and reduce costs for Georgia's industries, small businesses, and citizens.

**[SB 426 - Air Quality; reporting of any unpermitted release of ethylene oxide to the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources; provide](#)**

**Bill Author:** Senator Brian Strickland (R - McDonough)

**Bill Status:** Senate Read and Referred February 24, 2020

**Summary:** SB 426 relates to air quality, to provide for the reporting of any unpermitted release of ethylene oxide to the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources within 24 hours.

**[SB 427 - Medicaid; actuarial study of the fiscal impact of carving out pharmacy benefits; Department of Community Health; require](#)**

**Bill Author:** Senator Jeff Mullis (R - Chickamauga)

**Bill Status:** Senate Read and Referred February 25, 2020

**Summary:** SB 427 requires the Department of Community Health to engage an actuary to conduct an actuarial study of the fiscal impact of carving out pharmacy benefits from the state's current Medicaid care management organizations.

**[SB 433 - 'Diabetes Drug Pricing Transparency Act of 2020'; disclosure of diabetes prescription drug pricing; require](#)**

**Bill Author:** Senator Burt Jones (R - Jackson)

**Bill Status:** Senate Read and Referred February 25, 2020

**Summary:** SB 433 requires the disclosure of diabetes prescription drug pricing to provide for a listing of diabetes prescription drugs, drug manufacturer and pharmacy benefits manager report forms and insurer pricing reports.

**[HB 991 - Healthcare Transparency and Accountability Act; enact](#)**

**Bill Author:** Rep. Matt Hatchett (R - Dublin)

**Bill Status:** House Second Readers on February 25, 2020

**Summary:** HB 991 provides transparency relating to state healthcare plans and its contractors.

**[HB 1027 - Insurance; rebates received from pharmaceutical manufacturers, provide requirements](#)**

**Bill Author:** Rep. Lee Hawkins (R - Gainesville)

**Bill Status:** House Second Readers on February 27, 2020

**Summary:** HB 1027 relating to regulation and licensure of pharmacy benefits managers to provide certain requirements relating to rebates received from pharmaceutical manufacturers.

**[Click here to view our 2020 Legislative Tracker](#)**