

2023

## Review of Selected 2023 Georgia Legislation

Kyle D. Hildebrand

*Georgia State University College of Law*, khildebrand1@student.gsu.edu

Samuel E. Marticke

*Georgia State University College of Law*, smarticke1@student.gsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://readingroom.law.gsu.edu/gsulr>



Part of the [Legislation Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Kyle D. Hildebrand & Samuel E. Marticke, *Review of Selected 2023 Georgia Legislation*, 40 GA. ST. U. L. REV. (2023).

Available at: <https://readingroom.law.gsu.edu/gsulr/vol40/iss1/3>

This Frontmatter is brought to you for free and open access by the Publications at Reading Room. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia State University Law Review by an authorized editor of Reading Room. For more information, please contact [gfowke@gsu.edu](mailto:gfowke@gsu.edu).

## REVIEW OF SELECTED 2023 GEORGIA LEGISLATION

The first session of the 157th Georgia General Assembly saw some drastic changes to the composition of leadership in both chambers. Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones (R) took the reins in the Senate after winning statewide election in 2022. And Representative Jon Burns (R-159th) became the first new Speaker of the House since 2010, after the passing of Representative David Ralston, the longest serving Speaker in state history. Other leadership shuffles included a new Senate President Pro Tempore and new Majority Leaders in both chambers.

These leadership changes did not stop the General Assembly from passing a litany of legislation to start the new biennium. Proposals ranged from tightening restrictions on lawyer advertising to banning Tik-Tok on state devices. The Session was not without its controversial measures. Debates over the state government's role in local issues undergirded measures regarding gas powered leaf blowers and stoves, treatment of unhoused individuals, and accountability of local District Attorneys.

Georgia also joined in the national debate on the provisioning of certain healthcare treatments to minors seeking gender affirming care. Committee meetings contained emotional testimony from both sides about the mental impacts that gender affirming hormone treatments and surgeries have on the minor population in the state. Doctors, psychologists, and public health experts shared numerous studies and their personal experiences treating minors with gender dysphoria.

Nearly three years removed from its onset, some of the COVID-19 pandemic's effects still lingered over the Session. Notably, industry leaders sought to turn provisions of Governor Kemp's (R) expired States of Emergency into permanent public policy in the state. Indeed, an overhaul of the state's trucking weight allowances took hold—ostensibly increasing potential economic output—over the objections of a bipartisan coalition focused on road safety and excessive repair costs.

This year also saw *Georgia State University Law Review's* Third Annual Legislative Forum. This event serves as a culmination of the legislative session, featuring sponsors and opponents of key bills, student presentations, and expert analysis on the past year's legislative

events. We would like to thank each and every participant for their contributions to the Forum.

This issue, known as the *Peach Sheets*, documents the legislative history of bills believed to be especially impactful on Georgians and Georgia's legal community. Each *Peach Sheet* includes the title of the bill, a brief summary of the legislation, a history section, a tracking section that explains changes made during the bill's consideration in both chambers, and a section explaining the final legislation as passed. At the end of each *Peach Sheet*, an analysis section explores issues such as the legislation's constitutionality, impact on other laws, and possible unintended consequences. The *Peach Sheets* issue also includes a Table of Code Sections Affected, listing all Code sections affected by the covered legislation, and a House and Senate Bill Index, listing all House and Senate bill numbers addressed in the *Peach Sheets*.

It is our hope that the *Peach Sheets* will assist legal practitioners and Georgia citizens with understanding the effects of newly enacted legislation. We are thankful for the hard work and dedication of the Law Review Members, and for the assistance we received from legislators, agency staff, lobbyists, Georgia attorneys, Georgia State University College of Law professors, and others who took time to speak with our Members and offer feedback.

*Kyle D. Hildebrand & Samuel E. Marticke*  
*Legislation Editors*