



03-13-2026 GHLA Capitol Report Week 9

Welcome to GHLA @ the Capitol, your weekly update about news you need to know related to Georgia's lodging industry and the 2026 General Assembly. GHLA's legislative team will be your eyes and ears under the Gold Dome.

Crossover Day Recap

Crossover Day was last Friday, March 6, and it was a long one. The House did not adjourn until around 1:00 a.m. as both chambers worked late into the night to ensure priority legislation passed at least one chamber before the deadline.

Of note on Crossover Day, SB 570 unanimously passed the Senate. This is the Senate version of the Human Trafficking Prevention Training Act and would require standardized human trafficking prevention training for hotel and short term rental properties statewide. The bill now moves to the House and has been assigned to the House Judiciary Committee, where it will be heard Monday. The team will be present and prepared to testify in support as we work to move it through the House.

Sports betting also resurfaced late Friday night. The House took up HR 450, the constitutional amendment to allow voters to decide whether to authorize online sports betting in Georgia. After significant debate, the resolution failed decisively, receiving only 63 votes in favor and 98 against, well short of the two thirds majority required for constitutional amendments. Given the margin, it is very unlikely this issue resurfaces this session.



Georgia State Capitol Crossover Day

Property Tax Reform

The House passed a narrowed version of HB 1116, shifting part of the property tax conversation toward a new local option sales tax structure designed to offset homestead

property taxes and limit certain future increases. While scaled back from earlier proposals, the bill keeps property tax reform squarely in play.

We expect continued negotiations between the House's property tax approach and the Senate's income tax priorities as both chambers work toward an agreement before Sine Die.

HB 61 – “No Pay, No Stay”

HB 61 remains our keystone legislation this session. The bill has already crossed over, and we are continuing to work with Senate leadership to secure a floor vote. Opposition remains active, primarily from housing advocacy groups, but we are actively countering those concerns and strengthening our coalition.

We are working to have the bill on the Senate floor as soon as possible.

SB 416 – Stop Online Booking Scams Act (SOBSA)

SB 416 was heard in the Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee, where GHLA presented the bill alongside sponsor Senator Sonya Halpern. While the measure did not pass the Senate prior to Crossover, Chairman Echols expressed strong support for the language and is actively working with us to identify a vehicle to move the provisions forward before Sine Die. It is encouraging to have Senate leadership engaged in keeping this issue alive.



GHLA's President & CEO Chris Hardman Presenting SOBSA alongside Senator Sonya Halpern

HB 376 – Historic Tax Credit Reform

HB 376 was heard in the Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee this past week and passed out unanimously. The bill would effectively keep Georgia's Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program viable by doubling the cap, ensuring the program remains competitive and continues driving redevelopment and investment across the state. It now advances further in the Senate process.

HB 295 – Local Government Property Claim Liability

HB 295 passed the House last Wednesday and has been assigned to the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee . The bill creates a mechanism for property owners to seek compensation from local governments under certain circumstances if policies or nonenforcement practices diminish property value or create documented expenses. We will continue tracking its movement in the Senate.

Lemon Pepper

Unfortunately, HB 1013, the bill designating lemon pepper as Georgia's official state chicken wing flavor, did not survive Crossover. It was a tough day to be a wing in Georgia.

We will continue monitoring all of the above as the legislature returns and shifts into the final stretch toward April 2.

Legislative Tracking Update:

House Bills:

[HB 1483](#) - Civil practice; ad valorem taxation of property; prohibit class action suits by taxpayers for refunds

[HB 1484](#) - Bowman, City of; levy an excise tax

[HB 1488](#) - Hinesville Conference Center and Tourism Authority Act; enact

[HB 1493](#) - Georgia Worker Empowerment Act; enact

[HB 1495](#) - Senior Stabilization Act; enact

[HB 1497](#) - Georgia Home Title Protection and Deed Fraud Prevention Act; enact

[HB 1498](#) - Ad valorem tax; procedures for transmission of relevant information following a real estate closing to allow for the automatic granting of homestead exemptions; provide

[HB 1506](#) - Contracts; payment terms for business to business transactions; provide

[HB 1517](#) - Nuisances; presumption of the creation of a nuisance based on certain residential local ordinance violations; provide

[HB 1520](#) - Rental Pricing Integrity Act; enact

[HB 1521](#) - Ponzi Scheme Prevention Act; enact

House Resolutions:

[HR 1522](#) - House Study Committee on Evaluating Community Health; create

[HR 1527](#) - House Study Committee on Georgia Department of Transportation Contracting; create

[HR 1528](#) - Joint Study Committee on Higher Education Fiscal Stewardship; create

[HR 1529](#) - House Study Committee on the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI); create

[HR 1530](#) - Ending Slavery in Georgia Amendment; propose - CA

[HR 1579](#) - House Study Committee on Hospital/Homebound (HHB) Services and Medically Fragile Student Attendance; create

[HR 1582](#) - House Study Committee on Veteran Teacher Compensation; create

[HR 1583](#) - House Study Committee on Small Business Technology Adoption; create

[HR 1585](#) - Right to register and vote; moral turpitude felony conviction exception; provisions - CA

[HR 1608](#) - House Study Committee on Municipal Electric Franchise Fees; create

[HR 1650](#) - House Study Committee on Local Government Emergency Disaster Relief Loans; create

[HR 1655](#) - House Study Committee on Diabetes Related Amputations; create

[HR 1656](#) - House Study Committee on School Nutrition, Student Food Security, Georgia Agriculture, and Student Success; create

[HR 1657](#) - House Study Committee on Medicaid Waiver Populations and Long-Term Financial and Administrative Sustainability; create

[HR 1665](#) - House Study Committee on Environmental Protection Division Permit and Variance Procedures and Rights to Review; create

[HR 1669](#) - House Study Committee on End of Life Issues; create

[HR 1674](#) - House Study Committee on State Governance of Emergency Medical Services; create

Senate Bills:

[SB 617](#) - Dispossessory Proceedings; public access to court records of dispossessory proceedings under certain conditions; prohibit

Senate Resolutions:

[SR 888](#) - Senate Parent Accountability for Student Success Study Committee; create

[SR 890](#) - Senate Study Committee on Protecting Free and Fair Markets in Georgia; create

[SR 925](#) - Senate Study Committee on a Museum of African American History and Culture of Georgia; create

[SR 927](#) - Senate Pharmacy Benefits Managers and Consumer Access to Prescription Medications Study Committee; create

[SR 933](#) - National Statuary Hall Collection Replacement Committee; create

GHLA Full Legislative Tracking Update

Please [click here to go to our Legislative tracking page](#) for the complete list of bills we are watching.

[Visit our main page.](#)