



LEGISLATIVE ALERT #1

2/2/2018

Active Bills-New In 2018					
ACTIVE BILL #	*/**	STATUS-ASSIGNED TO	AUTHORS	TITLE AND/OR SUMMARY	GACP COMMENTS
HB 149	**	Recommitted 1/18/18 Senate Public Safety	Powell (32) Lumsden (12) Collins (68) Jasperse (11)	Bill provides for comprehensive regulation of trauma scene cleanup services, as well as licensing, registration and qualifications of providers; rules and regulations; and penalties for providers. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/149	2nd year bill that was recommitted by the Senate Public Safety Committee. An overdue bill. GACP members should consider embracing the bill's concept.
HB 505	**	House Judiciary	Turner (21) Caldwell (20) Cantrell (22) Tarvin (2) Pezold (133)	Bill to amend civil forfeiture procedures to require criminal procedures be completed prior to civil forfeiture proceedings being held. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/505	This bill will require seized assets seized to be held until the criminal charges result in guilty plea, conviction, or acquittal. If the defendant is acquitted or charges are dismissed, the civil asset forfeiture proceeding will be closed and seized property returned. Proponents for this bill allege persons found innocent of criminal charges are having their property and money seized and forfeited to law enforcement. They feel the standard of guilty beyond a reasonable doubt should be fulfilled prior to beginning any proceedings to forfeit the property. Agencies will be required to hold and maintain any property (i.e. cars, weapons, houses) until the criminal proceedings are complete.
HB660	*	House Judiciary Non-Civil	Hanson (80) Smyre (135) Willard (51) Drumer (85)	Hate Crime Bill Provides for additional punishment and additional torts for persons convicted of committing a crime that targeted victims for their race, color religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or physical disability. http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20172018/HB/660	Designates punishment for any crime committed based on victim's protected status. Also requires training for officers as well as reporting to and by GCIC. This is a very good bill. GACP supports its passage. Note there are three hate crime bills. This is the only bill GACP supports.

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HB 663	*	House Judiciary Non-Civil	Bennett (94) Smyre (135) Hugley (136) Beverly (143)	Hate Crime Bill Provides for additional punishment for persons convicted of committing a crime because of the individual's race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, or physical disability; See (SB316) http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20172018/HB/663	Designates punishment for six specific crimes committed against a victim because of protected status. This bill lacks important elements such as training for officers.
HB 635	*	House Human Relations and Aging	Cooper (43) Benton (31) Jones (53) Broadrick (4) Reeves (34)	Elder Abuse Bill Act provides for at-risk adult protective investigative/coordinating teams in each judicial circuit. http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20172018/HB/635	Establishes investigative and coordination teams for the abuse, neglect, exploitation of disable and elderly in each judicial circuit. A very good bill to protect our elderly.
HB672	*	1/16 withdrawn & Recommitted House Motor Vehicles	Thomas (39) Epps (144) Powell (32) Trammell (132) Beverly (143)	Provides for officers employed by local boards of education to operate speed detection devices in school zones Requires all speed detection devices to be calibrated annually, in same manner as radars http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/672	Requires departments to conduct annual calibration of lasers. This will be an added expenditure for all local law enforcement agencies. The bill itself has merit, however, it requires agencies to start calibrating their lasers annually and this will be an added expense to local agencies.

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HB 673	*	House Judicial Non-Civil	Carson (46) Lumsden (12) Golick (40) Trammell (132) Smith (134) Hitchens (161)	Distracted Driver Bill Prohibits drivers from using wireless phones in a manner that distract a driver http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20172018/HB/673	Prohibits texting and reading hand-held devices. Also provides for tiered administrative fines to be levied by in addition to that provided by local courts. This is a very good bill and has been embraced by the GACP via a GACP Resolution.
HB 703	*	House Public Safety and Homeland Security	Hitchens (161) Lott (122) Powell (32) Frazier (126) Welch (110)	Creates the Office of Public Safety Support within the Georgia Department of Public Safety to respond to and provide counseling services for public safety officers involved in incidents including death and other tragedies. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/703	This program will support the peer support legislation that was passed last year. The association is very supportive of this legislation.
HB737	*	House Public Safety— Homeland Security	Cox (108) Hitchens (161) Petrea (166) Powell (32)	Provides for court ordered blood tests of 'source individuals' when law enforcement officers have significant exposure to HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/737	This is a very good officer safety bill.

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HB 751	*	House Public Safety— Homeland Security	Powell (32) Rogers (10) Rhodes (120) Efstration (104) Jasperse (11)	Establishes the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority, with the primary purpose being to administer, collect, audit, and remit 911 revenues as well as study, evaluate, recommend technology standards for 911 systems; identify changes to make 911 systems more effective and efficient, identify training needs, recommend minimum standards for public safety answering points. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/751	Over the last three years, “911” bills have been introduced and failed. Last year, the Governor vetoed the 911 bill for good reason. This bill is well-written and hopefully will pass.
HB779	*	House Pubic Safety— Homeland Security	Powell (32) Rogers (10) Rhodes (120) Jasperse (11)	Provides for establishment of Homeland Security Division within Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security; Revises duties of GBI Director regarding Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/779	A very needed bill which will allow the GBI and GEMA professionals to work hand in hand.
HB803	*	House Judicial Non-Civil	Willard (51) Cooper (43) Cox (108) Lumsden (12) Rynders (152)	Trafficking a disabled adult, elder person or resident. Prohibits behavior in which person knowingly recruits, harbors, transports, provides, or obtains by any means a disable adult, elder person, or resident for the purpose of appropriating resources of the disabled adult, elder person or resident. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/803	

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SB257	*	Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee Favorably reported by Substitute	Heath (31)	Provide for consultation with veterinarian employed or approved by Dept. of Agriculture prior to filing criminal charges for cruelty to animals in certain instances http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/257	Officers are required to consult with designated veterinarians regarding conduct involving animal husbandry of cattle, swine, goats, or sheep to confirm whether or not such conduct is in accordance with customary and standard practice, prior to filing cruelty to animal charges.
SB316	*	Senate Judiciary	Jackson (2nd) Jones (10th) Anderson (43rd) James (35th) Rhett (33)	Hate Crime Bill Provides for additional punishment for persons convicted of committing a crime because of the individuals race, color, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, or ethnicity. See (HB 663) http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/Display/20172018/SB/316	Designates punishment for six specific crimes committed against a victim because of protected status. This bill mirrors HB663 and lacks training for officers.
SB 319	*	Senate Public Safety	Albers (56) Mullis (53) Gooch (51) Miller (49)	Consolidation of Fire Safety Services in Georgia Act establishes the Department of Fire Safety. Unifies all fire related services of the State under the newly established position of Commissioner of Fire Safety, and Fire Safety Board; transfers duties of Commissioner of Insurance as the Safety Fire Commissioner; GA. Firefighter Standards and Training Council, and Operation and Maintenance of the Georgia Fire Academy from the Board of Public Safety. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/319	Not a bad bill. Unifies fire services under a central source to provide better coordination.

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SB 327	*	Senate Public Safety 1/25/18 - Senate Passed/Adopted As Amended	Albers (56) Harper (7)	Bill designed to clarify when a medical examiner's inquiry is required to be conducted. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/327	Very good bill to help our GBI partners.
SB 336	*	Senate Public Safety	Unterman (45) Miller (49) Butler (55) McKoon (29)	Bill provides for when GBI issues a subpoena for production of electronic communication service records for computer or electronic devices that have been used in offenses against minors, the provider shall not provide notice of the subpoena to the subscriber or customer of the service. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/336	Another good GBI related bill that should be embraced by law enforcement.
SB 343	*	Public Safety	Harbison (15) Rhett (33) Davenport (44), James (35), Williams (39)	Bill prohibits POST Council from issuing and renewing drug recognition expert certifications. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/343	

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HB366	*	Senate Public Safety	Gooch (51) Kirk (13) Harper (7) Anderson (43) Wilkinson (50)	Requires cities and counties to perform compensation studies for law enforcement agencies, establish guidelines for pay scales and reporting requirements to the State reporting. Establishes grant funding for agencies in Tier 1 counties to supplement salaries and benefits. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/366	This is an attempt to help law enforcement. However, there is resistance from different levels of government who feel that despite the results, cities and counties will not agree with the funding and change the way law enforcement is paid.
HB367	*	Senate Public Safety	Kirk (13) Gooch (51) Hill (4) Wilkinson (50) Harper (7)	Allows for payment of indemnification for death or disability to the officer's estate. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/367	A reasonable bill.
HB368	*	Senate Public Safety	Kirk (13) Gooch (51) Hill (4) Wilkinson (50) Harper (7)	Authorizes Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to provide technical support and assistance to enhance agency's effectiveness. This includes, but not limited to equipment, grant funding, operations, and training. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/368	Good idea, but many think CJCC already provides technical support and assistance based upon the financial guidelines placed upon them by the federal government.

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SB369	*	Senate Public Safety	Kirk (13) Gooch (51) Hill (4) Wilkinson (50) Anderson (43)	Provides for receipt of five dollars for each fee collected as part of a pre-trial diversion program. Monies are to be submitted to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund. http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/SB/369	This is a good bill and hopefully it will pass.

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