

Georgia Assn. of Health Underwriters- Weekly report, March 7-11

Our General Assembly completed days 25-28 this week. As you can imagine, things at the Capitol are picking up as we near Crossover Day coming up on Wednesday, March 16th.

The Legislature took up a number of Insurance related bills and the Insurance committees did their diligence in moving legislation this week, as well.

Highlights of bills that remain on our radar are below. These and all other bills of interest are on the attached tracking sheet.

HB 477- With the assistance of Ron Jackson from the Department of Insurance, Representative Jason Shaw presented this bill to transfer annual licensing to a biennial schedule. This bill passed with no dissenting votes.

HB 476- Chairman Richard Smith presented this bill which we will recognize as the Exchange bill on which we have been working with the Chairman and the Governor's office. I have attached a copy of this bill to this email for you to review. Chairman Smith along with Ryan Teague, counsel from the Governor's office, passed this bill with no questions and a unanimous vote. This bill will be on the calendar on Monday, March 14th.

HB 413- Representative Rich Golick presented this bill as a Department bill which gives the Governor and the Department of Insurance the authority to decide upon whether Georgia will or will not enter into multi-state agreements. This bill is essentially a placeholder to avoid federal interference. This bill passed unanimously.

HB 167- Steve Davis' prompt pay bill was put on the Rules calendar for Day 29 which will occur on Monday, March 14th.

HB 47- Matt Ramsey's across state lines bill passed the House on Thursday, March 10th after being debated at length on the House floor. HB 47 has been sent to the Senate and has been assigned to the Insurance Committee.

The Insurance Committees were busy this week. The House subcommittees met on Monday and again on Tuesday. They took up 10+ bills. The full committee met on Wednesday. The Senate subcommittees met on Wednesday and the full committee met on Friday morning. At this point, the Committees are not scheduled to meet next week but that is subject to change.

The Legislature will reconvene on Monday, March 14th at 10:00 AM for Day 29. We are planning to be in on Monday and Wednesday next week to complete Day 30. For the full calendar, please visit- <http://www.senate.ga.gov/sos/Documents/SessionCalendar.pdf> .