

Welcome to the Georgia Bio Legislative Watch, a weekly update on the 2012 legislative session of the Georgia General Assembly provided by Brock Clay Attorneys exclusively for Georgia Bio members.

Report on State Revenues

On Thursday of this week, the Georgia Department of Revenue reported that state revenues had increased almost \$50 million over last February, an increase of 7%. The increase was driven primarily by sales tax revenues (up 10%), income tax revenues (up 23%), and motor fuel tax revenue (up 14%).

HB 868 - Quality Jobs Tax Credit

[HB 868](#), the most prominent part of the tax reform package proposed by Governor Nathan Deal's Competitiveness Initiative, passed the House on Crossover Day among a flurry of amendments that many supporters say watered down the measure. As introduced, the legislation would extend the popular jobs tax credit to the biomedical and alternative energy industries. However, the legislation that passed out of the House Ways and Means Committee watered down the legislation by removing the provision that would have made the credit applicable to smaller businesses, moving the cap from 50 to 15. Most of the changes to the legislation came as a result of balancing expectations in the face of a tight fiscal environment in Georgia.

HB 718 - State Venture Capital Fund

Rep. Allen Peake's (R - Macon) would have set up a \$200 million venture capital fund by auctioning insurance tax credits. The fund would be overseen by a state authority and would invest in start-up or early growth technology companies. The legislation is dead after failure to meet the Crossover Day deadline.

Legislative Schedule

On Monday, the General Assembly set the following schedule until legislative day 37. The leadership continues to be committed to their goal of adjourning Sine Die by March 30.

- March 12, 13, 14 - Legislative Days 31, 32, and 33
- March 19, 20, 21, 22 - Legislative Days 34, 35, 36, and 37

Legislation Georgia Bio is Tracking

To view the complete report of the legislation that is being tracked, please [CLICK HERE](#). ***MEMBERS ONLY*** Once you have entered the Members Only Site, click on Advocacy to find the Legislative Watch.

To find out how Georgia Bio's advocacy efforts can assist your organization, contact Georgia Bio President Charles Craig..

HB1068	HB 1068 - Prescription drugs; reference product license holder shall have immunity from liability from claims for loss from use of biosimilar biological products; pr	Weldon, Tom 3r	HC: Judy SC:	Summary 02/21/12 - House Second Readers	
HB1124	HB 1124 - Pharmacists and pharmacies; prescription biologic product and biosimilar product; d	Jerguson, Sean 22n	HC: H&H S SC:	Summary 02/23/12 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: CONSIDERATION)
HB132	HB 132 - Medical Food Equity Act;	Watson, Ben 163r	HC: Ins SC:	Summary 02/03/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
HB182	HB 182 - Insurance; diagnosis and treatment of infertility; require health cov	Marin, Pedro 96t	HC: Ins SC:	Summary 02/09/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)

HB184	HB 184 - Controlled substances; Electronic Database Review Advisory Committee; establish provi	Weldon, Tom 3r	HC: Judy NC SC:	Summary 02/09/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: SUPPORT)
HB385	HB 385 - Revenue and taxation; revenue structure; comprehensive rev	Channell, Mickey 116t	HC: SJC GRS SC:	Summary 03/01/11 - House Second Readers	This was the tax reform vehicle in 2011.
HB386	HB 386 - Revenue and taxation; revenue structure; comprehensive rev	Channell, Mickey 116t	HC: SJC GRS SC:	Summary 03/01/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
HB437	HB 437 - Controlled substances; possession of and sale of pseudoephedrine drugs; change provi	Neal, Jay 1s	HC: Judy NC SC:	Summary 03/03/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: CONSIDERATION)
HB476	HB 476 - Georgia Health Exchange Authority; esta	Smith, Richard 131s	HC: Ins SC:	Summary 03/16/11 - House Withdrawn, Recommitted	GABIO STATUS: CONSIDERATION.
HB718	HB 718 - Economic Development, Department of; Georgia Capital Acceleration Authority; c	Peake, Allen 137t	HC: Ins SC:	Summary 01/12/12 - House Second Readers	This legislation has been introduced primarily by Rep. Allen Peake (R - Macon). It will set up a \$200 million venture capital fund by auctioning insurance tax credits. The fund would be overseen by a state authority and would invest in start-up or early growth technology companies. There are some political issues with the legislation already (it was assigned to the Insurance Committee, rather than Ways & Means initially).
HB845	HB 845 - Early care and education programs; influenza vaccine; provide inform	Watson, Ben 163r	HC: H&H S SC: ED& Y	Summary 02/29/12 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR) Requires early childhood facilities to provide information on influenza vaccine.

HB86	HB 86 - Sales and use tax; energy for manufacturing; provide exem	Williams,Roger 4t	HC: W&M SC:	Summary 01/31/11 - House Second Readers	The larger tax reform issue is being revived this year. We have gotten a question from some industry people about the applicability of the tax credit to any of GABIO's research facilities. Governor Deal outlined a three part tax proposal in his State of the State address. The first part is the repeal of the sales tax on energy inputs into manufacturing; the second, a sales tax exemption for construction materials used in projects of regional significance, and the third a restructuring of Georgia's jobs tax credit program.
HB868	HB 868 - Income tax credits; business enterprises located in less developed areas designated by tiers; pr	Collins,Doug 27t	HC: W&M SC: ECD	Summary 03/07/12 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO STATUS: SUPPORT) Section 3 increases the amount of the R&D credit that can be taken against a company's payroll withholding if they have little or no corporate income tax liability – giving it cash value.
HB89	HB 89 - Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act;	Peake,Allen 137t	HC: H&H S SC:	Summary 01/31/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
HB952	HB 952 - Pharmacists and pharmacies; definitions of certain opioid drugs; pr	Neal,Jay 1s	HC: H&H S SC:	Summary 02/28/12 - House Committee Favorably Reported	(GABIO STATUS: MONITORING)
HB954	HB 954 - Abortion; criminal abortion; change certain provi	McKillip,Doug 115t	HC: Judy NC SC: H&H S	Summary 03/05/12 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO POSITION: MONITOR)
HR153	HR 153 - House Study Committee on Tenth Amendment Enforcement; c	Setzler,Ed 35t	HC: GAff SC:	Summary 04/14/11 - House Withdrawn, Recommitted	GABIO STATUS: CONSIDERATION.

SB111	SB 111 - Pharmacists; electronic data prescription drug order; provide certain requirements for any electronic transmission mech	Carter,Earl Buddy 1s	SC: H&H SHC:	Summary 02/22/11 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
SB111	SB 111 - Pharmacists; electronic data prescription drug order; provide certain requirements for any electronic transmission mech	Carter,Earl Buddy 1s	SC: H&H SHC:	Summary 02/22/11 - Senate Read and Referred	
SB165	SB 165 - Juvenile Proceedings; maintenance of forensic samples from abortions performed on children under 16 years o	McKoon,Joshua 29t	SC: JUD YHC:	Summary 02/28/11 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO STATUS: CONSIDERATION)
SB177	SB 177 - Health Care Compact;	Bethel,Charlie 54t	SC: I&LH C: Ins	Summary 04/12/11 - House Passed/Adopt ed	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
SB180	SB 180 - Controlled Substances; authorize the use of remote automated medication systems; definitions; require	Carter,Earl Buddy 1s	SC: H&H SHC:	Summary 03/02/11 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
SB209	SB 209 - Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act; enact; regulate the performance of abor	Loudermilk,Barry 52n	SC: RUL ESH C:	Summary 03/04/11 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
SB210	SB 210 - Torts; provide for liability for violations of laws relating to abortion; definitions; wrongful death of an unborn	Loudermilk,Barry 52n	SC: RUL ESH C: Ju dy	Summary 03/22/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: CONSIDERATION)
SB215	SB 215 - Medicaid/PeachCare; convert program funds to premium assistance to allow low-income families to participate in private sector health insurance	Hill,Judson 32n	SC: H&H SHC:	Summary 03/07/11 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO STATUS: UNDER CONSIDERATION)
SB219	SB 219 - Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; adopt; provide for purpose/policy of said i	Harbison,Ed 15t	SC: VM& H SHC: E d	Summary 03/22/11 - House Second Readers	(GABIO STATUS: MONITOR)
SB346	SB 346 - State Board of Pharmacy; prescription drugs by mail/other common carriers; provi	Balfour,Don 9t	SC: H&H SHC: H& HS	Summary 03/07/12 - House Second Readers	
SB370	SB 370 - Controlled Substances; Schedule I and V controlled substance; "dangerous drug"; provi	Carter,Earl Buddy 1s	SC: H&H SHC: Jud yNC	Summary 02/24/12 - House Second Readers	This legislation passed the Senate on Tuesday of this week.
SB378	SB 378 - Controlled Substances; changes to definition of written prescriptions for dangerous drugs; revise a defin	Carter,Earl Buddy 1s	SC: H&H SHC: Jud yNC	Summary 02/27/12 - House Second Readers	This legislation passed the Senate on Thursday of this week.

SB401	SB 401 - "The Georgia Cogeneration and Distributed Generation Act of 2001"; change provisions; provide declaration of p	Carter,Earl Buddy 1s	SC: NR&EHC :	Summary 02/08/12 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO POSITION: MONITORING)
SB417	SB 417 - Pharmacists and Pharmacies; electronic transmission mechanism; provide certain require	Carter,Earl Buddy 1s	SC: H&HSHC :	Summary 02/15/12 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO POSITION: MONITOR)
SB418	SB 418 - Georgia Health Insurance Marketplace Authority; establish; legislative intent; definitions; board of directors; composition, terms and off	Orrock,Nan 36t	SC: I&LHC :	Summary 02/15/12 - Senate Read and Referred	(GABIO POSITION: MONITOR)
SB488	SB 488 - Prescription Drugs; reference product license holder; immunity from liability; use of a biosimilar biological pr	Bethel,Charlie 54t	SC: JUDYHC :	Summary 02/27/12 - Senate Read and Referred	
SR1053	SR 1053 - Senate Science and Technologies Innovation Study Commission; c	Loudermilk,Barry 52n	SC: RULESHC :	Summary 02/27/12 - Senate Read and Referred	