

**GAPA**

**Legislative Activity Report**

**February 24, 2024**

[GA - HB1077](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66490) [Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; grant program to provide funding to eligible institutions for additional behavioral health workforce training positions; create](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66490)

Notes:

This bill creates a grant program, the Behavioral Health Provider Student Load Repayment Program to repay a portion of eligible student loan expenses. Dollar amounts are based on percentage of medicaid patients seen in the practice. Additionally, the bill provides for certain appropriated funds to be distributed to eligible institutions that sponsor certain clinical behavioral health training programs in an effort to increase the number of training positions.

Primary Sponsor: Representative Sharon Cooper (R)

Actions:

**February 22, 2024**

* Senate Read and Referred

**February 21, 2024**

* House Passed/Adopted
* House Third Readers

[GA - HB1301](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67136) [Health; newborn screening system to include Duchenne muscular dystrophy; require](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67136)

Notes:

This bill adds Duchenne muscular dystrophy to the newborn screening list.

Primary Sponsor: Representative Karen Mathiak (R)

Actions:

**February 21, 2024**

* House Second Readers

**February 20, 2024**

* House First Readers

[GA - HB1302](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67137) [Medical assistance; mandatory maternal mental health screening for perinatal mood and anxiety disorders for Medicaid recipients; provide](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67137)

Notes:

This bill requires maternal mental health screenings for perinatal mood and anxiety disorders for medicaid recipients. Additionally, it requires MDs, PAs, APRNs, etc to provide education to all postpartum women on the signs and symptoms of postpartum mood and anxiety disorders.

Primary Sponsor: Representative Karen Bennett (D)

Actions:

**February 21, 2024**

* House Second Readers

**February 20, 2024**

* House First Readers

[GA - HB1306](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67155) [Health; provide patients with information regarding risks of physical and psychological dependence from opioids; require prescribers](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67155)

Notes:

This bill requires prescribers of opioids to provide patients with additional information regarding the risks of opioids as well as alternative treatment options including the risks/ benefits.

Primary Sponsor: Representative Jasmine Clark (D)

Actions:

**February 21, 2024**

* House Second Readers

**February 20, 2024**

* House First Readers

[GA - HB1352](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67310) [Pharmacists; prescribers provide certain information to patients or their representatives on Schedule II controlled substances or opioids](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67310)

Notes:

HB 1352 requires prescribers to provide patients receiving opioids with specific information (risks, warnings, cost/benefit etc). There are exceptions for patients getting: cancer care, palliative care, hospice, or medications for substance abuse treatment.

Primary Sponsor: Representative Lydia Glaize (D)

Actions:

**February 22, 2024**

* House First Readers

**February 21, 2024**

* House Hopper

[GA - SB460](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66702) [Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Physician Assistants; number that a physician can authorize and supervise at any one time; prov.; revise](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66702)

Notes:

This bill allows delegating physicians to enter into nurse protocol agreements or PA job descriptions with a combined equivalent of 8 PAs and APRNs.

Primary Sponsor: Senator Clint Dixon (R)

Actions:

**February 22, 2024**

* Senate Committee Favorably Reported

[GA - SB480](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66883) [Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; student loan repayment for mental health and substance use professionals serving in certain capacities; provide](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66883)

Notes:

This bill provides for a student loan repayment program for certain mental health and substance abuse professionals.

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mike Hodges (R)

Actions:

**February 22, 2024**

* Senate Committee Favorably Reported

[GA - SB481](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66882) [Georgia Health Care Professionals Data System; establishment; definitions; collaboration with state licensing boards; provide](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66882)

Notes:

This bill provides for the establishment of a Georgia Health Care Professionals Data System to collect and aggregate data from the various licensing boards.

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mike Hodges (R)

Actions:

**February 22, 2024**

* Senate Committee Favorably Reported

[GA - SB519](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67161) [Hospitals; prescribing or administering certain hormone replacement therapies and puberty blocking medications for certain purposes to minors; prohibit](https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/67161)

Notes:

This bill tweaks the law that passed last year regarding transgender care which prohibits certain procedures and medications for minors.

Primary Sponsor: Senator Ben Watson (R)

Actions:

**February 20, 2024**

* Senate Read and Referred