



Concerned Women for America
Legislative Action Committee

Georgia's Targeted Bills 2017-2018

<http://ga.cwfa.org>

How to locate your Georgia state senator and representative:

1. [Click here](#) to go to the OpenStates.org website.
2. Type in your full address and click 'Search'.

Updated 3-17-18

Bills with current updates will be highlighted in the last column.

State Legislative Scorecard

CWA of Georgia will be tracking how state legislators vote on our targeted list of bills. A link to our legislative scorecard will be placed in the Status/Action column when a vote is taken on a specific bill.

List of bills we are tracking that align to [CWA's Seven Core Issues](#)

<i>Bill Name/ Number</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>CWA Position (Support, Oppose, No Position)</i>	<i>Issue</i>	<i>Resources/Information</i>	<i>Status/Action</i>
Religious Freedom						
SB 233	State-Level Religious Freedom Restoration Act	Sen. Marty Harbin (R-Tyrone)	Support <i>Scoring the bill</i>	Religious Freedom	Educational video Additional Resources	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
SB 375	Keep Faith in Adoption and Foster Care Act	Sen. William Ligon (R-Brunswick)	Support <i>Scoring the bill</i>	Religious Freedom	SB 375 will ensure that the State of Georgia will continue to respect the special missions of faith-based child-placing agencies as this State has always done. This State has the constitutional duty to proactively protect the first freedom of the First Amendment for religious persons and their institutions.	3-17-18 Passed the Senate is now in the House Judiciary committee and has not been given a hearing. CWA of GA state director testified in support of the bill.

Bill Name/ Number	Summary	Sponsor	CWA Position (Support, Oppose, No Position)	Issue	Resources/Information	Status/Action
SB 339	Establishment of free speech policies for institutions of the university system	Sen. William Ligon (R-Brunswick)	Support Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom/ Free Speech	Bill promotes, protects and preserves the First Amendment rights of students, faculty, staff and guests on public college campuses across the state of Georgia.	3-17-18 Passed the Senate and passed out of the House Judiciary Committee on 3-15-18. It is now in Rules.
SB 361	"Coach Small Religious Protection Act"	Sen. Michael Williams (R-Cumming)	Support Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom/ Free Speech		3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
SB 384	"Tim Tebow Act" or "Equal Opportunity for Access in Education Act" Companion bill to HB 905.	Sen. Michael Williams (R-Cumming)	Support Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom/ Free Speech		3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
HB 905	"Tim Tebow Act" or "Equal Opportunity for Access in Education Act" Companion bill to SB 384.	Rep. David Clark (R-Duluth)	Support Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom/ Free Speech		3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.

Anti-Religious Freedom

HB 627	Fair Employment Practices Act of 1978	Rep. Rich Golick (R-Smyrna)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom	Expansion of homosexual rights. The bill will add “sexual orientation” to the Fair Employment Practices Act of 1978.	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
HB 629	Georgia Civil Rights in Public Accommodations Act	Rep. Rich Golick (R-Smyrna)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom	Potential “bathroom bill” that can put the privacy and safety of women and children at risk.	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
SB 373	Hate Crimes The original language was removed from the bill and replaced with HB 663 language.	Rep. Wendell Willard (R-Atlanta)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom	https://concernedwomen.org/legislative-update-faith-based-adoptions-and-hate-crimes-again/	3-17-18 Bill was passed out of the House Judiciary Committee on 3-8-18 and is in the Rules Committee.
HB 660	Hate Crimes	Rep. Meagan Hanson (R-Brookhaven)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom	https://concernedwomen.org/thought-crimes-bills-filed-in-georgia-legislature/	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee. CWA of GA state director testified in opposition to the bill.
HB 663	Hate Crimes (Companion bill to SB 316.)	Rep. Karen Bennett (D - Stone Mountain)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom	https://concernedwomen.org/thought-crimes-bills-filed-in-georgia-legislature/	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee. CWA of GA state director testified in opposition to the bill.
SB 316	Hate Crimes (Companion bill to HB 663.)	Sen. Lester Jackson (D – Savannah)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Religious Freedom	https://concernedwomen.org/thought-crimes-bills-filed-in-georgia-legislature/	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee. CWA of GA state director testified in opposition to the bill.

Life						
HB 882	Women's Right to Recover Act	Rep. Wes Cantrell (R – Woodstock)	Support Scoring the bill	Life		3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
Sexual Exploitation						
HR 447	Resolution recognizing pornography as a public health crisis.	Rep. Paulette Rakestraw (R-Powder Springs)	Support	Pornography		3-1-18 Resolution passed out of committee and is in the Rules committee.
HB 732	Adds “patronizes” to Georgia’s sex trafficking code, which expands the offense of trafficking to a “patronizes.” This language was removed from a sex trafficking bill that passed in 2017. It is an effort to tighten the noose of the demand side of trafficking. It also increases the punishment for anyone who “patronizes” a person age 16 and above.	Rep. Deborah Silcox (R-Atlanta)	Support	Sex Trafficking		3-1-18 Passed the House and now moves to the Senate for consideration. The bill has been assigned to the House Judiciary committee. CWA of GA state director testified in support of the bill.

SB 335	See HB 732 above. This is the companion bill to HB 732.	Sen. Renee Unterman (R-Buford)	Support	Sex Trafficking		3-1-18 Passed the Senate and now moves to the House for consideration.
Gambling – Casinos and Daily Fantasy Sports						
HB 158 Companion to SB 79	Authorize the licensing of up to two “destination resorts”, i.e., casinos in Georgia. Allow for the creation of a Georgia Gaming Commission.	Rep. Ron Stephens (R-Savannah)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Predatory gambling	http://concernedwomen.org/casino-gambling-takes-a-front-seat-in-georgia-calls-needed/	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
SB 79 Companion to HB 158	Authorize the licensing of up to two “destination resorts”, i.e., casinos in Georgia. Allow for the creation of a Georgia Gaming Commission.	Sen. Brandon Beach (R-Alpharetta)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Predatory gambling	http://concernedwomen.org/casino-gambling-takes-a-front-seat-in-georgia-calls-needed/	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
SR 249	Proposed Constitutional Amendment to allow casino gambling.	Sen. Brandon Beach (R-Alpharetta)	Oppose Scoring the bill	Gambling		3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
HB 118 <i>Fantasy Contests Act</i> Bill renamed along the way.	Provide for the licensing, registration, regulation, and taxation of fantasy contest operators	Rep. Trey Kelley (R-Cedartown)	Oppose Scoring the bill Score for House committee and floor vote.	Gambling	http://concernedwomen.org/daily-fantasy-sports-is-gambling-action-needed/ This web page lists resources, contact information for legislators and how the legislators are voting	3-17-18 The bill passed the House in 2017 and passed out of the Sen. Regulated Industries committee on 3-15-18. It is now in Rules.

<i>Registered Fantasy Contest Operators Act</i>			Score for Senate committee vote.		on this bill.	
Marijuana						
HR 36	Proposed Constitutional Amendment that would allow for the passage of laws for cultivation of marijuana for medicinal purposes.	Rep. Allen Peake (R-Macon)	Oppose <i>Scoring the bill</i>	Marijuana		3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
HB 645	Enabling legislation for HR 36 – cultivation of marijuana.	Rep. Allen Peake (R-Macon)	Oppose <i>Scoring the bill</i>	Marijuana		3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.
HB 764	It would also add post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and Intractable pain as treatable conditions.	Rep. David Clark (R-Duluth)	Oppose <i>Scoring the bill</i>	Marijuana		3-1-18 Passed the House and now moves to the Senate for consideration.
Other						
HR 969	Equal Rights Amendment	Rep. Billy Mitchell (D-Stone Mountain)	Oppose		This bill dates back to the 40-year old effort to pass an Equal Rights Amendment. Georgia never passed the amendment.	3-1-18 Bill did not move this session. Died in committee.