

## Georgia Bio Key Legislation Update – Updated on 03/31/17

The 40<sup>th</sup> day has ended! Lawmakers worked in their respective chambers until around 1:30 am last night (this morning), before adjourning *Sine Die*. Unfortunately, the day was marked with conflicts between the House and Senate chambers over a few hot-button issues, which sucked a lot of oxygen out of the room and left a number of bills still on the table. The House twice voted down the Senate's top priority domestic terrorism bill, SB 1, on Tuesday. Meanwhile on Tuesday, the Senate added a 'religious liberty' amendment to HB 159, which was originally meant to update Georgia's adoption code. The House was highly critical of Senators for this move, which created a rift between the two chambers moving into the final day.

That rift led to a number of conference committees failing to reach agreements. Specifically, lawmakers failed to reach an agreement on HB 329, by Rep. Jay Powell. The original bill intended to lower the top state income tax rate. Earlier this week, the Senate added language from HB 61, which forces online retailers to collect and remit state sales tax from online purchases. Both chambers insisted on their own positions; however they could not work out a compromise.

Keep in mind that any legislation that was tabled or not acted upon will remain active until the next session. We will continue to monitor and report to you any study committees or other legislative activity in the days ahead. We also look forward to maintaining a dialogue with the members of the Science and Technology and Economic Development Committees during the off-season.

### Legislation Tracking – Updated 03/31/2017

This tracking document reflects the final actions taken on each bill included in the list. Next week, we expect to send you a complete analysis/breakdown of the session, including passed legislation and any State Budget details that would be considered relevant to Georgia Bio.

Bill ▲	Committees	Status	Analysis
HB213	HC: Judiciary Non-Civil	Mar/28/2017 - Senate Tabled	Rep. Golick (R- Smryna), proposes to amend O.C.G.A. § 16-13-31 to prohibit the sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession of four grams or more of 'fentanyl.'
HB231	HC: Judiciary Non-Civil	Mar/28/2017 - Senate Passed/Adopted	Rep. Bruce Broadrick (R-Dalton), is Georgia's proposed annual dangerous drug update legislation. It adds new controlled substances in Chapter 13 of Title 16 which are Schedule I, II, IV and V controlled substances to this

			list. It includes a new "fentanyl analog structural class" of drugs and derivatives, salts, isomers or salts of isomers.
HB360	HC: Health & Human Services	Mar/01/2017 - Senate Read and Referred	Rep. Sharon Cooper (R-Marietta), seeks an amendment to O.C.G.A. § 26-4-80(c)(2), concerning prescription drug orders and the control of venereal disease. It revisits a bill from 2016 in an effort to provide for "expedited partner therapy" for patients with Chlamydia or gonorrhea. A new Code Section is added in O.C.G.A. § 31-17-7.1 which defines "expedited partner therapy" and permits the licensed practitioner who diagnoses a patient to be infected with Chlamydia or gonorrhea the ability to utilize the expedited partner therapy in accordance with rules developed by the Department of Public Health.
HB61	HC: Ways & Means	Feb/16/2017 - Senate Read and Referred	Rep. Jay Powell (R-Camilla), amends O.C.G.A. § 48-8-30 to require delivery retailers (defined as a retailer that has a gross revenue exceeding \$250,000 for one calendar year or conducts more than 200 retail sales) to collect and remit the tax imposed by this Code section. The retailer must notify consumers that the tax collected on their purchases may be remitted to the State, and must send a statement to the Department of Revenue detailing the total amount of sales and use tax collected for each year. Failure to submit such documentation will result in a fine.
SB008	SC: Health and Human Services	Mar/24/2017 – House Withdrawn, Recommitted	Sen. Renee Unterman (R-Buford) provides for: consumer protections regarding health insurance; disclosure requirements of providers, hospitals, and insurers; 4 billing and reimbursement of out-of-network services; procedures for dispute 5 resolution for surprise bills for nonemergency services; payment of emergency 6 services; out-of-network reimbursement rate workgroup.

SB070	SC: Finance	Feb/13/2017 - Act 4  <b>PASSED</b>	Sen. Butch Miller (R-Gainesville) would amend O.C.G.A § 31-8-179.6 by extending the sunset provision relating to the hospital Medicaid financing program in order to extend the date of repeal to June 30, 2020 (it is currently June 30, 2017).
SB41	SC: Health and Human Services	Mar/30/2017 – Senate Agreed House Amend or Sub <b>PASSED</b>	Sen. Renee Unterman (R-Buford) would amend 26-4-5 to provide for the licensure of durable medical equipment suppliers and requirements for licensure for such suppliers.